

Book Group Guide & Booklist



Last Updated January 2016

Brighton & Hove Libraries - Reading Group Booklist

Brighton & Hove libraries have sets of books especially for loan by reading groups in the City. The collection is made up of recent bestsellers, classics, contemporary novels, a range of literary fiction, and some experimental writings, all chosen to stretch the mind and provoke discussion. New titles are added on a regular basis, and suggestions of good books for discussion are always welcome.

To reserve a set of books please email: BookGroupsLibraries@brighton-hove.gov.uk

- As many groups throughout the area will be using the sets, please allow enough time for the library to supply them to you. Wherever possible, at least two months notice would be helpful; along with alternative titles should the original choice be on loan. It will always be possible to supply alternative titles at short notice however, so if your group would like to discuss what is currently available, please contact us direct on the above email address.
- Each set contains between eight and ten copies.
- Please make every effort to return the entire set at one time, as there is likely to be another group waiting to use them shortly.
- When ordering a set of books, it is important that you give an anticipated return date – this is to allow other groups to reserve the set after you return it.
- Books can be delivered to whichever library across the city is most convenient – just let us know where you'd like to collect the set from when ordering.
- Sets are available for six week loan periods, during which time fines will not be charged. After this time fines will be charged in the normal way. Longer loan periods are possible by prior arrangement.
- Books can either be issued to one nominated member of the book group, who will then be responsible for them during the issue period, or each member can have one copy issued to their own account (to do this, each individual would need to come into the library themselves).
- It is often possible to supply titles which are not on the list in smaller numbers. Contact us to discuss this.
- The library has some books which can help you set up your own reading group, including advice and discussion questions for recommended titles. Please check our catalogue at www.librarycatalogue.info or ask staff if you would like to borrow these.
- In order to help you with your discussions, it may be possible to obtain a reading group guide for some of the titles listed, (*reading guide* being a brief synopsis followed by a series of questions to help lead conversation). These can be provided in print form with your set or emailed to you by prior arrangement. Please ask *The Book Club Bible* is a guide to the most popular books for reading groups, covering a short synopsis, starting point questions and suggestions for similar books – there are many copies for loan in the library service, and we can supply a photocopy of the relevant page with each set if requested. Where a title is listed as being an *edition with a reading guide*, this is an integral part of the book, when publishers have printed some points for discussion.
- As there is an extensive waiting list for spaces, please send an email to the above address if you cannot make the meeting. Three unexplained consecutive meetings will result in the loss of your place, although you can be added to the waiting list again if you would like to join again.

A Clockwork Orange
Anthony Burgess Pages 306
 Paperback

A Lovely Way to Burn - New 2015
Louise Welsh
 Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages:355

A Place Called Winter - New 2015
Patrick Gale
 Hardback Pages:432

A Tale for the Time Being
Ruth Ozeki
 Paperback Pages:432

A Tale of Two Cities
Charles Dickens
 Paperback Pages: 442

Alarm Girl - New 2015
Hannah Vincent
 Paperback Pages: 177

All Quiet on the Western Front
Erich Maria Remarque
 Paperback Pages: 207

All The Light You Cannot See
Anthony Doerr Pages: 530
 paperback

Almost English
Charlotte Mendelson
 Hardback Pages: 391

Americanah
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
 Paperback Pages: 477

American Wife
Curtis Sittenfeld
 Paperback Pages: 638

Animal's People
Indra Sinha
 Paperback Pages: 400

Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother
Amy Chua
 Paperback Pages:242

Berg
Ann Quin
 Paperback Pages:168

The Bone Clocks - New 2015
David Mitchell

Hardback	Pages 595
The Book of Lies Mary Horlock	
Hardback	Pages: 325
The Book of Strange New Things - New 2015 Michael Faber	
Hardback	Pages: 584
The Bookseller of Kabul Asne Seierstad	
Paperback	Pages: 276
The Book Thief Markus Zusak	
Paperback	Pages: 554
Burial Rites Hannah Kent	
Paperback	Pages 355
The Buried Giant - New 2015 Kazuo Ishiguro	
Hardback	Pages: 352
The Captain's Daughter Leah Fleming	
Hardback	Pages: 565
Carry the One Carol Anshaw	
Paperback LGBT author	Pages: 272
Catch-22 Joseph Heller	
Paperback	Pages: 519
Cold Comfort Farm Stella Gibbons	
Paperback	Pages: 233
Cooking With Bones Jess Richards	
Hardback LGBT author	Pages: 384
The Daylight Gate Jeanette Winterson	
Hardback LGBT author	Pages: 194
The Days of Anna Madrigal Armistead Maupin	
Hardback LGBT author	Pages: 288
The Death of Grass John Christopher	
Paperback	Pages: 195
Diary of a Provincial Lady	

EM Delderfield
Hardback Pages: 201

Did You Ever Have a Family? - New 2015
Bill Clegg
Hardback Pages: 293

Difficult Daughters - New 2015
Manju Kapur
Paperback Pages: 280

Disgrace
J.M Coetzee
Paperback Pages: 220

Dolly: A Ghost Story
Susan Hill
Paperback Pages: 153

Enduring love
Ian McEwan
Paperback Pages: 245

Everything I Never Told You - New 2015
Celeste Ng
Paperback Pages: 297

Fall on your knees - New 2015
Ann-Marie MacDonald
Paperback Pages: 561

Far To Go
Alison Pick
Paperback Pages: 308

February
Lisa Moore
Paperback Pages: 307

The Finkler Question
Howard Jacobson
Paperback Pages: 307

Flower Children
Maxine Swann
Paperback Pages: 211

The French Lieutenants Woman
John Fowles
Paperback Pages: 445

Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café
Fannie Flagg
Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 395

Frog Music
Emma Donoghue
Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 416

Funny Girl - New 2015

Nick Hornby

Hardback Pages: 342

The Garden of Evening Mists

Tan Twan Eng

Paperback Pages: 352

The Gathering

Ann Enright

Paperback Pages: 261

Gillespie and I

Jane Harris

Paperback Pages: 502

The Girl on the stairs

Louise Welsh

Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 293

Gone Girl

Gillian Flynn

Paperback Pages: 463

The Good Father

Noah Hawley

Hardback Pages: 307

The Good Plain Cook

Bethan Roberts

Paperback Pages: 308

Half A Life

V.S. Naipaul

Paperback Pages: 240

Half Blood Blues

Esi Edugyan

Paperback Pages: 343

Harvest

Jim Crace

Paperback Pages: 286

The Help

Kathryn Stockett

Paperback Pages: 444

The Hope Factory - New 2015

Lavanya Sankaran

Paperback Pages: 350

Hotel On the Corner of Bitter and Sweet

Ford, Jamie

Paperback Pages: 290

How to be Both

Smith, Ali

Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages:

The Humans - New 2015

Matt Haig

Paperback Pages: 291

I Am Legend

Richard Matheson

Paperback Pages: 162

I Capture the Castle

Dodie Smith

Paperback Pages: 408

Icarus Girl

Helen Oyeyemi

Hardback Pages: 320

Ice Cream Girls

Dorothy Koomson

Paperback Pages: 468

The Invention of everything else

Hunt, Samantha

Paperback Pages: 368

The Invention of Wings

Sue Monk Kidd

Paperback Pages: 359

Jack - New 2015

A.M. Homes

Paperback **LGBT** Pages: 221

Jamrach's Menagerie

Carol Birch

Paperback Pages: 344

The Journal of Dora Damage

Berlinda Starling

Paperback Pages: 445

The Last Days of Rabbit Hayes - New 2015

Anna McPartlin

Paperback pages 436

The Liar's Chair - New 2015

Rebecca Whitney

Paperback pages 305

Life After Life

Kate Atkinson

Hardback Pages: 477

The Lighthouse

Alison Moore

Paperback Pages: 182

Little Daughter

Zoya Phan

Paperback Pages: 330

**Little Friend
Donna Tartt**

Paperback Pages: 555

The Lives of Others - New 2015

Neel Mukherjee

Paperback Pages: 505

Loaded

Christos Tsiolkas

Paperback [LGBT](#) Pages: 160

The Long Song

Andrea Levy

Paperback Pages: 432

Lost & Found - New 2015

Brooke Davis

Hardback Pages: 306

The Lowlands

Jhumpa Lahiri

Paperback Pages: 406

The Luminaries

Eleanor Catton

Paperback Pages: 832

The Memory of Love

Aminatta Forna

Paperback Pages: 445

The Midwich Cuckoos

John Wyndham

Paperback Pages: 220

The Miseducation of Cameron Post

Emily M Danforth

Paperback [LGBT](#) Pages: 470

Moth Smoke - New 2015

Mohsin Hamid

Paperback Pages: 320

Mrs Hemingway - New 2015

Naomi Wood

Paperback Pages: 256

My Animals & Other Family

Clare Balding

Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 219

My Antonia

Willa Cather

Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 298

My Policeman

Bethan Roberts
 Hardback **LGBT** Pages: 341

My Sister's Keeper
Jodi Picoult
 Paperback Pages: 422

Nella Last's War: The Second World War Diaries of Housewife 49
Nella Last
 Paperback Pages: 320

Northanger Abbey - New 2015
Jane Austen
 Paperback Pages:

Northanger Abbey - New 2015
Val McDermid
 Hardback Pages: 352

Of Love and Hunger
Julian Maclaren-Ross
 Paperback Pages: 203

On Chesil Beach
Ian McEwan
 Paperback/Hardback Pages: 166

One Day I Will Write About This Place
Binyauanga Wainaina
 Paperback Pages: 253

One Moment, One Morning
Sarah Rayner
 Paperback Pages: 405

Oryx & Crake
Margaret Atwood
 Paperback Pages: 433

Outcast
Sadie Jones
 Paperback Pages: 441

Parrot and Olivier In America
Peter Carey
 Paperback Pages: 578

The Peculiar Life of a Lonely Postman - New 2015
Denis Theriault
 Paperback Pages 108

Persepolis
Marjane Satrapi
 Paperback Pages: 343

Philida
Andre Brink
 Paperback Pages: 310

Portrait of a Lady
Henry James
 Paperback Pages: 637

Rapture
Carol Ann Duffy
 Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 62

The Red Pony
John Steinbeck
 Paperback Pages: 96

Sacred Hearts
Sarah Dunant
 Paperback Pages: 461

Sarah Thornhill - New 2015
Kate Grenville
 Paperback Pages: 304

The Secret Life of Bees
Sue Monk Kidd
 Paperback Pages: 374

Sense of an Ending
Julian Barnes
 Hardback Pages: 150

Shadow of the Crescent Moon
Fatima Bhutto
 Paperback Pages: 231

The Shock of the Fall
Nathan Filer
 Paperback Pages 307

The Siege
Helen Dunmore
 Paperback Pages: 291

The Slap
Christos Tsiolkas
 Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 483

Smut
Alan Bennett
 Hardback Pages: 208

The Spinning Heart
Donal Ryan
 Paperback Pages: 160

The Spy Game
Georgina Harding
 Paperback Pages: 310

The Stars in the Bright Sky
Alan Warner
 Paperback Pages: 394

State of Wonder
Ann Patchett
Hardback Pages: 353

The Storyteller
Jodi Picoult
Hardback Pages: 462

The Taliban Cricket Club
Timeri N. Murari
Paperback Pages: 325

The Testament of Mary
Colm Toibin
Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 104

Then We Came to the End
Joshua Ferris
Paperback Pages: 385

This is Where I leave You
Jonathon Tropper
Paperback Pages: 339

The Tiger's Wife
Tea Obreht
Paperback Pages: 336

To Rise Again at a Decent Hour
Joshua Ferris
Paperback Pages 337

Travelling to Infinity: The True Story Behind the Theory of Everything
Jane Hawking – (New 2015)
Paperback Pages 487

The Undertaking
Audrey Magee
Paperback Pages 290

Unexploded
Alison Macleod
Hardback Pages: 340

Unless
Carol Shields
Paperback Pages: 320

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry
Rachel Joyce
Paperback Pages: 296

Us – (New 2015)
David Nicholls
Paperback Pages: 396

Wave
Sonali Deraniyagala

Paperback Pages:212

We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves

Karen Joy Fowler

Paperback Pages: 308

We Were the Mulvaney

Joyce Carol Oates

Hardback Pages: 302

When God Was A Rabbit

Sarah Winman

Paperback Pages: 324

When We Were Bad

Charlotte Mendelson

Hardback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 321

Why Be Happy When You could be Normal

Jeanette Winterson

Paperback [LGBT author](#) Pages: 230