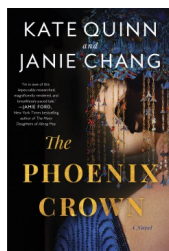



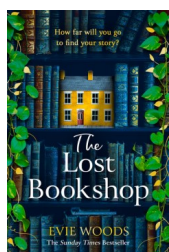
Book Club Possibilities

for the Historical Fiction Book Club • February 2025



The Phoenix crown

by Kate Quinn and Janie Chang 
Offered patronage by Henry Thornton, in 1906, Gemma, a soprano, and Suling, a Chinatown embroideress, when Henry disappears, along with the fabled Phoenix Crown, are brought together later in one last desperate quest for justice.



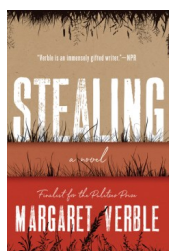
The lost bookshop

by Evie Woods
Opaline, Martha and Henry have been the side characters in their own lives. But when a vanishing bookshop casts its spell, these three strangers will discover that their own stories are every bit as extraordinary.



Lady Tan's circle of women

by Lisa See
Sent into an arranged marriage, Tan Yunxian, forbidden to continue her work as a midwife as well as see her forever friend Meiling, is ordered to act like proper wife and seeks a way to continue treating women and girls from every level of society in 15th-century China.




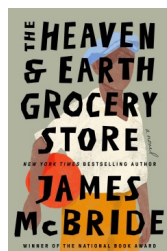
Stealing

by Margaret Verble
In the 1950s, strong-willed Kit, ripped from her home and Cherokee family and sent to a religious boarding school, she, along with the other Native students, is stripped of her heritage, force-fed Christian indoctrination and is sexually abused until she decides to fight back.



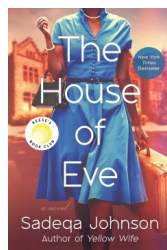
Coronation year

by Jennifer Robson 
Follows the owner and three very different residents of the Blue Lion Hotel as London prepares to celebrate the upcoming coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.



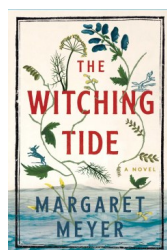
The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store

by James McBride
When a skeleton is unearthed in the small community of Chicken Hill, Pennsylvania, in 1972, an unforgettable cast of characters closely guard a secret, especially when the truth is revealed about what happened.




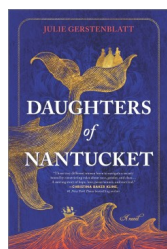
The house of Eve

by Sadeqa Johnson
In 1950s Philadelphia and Washington, DC, the lives of 15-year-old Ruby, whose affair threatens her dreams to attend college, and Eleanor Quarles, who hopes having a baby will gain her husband's wealthy family's acceptance, collide in the most unexpected of ways.



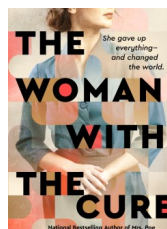
The witching tide

by Margaret Meyer 
In 1645 East Anglia, Martha, a midwife, who has not spoken in years, is caught between suspicion and betrayal when a witchfinder arrives and, in desperation, revives a wax witching doll in hope that it will bring protection, but the doll's true powers could reveal her secret.



Daughters of Nantucket

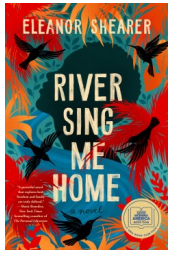
by Julie Gerstenblatt
A massive fire in 1846 Nantucket forces three very different women, a whaling widow, an astronomer and a pregnant, free black woman to evaluate their priorities regarding who and what they can save from the blaze.



The woman with the cure

by Lynn Cullen
In 1940s America where polio is as dreaded as the atomic bomb, Dr. Dorothy Horstmann, must decide what is forgivable, and how much should be sacrificed, in pursuit of the cure.

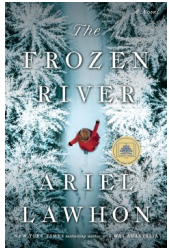




River sing me home

by Eleanor Shearer

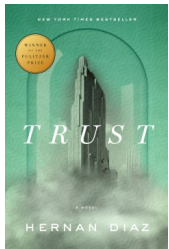
In 1834 Barbados, after the master of the Providence plantation in Barbados refuses to let them go even though the king has decreed an end to slavery, Rachel escapes and embarks on a dangerous journey to find her 5 children who survived at birth and were sold.



The frozen river

by Ariel Lawhon

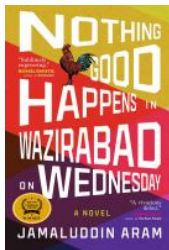
In 1789 Maine, midwife Martha Ballard, investigates a murder linked to an alleged rape that has shaken her small town, especially when her diary lands at the center of the scandal, threatening to tear both her family and her community apart.



Trust

by Hernan Diaz

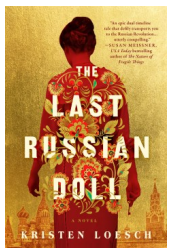
Told from the perspective of one woman bent on disentangling fact from fiction, this unrivaled novel about money, power, intimacy and perception is centered around the mystery of how the Rask family acquired their immense fortune in 1920s-1930's New York City.



Nothing Good Happens in Wazirabad on Wednesday

by Jamaluddin Aram

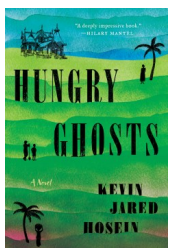
In this novel about peace in a time of war, debut author Jamaluddin Aram masterfully breathes life into the colourful characters of the town of Wazirabad, in early 1990s Kabul, Afghanistan.



The last Russian doll

by Kristen Loesch

A haunting, epic novel about betrayal, revenge, and redemption follows three generations of Russian women, from the 1917 revolution to the last days of the Soviet Union, and the enduring love story at the center.



Hungry ghosts

by Kevin Jared Hosein

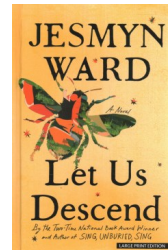
After a young man from the poorest part of Trinidad goes missing during the end of British colonialism, a farmhand is offered a generous stipend to become a watchman and determine what happened to the missing man.



Homecoming

by Kate Morton

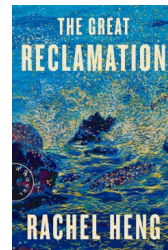
A laid-off London journalist returns home to Sydney where she discovers a link between her family and an infamous 1959 crime, in the new novel from the New York Times best-selling author.



Let us descend

by Jesmyn Ward

In the years before the Civil War, Annis, sold south by the white enslaver who fathered her, struggles through the miles-long march, seeks comfort from memories of her mother and stories of her African warrior grandmother, opening herself to a world beyond this world.



The great reclamation

by Rachel Heng

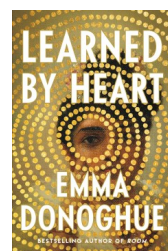
With the future of their fishing village in jeopardy after the Japanese army invades Singapore, Ah Boon, gifted with the unique ability to locate bountiful islands that no one else can find, and Siok Mei, the girl he has come to love, must decide who they want to be.



The marriage portrait

by Maggie O'Farrell

In Florence during the 1550s, young duchess Lucrezia de' Medici, having barely left girlhood behind, marries the ruler of Ferrara, Modena and Reggio, and now, in an unfamiliar court where she has a duty to provide an heir, fights for her very survival.



Learned by heart

by Emma Donoghue

Based on a true story and a secret journal, this extraordinary work of fiction follows an orphaned heiress, banished from India to England, and a tomboy who meet at the Manor School for young ladies in 1805 York where they fall secretly, deeply and dangerous in love.

