

# **Fiction Titles**

#### The Alchemist by Paulo Coehlo (1988) 167 p.

Deceptively simple and dazzling in its wisdom, Coelho's *The Alchemist* has delighted readers for over thirty years with its tale of the Andalusian shepherd boy Santiago and his journey from Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of buried treasure beneath the pyramids of the pharaohs.

#### All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doer (2014) 531 p.

Winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize, All the Light We Cannot See tells the story of a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in Vichy France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

## **Exit West** by Mohsin Hamid (2017) 231 p.

Saeed and Nadia – he gentle and restrained, she independent and passionate – meet and begin a love affair in an unnamed city undergoing a civil war. Exit West tells their story, as finally forced to flee, they decide to venture through a system of magical doors towards an uncertain future.

### The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas (2017) 444 p.

The Hate U Give tells the story of Starr Carter, a sixteen-year-old who travels between the worlds of her fancy suburban prep school and the poor neighborhood where she lives. But when she witnesses the fatal shooting of her best friend Khalil by a police officer, the uneasy balance between those two worlds is upended, and she must decide what to say, or not to say, about Khalil's death.

## Home Fire by Kamila Shamson (2017) 276 p.

A reimaging of Antigone, Home Fire tells the story of a Muslim family struggling to retain a sense of "Britishness" in spite of political and social activists attempting to alienate them.

#### <u>In the Midst of Winter</u> by Isabel Allende (2017) 335 p.

A car crash in the middle of a New York City snowstorm brings together three very different individuals in *In the Midst of Winter*. This story of love and immigration travels from present day Brooklyn to Guatemala to 1970s Chile and Brazil in a mesmerizing tale.

#### Manhattan Beach by Jennifer Egan (2017) 438 p.

Moving from the Great Depression to World War II Brooklyn, Manhattan Beach traces the journey of Anna Kerrigan with the pace of a noir thriller, as wartime necessity both forces and allows her to enter realms previously foreclosed to women in order to support her mother and sister, as well unraveling the mystery of her father's disappearance.

#### Pachinko by Min Jin Lee (2017) 527 p.

A generational portrait of one Korean family forced by circumstance to live in Japanese exile, *Pachinko* follows the story of Junja and her descendants beginning in the early 1900s as they experience both challenges and joy in their new home.

#### The Sympathizer by Viet Thanh Nguyen (2016) 384 p.

A gripping spy novel, *The Sympathizer* travels from Saigon to Los Angeles, exploring extreme politics, love, and loyalty amid the backdrop of the Vietnam War and a life lived between two worlds.

## **Nonfiction Titles**

## The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot (2009) 460 pgs.

Without her knowledge or consent, Henrietta Lacks's cells have been used to develop the polio vaccine, uncover cancer secrets, and chart the effects of the atomic bomb, but she has been dead over seventy years. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks tells the story of Henrietta and her family, as well as the beauty and drama of scientific discovery, all while raising grave questions about bioethics, race, class, and family.

## Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann (2016) 338 p.

Thanks to fabulous oil reserves under their lands, the people of the Osage Indian Nation of Oklahoma were the richest per capita in the world in the 1920s. *Killers of the Flower Moon* tells a true story of the prejudice and greed that led to a shocking series of murders of the Osage, as well one of the FBI's first major homicide investigations.

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