



## Page Turners

### Psychological Thrillers

Titles selected by staff at the  
Monroe Township Public Library

May 2021

Audrain, Ashley

#### ***The Push***

Blythe Connor is determined that she will be the warm, comforting mother to her new baby Violet that she herself never had. But in the thick of motherhood's exhausting early days, Blythe becomes convinced that something is wrong with her daughter—she doesn't behave like most children do.

Or is it all in Blythe's head? Her husband, Fox, says she's imagining things. The more Fox dismisses her fears, the more Blythe begins to question her own sanity, and the more we begin to question what Blythe is telling us about her life as well.

Then their son Sam is born—and with him, Blythe has the blissful connection she'd always imagined with her child. Even Violet seems to love her little brother. But when life as they know it is changed in an instant, the devastating fall-out forces Blythe to face the truth.

Cain, Chelsea

#### **Archie & Gretchen Series**

These highly suspenseful and intricately plotted thrillers feature Portland, Oregon police detective Archie Sheridan and serial killer Gretchen Lowell. The characters' inextricable emotional and psychosexual entanglement began with his ruthless torture at her hands, and salvation when she called 911 and turned herself in. These gruesome novels are masterpieces of thoroughly believable psychological complexity. They're darkly humorous, vividly written, and better read in order.

Crouch, Blake

#### ***Dark Matter***

*"Are you happy with your life?"* Those are the last words Jason Dessen hears before the masked abductor knocks him unconscious. Before he awakens to find himself strapped

to a gurney, surrounded by strangers in hazmat suits. Before a man Jason's never met smiles down at him and says, "Welcome back, my friend."

In this world he's woken up to, Jason's life is not the one he knows. Is it this world or the other that's the dream? And even if the home he remembers is real, how can Jason possibly make it back to the family he loves? The answers lie in a journey more wondrous and horrifying than anything he could've imagined—one that will force him to confront the darkest parts of himself even as he battles a terrifying, seemingly unbeatable foe.

Delaney, J.P.

***The Girl Before***

Seizing a unique opportunity to rent a one-of-a-kind house, a damaged young woman falls in love with the enigmatic architect who designed the residence, unaware that she is following in the footsteps of a doomed former tenant.

Fielding, Joy

***Still Life***

After Casey Marshall is hit by a car and falls into a coma she is able to hear everything going on around her body but not communicate and quickly discovers that the people nearest to her are not who she thought them to be, that her accident may have been a setup, and that her life may be in greater danger if she recovers.

Foley, Lucy

***The Guest List***

On an island off the coast of Ireland, guests gather to celebrate two people joining their lives together as one. The groom: handsome and charming, a rising television star. The bride: smart and ambitious, a magazine publisher. It's a wedding for a magazine. The cell phone service may be spotty and the waves may be rough, but every detail has been expertly planned and will be expertly executed. But perfection is for plans, and people are all too human. The groomsmen begin the drinking game from their school days. The bridesmaid not-so-accidentally ruins her dress. The bride's oldest (male) friend gives an uncomfortably caring toast. And then someone turns up dead. Who didn't wish the happy couple well? And perhaps more important, why?

French, Nicci

***Frieda Klein Series***

These intricately plotted psychological suspense stories star Frieda Klein, a talented psychotherapist who frequently consults with the London police. Solitary, cerebral, and haunted by her traumatic past, Klein delves deeply into criminal minds as her roles as

therapist and detective converge. Driven by its vividly drawn and constantly developing characters, this fiercely intelligent series is best read in order.

Goldin, Megan

### ***The Night Swim***

Ever since her true-crime podcast became an overnight sensation and set an innocent man free, Rachel Krall has become a household name—and the last hope for people seeking justice. The new season of Rachel's podcast has brought her to a small town being torn apart by a devastating rape trial. A local golden boy, a swimmer destined for Olympic greatness, has been accused of raping the beloved granddaughter of the police chief. Under pressure to make Season 3 a success, Rachel throws herself into her investigation—but mysterious letters keep coming. Someone is following her, and she won't stop until Rachel finds out what happened to her sister twenty-five years ago. Officially, Jenny Stills tragically drowned, but the letters insist she was murdered—and when Rachel starts asking questions, nobody in town wants to answer. The past and present start to collide as Rachel uncovers startling connections between the two cases—and a revelation that will change the course of the trial and the lives of everyone involved.

Kepnes, Caroline

### ***You Series***

(First book in series) Meeting at an East Village bookstore, aspiring writer Guinevere Beck and store employee Joe embark on an intimate relationship, only to suffer deadly consequences when their passion spirals out of control.

Marwood, Alex

### ***The Darkest Secret***

When a child goes missing at an opulent house party, it makes international news. But what really happened behind those closed doors? Twelve years ago, Mila Jackson's three-year-old half-sister Coco disappeared during their father's fiftieth birthday celebration, leaving behind her identical twin Ruby as the only witness. The girls' father, Sean, was wealthy and influential, as were the friends gathered at their seaside vacation home for the weekend's debauchery. The case ignited a media frenzy and forever changed the lives of everyone involved. Now, Sean Jackson is dead, and the people who were present that terrible night must gather once more for a funeral that will reveal that the secrets of the past can never stay hidden.

North, Alex

***The Whisper Man***

In this dark, suspenseful thriller, Alex North weaves a multi-generational tale of a father and son caught in the crosshairs of an investigation to catch a serial killer preying on a small town. Twenty years ago, a serial killer abducted and murdered five residents. Until Frank Carter was finally caught, he was nicknamed "The Whisper Man," for he would lure his victims out by whispering at their windows at night. Just as father and son settle into their new home, a young boy vanishes. His disappearance bears an unnerving resemblance to Frank Carter's crimes, reigniting old rumors that he preyed with an accomplice. Now, detectives Amanda Beck and Pete Willis must find the boy before it is too late, even if that means Pete has to revisit his great foe in prison: The Whisper Man.

Swanson, Peter

***Eight Perfect Murders***

Years after establishing a literary career through his compilation of the mystery genre's most unsolvable classics, an unsuspecting bookseller is tapped by the FBI for help solving murders that eerily mimic the books on his list.

Ware, Ruth

***One By One***

Getting snowed in at a luxurious, rustic ski chalet high in the French Alps doesn't sound like the worst problem in the world. Especially when there's a breathtaking vista, a full-service chef and housekeeper, a cozy fire to keep you warm, and others to keep you company. Unless that company happens to be eight coworkers . . . each with something to gain, something to lose, and something to hide. The storm brewing inside the chalet is no match for the one outside, however, and a devastating avalanche leaves the group cut off from all access to the outside world. Even worse, one coworker hadn't made it back from the slopes when the avalanche hit. As each hour passes without any sign of rescue, panic mounts, the chalet grows colder, and the group dwindles further . . . one by one.

**Other authors to consider:**

Boyd, Clare  
Cook, Robin  
Deaver, Jeffrey  
Fairstein, Linda

Halsall, Rona  
Highsmith, Patricia  
Homes, A.N.  
Vachss, Andrew