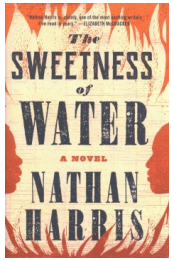


# Book Club Possibilities

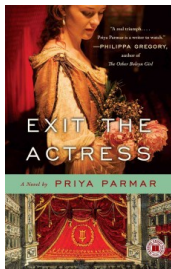
for the Historical Fiction Book Club • January 2024



## The sweetness of water

by Nathan Harris

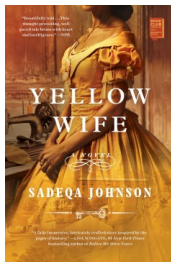
In the spirit of *The Known World* and *The Underground Railroad*, a profound debut about the unlikely bond between two freedmen who are brothers and the Georgia farmer whose alliance will alter their lives, and his, forever.



## Exit the actress

by Priya Parmar

In 17th-century England, Ellen "Nell" Gwyn becomes an established stage actress, but finds her life becoming more complicated once she becomes the mistress of King Charles II.



## Yellow wife

by Sadeqa Johnson

Born on a plantation, but set apart from the others by her mother's position as a medicine woman, a young slave is forced to leave home at 18 and unexpectedly finds herself in an infamously cruel jail.



## Little

by Edward Carey

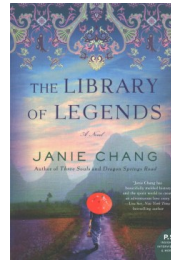
The wry, macabre, unforgettable tale of an ambitious orphan in Revolutionary Paris, befriended by royalty and radicals, who transforms herself into the legendary Madame Tussaud.



## Great circle

by Maggie Shipstead

A century after daredevil female aviator Marian Graves's disappearance in Antarctica, actress Hadley Baxter is cast to play her and immerses herself in the role as their fates—and their dreams—become intertwined.



## The library of legends

by Janie Chang

Set in 1937 China, as Japanese bombs begin falling on the city of Nanking, Hu Lian and her classmates at Minghua University, entrusted with a priceless treasure, must navigate a world of danger, betrayal and love to keep a 500-year-old collection of myths and

legends safe.



## The four winds

by Kristin Hannah

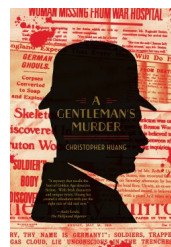
A Depression-era woman confronts a wrenching choice between fighting for the Dust Bowl-ravaged land she loves in Texas or pursuing an uncertain future in California. By the best-selling author of *The Nightingale*.



## How much of these hills is gold

by C Pam Zhang

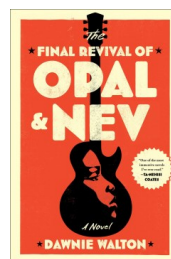
Two orphaned Chinese immigrant siblings flee the threats of their gold rush mining town across an unforgiving landscape where their survival is tested by family secrets, sibling rivalry and disparate goals.



## A gentleman's murder

by Christopher Huang

After his recent acceptance into a prestigious soldiers-only club in London, Lieutenant Eric Peterkin investigates the death of another member.

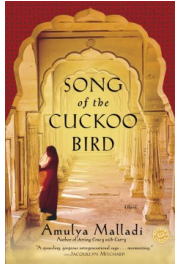


## The final revival of Opal & Nev

by Dawnie Walton

Accepting a contract from a fledgling record company, a talented music artist in early 1970s New York endures racist responses to her activism, before a reunion interview decades later reveals explosive secrets.



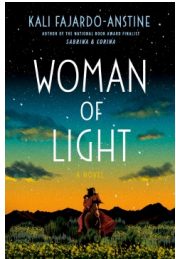


## Song of the cuckoo bird

by Amulya Malladi

Kokila, a young orphan promised in an arranged marriage, takes a stand to preserve her independence by refusing to go home with her husband, a refusal that condemns her to a life of poverty and isolation in which she must fight for a place in a society that measures a

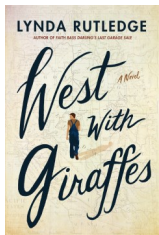
woman's worth through her marriage and children.



## Woman of light : a novel

by Kali Fajardo-Anstine

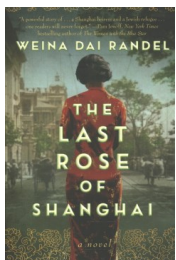
In 1930s Denver, Luz "Little Light" Lopez, a tea leaf reader and laundress, begins having visions that transport her to her Indigenous homeland in the nearby Lost Territory where she must save her family stories from disappearing into oblivion. Maps.



## West with giraffes

by Lynda Rutledge

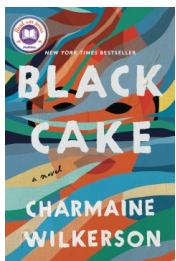
Inspired by true events, this part adventure, part historical saga and part coming-of-age love story follows Woodrow Wilson Nickel as he recalls his journey in 1938 to deliver Southern California's first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo.



## The last rose of Shanghai

by Weina Dai Randel

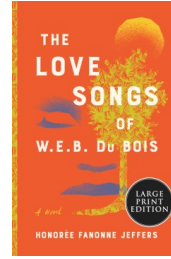
In Japanese-occupied Shanghai in 1940, when a young heiress and owner of a nightclub meets a penniless Jewish refugee driven out of Germany, they are drawn together by fate and the freedom of music, but their love and survival grow more desperate as the war escalates.



## Black cake

by Charmaine Wilkerson

Two estranged siblings try to reclaim the closeness they once shared while trying to piece together their late mother's life story and fulfill her last request of sharing a traditional Caribbean black cake "when the time is right."



## The love songs of W.E.B. Du Bois

by Honorée Fanonne Jeffers

To come to terms with who she is and what she wants, Ailey, the daughter of an accomplished doctor and a strict schoolteacher, embarks on a journey through her family's past, helping her embrace her full heritage, which is the

story of the Black experience in itself.



## Shrines of gaiety

by Kate Atkinson

In London after the Great War, Nellie Carter, the notorious—and ruthless—queen of a dazzling, seductive and corrupt new world in the clubs of Soho, finds her success breeding enemies as she faces threats from without and within, revealing the dark

underbelly beneath Soho's gaiety.

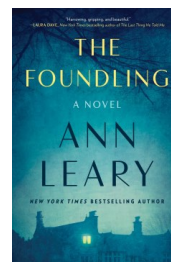


## The Prairie Chicken Dance Tour

by Dawn Dumont

The Prairie Chicken Dance Tour is loosely based -- like, hospital-gown loose -- on the true story of a group of Indigenous dancers who left Saskatchewan and toured through Europe in the 1970s. Dawn Dumont

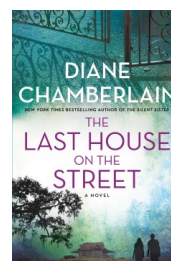
brings her signature razor-sharp wit and impeccable comedic timing to this hilarious, warm, and wildly entertaining novel.



## The foundling

by Ann Leary

In 1927, when 18-year-old Mary Engle, while working at an institution for mentally disabled women, learns that a girl from her childhood orphanage is an inmate, who begs Mary to help her escape, forcing Mary to make a terrible choice with life-altering consequences.



## The last house on the street

by Diane Chamberlain

Recently widowed, architect Kayla Carter moves into her new home in Round Hill where she is faced with threatening notes and a neighbor who is harboring long-buried secrets about the dark history of the land on which her house was built.