Books to consider for Current Reading 2017-2018

1.      **A Constellation of Vital Phenomena**                       by Anthony Marra  419pp  Historical fiction

In the final days of December 2004, in a small rural village in Chechnya, a tough minded doctor harbors 8-year-old Havaa in an abandoned hospital.

[https://www.amazon.com/Constellation-Phenomena-Thorndike-Reviewers-Choice/dp/1410462048/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430081&sr=1-1&keywords=1.%09A+Constellation+of+Vital+Phenomena](https://www.amazon.com/Constellation-Phenomena-Thorndike-Reviewers-Choice/dp/1410462048/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430081&sr=1-1&keywords=1.%09A+Constellation+of+Vital+Phenomena" \t "_blank)

2.      **A Gentleman in Moscow**      by Amor Towles 480pp historical fiction

In 1922, poet Count Alexander Rostov is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel. [https://www.amazon.com/Gentleman-Moscow-Novel-Amor-Towles/dp/0670026190/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430481&sr=1-1&keywords=a+gentleman+in+moscow+amor+towles](https://www.amazon.com/Gentleman-Moscow-Novel-Amor-Towles/dp/0670026190/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430481&sr=1-1&keywords=a+gentleman+in+moscow+amor+towles" \t "_blank)

3.      **A Tree Grows in Brooklyn**      by Betty Smith 528pp  Classic, fiction

A young girl coming of age in Brooklyn at the turn of the last century

[https://www.amazon.com/Tree-Grows-Brooklyn-Modern-Classics/dp/0061120073/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430548&sr=1-1&keywords=a+tree+grows+in+brooklyn](https://www.amazon.com/Tree-Grows-Brooklyn-Modern-Classics/dp/0061120073/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430548&sr=1-1&keywords=a+tree+grows+in+brooklyn" \t "_blank)

4.      **Agent Zig Zag: A True Story of Nazi Espionage, Love, and Betrayal**by Ben Macintyre 364pp  Historical

Eddie Chapman was a charming criminal, a con man, and a philanderer. He was also one of the most remarkable double agents Britain ever produced.[https://www.amazon.com/Agent-Zigzag-Story-Espionage-Betrayal/dp/0307353419/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430740&sr=1-1&keywords=agent+zigzag+by+ben+macintyre](https://www.amazon.com/Agent-Zigzag-Story-Espionage-Betrayal/dp/0307353419/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430740&sr=1-1&keywords=agent+zigzag+by+ben+macintyre" \t "_blank)

5.      **Americanah**    by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie           588pp novel

—a love story of race and identity. Novel.  [https://www.amazon.com/Americanah-Chimamanda-Ngozi-Adichie/dp/0307455920/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430950&sr=1-1&keywords=americanah+by+chimamanda+ngozi+adichie](https://www.amazon.com/Americanah-Chimamanda-Ngozi-Adichie/dp/0307455920/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491430950&sr=1-1&keywords=americanah+by+chimamanda+ngozi+adichie" \t "_blank)

6.      **Art of Hearing Heartbeats**                by    336pp Novel

Love story set in Burma between 1950's and the present. A daughter searches to find the truth about why her father abandoned her and her mother. https://www.amazon.com/Art-Hearing-Heartbeats-Jan-Philipp-Sendker-ebook/dp/B06XS1XDZX/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492111918&sr=1-1&keywords=art+of+hearing+heart+beats

7.      **Aviator’s Wife**                       by Melanie Benjamin   417pp  Historical Fiction

A fictionalized account of the life of Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

[https://www.amazon.com/Aviators-Wife-Novel-Melanie-Benjamin-ebook/dp/B0092EE3K8/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492041409&sr=1-1&keywords=aviators+wife](https://www.amazon.com/Aviators-Wife-Novel-Melanie-Benjamin-ebook/dp/B0092EE3K8/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492041409&sr=1-1&keywords=aviators+wife" \t "_blank)

8.      **Book Shop on the Corner**     by  Jenny Colgan   368pp  novel

Nina Redmond is a librarian with a gift for finding the perfect book for her readers. But can she write her own happy-ever-after? [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B019WVTM4W/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?\_encoding=UTF8&btkr](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B019WVTM4W/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?_encoding=UTF8&btkr" \t "_blank)=1

9.      **Citizens of London**     by Lynn Olson  471pp on-fiction

Behind-the-scenes story of how the United States forged its wartime alliance with Britain, told from the perspective of three key American players in London[https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00362XLI2/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?\_encoding=UTF8&btkr=1](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00362XLI2/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?_encoding=UTF8&btkr=1" \t "_blank)

**10.**  **City on Fire by**[Garth Risk Hallberg](https://www.amazon.com/Garth-Risk-Hallberg/e/B002A0AIUA/ref=dp_byline_cont_ebooks_1" \t "_blank)**946pp**

The novel reveals a vast and varied web of characters whose lives intertwine around a shooting and the New York City blackout of 1977

https://www.amazon.com/City-Fire-Garth-Risk-Hallberg-ebook/dp/B00R04GCTC/ref=sr\_1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1492044606&sr=8-1&keywords=city+on+fire+book

11.  **Commonwealth**         by Ann Patchett  336pp novel

This domestic drama swept me up into the lives of the Cousins and Keating families as Patchett deftly revealed secrets and tragedies over the span of five decades. [https://www.amazon.com/Commonwealth-Ann-Patchett-ebook/dp/B019C40Z7M/ref=sr\_1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1492044890&sr=8-1&keywords=Commonwealth](https://www.amazon.com/Commonwealth-Ann-Patchett-ebook/dp/B019C40Z7M/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1492044890&sr=8-1&keywords=Commonwealth" \t "_blank)

12.  **Etched in Sand**           by Regina Calcatterra   320pp

In this story of perseverance in the face of adversity, Calcaterra recounts her childhood in foster care and on the streets. https://www.amazon.com/Etched-Sand-Unspeakable-Childhood-Paperback/dp/B00HTJSDSQ/ref=sr\_1\_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492104311&sr=1-2&keywords=etched+in+sand+regina+calcaterra

13.  **Exit West**        Mohsin Hamid  238pp

Saeed and Nadia meet in a city torn by war. When things get worse they decide to migrate. First to a Greek Island, then to Britain, and end up in America. [https://www.amazon.com/Exit-West-Novel-Mohsin-Hamid-ebook/dp/B01H17U9OQ/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492104537&sr=1-1&keywords=exit+west](https://www.amazon.com/Exit-West-Novel-Mohsin-Hamid-ebook/dp/B01H17U9OQ/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492104537&sr=1-1&keywords=exit+west" \t "_blank)

14.  **Flight of the Sparrow**                        by Amy Belding Brown  368 pp historical

*Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1676*  Mary Rowlandson was captured by Indians on a winter day of violence and terror. Can she ever return to her prior life? This narrative explores the real meanings of freedom, faith, and acceptance. Historical   [https://www.amazon.com/Flight-Sparrow-Novel-Early-America/dp/0451466691/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491431543&sr=1-1&keywords=flight+of+the+sparrow+a+novel+of+early+america+by+amy+belding+brown](https://www.amazon.com/Flight-Sparrow-Novel-Early-America/dp/0451466691/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1491431543&sr=1-1&keywords=flight+of+the+sparrow+a+novel+of+early+america+by+amy+belding+brown" \t "_blank)

15.  **Fortunate One**           by Ellen Umansky  336pp historical fiction

One very special work of art—a Chaim Soutine painting—will connect the lives and fates of two different women, generations apart.

https://www.amazon.com/Fortunate-Ones-Novel-Ellen-Umansky-ebook/dp/B01FQPERTI/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492105691&sr=1-1&keywords=the+fortunate+ones+by+ellen+umansky

16.  **Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption**     Bryan Stevenson 358pp    memoir

A searing, moving and infuriating memoir  of a man representing the innocent, the inadequately defended, the children, the domestic abuse survivors, the mentally ill—the imprisoned . https://www.amazon.com/Just-Mercy-Story-Justice-Redemption/dp/081298496X/ref=sr\_1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1491583157&sr=8-1&keywords=just+mercy+bryan+Stevenson

17.  **Kitchen Boy**by RobertAlexander 224pp

The final days of the last Russian tsar, Nicholas II, and his family as recounted by a lowly kitchen boy https://www.amazon.com/Kitchen-Boy-Novel-Last-Tsar-ebook/dp/B000OCXI94/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492105771&sr=1-1&keywords=kitchen+boy+novel+of+the+last+tsar

18.  **Lab Girl**by Hope Jahren   306pp memoir

Jahren’s remarkable memoir is both personal odyssey and the story of her profound affinity with the natural world. https://www.amazon.com/Lab-Girl-Hope-Jahren-ebook/dp/B00Z3FYQS4/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492106020&sr=1-1&keywords=lab+girl+by+hope+jahren

19.  **Last Days of Night**by Graham Moore  385pp historical fiction

Westinghouse takes on Thomas Edison in a battle over lightbulb patents, the story includes crimes and a mystery woman set in the Guilded Age

https://www.amazon.com/Last-Days-Night-Novel-ebook/dp/B01A4AXM3W/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492106315&sr=1-1&keywords=the+last+days+of+night+by+graham+moore

20.  **Lilac Girls**by Martha Hall Kelly  495pp

The lives of three young women during World War II., socialite working, Polish courier, and a German doctor intersect at an infamous Nazi concentration camp for women, https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\_sb\_ss\_i\_2\_11?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=lilac+girls+by+martha+hall+kelly&sprefix=lilac+Girls%2Cstripbooks%2C132&crid=3LO4Z3L6TILF6&rh=n%3A283155%2Ck%3Alilac+girls+by+martha+hall+kelly

21.  **High Noon: The Hollywood Blacklist and the Making of an American Classic Making of the Movie**by Glen Frankle 375pp

https://www.amazon.com/High-Noon-Hollywood-Blacklist-American-ebook/dp/B01N906ZBX/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492106785&sr=1-1&keywords=glen+frankel

22.  **Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling**           by Ross King   - nonfiction 385pp

 A biography of Michelangelo and the Sistine chapel

https://www.amazon.com/Michelangelo-Popes-Ceiling-Ross-King-ebook/dp/B00N8LIIH0/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492111617&sr=1-1&keywords=michelangelo+and+the+popes+ceiling

23.  **Murder at San Simeon**          by Robert Lee Hall 228pp  mystery

https://www.amazon.com/MURDER-AT-SAN-SIMEON-Suspense/dp/0684804239/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492107026&sr=1-1&keywords=murder+at+san+simeon

24.  **Orient Express**            by Agatha Christie mystery 256pp mystery

Aboard the famed Orient Express passenger train, Belgian detective Hercule Poirot is faced with a murder to solve. https://www.amazon.com/Murder-Orient-Express-Hercule-Mystery-ebook/dp/B000FC12Z0/ref=sr\_1\_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492107091&sr=1-2&keywords=orient+express

25.  **Romantic Outlaws: the Extraordinary Lives of Mary Wollstonecraft and her Daughter Mary Shelley**  by Charlotte Gordon  672pp

This dual biography brings to life a pioneering English feminist and the daughter she never knew https://www.amazon.com/Romantic-Outlaws-Extraordinary-Wollstonecraft-2016-02-25/dp/B01N2ZIRMA/ref=sr\_1\_fkmr0\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492109333&sr=1-1-fkmr0&keywords=25.%09Romantic+Outlaws%3A+the+Extraordinary+Lives+of+Mary+Wollstonecraft+and+her+Daughter+Mary+Shelley

**26.**  **Snobs**[Julian Fellowes](https://www.amazon.com/Julian-Fellowes/e/B001HCZWP8/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1" \t "_blank)**704pp**

One of the most eligible young aristocrats in England proposes to the daughter of a moderately successful accountant and social-climbing mother.https://www.amazon.com/Society-Rules-Novels-Snobs-Imperfect/dp/1250119618/ref=sr\_1\_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492109599&sr=1-2&keywords=snobs

27.  **Storied Life**by Gabriele Zevin 290pp

A baby left at the bookstore of a cantankerous shop owner breathes new life into the shop https://www.amazon.com/Storied-Life-J-Fikry-Novel-ebook/dp/B00GU2RLMC/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492110656&sr=1-1&keywords=the+storied+life+of+a.j.+fikry+by+gabrielle+zevin

28.  **Swing Time**     Zadie Smith 461pp

Two young black girls grow up in the same low income project in North London, both interested in dance, only one actually good at it.https://www.amazon.com/Swing-Time-Zadie-Smith-ebook/dp/B01D9H1Q2Q/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492110826&sr=1-1&keywords=swing+time+zadie+smith

29.  **The Jazz Palace**           by Mary Morris  258pp

A story of two families in Chicago, in a world of gangsters, musicians, and clubs in the 1920’s  https://www.amazon.com/Jazz-Palace-Novel-Mary-Morris-ebook/dp/B00N6PD0FI/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492110907&sr=1-1&keywords=jazz+palace

30.  **Time and Again**          by Jack Finney 404pp novel

An adman in the 20th century is one of a few chosen to take part in various time travels developed very secretly under secure auspices.https://www.amazon.com/Time-Again-Book-1-ebook/dp/B00AK9IY0O/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492111090&sr=1-1&keywords=time+and+again+by+jack+finney

31.  **To the Bright Edge of the World**     by Eowyn Ivy 717pp novel

A contemporary relative donates to a small museum the journals and other artifacts from an 1885 expedition. https://www.amazon.com/Bright-Edge-World-Novel-ebook/dp/B01922I2AQ/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492111286&sr=1-1&keywords=eowyn+ivey+to+the+bright+edge+of+the+world

32.  **Underground Railroad**          by Colson Whitehead  322pp

A creative interpretation of a *physical* underground railroad

https://www.amazon.com/Underground-Railroad-National-Winner-Oprahs-ebook/dp/B01A4ATV0A/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1492111394&sr=1-1&keywords=underground+railroad