

**NANOOSE LIBRARY  
NEW BOOK SYNOPSES  
DECEMBER 2020**

**FICTION**

***Marianne Apostolides*      *I can't get you off my mind***

Ariadne is a single, forty something writer and mother embroiled in an affair with a married man. To make ends meet while writing, she joins a research study in which she's paid to live with an AI device called Dirk. But the study quickly enters uncharted territory. Capable of mapping Ariadne's brain and, to some extent, reading her mind, Dirk calls into question issues of privacy and consciousness: communicating our thoughts to others, what it means to embody our desires, and whether we ought to act on them.

***Jeffrey Archer*      *Hidden in plain sight***

The second book in the Warwick series. Warwick has been promoted to Detective Sergeant, and he, and his team, have been reassigned to the Drugs Squad. They are immediately tasked with apprehending Khalil Rashidi, a notorious drug dealer, who operates his extensive network out of South London. As the investigation progresses, Warwick runs into old and new enemies: Adrian Heath, from his school days, now a street dealer; and financier Miles Faulkner, who makes a mistake that could finally see him put behind bars. Meanwhile, William and his fiancée Beth enjoy making preparations for their upcoming wedding.

***David Baldacci*      *Daylight***

Another in the Pine series. FBI Agent Atlee Pine's search for her sister Mercy clashes with military investigator John Puller's high-stakes case, leading them both deep into a global conspiracy. For many years, Atlee Pine was tormented by uncertainty after her twin sister, Mercy, was abducted at the age of six and never seen again. Now, just as Atlee is pressured to end her investigation into Mercy's disappearance, she finally gets her most promising breakthrough yet: the identity of her sister's kidnapper, Ito Vincenzo.

***Deni Ellis Bechard*      *A song from faraway***

Ranging from nineteenth-century Prince Edward Island to modern-day Iraq, tracing the story of a North American family. A pair of half-brothers come together and drift apart, one passive and risk-averse, the other driven by a passionate desire to understand their reclusive father. A student of Mesopotamian archaeology encounters a young Iraqi man and soon finds himself in Kurdistan, researching stolen artifacts along with mysteries in his father's past. An Irish-Acadian soldier carries his fiddle and folk song across the battlefields of the First World War. An orphan-turned-assassin pursues his target across the deserts of Mexico and Texas. Growing together and then apart, they chase their dreams and run from their nightmares, hungry for life and longing for purpose.

***Marc Cameron*      *Tom Clancy's shadow of the dragon***

Another in the Jack Ryan series. Aboard an icebreaker in the Arctic Ocean a sonar operator hears an unusual noise coming from the ocean floor. She can't isolate it and chalks the event up to an anomaly in a newly installed system. Meanwhile, operatives with the Chinese Ministry of State Security are dealing with their own mystery, the disappearance of brilliant but eccentric scientist, Liu Wangshu. They're desperate to keep his crucial knowledge of aerospace and naval technology out of their rivals' hands.

***Marjorie Celona*      *How a woman becomes a lake***

New Year's Day and the residents of a small fishing town are ready to start their lives anew. Leo takes his two young sons out to the lake to write resolutions on paper boats. That same frigid morning, Vera sets out for a walk with her dog along the lake, leaving her husband in bed with a hangover. But she never returns. She places a call to the police saying she's found a boy in the woods, but the call is cut short by a muffled cry.

**Lee Child*****The sentinel***

As always, Reacher has no particular place to go, and all the time in the world to get there. One morning he ends up in a town near Pleasantville, Tennessee. In broad daylight Reacher spots a hapless soul walking into an ambush, so he intervenes. The man he saves is Rusty Rutherford, an unassuming IT manager, recently fired after a cyberattack locked up the town's data, records, information and secrets. Rutherford wants to clear his name. Reacher is intrigued. The bad guys who jumped Rutherford are part of something serious and deadly, involving a conspiracy, a cover-up, and murder, all centred on a mousy little guy in a coffee-stained shirt who has no idea what he's up against.

**Ann Cleeves*****The darkest evening***

Part of the Vera Stanhope series. On the first snowy night of winter, D.I. Stanhope sets off for home. A car has skidded off the narrow road in front of her, its door left open, and she stops to help. There is no driver to be seen, so Vera assumes that the owner has gone to find help. But a cry calls her back: a toddler is strapped in the back seat. Vera takes the child and she arrives at Brockburn, a large, grand house in the wilds of Northumberland, now a little shabby and run down. It's also where her father, Hector, grew up. Inside, there's a party in full swing: music, Christmas lights and laughter. Outside, unbeknownst to the revellers, a woman lies dead in the snow.

**Michael Connelly*****The law of innocence***

Defense attorney Mickey Haller is pulled over by police, who find the body of a client in the trunk of his Lincoln. Haller is charged with murder and can't make the exorbitant \$5 million bail slapped on him by a vindictive judge. He elects to defend himself and must build his defence from his jail cell in the Twin Towers Correctional Centre in downtown Los Angeles, all the while looking over his shoulder, as an officer of the court, he is an instant target.

**Eva Crocker*****All I ask***

A little before seven in the morning, Stacey wakes to the police pounding on her door. They search her home and seize her computer and her phone, looking for illegal digital material. Left to unravel what's happened, Stacey must find a way to take back the privacy and freedom she feels she has lost. Luckily, she has her friends. Navigating her way through friendship, love, and sex, Stacey strives to restore her self-confidence.

**Farzana Doctor*****Seven***

When Sharifa accompanies her husband on a marriage-saving trip to India, she thinks that she's going to research her great-great-grandfather, a wealthy business leader and philanthropist. What captures her imagination is not his rags-to-riches story, but the mystery of his four wives, missing from the family lore. Sharifa's trip coincides with a time of unrest within her insular and conservative religious community. A group of feminists is speaking out against khatna, an age-old ritual they insist is female genital cutting. Sharifa's two favourite cousins are on opposite sides of the debate and she seeks a middle ground. As the issue heats up, Sharifa discovers an unexpected truth and is forced to take a position.

**Kate Ellis*****Dead man's lane***

Strangefields Farm is notorious for its sinister history ever since artist Jackson Temples lured young women there to model for disturbing works of art. Some of those girls never left the house alive. Now, decades later, Strangefields is to be transformed into a holiday village, but the developer's hopes of its dark history being forgotten are dashed when a skull is found on the site. And when a local florist is found murdered in an echo of Temples' crimes, DI Wesley Peterson fears that a copy-cat killer is at large.

**Tyler Enfield*****Like rum-drunk angels***

Francis Blackstone is a fourteen-year-old gunslinger with a heart of gold. He's fallen for the mayor's daughter and resolves to make his mark, and his fortune, to win her favour. And what better way than to rob a Manhattan Company bank. Enter Bob Temple, the volatile outlaw who takes Francis under his wing and so begins the adventures of the Blackstone Temple Gang as they crisscross the west in search of treasure, redemption, and the possibility of requited love.

**Robert Galbraith**      ***Troubled blood***

Private Detective Cormoran Strike is visiting his family in Cornwall when he is approached by a woman asking for help finding her mother, Margot Bamborough who went missing in mysterious circumstances in 1974. Strike has never tackled a cold case before, but despite the slim chance of success, he is intrigued and takes it on; adding to the long list of cases that he and his partner in the agency, Robin Ellacott, are currently working on. Robin herself is also juggling a messy divorce and unwanted male attention, as well as battling her own feelings about Strike.

**Joanna Goodman**      ***The forgotten daughter***

1992: French-Canadian factions renew Quebec's fight to gain independence, and Véronique Fortin, daughter of a radical separatist convicted of kidnapping and murdering a prominent politician in 1970, has embraced her father's cause. So it is a surprise when she falls for James Phénix, a journalist of French-Canadian heritage who opposes Quebec separatism. Their love affair is as passionate as it is turbulent, as they negotiate a constant struggle between love and morals. At the same time, James's older sister, Elodie Phénix, one of the Duplessis Orphans, becomes involved with a coalition demanding justice and reparations for their suffering in the 1950s when Quebec's orphanages were converted to mental hospitals, a heinous political act of Premier Maurice Duplessis which affected 5,000 children.

**John Grisham**      ***A time for mercy***

Lawyer Jake Brigance is the court-appointed lawyer for Drew Gamble, a young man accused of murdering a local deputy. Many in Clanton, Mississippi want a swift trial and the death penalty, but Brigance sees it another way. Once he learns the details of the case, he realizes he has to do everything he can to save 16 year-old Drew.

**Clifford Jackman**      ***The braver thing***

In 1721, when the most notorious pirates are either dead or on the run, Jimmy Kavanagh, who sailed with Blackbeard, decides to pull together a "Company of Gentleman of Fortune" for one last "Adventuring Cruise" that will set them all up for life. All begins well as the pirates sail across the Atlantic and sack Cape Coast Castle, looting it of chests of gold ill-gotten from the slave trade. But before Kavanagh can lead them on, he sickens, unleashing a drastic series of power struggles among the company.

**Alexander McCall Smith**      ***The good pilot Peter Woodhouse***

Val was working as a land girl when the Americans arrived at the nearby airfield in 1944. Mike, a young American airman, came into her life soon after, and so too did Peter Woodhouse, a dog badly treated on a neighbouring farm and taken in by her aunt. Little persuasion was needed for Mike to take Peter Woodhouse to the airbase and over time he became the mascot of the American squad, flying with them whenever their Mosquitoes took to the skies. When their plane is shot down over Holland both Mike, and Peter Woodhouse are feared lost. But unknown to their loved ones at home, Mike, and Peter Woodhouse survived the crash.

**Martin Michaud**      ***Never forget***

When an eccentric homeless man jumps to his death in Old Montreal, the police discover two wallets in his possession: those of a retired psychiatrist who was recently murdered in a bizarre ritual and a powerful corporate lawyer who has vanished. As police detective Victor Lessard and his partner, Jacinthe Taillon, work to solve the separate mysteries, a dark history begins to emerge.

**Rick Mofina**      ***Their last secret***

Janie Klassyn was only fourteen years old when she made the blood pact with her friends. She could never imagine she was setting in motion the horrifying crime that would tear her peaceful prairie town apart. Twenty years later in California, school counsellor Emma Grant struggles to keep her past buried. But when she finds a note on her car threatening to reveal her secret, it becomes harder to keep up the deception. Now, with her celebrated true-crime author husband digging into a decades-old murder case

for his next book, and a suspicious accident involving someone who's been following her, the perfect life Emma's built is crumbling, forcing her to take desperate steps to save it.

**Silvia Moreno-Garcia**      ***Untamed shore***

Baja California, 1979. Viridiana spends her days watching the dead sharks piled beside the seashore, as the fishermen pull their nets. There is nothing else to do, nothing else to watch, under the harsh sun. She's bored, yet her head is filled with dreams of Hollywood films, of romance, of a future beyond the drab town where her only option is to marry and have children. When three wealthy American tourists arrive for the summer, Viridiana is magnetized. They offer excitement, and perhaps an escape from the promise of a humdrum future.

**Jo Nesbo**      ***The kingdom***

Roy has never left the quiet mountain town he grew up in, unlike his little brother Carl who couldn't wait to leave and escape his troubled past. Just like everyone else in town, Roy believed Carl was gone for good. But Carl has big plans for his hometown. And when he returns with a mysterious new wife and a business opportunity that seems too good to be true, simmering tensions begin to surface and unexplained deaths in the town's past come under new scrutiny. Soon powerful players set their sights on taking the brothers down by exposing their role in the town's sordid history.

**Katrina Onstad**      ***Stay where I can see you***

The Kaplan family has just won 10 million dollars in the lottery. But haven't they always been lucky? Gwen thought so. She's carefully curated a perfect suburban existence with a loving husband and two children. For over a decade, she's been a stay-at-home mom, devoted to giving her kids the quiet, protected adolescence she didn't have. But the surprise windfall suddenly upends the family, allowing them all to dream a little bigger and catapulting them back to the city that Gwen fled years ago.

**James Patterson**      ***Three women disappear***

Mob accountant Anthony Costello, nephew of the don of central Florida, is fatally stabbed in his own kitchen. There were three women in the house with him that morning, his wife, Anna; his maid, Serena; and his personal chef, Sarah. All three have reason to want him dead and all three are missing. Chef Sarah happens to be married to homicide detective Sean Walsh who may be a bad husband, but he's a good cop.

**George Pelecanos**      ***The man who came uptown***

Michael Hudson spends the long days in prison devouring books given to him by the prison's librarian, Anna, who develops a soft spot for her best student. She keeps passing Michael books until one day he disappears, suddenly released after a private detective manipulated a witness in Michael's trial. Outside, Michael encounters a Washington, D.C., that has changed a lot during his time locked up. But what hasn't changed is the hard choice between the temptation of crime and doing what's right. Trying to balance his new job, his love of reading, and the debt he owes to the man who got him released, Michael struggles to figure out his place in this new world.

**Ian Rankin**      ***A song for the dark times***

Part of the Rebus series. When his daughter Samantha calls in the dead of night, John Rebus knows it's not good news. Her husband has been missing for two days. Rebus fears the worst and knows from his lifetime in the police that his daughter will be the prime suspect. He wasn't the best father, the job always came first, but now his daughter needs him more than ever. But is he going as a father or a detective?

**Mandy Robotham**      ***The secret messenger***

Venice, 1943. The world is at war, and Stella Jilani is leading a double life. By day she works a typist for the Reich; by night, she risks her life as a messenger for the Italian resistance. Against all odds, Stella must impart Nazi secrets, smuggle essential supplies and produce an underground newspaper on her beloved typewriter.

London, 2017. Luisa Belmont finds a mysterious old typewriter in her attic. Determined to find out who it belonged to, Luisa delves into the past and uncovers a story of fierce love, unimaginable sacrifice and, ultimately, the worst kind of betrayal.

***Cordelia Strube***      ***Misconduct of the heart***

Stevie, a recovering alcoholic and kitchen manager of Chappy's, a small chain restaurant, is frantically trying to prevent the people around her from imploding: her PTSD-suffering veteran son, her demented parents, the eccentrics who work in her kitchen, the blind geriatric dog she inherits, and a damaged five-year-old who landed on her doorstep and might just be her granddaughter. In the tight grip of new corporate owners, Stevie battles corporate's "restructuring" to save her kitchen, while trying to learn to forgive herself and maybe allow some love back into her life.

***Lisa Unger***      ***Confessions on the 7:45***

Selena Murphy is commuting home from her job in the city when the train stalls out on the tracks. She strikes up a conversation with a beautiful stranger in the next seat, and their connection is fast and easy. The woman introduces herself as Martha and confesses that she's been stuck in an affair with her boss. Selena, in turn, confesses that she suspects her husband is sleeping with the nanny. When the train arrives at Selena's station, the two women part ways, presumably never to meet again. But days later, Selena's nanny disappears. Soon Selena finds her once-perfect life upended.

***Doreen Vanderstoop***      ***Water shed***

Water is now the most precious resource in Alberta. With the glaciers gone, the province's oil and gas pipelines are being converted to water pipelines. Tensions are high as "water terrorists" threaten to cut off the water supply. Against this precarious backdrop, Willa desperately tries to keep her family's failing goat farm afloat. But when her son, Daniel, goes to work for the water corporation whose high-priced commodity is putting the farm out of business, Willa is stunned.

***Dianne Warren***      ***The diamond house***

Estella Diamond is the youngest child and only daughter of a successful brick-factory owner, a self-described family man who is not averse to being called a kingpin. Estella's precocious nature leads her to discover something none of her brothers know: that their father was once married to an aspiring ceramics artist named Salina, who dreamed big and turned her back on society's conventions. Estella grows up planning her future in the image of her father's daring first wife, rather than that of her traditional mother. When her plans are derailed again and again by the family patriarchy, she longs to rebel and be like Salina.

**NON-FICTION**

***Michael J. Fox***      ***No time like the future: an optimist considers mortality***

Diagnosed at age 29, Michael is engaged in Parkinson's advocacy work, raising global awareness of the disease and helping find a cure through The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, the world's leading non-profit funder of PD science. His two previous bestselling memoirs, *Lucky Man* and *Always Looking Up*, dealt with how he came to terms with the illness, all the while exhibiting his iconic optimism. His new memoir reassesses this outlook, as events in the past decade presented additional challenges. Michael shares personal stories and observations about illness and health, aging, the strength of family and friends, and how our perceptions about time affect the way we approach mortality.

***Matthew McConaughey***      ***Greenlights***

An unconventional memoir filled with raucous stories, outlaw wisdom, and lessons learned the hard way about living with greater satisfaction. Based on the author's diaries which he has kept for the last 35 years, he tells readers about successes and failures, joys and sorrows, things that made him marvel, and things that made him laugh out loud. How to be fair. How to have less stress. How to have fun. How to hurt people less. How to get hurt less. How to be a good man. How to have meaning in life. It's also a guide to catching more greenlights and to realizing that the yellows and reds eventually turn green too.

**Barack Obama*****A promised land***

In the first volume of his presidential memoirs, Barack Obama tells the story of his improbable odyssey from young man searching for his identity to leader of the free world, describing in strikingly personal detail both his political education and the landmark moments of the first term of his historic presidency. He takes readers on a journey from his earliest political aspirations to the pivotal Iowa caucus victory that demonstrated the power of grassroots activism to the watershed night of November 4, 2008, when he was elected 44th president of the United States.

Reflecting on the presidency, Obama offers a unique and thoughtful exploration of both the awesome reach and the limits of presidential power, as well as singular insights into the dynamics of U.S. partisan politics and international diplomacy. Obama brings readers inside the Oval Office and the White House Situation Room, and to Moscow, Cairo, Beijing, and points beyond. We are privy to his thoughts as he assembles his cabinet, wrestles with a global financial crisis, takes the measure of Vladimir Putin, overcomes seemingly insurmountable odds to secure passage of the Affordable Care Act, clashes with generals about U.S. strategy in Afghanistan, tackles Wall Street reform, responds to the devastating Deepwater Horizon blowout, and authorizes Operation Neptune's Spear, which leads to the death of Osama bin Laden.