



# Page Turners

## At the Monroe Library New Beginnings

### **After You** by Jojo Moyes

In the wake of an accident, that leaves her back at home and in a support group, Louisa meets paramedic Sam Fielding, a man who might finally understand her, but she is forced to change her plans when someone from her past reappears.

Louisa Clark is no longer just an ordinary girl living an ordinary life. After the transformative six months spent with Will Traynor, she is struggling without him. When an extraordinary accident forces Lou to return home to her family, she can't help but feel she's right back where she started. Her body heals, but Lou herself knows that she needs to be kick-started back to life. Which is how she ends up in a church basement with the members of the Moving On support group, who share insights, laughter, frustrations, and terrible cookies. They will also lead her to the strong, capable Sam Fielding -- the paramedic whose business is life and death, and the one man who might be able to understand her. Then a figure from Will's past appears and hijacks all her plans, propelling her into a very different future.

### **The Buddha in the Attic** by Julie Otsuka

Presents the stories of six Japanese mail-order brides whose new lives in early twentieth-century San Francisco are marked by backbreaking migrant work, cultural struggles, children who reject their heritage, and the prospect of wartime internment.

### **The Curated Closet: a Simple System for Discovering Your Personal Style and Building Your Dream Wardrobe** by Anuschka Rees 646.3

Presents a strategic, prescriptive approach to identifying, refining, and expressing personal style and building the perfect wardrobe to match it, as well as addressing style and shopping strategies that can be used every day.

**The Exiles: A Novel** by Christina Baker Kline

Sent to a Tasmanian penal colony after conceiving her employer's grandchild, a young governess befriends a talented midwife and an orphaned Aboriginal chief's daughter while confronting the harsh realities of British colonialism and oppression in nineteenth-century Australia.

**Float Plan** by Trish Doller

Since the loss of her fiancée, Anna has been shipwrecked by grief--until a reminder goes off about a trip they were supposed to take together. Impulsively, Anna goes to sea in their sailboat, intending to complete the voyage alone. But after a treacherous night's sail, she realizes she can't do it by herself and hires Keane, a professional sailor, to help. Much like Anna, Keane is struggling with a very different future than the one he had planned. As romance rises with the tide, they discover that it is never too late to chart a new course.

**Freeman: A Novel** by Leonard Pitts, Jr.

At the end of the Civil War, an escaped slave first returns to his old plantation and then walks across the ravaged South in search of his lost wife

**If You Lived Here You'd Be Home By Now** by Christopher Ingraham 070.92

Chris and Briana Ingraham were having a difficult time making ends meet as they tried to raise their twin boys in the East Coast suburbs. When he stumbled upon a ranking of America's 3,000+ counties from ugliest to most scenic, he scrolled to the bottom of the list and wrote the words "The absolute worst place to live in America is (drumroll please) Red Lake County, Minn." The story went viral, and the residents of Red Lake County challenged him to actually visit their community. Here he tells of experiencing the intensity and power of small-town gossip, his struggles to find a decent cup of coffee, winters with temperatures dropping to forty below zero, and some truths about small-town life that the coastal media usually miss.

**Lean on Pete** by Willy Vlautin

Left homeless by the death of his father, fifteen-year-old Charley Thompson sets off with a racehorse, Lean on Pete, on a perilous trek from Portland, Oregon to Wyoming to find a distant aunt, hoping to regain stability in his life.

**Martha Stewart's Organizing: The Manual for Bringing Order to Your Life, Home & Routines** by Martha Stewart 648.8

How to organize everything, from America's most trusted lifestyle authority, with color photographs throughout and hundreds of ideas, projects, and tips.

**The Mayflower** by Nathaniel Philbrick

973.22

From the perilous ocean crossing to the shared bounty of the first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrim settlement of New England has become enshrined as our most sacred national myth. Yet, as author Philbrick reveals, the true story of the Pilgrims is much more than the well-known tale of piety and sacrifice; it is a 55-year epic. The Mayflower's religious refugees arrived in Plymouth Harbor during a period of crisis for Native Americans, as disease spread by European fishermen devastated their populations. Initially the two groups maintained a fragile working relationship. But within decades, New England erupted into King Philip's War, a savage conflict that nearly wiped out colonists and natives alike, and forever altered the face of the fledgling colonies and the country that would grow from them. Philbrick has fashioned a fresh portrait of the dawn of American history--dominated right from the start by issues of race, violence, and religion.--From publisher description.

**The Melting Season** by Jami Attenberg

Fleeing her hometown with a suitcase of stolen money after being abandoned by her husband, Catherine Madison hopes to escape her painful past by starting over in Las Vegas, where unexpected friendships encourage her to accept difficult truths.

**Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac** by Gabrielle Zevin

After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life.

**The Night the Lights Went Out** by Karen White

Recently divorced, Merilee Talbot Dunlap moves with her two children to the Atlanta suburb of Sweet Apple, Georgia. It's not her first time starting over, but her efforts at a new beginning aren't helped by an anonymous local blog that dishes about the scandalous events that caused her marriage to fail. Merilee finds some measure of peace in the cottage she is renting from town matriarch Sugar Prescott. Though stubborn and irascible, Sugar sees something of herself in Merilee--something that allows her to open up about her own colorful past. Sugar's stories give Merilee a different perspective on the town and its wealthy school moms in their tennis whites and shiny SUVs, and even on her new friendship with Heather Blackford. Merilee is charmed by the glamorous young mother's seemingly perfect life and finds herself drawn into Heather's world. In a town like Sweet Apple, where sins and secrets are as likely to be found behind the walls of gated mansions as in the dark woods surrounding Merilee's house, appearance is everything. But just how dangerous that deception can be will shock all three women...

### **Orphan Train: a Novel** by Christina Baker Kline

Between 1854 and 1929, so-called orphan trains ran regularly from the cities of the East Coast to the farmlands of the Midwest, carrying thousands of abandoned children whose fates would be determined by pure luck. Would they be adopted by a kind and loving family, or would they face a childhood and adolescence of hard labor and servitude

As a young Irish immigrant, Vivian Daly was one such child, sent by rail from New York City to an uncertain future a world away. Returning east later in life, Vivian leads a quiet, peaceful existence on the coast of Maine, the memories of her upbringing rendered a hazy blur. But in her attic, hidden in trunks, are vestiges of a turbulent past.

Seventeen-year-old Molly Ayer knows that a community-service position helping an elderly widow clean out her attic is the only thing keeping her out of juvenile hall. But as Molly helps Vivian sort through her keepsakes and possessions, she discovers that she and Vivian aren't as different as they appear. A Penobscot Indian who has spent her youth in and out of foster homes, Molly is also an outsider being raised by strangers, and she, too, has unanswered questions about the past.

Moving between contemporary Maine and Depression-era Minnesota, *Orphan Train* is a powerful tale of upheaval and resilience, second chances, and unexpected friendship.

### **Paper Wife: a Novel** by Laila Ibrahim

Southern China, 1923. Desperate to secure her future, Mei Ling's parents arrange a marriage to a widower in California. To enter the country, she must pretend to be her husband's first wife, a paper wife. On the perilous voyage, Mei Ling takes an orphan girl named Siew under her wing. Dreams of a better life in America give Mei Ling the strength to endure the treacherous journey and detainment on Angel Island. But when she finally reaches San Francisco, she's met with a surprise. Her husband, Chinn Kai Li, is a houseboy, not the successful merchant he led her to believe. Mei Ling is penniless, pregnant, and bound to a man she doesn't know. Her fragile marriage is tested further when she discovers that Siew will likely be forced into prostitution. Desperate to rescue Siew, she must convince her husband that an orphan's life is worth fighting for. Can Mei Ling find a way to make a real family even if it's built on a paper foundation?

### **A Reliable Wife: A Novel** by Robert Goolrick

Set in rural Wisconsin in 1909, Ralph Truitt stands alone on a train platform waiting for the woman who answered his newspaper advertisement for "a reliable wife." But when Catherine Land steps off the train from Chicago, she's not the "simple, honest woman" that Ralph is expecting.

**The Sound of Glass** by Karen White

Unexpectedly inheriting her late husband's reclusive grandmother's home in South Carolina, widow Merritt Heyward investigates the Heyward family's shattering history while navigating the challenges of a young stepmother and ten-year-old half-brother.

**West off Kabul, East of New York: An Afghan American Story** by Tamim Ansary  
978.049

The son of an Afghan man and the first American woman to live as an Afghan, Ansary grew up in the intimate world of Afghan family life, one never seen by outsiders. No sooner had he emigrated to San Francisco than he was drawn into the community of Afghan expatriates sustained by the dream of returning to their country -and then drawn back to the Islamic world himself to discover the nascent phenomenon of militant religious fundamentalism. Tamim Ansary has emerged as one of the most eloquent voices on the conflict between Islam and the West. His book is a deeply personal account of the struggle to reconcile two great civilizations and to find some point in the imagination where they might meet.

**When We Believed in Mermaids** by Barbara O'Neal

Josie Bianci was killed years ago on a train during a terrorist attack. Gone forever. It's what her sister, Kit, an ER doctor in Santa Cruz, has always believed. Yet all it takes is a few heart-wrenching seconds to upend Kit's world. Live coverage of a club fire in Auckland has captured the image of a woman stumbling through the smoke and debris. Her resemblance to Josie is unbelievable, and unmistakable. With it comes a flood of emotions, grief, loss, and anger, that Kit finally has a chance to put to rest: by finding the sister who's been living a lie.