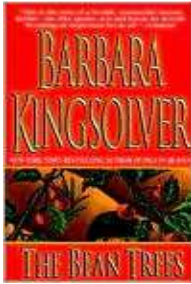




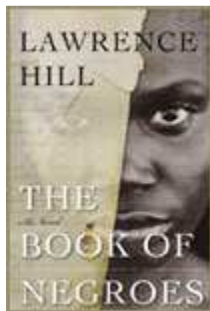
NOVELS ELA 30-1 30-2

ELA 30-1

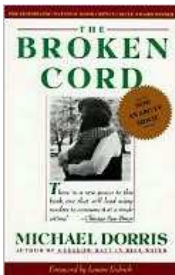


2 copies

In **The Bean Trees**, Taylor Greer escapes rural Kentucky in a dilapidated '55 Volkswagen. She arrives in Tucson, Arizona at an auto repair shop called "Jesus Is Lord Used Tires," which also doubles as a sanctuary for Central American refugees. En route, she is persuaded to take responsibility for a 3-year-old Native American child whom she names Turtle. Together, they become an unlikely family, bonded by love and optimism, helping others and being helped, as they make their way through life.

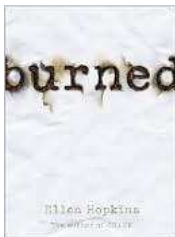


The Book of Negroes Aminata Diallo, an 11-year-old child, is taken from her village in West Africa and forced to walk for months to the sea in a coffle— a string of slaves. She arrives in South Carolina where she begins a new life as a slave. She later finds freedom, serving the British in the American Revolutionary War and having her name entered in the historic "Book of Negroes", an archive of freed Loyalist slaves who requested permission to leave the United States in order to resettle in Nova Scotia. Aminata finds this new place is also oppressive and unyielding, so she eventually returns to Sierra Leone, only to find Africa is no longer her home.

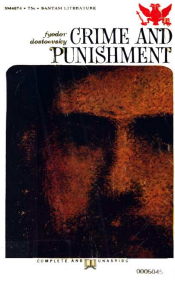


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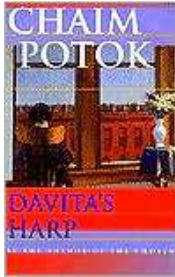
The Broken Cord is the story of Michael Dorris, a young bachelor, who adopts Adam. Over the course of the next 15 years, Michael gradually and painfully discovers that his adopted son is epileptic and severely limited developmentally. The challenges of physical and mental limitations strain Michael's resources, and when he marries, family relationships as well. Finally, after years of uncertainty, Adam is diagnosed as a victim of fetal alcohol syndrome, or FAS. The effects of his mother's drinking during pregnancy have been catastrophic to Adam and eventually lead to his death.



burned is the story of a Pattyn Von Stratten, raised in a religious but abusive family. The eldest daughter in a large Mormon family, Pattyn is sent to her aunt's Nevada ranch for the summer, where she temporarily escapes her alcoholic, abusive father and finds love and acceptance, only to lose everything when she returns home.



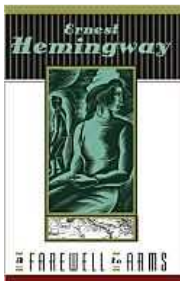
Crime and Punishment is the story of a murderer who places himself above society. In an effort to prove he is intellectually and morally superior to Russian society, Rodion Raskolnikov brutally murders a pawnbroker and her innocent sister with an axe. The novel traces the psychological breakdown that leads to Raskolnikov's eventual confession and sentence to a Siberian prison.



1 copy

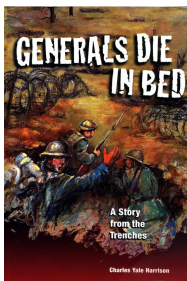
In **Davita's Harp**, Ilanna Davita Chandel is the daughter of David and Channah Chandel. Her father is a nonbelieving Christian, her mother a nonbelieving Jew, and both are Communists. Davita's story begins in pre-World War II Brooklyn, where her parents are workers for the communist cause.

Students may require extensive background information on the differences between Christianity and Judaism, the Spanish Civil War, and pre-World War II America and Europe. There is one mention of a rape, a scene of sexuality, some violence and a description of a lynching. However, none is gratuitous; each incident helps to shape Davita's character.

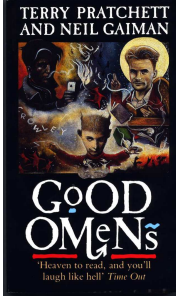


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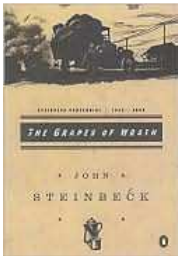
In **A Farewell to Arms**, Lieutenant Henry, an American ambulance driver on the Italian front, meets and falls in love with a beautiful English nurse, Catherine Barkley....It is a story of love amidst a world of chaos, where love and pain co-exist, yet move toward a fatalism that is felt by Henry and Catherine.



Generals Die in Bed is an anti-war novella by Canadian writer Charles Yale Harrison. Based on the author's own experiences in combat, it tells the story of a young soldier fighting in the trenches of WWI. The novel begins in Montreal, as a young unnamed soldier is about to depart with the Canadian army to fight the Germans in France. His squad consists of people with whom he builds close relations: Brown, Fry, Cleary, Anderson and Broadbent. The book quickly shifts to the trenches, where the protagonist's perspective of war quickly changes as he faces the terror of war, along with the wounds and lice he has to deal with while resting after battle.

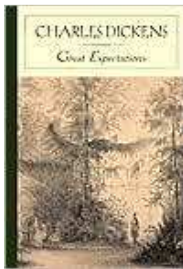


Good Omens is a comic fantasy about Armageddon. The basic plot is the story of Aziraphale and Crowley, respectively Heaven's and Hell's representatives in Western Europe, and their desperate struggle to stop Armageddon without getting into trouble with their superiors. Both Crowley and Aziraphale have become "humanized" from spending six thousand years on Earth and have formed "the sort of sensible arrangement that many isolated agents, working in awkward conditions a long way from their superiors, reach with their opposite number" (p 45). Their story forms a sort of central core to the plot to which the different subsidiary plots connect.



2 copies

The Grapes of Wrath traces the journey of the Joad family in the mid-1930s from a dried-out Oklahoma tenant farm to the "Promised Land" of California, where they desperately struggle to make a living picking fruit. In spite of the efforts of Ma Joad to keep the family together, the hardships encountered—hunger, sickness, discrimination, exploitation, death—all take their toll.



2 copies

Philip Pirrip, the protagonist of **Great Expectations**, is an orphaned village boy who, through a series of mysterious events, finds himself expecting to become a gentleman. His new-found good fortune takes him to London and elevates his social class, but does nothing to improve his character. The startling discovery of the real source of his fortune, and the eventual recognition of the needs of others, finally shows him the true meaning of "gentleman."

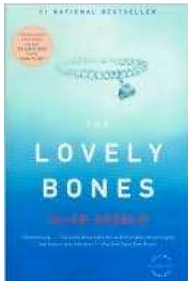


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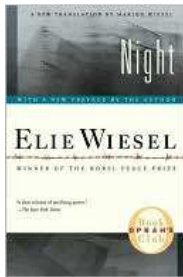
Into Thin Air is the definitive account of the deadliest season in the history of Everest. On assignment for **Outside** Magazine to report on the growing commercialization of the mountain, John Krakauer, an accomplished climber, went to the Himalayas as a client of Rob Hall, the most respected high-altitude guide in the world. A rangy, thirty-five-year-old New Zealander, Hall had summited Everest four times between 1990 and 1995 and had led thirty-nine climbers to the top. Ascending the mountain in close proximity to Hall's team was a guided expedition led by Scott Fischer, a forty-year-old American with legendary strength and drive who had climbed the peak without supplemental oxygen in 1994. But neither Hall nor Fischer survived the rogue storm that struck in May 1996.



The Kite Runner Amir lives a charmed life in a wealthy neighborhood in 1960's Kabul. His best friend is Hassan, the son of the family servant who is more like a brother to Amir. Their favorite pastime is summer kite fighting. But Hassan is a despised racial minority in Afghanistan and when Amir betrays Hassan to the neighborhood bully, his guilt sets the rest of his life on a new course. When the Soviets invade Russia, Amir and his father flee for the United States where Amir marries and begins a writing career. He is never fully able to forget his betrayal of Hassan and, when his father's business partner in Pakistan sends a deathbed summons for him, Amir returns to Kabul for a last chance to find absolution.



The Lovely Bones *The Lovely Bones* is the story of Susie Salmon, who is raped and killed when she is only fourteen. Rather than write this story as a thriller, author Sebold tells it from Susie's perspective: the dead victim tells her own story. The author combines well-chosen detail and exquisite prose to paint heartrending portraits of an entire suffering community, and how well she humanizes the serial rapist and killer Mr. Harvey, but without ever excusing his terrible crimes.



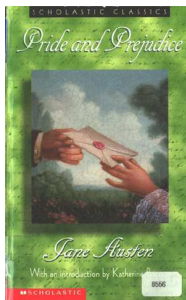
Night is the terrifying account of a Nazi death camp as told by survivor Elie Wiesel. Wiesel was still a teenager when he was taken from his home in Sighet, Transylvania, to the Auschwitz concentration camps and then to Buchenwald. The horror turned this young Jewish boy into an agonized witness to the death of his family, the death of innocence and the death of his God.

10 copies



Pilgrim at Tinker Creek is a season-by-season series of Annie Dillard's personal observations of nature. She says of herself, "I am above all an unscrupulous observer." They centre on a poet and naturalist's "receptiveness and concentration" on the countryside around Tinker Creek, Virginia and range from minute observations of such phenomena as caddis fly larvae to speculations about the principle of indeterminacy, or Einstein's "holy curiosity" about the nature of the Universe.

1 copy

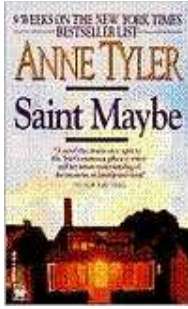


This opening statement from **Pride and Prejudice** neatly combines the typical Austen subject matter, the search for a suitable marriage partner, with the ironic tone of the novel:

"It is truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife."

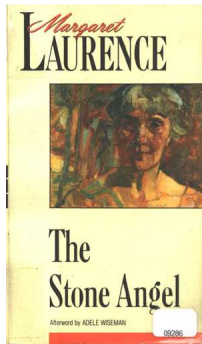
Mr. and Mrs. Bennet of Longbourne, Hertfordshire, with an estate entailed on a fatuous male cousin, have five unmarried daughters, and so the quest for wealthy husbands for at least the two oldest daughters is a serious matter.

2 copies



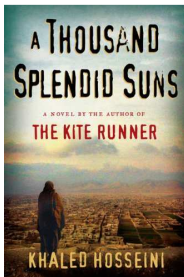
Baltimore, Maryland is the home of the ideal, “all-American” family, the Bedloes, the subject of the novel **Saint Maybe**. However, this idyllic world is soon shattered when Ian, the youngest child, learns a secret that has tragic consequences for Dan, his older brother. This tragedy alters Ian, sending him on a lifelong and painful search for redemption. His journey begins at “The Church of the Second Chance” whose theology expounds that forgiveness is not given freely, but must be earned.

1 copy



The Stone Angel tells of the last few days in the life of Hagar Shipley, a proud, stubborn old woman of 90. Age has rendered her incapable of living independently, she bitterly resents the assistance she requires, and she struggles to escape from her son’s home. Her tired old mind wanders into the past, calling into life, once more, the people—especially the men—who have been important to her. Her father, from whom she inherited her stubborn pride and inability to express the softer side of her nature; her husband, who died never suspecting her unspoken love; her favourite son, John, willful and unmanageable like herself, are all dead now. Only Marvin, her eldest son, is left, and when she finally forces herself to voice the approval he longs to hear, the words are a lie.

3 copies



A Thousand Splendid Suns is the story of two Afghani women, Mariam and Laila. The majority of the story takes place in Kabul, while moments of the story occur in Herat, Afghanistan and Murree, Pakistan. Mariam is the illegitimate child of a wealthy man in Herat who keeps her at arm’s length. She struggles to understand why she cannot be like her father’s other children, and desperately wants her father’s attention. When she disgraces her father by visiting him in Herat, she returns home to find that her mother has committed suicide. As a result, Mariam’s father gives her in marriage to the much older Rasheed who takes her to Kabul. In the ensuing narrative, Mariam learns to cook and clean for her husband, wear a burqa, endure constant beatings and abusive sex, and deal with the pain of multiple miscarriages.



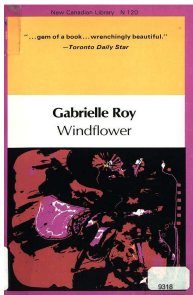
1 copy

In **The Wars**, Robert Ross, a gentle 19-year-old Canadian, experiences the horrors and personal dilemmas of war as a young officer in France during World War I. He undergoes moral and physical violation, and makes personally courageous but politically treasonous decisions, which lead to court-martial. The novel is a strong and sensitive condemnation of all “wars” against the human spirit.



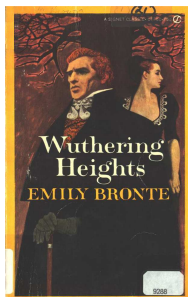
1 copy

Set on a farm in Northern Manitoba, **Wild Geese** portrays the life of Caleb Gare who cruelly suppresses his family. He blackmails his wife with the threat of exposing her illegitimate son, Mark Jordan, to the truth about his real father. The plot is further developed when Mark falls in love with the visiting school teacher, Lind Archer, whose confidante is Jude, Caleb’s daughter. Jude’s strength and sexuality are contrasted to Lind’s delicacy and tenderness. Later, Jude rejects Caleb’s belief in the necessity of immigrant hardships, and triumphs over her father’s oppression.



2 copies

In **Windflower**, Elsa, a young Inuit girl, is seduced by an American soldier in Fort Chimo, Northwest Territories. The child who is born, Jimmy, becomes the object of his young mother’s devotion. She attempts to immerse him in the Inuit culture, but finally loses him to the white man’s world and his wars.



3 copies

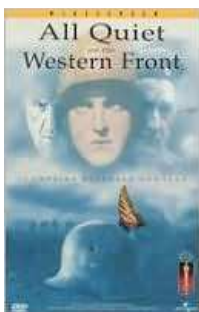
The saga **Wuthering Heights** is narrated by a new arrival on the wild Yorkshire moors, John Lockwood, whose informant is his housekeeper, Nelly Dean. She recounts to him, in a series of vivid flashbacks and time shifts, the events making up the troubled love story of Catherine Earnshaw and the dark and passionate Heathcliff—a story of love and vengeance, which passes on to the next generation in the characters of Cathy, the dead Catherine’s daughter, and Linton, Heathcliff’s son.

ELA 30-2



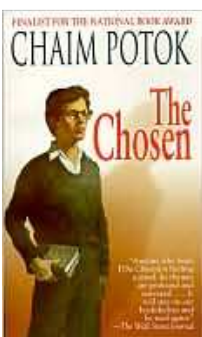
2 copies

In **Alicia: My Story**, Alicia, an adolescent Polish Jew, suffers the horrors of living and trying to survive under the Nazis. She sees her mother murdered, and experiences terrible hardships while hiding from the Nazis and their collaborators. Through luck, street sense, and the help of many good people, she is able to hide, survive and maintain her faith in the family and the essential goodness of people.



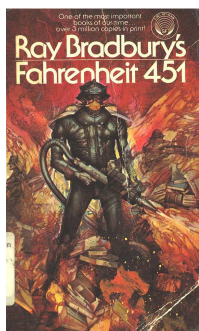
1 copy

In **All Quiet on the Western Front**, Paul Baumer, a German schoolboy, enlists with his classmates in World War I. Although youthful and optimistic, they lose their childhood, their connection to humankind, and their lives, through years of horror. Paul tries to fight against the hate that destroys all the young people regardless of country or uniform.



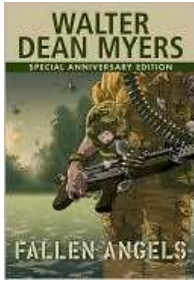
2 copies

The Chosen is a story of friendship that develops when two Jewish boys are rivals during a baseball game. Reuven Malter is an Orthodox Jew; Danny Saunders is a Hasidic Jew and oldest son of his sect's rebbi. In spite of their religious differences, the two develop a strong bond of love and friendship that is able to survive all adversity. The story not only revolves around their friendship, but also examines the difficulties faced when the desires of a child do not match the desires that parents and culture place on the individual.



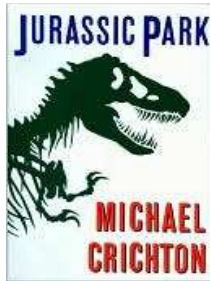
1 copy

In **Fahrenheit 451**, a speculative fiction work, the state controls all thinking. The general theme is that "Books are bad. Books are burned because books are ideas." The protagonist, Guy Montag, is a fireman whose job is to burn books. Complications arise in Montag's professional and personal life when, out of curiosity, he steals a book from a burning library and is subsequently denounced by his wife and workmates.



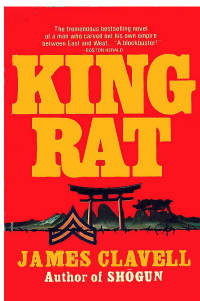
2 copies

In **Fallen Angels**, Perry, a 17-year-old black youth, has no future in Harlem, and so enlists in the army to fight in the Vietnam war. He and his friend, Peewee, survive physically, but not before the horrors of war and the deaths of men, women and children embed themselves in their psyches. Disillusioned, Perry must find meaning in life.



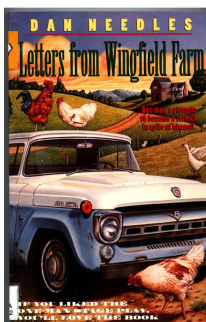
1 copy

In **Jurassic Park**, Dr. Allan Grant and Dr. Ellie Sattler join other consultants and guests at a dinosaur theme island off the coast of Costa Rica. Dinosaurs have been cloned from Jurassic-era DNA, combined with more recent DNA from frogs. The resulting offspring develop overly aggressive characteristics leading to lots of excitement, adventure and violence, in which all the bad guys die, and all the good guys survive.



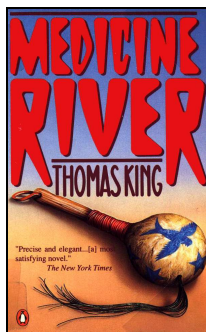
2 copies

King Rat depicts the life of British and American personnel in a Japanese prisoner of war camp. The key figure in the novel is "the King," an American corporal who manages to retain a standard of living envied by all other PoWs. The King is surrounded by countless underlings who both support and betray him. He has one friend, British Flight Lieutenant Peter Marlowe. The King's "greatest enemy" is L. Gary, Provost Marshall, a lonely fanatic who is determined to entrap him.



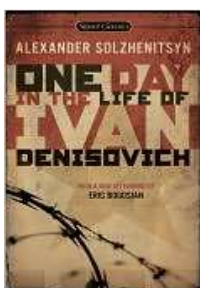
1 copy

In **Letters from Wingfield Farm**, Walt Wingfield leaves his position as board chairman of a Toronto brokerage house to take over the "old Fisher place" on Rural Route 1, Persephone County. He begins to farm his newly acquired 100-acre plot as a philosopher-farmer. He believes he can establish an economically viable operation based on sound, big business principles, while using only horse-drawn equipment.



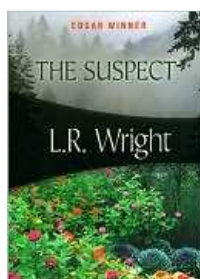
2 copies

With **Medicine River**, Thomas King has created a tongue-in-cheek account of the inhabitants and the social structure of Medicine River. The protagonist, Will, returns to a small Blackfoot community in southern Alberta to sort out the details of his mother's death. This return to his roots stirs many long-buried issues from his childhood and forces him to confront his true values. His encounter with Harlen Bigbear results in a series of events which direct his life and affairs into otherwise unconsidered directions.



several copies

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich tells of survival in a Siberian camp for political prisoners. Ivan Denisovich depends upon his shrewdness and skills as a mason to survive. Solzhenitsyn introduces Ivan at 5 o'clock on a cold winter morning, and the reader follows him through a typical day. In Ivan's life, the overriding factor is self-preservation.



1 copy

In **The Suspect**, George Wilcox, at the age of 80, commits the near-perfect crime. The murder happens quickly, quietly, and very unexpectedly, in a small town on the Sunshine Coast in British Columbia. This unusual turn in George's life would have gone undetected had his conscience not started to bother him. The suspense mounts as George befriends the local librarian, Cassandra Mitchell, and her new boyfriend, Karl Alberg, the local RCMP Staff Sergeant. Together, these three find themselves on a collision course of conflicting values and loyalties.



Tuesdays with Morrie is a 1997 non-fiction novel by American writer Mitch Albom. It tells the true story of sociologist Morrie Schwartz and his relationship with his students. The book chronicles the lessons about life that Mitch learns from his professor, who is dying. He describes to Albom the importance to forge his own culture; popular culture has become a dictator under which human communities must suffer. Schwartz quotes his favorite poet W.H. Auden, with "love each other or perish



Walking with the Great Apes is about Jane Goodall's work with the chimpanzees of Gombe; Dian Fossey's defence of the mountain gorillas of Risande; and Biruté Galdikas' study of orangutans in Borneo. It presents a composite picture of three women who forge careers through their study of primates. While this book portrays the work of these women, it also compares the different psychological characteristics of each researcher and is, therefore, as much a perceptive study of the women as it is of the primates.

1 copy (599.88)