



Book Recommendations for Read for Books 2023

Not sure what to read when sharing the gift of reading? Our librarians have you covered. In line with the [Read! Fest 2023](#) theme of *Flourish*, check out our curated titles on how the self and society can flourish together, with a focus on society, relationships and living.

[Missed any of our Read Together sessions? View our book recommendations here.](#)

[See titles for children.](#)

[See titles for adults.](#)

[Short on time? View our recommendations for short reads.](#)

Curated Reading Packs under Read! Fest 2023

Anchored by 12 key titles, Read! Fest 2023 is guided by the individual living in the current of rapid change, and a society bringing concerns from the margin towards the centre. Dive into curated reading recommendations here!

Read Fest Title

[Oh William!](#)

[Maybe You Should Talk to Someone](#)

[We Need to Hang Out](#)

[The Most Important Comic Book on Earth](#)

[午夜降临前抵达](#)

[Wet market to table : a modern approach to fruit & vegetables](#)

[Beneath the rug](#)

[Pendoa yang ikhlas](#)

[Kerusi rantai celung keramat](#)

[疫言2030 : 极短幻想微型小说](#)

[அறம் உண்மை மனிதர்களின் கதைகள்](#)

[ரௌத்திரம் பழகு](#)

Reading Packs

Click [HERE](#).

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Read for Books: Featured Book recommendations

Missed any of our Read Together sessions? Not to worry! By popular demand, we have compiled the recommendations by our librarians. Watch this space for more to come.

Register for the upcoming Read Together sessions in July [here](#).

[Sherlock Sam x Read for Books](#)

[Celebrating Women Writers](#)

[Food Memoirs](#)

[Singapore Collection](#)

[Historical Fiction](#)

[Contemporary Fiction](#)

[Fiction for Young Adults](#)

[Fantasy](#)

[Books about Big Tech](#)

[Mystery](#)

[Animals](#)

[Life Reminders from Children's Books for Adults](#)

[Fairytales](#)

[Comics](#)

[Friends & Families](#)

Sherlock Sam x Read for Books

Written by husband-wife duo A.J. Low, join Sherlock Sam, Singapore's greatest kid detective, on his adventures. With his trusty robot Watson, Sherlock Sam will stop at nothing to solve the case, no matter how big or small!



Borrow the eBooks from the Sherlock Sam series [here](#). These titles are suitable for children.

Here are other mystery titles for children that might interest you:

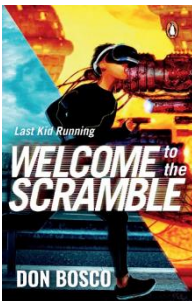


Pup Detectives: Mystery Mountain Getaway

By Felix Gumpaw

Call no.: JS GUM

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



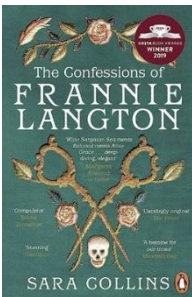
Last Kid Running: Welcome to the Scramble

By Don Bosco

Call no.: J SING BOS

Celebrating Women Writers

In spirit of celebrating women writers, check out these fiction titles recommended for adults.



The Confessions of Frannie Langton

By Sara Collins

Call no.: Adults Fiction English COL

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



The Yellow Kitchen

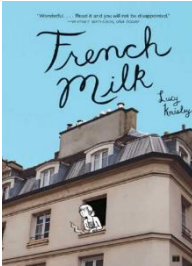
By: Margaux Vialeron

Call no.: Adults Fiction English VIA

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Food Memoirs

Food can elicit emotions and memories. Explore delicious biographies framed around food. The titles below are recommended for adults.

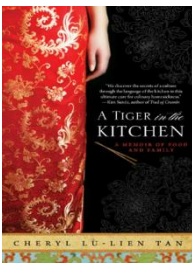


French Milk

By Lucy Knisley

Call no.: 741.5973 KNI -[ART]

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

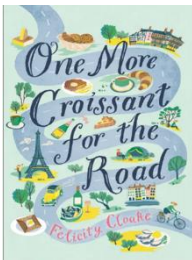


A Tiger in the Kitchen

By Cheryl Lu-lien Tan

Call no.: 641.595957 TAN -[COO]

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

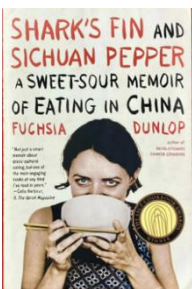


One More Croissant for the Road

By Felicity Cloake

Call no.: 641.5944 CLO -[COO]

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Shark's Fin and Sichuan Pepper

By Fuchsia Dunlop

Call no.: 641.300951 DUN

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Mastering the Art of Soviet Cooking

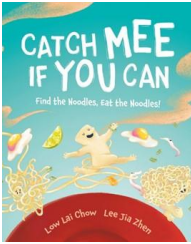
By Anya Vo Bremzen

Call no.: 641.5947 VON -[COO]

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Books from the Singapore Collection

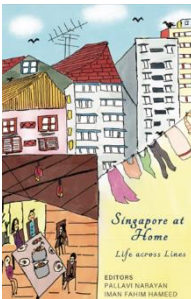
Check out these fun fiction titles from Singaporean authors, for children and adults.



Catch Mee If You Can: Find the Noodles, Eat the Noodles!

By Low Lai Chow

Call no.: Juvenile Lending Singapore English LOW



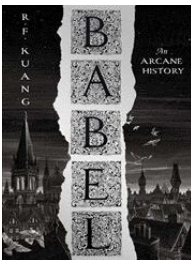
Singapore At Home: Life Across Lines

By Pallavi Narayan, Iman Fahim Hameed

Call no.: Adults Singapore English SIN

Historical Fiction

Check out librarian recommendations for enchanting and exciting stories set in the past. These titles are recommended for adults.

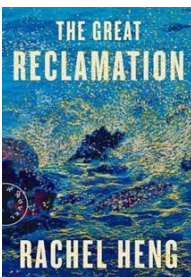


Babel

By R.F. Kuang

Call no.: English KUA -[FN]

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

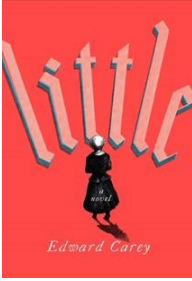


The Great Reclamation

By Rachel Heng

Call no.: SING English HEN

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

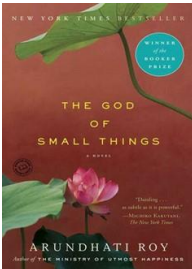


Little

By Edward Carey

Call no.: English CAR

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

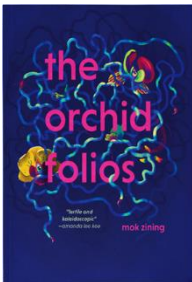


The God of Small Things

By Arundhati Roy

Call no.: English ROY –[AW]

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

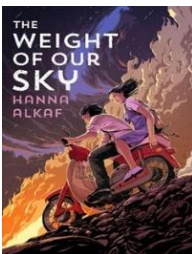


The Orchid Folios

By Mok Zining

Call no.: SING English S821 MOK

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

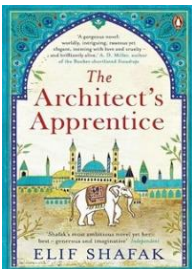


The Weight of Our Sky

By Hanna Alkaf

Call no.: English HAN

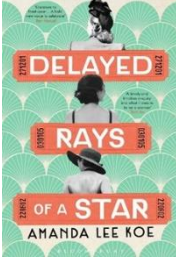
Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



The Architect's Apprentice

By Elif Shafak

Call no.: English SHA



Delayed Rays of a Star

by Amanda Lee Koe

Call no.: SING English LEE

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Contemporary Fiction

Selected by teen volunteer Nicola, check out these intriguing stories set in modern times.
Recommended for teens and young adults.



If You Could See The Sun

By Ann Liang

Call no.: Young Adult Fiction English LIA

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



XOXO

By Axie Oh

Call no.: Young Adults Fiction English OH

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Fiction for Young Adults

Selected by Teen Reading Ambassadors, these exciting tales are fascinating reads.
Recommended for teens and young adults.

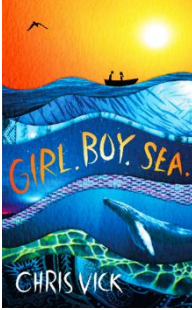


The Screaming Staircase

By Jonathan Stroud

Call no.: Young Adult Fiction English STR

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Girl. Boy. Sea

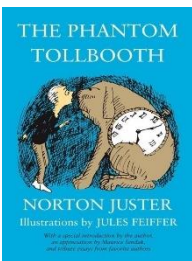
By Chris Vick

Call no.: Young Adults Fiction English VIC

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Fantasy

Dive into fantastic realms beyond our own with these titles.

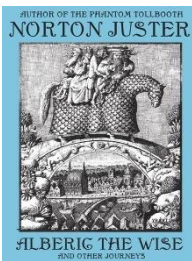


The Phantom Tollbooth

By Norton Juster

Call no.: Junior Lending English JUS

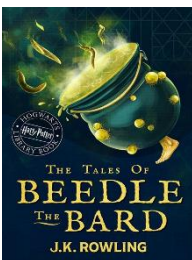
Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Alberic the Wise and other Journeys

by Norton Juster

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

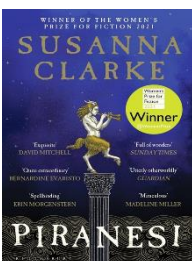


The Tales of Beedle the Bard

By J.K. Rowling

Call no.: Junior Lending English ROW

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Piranesi

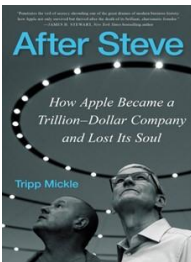
By Susanna Clarke

Call no.: Adult English CLA

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Books about Big Tech

Gain insights into the world of big tech.

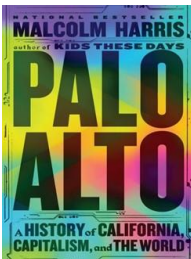


After Steve

By Tripp Mickle

Call no.: 338.761004 MIC -[BIZ]

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Palo Alto

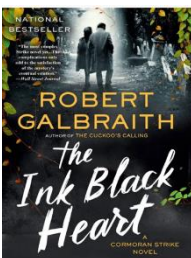
By Malcolm Harris

Call no.: 979.473 HAR

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Mystery

Intriguing mysteries for the inquisitive mind!

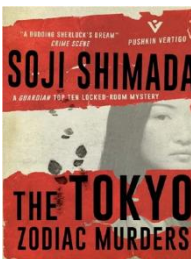


The Ink Black Heart

By Robert Galbraith

Call no.: Adults English GAL

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



The Tokyo Zodiac Murders

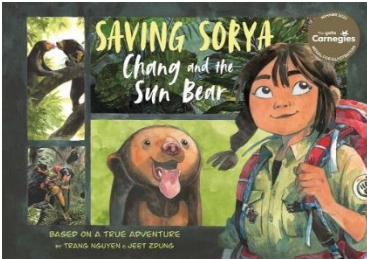
By Soji Shimada

Call no.: Adults English SHI

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Animals

Stories of cute critters to brighten up your day!



Saving Sorya

By Nguyen Thi Thu Trang, Jeet Zdung

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



How to Be a Good Creature

By Sy Montgomery, Rebecca Green

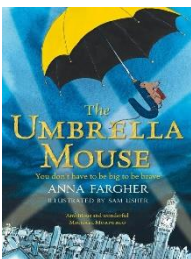
Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Allergic

By Megan Wagner Lloyd, Michelle Mee Nutter

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



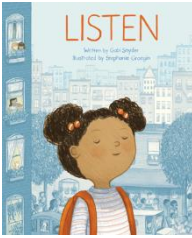
The Umbrella Mouse

By Anna Fargher, Sam Usher

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Life Reminders from Children's Books for adults

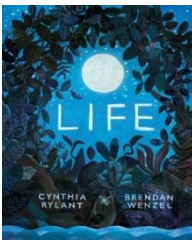
Be inspired by these children's books you can read within minutes!



Listen

By Gabi Snyder, Stephanie Graegin

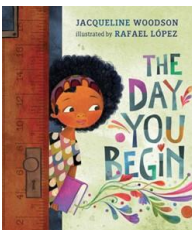
Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Life

By Cynthia Rylant, Brendan Wenzel

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



The Day you Begin

By Jacqueline Woodson, Rafael Lopez

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Love

By Corrinne Averiss, Kirsti Beautyman

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Stop and Smell the Cookies

By Gibson Frazier, Micah Player

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



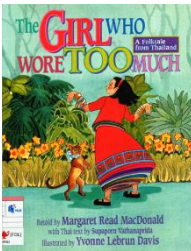
The Most Magnificent Thing

By Ashley Spires

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

Fairytales

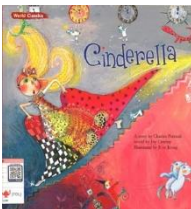
Pique your imagination with these fairytales.



The Girl who Wore Too Much

By Margaret Read Macdonald

English Junior Picture 398.2 MAC –[FOL]



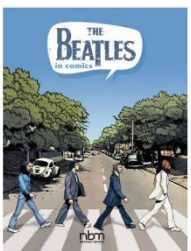
Cinderella

by Joy Cowley

English Junior Picture 398.2 COW –[FOL]

Comics

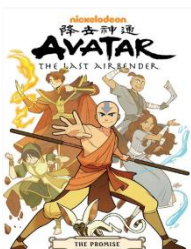
Selected by Teen Reading Ambassadors! Cool comics for an alternative reading experience!



The Beatles in Comics

By Gaet's, Michels Mabel

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

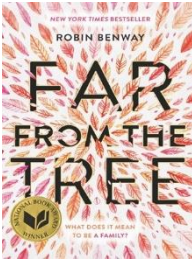


Avatar: The Last Airbender – The Promise

By Bryan Konietzko, Michael Dante DiMartino

Friends & Families

Selected by teen volunteer Nicola, check out these intriguing stories set in modern times.
Recommended for teens and young adults.

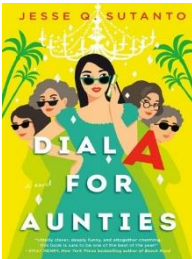


Far From The Tree

By Robin Benway

Call no.: Young Adult Fiction English BEN

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.



Dial A for Aunties

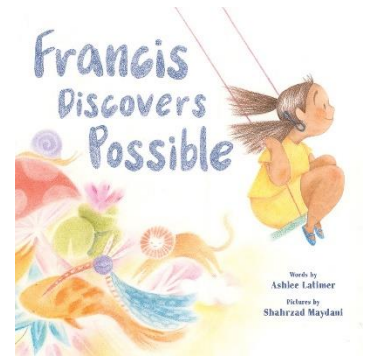
By Jesse Q. Sutanto

Call no.: Adults Fiction English SUT

Click [here](#) to borrow the eBook.

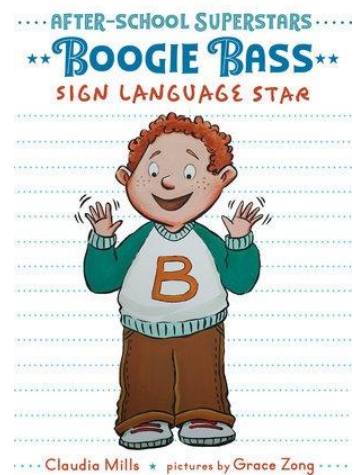
Titles for children

- Title** Francis Discovers Possible
- Author** Ashlee Latimer
- Call no.** JP LAT
- Synopsis** Francis loves words, and the class exercise where the students come up with words starting with a chosen letter; Francis has chosen the letter "p", but while reviewing the letter "f" one of her classmates comes up with "fat" and associates it with Francis which makes her sad and withdrawn — until later her father teaches her the word "possible" and they explore its meanings together.



Source: OverDrive

- Title** Boogie Bass, Sign Language Star
- Author** Claudia Mills
- Call no.** JS MIL
- Link** This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/5852231>
- Synopsis** Boogie Bass feels his best friend, Nolan, is better than he at everything, even caring for Boogie's little brothers, but an after-school camp reveals Boogie's talent at communicating using American Sign Language. Includes facts about ASL.



Source: OverDrive

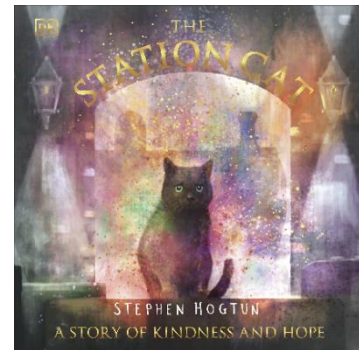
Title The Station Cat

Author Stephen Hogtun

Call no. JP HOG

Link This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/8716454>

Synopsis A lonely little kitten wanders into a dull, gray station, full of dull, gray people. Her colourful fur and bright green eyes bring warmth and life to this weary place, and soon people begin to notice the kitten. As she learns about the different travelers and their struggles from loss and loneliness, the little kitten wants to help fill their world with hope and colour, too.



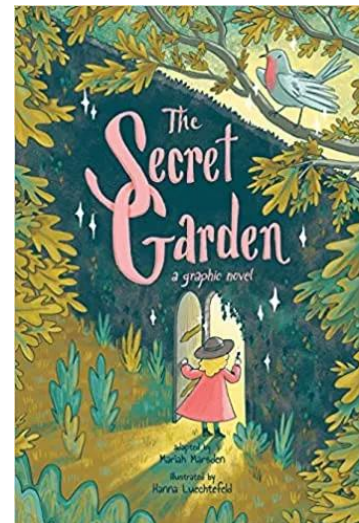
Source: OverDrive

Title The Secret Garden: A Graphic Novel

Author Mariah Marsden

Call no. J MAR

Synopsis Ten-year-old Mary Lennox arrives at a secluded estate on the Yorkshire moors with a scowl and a chip on her shoulder. First, there's Martha Sowerby: the too-cheery maid with bothersome questions who seems out of place in the dreary manor. Then there's the elusive Uncle Craven, Mary's only remaining family—whom she's not permitted to see. And finally, there are the mysteries that seem to haunt the run-down place: rumors of a lost garden with a tragic past, and a midnight wail that echoes across the moors at night.



As Mary begins to explore this new world alongside her ragtag companions—a cocky robin redbreast, a sour-faced gardener, and a boy who can talk to animals—she learns that even the loneliest of hearts can grow roots in rocky soil.

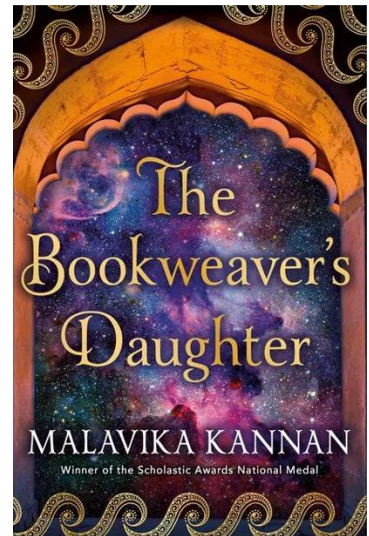
Source: OverDrive

Title The Bookweaver's Daughter

Author Malavika Kannan

Call no. Y KAN

Synopsis In the ancient Indian kingdom of Kasmira, stories don't begin with "once upon a time." Instead, Kashmiris start a woman's story with those who came before her: her parents, grandparents, ancestors. For fourteen-year-old Reya Kandhari, her story always starts the same: with the fabled line of Bookweavers, tracing centuries back to the lost Yogis—the mythical guardians of Kasmiri culture who created the world itself. As a result, Reya's entire life has been shaped by words. Words of mystique and mythology. Words of magic that allow her father, the Bookweaver, to bring his stories to life. Words of power that make him the target of tyrants who will stop at nothing to destroy magic in Kasmira.

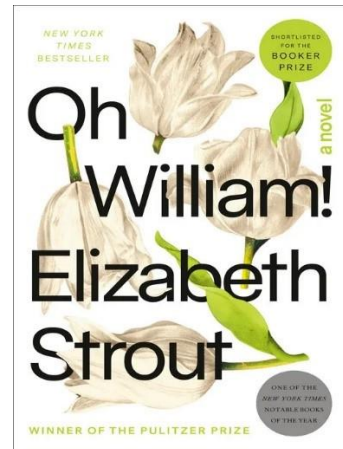


Source: OverDrive

Titles for adults

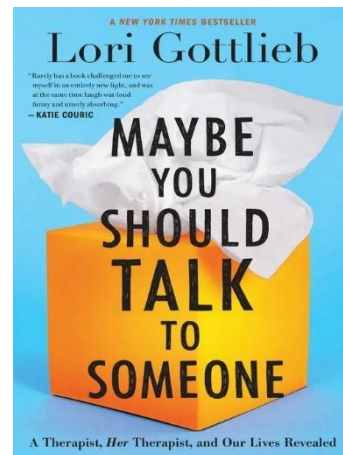
- Title** Oh William!
- Author** Elizabeth Strout
- Call no.** English STR -[LRG]
- Link** This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/5964980>
- Synopsis** Pulitzer Prize winner Elizabeth Strout explores the mysteries of marriage and the secrets we keep, as a former couple reckons with where they've come from—and what they've left behind.

Source: OverDrive



- Title** Maybe You Should Talk to Someone
- Author** Lori Gottlieb
- Call no.** English 616.8914092 GOT -[HEA]
- Link** This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/3938290>
- Synopsis** With startling wisdom and humor, Gottlieb invites us into her world as both clinician and patient, examining the truths and fictions we tell ourselves and others as we teeter on the tightrope between love and desire, meaning and mortality, guilt and redemption, terror and courage, hope and change.

Source: OverDrive



Title Everything I Know About Love

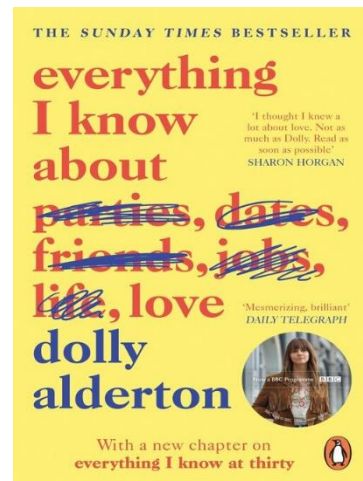
Author Dolly Alderton

Call no. English 306.7092 ALD

Link This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/3702816>

Synopsis In Everything I Know About Love, she gives an unflinching account of the bad dates and squalid flat-shares, the heartaches and humiliations, and most importantly, the unbreakable female friendships that helped her to hold it all together.

Source: OverDrive



Title Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine

Author Gail Honeyman

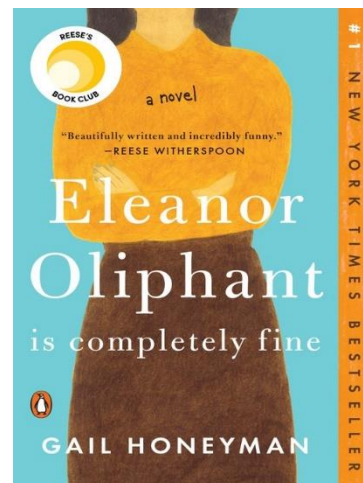
Call no. English HON

Link This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/2926071>

Synopsis Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine is the smart, warm, and uplifting story of an out-of-the-ordinary heroine whose deadpan weirdness and unconscious wit make for an irresistible journey as she realizes...

The only way to survive is to open your heart.

Source: OverDrive



Title Anxious People

Author Fredrik Backman

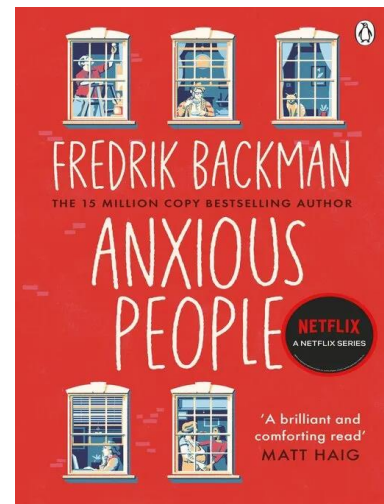
Call no. English BAC

Link This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/5644387>

Synopsis It's New Year's Eve and House Tricks estate agents are hosting an open viewing in an up-market apartment when an incompetent bank robber rushes in and politely takes everyone hostage.

As the police gather outside, the anxious strangers huddled within try to make the best of a very sticky situation - but could it be that they have a whole lot more in common than meets the eye?

Source: OverDrive



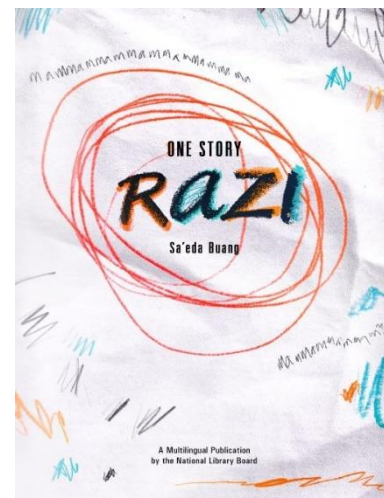
Title One Story : Razi

Author Sa'eda Buang

Call no. SING English SAE

Link This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/7669880>

Synopsis Every day is a painful struggle for Nani, the mother of Razi, a boy with special needs. As Nani finds herself increasingly frustrated by society's lack of understanding and empathy for Razi's condition, she is by turns swayed and pressured by her sister's incessant cajoling to seek help from a traditional Malay healer. Nani keeps the treatment a secret from her husband - out of fear and perhaps guilt. Razi is slowly tamed into obedience. The healer sees it as progress, but is submission into silent acquiescence a cure at all?



Razi will make you ponder over the great lengths people would go to and the sacrifices they make for their loved ones. Readers will be tempted to weigh in on the dilemmas that Nani has to grapple with and tread along the emotional rollercoaster of her struggle and guilt. Will we condemn her choices? Or empathise with her challenges?

Source: OverDrive

Title Dharma's Chariot

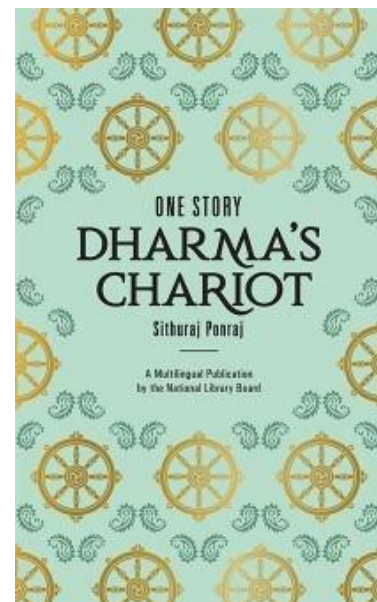
Author Sithuraj Ponraj

Call no. SING English CIT

Link This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/5328742>

Synopsis Palaniappan, a cloth merchant, sells a shipment of defective cloth to his old friend Jamal in order to pay the rent for his shop in Arab Street. Jamal had helped him set up his business, and this act of cheating causes Palaniappan to feel guilty. Dharma's Chariot offers a glimpse of what life was like for small Indian import and export businesses which prospered in the '70s and '80s, but gradually declined when technology made their middleman skills obsolete.

Source: OverDrive



Title One Story : Squat For Tradition, Sit For Modernity

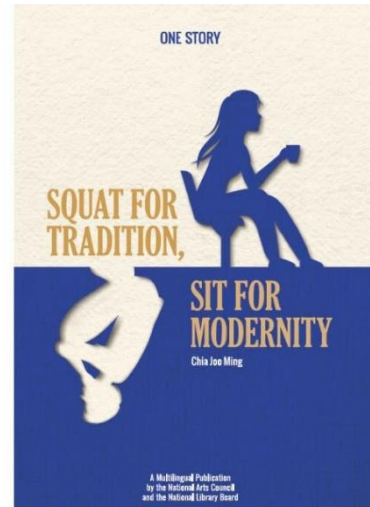
Author Chia Joo Ming

Call no. SING English XIE

Link This title is available as an eBook:
<https://nlb.overdrive.com/media/9599478>

Synopsis When the story's characters attempt to replace their squatting toilet with a sitting toilet bowl, they discover this will not be possible because their pre-war house is in a heritage conservation district and even its toilets are protected by regulations. Cultural Medallion recipient Chia Joo Ming embeds this thwarted renovation attempt in a light-hearted story that ultimately poses the question to readers: What do home, tradition and natural instinct mean to each of us?

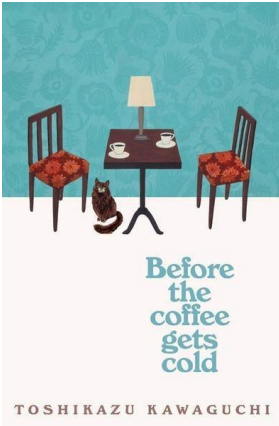
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Short Reads

For Adults

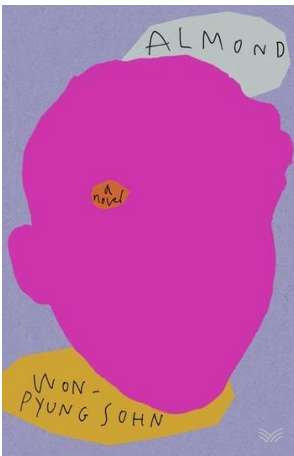


Before the Coffee Gets Cold by Toshikazu Kawaguchi, Geoffrey Trousselot

In this novel translated from Japanese, explore the possibilities of time travel – four visitors of a small back alley café in Tokyo get the chance to travel back in time and journey to the past.

Read the e-book on the Libby app:

<https://share.libbyapp.com/title/4651335>

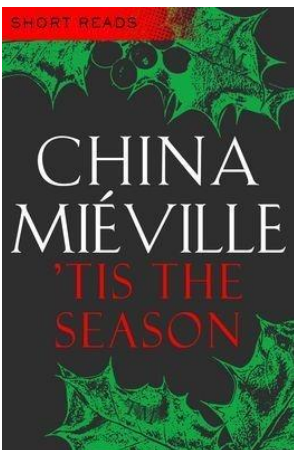


Almond by Won-pyung Sohn

Discover how love, friendship, and persistence can transform one's life forever.

Read the e-book on the Libby app:

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'Tis the Season by China Miéville

In this short story, get immersed into a world of dystopian Christmas!

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Open Water by Caleb Azumah Nelson

A love story where love, race and masculinity come into play.

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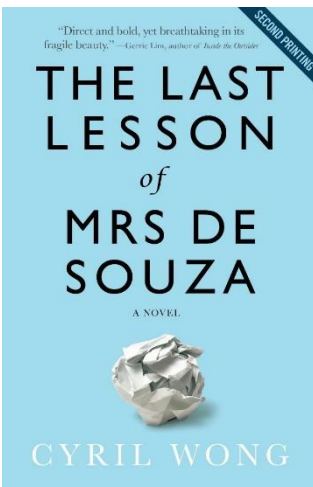


Night Sky with Exit Wounds by Ocean Vuong

If you love poetry, then this book is for you!

Read the e-book on the Libby app:

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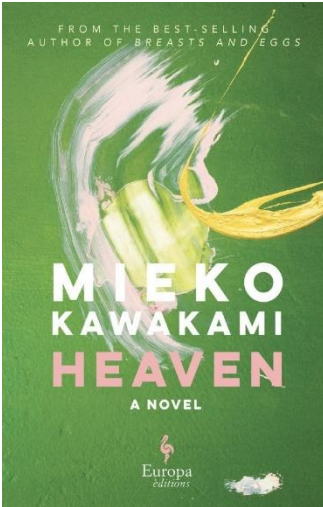


The Last Lesson of Mrs de Souza by Cyril Wong

Rose de Souza's last lesson as a secondary school teacher brings out the unimaginable – she questions how she had seen herself as a teacher.

Read the e-book on the Libby app:

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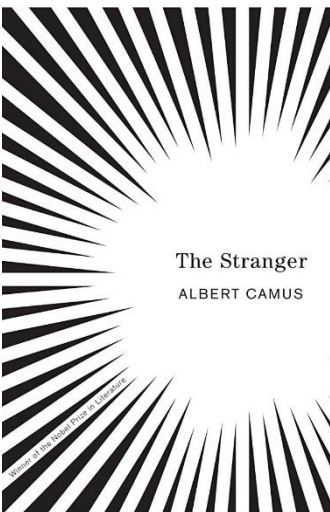


Heaven by Mieko Kawakami

Heaven follows a 14-year-old student who faces discrimination from his classmates due to his lazy eye. He finds friendship with a female classmate, who also suffers similar treatment from her classmates.

Read the e-book on the Libby app:

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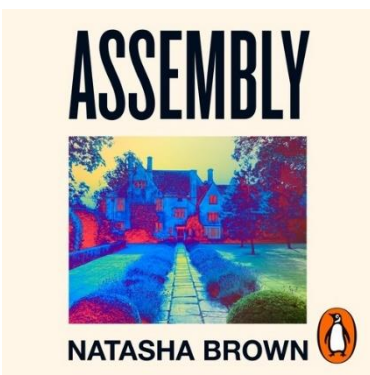


The Stranger by Albert Camus

If you enjoy psychological thrillers, this book is for you! Slated as a classic, Camus explores how the man and the absurd intertwine.

Read the e-book on the Libby app:

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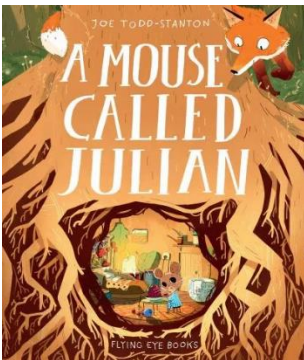
Assembly by Natasha Brown

Follow the narrator as she journeys through the social and economic landscapes as a black woman in the English countryside.

Read the e-book on the Libby app:

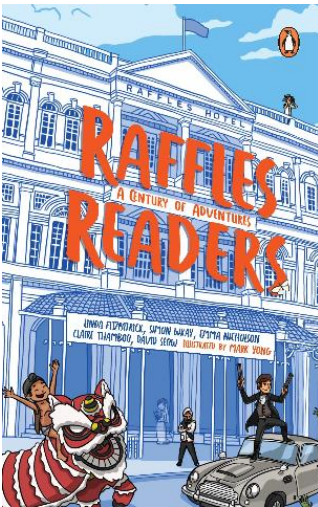
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For Younger Readers



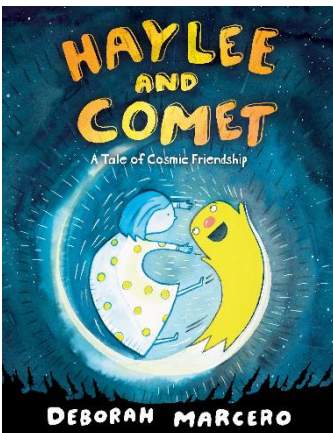
A Mouse Called Julian by Joe Todd-Stanton

An adorable and beautifully illustrated tale about a woodland mouse moving into a new neighbourhood.



Raffles Readers: A Century of Adventures by Linda Fitzpatrick and many others

A series of captivating and often fantastical short stories across Singapore's history from the 1920s to the present day!



Haylee and Comet : a tale of cosmic friendship by Deborah Marcero

A comic book for children with an important story about friendship.

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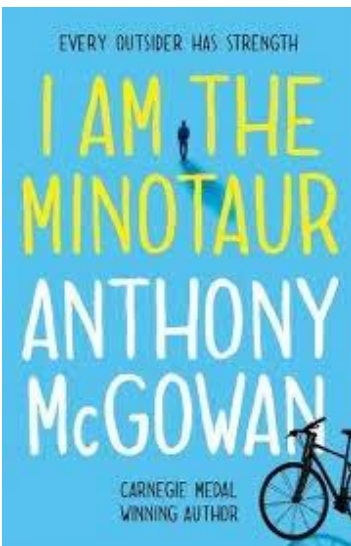


Cleopatra in space. Book one, Target practice

A graphic novel about young cleopatra learning to be a space cadet and the galaxy's greatest hero!

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I Am The Minotaur

Friendship and heroes can be found in unlikely places.

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