

2022

Armchair Travel Challenge for Adults

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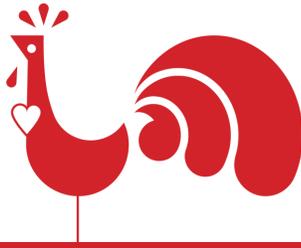
March

British Isles and Northern Europe

Join our year-long reading challenge for adults and "travel" around the world. You can enter to win the year-end raffle! It's easy - here's how to get started:

Pick up a reading log at the Circulation or Reference Desk, print one out online, or request one via curbside, and commit to reading one book related to the destination of the month. (Audiobooks, e-books & DVDs count too!).

Your challenge for March: Read any book that takes place in the British Isles or Northern Europe. Once you have finished, bring your log into the library and get your "passport" stamped!



2022

Armchair Travel Challenge for Adults

Suggested Reading List*

**This list is for ideas only. Chosen book should fit the theme, but no specific titles are required to participate in the reading challenge. Please enjoy!*

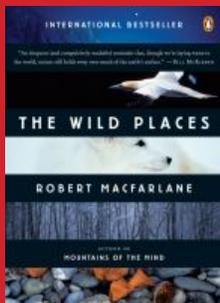
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March: British Isles and Northern Europe



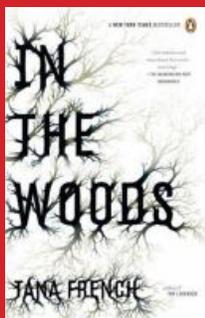
Bitter Orange by Claire Fuller

A seductive psychological portrait, a keyhole into the dangers of longing and how far a woman might go to escape her past.



The Wild Places by Robert Macfarlane

Are there any genuinely wild places left in Britain and Ireland? That is the question that Robert Macfarlane poses to himself as he embarks on a series of breathtaking journeys through some of the archipelago's most remarkable landscapes. A unique travelogue that will intrigue readers of natural history and adventure.



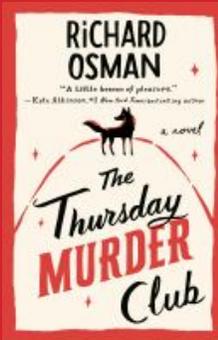
In the Woods by Tana French

As dusk approaches a small Dublin suburb in the summer of 1984, mothers begin to call their children home. But on this warm evening, three children do not return from the dark and silent woods. A gorgeously written novel that marks the debut of an astonishing new voice in psychological suspense.



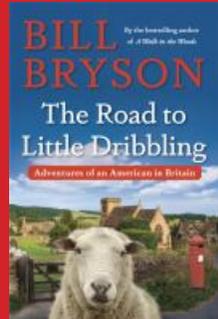
The Palace of the Snow Queen by Barbara Sjöholm

Sjöholm relates her adventures in the far north, and considers how ice and snow shape our imaginations and create, at a time of global warming, a vision that increasingly draws visitors to Lapland.



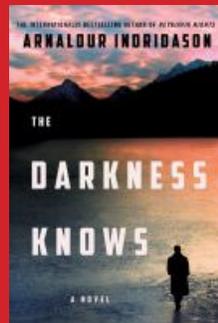
The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes. A body is found with a mysterious photograph left next to it, and the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case. As the bodies begin to pile up, can they catch the killer, before it's too late?



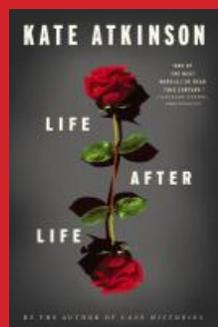
The Road to Little Dribbling by Bill Bryson

A sequel to "Notes from a Small Island" stands as the author's tribute to his adopted country of England and describes his riotous return visit two decades later to rediscover the country, its people, and its culture.



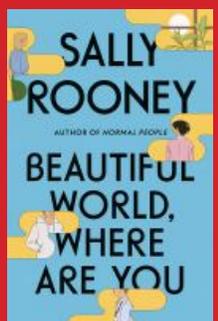
The Darkness Knows by Arnaldur Indriðason

In "The Darkness Knows", the master of Icelandic crime writing reunites readers with Konrad, the unforgettable retired detective from The Shadow District. This is a powerful and haunting story about the poisonous secrets and cruel truths that time eventually uncovers.



Life After Life by Kate Atkinson

On a cold and snowy night in 1910, Ursula Todd is born to an English banker and his wife. For as she grows, she also dies, repeatedly, in a variety of ways, while the young century marches on towards its second cataclysmic world war. Does Ursula's apparently infinite number of lives give her the power to save the world from its inevitable destiny? And if she can - will she?



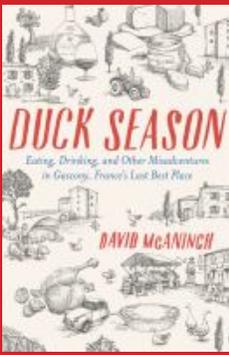
Beautiful World, Where Are You by Sally Rooney

Alice, Felix, Eileen, and Simon are still young—but life is catching up with them. They desire each other, they delude each other, they get together, they break apart. Are they standing in the last lighted room before the darkness, bearing witness to something? Will they find a way to believe in a beautiful world?



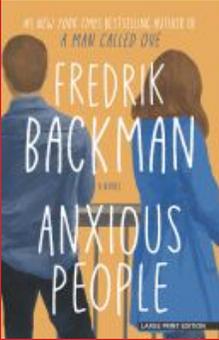
In Cod We Trust by Eric Dregni

In Cod We Trust is one Minnesota family's spirited excursion into Scandinavian life. The land of the midnight sun is far stranger than they previously imagined, and their encounters show how much we can learn from its unique and surprising culture.



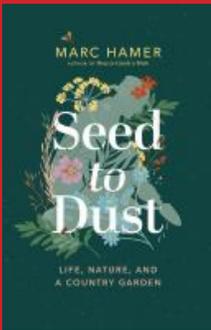
Duck Season by David McAninch

With wit and warmth, McAninch brings us deep into this enchanting world, where eating what makes you happy isn't a sin but a commandment and where, to the eternal surprise of outsiders, locals' life expectancy is higher than in any other region of France. Featuring a dozen choice recipes and beautiful line drawings, Duck Season is an irresistible treat for Francophiles and gourmands alike.



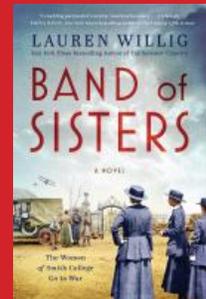
Anxious People by Fredrik Backman

Rich with Fredrik Backman's pitch-perfect dialogue and an unparalleled understanding of human nature, Anxious People's whimsical plot serves up unforgettable insights into the human condition and a gentle reminder to be compassionate to all the anxious people we encounter every day.



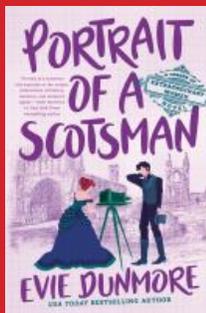
Seed to Dust by Marc Hamer

In this life-enhancing book Marc takes us month-by-month through his experiences both working in the garden and outside it, as the seasons' changes bring new plants and wildlife to the fore and lead him to reflect on his past and future.



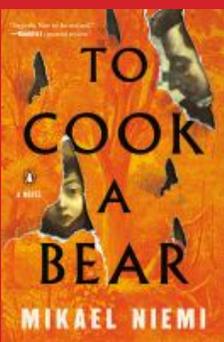
Band of Sisters by Lauren Willig

A group of young women from Smith College risk their lives in France at the height of World War I in this sweeping novel based on a true story.



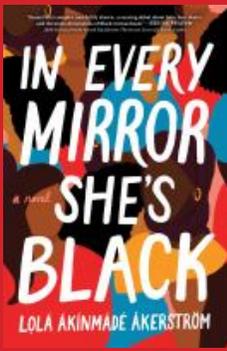
Portrait of a Scotsman by Evie Dunmore

Going toe-to-toe with a brooding Scotsman is rather bold for a respectable suffragist, but when he happens to be one's unexpected husband, what else is an unwilling bride to do?



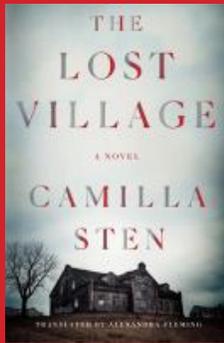
To Cook a Bear by Mikael Niemi

A fantastic tale set in the far north of Sweden in 1852 following a runaway Sami boy and his mentor, the famous pastor Laestadius, as they investigate a murder in their village along with the mysteries of life. A completely absorbing and unforgettable novel, To Cook a Bear both entertains and burrows deep down into the great philosophical questions of life.



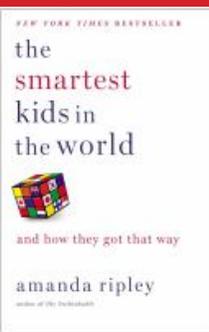
In Every Mirror She's Black by Lola Akinmade Åkerström

Three Black women are linked in unexpected ways to the same influential white man in Stockholm as they build their new lives in the most open society run by the most private people. A timely and arresting debut for anyone looking for insight into what it means to be a Black woman in the world.



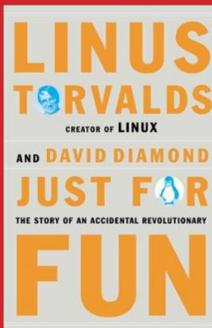
The Lost Village by Camilla Sten

Documentary filmmaker Alice Lindstedt has been obsessed with the vanishing residents of the old mining town, dubbed "The Lost Village," since she was a little girl. She's gathered a small crew of friends in the remote village to make a film about what really happened. But there will be no turning back. They're looking for the truth...But what if it finds them first?



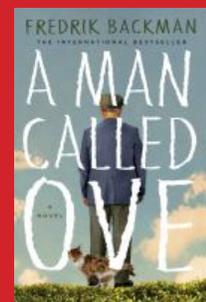
The Smartest Kids in the World: And How They Got That Way by Amanda Ripley

Through the compelling stories of three American teenagers living abroad and attending the world's top-notch public high schools, an investigative reporter explains how these systems cultivate the "smartest" kids on the planet.



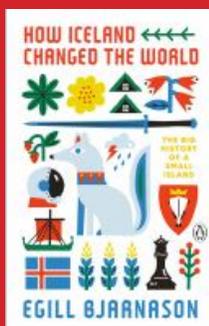
Just for Fun by Linus Torvalds

Once upon a time Linus Torvalds was a skinny unknown, just another nerdy Helsinki techie who had been fooling around with computers since childhood. Then he wrote a groundbreaking operating system and distributed it via the Internet -- for free. Today his creation LINUX is used by over 12 million people as well as by companies such as IBM.



A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

A grumpy yet loveable man finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door.



How Iceland Changed the World by Egill Bjaanason

Take a tour of history, learning how Iceland played a pivotal role in events as diverse as the French Revolution, the Moon Landing, and the foundation of Israel. Again and again, one humble nation has found itself at the frontline of historic events, shaping the world as we know it, "How Iceland Changed the World" paints a lively picture of just how it all happened.