

**SASSY, ZANEY FICTION**  
**CHICK-LIT ANYONE?**

**These smart, sassy and sexy novels of love in the modern world are populated by 20 to 30 something women (usually) who are out there in the real world dealing with life-style choices, dead-end jobs, incompatible roommates, well-meaning friends, nagging mothers, and bad hair days while trying to find the perfect (ha) mate. We've even thrown a "chuck-lit" or two in here.**

**I'm A Believer** by Jessica Adams [F/ADA]

Mark Buckle teaches science at a junior high school in south London. He wouldn't be caught dead at a séance and he positively doesn't believe in life after death. Then one terrible night, Mark's girlfriend Catherine dies in an accident and his whole world is thrown into chaos. Within days of the funeral Catherine appears by his bedside and he finds himself communicating with her from beyond the grave. And just when he's beginning to adjust to life with his ghostly girlfriend, she decides to send him someone new to love.

**Invitation to Provence** by Elizabeth Adler [F/ADL]

Franny Marten's life is unraveling after arranging to meet her boyfriend, Marcus for dinner, she finds his wife waiting for her instead. After the initial shock wears off, she finds she has more in common with Clare than she could ever have imagined and they became friends. Clare unexpectedly offered an all expenses paid trip to Provence, to a reunion of her estranged family. Clare decides to go with her and charge the trip to Marcus. Franny finds that there are dangerous family secrets buried deep and there is a person who will go to any lengths to keep her from uncovering them.

**Kissing Frogs** by Laura Marie Altom

[F/ALT]

Biologist Lucy Gordon had one chance in a million to capture her every dream of money, fame and earning her father's respect. It all depended upon her discovering a new species of frog. Then one day, by a miraculous twist of fate, that frog found her. She was consumed with joy and kissed the little bugger smack dab on his lips. Poof! As magically as he appeared, he was gone and in his place was more than two hundred pounds of wholly naked, wholly medieval bad-boy prince who claimed she'd saved him from an amphibian eternity. Lucy didn't want a prince – she wanted her frog.

**Yo!** by Julia Alvarez

[F/ALV]

This zesty, daring novel is about what happens when an author really does “write what she knows.” At once funny and poignant, intellectual and gossipy, lighthearted and layered in meaning, Yo is, ironically and above all, a portrait of the artist. With its bright colors, passion and penchant for controversy, it's a portrait that could come only from the palette of Julia Alvarez.

**The Russian Girl** by Kingsley Amis

[F/AMI]

This novel is a love story that develops through a variety of hilarious scenes and characters. Art, literature, political correctness and the gender war all come under the author's seasoned scalpel, as do a cast of characters that range from the haplessly high-minded to the hilariously odd.

**Hissy Fit** by Mary Kay Andrews

[LP/F/AND][F/AND]

Keeley Murdock's wedding to A.J. Jernigan should have been the social event of the season. But when she catches her fiancé doing the deed with her maid of honor at the country club rehearsal dinner, all bets are off and so is the wedding. Keely pitches the hissy fit of the century. Riding to the rescue in a vintage yellow Cadillac, is the redheaded stranger who's purchased a failing local bra plant. Will Mahoney hires Keeley to redo the derelict mansion he bought. Her assignment: decorate it for the woman of his dreams, a woman he's never met. Only Keely can find a way to clear her name and give her cheating varmint of an ex-fiancé the comeuppance he so richly deserves.

**Little Bitty Lies** by Mary Kay Andrews [F/AND]

This novel is a comic southern novel about all the important things in life: marriage and divorce, mothers and daughters, friendship and betrayal, small town secrets and one woman's lifelong quest for home and the perfect recipe for chicken salad.

**Savannah Blues** by Mary Kay Andrews [F/AND]

Landing a catch like ultra-Wasp Talmadge Evans III got Eloise "Weezie" Foley a jewel of a town house in Savannah's historic district. Divorcing Tal got her exiled into the backyard carriage house, where she launched a spite fest with Tal's new fiancée, the elegant Caroline DeSantos. The War of the Roses was nothing compared to the escalating hostilities between Weezie and Caroline.

**The Whitney Chronicles** by Judy Baer [F/BAE]

Whitney Blake is thirty-two-years-old and her family and friends fear spinsterhood may be her fate. Whitney does wonder whether Mr. Right will ever arrive – maybe she needs to be more proactive, so she starts a journal stating her goals. "This month – lose two pounds, stand up straight with my stomach sucked in so I appear tall and thin, don't let my mother drive me crazy, get organized, etc. It must be working because suddenly there's more than one man in Whitney's life, but are any of them marriage material, or is "fabulous, single, Christian man" an oxymoron?

**Inappropriate Men** by Stacey Ballis [F/BAL]

With her marriage spiraling toward divorce, sexually confident and unapologetically sized 24 Sidney Stein finds herself drawn into an illicit affair with Geoffrey Fahl, not only married and twenty years her senior, but also her father's business partner. Sidney decides to turn her life around. This is a laugh-out-loud funny story without compromising intelligence.

**The Girls' Guide to Hunting and Fishing** by Melissa Bank [LP/F/BAN][F/BAN]

This novel reflects the quest of our time: how to love and understand one another better than we do and how to love in ways that allow us to be most fully ourselves. Its heroine, crackling with life, energy and spirit, is a vivid and wise guide to these lessons.

**High Maintenance** by Jennifer Belle [F/BEL]

On her own for the first time since she left her philandering husband and their duplex apartment with its Empire State Building views, Liv Kellerman has to make the adjustment from penthouse to Greenwich Village fixer-upper.

**Flabbergasted** by Ray Blackston [F/BLA]

Jay Jarvis is new in town, young and successful and not afraid to plop down in a pew to scope out the females. What he finds is a lovely, yet unusual missionary with a warped sense of humor and a wicked throwing arm. She and a wacky assortment of friends turn Jay's perceptions of life upside down, launching events that leave him and those around him thoroughly flabbergasted.

**Fat Chance** by Deborah Blumenthal [F/BLU]

Bursting with wit, insight and heart, the author's delicious debut novel reaches beyond the story of Maggie O'Leary to every woman who has tried to find fulfillment. This book is a lusciously guilt-free pleasure that is good to the last page.

**Coffee & Kung Fu** by Karen Brichoux

[F/BRI]

Twenty-six-year-old Nicci Bradford doesn't exactly love her job of fixing the grammar in company brochures and she doesn't exactly love living in Boston or going on awkward dates with men she barely knows. What she does love is Kung Fu movies, especially the ones starring her beloved Jackie Chan. Their timeless and inspired wisdom offers her a philosophy of Life. But wisdom isn't the only thing that Jackie Chan has to offer. When opportunity and risk present themselves in unexpected ways, it's up to Nicci to follow her hero's example, focus on her goal and strike.

**Revenge of the Middle-Aged Woman** by Elizabeth Buchan [LP/F/BUC][F/BUC]

Things look bleak for Rose Lloyd when her marriage of 25 years and her career hit the skids. But it's amazing what prolonged reflection, the slimming effect of a lost appetite, a new slant on independence and the reappearance of an old flame will do.

**Lucy's Launderette** by Betsy Burke

[F/BUR]

What's a girl gotta do to get a little fluff and fold? Lucy Madison's life is spinning out of control. After her grandfather crashes his motorcycle for the last time, Lucy is fulfilling his dying wish of befriending his pregnant girlfriend who turns out to be even less fun than she expected. It's a good thing Grandpa left her his launderette because it's the perfect place to sort through her mess and focus on her art and start fresh – isn't it?

**Four Blondes** by Candace Bushnell

[LP/F/BUS][F/BUS]

This novel tells the stories of four women caught at crossroads in their lives, facing choices and realizations that will redefine them forever. Studded with the author's trademark wit and stiletto-heel-sharp insights, this novel is scandalous, gossipy and compulsively readable. It's a gimlet-eyed view of the trials of love and fame, money and power, as dry and as bracing as a martini at the Ritz.

**Trading Up** by Candace Bushnell

[F/BUS]

As Janey Wilcox attends the hottest party in the Hamptons, the reader is drawn into a seemingly glamorous world of \$100,000 cars, hunky polo players, media moguls and relationships whose hidden agendas are detectable only by the socially astute. But look out! As Janey is pulled into this world of too much money and too few morals, unseen forces are conspiring to bring her down and she is too young and too beautiful to fail.

**The Dewey Decimal System of Love** by Josephine Carr

[LP/F/CAR][F/CAR]

Ally Sheffield hides her extravagant nature and sensuous lifestyle behind her librarian reserve. But when she falls in love – really in love – she discovers that what she needs to know cannot be found in any book.

**Drop Dead Gorgeous** by Anna Cheska

[F/CHE]

Imogen's marriage has hardly been an exciting affair, but when her husband Edward dies she's mystified when she finds a photograph of a seductive looking young blond among Edward's papers. Could it be that the seemingly reliable Edward was having an affair? She is desperate to learn the truth but her best friend; Jude thinks she should leave the past behind. While everyone keeps telling her that all she needs is time, could it be that what she really needs is a date?

**I Wish I Had A Red Dress** by Pearl Cleage

[F/CLE]

Joyce Mitchell was widowed far too young when her beloved husband, Mitch, died in a tragic accident five years ago. Since then she has kept her hands full and her mind and heart occupied by running The Sewing Circus, an all-girl group she founded to provide badly needed services like day care and job counseling to young women. Joyce has a full and rich life but what she doesn't have is that red dress she keeps dreaming about or a social life that would accommodate it even is she braved the mall and bought one. To further complicate matters, she may not have the Sewing Circus much longer, as the state legislature has decided not to fund the group's vital but hard-to-define work with young women who are too often regarded as problems rather than possibilities.

**Guppies For Tea** by Marika Cobbold

[F/COB]

Amelia Lindsay has a grandmother she adores, an obsessive mother she bears with patience and Gerald, the man she fell in love with. Two years ago Gerald begged Amelia to move in with him but now he is beginning to show signs of irritation. Amelia's grandmother is fading deeper into senility and she does everything she can to make her grandmother's wish come true to spend Christmas in her old home, which has been sold to strangers. Amelia finds herself capable of plots and friendships she has never encountered before.

**Bet Me** by Jennifer Crusie

[F/CRU]

Minerva Dobbs knows that happily-ever-after is a fairy tale, especially with a man who asked her to dinner to win a bet, even if he is gorgeous Calvin Morrisey. When they say good-bye at the end of their evening, they cut their losses and agree never to see each other again. But fate has other plans and it's not long before Min and Cal meet again. Soon they're dealing with a jealous ex-boyfriend, Krispy Kreme doughnuts, a determined psychologist, chaos theory, a freakishly intelligent cat, Chicken Marsala and more risky propositions than either of them ever dreamed of, including the biggest gamble of all – true love.

**Crazy For You** by Jennifer Crusie

[F/CRU]

Quinn McKenzie has always lived what she calls a "beige" life. She's dating the world's nicest guy, she has a good job as a high school art teacher, and is surrounded by family and friends who rely on her, and she's bored to the point of insanity. When she decides to change her life by adopting a stray dog over everyone's objections, everything begins to spiral out of control. Now she's coping with dog napping, breaking and entering, seduction, sabotage, stalking, more secrets than she really wants to know and two men who are suddenly crazy for her.

**Don't Look Down** by Jennifer Crusie

[NB/F/CRU]

Recruited to finish a four-day action movie shoot, commercial director Lucy Armstrong finds the job challenged by egomaniacal actors, her stunt director ex-husband and a would-be killer.

**Tell Me Lies** by Jennifer Crusie

[F/CRU]

Maddie Faraday knows she is having a bad day when she finds a pair of black lace panties under the front seat of her husband's car. To make things more complicated, C.L. Sturgis, her old high school flame, is back in town and still has a yen for her. Maddie wants to get even with her husband, but she wants to keep her reputation and the juggling act that follows ends with great sex in C.L.'s backseat, which leads to gossip and a showdown with her husband.

**Girl's Poker Night** by Jill Davis

[F/DAV]

Dissatisfied both with writing a "Single Girl" column and her current boyfriend, Ruby Capote sends her best columns and a six-pack of beer to the editor of The New York News and lands herself a job. She institutes a gal's version of Poker Night where she and her friends eat, drink, share stories and, most of all, raise the stakes. But when Ruby falls for her boss, all bets are off.

**The A-List** by Zoey Dean

[FDEA]

After twelve years of exceptional grades, Waldorf-Astoria teas and "working well with others," Anna Percy has had it with her perfect academic record and her perfectly boring prep school life. So she jets off to LA, where in the course of twenty-four hours she'll hit an Oscar winner's wedding, lounge at an after hours back lot party and meet a guy she just might love. Life couldn't be going better for Anna. That is, until Cammie, Sam and Dee enter the scene. They are the A-List and no one steals their spotlight.

**Tall Cool One** by Zoey Dean

[F/DEA]

Anna needs a time-out from all her boys and Sam's hunting for a good one to love. So together they make a getaway to Las Casitas, Mexico, the super luxury spa where Angelenos go to get more sun. They spend the week water-skiing, scuba diving, saloning and yes, smooching with boys. Then a crazy lunch lands them in a deserted mansion and suddenly their vacation switches from an indie road trip movie to a search-and-rescue blockbuster.

**Trying to Sleep in the Bed You Made** by Virginia DeBerry

[F/DEB]

And Donna Grant

From the time they were young, Gayle and Patricia were raised like sisters, as close as two friends could be. But they each had dreams that would take them far away from each other. Gayle was the beauty who believed that a man could make her world complete. Patricia was the intellectual who thought that rising to the top of her career would make her happy. Then there is Marcus Carter, who has been linked to both Pat and Gayle since the tragedy that occurred when they were all children. Can either one save him from himself? Can friends survive a love that comes between them? Each of them gets what she wants, but no one counts on the price they have to pay.

**Cat's Meow** by Melissa de la Cruz

[F/DE]

Cat McAllister grew up as a Hollywood child star, spent her adolescence modeling in Japan, and now, as she celebrates her twenty-fifth birthday for the fourth time, she lives for velvet ropes, gold-leaf invitations and other fashionista prizes. On her way up the social ladder, she finds herself stuck in the seventh circle of celebrity hell and what's worse her funds are running dry. What's a girl to do?

**The Summerhouse** by Jude Deveraux

[F/DEV]

Have you ever wanted to rewrite your past? Three best friends, all with the same birthday, are about to turn forty. The plan to share this momentous occasion together at a summerhouse in Maine, talking up a storm and taking stock of their lives and loves, their wishes and choices. But none of them expect the gift that awaits them at the summerhouse: the chance for each of them to turn their "what might have beens" into reality.

**Wanderlust** by Chris Dyer

[F/DYE]

Taking a job writing a low-budget travel column for a New York newspaper, Kate Bogart soon discovers that her dream job has some drawbacks, including a hectic schedule, not-so-exotic destinations and uppity British journalist Miles Maxwell.

**Holding Out** by Anne O. Faulk

[F/FAU]

Lauren Fontaine, a bold, successful female executive, is so outraged when the wife of the chief justice of the Supreme Court commits suicide after years of spousal abuse, that she organizes a campaign calling upon the nation's women to withhold sex until he is brought to justice.

**Highland Fling** by Katie Fforde

[F/FFO]

The majestic Scottish highlands, covered in purple heather and dotted with sheep and llamas, provide dramatic backdrop while Jenny Porter tries to pull everything together in time to save the textile mill and figure out her increasingly complicated personal life, in this delightful romantic romp.

**Life Skills** by Katie Fforde

[F/FFO]

Part romp, part romance, part step-by-step guide to how not to see England's scenic canals, this novel will delight fans of intelligent romantic comedy, as well as anyone looking for a few tips on staying afloat.

**The Rose Revived** by Katie Fforde

[F/FFO]

Joining a team of housecleaners as a means of supporting themselves, recently unemployed May, single mother and hopeful artist Harriet and star-seeking Sally find themselves in hotter water than they could have expected.

**Bridget Jones's Diary** by Helen Fielding

[CAS/F/FIE][LP/F/FIE][F/FIE]

An unmarried thirty-something "singleton" decides to take charge of her life and chronicles her numerous experiences with love, weight and the quest for inner peace over the course of a year.

**Waking Beauty** by Elyse Friedman

[F/FRI]

What would you do if you went to bed ugly, fat and depressed and woke up the next morning in the body of a goddess? This is exactly the miracle that befalls Allison Penny, who has spent most of her twenty-two years on this in a serious slump, having long since given up on her life. Allison wastes no time with her new looks and experiences all of the power and fun that come with being gorgeous. But even for beautiful people, things can get complicated and soon Allison finds herself with a whole new set of problems.

**Dinner For Two** by Mike Gayle

[F/GAY]

No one is more surprised than Dave Harding when he hears his biological clock start ticking. Unfortunately, his better half, Izzy, has no nine-month plan for fat ankles or a credit line at Baby Gap. With even worse timing, the magazine Dave writes for folds. Desperate for work, he's forced to become an advice columnist for a teen magazine. Wading through the letters, he finds one about a teenage girl named Nicola looking for her father, whom she's never met. She's looking for a man to call Dad. She's looking for Dave.

**My Legendary Girlfriend** by Mike Gayle

[F/GAY]

It's been three years since Will Kelly's girlfriend Agnes, wrecked his life by dumping him. No matter how much time goes by, Will doesn't feel very free. He still makes lists of each birthday present Aggie ever gave him and dwells on the first words she uttered to him. How long can a person stay down in the dumps after being dumped? And how much longer before Will dumps Martina, the sweet but clingy girl he's seeing? Will anyone ever measure up to his Legendary Girlfriend?

**Truly Madly Yours** by Rachel Gibson

[F/GIB]

When pretty hairdresser Delaney Shaw returned home to Truly, Idaho, for the reading of her stepfather's will, she planned on paying her respects and getting out of town. But it seems the will has some unexpected stipulations – like the one that says if Delaney wants her inheritance she needs to stay put and have nothing to do with sexy Nick Allegrezza for an entire year.

**Man Eater** by Gigi Levangie Grazer

[F/GRA]

Everything Clarissa Alpert wants, Clarissa Alpert gets. But with her thirty-second birthday looming, she is starting to panic. Who on earth could possibly make Clarissa Alpert an honest woman? From the moment Clarissa sees Aaron Mason, she sets her sights on making him the future “Mr. Alpert.” But it seems her intended might have his own agenda. Could Clarissa have finally bitten off more than she can chew?

**Babyville** by Jane Green

[CD/F/GRE][LP/F/GRE]

Julia, a wildly successful television producer who appears to have the picture perfect life, is stuck in a loveless relationship with her boyfriend, Mark, Julia thinks a baby is the answer but she may want a baby more than she wants her boyfriend. Will a trip to New York City with a jet-setting friend and all the glittering energy and eligible the city brings help her discover what she really wants?

**Jemima J** by Jane Green

[F/GRE]

Jemima Jones is 98 pounds overweight and is treated like a maid by her thin, social-climbing roommates. Her only consolation is food. She knows her life is in need of a serious change when she meets Brad, an eligible California hunk, over the Internet. When her long distance Romeo demands that they meet, she must conquer her food addiction to become the bone thin model of her e-mails. This is just the beginning of Jemima's transformation, a process that takes her through enormous physical and emotional change and halfway around the globe.

**Mr. Maybe** by Jane Green

[F/GRE]

This book is a wildly funny story of two totally opposite guys, one lovelorn career girl, and the universal quest for the perfect mate. Taking romantic comedy to a hip, sparkling new level, this is a classic tale of what happens to one girl when her heart and her head aren't looking for the same thing.

**Isn't It Romantic?** By Ron Hansen

[F/HAN]

A quarreling Parisian couple find themselves stranded in a small Nebraska town of Seldom, where the locals take them in. Add a handsome rancher and a sexy, no-nonsense waitress to the mix and hilarity ensues.

**Ladies With Options** by Cynthia Hartwick [F/HAR]

The mostly married, mostly middle-aged members of the Mostly Methodist Club were used to swapping recipes, not stock tips. They'd taken few risks in their lives and had even fewer adventures. But when a pink-haired young rebel named Skye found her way into the group, things changed. The ladies had already begun looking into investment opportunities, after realizing that their retirement earnings would barely keep them in Burpee seeds and baking powder. Sky tipped them off to a struggling new company that might be worth sinking a few dollars into. A company run by a man named Bill Gates.

**Best Enemies** by Jane Heller [LP/F/HEL][F/HEL]

Amy Sherman is doing just fine until she runs into Tara Messer, the beautiful blond prom queen who was once her best friend. It's been four years since Tara stole Amy's fiancé. Amy thought she had finally made peace with herself, but when Tara asks whether she's dating anyone, Amy can't bear to admit there's no man in her life. Instead, she claims she's getting married in six months, figuring she'll never see Tara again, so the lie won't come back to haunt her. Wrong....

**Lucky Stars** by Jane Heller [F/HEL]

Aspiring actress Stacey Reiser moves to Hollywood, leaving her meddlesome mother behind. Imagine her dismay when Helen pulls up stakes and follows. To make matters worse her mother is catapulted into overnight Hollywood stardom. Suddenly, their roles are reversed when Helen's boyfriend, who seems to be the perfect catch, arouses Stacey's suspicions and she becomes the meddler.

**Princess Charming** by Jane Heller [F/HEL]

Elaine, via crossed phone lines aboard ship, overhears that an ex-wife will be killed before her luxury Caribbean cruise ends. Will it be Elaine, a PR executive who has hurt her former husband's business or one of her friends – either Jackie, co-owner of her ex-husband's nursery who opposes his plans for expansion, or perhaps Pat whose ex-husband is resentful of the child support and alimony he must pay? Is the killer one of the men who befriends the three?

**Sis Boom Bah** by Jane Heller

[F/HEL]

When their mother suffers a heart attack, two sisters are forced to stop the squabbling that has defined their relationship since they were kids. Their fragile peace holds until a man comes into their lives – a man to whom they’re both attracted – a man who happens to be their mother’s cardiologist. It doesn’t take long before insults are hurled and verbal fists fly. The bickering takes a new turn when they discover the object of their mutual affection stretched out on the floor of his den – dead.

**How to be Good** by Nick Hornby

[LP/F/HOR][F/HOR]

After Katie Carr, a mother of two with a small London medical practice, demands a divorce from her cynical and sarcastic husband, he undergoes a conversion and becomes such an idealistic do-gooder that she is forced to re-evaluate the meaning of the word “good”.

**Sex, Murder and A Double Latte** by Kyra Davis

[NB/F/HUS]

When a famous Hollywood director and a popular rapper are murdered, mystery writer Sophie Katz, armed with caffeine and a knack for trouble, discovers that a deranged killer is emulating the plot of her best selling novel.

**Crazy As Chocolate** by Elisabeth Hyde

[F/HYD]

Tomorrow I turn forty-one. When my mother turned forty-one, in March of 1971, she locked herself in the garage and sat in a Dodge Dart with the engine running. Since then, I have spent each and every anniversary of her death with a case of emotional hiccups. Then last month, as I stood in line to renew my driver’s license, it struck me I was about to enter virgin time, the second half of a life unlived, a life my mother never knew.

**Ralph’s Party** by Lisa Jewell

[F/JEW]

Ralph and Smith are friends. Jem (short for Jemima) is their new roommate. Ralph has fallen head over heels for Jem, who thinks she’s in love with Smith, who harbors a secret passion for Cheri, the femme fatale in the apartment on the top floor. But Cheri has cast an eye on her downstairs neighbor Karl, who’s settled in domestic bliss with Siobhan, a woman who is beginning to discover that life might hold all sorts of tempting possibilities.

**L’Affaire** by Diane Johnson

[F/JOH]

When Amy Hawkins, a young dot-com executive from California who has made her fortune at the top of the NASDAQ, overhears a pair of elderly socialites decry the new generation for their incompetence in all things worldly, she sets off for Europe to find culture, her roots and maybe a cause to devote her considerable fortune to. A few days into her trip, she is nearly swept away by an avalanche. Two of the hotel’s guests, English publisher Adrian Venn and his much younger American wife, Kerry, were not as fortunate. Both lie comatose in a nearby hospital.

**Le Divorce** by Diane Johnson

[F/JOH]

Isabel Walker arrives in Paris to visit her stepsister Roxy, a poet whose marriage into an aristocratic French family has assured her of a coveted place in Parisian society. But all is not as it should be in the Persand household: Roxy’s husband has just left her for the Czechoslovakian wife of an American lawyer. Could “le divorce” be far behind?

**Getting Over Jack Wagner** by Elise Juska

[F/JUS]

None of Eliza’s past boyfriends has been able to live up to the image of her original rock-star crush: actor-crooner Jack Wagner. When her latest catch turns out to be another disappointment, Eliza finally begins to realize love is nothing like her favorite ‘80s song.

**Priceless** by Marne Davis Kellogg

[F/KEL]

Kick has lived an extraordinary life. For twenty-five years she was the power behind the throne at a venerable London auction house and a master jewel thief. All that changed when she fell in love with Commander Thomas Curtis of Scotland Yard and retire to live respectably in Provence, surrounded by beautiful food, wine and picnics in lavender filled fields. But now someone is stealing irreplaceable jewels from Paris to Portofino and using Kick’s signature techniques.

**Angels** by Marian Keyes

[F/KEY]

Maggie has always been the white sheep of the Walsh family. Unlike her comically dysfunctional sisters, Rachel and Claire, she married a decent man who adored her and found herself a solid career. She discovers that her husband is having an affair and her boss is going to fire her. Suddenly, her perfectly organized life has become a perfect mess.

**Last Chance Saloon** by Marian Keyes

[F/KEY]

Thirty something best friends Tara and Katherine are losers at love until a mutual friend forces them to make a promise – Katherine must give up her monogamous relationship with her remote control and Tara must abandon the boyfriend who treats her like dirt.

**The Other Side of the Story** by Marian Keyes

[FKEY]

This is a hilarious and heartwarming new novel that proves there are three sides to every story, especially in the world of publishing.

**Watermelon** by Marian Keyes

[F/KEY]

When her husband, James, leaves her after she delivers her first child, Claire retires to her family in Dublin, where she slowly recovers from the experience, giving James a big surprise when he shows up again.

**Can You Keep A Secret?** By Sophie Kinsella

[F/KIN]

Emma Corrigan spills all her secrets to a handsome stranger on a plane. At least, she thought he was a stranger. But come Monday morning, Emma's office is abuzz about the arrival of Jack Harper, the company's elusive CEO. Suddenly Emma is face-to-face with the stranger from the plane, a man who knows every single humiliating detail about her. Things couldn't possibly get worse.

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** by Sophie Kinsella [F/KIN]

Becky Bloomwood has a fabulous flat in London’s trendiest neighborhood and a closet brimming with the season’s must haves. The only trouble is that she can’t actually afford it – not any of it. She tries cutting back; she even tries making more money, but none of her efforts succeeds. Finally a story arises that Becky actually cares about and her front-page article catalyzes a chain of events that will transform her life and the lives of those around her – forever.

**Shopaholic Ties the Knot** by Sophie Kinsella [F/KIN]

Becky Bloomwood is delighted when her boyfriend proposes, but her visions of a perfect wedding day dissolve as her mother plans a backyard wedding and her high-society mother-in-law-to-be insists on a lavish affair at the Plaza Hotel.

**Walk of Fame** by Sharon Krum [F/KRU]

Tom Webster is a dreary nobody, nice enough, but neither a head-turner of a hell-raiser, until he’s given the opportunity to become an uber-celebrity. A major magazine gives Tom thirty days in which to make himself famous, using any and they mean any, means necessary.

**Some Days There’s Pie** by Catherine Landis [LP/F/LAN][F/LAN]

Ruth Ritchie elopes with Chuck, a stereo salesman, thinking that she has found her ticket out of Summerville, Tennessee, where her future means selling pies at Durwood’s Hardware. But Chuck “gets religion,” and Ruth, who cherishes her freedom more than safety, buys a used car and heads north. When Ruth faints from hunger at a North Carolina five-and-dime, Rose, a feisty elderly reporter, rescues her.

**Confessions of a Sociopathic Social Climber** by Adele Lang [F/LAN]

After a weasel-eyed tax inspectors question some of her work related expenses, writer Katya Livingston is forced to keep a financial diary. Katya waxes lyrical about the price she has to pay for putting up with loser friends, mortal enemies and thoroughly bad restaurants. She also throws in a completely candid account of her rich and varied love life, just in case come of it is tax deductible.

**Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons** by Lorna Landvik [LP/F/LAN][F/LAN]

This novel depicts a special slice of American life, of stay-at-home days and new careers, children and grandchildren, bold beginnings and second chances, in which the power of forgiveness, understanding and the perfectly timed giggle fit is the CPR that mends broken hearts and shattered dreams.

**Making It Up As I Go Along** by Maria Lennon [F/LEN]

Traveling the world as a war correspondent, California native Saffron Roch believes that she has found true love with Oscar, an egotistical surgeon working for Doctors Without Borders, but her life is thrown into turmoil when she finds that she is pregnant, discovers Oscar's infidelity and learns she is about to inherit a fortune.

**Second Draft of My Life** by Sara Lewis [F/LEW]

Forty-two years and five books into her life, Charlotte Dearborn abandons her noncommittal boyfriend and her sinking ship writing career and becomes an elementary school teacher. Sure, she's giving up her dream of being a famous novelist, but in exchange she'll find a stable income, job satisfaction and maybe even love. At least that's how it'd work if she were a character in one of her novels. In real life, she's busy coping with twenty yelling first graders, a teacher's lounge full of nasty coworkers and a series of romantic misadventures that fall far short of the real thing.

**Slightly Single** by Wendy Markham [F/MAR]

Following her college sweetheart to New York City, Tracy Spadolini is stunned when he leaves her for the summer. Determined to change her life and get things into perspective, Tracy, with the help of her friends and one special guy, becomes a new woman, one with confidence and determination.

**Behaving Like Adults** by Anna Maxted [F/MAX]

Holly, the owner of a successful dating service, can't seem to make her own match. So when her friends dare her to pick a man off the top of the pile, she goes for it. The date turns into a disaster when perfect-on-paper Stuart turns out to be a thorough cad and she feels she has lost her "touch."

**Being Committed** by Anna Maxted

[F/MAX]

After her disaster of a marriage ends when she is just twenty, Hannah is convinced you have to be out of your mind to tie the knot. She has a steady job working as a private investigator, a devoted boyfriend of five years and a wonderful relationship with her dad. Then, on a romantic weekend retreat to a faux-ancient castle, Jason proposes marriage, leaving Hannah with no choice but the obvious: to turn him down cold. Much to her horror, four weeks later, he becomes engaged to his next-door neighbor.

**Getting Over It** by Anna Maxted

[F/MAX]

Wickedly funny and unfailingly hones, this book charts the misadventures of Helen Bradshaw, a caustically charming twenty-something who isn't exactly living out her dreams. She's a lowly assistant editor at GirlTime magazine. Then Helen gets the telephone call she least expects: her father has had a massive heart attack and is surprised to find everything else starting to crumble around her.

**Some Girls** by Kristin McCloy

[F/MCC]

With skill, sensuality and wisdom, this grips the reader from the start and embarks on a stunningly radical journey into the erotic possibilities of friendship and the human potential for self-definition.

**A Greek God at the Ladies' Club** by Jenna McKnight

[F/MCK]

What if you had sculpted the perfect replica of a gorgeous Greek god and right before you're about to unveil it to a group of ladies, it comes to life in all its naked glory? What if your creation wanted to reward you by fulfilling your every desire? What would you do?

**Citizen Girl** by Emma McLaughlin & Nicola Kraus

[LP/F/MCL]

An idealistic young woman enters the business world after college and struggles to earn her dream job in spite of a host of catty co-workers who refuse to acknowledge her talents or ambition.

**Stone Garden** by Molly Moynahan

[F/MOY]

A smart young woman making her way through the privileged terrain of northeastern prep-school land, Alice McGuire is certain of her world and her future, until the summer her best friend and soul mate, Matthew Swan, vanishes on a trip to Mexico. For Alice, the journey of heartbreak leads from everything that is familiar to forbidden places and forgotten people who will teach her about kindness and forgiveness, lessons that will open her to new possibilities and unexpected hope.

**Welcome To My Planet When English is Sometimes Spoken**

[F/OLS]

By Shannon Olson

A young Minneapolis woman tries to pull her life together between visits to the Target supermarket and her therapist.

**Swamp Gas** by Nicole Paolini

[F/PAO]

This novel is a farce, a hoot, a frequent belly laugh and a telling comment on politics and politicians. This is the author's first novel, but already she knows that the way to keep the to create characters, bizarre as they may be that are real enough to convince us of the humanity.

**I Don't Know How She Does It** by Allison Pearson

[CAS/F/PEA][F/PEA]

For every woman trying to strike that impossible balance between work and home and pretending that she has and for every woman who has wanted to hurl the acquaintance who coos admiringly, "Honestly, I just don't know how you do it," out the window, here's a novel to make you cringe with recognition and laugh out loud.

**Beginner's Luck** by Laura Pedersen

[F/PED]

The second of seven children Hallie Palmer has one dream: to make it to Vegas. Normally blessed with an uncanny gift for winning at games of chance, she's just hit a losing streak. She's been kicked out of the casino she frequents during school hours, lost all her money for a car on a bad bet at the track and has been grounded by her parents. Hallie decides the time has come to cut her losses.

**Last Call** by Laura Pedersen

[LP/F/PED][F/PED]

Having descended from a long line of indomitable, good-humored Scots, Hayden MacBride sees no reason to take his own death lying down. In fact, he now spends his days crashing funerals for the free food and insight into the Great Beyond. Then he meets Rosamond, a nun playing hooky from the Holy Orders. Hayden is smitten the instant her heavy silver cross smacks him in the face when she leaps up to do the wave at a ball game. Luckily, Rosamond has picked the right person to teach her how to live, and love because nobody does both better than Hayden MacBride.

**The Bachelor** by Carly Phillips

[F/PHI]

The Chandler brothers are a trio of sexy, eligible guys who rush home believing their mother to be deathly ill. When her “final” request is to have a grandchild, Roman, the youngest of the brothers loses the coin toss and must find himself a wife. He sets his sights upon his old high school crush, Charlotte, a purveyor of sexy lingerie and soon the sparks begin to fly.

**Under the Boardwalk** by Carly Phillips

[F/PHI]

This is a story about a wildly unconventional family, a twin in search of her missing sister and the gorgeous guy who just might turn a case of mistaken identity into the love affair of a lifetime.

**Eat Cake** by Jeanne Ray

[CD/F/RAY]

Ruth draws on her talent for concocting delectable cakes and desserts when her family begins to disintegrate around her. Her husband loses job, her mother moves in and her long-estranged father shows up at the door with no place to go.

**Chill Factor** by Chris Rogers

[F/ROG]

Former prosecutor Dixie Flannigan is fearless when it comes to facing down lowlifes and bail jumpers. She'd rather wrestle the meanest snake in a Texas bayou than balance her own checkbook. When, during a stakeout, Dixie learns that a sizable sum of cash is missing from her account, she makes sure her quarry is in cuffs and then heads for her local bank, only to find herself in the middle of a holdup. Pointing a .38 at the terrified teller is a middle-aged woman with a pleasant and a familiar face. Dixie can only watch in disbelief as Edna Pine, the neighbor she loves like family, makes off with three bags of stolen loot.

**The Three Miss Margarets** by Louise Shaffer

[F/SHA]

Thirty years ago the three Miss Margarets, Miss Peggy, Dr. Maggie and Miss Li'l Bit, did something extraordinary, clandestine and very illegal. Although they are haunted by the night that changed their lives, they believe that their crime was simply a matter of righting an egregious wrong. When a stranger's arrival in town and a tragic death open the floodgate of memory, their loyalty, friendship and honor are tested in ways they could never have imagined, particularly when they have to contend with Laurel Selene, a young woman who spent her life nursing an alcoholic mother and a huge grudge. Will she reveal the truth about the three women she was raised to despise?

**The Red Hat Club** by Haywood Smith

[F/SMI]

Georgia, SuSu, Teenyu, Diane, and Linda have been best friends through thirty years since high school. Whenever they get the chance, they don their red hats and purple outfits for a monthly serving of racy jokes, iced tea, chicken salad, baskets of sweet rolls, the latest Buckhead gossip and, most of all, lively support and caring through the ups and downs of their lives. This is a funny, unforgettable novel that shows the power women can find when they accept and support one another.

**Betty Sweet Tells All** by Judith Minthorn Stacy

[F/STA]

Betty Sweet's daughter, Maggie, left her husband of nineteen years and has taken a job in the local beauty shop. Her twin seventeen-year-old daughters are mortified and her grandmother is refusing to speak to her. When Betty unexpectedly meets someone special, she soon discovers for herself that the course of true love is never smooth. With a little encouragement from her best friend and some newly discovered inner strength, Betty comes to grips with her own happiness and helps Maggie do the same.

**Styles by Maggie Sweet** by Judith Minthorn Stacy

[F/STA]

At 38, Maggie Sweet is nearly finished raising her twin daughters and wants to begin her career as a hair stylist. But her husband, Steven, won't hear of it and now he spent all their vacation savings on side-by-side cemetery plots. Maggie is no longer sure what's right or wrong, especially after her long-lost high school sweetheart moves back to town, offering hope, unbreakable ties and a second chance at life.

**The Pact** by Jennifer Sturman

[M/STU]

College friends, Rachel, Hilary, Luisa, Jane and Emma, make a pact to rescue each other from romances with the wrong men, until Emma decides to marry the despicable Richard, who ends up dead the day of their wedding.

**Bergdorf Blondes** by Plum Sykes

[F/SYK]

With enormous wit and an insider's eye, the author captures the nuances of the rich and spoiled in a heartwarming social satire, featuring a loveable "champagne bubble of a girl" that is just looking for love and maybe the perfect pair of Chloe jeans.

**The Dirty Girls Social Club** by Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez

[F/VAL]

Inseparable since their days at Boston University almost ten years before, six Latina friends still meet regularly to dish, dine and compare notes on the bumpy course of life and love.

**The Three of Us** by Cynthia Victor

[F/VIC]

Kip, Eloise and Nora were hiding in the dressing room, safe but deeply shaken when an attempted robbery took place. When the shooting began, they were strangers. When it ended, they were friends who learned the hard way that life is too precious for regrets.

**Plum Girl** by Jill Winters

[F/WIN]

All Lonnie Kelley wants is a half-decent job and a nice way to dump my boyfriend. In the meantime, I'll keep pining for Dominick and I'll try to figure what it is about Twit & Bell that's worth killing for.

**Asking for Trouble** by Elizabeth Young

[F/YOU]

Unmarried, thirty-year-old Sophy Metcalfe told a little white lie to sooth her nagging mother. The white lie's name was "Dominic," the ideal boyfriend: charming, successful, the kind of prospective son-in-law that would make any mother proud. But now that Sophy's thin and beautiful sister, Belinda, is getting married, Dominic is going to have to make an appearance in the flesh, which should be a pretty neat trick. She resorts to a very drastic measure, aka Josh Carmichael, and the escort she hires at the very last minute, sight unseen. The trouble with white lies is that they tend to multiply.

**05/05 jg**

**Updated 05/06**

**This is a selected list. For Reader's Advisory suggestions please see our computer catalog or ask at the Adult Services desk.**

**F=Fiction**

**LP=Large Print**

**CAS=Book on Cassette**

**CD=Book on CD**

**M=Mystery**