

FRIENDSHIP
FICTION

The Last One Home by Annette Appollo [LP/F/APP]

Years after graduating from high school in her small Pennsylvania coal-mining town, Gia returns home to care for her dying uncle, sparking a reunion with three other friends that forces all of them to come to terms with old conflicts and feelings.

Auggie Wren's Christmas Story by Paul Auster [F/AUS]

Relates the unsentimental holiday tale of a colorful cigar shop owner whose life is altered by a lost wallet, a blind woman and an unconventional Christmas dinner.

The Florabama Ladies' Auxiliary & Sewing Circle [LP/F/BAT][F/BAT]

By Lois Battle

A close-knit group of settled small-town ladies band together to help each other through their most difficult life passage.

A Dance for Emilia by Peter S. Beagle [F/BEA]

The spirit of a man named Sam, who died unexpectedly, inhabits the body of his beloved cat and communicates with his best friend, Jacob and the woman he loved, Emilia.

My Life, Starring Dara Falcon by Ann Beattle [F/BEA]

Jean is an only child brought up by an aunt after her parents' death. She has married into a large New England family, until Dara Falcon arrives in town. Almost immediately they are friends and instantly the ordinary stresses and strains of the family Jean has idealized become apparent as Dara insinuates herself into their lives.

Dear Stranger, Dearest Friend by Laney Katz Becker [LP/F/BEC][F/BEC]

Two women – a smart sophisticated New Yorker and a strong and steady, no-frills Midwesterner, meet on-line and find in each other a soul mate.

As Max Saw It by Louis Begley

[F/BEG]

Two men are classmates and friends at Harvard, though never all that close. Max is a brilliant student with a touch of the aesthete's affectations about him and Charlie, some years older, having served in the Korean War. Twenty years later the two men meet unexpectedly as guests at a villa on the shore of Lake Como. Max is now a law professor and Charlie has become a celebrated architect who has ripened into a foul-mouthed, golden-tongued giant: a demigod and a bully. Max's life becomes increasingly intertwined with Charlie.

Humboldt's Gift by Saul Bellow

[F/BEL]

For many years Von Humboldt Fleisher and Charles Citrine were the best of friends – Humboldt a grand erratic figure, a great poet; Charlie a young man of frenzied and noble longings, straight out of the Middle West, his heart inflamed with literature. But by the 1970s Humboldt has died a failure in New York and Charlie's success-ridden life in Chicago has taken various turns for the worse when Humboldt acts from the grave to change Charlie's life. He has left Charlie something in his will. Charlie comes into a legacy.

Talk Before Sleep by Elizabeth Berg

[LP/F/BER][F/BER]

Cautious, conventional Anne shares a deep bond of friendship with the outspoken and eccentric Ruth; building an honest, open relationship that evolves into something deeper when Ruth is diagnosed with cancer.

Range of Motion by Elizabeth Berg

[LP/F/BER][F/BER]

Jay was walking past a building when a huge chunk of ice fell off the roof and hit him in the head. As Jay lies in a coma, his young wife, Lainey, is the only one who believes he will ever recover. When his doctors try to reach him, Jay does not respond. Yet Lainey believes he knows when she is there and is stimulated by the gifts of ordinary life she brings him. Lainey is sustained by her friendships – Alice, her next-door neighbor is strong when Laney cannot be. The spirit of Evie, a woman from the 1940s who used to live in Lainey's house, now takes up a kind of residence again, offering advice and philosophy from a simpler time.

True To Form by Elizabeth Berg [CAS/F/BER][F/BER]

This novel is a delicately told tale of a young girl wise beyond her years, whose growing pains finally awaken her to the clarity of forgiveness and a greater understanding of the complicated world around her.

The Year of Pleasures by Elizabeth Berg [CD/F/BER][NB/F/BER]

Following the death of her husband, Betta Nolan fulfills her promise to him to move to a small town and build a new life for herself, as she strives to cope with her grief and find pleasure and solace in the ordinary things of everyday life.

Best Friends by Thomas Berger [LP/F/BER][F/BER]

Boyhood friends Sam Grandy and Roy Courtright discover, twenty years after growing up together, that they have grown into completely different people, threatening the inner core of their friendship.

Circle of Friends by Maeve Binchy [F/BIN]

Two friends who grew up together in a small Irish village attend college in Dublin, where their lives become intertwined with the beautiful Nan Mahon and Jack Foley, the handsome son of a doctor.

The Angel Doll: A Christmas story by Jerry Bledsoe [F/BLE]

Fatherless Whitey Black, 10, new in Thomasville in the 1950s, has a sister with polio who wants an angel doll for Christmas and Whitey meets a friend who enlists others to help Whitey find the doll.

Smart Women by Judy Blume [F/BLU]

This is a story of two forty-year-old divorcees who are friends: Margo, who is too decent not to feel guilty and B.B., who beneath her cool and glamorous exterior has hidden the most important events in her life. It is the story of their daughters: Sara and Michelle and not one of these Smart Women is prepared for what will happen to herself and to the others when Andrew, B.B.'s ex-husband hits town.

Summer Sisters by Judy Blume [CAS/F/BLU][LP/F/BLU][F/BLU]

Two girls meet one summer and become best friends until one girl falls passionately in love. It is an exploration of choices, of friendship, love, families and having a friend too dangerous to forgive and too essential to forget.

Something Wicked This Way Comes by Ray Bradbury [F/BRA]

This is a story of two young boys who begin to encounter evil secrets when a lightning rod salesman gives them one of his contraptions covered with mystical symbols.

A Sudden Change of Heart by Barbara Taylor Bradford [CAS/F/BRA][F/BRA]

The lives of childhood best friends take a dramatic and unexpected turn when one of them investigates artwork stolen by Nazis during the war.

What You Owe Me by Bebe Moore Campbell [F/BRA]

This is a story of friendship, betrayal, loss, accountability and healing spanning 50 years of African-American history. Two friends start a cosmetics business together.

Turnip Blues by Helen Campbell [LP/F/CAM][F/CAM]

As two seventy-five year old friends, Mrs. Juzo and Mrs. Lemack, drive from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia to visit the grave of blues-artist Bessie Smith, Mrs. Kuzo reflects on her life and is haunted by the death of her twin sister Annie.

For Kings and Planets by Ethan Canin [F/CAN]

Two young men from different backgrounds – Orno Tarcher, from a small Missouri town, and worldly New Yorker Marshall Emerson – meet at Columbia University and pursue their own goals, lives, women and career.

Just Over the Mountain by Robyn Carr**[F/CAR]**

Grace Valley, California is a peaceful community where folks look out for one another like family, though sometimes a little too well. In a town like this, it's hard to keep a secret, although Dr. June Hudson has managed to keep one heck of a humdinger. Her secret lover is undercover DEA agent, Jim Post. But how can he compete with a flesh and blood heartthrob from her Past? June's old flame has just returned to town after twenty-years and he's divorced. June is seriously rattled. So when the town's most devoted wife takes buckshot to her husband and some human bones turn up in her aunt Myrna's backyard, she's almost happy for the distraction.

Falling Angels by Tracy Chevalier**[F/CHE]**

In a novel of manners and social divisions set against the backdrop of turn-of-the-century England, two girls from different classes become friends and their families' lives become intertwined in the process.

The Quilter's Apprentice by Jennifer Chiaverini**[F/CHI]****#1 in the Elm Creek Quilts**

This story teaches deep lessons about family, friendship and sisterhood and about creating a life, as you would quilt: with time, love and patience, piecing the miscellaneous and mis-matched scraps into harmonious, beautiful whole.

Round Robin by Jennifer Chiaverini**[LP/F/CHI][F/CHI]****#2 in the Elm Creek Series**

Sarah McClure's happy life begins to fall apart, until she and the other Elm Creek Quilters begin a Round Robin quilt, enabling each woman to contribute a meaningful part to a greater whole.

The Cross-Country Quilters by Jennifer Chiaverini [LP/F/CHI][F/CHI]
#3 in the Elm Creek Series

Although the Cross-Country Quilters share a common creative goal, as the year goes by their bonds are tested by the demands of daily life. But despite differences in age, race and background, the friends' love for quilting and affection for one another unite them in a patchwork of caring and acceptance. The quilt they make reminds them of an everlasting truth – friends may be separated by great distance, yet the strength of their bond can transcend any obstacle.

The Runaway Quilt by Jennifer Chiaverini [LP/F/CHI][F/CHI]
#4 in the Elm Creek Series

When Sylvia Compson discovers evidence of her ancestors' involvement with the Underground Railroad, it raises the historical issue of the use of quilts as a method of signaling fugitive slaves.

The Quilter's Legacy by Jennifer Chiaverini [LP/F/CHI][F/CHI]
#5 in the Elm Creek Series

Sylvia Bergstrom Compson and her fiancée Andrew embark on a difficult journey to find her mother's missing heirloom quilts, all the while discovering secrets regarding her mother's life and untimely death.

The Master Quilter by Jennifer Chiaverini [CAS/F/CHI][LP/F/CHI][F/CHI]
#6 in the Elm Creek Series

The impending marriage of Elm Creek's most renowned quilting instructor prompts the stitching of a perfect commemorative bridal quilt, an endeavor that is challenged by closely guarded secrets among the Elm Creek Quilters.

The Sugar Camp Quilt by Jennifer Chiaverini [LP/F/CHI][F/CHI]
#7 in the Elm Creek Series

In Creek's Crossing, Pennsylvania, in the years before the Civil War, Dorothea Granger agrees to sew an unusual quilt to fulfill her uncle's deathbed request, realizing later that the quilt pattern contains an Underground Railroad map.

Burned by Carol Higgins Clark [NB/M/CLA]

Setting out for a last adventure with best friend Kit before her nuptials, Reagan Reilly heads off to the Hawaiian Islands, where the murder of a young woman involves Reilly in a multi-island investigation.

Night Talk by Elizabeth Cox [F/COX]

At night, under the same roof, under the same moon, nothing divides the girls, Evie and Janey Louise. Talking in their beds they discuss their mothers, their absent fathers, one dead, one on the other side of the country; and their brothers, one fighting polio, the other fighting in the U.S. Army. Their closeness blinds Evie to the divisions of daylight – that she is white and her best friend is black.

A Home at the End of the World by Michael Cunningham [LP/F/CUN]

Friends since the age of thirteen, Jonathan and Bobby live troubled lives that eventually take them to New York, where they meet the romantically troubled Clare and the three embark on a new life together.

Buster Midnight's Café by Sandra Dallas [F/DAL]

This is a story of friends in Butte, Montana, in the early 20th century, one becomes a Hollywood star and another becomes a world champion boxer.

Dancing at the Rascal Fair by Ivan Doig [LP/F/DOI][F/DOI]

Angus McCaskill travels with his friend to Montana from Scotland to settle in 1889.

Paddy Clarke, Ha-Ha-Ha by Roddy Doyle [F/DOY]

The year is 1968 and Patrick Clarke is ten-years-old. Kevin is his best friend. Paddy wants to know why no one jumped in for him when Charles Leary had been going to kill him. He wants to stop his da arguing with his ma. He's confused and sees everything but understands less and less.

The Seven Sisters by Margaret Drabble [F/DRA]

Divorced and estranged from her grown daughters, Candida Wilton moves to a rundown flat well below her means and finds exhilaration in her self-imposed poverty, during which she confides her thoughts to a computer and makes friends with new peers.

A Season In Purgatory by Dominick Dunne [F/DUN]

When Harrison Burns first meets the family of his boarding school chum Constant Bradley, he is awed by their wealth and generosity. But the Bradley's are a family of strong social aspirations and unrelenting political ambition and Harrison soon learns that friendship with the Bradley's has its price.

One Sunday Morning by Amy Ephron [NB/F/EPH][F/EPH]

Attending a bridge party in Jazz Age New York, four women find their lives forever changed by gossip, indiscretion, secrets and betrayal after they witness a beautiful mutual acquaintance leaving a nearby hotel with a man who is not her husband.

Grand Avenue by Joy Fielding [F/FIE]

For twenty years, four friends shared everything through good times and bad, lives filled with the blessings of friendship, marriage, children and career. Now, one sits alone to ponder the strange twists and turns of fate and circumstance to discover exactly what went wrong, how dreams turned to nightmares as friendships faded and lives were destroyed.

Scenes From A Sistah by Lolita Files [F/FIL]

This book is witty, riotously sexy and dazzles with dead on insight and outrageous heart. It introduces us to two feisty, utterly unforgettable women willing to challenge anyone, even each other, to fulfill the best that true friendship can promise.

Two Women by Marianne Fredriksson [LP/F/FRE][F/FRE]

After meeting one day at the local garden center, two very different women, both single mothers, from widely divergent backgrounds form a unique bond that reveals the remarkable healing power of friendship.

The Garden Angel by Mindy Friddle

[F/FRI]

Working as a waitress and writing obituaries for the local paper, Cutter Johanson goes to extreme lengths to ward off potential buyers from her dilapidated family homestead, while agoraphobic Elizabeth Byers staves off panic attacks and struggles to hold on to her university professor husband.

Circle of Three by Patricia Gaffney

[F/GAF]

This story investigates the complexity of women's relationships through the story of grandmother, mother and daughter in rural Virginia, revealing the layers of tradition and responsibility, commitment and passion shared by three women.

The Goodbye Summer by Patricia Gaffney

[F/GAF]

How much change can one summer bring? If you're Caddie Winger and thirty-two-years-old and still living with her grandmother and giving piano lessons to neighborhood children – one summer can make the world look different. Caddie's mother died when Caddie was nine and was raised by her grandmother. When her "nana" breaks her leg and insists on going into a convalescent home, Caddie is pulled out of her comfy self-made nest. Living alone for the first time since college, she uncovers some startling truths about her past.

The Hourglass by Elizabeth Gage

[F/GAG]

Two girls and a boy – they are three children brought together by loneliness and encroaching tragedy who forge a friendship that will define their lives. As adolescents on the eve of separation, they make a promise to meet at their favorite place, an abandoned golf course, in fifteen years. Kate, now a successful writer in New York, suddenly remembers the promise and returns to the small town of her youth and believing she alone has remembered, makes her way through the darkness of night to the appointed spot. What she finds there will open the door to a destiny she had never dreamed of for herself.

Foreign Parts by Janice Galloway

[F/GAL]

What begins as a driving holiday in Northern France for two Scotswomen turns into a caustic and funny account of dysfunctional relationships, both between men and women and between women friends. Cassie and Rona, in their late thirties, both single and childless, are on each other's nerves from the moment they cross the Channel but they are both liked by loneliness and consequently rebel against the notion that a woman needs a man to feel "complete."

Sarah Conley by Ellen Gilchrist

[F/GIL]

While an undergraduate at Vanderbilt, Sarah fell in love with a young man, but wound up marrying his brother. Three decades later, divorced and living in New York City, Sarah has become a celebrated magazine editor and writer. Yet she has remained cut off from the South, until a call comes saying that her old college sweetheart, the love of her life, is about to become a widower.

Shadows of a Childhood by Elisabeth Gille

[F/GIL]

Lea and Benedicte are five and seven when they are hidden together in a convent in Bordeaux in the 1940s. They become inseparable, sharing everything except the secret of their parents' disappearances. After the war, Benedicte's world reverts to normal while Lea, marked by childhood memories she cannot escape, undertakes a devastating search for the truth.

Year Of Dreams by Gloria Goldreich

[F/GOL]

This novel recounts the moving story of a friendship that spans three decades, from the sixties to the present day. Anne determined and independent, needs to summon all her will and courage to achieve her goal of becoming a physician; Merle struggles to balance the love of her overpowering husband with her need to pursue a music career.

Otherwise Engaged by Eileen Goudge

[LP/F/GOU][F/GOU]

Erin and Jessica, childhood friends from a small Arizona town, are reunited when Jessica, a New York journalist, returns to ask Erin to switch places with her for six months to give Jessica a chance to reconcile with her estranged family.

Summer at the Lake by Andrew M. Greeley [F/GRE]

Thirty years after the tragic car wreck that killed two of their comrades, three friends, Leo Kelly, Jane Devlin and Father “Packy” Keenan, return to the scene of their teenage idylls as they struggle to come to terms with the past, their lives, their goals and their personal relationships.

Babyville by Jane Green [LP/F/GRE][CD/F/GRE]

Three friends cope with the diverse challenges of maternity as Julia struggles to conceive with her uninterested boyfriend, career woman Maeve deals with unexpected pregnancy and happily married Samantha finds marital strife after a new baby.

Sisterchicks on the Loose by Robin Jones Gunn [F/GUN]

Journeying to Finland to help Penny find her only living relatives, Sharon experiences a profound new perspective on life and her faith in the land of reindeer and saunas.

Five Fortunes by Beth Gutcheon [F/GUT]

Five women learn that it is both true and untrue that we make our own luck. Though the worlds they inhabit are as real as tomorrow’s newspaper stories, constantly reminding them how closely linked are rich and poor, fortune and misfortune, there is also magic to the tale that causes it to resonate long after the book is finished.

Legacy Lane by Robin Lee Hatcher [F/HAT]

Angie Hunter left Hart’s Crossing for college and never looked back. So when her widowed mother needs care following surgery, Angie is more than ready to hire a nurse rather than return to her hometown. But when she is passed over for a promotion at work, an angry Angie quits and heads home anyway. Her mother is both excited and nervous about having Angie home for the next two months. Will she be able to nudge Angie toward faith without overdoing it? Or, will Angie pack up and leave for a new job as soon as Francine has recovered?

Friendship Cake by Lynne Hinton

[F/HIN]

Friend women, working together to create a church cookbook, share their passions, loves and losses, including pastor Charlotte Stewart, who is suffering a crisis in faith; widow Margaret, the town confidante; and Jessie, the only African American in an all-white church.

Coming Home by Dee Holmes

[F/HOL]

Olivia Halsey has never met a rummage sale she could pass up. She is going home to Bishop, Rhode Island to repair some damage that's been done to her childhood home. Her best friends, Lexie and Claire, are heading to Bishop Rhode Island too on the pretext of helping her fix up the house. Coming home will bring out the best and worst of their friendship and the best and worst of themselves.

Trials of Friendship by Hazel Hucker

[F/HUC]

Career or family? Marriage or wild romance? This sensitive novel explores the choices that contemporary women have to make and shows that amid the traumas and dilemmas of modern life, there is still a place for the skills and kindly duplicities of friendship.

Wives of the Fishermen by Angela Huth

[LP/F/HUT][F/HUT]

The long-time, remarkable friendship between flirtatious Annie Macleoud and plain, virtuous Myrtle Duns is tested by romantic disappointment, passion and a terrible accident that exposes the emotional turmoil that both women have hidden for years.

Two Guys From Verona by James Kaplan

[F/KAP]

Will and Joel who are both forty-three-years-old and live in a New Jersey suburb on the verge of the millennium. Will is a married, middle-class soul in torment; Joel is a mad closet genius who sees the world as nobody else does. They pity each other. Then their twenty-fifth high school reunion changes everything.

The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver

[LP/F/KIN][F/KIN]

This is a novel about love and friendship, abandonment and belonging and the discovery of surprising resources in apparently empty places. For despite desperate circumstances, these characters' lives are buoyed by a warm humor and stalwart optimism. It is a story of laughter and heartache.

Your Oasis On Flame Lake by Lorna Landvik

[LP/F/LAN][F/LAN]

All you have to do is see a fiery sunset reflecting on the water to figure out how Flame Lake got its name. Best friends fast approaching forty, Devera and BiDi were recently voted "Least Changed" at their twentieth high school reunion. A violent and unexpected crisis will throw both families into chaos and force them to take stock of their lives.

One of My Very Best Friends by Shirley Lord

[F/LOR]

This is a richly drawn story of the globe spanning friendship between two women destined to reach positions of great influence and power. It is the story of a dramatic love affair that leads to bitter betrayal and ultimately, tragedy.

A Good Yarn by Debbie Macomber

[LP/F/MAC][F/MAC]

A desperate group of women find friendship and comfort as they learn the age-old craft of knitting.

The Shop On Blossom Street by Debbie Macomber

[CAS/F/MAC][F/MAC]

Lydia Hoffman owns the little shop on Blossom Street in Seattle. You go there to buy yarn, knitting supplies and patterns and now you can join a knitting class. Four women in the class are brought together by the age-old craft of knitting. Each experience unexpected discoveries.

Hilda and Pearl by Alice Mattison

[LP/F/MAT][F/MAT]

To Frances, an only child living in McCarthy-era Brooklyn, her mother, Hilda and her aunt Pearl seem as if they have always been old friends. The outside world slowly makes its way into Frances' home, exposing secrets from the past. Why does Hilda one day distractedly refer to her first pregnancy if Frances is her only child? Whose scuffed baby shoes are hidden in Hilda's dresser drawer? What causes the tension when her father's brother and Pearl come to visit?

The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers

[LP/F/MCC][F/MCC]

The heroine in this novel is the strange young girl, Mick Kelly. The setting is a small Southern town, the cosmos universal and eternal. The characters are the damned, the voiceless, and the rejected. Some fight their loneliness with violence and depravity, some with sex or drink, and some, like Mick, with a quiet, intensely personal search for beauty.

Shelter by Monte Merrick

[F/MER]

It's the summer of 1962 and Nelson Jaqua and his two best friends are determined to see justice done and decide to investigate the disappearance of Bobby Shook, a retarded boy from the neighborhood. Nelson is forced to take care of and entertain his very energetic four-year-old sister, Maude, all day, every day. His parents, cocktail-drinking mysteries, inform him they are contemplating divorce. Moved by the unfairness of it all and ready to explode, Nelson commits a desperate act of rebellion and as a result, he discovers what he didn't even know he was missing and learns that life is never quite what it seems.

Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery

[F/MON]

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

The Book Club by Mary Alice Monroe

[F/MON]

On the surface, it is a monthly book club. But for these five women, it is something more precious and a chance to share their hopes, fears and triumphs. The women are in transition and as they embrace the challenge of change, they will hold fast to the true magic of friendship with the book club.

Sula by Toni Morrison

[LP/F/MOR][F/MOR]

The story of two friends, Sula and Nel, both black, both smart, both poor and both raised in a small Ohio town. Though separated in young adulthood as they travel different paths in life, the bond between them remains unbreakable.

Trinity Fields by Bradford Morrow

[F/MOR]

Best friends, Kip Calder and Brice McCarthy are born on the same day in 1944 in Los Alamos, New Mexico, the most secret place on earth. Their lives spiral apart when Brice becomes an antiwar activist and Kip disappears into Vietnam, leaving Brice to marry Jessica Rankin, the woman they both love. Then, twenty-five years later, Kip returns as a ghost soldier perhaps come to reclaim what was lost and so threatens to shatter everything his old friend has built.

Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage

[F/MUN]

By Alice Munro

The fate of a strong-minded housekeeper with a “frizz of reddish hair,” just entering the dangerous country of old-maidhood, is unintentionally reversed by a teenaged girl’s practical joke. A college student visiting her aunt for the first time and recognizing the family furniture stumbles on a long hidden secret and its meaning in her own life.

Return To Harmony by Janette Oke & T. Davis Bunn

[LP/F/OKE][F/OKE]

As the two authors began those first discussions and plans, they were surprised and pleased with the way the story idea began coming together and growing into characters and a plot they both felt good about.

London Holiday by Richard Peck

[LP/F/PEC][F/PEC]

Mrs. Smith-Porter observes her latest guests’ arrival from an upstairs window of her London bed-and-breakfast. Lesley Vogel, Julia Englehardt and Margo Skinner have no idea they’re being watched. Best friends since their Missouri childhood, the three now lead very different lives. What starts out like an ordinary day, Margo becomes the victim of a shocking act of violence. The terrifying event awakens the women to the often-fleeting happiness of their daily lives and to the importance of the friendships they’ve let slide. Lesley decides it’s time for a real reunion and they escape to London.

Perfect Summer by Luanne Rice

[LP/F/RIC][F/RIC]

For years Bay McCabe has kept her family together despite her husband's unfaithfulness. When Sean disappears one afternoon, she discovers that he has embezzled money from many in their small seaside town. Suddenly, Bay and her three children are besieged by the press, isolated from their community and broke. The eventual discovery of Sean's dead body raises larger questions like why he stole, who helped him and whether he might have been murdered.

Holding the Dream by Nora Roberts

[F/ROB]

This book is the second in a trilogy. Raised together, Kate, Margo and Laura are as close as real sisters. When in need they return to Templeton House, their home and sanctuary. Kate finds herself running there when she is accused of embezzlement. That is not the only trial Kate faces; she suffers silently with a family secret she recently discovered. She intends to handle things her own way and in her own time, even if her stubbornness makes her ill.

Absent Friends by S.J. Rozan

[F/ROZ]

Jimmy, Markie, Vicky, Sally, Tom, Jack and Marian have strong friendships and their futures look bright until one shattering night that changes everything. Two of the friends will die young. The others are left to pick up the pieces in the shadow of a past that still echoes with hopes and regrets. Jimmy, a firefighter, will die a hero twenty years later when the Twin Towers of Manhattan fall.

More Than Allies by Sandra Jean Scofield

[F/SCO]

Maggie is a former foster child who found a happy home with the Jarrett's of Lupine, Oregon, and married the Jarrett's' son Mo. Now he has gone to Texas without her and Maggie is reluctant to leave her teaching job for a relationship that hasn't worked. Maggie's friend Dulce, cleans houses, makes beds in a nearby motel and dreams magnificent dreams. Her husband is on parole, also in Texas and begging her to join him. Maggie and Dulce's sons need their fathers but do the women want to return to their marriages?

Charmed Circle by Carol Smith

[F/SMI]

This is the story of seven strangers, each escaping reality, who meet by chance in a tropical paradise that holds more promise and more peril than any one of them could have imagined.

Friends For Life by Carol Smith

[F/SMI]

Five women, Georgy, Beth, Vivienne, Catherine and Sally are strangers in the same hospital ward. Almost instantly, the women begin to bond, support each other and become friends. Even beyond the camaraderie of the hospital these bonds develop and strengthen until the five are sharing confidences with the candor and affection of sisters or the closest of intimates.

The Stone Flower Garden by Deborah Smith

[F/SMI]

For twenty-five years Darl Union and Eli Wade were friends in the small North Carolina town of Burnt Stand. Darl is the heir to the Hardigree Marble Company, which controls the town. Growing up, she was taught to keep her distance from the townspeople, but she couldn't keep herself from loving Eli, a boy from the wrong side of the tracks whose father was a stonecutter for Hardigree Marble. Eli fled town with his family after they were caught up in a mystery that years later has never been solved. Darl's aunt Clara was found murdered but Darl could never tell the truth about that night without tearing her own family apart. But a secret buried is a secret that will one day be unearthed.

The Ranch by Danielle Steel

[LP/F/STE][F/STE]

Mary Stuart, Tanya and Zoe were inseparable in college. Since then, the three have moved on with their lives, settling in different cities. At a sprawling ranch in the foothills of Wyoming's Grand Tetons, the three women meet again and find courage, healing and truth and reach out to each other once again.

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

[F/STE]

George is small and quick and dark of face; Lennie is a man of tremendous size and has the mind of a young child. Yet they have formed a family, clinging together in the face of loneliness and alienation. George cannot guard Lennie from the provocations of a flirtatious woman, nor predict the consequences of Lennie's unswerving obedience to the things George taught him.

Last Orders by Graham Swift [F/SWI]

A group of men have been friends since World War II and their lives revolve around work, family, the racetrack and their favorite pub. Now, the death of one of them and the survivors' task of driving their friend's ashes from London to the seaside town where they'll be scattered, compels them to take stock. Through conversation and memory they trace the paths they have followed by choice and by accident.

A Certain Slant of Light by Cynthia Thayer [F/THA]

Peter lost his wife and children in a fire years ago, yet the wound is fresh and painful. He lives in a cabin on the coast of Maine, shearing sheep and gardening to live. Elaine is eight months pregnant and on the run from her husband. When she turns up outside Peter's cabin during a terrible winter storm, Peter can't turn her away into the ice. The two lonely adults clash and then slowly discover that friendship, support and healing grow in the unlikeliest of places.

The Hot Flash Club by Nancy Thayer [LP/F/THA][F/THA]

Faye, Marilyn, Alice and Shirley, four middle aged women who are all feeling over the hill and out of life, get together to form the Hot Flash Club, where they band together to help each other and get the most out of life.

The Hot Flash Club Strikes Again by Nancy Thayer [LP/F/THA][F/THA]

When four women meet in a hot tub at a spa, they realize they share a common problem – toxic relatives and a common solution – each other.

Hot Flash Holidays by Nancy Thayer [F/THA]

A gathering of the members of the Hot Flash Club at The Haven, an exclusive spa, is turned upside down when Shirley announces her new financial partnership with a much younger boyfriend.

The Hot Flash Club Chills Out by Nancy Thayer [On order]

Blood Sisters by Judith Henry Wall

[F/WAL]

From the day the little girls pricked their fingers and swore they'd be blood sisters forever, through the wild and hopeful years of college, the four friends thought they'd be inseparable. One by one Helen, Jen, Bonnie and Libby marry and begin new lives as wives and mothers – all except Libby, who is left painfully on her own. Secretly, she hates it. Then one day, Libby disappears, tearing a hole in the fabric of her three friends' lives. They begin the search for their lost friend and the clues they uncover make them wonder whether they ever knew Libby at all.

Gingersnaps by Delorys Welch-Tyson

[F/WEL]

You'll never forget them. Six black baby boomers whose paths crisscross and collide in a wickedly funny, emotionally charged roller coaster ride of love and hate, jealousy and passion, ambition and desire. They're gingersnaps – spice and hard, brown and bold, women who refuse to let their cookies crumble when face with a challenge.

Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells

[VID/DIV]

[CAS/F/WEL][F/WEL]

Like mother, like daughter – neither a hard-as-nails New York playwright nor her flaky Louisiana mother will take the necessary steps to mend their long-time rift. No, this is a job for the Sisterhood; sworn life-long friends who stage an outlandish “intervention” to bring daughter and mother back together again.

The Slipper by Jennifer Wilde

[F/WIL]

This novel is about three young women, close friends since their days at a midwestern college, who are fated to have extraordinary destinies. In the mid 1950s, most young women still believed in the Cinderella myth – that they would meet Prince Charming, get the glass slipper and live happily ever after. These three women dream, struggle and finally win the coveted slipper, only to discover that Prince Charming is an illusion and that happily ever after happens only in storybooks.

Summer Harbor by Susan Wilson

[F/WIL]

After nearly twenty years, Kiley Harris has returned to the small New England town of Hawke's Cove. As a child, she eagerly anticipated every summer spent at the old family beach house. Now, her parents have asked her to ready the old beach house for sale, to finance her son Will's college education.

My Summer With Julia by Sarah Woodhouse

[F/WOO]

Portrait artist Annie Somerville is living a happy life in the English country with her husband David and teenage children, Sam and Gina. Then she receives a letter from France telling her that her childhood friend, Julia, has died, leaving Annie a box that she must come to Toulouse to fetch. What exactly is it that Annie fought so hard to forget about that last summer?

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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

M=Mystery

CAS=Book on Cassette

CD=Book on CD

W=Western

NB=New Book

SciFi=Science Fiction

FANT=Fantasy