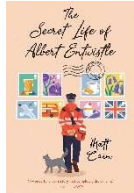


Grand Canyon PWP Reading List

2025-2026

The criteria for the selection of the books are: to enlighten our minds, to nourish our spirits, to challenge our consciences, and to entertain us. As you choose which ones you will read, we hope we have met these goals, not all of them in one book, but in the whole of them.

Fiction



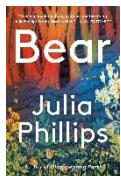
The Secret Life of Albert Entwistle, Matt Cain. Albert Entwistle is a private man with a quiet, simple life. He lives alone with his cat Gracie. Albert is a postman in England who has not revealed that he is gay. Fifty years ago, he was deeply in love with another boy. After years of loneliness and denial he sets out to find his lost love.



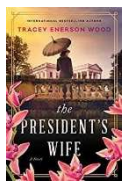
The First Ladies, Marie Benedict. A novel about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune. She is an activist and an educator. Eleanor Roosevelt is awestruck by her and eager to make her acquaintance.



For Those Who Are Lost, Julia Bryan Thomas. Inspired by true events, this novel begins on the eve of the Nazi invasion of the island of Guernsey, when terrified parents have a choice to make: send their children alone to England, or keep the family together and risk whatever may come to their villages.



Bear, Julia Phillips. A spellbinding novel of sisterhood, class, and our relationship to the natural world. In the San Juan Islands off Washington State, two sisters, bonded in the care of their dying mother, are divided by their reaction to a wildlife intruder.

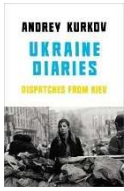


The President's Wife, Tracy Enerson Wood. The incredible story of the First Lady who clandestinely assumed the presidency. Socialite Edith Bolling has been in no hurry to find a new husband since she was widowed. But the enchanting courting by President Woodrow Wilson wins Edith over and she becomes the First Lady of the United States.

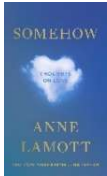


The House in the Cerulean Sea, TJ Klune. The description states "an enchanting love story about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family an unexpected place". It is more than that in that it is a reminder that we are all God's children.

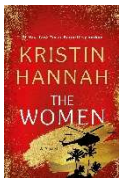
Nonfiction



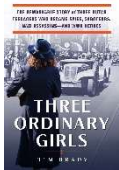
Ukraine Diaries, Dispatches from Kiev, Andre Kurkov. Diaries from 2013. From his flat in Kyiv, just five hundred yards from Independence Square, Kurkov can smell the burning barricades and hear the sounds of grenades and gunshots. The diaries give insight into what it's like to live through times of intense political unrest



Somehow, Thoughts on Love, Anne Lamott. This is another book from Lamott that is funny, yet deeply spiritual. "Love is our only hope," Anne Lamott writes in this new book. "It is not always the easiest choice, but it is always the right one, the noble path, the way home to safety, no matter how bleak the future looks."



The Women, Kristen Hannah. Women nurses in wartime Viet Nam endured the same dangers and emotional trauma that the men soldiers did, but without any recognition. This book is the story of one woman who went to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten.



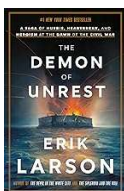
Three Ordinary Girls, Tim Brady. On May 10, 1940, the Netherlands was swarming with Third Reich troops. Joining a small resistance cell in the Dutch city of Haarlem were three teenage girls: Hannie Schaft, and sisters Truus and Freddie Oversteegen. They took terrifying direct action against Nazi targets.



The Ride of Her Life: The True Story of a Woman, Her Horse, and Their Last-Chance Journey Across America, Elizabeth Letts. Between 1954 and 1956, Annie Wilkins, a sixty-three-year-old farmer from Maine, journeyed more than 4,000 miles, with her horse and her dog. Her doctor had given her two years to live--but only if she lived restfully. But she decided she wanted to see the Pacific Ocean before she died.



Transcending Darkness: A Girl's Journey Out of the Holocaust, Estelle Glaser Laughlin. While it is a harrowing tale of destruction and loss, it is also a story of the goodness that still exists in a dark world, of survival and renewal.



The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War, Erik Larson. On November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln became the victor in a tight race for president. The country was bitterly at odds; Southern extremists were moving ever closer to destroying the Union. But somehow the passions of North and South came to focus on a lonely federal fortress in Charleston: Fort Sumter.