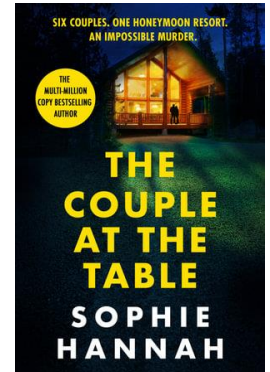


The couple at the table by Sophie Hannah



Six couples are at a holiday resort when one couple gets a disturbing warning whilst eating their dinner. Unaware which of the couples is out to harm them, one of them is then murdered and the police fail to solve the case.

Reviewed by
Pat

Set in the present, with flashbacks to happenings leading to the murder, this seemingly impossible mystery of who committed the act is slowly played out.

With its almost benign narrative, subtle clues and red herrings, a tale of murder and mayhem with a five-star rating.

A cosy English crime mystery with
Christie-esque chic.

Reserve a copy [here](#)



Silverview

by John Le Carre



Silverview is the last novel by John Le Carre, so it was with a bit of sadness that I began this slim novel. Silverview questions the act of spying and blends the past with the present in a fitting end for the master of spy fiction.

Reviewed by
Donna

Julian Lawndsley has walked away from his life as a high-flyer in London's financial world and has opened a bookshop in a small seaside town. A visit from a mysterious stranger and former spy, Edward Avon, who claims to have known his disgraced father, opens up a world of intrigue and misplaced loyalties.

Avon is being investigated by Stewart Proctor, head of domestic security, witch-finder-in-chief, who is looking for the source of a possible breach – is it a blip, or a lapse, which is worse?

Written in a sparse, dry manner, there are all those trademarks that Le Carre does so well – agent handling and spycraft, tricky family relationships, the legacies of wars and conflicts and the nightmares of bureaucratic bungling.

I really enjoyed Silverview – a compassionate final novel which examines the morality of espionage. As one old spy says to another "I reckon I'd have been more use running a boy's club".

Reserve a copy [here](#)



The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune



The House in the Cerulean Sea is a fun, whimsical fantasy filled with magical characters, that explores the importance of family in all its wonderfully diverse forms.

Reviewed by
Donna

Forty-year-old unassuming Linus Baker is a Case Worker at the Department in Charge of Magical Youth, monitoring the well-being of children in government orphanages.

Extremely Upper Management send Linus to the Marsyas Island Orphanage where six "dangerous" children live: Zoe a sprite, Talia a gnome, Theodore a wyvern, Sal the were-Pomeranian, an unidentified green blob called Chancey and a boy called Lucy aka The Antichrist. All these children are under the loving care of the charming Arthur Parnassus.

Linus comes to question all those things that have given him a sense of order and control. He sees the ugliness of prejudice and ignorance and allows the bubble he has created around himself to break. He finds magic in the ordinary and beauty in the different.

This heart-warming light novel about unconditional love and acceptance is utterly charming. A glimmer of light amidst the darkness.

Reserve a copy [here](#)



Strength to let go by Alina Popescu



So Alina's tale of the werewolf tribes is kind of fun, raunchy and a fun read.

It's a very descriptive, raw and steamy read. Also, an emotionally raw and human exploration of a marriage break up.

I love the authors werewolf world and the narrative is really engaging.

#gaywolfman #queerfiction #queerbooks #gaymen
#lgbt #lgbtreads #lgbtbooks #rainbowreads

I'd recommend for anyone who likes a raunchy supernatural Mills and Boon style read.

Reserve your copy [here](#)



Canticle Creek by Adrian Hyland



Two bodies. One long hot summer. A town that will never be the same.

When Adam Lawson's wrecked car is found a kilometre from Daisy Baker's body, the whole town assumes it's an open and shut case.

But Jesse Redpath isn't from Canticle Creek. Where she comes from, the truth often hides in plain sight, but only if you know where to look.

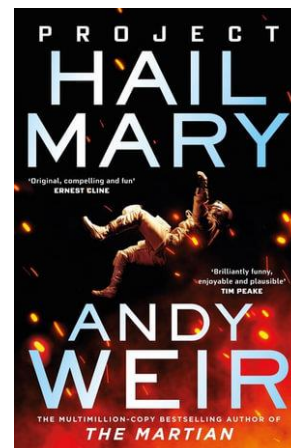
Reviewed by
Pat

A tension filled, suspenseful crime novel set in the ravaging heat of the Northern Territory and Victoria.

Reserve your copy [here](#)



Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir



Ryland Grace is the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission—and if he fails, humanity and the Earth itself will perish.

Reviewed by
Pat

His crewmates dead, his memories fuzzily returning, he realizes that an impossible task now confronts him.

Alone on this tiny ship that's been cobbled together by every government and space agency on the planet and hurled into the depths of space, it's up to him to conquer an extinction-level threat to our species.

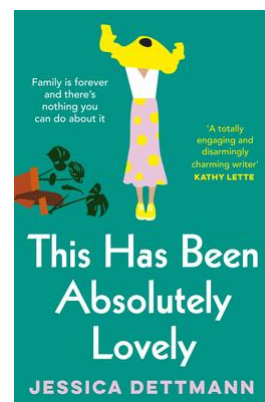
And thanks to an unexpected ally, he just might have a chance.

If you enjoyed *The Martian*,
you will love *Project Hail Mary*!

Reserve your copy [here](#)



This has been absolutely lovely by Jessica Dettmann



Molly's a millennial home organiser about to have her first baby. Obviously, her mum, Annie, will help with the childcare - everyone else's parents are doing it.

But Annie's dreams of music stardom have been on hold for 35 years, paused by childbirth then buried under her responsibilities as a mother, wage earner, wife and only child of ailing parents.

Finally, she can taste freedom. As Molly and her siblings gather in the close quarters of the family home over one fraught summer, shocking revelations come to light.

Everyone is forced to confront the question of what it means to be family.

Relationships, family drama, love, mental health and secrets are just some of the themes in this book.

Cleverly written, engaging and very entertaining.

Reserve a copy [here](#)





Ted Conkaffey Trilogy by Candice Fox

I had held off on reading Candice Fox, I'm not really sure why, and when a colleague of mine suggested *Crimson Lake* I couldn't think of a reason why I shouldn't give it a try!

Candice Fox writes a really good page turner, before I knew it, I was invested in the characters, engrossed in the story and wanting more. So, I read the whole series!

When we meet the main character, former policeman Ted Conkaffey, he has just endured a terrible injustice – imprisoned (although ultimately released) for a crime he didn't commit.

His career is over, his reputation ruined, his marriage is shattered; and he is hunted by a hungry media pack wherever he goes. Running from these demons takes him to *Crimson Lake* in Far North Queensland and into a job as a private investigator working for convicted killer Amanda Pharrell.

Throughout the three books, Ted & Amanda become involved in a series of local cases that invariably end up entangled with their own.

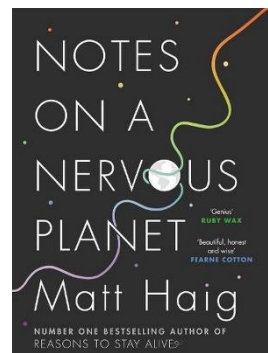
This was an un-put-downable series that I would thoroughly recommend to anyone who loves a good crime!

Reserve your copy [here](#)

Reviewed by
Skye



Notes on a nervous planet by Matt Haig



A follow up to *Reasons to Stay Alive*, a broader look at how modern life feeds our anxiety, and how to live a better life.

The author collects his observations on how the external world effects our mental health. It looks at how the various social, commercial and technological "advancements" that have created the world we now live in can actually hinder our happiness.

Haig examines everything from broader phenomena like inequality, social media, and the news; to things closer to our daily lives, like how we sleep, how we exercise, and even the distinction we draw between our minds and our bodies.

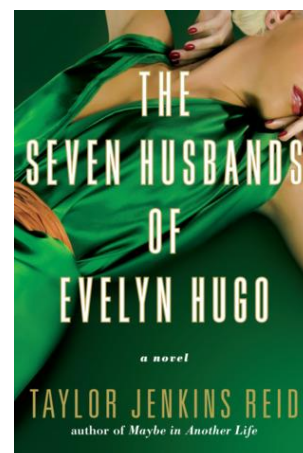
Sometimes you just want to read a book to kick start your soul again.

Reserve a copy [here](#)



Seven husbands of Evelyn Hugo

By Taylor Jenkins Reid



Aging and reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous and scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? Why now?

Reviewed by
Pat

Monique is not exactly on top of the world. Her husband has left her, and her professional life is going nowhere. Regardless of why Evelyn has selected her to write her biography, Monique is determined to use this opportunity to jumpstart her career.

Summoned to Evelyn's luxurious apartment, Monique listens in fascination as the actress tells her story. From making her way to Los Angeles in the 1950s to her decision to leave show business in the '80s, and, of course, the seven husbands along the way, Evelyn unspools a tale of ruthless ambition, unexpected friendship, and a great forbidden love.

Monique begins to feel a very real connection to the legendary star, but as Evelyn's story near its conclusion, it becomes clear that her life intersects with Monique's own in tragic and irreversible ways.

This is an extraordinary and surprising read, perfect for the summer holidays!

Reserve your copy [here](#)

