



The Next Chapter: November 2021 Book Recommendations

[All Her Little Secrets](#) by Wanda M. Morris

William Morrow (November 2, 2021)

“Ellice Littlejohn seemingly has it all: an Ivy League law degree, a well-paying job as a corporate attorney in midtown Atlanta, great friends, and a “for fun” relationship with a rich, charming executive, who just happens to be her white boss. But everything changes one cold January morning when Ellice arrives in the executive suite and finds him dead with a gunshot to his head. And then she walks away like nothing has happened. Why? Ellice has been keeping a cache of dark secrets. But instead of grieving this tragedy, people are gossiping, the police are getting suspicious, and Ellice, the company’s lone black attorney, is promoted to replace her boss. While the opportunity is a dream-come-true, Ellice just can’t shake the feeling that something is off.”

[Dava Shastri's Last Day](#) by Kirthana Ramiseti

Grand Central Publishing (November 30, 2021)

“Dava Shastri, one of the world's wealthiest women, has always lived with her sterling reputation in mind. A brain cancer diagnosis at the age of seventy, however, changes everything, and Dava decides to take her death--like all matters of her life--into her own hands. Summoning her four adult children to her private island, she discloses shocking news: in addition to having a terminal illness, she has arranged for the news of her death to break early, so she can read her obituaries. Dava expects to read articles lauding her philanthropic work. Instead, her "death" reveals two devastating secrets, truths she thought she had buried forever. And now the whole world knows, including her children. Compassionately written and chock-full of humor and heart, this powerful novel examines the complexities of love, and the never-ending joys--and frustrations--of family.”

[Fauci: Expect the Unexpected: Ten Lessons on Truth, Service, and the Way Forward](#) by Anthony Fauci

National Geographic (November 2, 2021)

“Compiled from interviews drawn from the eponymous National Geographic documentary, Dr. Anthony Fauci shares the lessons that have shaped the celebrated doctor’s life philosophy, offering an intimate view of one of the world's greatest medical minds as well as universal advice to live by. Before becoming the face of the White House Coronavirus Task Force and America’s most trusted doctor, Dr. Anthony Fauci had already devoted three decades to public service. Those looking to live a more compassionate and purposeful life will find inspiration in his unique perspective on leadership, expecting the unexpected, and finding joy in difficult times.”

[Fry's Ties: The Life and Times of a Tie Collection](#) by Stephen Fry

Penguin Books Ltd. (November 11, 2021)

“Every single one of Stephen Fry's ties - whether floral, fluorescent, football themed; striped or spotty, outrageous, or simply debonair - tells an intimate tale about a moment in Stephen's life. Inspired by Stephen's hugely popular Instagram posts, this book features beautiful, hand-drawn illustrations and photographs to celebrate his expansive collection of man's greatest clothing companion: The Tie, in all its sophisticated glory.”

[Gilded](#) by Marissa Meyer

Feivel & Friends (November 2, 2021)

“Long ago cursed by the god of lies, a poor miller's daughter has developed a talent for spinning stories that are fantastical and spellbinding and entirely untrue. When one of Serilda's outlandish tales draws the attention of the sinister Erlking and his undead hunters, the king orders Serilda to complete the impossible task of spinning straw into gold or be killed. In her desperation, Serilda unwittingly summons a mysterious boy to her aid. He agrees to help her... for a price. Love isn't meant to be part of the bargain. Soon Serilda realizes that there is more than one secret hidden in the castle walls, including an ancient curse that must be broken.”

[Love, Theodosia: A Novel of Theodosia Burr and Philip Hamilton](#) by Lori Anne Goldstein

Arcade (November 2, 2021)

“In post-American Revolution New York City, Theodosia Burr, a scholar with the skills of a socialite, is all about charming the right people on behalf of her father—Senator Aaron Burr, who is determined to win the office of president in the pivotal election of 1800. Meanwhile, Philip Hamilton, the rakish son of Alexander Hamilton, is all about being charming on behalf of his libido. When the two first meet, it seems the ongoing feud between their politically opposed fathers may be hereditary. But soon, Theodosia and Philip must choose between love and family, desire, and loyalty, and preserving the legacy their flawed fathers fought for or creating their own.”

[Mothertrucker: Finding Joy on the Loneliest Road in America](#) by Amy Butcher

Little A (November 1, 2021)

“The true story of two women who found meaning, strength, and friendship in one of the most punishing and magnificent landscapes on earth. Amy Butcher was an accomplished college professor, mentor, and writer, but in her own home, she was embarrassed and emotionally burdened by an increasingly abusive relationship. Amy reached out to Instagram celebrity Joy “Mothertrucker” Wiebe. Joy was a fifty-year-old wife and mother and the nation’s only female ice road trucker. Invited by Joy to ride shotgun, Amy found her escape on a road that was treacherous, beautiful, and exhilarating—an adventurous ride through the Alaskan wilderness that was profoundly life changing.”

[Nanny Dearest](#) by Flora Collins

MIRA (November 30, 2021)

“Sue Keller is lost. When her father dies suddenly, she's orphaned in her mid-twenties, her mother already long gone. Then Sue meets Annie. It's been twenty years, but Annie could never forget that face. She was Sue's live-in nanny at their big house upstate. Sue is only too eager to welcome Annie back into her life; but as they become inseparable once again, Sue starts to uncover the truth about Annie's unsettling time in the Keller house all those years ago. Told in alternating points of views—Annie in the mid-'90s and Sue in the present day—this taut novel of suspense will keep readers turning the pages right up to the shocking end.”

[Seven Down](#) by David Whitton

Rare Machines (November 30, 2021)

“In this quirky, character-driven debut novel seven hotel employees puzzle out the events of a botched assassination attempt. Seven ordinary hotel employees, moles, waiting for years for a single code word, a trigger that will send them into action in a violent event that will end their dull lives as they know them. The event has failed: the action was a disaster. Each employee is being debriefed by an agent of an invisible organization. These are the transcripts of these interviews. What they reveal is not just the intricate mechanism of an international assassination, but the yearnings inside each of its pawns, the

desperation and secret rage that might cause any one of us to sign up, sell out, and take a plunge into darkness. Both sinister and absurd, a puzzle to be solved, a comedy, and a panorama of life.”

***Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan**

Grove Press (November 30, 2021)

“It is 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant, and family man faces into his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church. A deeply affecting story of hope, quiet heroism, and empathy.”

***The Boys: A Memoir of Hollywood and Family* by Ron Howard and Clint Howard**

William Morrow (October 12, 2021)

“With the perspective of time and success--Ron as a filmmaker, producer, and Hollywood A-lister, Clint as a busy character actor--the Howard brothers delve deep into an upbringing that seemed normal to them yet was anything but. By turns confessional, nostalgic, heartwarming, and harrowing, *The Boys*, is a dual narrative that lifts the lid on the Howard brothers' closely held lives.”

***Will* by Will Smith**

Penguin Press (November 9, 2021)

“Along the way, *Will* tells the story in full of one of the most amazing rides through the worlds of music and film that anyone has ever had. Will Smith’s transformation from a West Philadelphia kid to one of the biggest rap stars of his era, and then one of the biggest movie stars in Hollywood history, is an epic tale—but it’s only half the story. This memoir is the product of a profound journey of self-knowledge, a reckoning with all that your will can get you and all that it can leave behind.”

***The Dictionary of Obscure Sorrows* by John Koenig**

Simon & Schuster (November 16, 2021)

“Have you ever wondered about the lives of each person you pass on the street? That feeling has a name: "sonder." Or maybe you've watched a thunderstorm roll in and felt a primal hunger for disaster, hoping it would shake up your life. That's called "lachesism." If you've never heard of these terms before, that's because they didn't exist until John Koenig began his epic quest to fill the gaps in the language of emotion.”

***The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich**

Harper (November 9, 2021)

“Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award–winning author Louise Erdrich creates a wickedly funny ghost story, a tale of passion, of a complex marriage, and of a woman's relentless errors. A small independent bookstore in Minneapolis is haunted from November 2019 to 2020 by the store's most annoying customer. Flora dies on All Souls' Day, but she simply won't leave the store. Tookie, who has landed a job selling books after years of incarceration that she survived by reading "with murderous attention," must solve the mystery of this haunting while at the same time trying to understand all that occurs in Minneapolis during a year of grief, astonishment, isolation, and furious reckoning.”



Book descriptions provided by publishers.

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