Galesburg Public Library Book Club Kits

Book club kits contain 5 to 20 copies of a book and a set of discussion questions. One member of a private book club can check out the kit, distribute books to the club members, collect the books after discussion, and return the kit to the library. This is an easy way for a book club to find enough copies of a book for everyone in the club. The kits check out for six weeks.

If you have a book club kit title to suggest, please speak to a Reference librarian.

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*NEW* Always the Young Strangers by Carl Sandburg. Sandburg’s touching memoir about growing up in Galesburg. Related DVD: Boyhood on the Prairie or A Visit with Carl Sandburg.

*NEW* Are You Sleeping by Kathleen Barber. An inventive and twisty psychological thriller about a mega-hit podcast that reopens a murder case—and threatens to unravel the carefully constructed life of the victim’s daughter. Author Kathleen Barber is a Galesburg native.

Big Little Lies by Liane Moriarty. This brilliant take on ex-husbands and second wives, mothers and daughters, schoolyard scandal, and the dangerous little lies we tell ourselves just to survive follows three mothers, each at a crossroads. Now an HBO series!


The Circle by Dave Eggers. A woman hired by a powerful internet company is pulled ever deeper into social media in this suspenseful thriller. Related DVD: The Circle.

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer. Nine-year-old Oskar embarks on a mission to find the lock that matches a mysterious key that belonged to his father, who died in the World Trade Center on 9/11. Related DVD: Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close.


Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn. On a summer morning in Missouri, Nick Dunne’s clever and beautiful wife Amy disappears. Under mounting pressure from the police and the media, the town golden boy parades an endless series of lies, deceits, and inappropriate behavior. Nick is oddly evasive, and he’s definitely bitter—but is he really a killer? Related DVD: Gone Girl.
The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer. Juliet Ashton receives a letter from a stranger, a member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. So begins a remarkable tale of Guernsey during the German occupation.


The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien. Fantasy about a hobbit who leaves his comfortable home to go on an adventure with 13 dwarves and a wizard. Related DVD: The Hobbit, Parts 1-3.

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins. In a ravaged future North America, teenagers are forced to fight to death on a televised show. Related DVD: The Hunger Games.

In the Heart of the Sea by Nathaniel Philbrick. The true story that inspired Herman Melville’s Moby-Dick. Related DVD: In the Heart of the Sea.

The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman. An Australian lighthouse keeper and his wife find a boat bearing a dead man and a living baby and decide to keep the baby despite the husband’s misgivings. Related DVD: The Light Between Oceans.

Little Heathens by Mildred Armstrong Kalish. One woman’s memories of growing up in Iowa during the Great Depression. Related DVD: The People in the Pictures: Stories from the Wettach Farm Photos.

Lone Wolf by Jodi Picoult. A novel that looks at the intersection between medical science and moral choices, as siblings disagree over whether to keep their comatose father on life support.

A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck. Warm, humorous fiction about two young siblings from Chicago spending summers from 1929-1942 with their unforgettable grandmother in central Illinois.

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson. Major Ernest Pettigrew, honor-bound Englishman and widower, falls for Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper in their village.

The Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett. A treasure worth killing for. Sam Spade, a private eye with his own solitary code of ethics. Brigid O’Shaughnessy, a beautiful and treacherous woman whose loyalties shift at the drop of a dime. These are the ingredients of this coolly glittering gem of detective fiction, a novel that has haunted three generations of readers. Related DVD: The Maltese Falcon.
Make It Mighty Ugly: Exercises & Advice for Getting Creative Even When It Ain’t Pretty by Kim Piper Werker. In a creative rut? Use this book to give it a boost. Plan a fun group night around it, using cast-off items to create ugly creatures.

Me Before You by Jojo Moyes. A girl with an ordinary life is hired as the caretaker for a thrill-seeking former executive now paralyzed after an accident. Related DVD: Me Before You.

Milk and Honey by Rupi Kaur. This is a collection of poetry and prose about survival. About the experience of violence, abuse, love, loss, and femininity. It takes readers through a journey of the most bitter moments in life and finds sweetness in them because there is sweetness everywhere if you are just willing to look.

**NEW** The Mountain Between Us by Charles Martin. Two strangers survive a plane crash and find themselves stranded in remote wilderness in the dead of winter, injured and miles from civilization. Their reliance on each other sparks an immediate connection, which soon evolves into something more. The movie version is due out in late 2017.

**NEW** Ready Player One by Ernest Cline. A futuristic look back at the 1980s set in 2044 and featuring a contest to win a fortune by finding clues and solving puzzles inside a virtual reality called the OASIS. The movie version is due out in early 2018.

Reservation Blues by Sherman Alexie. Fiction about a bluesman’s gift of a guitar to a Native American on a reservation. Related DVD: Chiefs.

Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northup. Memoir of a black man who was born free in New York State but was kidnapped, sold into slavery and kept in bondage for 12 years in Louisiana. Related DVD: Twelve Years a Slave.

Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand. In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was a delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a talent that carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight and life as a Japanese POW. An unforgettable testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit. Related DVD: Unbroken.


The Vow by Kim and Krickitt Carpenter. Tells the true story of a couple in a car accident that left the wife with no memory of their marriage. Related DVD: The Vow.