

**** HOT TITLES COMING TO KILLINGWORTH LIBRARY IN APRIL 2025 ****

FICTION

Fantasy & Science Fiction

Bat Eater and Other Names for Cora Zeng – Kylie Lee Baker. Haunted by her sister's murder and the whispered words "bat eater," Chinatown crime scene cleaner Cora Zeng confronts grief, paranoia and disturbing occurrences, including bat carcasses at crime scenes and bite marks that appear on her coffee table.

Cold Eternity – S. A. Barnes. A space-horror novel from the author of *Dead Silence* and *Ghost Station*, blends dystopian dread with a catastrophic approach.

A Drop of Corruption – Robert Jackson Bennett. After a Treasury officer vanishes from a locked room, investigator Ana Dolabra discovers a deadly plot targeting the Empire's magical lifeblood, pitting her against an unstoppable adversary, in the second novel of the series following *The Tainted Cup*.

Emily Wilde's Compendium of Lost Tales – Heather Fawcett. *(February release)* Renowned faerie scholar Emily Wilde must navigate the deadly intrigues of a faerie realm as they seize Wendell's throne and race to break a deadly curse, in the third novel of the series following *Emily Wilde's Map of the Otherlands*.

General Fiction

The Usual Desire to Kill – Camilla Barnes. Miranda navigates the eccentricities of her stubborn, long-married parents during visits to their chaotic French countryside home, juggling sibling rivalries, generational clashes, and hidden family secrets in this sharp, witty exploration of familial love and exasperation.

Universality – Natasha Brown. After a violent attack at an illegal rave on a Yorkshire farm, a determined journalist unravels a web of intrigue involving a corrupt landlord, a controversial columnist, and a group of anarchists, exposing unsettling truths about power, language, and the elusive nature of storytelling.

The Bright Years – Sarah Damoff. Ryan and Lillian Bright's marriage, strained by hidden secrets and addiction, shapes their daughter Georgette's tumultuous upbringing, and years later, as Lillian's estranged son resurfaces, Georgette must confront her family's past and decide if love and reconciliation are still possible.

The Correspondent – Virginia Evans. At 73, retired lawyer and devoted letter writer Sybil Van Antwerp navigates her daily life and reflects on her past, but when unexpected letters open old wounds, she must confront a painful chapter that reshapes her understanding of herself and her world.

Black Woods, Blue Sky – Eowyn Ivey. *(February release)* A struggling single mother in Alaska, Birdie, finds solace and love in the reclusive Arthur and his remote wilderness life, but as she embraces this idyllic escape, she uncovers his dark secret and the unforgiving nature of the wild.

Audition – Katie Kitamura. An elegant actress meets a troubled young man at a Manhattan lunch, sparking a complex relationship that challenges their identities in their personal and professional lives in the new novel from the author of *A Separation of Intimacies*.

Wild Dark Shore – Charlotte McConaghy. (*March release*) On a remote island near Antarctica, the Salt family's fragile existence is upended by the arrival of Rowan, a mysterious woman who washes ashore during a storm, forcing them to confront rising dangers and the hope of rebuilding trust amidst isolation and loss.

My Documents – Kevin Nguyen. Attacks create a panic prompting the American government to force Vietnamese Americans into internment camps, and Jen and Duncan Nguyen are held with their mother at Camp Tacoma while cousins Ursula and Alvin are exempted—Ursula reports on detention's horrors through messages from Jen.

Sleeping Children – Anthony Passeron. Anthony Passeron explores his family's history, tracing his grandparents' rise as butchers during France's postwar boom and the impact of AIDS in 1980s rural Nice, while interweaving the scientific fight led by pioneering virologists against the emerging epidemic.

The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits – Jennifer Weiner. Two decades after tragedy ended Cassie and Zoe Grossberg's rise to pop stardom as "The Griffin Sisters," Zoe's daughter Cherry uncovers hidden truths about the sisters' breakup, compelling the family to face old wounds, buried secrets, and the potential for reconciliation.

Graphic Novel

Ginseng Roots – Craig Thompson. A new graphic memoir exploring the class divide, childhood labor, family, and our globalized world—all centered on Wisconsin's ginseng farming industry.

Historical Fiction

Strangers in Time – David Baldacci. Set in London in 1944, the story of a bereaved bookshop owner and two teenagers scarred by the Second World War, and the healing and hope they find in one another.

Hold Strong – Robert Dugoni. (*January release*) Sam Carlson faces unimaginable brutality as a POW on the infamous Arisan Maru, while his girlfriend, Sarah, works as a Washington codebreaker, unknowingly aids a mission targeting his ship, testing their love and courage amid World War II.

The Pretender – Jo Harkin. In 1480s England, peasant boy Lambert Simnel is thrust into royal intrigue as he is declared a hidden heir to the throne and must face court politics, rebellion, and an alliance with the cunning Joan that could shape the fate of the monarchy.

The Sirens – Emilia Hart. Lucy searches for her missing sister Jess in a modern-day coastal Australian town shrouded in eerie legends, uncovering connections to Jess's adolescent past and twin sisters from 1800 whose haunting ties to the sea ripple across generations.

The Expert of Subtle Revisions – Kirsten Menger-Anderson. A young woman follows cryptic instructions after her father's disappearance, uncovering ties to a 1933 Vienna intellectual circle grappling with rising fascism, a mysterious time-travel device, and secrets that connect their histories across decades.

The Amalfi Curse – Sarah Penner. Nautical archaeologist Haven Ambrose investigates mysterious shipwrecks and a family secret along the Amalfi Coast, uncovering the 19th-century tale of Mari DeLuca, a witch torn between protecting her village and saving her lover, as ancient magic threatens the region's future.

Happy Land – Dolen Perkins-Valdez. When Nikki visits her estranged grandmother in North Carolina, she uncovers a hidden legacy tied to a forgotten kingdom of freed people, unraveling her family's secrets and her own identity while fighting to protect their endangered heritage.

Mystery & Detective

Sealed with a Hiss – Rita Mae Brown. When a decades-forgotten car bobs to the surface of a creek in Virginia, with a body in the driver's seat, Mary Minor "Harry" Haristeen and her animal companions—felines Mrs. Murphy and Pewter, Tee Tucker the Corgi, and Irish Wolfhound Pirate—team up to solve the mystery.

Finlay Donovan Digs Her Own Grave – Elle Cosimano. (*March release*) After a body is found in a neighbor's yard, Finlay and Vero must solve the murder before police uncover secrets they'd rather keep buried, in the fifth novel of the series following Finlay Donovan Rolls the Dice.

Shadow of the Solstice – Anne Hillerman. In Shiprock, New Mexico, Navajo Nation detectives Bernadette Manuelito and Jim Chee must sort out a save-the-planet meditation group connected to a mysterious death and a nefarious scheme, discovered by Bernie's sister Darleen, targeting vulnerable indigenous people living with addiction.

The Museum Detective – Maha Khan Phillips. While grieving her missing niece, Karachi archaeologist Dr. Gul Delani discovers a mysterious mummy during a drug bust, leading her into a perilous conspiracy as she fights to protect the artifact while pursuing justice and closure.

The Maid's Secret – Nita Prose. Head maid Molly Gray's discovery of a priceless artifact sparks a media frenzy, a daring heist, and revelations from her grandmother's hidden diary, intertwining a present-day mystery with a long-lost tale of forbidden love and family secrets.

The Railway Conspiracy – S. J. Rozan. In 1924 London, Judge Dee Ren Jie and his partner Lao She investigate a series of murders linked to a recovered artifact, a poisoned British official, and a communist's death, uncovering a conspiracy tied to the Chinese Eastern Railway.

Vera Wong's Guide to Snooping – Jesse Q. Sutanto. When a young woman searching for a missing friend leads Vera to the mysterious murder of influencer Xander Lin, she delves into his enigmatic life, uncovering secrets and identities to help her future daughter-in-law, Officer Selena Gray, solve the case.

Romance

Great Big Beautiful Life – Emily Henry. Avery, eager to break free from her uptight ways, turns to notorious flirt Taylor for lessons in confidence, but as their connection deepens, both must face their growing feelings and the risks of falling for each other.

Say You'll Remember Me – Abby Jimenez. The only thing better than one single perfect memory is to make a life-and even a love-worth remembering.

Summer Light on Nantucket – Nancy Thayer. Divorced mother of four Blythe Benedict takes her family to Nantucket, her island home-away-from-home, but she must contend with teenage angst, her ex-mother-in-law's declining health, and a troubling secret

involving her ex-husband—meanwhile, she reconnects with former high school sweetheart Aden, but their romance becomes complicated when another man enters the picture.

Suspense

The Impossible Thing – Belinda Bauer. In 1926, a neglected girl's discovery of a rare bird egg changes her fate, while a century later, Patrick Fort and his friend Nick uncover the dark world of egg trafficking as they pursue a stolen treasure with ties to the past.

The Death of Us – Abigail Dean. Years after a violent home invasion shattered their marriage, Edward and Isabel reunite for their attacker's trial, confronting lingering trauma, their enduring connection, and the possibility of closure as they grapple with justice, revenge, and the impact of their shared past.

When We Were Real – Daryl Gregory. Lifelong friends JP and Dulin embark on a surreal bus tour of North America's "Impossibles," accompanied by a diverse group of quirky passengers, exploring bizarre phenomena in a simulated world while facing mortality, faith, fame, and the mysteries of existence.

25 Alive – James Patterson. SFPD homicide detective Lindsay Boxer knows her way around a crime scene. But nothing can prepare her for the shock of recognition: the victim is Warren Jacobi, Lindsay's onetime partner who rose to chief of police. A top investigator until the end, Jacobi managed to leave Lindsay a clue. Following a trail of evidence along the west coast, the Women's Murder Club pledges to avenge Jacobi's death before the killer can take another one of their own.

NONFICTION

Looking at Women Looking at War: a War and Justice Diary – Victoria Amelina. (*February release*) A novelist and mother when Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, the author became a war crimes researcher, chronicling the women of the resistance, documenting the war until dying at 37 in the Donetsk region from a Russian cruise missile.

When the Earth Was Green: Plants, Animals, and Evolution's Greatest Romance – Riley Black. (*February release*) Explores the critical role prehistoric plants played in shaping life on Earth, from oxygenating the atmosphere to supporting the evolution of animals and humans, highlighting key moments in plant evolution and their interactions with species that formed the world we know today.

99% Perspiration: a New Working History of the American Way of Life – Adam Chandler. (*January release*) An engaging exploration of the myth of American self-reliance, examining how the obsession with hard work and individual success distorts reality, deepens inequality and overlooks the importance of community, historical privilege and systemic factors in shaping achievement.

The Sinners All Bow: Two Authors, One Murder, and the Real Hester Prynne – Kate Winkler Dawson. (*January release*) Revisits the mysterious 1832 death of Sarah Maria Cornell, intertwining historical investigation with modern forensic techniques to uncover the truth behind her demise and the trial of Reverend Ephraim Avery, while reflecting on the impact of women who challenged societal norms in their pursuit of justice.

Shift: Managing Your Emotions – So They Don't Manage You – Ethan Kross. (*February release*) Kross spotlights a wide array of tools that we already have access to—in our

bodies and minds, our relationships with other people, and the cultures and physical spaces we inhabit—and shows us how to harness them to be healthier and more successful.

Who Is Government?: the Untold Story of Public Service – Michael Lewis. (*March release*) Explores the lives of dedicated government workers, from an IRS agent to a coal mine safety expert, showcasing how their behind-the-scenes work addresses societal problems, challenges stereotypes, and reveals the critical, often unnoticed contributions of public servants.

House Restored: the Tragedies and Triumphs of Saving a New England Colonial – Lee McColgan. Trading the corporate ladder for a stepladder, Lee McColgan commits to preserving the ramshackle Loring House, built in 1702, using period materials and methods and on a holiday deadline. But his enchantment withers as he discovers the massive repairs it needs...But can he meet his deadline before family and friends arrive, or will it all come crashing down? McColgan's journey expertly examines our relationship to history through the homes we inhabit, beautifully articulating the philosophy of preserving the past to find purpose for the future.

We Need Your Art: Stop Messing Around and Make Something – Amie McNee. (*March release*) This empowering guide encourages artists to embrace their creative identity through sustainable daily practices, addressing challenges like impostor syndrome and perfectionism, while providing practical advice, journal prompts and a supportive framework to help build confidence, overcome barriers, and create art with pride and purpose.

The Good Death – Suzanne B. O'Brien. (*March release*) Practical guidance and emotional support for those caring for a loved one at the end of life, providing strategies for easing fear, ensuring comfort, preventing caregiver burnout, and creating a sacred, peaceful experience, along with a workbook to help document end-of-life wishes.

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