

Central Community Library

The Amateur Marriage by Anne Tyler--The tale of a mismatched, rancorous marriage and its consequences for a family over three generations, from the heated days of World War II to the 21st century.

Bee Season by Myla Goldberg--When a nine year old girl wins her class spelling bee, her family dynamics change. Attention once reserved for her overachieving older brother is now showered on Eliza, whose father, a rabbi, believes she may reach the enlightenment described in Kabbalah teachings.

Bet Me by Jennifer Crusie--Thirtysomething Minerva Dobbs overhears her ex-boyfriend bet hunky Cal Morrissey that he can't bed her in 30 days. Sparks fly between Min and Cal in this sexy, contemporary romance.

Big Stone Gap by Adriana Trigiani-- Ave Maria Mulligan is a small town pharmacist who discovers a family secret after her mother's death. The town spinster, Ave Maria almost allows her fears to destroy her chance at love.

Bridget Jones' Diary by Helen Fielding--Single Londoner Bridget Jones details her search for love, as well as her weight and cigarette and alcohol intake in her diary.

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson--Details the true story of a serial murderer at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon--An autistic teenage boy is falsely accused of killing his neighbor's dog. He writes a book about the mystery, revealing his relationship with his parents and how he makes sense of the world around him.

Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's search for Everything Across Italy, India and Indonesia by Elizabeth Gilbert--Following a painful divorce, the author takes a year to explore her spiritual and physical yearnings, hoping to find a balance between the two.

Getting Mother's Body by Suzan-Lori Parks--Sixteen year old Billy Bede and her aunt and uncle embark on a road trip from Texas to Arizona to find her mother's grave and dig up the jewels that are rumored to be buried with her.

The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls--Extraordinary memoir of a dysfunctional family, led by an alcoholic father and free spirit mother whose unconventional parenting and dire economic circumstances lead their four children to learn to fend for themselves.

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald--The quintessential novel of the Jazz Age, this is the story of Jay Gatsby, self-made millionaire, and his pursuit of lost love Daisy Buchanan.

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood --In the Republic of Gilead, a monotheocratic government assigns its women to various classes, including reproductive Handmaids, who turn their offspring over to "morally fit" wives. The story is told by a Handmaid who recalls the past and tells how the chilling society came to be.

A Hope in the Unseen: an American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League by Ron Suskind--Cedric Jennings, a talented black teenager, struggles to succeed in one of the worst high schools in Washington, D.C. This book follows Cedric from Ballou High School to Brown University where he faces culture shock and academic struggles.

Lucia, Lucia by Adriana Trigiani--The daughter of a traditional Italian-American family in 1950's Greenwich Village, Lucy Sartori rejects her Italian fiancé, pursues a career, falls in love with a handsome stranger and ultimately must choose between duty and her own happiness.

Peony in Love by Lisa See--Set in 17th century China, Peony is a young girl betrothed to a suitor she has never met. Her life and longings are mirrored by the opera being performed in her family's garden.

The Red Tent by Anita Diamant--The fictionalized story of Dinah, a tragic character from the Bible, whose great love, a prince, is killed by her brother, leaving her alone and pregnant.

Skeletons at the Feast by Chris Bohjalian--During the final months of World War II, a small group of people, including a pair of lovers and a Jew who has escaped from an Auschwitz-bound train, make their way westward across Europe to reach British and American lines.

Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson--Set on an island in the straits north of Puget Sound in Washington, where everyone is either a berry farmer or a fisherman, this is nominally a tale of murder; however, lingering memories of World War II, internment camps and racism fuel suspicions of a Japanese-American fisherman, a lifelong resident of the island.

The Space Between Us by Thrity Umrigar—A contemporary story of an upper middle-class Bombay housewife and her illiterate servant, whose bonds of womanhood are stronger than their class differences.

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini--Two women, born a generation apart witness the destruction of their home and family in war torn Kabul.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee--A Pulitzer Prize winning novel of a small town Alabama lawyer whose defense of a black man arouses the town's prejudice and hostility.

Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen--The story of Jacob Jankowski, his time spent working in the circus during the Great Depression, and his romance with the circus owner's wife.

Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks--When an infected bolt of cloth carries the plague from London to a remote village in the year 1666, a housemaid named Anna emerges as an unlikely heroine and healer.