

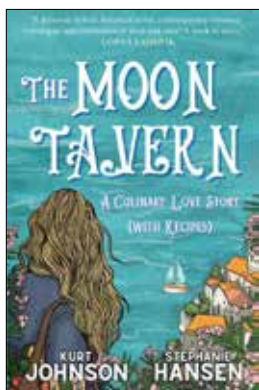
At Home Reader

Reviews for Hennepin County At Home Readers

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Sept./Oct.
2026

Reader Recommendations



The Moon Tavern: A Culinary Love Story (With Recipes) By Kurt Johnson and Stephanie Hansen

Ves, a Minneapolis cookbook writer adopted after the Yugoslav Wars, travels to a remote Croatian island to reconnect with her biological grandmother. Dinko, a local vineyard owner, helps her uncover what happened to her family during the war. Like many of the authors' creations, this story is sweet and spicy and offers an enjoyable, informative read with delicious, easy-to-follow recipes.

Reviewed by Renee B., At Home patron



The Boxcar Librarian By Brianna Labuskes

WPA (Works Progress Administration) editor Millie Lang is reassigned to Montana after a political mistake to help create a government-funded travel guide. As she encounters claims of sabotage, her investigation links her to librarian Alice Monroe, the Boxcar Library, and the mystery surrounding Colette Durand's disappearance. Set in the early 20th century, the novel blends adventure, mystery, and history with vivid depictions of Montana's brutal winters and striking mountain sunrises.

Also available: large print, CD

Reviewed by Betty B., At Home patron



This Is Happiness By Niall Williams

No one tells a story like the Irish, and they do it in a relaxed and mesmerizing way. In a rural Irish village, Noel Crowe meets Christy as electricity is about to be introduced for the first time. Their stories connect through Christy's long-lost love, Noel's early experiences with love, and the village's gradual move into modern life. It is a wonderful read.

Reviewed by Dolly B., At Home patron

New Fiction Books

Alphabetical order by author

The Fine Art of Lying

By Alexandra Andrews

Living in Manhattan with her affluent husband, Clare Bast feels distant from the art world she once pursued. Then a painting tied to her unfinished dissertation pulls her into a murder investigation and a dangerous circle of art dealers.

NYT Road Trip

By Mary Kay Andrews

Estranged sisters Maeve and Therese reunite after their mother's death and inherit a possibly valuable painting. Their search for its origins takes them to Ireland, its colorful villages, and the locals.

Also available: large print

The Burning Side

By Sarah Damoff

After a nighttime fire destroys their home, April and Leo move their children into her family's Dallas house. There, problems in their marriage surface due to parenting pressures, her father's Alzheimer's diagnosis, and past choices.

Enormous Wings

By Laurie Frankel

At age 77, Pepper Mills is shocked to discover she is pregnant after moving into a Texas retirement community. As public attention intensifies, she faces scrutiny and difficult decisions to make — and some she is not allowed to make.

Also available: large print

NYT The Midnight Train

By Matt Haig

Wilbur longs to revisit his happiest days with Maggie, the love he lost. In a world connected to The Midnight Library, a magical train offers him the chance to relive those moments and risk everything.

Also available: large print

Transcription

By Ben Lerner

A writer travels to Providence to interview his 90-year-old mentor but the recording device broke, a fact he is mysteriously unable to confess. Their encounter explores memory, technology, and the limits of documenting a life without the device the writer depended on.

NYT The Someday Garden

By Ashley Poston

Sophie Drear spends the summer in coastal Maine restoring an old estate. She discovers a shifting door to a hidden garden with an unknown trapped man inside and must find a way to revive the troubled grounds.

NYT The Calamity Club

By Kathryn Stockett

In 1933 Mississippi, 11-year-old Meg struggles with life in an orphan asylum. When Birdie and Charlie cross her path, the three pursue a risky plan to change their circumstances.

Also available: large print

NYT The Things We

Never Say

By Elizabeth Strout

Artie Dam appears content as a longtime teacher, husband, and sailor but feels isolated. When he discovers a life-altering secret, he must reevaluate his closest relationships and what the secret means for him.

Also available: large print

New Nonfiction Books

Alphabetical order by author

**The Future is Peace:
A Shared Journey
Across the Holy Land**
By Aziz Abu Sarah and
Maoz Inon

Two peace activists from opposite sides of the Israel-Palestine conflict travel together after losing family to violence. Their journey shows that peace requires courage, violence cannot bring security, and reconciliation is essential.

**NYT How to Rule the
World: An Education
in Power at Stanford
University**
By Theo Baker

As a Stanford freshman reporter, the author uncovers a culture of excess and secrecy, and his reluctant investigation of the university president's research misconduct sparks campus turmoil that alters the course of his year.

Joyful, Anyway
By Kate Bowler

A divinity scholar living with a serious illness examines why striving for progress and happiness often makes life harder. She argues these pursuits can prevent us from experiencing genuine joy.
Also available: large print

**Dangerous, Dirty,
Violent, and Young:
A Fugitive Family in
the Revolutionary
Underground**
By Zayd Ayers Dohrn
Born to Weather
Underground fugitives, a son grows up in hiding and later uncovers their operations through interviews, FBI files, and family archives, reckoning with the personal toll of that life.

NYT Famesick: A Memoir
By Lena Dunham
The creator of the TV show *Girls* navigates chronic illness while maintaining a high-profile career. She examines how ambition and fame strain her relationships, and questions whether achieving her dreams has been worth the cost.
Also available: large print

**Making Mill City:
Flour and Fortune
in Minneapolis**
By Robert M. Frame III
Innovations such as the middlings purifier and roller mill revolutionized flour production in Minneapolis during the late 1800s. The book traces the city's former milling prominence while highlighting the architecture and art it left behind.

**NYT London Falling:
A Mysterious Death in
a Gilded City and a
Family's Search for Truth**
By Patrick Radden Keefe
After Zac Brettler's 2019 death, his parents uncover the secret identity and criminal world he hid from them. Their investigation reveals dangerous figures and troubling failures in London's justice system.
Also available: large print

**NYT The Land and
Its People: Essays**
By David Sedaris
Caring for his partner after surgery and traveling across several countries, Sedaris reflects on friendship, aging, and absurd encounters. His essays find insight and humor in people and places.
Also available: large print

**NYT Take Me to Your
Leader: Perspectives on
Your First Alien Encounter**
By Neil deGrasse Tyson
Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson investigates how aliens might travel, communicate, and interpret humanity using physics and scientific evidence. He offers a playful, rigorous guide to imagining first contact.

More New Books

Alphabetical order by author

Fiction

Leave Your Mess at Home

By Tolani Akinola

Also available: large print

The Hill

By Harriet Clark

Love by the Book

By Jessica George

Also available: large print

A Wasp in the Beehive

By Mary Logue

Under Water

By Tara Menon

NYT Land

By Maggie O'Farrell

Also available: large print

NYT Whistler

By Ann Patchett

Also available: large print

Ghost Town

By Tom Perrotta

Also available: large print, CD

John of John

By Douglas Stuart

Also available: large print

Ms. Mebel Goes Back to the Chopping Block

By Jesse Q. Sutanto

Also available: large print

Flesh

By David Szalay

Also available: large print, CD

Summer State of Mind

By Kristy Woodson Harvey

Also available: large print, CD

Cozy Mystery

Clawed and Dangerous

By Rita Mae Brown and

Sneaky Pie Brown

Also available: large print

An Amateur Sleuth's Guide to Murder

By Lynn Cahoon

Also available: large print

Truffle Trouble

By Amanda Flower

Also available: large print

Death by Chocolate Ladyfingers

By Sarah Graves

Also available: large print

A Matter of Pedigree

By Leslie Meier

Also available: large print

The Antique Hunter's Murder at the Castle

By C.L. Miller

Also available: large print

How to Cheat Your Own Death

By Kristen Perrin

Also available: large print

Historical

A Pair of Aces

By Marie Benedict and

Victoria Christopher Murray

Also available: large print

Lázár

By Nelio Biedermann

A Founding Mother: A Novel of Abigail Adams

By Stephanie Dray and

Laura Kamoie

Also available: large print

The Mad Wife

By Meagan Church

Also available: large print

This is a selection from the new titles that Hennepin County Library has ordered.

NYT Villa Coco

By Andrew Sean Greer

Also available: large print

The Foursome

By Christina Baker Kline

Also available: large print

Bad Seeds

By Mary Monroe

Also available: large print, CD

NYT Daughters of the Sun and Moon

By Lisa See

Also available: large print, CD

Lidie: The Further Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton

By Jane Smiley

Also available: large print

A Woman's Place

By Danielle Steel

Also available: large print

The Seven Daughters of Dupree

By Nikesha Elise Williams

Also available: large print

Humorous

Good Joy, Bad Joy

By Mikki Brammer

Look What You Made Me Do

By John Lanchester

Dear Monica Lewinsky

By Julia Langbein

Bertie's Theory of Ice Cream

By Alexander McCall Smith

Also available: CD

Mystery

Blunt Instrument

By Amy Bloom

Also available: large print

NYT Ironwood

By Michael Connelly

Also available: large print

Booked

By Alison Gaylin

Also available: large print

No One Would Do What the Lamberts Have Done

By Sophie Hannah

Also available: large print

A Deadly Episode

By Anthony Horowitz

Also available: large print, CD

NYT The Brothers McKay

By Craig Johnson

Also available: large print

NYT 26 Beauties

By James Patterson

Also available: large print, CD

A Murder in Springtime

By Martin Walker with

Kate Walker

Also available: large print

Religious

C Is for Courting

By Shelley Shepard Gray

Also available: large print

Harbor Pointe

By Irene Hannon

Also available: large print, CD

Where We Belong

By Kim Vogel Sawyer

Also available: large print, CD

More New Books

Alphabetical order by author

Romance

Into the Blue:

A Love Story

By Emma Brodie

Also available: large print

NYT The Shippers

By Katherine Center

Also available: large print

The Paris Match

By Kate Clayborn

Also available: large print

NYT Our Perfect Storm

By Carley Fortune

Also available: large print

Chasing the Clouds Away

By Debbie Macomber

Also available: large print

NYT Dolly All the Time

By Annabel Monaghan

Also available: large print

NYT First and Forever

By Lynn Painter

Just Friends

By Haley Pham

Also available: large print

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Stay for a Spell

By Amy Coombe

Also available: large print

The Infinite Sadness of Small Appliances

By Glenn Dixon

We Burned So Bright

By TJ Klune

Beneath

By Ariel Sullivan

Also available: large print

Platform Decay

By Martha Wells

Short Stories

Paranormal Payback

Edited by Jim Butcher and

Kerrie L. Hughes

I Know a Place: Rest Stop and Other Dark Detours

By Nat Cassidy

Patient, Female

By Julie Schumacher

Thriller

Hope Rises

By David Baldacci

Also available: large print

Five

By Ilona Bannister

NYT The Fourth Option

By Jack Carr and

M.P. Woodward

Also available: large print, CD

A River Red With Blood

By John Connolly

Also available: large print

Her Cold Justice

By Robert Dugoni

Also available: large print

Liar's Creek

By Matt Goldman

Caller Unknown

By Gillian McAllister

Also available: large print, CD

NYT The Divorce

By Freida McFadden

Also available: large print

Beneath a Broken Sky

By Joshua Moehling

This is a selection from the new titles that Hennepin County Library has ordered.

NYT The Last Mandarin

By Louise Penny and
Mellissa Fung

Also available: large print

NYT The Final Target

By Nora Roberts

Also available: large print

NYT Choke Point

By Brad Thor

Also available: large print

Missing Sam

By Thrity Umrigar

Also available: large print

**The One Day You
Were My Husband**

By Rosie Walsh

Also available: large print

Western

**Bloodshed at the
Golden Spur**

By James Clay

Available only in large print

The McKittrick Ransom

By Jeffrey J. Mariotte

Available only in large print

Treat Them as Buffalo

By Blair Palmer Yoxall

Available only in large print

Nonfiction

**Stay Alive: Berlin,
1939-1945**

By Ian Buruma

**What to Make of a Life:
Cliffs, Fog, Fire and
the Self-Knowledge
Imperative**

By Jim Collins

Also available: large print

**Here Where We Live Is
Our Country: The Story of
the Jewish Bund**

By Molly Crabapple

**NYT Inside the Box:
How Constraints Make
Us Better**

By David Epstein

Also available: large print

**NYT American Rambler:
Walking the Trail of
Johnny Appleseed**

By Isaac Fitzgerald

**This Land Is Your Land:
A Road Trip Through
U.S. History**

By Beverly Gage

Also available: large print

**Last Branch Standing:
A Potentially Surprising,
Occasionally Witty
Journey Inside Today's
Supreme Court**

By Sarah Isgur

**Small Town Girls:
A Writer's Memoir**

By Jayne Anne Phillips

**NYT The Hero Next Door:
Stories of Patriotism and
Purpose**

By Martha Raddatz

**NYT All We Say: The Battle
for American Identity –
A History in 15 Speeches**

By Ben Rhodes

**NYT An Inconvenient
Widow: The Torment,
Trial, and Triumph of
Mary Todd Lincoln**

By Lois Romano

**NYT I Am Not a Robot:
My Year Using AI to Do
(Almost) Everything**

By Joanna Stern



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Book Reviews

Send us a review of a book that you've enjoyed. In a few sentences, tell us the plot and what you especially liked about the book. Reviews may be published in future issues of the *At Home Reader*. We'll include your first name and last initial only. Editing for space may be necessary.

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Author: _____

Review: _____

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