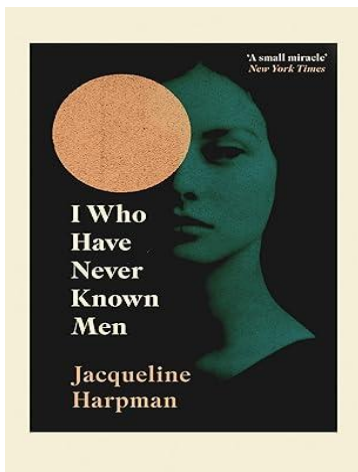


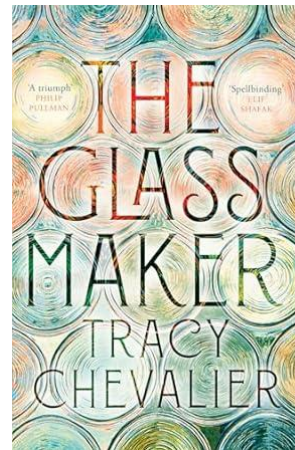
Books we are reading

Fiction



Deb White

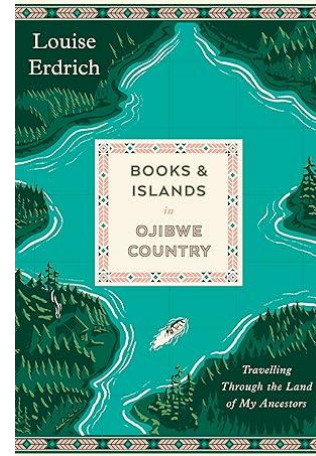
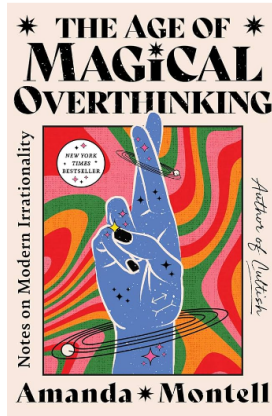
Deep underground, thirty-nine women are kept in isolation in a cage. Above ground, a world awaits. Has it been abandoned? Devastated by a virus? Watched over by guards, the women have no memory of how they got there, no notion of time, and only vague recollection of their lives before. But, as the burn of electric light merges day into night and numberless years pass, a young girl - the fortieth prisoner - sits alone an outcast in the corner.



Jo Colby

Venice, 1486. Across the lagoon lies Murano. Time flows differently here - like the glass the island's maestros spend their lives learning to handle.

Non-fiction



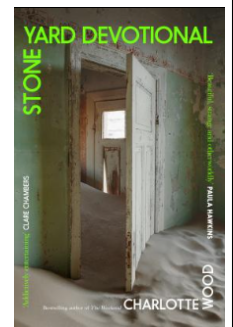
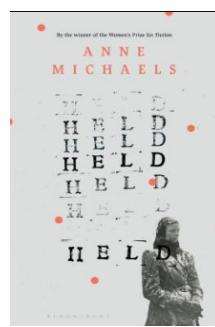
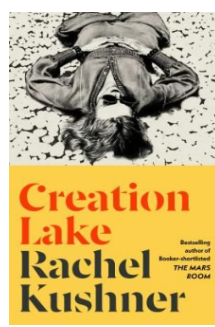
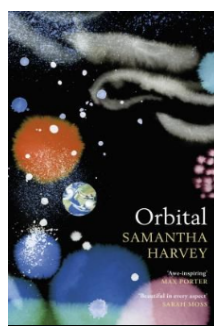
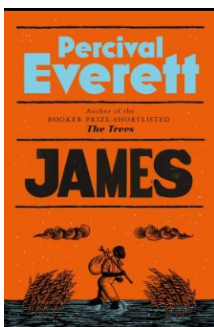
"Empathetic and enviously shrewd, The Age of Magical Overthinking will cleanse your beleaguered mind the ways a TikTok 'guru' never could. Amanda Montell is a relatable and often brazenly funny narrator, as she creates a blueprint to breaking our minds' worst habits. Who knew there was a path out of the forest of brain rot!" *Sabrina Imbler*

Jo Colby

For more than three decades, Louise Erdrich has won prizes, critical acclaim, and the hearts of readers the world over with her spellbinding novels of Native American life.

Drawing on the long, elemental tradition of storytelling that is in her blood, Louise Erdrich skilfully weaves together history, mythology and memoir to enchanting, evocative effect. Never before published in the UK, Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country is a captivating meditation on modern life, nature, and ancient spirituality and creativity.

The Booker Prize 2024 Shortlist



[James](#)
By [Percival Everett](#)

[Orbital](#)
By [Samantha Harvey](#)

[Creation Lake](#)
By [Rachel Kushner](#)

[Held](#)
By [Anne Michaels](#)

[The Safekeep](#)
By [Yael van der Wouden](#)

[Stone Yard Devotional](#)
By [Charlotte Wood](#)

These are the novels shortlisted for the Booker Prize this year. The Booker Prize ceremony took place on the evening of Tuesday, November 12 2024 and the overall winner was *Orbital* by Samantha Harvey.

Why not have a look at them and see if you agree with the judges...

I'm really keen to read *James* by Percival Everett which is a retelling of Mark Twain's 1884 classic, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, from the point of view of Jim, the runaway slave - Deb

Coming up in the library

Come and join us for our [Book Group on Wednesdays during afternoon tutor time](#). We want to have a time in our weeks where we can share book recommendations and chat about our love of reading.

Fiction or non-fiction, we don't care!
Bring a drink and come and have a chat.

13:30 - 13:50 every Week B Wednesday.

Don't forget we have a [Sixth Form Library page on google classroom](#). To join, [use code r7fklzn](#). It has details of competitions, study skills and recommended reading (amongst other things).

[Academic essay competitions](#) please find a selection of competitions currently open for entry below. More details can be found online [here](#).



We believe that no problem is unsolvable and that great ideas come from ALL places. Our community of 13-18 year olds can rise to the challenge and submit a 1-minute video describing their idea for solving environmental issues. And we believe that, together, our ideas can lead to taking action to protect our planet and improve our future. Submissions are now open! Sign up now to receive resources, opportunities to meet virtually with National Geographic Explorers, and reminders for important deadlines.

[More details here](#)

Deadline 7th February 2025



You can talk about any ethical problem you like, as long as responsibility is involved. But if you're having trouble, here are some suggestions to get you started. "How am I responsible for the environment? Should there be limits on how we can punish people who do wrong? If very ill patients want to die, should doctors be held responsible if they help them? Who is responsible for the global spread of infectious diseases?" If these and other questions about our responsibilities towards each other, our planet and our future make you think, then this competition is for you!

In teams of between three and five people send us a video of up to four minutes in length to tell us about an ethical problem and how you think responsibility is involved.

[More details here](#)

Closing date for video entries: 4pm on Monday 6th January 2025

Online access

Remember that we have access to some **online subscriptions**. Access details are below.

Publication	Username	Password
JSTOR https://www.jstor.org/	See Deb or Fran	See Deb or Fran
Newspapers for Schools https://newslibrary.newspapersforschools.co.uk/#/home	See Deb or Fran	See Deb or Fran
Emagazine https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/e-magazine/emag-login/	See Deb or Fran	See Deb or Fran
Babel magazine https://babelzine.co.uk/	See Deb or Fran	See Deb or Fran
Media Magazine https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/media-magazine/	See Deb or Fran	See Deb or Fran

You should definitely sign up for membership of Hampshire Libraries. They offer excellent online resources, all completely free of charge since you study in Hampshire. You can even now join the library online, and download the app BorrowBox to borrow up to 5 each of ebooks and audiobooks.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library>



Hampshire Libraries

Fancy a trip?



<https://www.illuminateguildford.co.uk/>

London literary festival



'Race Today: Black History is British History'
From Friday, 4 October 2024 to Sunday, 2 February 2025
At Black Cultural Archives, Brixton.

This exhibition explores the profound legacy of the Race Today journals, with a focus on the influential period from 1973 to 1988 when the Race Today Collective spearheaded its publication. 'Race Today: Black History is British History' showcases how the journal tackled transnational issues, serving as a critical platform for conversations about both British and global conflicts, while continually pushing boundaries by uncovering the dynamics behind these movements.

The 1970s and 1980s were a turbulent yet defiantly hopeful time for Black communities in Britain. Race Today often captured the challenges and triumphs of this era, addressing a wide range of pressing issues from austerity, workers' strikes, the housing crisis, and police brutality to grassroots activism and uprisings. The journal also amplified the cultural contributions of Black and Asian communities worldwide. This exhibition reflects on the parallels and differences between the narratives and activism covered in Race Today and those shaping society today.

Study tip: Cultivate a Productive Space

Where you study can be just as important as how you study.

Find a space that is free of distractions and has all the materials and supplies you need on hand. Eat a snack and have a water bottle close by so you're properly fueled for your study session.

Our seminar rooms in the Sixth Form Library are perfect places to settle in distraction free, just make sure to book either at reception or at the library desk!

Words in the news

Brat - Collins Dictionary has named "brat" its word of the year for 2024, defining it as someone "characterised by a confident, independent, and hedonistic attitude."

Poetry corner

*"But black history is more than slavery,
There are lots of stories of our bravery.
There's much in our past to celebrate.
Black heroes we should venerate.
Teach children how we fought in world wars,
Helped keep the enemies from our doors.
Tell them we didn't just arrive on a boat;
We were invited to help keep Britain afloat.
Even as far back as Medieval days
We helped to shape the British ways.
Correct the prequel, to secure the sequel.
Let children know that we're all equal."*



An excerpt from the poem 'History is not my Story' by Charlotte Shyllon, included in her new anthology *Black in White Community Collection Volume 2*.

The collection is sourced from the Black in White poetry competition, founded by Charlotte. The themes of the competition are workplace racism and childhood racism.

"Racism is real and it's institutionalised – and schools are no exception. Racism is based on ignorant views that are entrenched and persistent. We need to call out racism wherever it occurs." - Charlotte Shyllon

The T.S. Eliot Prize 2024



Top, L to R: Peter Gizzi (photo © Rick Myers); Karen McCarthy Woolf (photo © Yasmine Akim); Carl Phillips (photo © Reston Allen); Gboyega Odubanjo (photo © Asare Debrah); Katrina Porteous (photo © Tony Griffiths) Bottom, L to R: Hannah Copley (photo © Nick Dennis); Gustav Parker Hibbett (photo © Abbie McNeice); Rachel Mann (photo © KTPphotography); Helen Farish (photo © Phyllis Christopher); Raymond Antrobus (photo © Chantal Lawrie)

The shortlisted entries were announced on 1st October 2024::

- Raymond Antrobus, *Signs, Music* (Picador Poetry)
- Hannah Copley, *Lapwing* (Pavilion Poetry / Liverpool University Press)
- Helen Farish, *The Penny Dropping* (Bloodaxe Books)
- Peter Gizzi, *Fierce Elegy* (Penguin Poetry)
- Gustav Parker Hibbett, *High Jump as Icarus Story* (Banshee Press)
- Rachel Mann, *Eleanor Among the Saints* (Carcanet Press)
- Gboyega Odubanjo, *Adam* (Faber & Faber)
- Carl Phillips, *Scattered Snows, to the North* (Carcanet Press)
- Katrina Porteous, *Rhizodont* (Bloodaxe Books)
- Karen McCarthy Woolf, *Top Doll* (Dialogue Books)

The hugely popular T. S. Eliot Prize 2024 Shortlist [Readings will take place on Sunday 12 January 2025 at 7pm in the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall](#) as part of its literature programme. This is the largest annual poetry event in the UK. Tickets for the Readings are now on sale. A live stream will also be available.

The winner of the 2024 Prize will be announced at the Award Ceremony on [Monday 13 January 2025](#).