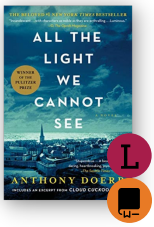
HISTORICAL FICTION

FOR ADULTS

Violeta by Isabel Allende
FICTION ALLENDE
The Spanish flu arrives on the shores of her South American homeland. Violeta's life will be shaped by some of the most important events of history: the fight for women's rights, the rise and fall of tyrants, and, ultimately, not one but two pandemics.

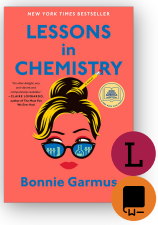
Moloka'i by Alan Brennert
FICTION BRENNERT
Seven-year-old Rachel is forcibly removed from her family's 1890s Honolulu home when she contracts leprosy and is placed in a settlement, where she loses a series of new friends before new medical discoveries enable her to reenter the world.

The Netanyahus by Joshua Cohen
FICTION COHEN
Mixing fiction with nonfiction, the campus novel with the lecture, The Netanyahus is a wildly inventive, genre-bending comedy of blending, identity, and politics.



All the Light We Cannot See
by Anthony Doerr
FICTION DOERR
The beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
FICTION FORD
Set in the ethnic neighborhoods of Seattle during World War II and Japanese American internment camps of the era, this novel tells the story of widower Henry Lee, his father, and his first love Keiko Okabe.



Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
FICTION GARMUS
Set in the 1960s, this is the hilarious, idiosyncratic, and uplifting story of a female scientist whose career is constantly derailed by the idea that a woman's place is in the home, only to find herself starring as the host of America's most beloved TV cooking show.

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi
FICTION GYASI
Half-sisters born into two different tribal villages in 18th century Ghana. One will live a life of luxury built upon slavery, and the other imprisoned and then sent to America as a slave. Stretching from the tribal wars of Ghana to the Civil War in America.

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The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

FICTION HANNAH

During the darkest periods of the Dust Bowl era, Elsa Martinelli-like so many of her neighbors-must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or go west, to California, in search of a better life.

The Poisonwood Bible

by Barbara Kingsolver

FICTION KINGSOLVER

The drama of a US missionary family in Africa during a war of decolonization. At its center is Nathan Price, a self-righteous Baptist minister who establishes a mission in a village in 1959 Belgian Congo.

Pachinko by Min Jin Lee

FICTION LEE

This story of several generations of a Korean family in Japan reflects every family whose parents sacrificed for their children, but it's also the story of a specific cultural struggle in a riveting time and place.

The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai

FICTION MAKKAI

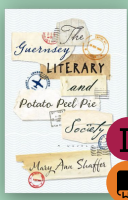
A novel of friendship and redemption in the face of the AIDS tragedy set in 1980s Chicago and contemporary Paris.

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan

by Lisa See

FICTION SEE

In nineteenth-century China, when wives and daughters were foot-bound and lived in almost total seclusion, the women in one remote Hunan county developed their own secret code for communication.

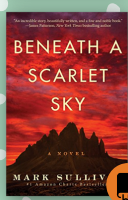


The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society

by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

FICTION SHAFFER

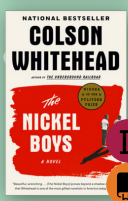
As London is emerging from the shadow of war, writer Juliet Ashton discovers a book club on Guernsey formed to protect its members from arrest by Germans.



Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark Sullivan

FICTION SULLIVAN

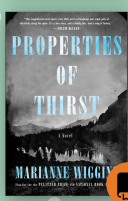
Based on the true story of a forgotten hero. In 1940s Italy, teenager Pino Lella joins an underground railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps and also becomes the personal driver of one of the Third Reich's most powerful commanders.



The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

FICTION WHITEHEAD

This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel brilliantly dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys unjustly sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.



Properties of Thirst by Marianne Wiggins

FICTION WIGGINS

A story about the meaning of family and the limitations of the American dream follows rancher Rocky Rhodes as he is faced with a threat greater than the LA Water Corporation he's battled for years–the building of a Japanese-American internment camp next to his ranch.

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