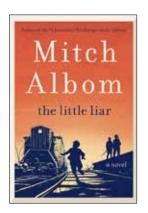
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

At Home Reader

Sept./Oct 2025

REVIEWS FOR HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY AT HOME READERS

Reader Recommendations



The Little Liar By Mitch Albom

Having read a couple of Albom's books, I knew I was in for an interesting adventure. Set in Nazi-occupied Greece, a German officer deceives 11-year-old Nico into persuading his family to board a train to Auschwitz. Nico believed they were being sent "north" to safety. This book interweaves the stories of Nico, who yearns for forgiveness; his older brother, Sebastian, who vows revenge against him; and Fannie, the girl who must choose between them.

Reviewed by Betty B., At Home patron Also available: large print

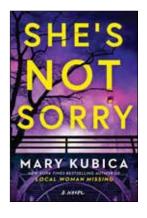


The Thread Collectors

By Shaunna J. Edwards and Alyson Richman

During the Civil War, Stella, a Black mapmaker in Union-occupied New Orleans, secretly embroiders cloth maps to help enslaved men escape and conceals her love for Union soldier William. In New York, Jewish abolitionist Lily quilts for troops and travels South to find her missing husband – eventually meeting Stella. It is beautifully written, and I felt the writers' angst, emotion, and longing. It is a true library treasure!

Reviewed by Lisa P., At Home patron Also available: large print



She's Not Sorry By Mary Kubica

While juggling single motherhood and ICU shifts, a nurse uncovers secrets behind a patient's fall. Her growing involvement places both her and her daughter in peril. The deeper she digs, the closer danger looms. There is a surprise outcome. I thoroughly enjoyed the book!

Reviewed by Rochelle W., At Home patron Also available: large print, CD

New Fiction Books

Alphabetical order by author

What Kind of Paradise By Janelle Brown

In 1990s Montana, Jane is raised off-grid by her father. When she discovers he committed a horrific crime, she flees to booming techdriven San Francisco to investigate how her mother really died when she was little. Also available: large print

The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife By Anna Johnston

Fred Fife, 82, assumes a missing man's identity at a nursing home, finding shelter and connection with caregiver Denise. Deception sparks healing as both rediscover purpose through kindness and unlikely kinship.

Also available: large print

Sleep By Honor Jones

Margaret, newly divorced, raises her daughters while confronting childhood trauma. She reflects on how to protect them, as memories of her volatile mother stir doubt and reshape her understanding of care, safety, and love. Also available: large print

The Martha's Vineyard Beach and Book Club By Martha Hall Kelly

In 2016, grieving Mari seeks artist Elizabeth Devereaux and uncovers the WWII story of the Smith sisters, whose book club, a forbidden romance, and a suspected spy reshaped life on Martha's Vineyard. *Also available: large print*

The Phoenix Pencil Company By Allison King

A college freshman coding a connection app links clues from her Chinese grandmother's past – women who could Reforge a pencil's words to alter stories and infiltrate enemy ranks during wartime in Shanghai.

Also available: large print, CD

The River Is Waiting By Wally Lamb

Corby Ledbetter spirals after job loss and addiction, causing a family tragedy. In prison, a wise librarian, loyal cellmate, and troubled teen help him rediscover hope and the possibility of forgiveness. *Also available: large print, CD*

The Doorman By Chris Pavone

At the Bohemia, a storied NYC building, Emily endures a bitter marriage and Julian fears obsolescence. Below, apartment staff reel from news of police killing a Black man. Doorman Chicky Diaz arms himself as tension escalates. *Also available: large print*

Atmosphere: A Love Story By Taylor Jenkins Reid

Joan Goodwin leaves her life as a physics professor to join NASA's first wave of women astronauts, forming unlikely

astronauts, forming unlikely friendships and discovering unexpected love. Then, on a December 1984 mission, everything changes in an instant. *Also available: large print*

The Emperor of Gladness By Ocean Vuong

Hai nearly jumps off a bridge but meets Grazina, a dementia-stricken widow. Caring for her, he revives his purpose, heals family wounds, and reconnects with his town.

Also available: large print



Title summaries taken from the Library catalog.

New Nonfiction Books

Alphabetical order by author

The Allure of Elsewhere: A Memoir of Going Solo By Karen Babine

Two cats, a camper, and thousands of miles: from Minnesota to Nova Scotia, a woman traces Acadian roots while weighing family loyalty against the pull of her solitary, self-chosen life.

Mark Twain **By Ron Chernow**

This 1,200-page biography by a Pulitzer Prize-winning author follows Twain's transformation from river pilot to literary legend. Alongside his satirical brilliance and cultural influence, the book chronicles the private tragedies shadowing Twain's final years.

Murderland: Crime and Bloodlust in the Time of **Serial Killers**

By Caroline Fraser

Throughout the 1970s and '80s, the Pacific Northwest saw a surge in serial killings, unfolding against a backdrop of environmental collapse. The author proposes that industrial toxicity helped incubate a new kind of violent mind. Also available: large print

This Dog Will **Change Your Life**

By Elias Weiss Friedman with Ben Greenman

Photographer Elias Weiss Friedman, known as The Dogist, draws on decades of studying dogs and their people. Through portraits and stories, he illustrates how dogs enrich our lives by helping us become better versions of ourselves.

This American Woman: A One-in-a-Billion Memoir By Zarna Garq

Garg escaped an arranged marriage and homelessness in India to forge a bold new life in America. This hilarious memoir charts a journey of reinvention, resilience, and late-blooming comedic stardom.

The Last American **Road Trip: A Memoir** By Sarah Kendzior

To ensure her children witness America before it changes, a journalist mother leads road trips along Route 66, through historical landmarks and national parks amid rising autocracy, pandemic disruption, and democratic decline.

Accidentally on Purpose: A Memoir

By Kristen Kish with Stef Ferrari

The author wins Top Chef and becomes its Emmynominated host. Her memoir traces adoption, fitting in, pretzel-stand beginnings, unexpected fame, coming out, and finding love, unfolding a life shaped by twists and turns.

Is a River Alive? By Robert Macfarlane

Framed by journeys through Ecuador, India, and Canada, this lyrical work affirms rivers as sentient, imperiled beings. Their fragile fate is entwined with our own.

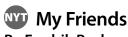
The Place of Tides **By James Rebanks**

Years after meeting a solitary woman who harvests rare eiderdown from nesting ducks, the British writer returns to the woman's isolated Arctic island, witnessing her final season and a fading coastal tradition.

More New Books

Alphabetical order by author

Fiction



By Fredrik Backman Also available: large print, CD

The Love Haters

Bv Katherine Center Also available: CD

Meet Me at the Crossroads

By Megan Giddings

The Stolen Life of Colette Marceau

Bv Kristin Harmel Also available: large print, CD

Fever Beach

By Carl Hiaasen Also available: large print

The Names

By Florence Knapp Also available: large print

Murder Takes a Vacation

By Laura Lippman Also available: large print, CD

The Tenant

By Freida McFadden Also available: large print

Lone Dog Road

By Kent Nerburn

NYD Hidden Nature

By Nora Roberts Also available: large print, CD

Run for the Hills

By Kevin Wilson

Julie Chan is Dead

By Liann Zhang Also available: large print

Cozy Mystery

Star-Crossed Egg Tarts

By Jennifer J. Chow Also available: large print

A Dark and Stormy Knit

By Peggy Ehrhart Also available: large print

Death by Chocolate Pumpkin Muffin

By Sarah Graves Also available: large print

Death Among the Stitches

By Betty Hechtman Also available: large print

Murder in Highbury

By Vanessa Kelly Also available: large print

The Busybody Book Club

By Freya Sampson Also available: large print

Historical

My Name is Emilia Del Valle

By Isabel Allende Also available: large print

I'll Be Right Here

By Amy Bloom Also available: large print

Don't Forget Me, Little Bessie

By James Lee Burke Also available: large print, CD

Kate & Frida: A Novel of Friendship, Food, and Books

By Kim Fay Also available: large print

The Sirens

By Emilia Hart Also available: large print

The Boxcar Librarian

Bv Brianna Labuskes Also available: large print, CD

Where the Rivers Merge

By Mary Alice Monroe Also available: large print



This is a selection from the new titles that Hennepin County Library has ordered.

Bent but Not Broken

By Mary Monroe Also available: large print

The Keeper of Lost Art

By Laura Morelli Also available: large print

The Secrets of Flowers

By Sally Page Also available: large print

The Original Daughter

By Jemimah Wei Also available: large print

Humorous

The Proof of My Innocence

By Jonathan Coe

Thus With a Kiss I Die

Bv Christina Dodd Also available: large print

Anima Rising

By Christopher Moore

Food Person

By Adam Roberts

Slow Burn Summer

By Josie Silver Also available: large print

Mystery

Stuart Woods' **Finders Keepers**

By Brett Battles Also available: large print

Death at the White Hart

Bv Chris Chibnall Also available: large print

Nightshade

By Michael Connelly Also available: large print

The Missing Half

By Ashley Flowers with Alex Kiester Also available: large print

Rattlesnake Bluff

By Cary J. Griffith

Who Will Remember

By C.S. Harris Also available: large print, CD

Marble Hall Murders

Bv Anthony Horowitz Also available: large print

NYD Return to Sender

By Craig Johnson Also available: large print

Knave of Diamonds: A Novel of Suspense Featuring Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes

By Laurie R. King Also available: large print, CD

Psychological

Don't Open Your Eyes

By Liv Constantine Also available: large print

The Correspondent

By Virginia Evans

Don't Let Him In

By Lisa Jewell Also available: large print, CD

Don't Tell Me How to Die

By Marshall Karp Also available: large print, CD

The Evening Shades

By Lee Martin

The Girls Who Grew Big

By Leila Mottley Also available: large print

More New Books

Alphabetical order by author

Religious

Missing Her **Amish Boyfriend**

By Rachel J. Good Also available: large print

Sunrise Reef

By Irene Hannon Also available: large print

Green Pastures

By Patricia Johns Also available: large print

Hope's Enduring Echo

By Kim Vogel Sawyer Also available: large print

Midnight on the **Scottish Shore:** A Novel of World War II

By Sarah Sundin Also available: large print

Romance



It Takes a Psychic

By Jayne Castle Also available: large print

The Voice We Find

By Nicole Deese Also available: large print

Thunder Game

By Christine Feehan Also available: large print, CD

One Golden Summer

By Carley Fortune Also available: large print

The Two of Us

By Lori Foster and Maisey Yates Also available: large print



NYD Sounds Like Love

By Ashley Poston Also available: large print

The Love Fix

Bv Jill Shalvis Also available: large print, CD

Science Fiction/ Fantasy

Emily Wilde's Compendium of Lost Tales

By Heather Fawcett Also available: large print

Silver Elite

By Dani Francis

Orbital

By Samantha Harvey Also available: large print, CD

Elphie: A Wicked Childhood

By Gregory Maguire Also available: large print, CD

Bury Our Bones in the Midnight Soil

By V.E. Schwab

Thriller



The First Gentleman

By Bill Clinton and James Patterson Also available: large print, CD

The Children of Eve

By John Connolly Also available: large print, CD



WY King of Ashes

By S.A. Cosby Also available: large print, CD

South of Nowhere

By Jeffery Deaver Also available: large print

The Death Mask

By Iris Johansen Also available: large print



Never Flinch

By Stephen King Also available: large print, CD

Penitence

By Kristin Koval Also available: large print



Badlands

By Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child Also available: large print This is a selection from the new titles that Hennepin County Library has ordered.



With a Vengeance

By Riley Sager Also available: large print



A Mother's Love

By Danielle Steel Also available: large print

This Book Will Bury Me

By Ashley Winstead Also available: large print

Western

Lawman's Duty

By James Clay Available only in large print

Tough Luck

By Sandra Dallas Also available: large print

Return to Rio Bonita

Bv Rod Timanus Available only in large print

Nonfiction

The Scenic Route: Building Minnesota's North Shore

By Arnold R. Alanen

Chief Rondo: Securing Justice for the Murder of **George Floyd**

By Former Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo with Jennifer Amie

Class Clown: The Memoirs of a Professional Wiseass: **How I Went 77 Years** Without Growing Up

By Dave Barry Also available: large print, CD

Uptown Girl: A Memoir

By Christie Brinkley Also available: CD

W We Can Do Hard Things: Answers to Life's 20 Questions

By Glennon Doyle, Abby Wambach, and Amanda Doyle

Face in the Mirror: A Surgeon, a Patient, and the Remarkable Story of the First Face Transplant at Mayo Clinic

By Jack El-Hai

The Next Day: Transitions, Change, and Moving **Forward**

By Melinda French Gates Also available: large print

Empire of Al: Dreams and Nightmares in Sam Altman's OpenAl

By Karen Hao

Original Sin: President Biden's Decline, Its Cover-Up, and His Disastrous Choice to Run Again

By Jake Tapper and Alex Thompson Also available: large print

When It All Burns: Fighting Fire in a Transformed World

Bv Jordan Thomas

Super Agers: An Evidence-Based Approach to Longevity

By Eric Topol, M.D. Also available: large print

The Art Spy: The Extraordinary Untold Tale of WWII Resistance **Hero Rose Valland**

By Michelle Young

Hennepin County Library Outreach Services 12601 Ridgedale Drive Minnetonka, MN 55305-1909

www.hclib.org

Non Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 796 Hopkins, MN

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The At Home Reader is funded by Friends of the Hennepin County Library. It is produced six times each year and distributed as a book selection aid to Hennepin County Library Outreach patrons. For more information, call 612-543-8850.



HCL 8/2025

Book Reviews

Send us a review of a book that you've enjoyed. In a few sentences, tell us the plot and what you especially liked about the book. Reviews may be published in future issues of the "At Home Reader." We'll include your first name and last initial only. Editing for space may be necessary.

Title:	
Author:	
Review:	
Name:	Phone:

