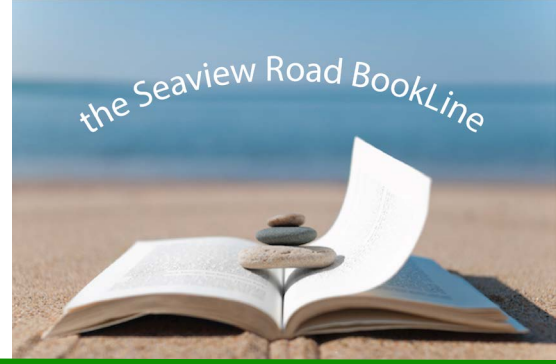
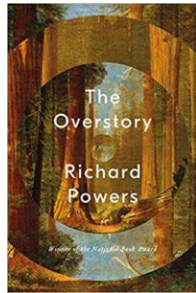


# MARCH 2021 BOOKLIST



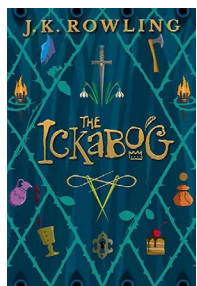
## THE OVERSTORY

by Richard Powers  
*Winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction*



This is all about the biological and spiritual lives of trees and forest told through the interconnecting stories of four different people's lives — all drawn together in a sweeping conclusion.

— Deborah Camp



## THE ICKABOG

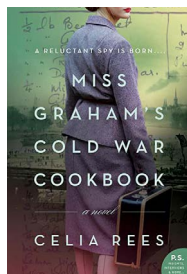
by J. K. Rowling

For something completely different . . . try this novel by the mistress of magicians herself, J. K. Rowling. A quirky 'once upon a time' tale of adventure in the tiny, contented and very well-

fed kingdom of Cornucopia where life is grand, marred only by the legend of the Ickabog, a fearsome monster who lives in the misty marshlands of the North. Myth and rumour soon take hold, and the little kingdom finds itself beset by evil . . . a tale of twisted truths, hope and ingenuity, all wrapped up in a delightfully illustrated (supplied by the young winners of the Ickabog art competition) story. — Lesley Bird

## MISS GRAHAM'S COLD WAR COOKBOOK

by Celia Rees

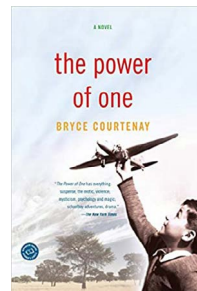


For those enjoying the spate of World War II novels these last couple of years, this is the story of an ordinary British teacher who

finds herself playing the part of a reluctant spy in occupied Germany. The long war years and the defeat of the Reich have left Germany in chaos: cities destroyed by bombing are rife with poverty and hunger, thousands of displaced individuals are flooding in from the east, and social structures such as health and education are overwhelmed and woefully inefficient. Edith soon finds herself enmeshed in a world of corruption, opportunism, and not a little danger. Moreover, even as the Nuremberg trials begin, she realizes that escaping Nazi criminals are hunted both for the sake of justice and possible gain as the Allies wrestle for political leverage. — Lesley Bird

## THE POWER OF ONE

by Bryce Courtenay



First published in 1989, this novel by Australian author Bryce Courtenay is set in South Africa during the 30s and 40s. It tells the story of an English boy who, through the course of the story, acquires the name of Peekay.

— Lois Clyde (Available for borrowing at [camelotbc@shaw.ca](mailto:camelotbc@shaw.ca), also for e-readers

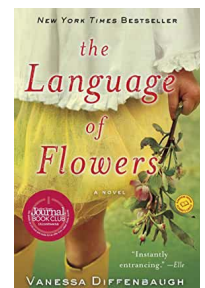
either in mobi and epub.)

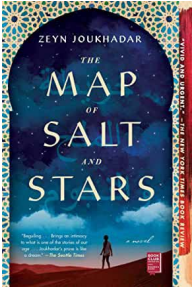
## THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS

by Vanessa Diffenbaugh

Devastating, hopeful, and beautifully written, 'The Language of Flowers' is a testament to the tender mercies and miraculous healing power of love.

— Karan Jamieson





**THE MAP OF SALT AND STARS**  
by Zeyn Joukhadar

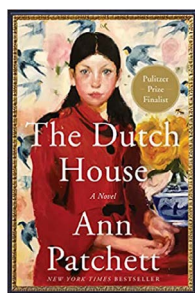
This book tells the intertwined stories of a young Syrian refugee and a cartographer in medieval Syria.

— *Julia Rogers*

**ONE BY ONE**  
by Ruth Ware

After a devastating avalanche hits the chalet where eight coworkers are staying for a corporate retreat, panic mounts and the group dwindles, one by one. The plotline is sure to make for a great movie too.

— *Sharon Muzzin*



**THE DUTCH HOUSE**  
by Ann Patchett

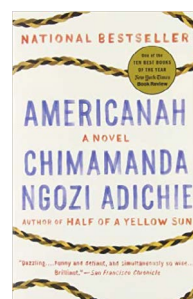
“Two wealthy siblings are thrown back into the poverty their parents escaped from and all they have to count on is each other.” This “. . . both saves their lives and thwarts their futures.” Recommended.

Available at the library. — *Doranne Demontigny*

**AMERICANAH**

by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

This is “a story of love and race centered around a young man and woman from Nigeria who face difficult choices and challenges in the countries they come to call home.” A reviewer said: “She writes about that which others have kept silent . . . a keenly observed examination of race, identity, and belonging in the global landscapes of Africans and Americans.” I would be interested to

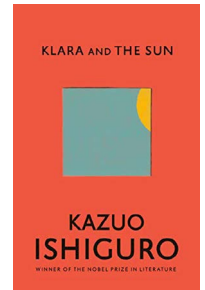


hear comments from any of you who choose to read it. Available at the library.

— *Doranne Demontigny*

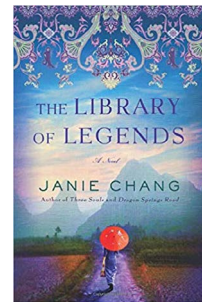
**KLARA AND THE SUN**  
by Kazuo Ishiguro

In the Japanese language, the word Ai can mean love. In his latest novel, Kazuo Ishiguro explores the concept of Artificial Intelligence and how it may relate to human concepts like love. Mr. Ishiguro writes beautifully, slowly revealing the details of his story, engaging the reader every step of the way. — *John Hyde*



**THE LIBRARY OF LEGENDS**  
by Janie Chang

The story follows the exodus of university students from the former Chinese capital of Nanking during the second Sino-Japanese war of 1937. They carry with them volumes of precious Chinese mythology and folklore. . . . “The Library of Legends” which comes alive on their journey to safety. The genre of this story is a brilliant weaving of historical fiction and magical realism. The reader must “read outside the box” of character development and historical overview and put aside modern sensibilities to allow the story to



surface. As the students become refugees in their own country they learn the value of the precious intellectual and cultural legacy they are trying to preserve. They also learn that the real enemy comes from within. Open your mind and slip into the minds of a people and a history we need to understand better. — *Christine Gornall*

(Available for borrowing at [christine\\_gornall@hotmail.com](mailto:christine_gornall@hotmail.com). It is also available in hardcover from local retailers, eBooks, or as a downloadable audio file.)

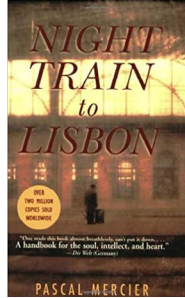
**NIGHT TRAIN TO LISBON**

By Pascal Mercier

This lyrical best seller layers a quest for self-discovery over the unraveling of a riveting mystery involving love, betrayal, and courageous resistance to fascist oppression.

After a chance encounter spurs the impulsive purchase of a philosophical book in Portuguese, a Swiss professor of classical languages obsesses about finding the author of such provocative eloquence. He abruptly abandons his job for an odyssey through Portugal that transforms his mundane existence while exposing an extraordinary life and the forces that shaped it. The book rewards careful reading to examine issues that engage the mind and heart. — *Bill Mathis*

(Available for borrowing at [williammathis@shaw.ca](mailto:williammathis@shaw.ca))



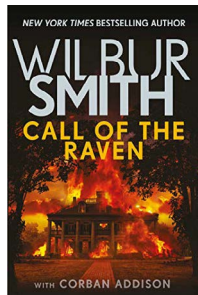
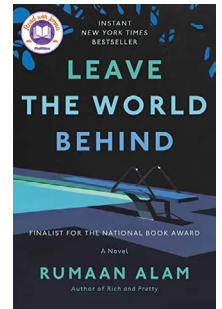
vision of what awaits us on the far side of Revelation." A terrific tale and study of human relationships. — *Elaine Prodor*

**LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND**

by Rumaan Alam

"Amanda and Clay head out to a remote corner of Long Island expecting a vacation: a quiet reprieve from life in New York City, quality time with their teenage son and daughter, and a taste of the good life in the luxurious home they've rented for the week. But a late-night knock on the door breaks the spell. Ruth and G. H. are an older black couple—it's their house, and they've arrived in a panic. They bring the news that a sudden blackout has swept the city. But in this rural area—with the TV and internet now down, and no cell phone service—it's hard to know what to believe. Together the families must figure out what's going on, because something terrible is clearly happening. This is an exceptional examination of race and class and family and what the world looks like when it's ending." Despite the intense premise, it's well-crafted writing and a thought-provoking page turner.

— *Elaine Prodor*

**CALL OF THE RAVEN**

By Wilbur Smith

"An action-packed and gripping adventure by this best-selling author. It's about one man's quest for reveng, the brutality of slavery in America, and the imbalance between humans that

can drive—or defeat—us." — *Patricia Smith*

**A CHILDREN'S BIBLE**

by Lydia Millet

"A Children's Bible follows a group of twelve eerily mature children on a forced vacation with their families at a sprawling lakeside mansion. Contemptuous of their parents, the children decide to run away when a destructive storm descends on the summer estate, embarking on a dangerous foray into the apocalyptic chaos outside. Lydia Millet's prophetic and heartbreaking story of generational divide offers a haunting



*Thank you, everyone, who submitted to The Booklist this month. The Seaview Road Bookline comes out once a month; the next submission deadline is April 15th (I will send out a reminder a week beforehand). I'm also interested in articles that feature works of a particular author or that focus on a book series—one per issue—first submitted, first printed. Fiction only, please.*

[seaviewbreezenews@gmail.com](mailto:seaviewbreezenews@gmail.com)

