



## Staff Picks - November 2023

Horsham - Edenhope - Goroke - Harrow - Kaniva

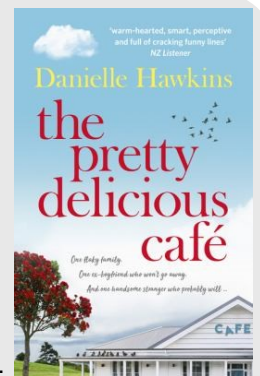
Welcome to our monthly Staff Picks newsletter where we share with you what we are reading, listening to or watching!

### The Pretty Delicious Cafe

Danielle Hawkins

Book, BorrowBox eAudiobook, BorrowBox eBook

On the outskirts of a small New Zealand seaside town, Lia and her friend Anna work serious hours running their restored cafe. The busy season is just around the corner, and there are other things to occupy them. Anna is about to marry Lia's twin brother, and Lia's ex-boyfriend seems not to understand it's over. When a gorgeous stranger taps on Lia's window near midnight and turns out not to be a serial killer, she feels it's a promising sign. But the past won't let them be, and Lia must decide whether events rule her life or she does. The Pretty Delicious Cafe will remind you of those special, good things we love about living. And the food is great. A warm, witty novel, brimming with the trademark romance, friendship and eccentricity that Danielle Hawkins's fans adore.

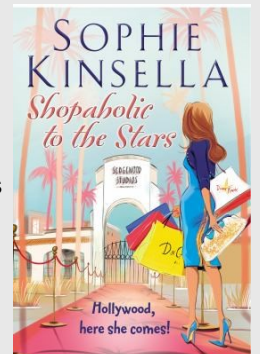


### Shopaholic to the Stars

Sophie Kinsella

Book

Becky Brandon (nee Bloomwood) newly arrived in Hollywood and starry-eyed. She and her two-year-old daughter, Minnie, have relocated to L.A. to join Becky's husband, Luke, who is there to handle PR for famous actress Sage Seymour. Becky can't wait to start living the A-list lifestyle, complete with celebrity sightings, yoga retreats, and shopping trips to Rodeo Drive. But she really hopes to become a personal stylist--Sage's personal stylist--if only Luke would set up an introduction. Then, unexpectedly, Becky is offered the chance to dress Sage's archrival, and though things become a bit more complicated, it's a dream come true! Red carpet premieres, velvet ropes, paparazzi clamoring for attention--suddenly Becky has everything she's ever wanted. Or does she?



### Romantic Comedy

Curtis Sittenfeld

Book, BorrowBox eBook

With a series of heartbreaks under her belt, Sally Milz - successful script writer for a legendary late-night TV comedy show - has long abandoned the search for love. But when her friend and fellow writer begins to date a glamorous actress, he joins the growing club of interesting but average-looking men who get romantically involved with accomplished, beautiful women. Sally channels her annoyance into a sketch, poking fun at this 'social rule'. The reverse never happens for a woman. Then Sally meets Noah, a pop idol with a reputation for dating models. But this isn't a romantic comedy - it's real life. Would someone like him ever date someone like her?

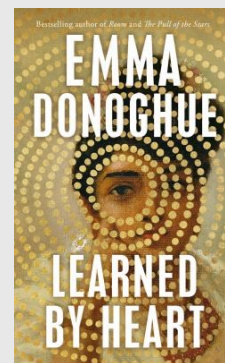


## Learned by Heart

Emma Donoghue

Book, Borrowbox eBook

In 1805, at a boarding school in York, two fourteen-year-old girls first meet. Eliza Raine, the orphan daughter of an Indian mother, keeps herself apart from the other girls, tired of being picked out for being different. Anne Lister, a gifted troublemaker, is determined to conquer the world, refusing to bow to society's expectations of what a woman can do. As they fall in love, the connection they forge will remain with them for the rest of their lives.

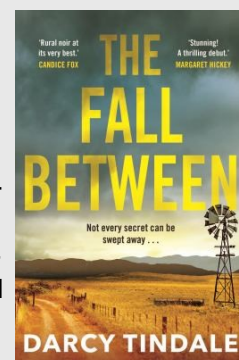


## The Fall Between

Darcy Tindale

Book, Borrowbox eBook

On a hot November morning, the first body lies in a cattle trough . . . It will be another two hours before rigor mortis sets in. Until then, the slim fingers will float below the water's surface, gently bobbing, beckoning Detective Giles to come and find her. Detective Rebecca Giles has just finished interviewing aging petty crim Sticky Pete over a spate of break-and-enters when a disturbing new report comes in. Twelve-year-old Kayleen Ellis has vanished from her home in Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley. Hours later, Giles is a local hero, having apparently solved Kayleen's case and the spate of jewellery thefts. Then, the body of young jillaroo Ava Emmerson is discovered in gruesome circumstances on a nearby farm. Giles is convinced the link between all three cases lies in the town's tragic history, perhaps even in her own mother's mysterious drowning thirty years ago.

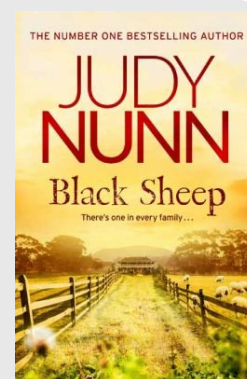


## Black Sheep

Judy Nunn

Book

Orphaned at sixteen, James Wakefield was determined to be a gun shearer like his father. Now he's killed twice, changed his name, and is on the run from the law. He had his reasons for both murders, and he felt no joy in taking life. Or did he? Ben McKinnon, meanwhile, is heir to the vast Glenfinnan sheep property near Goulburn, New South Wales. He too has a secret that, if ever revealed, would shatter the privileged lives of his father, Alastair, and his sisters, Jenna and Adele. When fate brings James and Ben together, a powerful friendship is forged, both men gladly becoming the keeper of the other's secret. Then Ben insists his new friend come to work at Glenfinnan Station. Has James finally found the family he's always longed for?

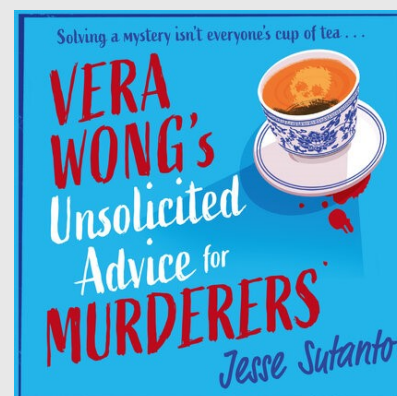


## Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers

Jesse Sutanto

BorrowBox eAudiobook

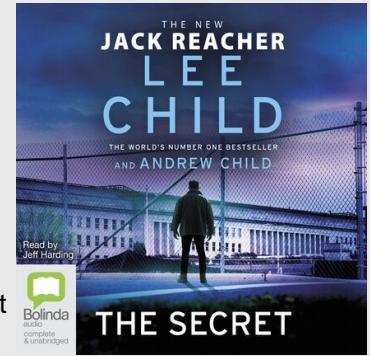
Sixty-year-old self-proclaimed tea expert Vera Wong enjoys nothing more than sipping a good cup of Wulong and doing some healthy 'detective' work on the internet (AKA checking up on her son to see if he's dating anybody yet). But when Vera wakes up one morning to find a dead man in the middle of her tea shop, it's going to take more than a strong Longjing to fix things. Knowing she'll do a better job than the police possibly could – because nobody sniffs out a wrongdoing quite like a suspicious Chinese mother with time on her hands – Vera decides it's down to her to catch the killer. Nobody spills the tea like this amateur sleuth.



## The Secret

Lee Child & Andrew Child  
BorrowBox eAudiobook

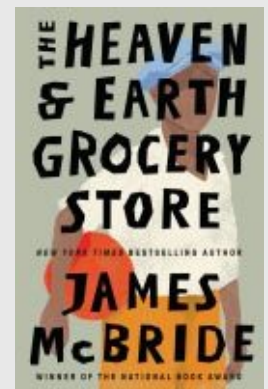
1992. Eight respectable, upstanding people have been found dead across the US. These deaths look like accidents and don't appear to be connected. Until one body – the victim of a fatal fall from a hospital window – generates some unexpected attention. That attention comes from the Secretary of Defense, who promptly calls for an inter-agency task force to investigate. Jack Reacher is assigned as the Army's representative. Reacher may be an exceptional soldier, but sweeping other people's secrets under the carpet isn't part of his skill set. As he races to discover the link between these victims, and who killed them, he must navigate around the ulterior motives of his new 'partners'. And all while moving into the sight line of some of the most dangerous people he has ever encountered.



## The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store

James McBride  
Book

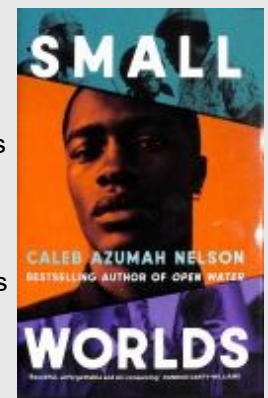
In 1972, the last thing workers in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, expected to find while digging the foundations for a new development was a skeleton at the bottom of a well. Who the skeleton was and how it got there were two of the long-held secrets kept by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighbourhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side.



## Small Worlds

Caleb Azumah Nelson  
Book

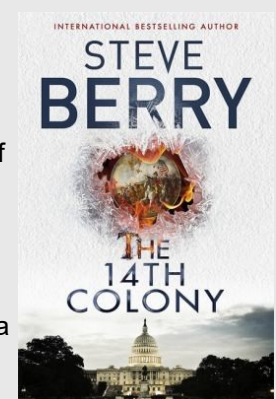
The one thing that can solve Stephen's problems is dancing. Dancing at Church, with his parents and brother, the shimmer of Black hands raised in praise; he might have lost his faith, but he does believe in rhythm. Dancing with his friends, somewhere in a basement with the drums about to drop, while the DJ spins garage cuts. Dancing alone, at home, to his father's records, uncovering parts of a man he has never truly known. Stephen has only ever known himself in song. But what becomes of him when the music fades? When his father begins to speak of shame and sacrifice, when his home is no longer his own? How will he find space for himself- a place where he can feel beautiful, a place he might feel free?



## The 14th Colony

Steve Berry  
Book

What happens if both the president and vice-president-elect die before taking the oath of office? The answer is far from certain--in fact, what follows would be nothing short of total political chaos. Shot down over Siberia, ex-Justice Department agent Cotton Malone is forced into a fight for survival against Aleksandr Zorin, a man whose loyalty to the former Soviet Union has festered for decades into an intense hatred of the United States. Before escaping, Malone learns that Zorin and another ex-KGB officer, this one a sleeper still embedded in the West, are headed overseas to Washington D.C. Inauguration Day--noon on January 20th--is only hours away.





## Staff Picks Teen - November 2023

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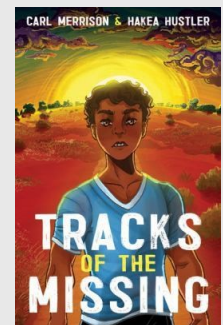
Welcome to our monthly Staff Picks newsletter where we share with you what young adult content we're reading and recommend our favourites.

### Tracks of the Missing

Carl Merrison & Hakea Hustler

Borrowbox eBook and eAudiobook, Book

Deklan 'Dek' Archer and his mates arrive at school to a tense atmosphere. 'Old Mate', Mr Henry has been found murdered. To add to these worries, the Year 12s, who were on camp, are now missing. The police think there is a link between the missing students and the murder. Dek and his friends are torn. Dek and Willum, his best mate, have an important football match, the professional recruiters are in town. Neither wants to let their coach down but they feel they must search for their friends.

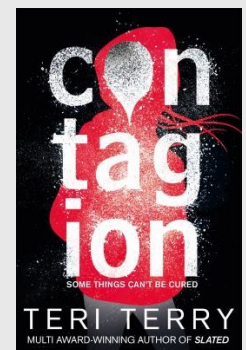


### Contagion

Teri Terry

Book, Hoopla eBook

An epidemic is sweeping the country. There is no cure; and you cannot be permitted to infect others. The very few of the infected who survive are dangerous and will be taken into the custody of the army. Young runaway Callie survived the disease, but not the so-called treatment. Her brother Kai is still looking for her. And his new friend Shay may hold the key to uncovering what truly happened.

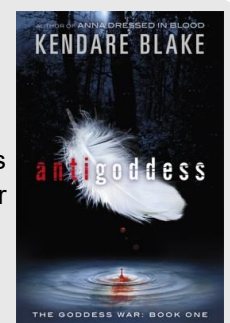


### Antigoddess

Kendare Blake

Book

Athena and Hermes' search for the cause of their unexpected, life-threatening illnesses leads them to Cassandra, a former propheticess, who may be key to a war started by Hera and other Olympians who have become corrupt anti-gods determined to destroy their rivals.



### The Inheritance Games

Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Book, Borrowbox eBook

Avery has a plan: keep her head down, work hard for a better future. Then an eccentric billionaire dies, leaving her almost his entire fortune. And no one, least of all Avery, knows why. They had everything. Now she must move into the mansion she's inherited. It's filled with secrets and codes, and the old man's surviving relatives - a family hell-bent on discovering why Avery got 'their' money. Now there's only one rule: winner takes all.





## Staff Picks Junior - November 2023

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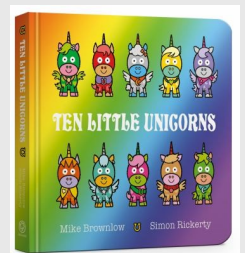
Welcome to our monthly Staff Picks newsletter where we share with you recommendations for our favourite childrens' content.

### Ten Little Unicorns

Michael Brownlow

Picture Book

Join ten magical little unicorns for fairy tale fun in this enchanting rhyming adventure! It's Princess Petal's birthday, but - oh no! - her cake is nowhere to be seen! Can ten brave little unicorns find the missing cake in time for the royal birthday party?

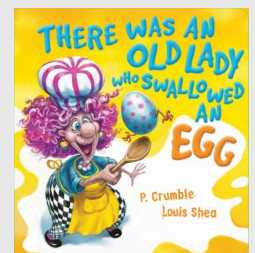


### There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed An Egg

P. Crumble

Picture Book

There was an old lady who swallowed an egg. I don't know why she swallowed the egg...I'm not pulling your leg! The old lady is cooking up a storm, and her appetite is as HUGE as ever! All the animals had better get out of her way, or they'll be on the menu too!

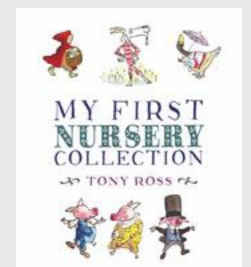


### My First Nursery Collection

Tony Ross

Book

Includes forty-eight favourite nursery rhymes and eight timeless first nursery story classics: The Three Billy Goats Gruff, Henny-Penny, The Gingerbread Man, Three Little Pigs, The Enormous Turnip, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk and Goldilocks.

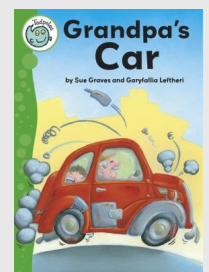


### Grandpa's Car

Sue Graves

Junior Fiction Book

Brightly illustrated first reading books with large text format. Perfect for newly independent readers; repetitive text of no more than 80 words interacts with images to help with decoding and develop visual literacy. Compiled in consultation with literacy experts



### A Pirate's Mother Goose

Nancy I. Sanders

Picture book, Hoopla eBook

A silly selection of popular Mother Goose rhymes featuring pirate themes.

