

**** HOT TITLES COMING TO KILLINGWORTH LIBRARY IN FEBRUARY 2026 ****
(adult print titles only, includes some titles from past months)

FICTION

Fantasy & Science Fiction

Agnes Aubert's Mystical Cat Shelter – Heather Fawcett. A woman who runs a cat rescue in 1920s Montréal turns to a grouchy but charming magician to help save her shelter in this heartwarming cozy fantasy.

The Astral Library – Kate Quinn. A gorgeously written fantastical adventure which poses the question: Have you ever wished you could live inside a book? Welcome to the Astral Library, where books are not just objects, but doors to new worlds, new lives, and new futures.

Slow Gods – Claire North. (*November release*) Galaxy-spanning tale of one man's impossible life charted against the fate of humanity amongst the stars--a powerfully imaginative space opera from multi-award-winning author Claire North, perfect for fans of *A Memory Called Empire* and *The Vanished Birds*.

Halcyon Years – Alastair Reynolds. (*January release*) A private investigator is hired to look into a mysterious, high-profile death aboard the starship Halcyon. Gripping, fast-paced fun, this is a classic noir mystery with a science fiction twist, which will keep you guessing and on the edge of your seat to the end.

The Red Winter – Cameron Sullivan. Darkly entertaining retelling of the hunt for the Beast of Gévaudan. Lifting the veil on the hidden world behind our own, it reimagines the story of Europe, from Imperial Rome to Saint Jeanne d'Arc, the madness of Gilles de Rais and the first flickers of the French Revolution.

General Fiction

Mass Mothering – Sara Bruni. Weaves together explorations of language, borders, and belonging, as well as of the precarious and frequently terrifying state of motherhood. The result is a deeply intelligent, prismatic look at the personal and political facets of maternal care.

The Laws of Love and Logic – Debra Curtis. A woman finds herself torn between her first love and her devoted husband in this extraordinary debut novel that asks the question: *Can one heart hold two great loves?*

This is Not About Us – Allegra Goodman. A story of growing up and growing old, the weight of parental expectations, and the complex connection between sisters--a big-hearted book about the love that binds a family across generations. A kaleidoscopic portrait of a modern American family--steadfast, complicated, begrudging, and loving.

So Old, So Young – Grant Ginder. For Marco and Mia, Sasha and Theo, Richie and Adam, the one constant in life after college together has been change. New jobs. New cities. New spouses. New children. Through it all, one thing they thought would always stay the same is their friendship. But time has a way of breaking even the strongest bonds, and testing what we thought we knew. A story about the growing pains of the Millennial generation, and a

celebration of how love can shift, stumble, and grow into something bigger than we ever could have imagined.

Eradication: a Fable – Jonathan Miles. Reeling from tragedy, a former jazz musician-turned-schoolteacher named Adi answers a job listing advertising a chance to save the world. The assignment: to spend five weeks alone on the tiny, isolated Pacific Island of Santa Flora righting an ecological balance that's gone severely out of whack, with the aim of preserving countless bird and plant species from certain extinction. What follows, however, is anything but balanced. The threats to the once-Edenic island, Adi soon learns, aren't exactly what his employers said they were--and, complicating things further, he discovers he's not alone on the island.

More Than Enough – Anna Quindlen. A woman confronts the surprising results of an ancestry test and begins to question the meaning of family and friendship in this wise, tender novel teeming with life.

Flesh – David Szalay. (*April 2025 release*) A collection of intimate moments over the course of decades, *Flesh* chronicles a man at odds with himself--estranged from and by the circumstances and demands of a life not entirely under his control and the roles that he is asked to play. Shadowed by the specter of past tragedy and the apathy of modernity, the tension between István and all that alienates him hurtles forward until sudden tragedy again throws life as he knows it in jeopardy. Winner of the Booker Award for fiction.

Historical Fiction

Keeper of Lost Children – Sadeqa Johnson. Explores how one woman's vision in post WWII Germany will change the course of countless lives, and demonstrates that love in its myriad of forms--familial, parental, and forbidden, even love of self--can be transcendent.

Fireflies in Winter – Eleanor Shearer. A gripping novel of two young women fighting for survival on the edge of the wilderness, and the love that simultaneously sustains them and threatens their very existence, from the author of the *Good Morning America* Book Club pick *River Sing Me Home*.

Mystery & Detective Fiction

Death of a Groom – M. C. Beaton. Sergeant Hamish Macbeth returns to protect his sleepy Scottish village of Lochdubh.

The Crossroads – C. J. Box. Game warden Joe Pickett fights for his life as his daughters try to uncover who shot him and left him for dead.

The Heir of Whitestone – Catherine Coulter. A brilliant young innovator with a mysterious past and a boldly sharp-witted Lady uncover deadly secrets in this thrilling Victorian-era romantic mystery filled with daring escapes, exciting twists, witty humor, and characters you won't soon forget.

Crown City – Naomi Hirahara. Two Japanese American men hired to investigate an art theft discover something much more sinister in turn-of-the-century California.

Jigsaw – Jonathan Kellerman. Psychologist Alex Delaware and Detective Milo Sturgis, the most beloved duo in American crime fiction, return in this electric thriller.

Stolen in Death – J. D. Robb. A violent death and a vault of stolen treasures has Eve Dallas struggling to solve crimes old and new.

Romance

The End of Romance – Lily Meyer. A big-hearted, wise, unceasingly buoyant novel about a woman who, after escaping a bruising marriage, theorizes that happiness is possible solely with the eradication of all romance--only to find a love that could change her life forever.

This Book Made Me Think of You – Libby Page. A woman receives an unexpected gift from the man she loved and lost--a year of books, one for every month--launching a reading-inspired journey to live, dream, and love again in this glimmering and heart-stopping novel.

Short Stories

Brawler – Lauren Groff. Ranging from the 1950s to the present day and moving across age, class, and region--from New England to Florida to California--these nine stories reflect and expand upon a shared theme: the ceaseless battle between humans' dark and light angels.

Suspense

It's Not Her – Mary Kubica. Two families at a secluded lake resort are at the center of a chilling crime in this twisty thriller from the bestselling author of *Local Woman Missing*.

In Her Defense – Philippa Malicka. The whole country has been riveted by the trial: Beloved TV star and national treasure Anna Finbow, standing in court, accusing her daughter's therapist Jean Guest of brainwashing her daughter Mary for her own financial gain. Jean insists Mary's traumatic memories arise from her upbringing and her time studying at a prestigious art school in Rome; wounds only Jean's therapy can heal. But as the trial unfolds, it's Augusta "Gus" Bird, Anna's former employee--a seemingly insignificant bystander, a nobody--who holds the key to unraveling the tangled web of lies and deceit.

Wolf Hour – Jo Nesbo. An immersive, propulsive novel in which a detective and a crime writer conduct parallel investigations, six years apart, into a series of puzzling murders.

Cross & Sampson – James Patterson. In latest thriller from the world's most popular storyteller, detective partners Alex Cross and John Sampson are called to separate locations to investigate a pair of serious crimes.

Warning Signs – Tracy Sierra. The heart-stopping second novel from the author of *Nightwatching*, in which a father-son ski weekend becomes a desperate fight for survival.

Cold Zero – Brad Thor. A heart-pounding thriller of survival, espionage, and global brinkmanship, where the frozen Arctic becomes the deadliest battlefield on Earth.

Nowhere Burning – Catriona Ward. Two siblings set off in the dark of night. They're heading for Nowhere--an abandoned ranch, rumored to be haunted by its former movie-star owner and now a haven for runaways. What awaits could be the freedom they crave. And while they may have escaped the devil they knew, something darker is waiting in the burned shell of Nowhere. Something which asks a terrible price for sanctuary...

NONFICTION

99 Ways to Die and How to Avoid Them – Ashley Alker. (*January release*) Dr. Alker manages to shock readers while making them laugh, educating them on how to outsmart a wide range of deadly situations and conditions. Many of the chapters include stories from her experiences in life and medicine, at times heartwarming, others heartbreaking. Sections include explorations of sex, poison, drugs, biological warfare, disease, animals, crime, the elements, and much more.

The Great Shadow: a History of How Sickness Shapes What We Do, Think, Believe, and Buy – Susan Wise Bauer. (*January release*) Uses extensive historical research and first-person accounts to tell a vivid story about sickness and our responses to it, from very ancient times until the last decade. Bauer reveals just how many of our current fads and causes are rooted in the moment-by-moment experience of sickness--from the search for a balanced lifestyle to plug-in air fresheners and bare hardwood floors. We can't simply shout facts at people who refuse vaccinations, believe that immigrants carry diseases, or insist that God will look out for them during a pandemic. We have to enter with imagination, historical perspective, and empathy into their world. *The Great Shadow* does just that with page-turning flair.

One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This – Omar El Akkad. (*February 2025 release*) On October 25th, 2023, after just three weeks of the bombardment of Gaza, Omar El Akkad put out a tweet: 'One day, when it's safe, when there's no personal downside to calling a thing what it is, when it's too late to hold anyone accountable, everyone will have always been against this.' This tweet was viewed more than ten million times. This book chronicles the deep fracture that has occurred for Black, brown, [and] Indigenous Americans, as well as the upcoming generation, many of whom had clung to a thread of faith in Western ideals, in the idea that their countries, or the countries of their adoption, actually attempted to live up to the values they espouse. Winner of the National Book Award for nonfiction.

Rebel of the Regency: the Scandalous Saga of Caroline of Brunswick, Britain's Queen Without a Crown – Ann Foster. The dramatic, absolutely outrageous story of Caroline of Brunswick, a beloved icon of the Regency era, who uplifted the voice of the public and unabashedly defied society's expectations, yet was shockingly robbed of her crown.

Craftland: In Search of Lost Arts and Disappearing Trades – James Fox. (*October release*) Part travelogue and part historical record, *Craftland* is a profoundly intimate meditation on our human cultural heritage, exploring what we lose as these traditions fade from view in the race of progress, and what we stand to gain if we bring them back.

The Worst Day: A Plane Crash, a Train Wreck, and Remarkable Acts of Heroism in Washington, DC – Bruce Goldfarb. (*December release*) A minute-by-minute account of 2 simultaneous catastrophes during a 1982 blizzard--and the extraordinary courage of civilians and first responders.

The Hidden Seasons: a Calendar of Nature's Clues – Tristan Gooley. (*October release*) The sun, moon, stars, plants, fungi, animals, water, and weather all tell us secrets about the seasons--if we know how to read their clues. This sense-awakening book reimagines the seasonal calendar not as four distinct phases but as a series of changes evolving moment by

moment every day of the year. Each granular shift is an extraordinary microseason you won't want to miss. It's time to get out there and explore--the seasons will never look, sound, or smell the same again.

Two Women Living Together – Kim Hana & Hwang Sunwoo. (*January release*) The big-hearted, bestselling South Korean memoir co-written by two best friends flouting gender norms and societal expectations with their decision to grow old together under one roof.

Weaving with Paper: 30 Projects to Expand Your Creativity with Inventive Techniques, Intriguing Prompts, and Inspiring Works of Art – Helen Hiebert. (*December release*) Shares 30 unique paper weaving projects with step-by-step instruction and inspirational prompts for developing a daily practice. Combining fiber art and paper craft techniques, paper weaving is accessible, sustainable, and fun. Each of the 30 projects in the book includes a prompt, a technique, step-by-step instruction, and examples of the project, and will inspire readers to repurpose, recycle, and reuse papers they may already have, like maps, postcards, holiday cards, or journals.

How To Be a Rich Old Lady: Your Guide to Easy Investing, Building Wealth, and Creating the Wild, Beautiful Life You Want – Amanda Holden. (*January release*) A step-by-step road map to financial freedom. It's not just about numbers on a spreadsheet but building a life that feels secure enough to dream into. Maybe your Rich Old Lady is wearing belly chains at the beach, tanned and wrinkly and totally unbothered. Maybe she's befriending the birds at her cozy forest cabin. Maybe she's leaving \$500 tips on her diner coffee. Whatever your vision, this approachable guide to investing and wealth-building will help you build a plan to greet her with confidence, security, and genuine hope for tomorrow.

Super Nintendo: the Game-Changing Company That Unlocked the Power of Play – Keza MacDonald. A breezy, colorful trip through the history of Mario, Zelda, Metroid and much more. MacDonald adroitly weaves personal observations with original reporting to tell a fascinating story that's packed full of delightful anecdotes. This book paints a vivid picture of the most important company in video games.

The Mental Health Contagion: Navigating Yourself Through a Loved One's Mental Well-Being Decline – Yvette Murray. (*November release*) A guide for people who are challenged in their relationship with someone suffering from a mental problem, disorder, or crisis. It is an in-depth look at what we can do to prevent our own mental well-being decline while we care for our loved ones.

Bread of Angels: a Memoir – Patti Smith. (*November release*) A radiant new memoir from artist and writer Patti Smith, author of the National Book Award winner *Just Kids*.

The Forever Home: Classic, Clever Design to Help You Put Down Roots – Mikel Welch. (*October release*) Walks you through how to make informed decisions on decorating details. You'll learn Mikel's point of view on determining the proper rug size for a room, developing a cohesive color palette, shopping for pieces that will last a lifetime, and more. Whether you're a first-time homeowner, a short stay dweller, or have already found your forever home, this book is your one-stop resource for classic, timeless design.

The Breath of the Gods: the History and the Future of the Wind – Simon Winchester. (*November release*) A portrait across time of that unseen force--unseen but not unfelt--

that respects no national borders and no vessel or structure in its path. Wind, the movement of the air, is seen by so many as a heavenly creation and generally a thing of essential goodness. But when it flexes its invisible muscles, all should take care and be very afraid.

Once There Was a Town: the Memory Books of a Lost Jewish World – Jane Ziegelman. (*January release*) From a people with a long-history of self-narration, Holocaust survivors gathered in groups and wrote books, yizkor books, remembering all that had been destroyed. *Once There Was a Town* takes readers on a journey through this largely uncharted body of writing and the vanished world it depicts.

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