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Happy reading! – Miss Mullins, Miss Walker, and Miss McGarr



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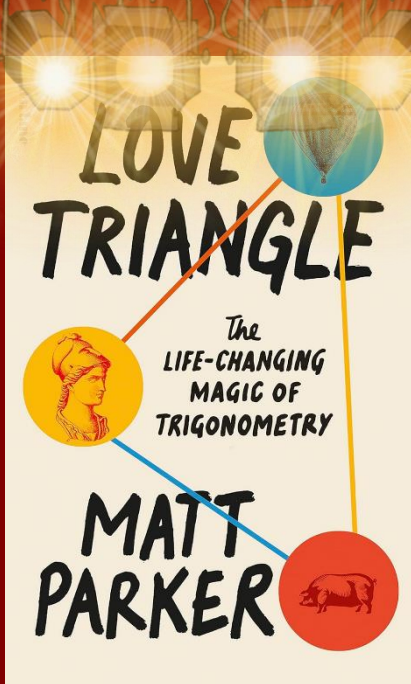
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Wish List Spotlight:



Love Triangle: The Life-Changing Magic of Trigonometry by Matt Parker

Why can no two people ever see the same rainbow? What happens when you pull a pop song apart into pure sine waves and play it back on a piano? Why does the wake behind a duck always form an angle of exactly 39 degrees? And what did mathematicians have to do with the great pig stampede of 2012? The answer to each of these questions can be found in the triangle.

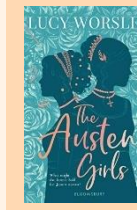
In *Love Triangle*, stand-up comedian, ex-maths teacher and Sunday Times number one bestselling author Matt Parker is on a mission to prove why we should all show a lot more love for triangles, along with the useful trigonometry and geometry they enable. To make his point, he uses triangles to create his own digital avatar, survive a harrowing motorcycle ride, cut a sandwich into three equal parts, and measure tall buildings while wearing silly shoes. But soon these hare-brained experiments begin to reveal a genuinely important truth: triangles are the hidden pattern beneath the surface of the contemporary world, used in everything from GPS to CGI via Spotify streaming, the play button and your best mate's triangle tattoo.

Join Matt Parker as he demonstrates why there's more to triangles than Pythagoras and SOHCAHTOA. Triangles are everything and everything is triangles.

"Either way, change will come. It could be bloody, or it could be beautiful. It depends on us." — Arundhati Roy



As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow by Zoufka Katouh
Salama Kassab was a pharmacy student when the cries for freedom broke out in Syria. She still had her parents and her big brother; she still had her home. She had a normal teenager's life. Now Salama volunteers at a hospital in Homs, helping the wounded who flood through the doors daily. Secretly, though, she is desperate to find a way out of her beloved country before her sister-in-law, Layla, gives birth. So desperate, that she has manifested a physical embodiment of her fear in the form of her imagined companion, Khawf, who haunts her every move in an effort to keep her safe. But even with Khawf pressing her to leave, Salama is torn between her loyalty to her country and her conviction to survive. Salama must contend with bullets and bombs, military assaults, and her shifting sense of morality before she might finally breathe free. And when she crosses paths with the boy she was supposed to meet one fateful day, she starts to doubt her resolve in leaving home at all. Soon, Salama must learn to see the events around her for what they truly are—not a war, but a revolution—and decide how she, too, will cry for Syria's freedom.

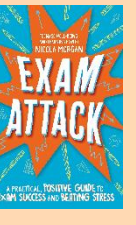


The Austen Girls by Lucy Worsley
It is 1809 and Fanny and Anna have just been launched on to the ruthless Regency marriage market by Fanny's mother (think Mrs Bennet). But luckily their mysteriously wealthy Aunt Jane is there to guide them and help them make better choices - i.e. don't get married at all! Jane plays detective to help them rescue a falsely accused friend from being transported to Australia, while Anna impetuously makes and breaks an engagement. Fanny is forced to leave the marriage market when her mother dies and she has to look after ten siblings. She learns the secret of Jane's wealth and self-possession (she is, of course, a writer) and decides to follow in her footsteps.

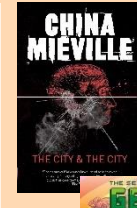
The Cats We Meet Along the Way by Nadia Mikail
A stunning debut young adult novel set in Malaysia, charting Aisha and her family on a roadtrip through the country in search of estranged sister, June. Set against the backdrop of a world catastrophe, this novel is full of love, healing and hope. Seventeen-year-old Aisha hasn't seen her sister June for two years. And now that a calamity is about to end the world in nine months' time, she and her mother decide that it's time to track her down and mend the hurts of the past. Along with Aisha's boyfriend, Walter and his parents (and Fleabag the stray cat), the group take a roadtrip through Malaysia in a wildly decorated campervan - to put the past to rest, to come to terms with the present, and to hope for the future.



Exam Attack: How to Beat Exam Stress by Nicola Morgan
A simple, short, positive guide for exam students, helping you deal with stress well and so give yourself the best chance of achieving your potential. Written by a well-known expert in stress, adolescence and the learning brain. Nicola Morgan's voice for teenagers is known for being warm, caring, clear and knowledgeable and this short book pulls together the acclaimed advice from her blog and talks, to create a neat, easy-to-navigate set of simple guidelines for coping with exams.



The City & The City by China Miéville
(Recommended for Older Readers)
When a murdered woman is found in the city of Beszel, somewhere at the edge of Europe, it looks to be a routine case for Inspector Tyador Borlú of the Extreme Crime Squad. But as he investigates, the evidence points to conspiracies far stranger and more deadly than anything he could have imagined. Borlú must travel from the decaying Beszel to the only metropolis on Earth as strange as his own. This is a border crossing like no other, a journey as psychic as it is physical, a shift in perception, a seeing of the unseen. His destination is Beszel's equal, rival, and intimate neighbor, the rich and vibrant city of Ul Qoma. With Ul Qoman detective Qassim Dhatt, and struggling with his own transition, Borlú is enmeshed in a sordid underworld of rabid nationalists intent on destroying their neighbouring city, and unificationists who dream of dissolving the two into one. As the detectives uncover the dead woman's secrets, they begin to suspect a truth that could cost them and those they care about more than their lives. What stands against them are murderous powers in Beszel and in Ul Qoma: and, most terrifying of all, that which lies between these two cities.



The Secret Loves of Geeks edited by Hope Nicholson
(Recommended for Older Readers)
Cartoonists and professional geeks tell their intimate, heart-breaking, and inspiring stories about love, sex and dating in this comics and prose anthology, a follow-up to 2016 best-seller *The Secret Loves of Geek Girls*. Featuring work by Margaret Atwood (Hag-Seed), Gerard Way (Umbrella Academy), Dana Simpson (Phoebe and Her Unicorn), Cecil Castellucci (Soupy Leaves Home), Gabby Rivera (America), Valentine De Landro (Bitch Planet), Amy Chu (Poison Ivy), Sfe R. Monster (Beyond: A queer comics anthology), Michael Walsh (Secret Avengers), and many more.



June's MOST POPULAR BOOKS

- 1** **Mockingjay** by Suzanne Collins
- 2** **Red Queen** by Victoria Aveyard
- 3** **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins
- 4** **One of Us is Lying** by Karen M McManus
- 5** **The Maze Runner** by James Dashner
- 6** **Frozen Charlotte** by Alex Bell
- 7** **Harry Potter and the Cursed Child** by J.K. Rowling
- 8** **The Handmaid's Tale** by Margaret Atwood

STAR BORROWERS OF THE MONTH

Each month we highlight star borrowers- those that have borrowed 5 or more books.

Year 7

- Iris 7N
- Neev 7N
- Amelie 7N
- Ananya 7W
- Nidhi 7W
- Anisha 7W
- Hriya 7W
- Angel 7S
- Tomoko 7S
- Tripti 7F
- Jasmine 7F

Year 8

- Joanne 7F
- Sophie 7P
- Rebecca 7P
- Elizabeth 7P
- Mariam 7P
- Naomi 7P
- Livia 7P
- Angelina 7P

Year 8

- Aksha 8P
- Valerie 8P
- Nysa 8P
- Akshara 8W
- Madeleine 8W
- Angel 8S
- Imaan 8F
- Rose 8F
- Aria 8F
- Preeethi 8F
- Sara 8F
- Jean 8G
- Dhiviyaa 8G
- Leony 8P

Year 9

- Vanessa 9N
- Celia 9S
- Precious 9S
- Eniola 9F
- Beth 9F
- Christina 9G

Year 10

- Oluwatoni 10W
- Vyshali 10W
- Kelechi 10W
- Nandana 10G
- Joanna 10G
- Kierujaa 10G
- Defne 10P

Year 12

- Lauren 12N
- Naomi 12N
- Frances 12N
- Julia 12S
- Niamh 12G
- Vivia 12G
- Lucy 12P



Arundhati Roy Wins 2024 PEN Pinter Prize

Author Arundhati Roy has won this year's PEN Pinter Prize for writers of 'outstanding literary merit' who take an 'unflinching' look at the world. Roy is best known for her 1997 novel *The God of Small Things* which won the Booker Prize for Fiction that year, and also became the best-selling book by a non-expatriate Indian author. Roy is a human rights and environmental activist, and since publishing her first novel has largely concentrated on writing political nonfiction. When she won the Booker prize in 1997, she donated the \$30,000 she received in prize money, as well as royalties from her book to human rights causes. English PEN chairperson Ruth Borthwick has praised Arundhati Roy for telling "urgent stories of injustice with wit and beauty". Roy will receive the PEN Pinter Prize on the 10th of October in a ceremony co-hosted by the British Library.



The PEN Pinter Prize was set up in 2009 by English PEN, a charity that aims to defend freedom of expression and celebrate literature. Harold Pinter, for whom the prize is named, was a British dramatist and political activist. On winning this year's prize, Arundhati Roy said: "I wish Harold Pinter were with us today to write about the almost incomprehensible turn the world is taking. Since he isn't, some of us must do our utmost to try to fill his shoes." Read the original BBC article [here](https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-68111111).

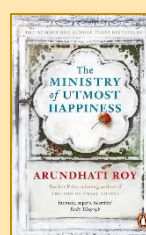
[Click here to learn more about the PEN Pinter Prize](#)

The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy (Recommended for Older Readers)

The year is 1969. In the state of Kerala, on the southernmost tip of India, fraternal twins Esthappen and Rahel fashion a childhood for themselves in the shade of the wreck that is their family. Their lonely, lovely mother, Ammu, (who loves by night the man her children love by day), fled an abusive marriage to live with their blind grandmother, Mammachi (who plays Handel on her violin), their beloved uncle Chacko (Rhodes scholar, pickle baron, radical Marxist, bottom-pincher), and their enemy, Baby Kochamma (ex-nun and incumbent grandaunt). When Chacko's English ex-wife brings their daughter for a Christmas visit, the twins learn that things can change in a day, that lives can twist into new, ugly shapes, even cease forever, beside their river...

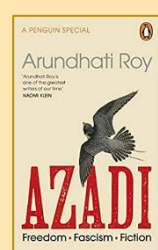
The Ministry of Utmost Happiness by Arundhati Roy (Recommended for Older Readers)

'At magic hour; when the sun has gone but the light has not, armies of flying foxes unhinge themselves from the Banyan trees in the old graveyard and drift across the city like smoke...' So begins *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, Arundhati Roy's incredible follow-up to *The God of Small Things*. We meet Anjum, who used to be Aftab, who runs a guesthouse in an Old Delhi graveyard and gathers around her the lost, the broken and the cast out. We meet Tilo, an architect, who although she is loved by three men, lives in a 'country of her own skin'. When Tilo claims an abandoned baby as her own, her destiny and that of Anjum become entangled as a tale that sweeps across the years and a teeming continent takes flight...



Azadi: Freedom, Fascism, Fiction by Arundhati Roy

Azadi- Urdu for Freedom is the refrain in the iconic chant of the Kashmiri freedom struggle. And now, while Kashmir's streets have been silenced, the irony is that its people's anthem, with similar lyrics, rhythm and cadence, echoes on the streets of the country that most Kashmiris view as their coloniser. What lies between the silence of one street and the sound of the other? Is it a chasm, or could it become a bridge? In this series of penetrating essays on politics and literature, Arundhati Roy examines this question and challenges us to reflect on the meaning of freedom in a world of growing authoritarianism. Roy writes of the existential threat posed to Indian democracy by an emboldened Hindu nationalism, of the internet shutdown and information siege in Kashmir-the most densely militarized zone in the world-and India's new citizenship laws that discriminate against Muslims and marginalized communities and could create a crisis of statelessness on a scale previously unknown. The essays include meditations on language, public as well as private, and the role of fiction and alternative imaginations in these disturbing times. *Azadi*, she warns, hangs in the balance for us all.



Alice Oseman to Receive Honorary Degree



Author of bestselling graphic novel series *Heartstopper*, and other popular works, Alice Oseman will be made a Doctor of Letters by the University of Kent in a ceremony held at Rochester Cathedral on the 17th of July this year. Oseman grew up in the Medway towns - one of which is Rochester. A spokesperson for the university said that the honorary degree was in recognition of Oseman's "inspirational contribution" to art and literature, with a particular "notable impact through her work to support the young adult LGBTQ+ community". The third series of the Netflix adaptation of *Heartstopper* is due to broadcast this Autumn. Original BBC article [here](https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-68111111).



Solitaire by Alice Oseman
In case you're wondering, this is not a love story. My name is Tori Spring. I like to sleep and I like to blog. Last year - before all that stuff with Charlie and before I had to face the harsh realities of A-Levels and university applications and the fact that one day I really will have to start talking to people - I had friends. Things were very different, I guess, but that's all over now. Now there's Solitaire. And Michael Holden. I don't know what Solitaire are trying to do, and I don't care about Michael Holden. I really don't.

Radio Silence by Alice Oseman

Frances has been a study machine with one goal. Nothing will stand in her way; not friends, not a guilty secret - not even the person she is on the inside. Then Frances meets Aled, and for the first time she's unafraid to be herself. So when the fragile trust between them is broken, Frances is caught between who she was and who she longs to be. Now Frances knows that she has to confront her past. To confess why Cansy disappeared... Frances is going to need every bit of courage she has. Engaging with themes of identity, diversity and the freedom to choose, *Radio Silence* is a tour de force by the most exciting writer of her generation.

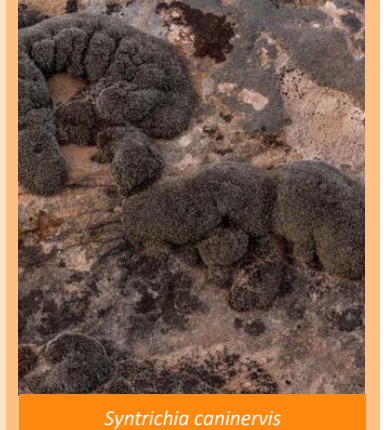


Loveless by Alice Oseman

Georgia has never been in love, never kissed anyone, never even had a crush - but as a fanfic-obsessed romantic she's sure she'll find her person one day. As she starts university with her best friends, Pip and Jason, in a whole new town far from home, Georgia ends up to find romance, and with her outgoing roommate on her side and a place in the Shakespeare Society, her 'teenage dream' is in sight. But when her romance plan wreaks havoc amongst her friends, Georgia ends up in her own comedy of errors, and she starts to question why love seems so easy for other people but not for her. With new terms thrown at her - asexual, aromantic - Georgia is more uncertain about her feelings than ever. Is she destined to remain loveless? Or has she been looking for the wrong thing all along?

Desert Moss 'Can Survive on Mars'

Scientists in China have discovered that *Syntrichia caninervis* moss, found in regions including Antarctica and the Mojave Desert, is 'able to withstand Mars-like conditions, including drought, high levels of radiation and extreme cold.' The team of scientists have been looking at the potential for growing plants on the surface of Mars, rather than in greenhouses. They wrote, "the unique insights obtained in our study lay the foundation for outer space colonisation using naturally selected plants adapted to extreme stress conditions." Professor Stuart McDaniel, an expert on moss at the University of Florida said of the study: "Cultivating terrestrial plants is an important part of any long-term space mission because plants efficiently turn carbon dioxide and water into oxygen and carbohydrates - essentially the air and food that humans need to survive. Desert moss is not edible, but it could provide other important services in space." Original Guardian article [here](https://www.theguardian.com/science/2024/jul/01/desert-moss-can-survive-on-mars).



Syntrichia caninervis



Mars: The Inside Story of the Red Planet by Heather Couper and Nigel Henbest
The authors look at how our knowledge of our nearest planetary neighbour - Mars - has grown and assess the role it might play in our futures. They look at the old myths associated with Mars, the fears of Martian invasions, and take the story up to date to show what we now know about the planet in the aftermath of the 1996 meteorite that may provide evidence for life and from the discoveries of the recent probes. They also assess whether Mars could form a crucial stepping point for further exploration.

Planets: A Very Short Introduction by David A Rothery
From the rings of Saturn to the "canals" of Mars and the Great Red Dot of Jupiter, the planets of our Solar System have long fascinated humanity. Featuring many striking photos, this Very Short Introduction offers a fascinating portrait of the unique world of each planet as well as an illuminating discussion of moons, asteroids, and Trans-Neptunian objects. Leading planetary scientist David A. Rothery, who has chaired the European Space Agency's Mercury surface and composition working group since 2007, gives a stimulating overview of the origin, nature, and evolution of our Solar System, including the controversial issues of what qualifies as a planet, and what conditions are required for a planetary body to support life. He explains how the surfaces of planets and moons have been sculpted by geology, weather, and impacts by meteors and asteroids. Rothery shows how our knowledge has advanced over the centuries, and how it has expanded at a dramatic rate in recent years, going far beyond our Solar System to explore planets orbiting distant stars.

