

## 2025-2026 book list

To be Discussed	Title
Sept 2025	Queen of Norwich by L. K. Wilde
Oct 2025	An Unfinished Story by Boo Walker
Nov 2025	Framed: Astonish True Stories of Wrongful Convictions by John Grisham and Jim McCloskey
Dec 2025	Halfway to You by Jennifer Gold
Jan 2026	The Women by Kristen Hannah
Feb 2026	The Sentinel by Lee Child and Andrew Child
Mar 2026	Drowning: The Rescue of Flight 1421 by T. J. Newman
Apr 2026	James by Percival Everett
May 2026	The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

September 2025

Queenie of Norwich by L.K. Wilde

**When you're sold by your mother, it takes extraordinary courage to survive, thrive, and beat the odds... based on a true story.**

***"You're Nellie Westrop and don't you forget it.***

***We'll see each other one day, but until we do, take good care of yourself.  
Live a good life.***

***Now go, my love."***

**People say you get one life, but I've lived three.**

I was born Ellen Hardy in 1900, dragged up in Queen Caroline's Yard, Norwich. There was nothing royal about our yard, and Mum was no queen.

At six years old Mum sold me. I became Nellie Westrop, roaming the country in a showman's wagon, learning the art of the fair.

And I've been the infamous Queenie of Norwich, moving up in the world by any means, legal or not.

I've been heart broken, abandoned, bought and sold, but I've never, ever given up.

After all, it's not where you start that's important, but where you end up.

**Based on a true story, *Queenie of Norwich* is the compelling tale of one remarkable girl's journey to womanhood. Spanning the first half of the 20th century, Queenie's story is one of heartbreak and triumph, love and loss and the power of family. It is a story of redemption, and how, with grit and determination, anything is possible.**

October 2025

An Unfinished Story by Boo Walker

**A grieving widow and a disenchanted writer form an unexpected bond in a novel about second chances and finding the courage to let go of the past.**

It's been three years since Claire Kite lost her husband, David, an aspiring novelist, in a tragic car accident. Claire finally finds the courage to move on; then she discovers among the remnants of her

shattered world her husband's last manuscript. It's intimate, stirring—and unfinished. An idea comes to her...What if she can find someone to give David's novel the ending it deserves?

Whitaker Grant is famous for his one and only bestselling novel—a masterpiece that became a hit film. But after being crippled by the pressure of success and his failed marriage, Whitaker retreated from the public eye in his native St. Petersburg, Florida. Years later, he's struggling through a deep midlife crisis. Until he receives an intriguing request from a lonely widow. To honor David's story, Whitaker must understand, heart and soul, the man who wrote it and the woman he left behind.

There's more to the novel than anyone dreamed. Something personal. Something true. Maybe, in bringing a chapter of David's life to a close, Claire and Whitaker can find hope for a new beginning.

November 2025

Framed: Astonish True Stories of Wrongful Convictions By John Grisham and Jim McCloskey

John Grisham is known worldwide for his bestselling novels, but it's his real-life passion for justice that led to his work with Jim McCloskey of Centurion Ministries, the first organization dedicated to exonerating innocent people who have been wrongly convicted. Together they offer an inside look at the many injustices in our criminal justice system.

A fundamental principle of our legal system is a presumption of innocence, but once someone has been found guilty, there is very little room to prove doubt. These ten true stories shed light on Americans who were innocent but found guilty and forced to sacrifice friends, families, and decades of their lives to prison while the guilty parties remained free. In each of the stories, John Grisham and Jim McCloskey recount the dramatic hard-fought battles for exoneration. They take a close look at what leads to wrongful convictions in the first place and the racism, misconduct, flawed testimony, and corruption in the court system that can make them so hard to reverse.

Impeccably researched and told with page-turning suspense as only John Grisham can deliver, *Framed* is the story of winning freedom when the battle already seems lost and the deck is stacked against you.

December 2025

Halfway to You by Jennifer Gold

**An ambitious podcaster and her reclusive interviewee embark on a life-altering journey to uncover long-lost truths in this immersive story about love, travel, and family secrets.**

Forty years ago, aspiring writer Ann Fawkes left the United States for a Mediterranean adventure that opened her heart to travel and love. After a chance encounter propelled her into the publishing world, she released her first novel, an instant bestseller—and the last book she ever wrote.

Now, Ann lives a reclusive life in the San Juan Islands, hiding from the public and its probing questions. But when podcaster Maggie Whitaker convinces Ann to sit for an interview, Ann agrees on one condition: Maggie must keep her story off the record.

Determined to change Ann's mind before she loses her job, Maggie agrees. But as she learns about Ann's life—particularly the love affair that inspired her novel and the decisions she made in its wake—Maggie realizes Ann's story intersects with her own in shocking, life-changing ways.

A sweeping, heart-wrenching novel that spans decades and continents, *Halfway to You* explores the distances we create between ourselves and the ones we love most and what it takes to finally bridge them.

January 2026

## The Women by Kristen Hannah

*Women can be heroes.* When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is over-whelmed by the chaos and destruction of war. Each day is a gamble of life and death, hope and betrayal; friendships run deep and can be shattered in an instant. In war, she meets—and becomes one of—the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost.

But war is just the beginning for Frankie and her veteran friends. The real battle lies in coming home to a changed and divided America, to angry protesters, and to a country that wants to forget Vietnam.

*The Women* is the story of one woman gone 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. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism, *The Women* is a richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose idealism and courage under fire will come to define an era.

February 2026

## The Sentinel by Lee Child and Andrew Child

As always, Reacher has no particular place to go, and all the time in the world to get there. One morning he ends up in a town near Pleasantville, Tennessee.

But there's nothing pleasant about the place.

In broad daylight Reacher spots a hapless soul walking into an ambush. "It was four against one" . . . so Reacher intervenes, with his own trademark brand of conflict resolution.

The man he saves is Rusty Rutherford, an unassuming IT manager, recently fired after a cyberattack locked up the town's data, records, information . . . and secrets. Rutherford wants to stay put, look innocent, and clear his name.

Reacher is intrigued. There's more to the story. The bad guys who jumped Rutherford are part of something serious and deadly, involving a conspiracy, a cover-up, and murder—all centered on a mousy little guy in a coffee-stained shirt who has no idea what he's up against.

Rule one: if you don't know the trouble you're in, keep Reacher by your side.

March 2026

## Drowning: The Rescue of Flight 1421 by T. J. Newman

Six minutes after takeoff, Flight 1421 crashes into the Pacific Ocean. During the evacuation, an engine explodes and the plane is flooded. Those still alive are forced to close the doors—but it's too late. The plane sinks to the bottom with twelve passengers trapped inside.

More than two hundred feet below the surface, engineer Will Kent and his eleven-year-old daughter Shannon are waist-deep in water and fighting for their lives.

Their only chance at survival is an elite rescue team on the surface led by professional diver Chris Kent—Shannon's mother and Will's soon-to-be ex-wife—who must work together with Will to find a way to save their daughter and rescue the passengers from the sealed airplane, which is now teetering on the edge of an undersea cliff.

There's not much time. There's even less air.

With devastating emotional power and heart-stopping suspense, *Drowning* is an unforgettable thriller about a family's desperate fight to save themselves and the people trapped with them—against impossible odds.

April 2026

James by Percival Everett

When the enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on nearby Jackson Island until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck Finn has faked his own death to escape his violent father, recently returned to town. As all readers of American literature know, thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and too-often-unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

While many narrative set pieces of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* remain in place (floods and storms, stumbling across both unexpected death and unexpected treasure in the myriad stopping points along the river's banks, encountering the scam artists posing as the Duke and Dauphin...), Jim's agency, intelligence and compassion are shown in a radically new light.

Brimming with the electrifying humor and lacerating observations that have made Everett a "literary icon" (*Oprah Daily*), and one of the most decorated writers of our lifetime, *James* is destined to be a cornerstone of twenty-first century American literature.

May 2026

The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

***The Silent Patient* is a shocking psychological thriller of a woman's act of violence against her husband—and of the therapist obsessed with uncovering her motive.**

Alicia Berenson's life is seemingly perfect. A famous painter married to an in-demand fashion photographer, she lives in a grand house with big windows overlooking a park in one of London's most desirable areas. One evening her husband Gabriel returns home late from a fashion shoot, and Alicia shoots him five times in the face, and then never speaks another word.

Alicia's refusal to talk, or give any kind of explanation, turns a domestic tragedy into something far grander, a mystery that captures the public imagination and casts Alicia into notoriety. The price of her art skyrockets, and she, the silent patient, is hidden away from the tabloids and spotlight at the Grove, a secure forensic unit in North London.

Theo Faber is a criminal psychotherapist who has waited a long time for the opportunity to work with Alicia. His determination to get her to talk and unravel the mystery of why she shot her husband takes him down a twisting path into his own motivations—a search for the truth that threatens to consume him....

## SCW Library Availability

Queenie of Norwich by L.K. Wilde-no copies

An Unfinished Story by Boo Walker-no copies

Framed: Astonish True Stories of Wrongful Convictions by John Grisham and Jim McCloskey

Hardcopy	Large Print	Libby	Audio
y	y	y	y

Halfway to You by Jennifer Gold-no copies

The Women by Kristen Hannah

Hardcopy	Large Print	Libby	Audio	CD
y	y	y	y	y

The Sentinel by Lee Child and Andrew Child

Hardcopy	Large Print	Audio
y	y	y

Drowning: The Rescue of Flight 1421 by T. J. Newman

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James by Percival Everett

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The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

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y	y	y	y