



One Sunday Morning

By Amy Ephron

Short, light period women's fiction with itty-bitty chapters and clever twists is Ephron's specialty. This one is set in 1926 and features New York's postdeb set, pretty jazz-age flappers with bobbed hair who are either just about to be married or looking hard for a suitable husband at all the smart parties. When Lizzie Carswell is seen walking out of the Gramercy Park Hotel Sunday morning after a big dance at the Waldorf, still in her evening clothes and with another girl's fiancé, it takes no time at all for the scandalized buzz to reach every speakeasy and society gathering in town. That very night Lizzie is snubbed at the opera by absolutely everyone except kindhearted Mary Nell. A corpse turns up is it the guilty fiancé, unable to face his future? That little mystery is quickly solved. Mary meets a handsome world traveler who might just be Mr. Right. And then some of the girls whirl off to Europe Paris, Nice, Monte Carlo with predictably unpredictable romantic results. Don't expect *The Great Gatsby* (the fashionable new novel that Mary is reading aboard *The Paris* as she steams off to Paris); expect, instead, a quick, delightful little excursion.

Available at Wayne & Preakness in Fiction

84, Charing Cross Road

By Helene Hanff

It all began with a letter inquiring about second-hand books, written by Helene Hanff in New York, and posted to a bookshop at 84, Charing Cross Road in London. As Helene's sarcastic and witty letters are responded to by the stodgy and proper Frank Doel of 84, Charing Cross Road, a relationship blossoms into a warm, charming, feisty love affair.

Available at Wayne in Non-Fiction at 818.54 HAN

I'm a Stranger Here Myself: Notes on Returning to America after twenty years away

By Bill Bryson

After living in Britain for 20 years, humorist Bryson moved his family back to the United States and settled in a small New Hampshire town. His British editor convinced him to write a weekly newspaper column about his impressions of America. "Mostly I wrote about whatever little things had lately filled my days--a trip to the post office, the joy of having a garbage disposal for the first time, the glories of the American motel." This book is a collection of those pieces, charting Bryson's progress "from being bewildered and actively appalled in the early days of my return to being bewildered and generally charmed, impressed, and gratified now."

Available at Wayne in Biography and at Preakness in Large-Type at 973.92 BRY



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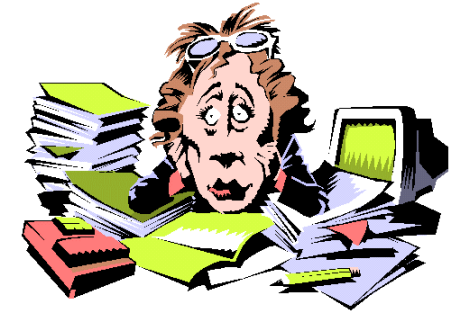
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Short on time? Being pulled in too many directions, but still like to read?



Here are some titles that are quick reads or can be read a little at a time.

"How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives."

~ Annie Dillard

"Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save."

~ Will Rogers

"How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives."

~ T.S. Eliot



Night Gardening

By E.L. Swann

Maggie Welles is recovering from a severe stroke that has paralyzed her left side. She is at home and receiving physical and speech therapies when she crosses paths with Tristan Mallory, a well-known landscape architect. During the summer evenings Mallory spends restoring Maggie's long-neglected and once extraordinary garden, the pair find restoration for their spirits and embark upon an unusual affair that fulfills them both. The garden is described in great detail that may bore non-aficionados, and Swann seems to be reaching for a grand, tragic Love Story that somehow eludes her. Even so, with its slight literary flavor, this is an enjoyable romance that proves love isn't something that only happens to the very young or the physically perfect.

Available at Wayne in Fiction

Summer

By Edith Wharton

Summer is the story of Charity Royall, a child of mountain moonshiners adopted by a family in a poor New England town, who has a passionate love affair with Lucius Harney, an educated man from the city. Wharton broke the conventions of women's romantic fiction by making Charity a thoroughly independent modern woman—in touch with her emotions and sexuality, yet kept from love and the larger world she craves by the overwhelming pressures of heredity and society.

Available at Wayne in Fiction

Watermelon

By Marian Keyes

Claire Webster, heroine of this breezy Irish bestseller, thinks hubby James is the man of her dreams until he ditches her for an older woman (Claire herself is 29) two hours after their daughter is born. Mother and child repair to Dublin, where there's hope of solace and sustenance in the bosom of an eccentric family, while Claire downsizes from watermelon to wisp and struggles over the hurdles of blues and booze. When she attracts a handsome young lover and considers dumping the suddenly repentant James, it's clear a happy ending's in sight. Or is it? There are a few surprises and plenty of sassy girl talk in this slick if sometimes silly take on what it's like to be female. Much of the hilarity generated by Claire's funky family airhead sisters who squabble over clothes and men, a mother who'd rather watch soap operas than cook, a father perpetually bewildered by the women in his life wears thin, but readers will identify with Claire's flaws, applaud her irreverent wit and rejoice at her triumphant recovery.

Available at Wayne in Fiction & Audio-Cassette

Step-Ball-Change

By Jeanne Ray

Ray is delightful both as author of this story of family life, marriage, and all the hills and valleys that go along and as narrator, two accomplishments that do not always go together. As Caroline, owner of a dance studio, deals with the schedule of her public defender husband and looks forward to retirement with him, she is also confronted with her sister appearing on her doorstep, having left her husband; a daughter suddenly engaged to the scion of one of Raleigh's wealthiest families, resulting in the question of how to pay for a megawedding; a home under perpetual construction owing to a weak foundation; and her sister's small yet vicious dog. Ray's pacing and energy fit the story perfectly. With humor, grace, and touching insights, this production is wonderful, making listeners wish that they really knew the family. And if so, life would never be dull.

Available at Wayne & Preakness in Fiction and in Paperback at Wayne

Dress Your Family in Denim & Corduroy

By David Sedaris

Sedaris has a knack for turning heart-breaking antics into moments of outrageous humor. This collection includes two hilarious vignettes about his younger brother Paul, the foul-mouthed, hardworking, salt-of-the-earth hope for the Sedaris clan. The first story about Paul chronicles his engagement and subsequent marriage to a girl from the North, which provides a 50-50 chance for an improvement in the family gene pool should they have any offspring. "Baby Einstein" relates the pregnancy and birth of this anxiously awaited child. In one tale that features his mother, she cozies up to a rich old aunt in anticipation of an inheritance, and in another she locks her children outside on the fifth snow day home from school. It's a hallmark of true comedic wit when stories can be heard more than once and still generate laughter.

Available at Wayne & Preakness;

Call #: 814.54 SED



So Many Books, So Little Time: a year of passionate reading

By Sara Nelson

This book will inspire and humor those who can't go anywhere without something to read. A reviewer and reporter who focuses on the book industry, Nelson came up with the idea of reading one book per week for a year and recording her reactions. The plan was a good one, but it did not pan out as expected. The result is a marvelous record of how books choose us more than we choose them and how they then proceed to have a wonderful impact on our lives. Nelson's reading covered a broad variety of subjects and authors ... Throughout, Nelson's observations remind us of how books can transport us to different worlds and end up changing our own.

Available at Wayne & Preakness in Non-Fiction at 028.9 NEL