

**Please add to and edit this list!**

- Here's the [original thread](#)
- Last updated: 749 comments, 8:22 EDT on July 29, 2023

**Very frequent recommendations**

- *Maud Martha* by Gwendolyn Brooks
- *Foster* and *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan

**Also popular**

- *This is How You Lose the Time War* by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone
- *Department of Speculation* by Jenny Offill
- *Grief is the Thing with Feathers* by Max Porter
- *Pedro Páramo*

**People may like:** [Literary Friction Podcast](#) (and [recommendations](#)). There was a lot of overlap with this list!

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Notes</b>
So Long, See You Tomorrow	William Maxwell	
Tremor	Teju Cole	
Grendel	John Gardner	
Beginning of Spring	Penelope Fitzgerald	
Fourth World	Diamela Eltit	
Dream Story	Arthur Schnitzler	
The Cannibal	John Hawkes	
Academy Street	Mary Costello	
Train Dreams	Denis Johnson	
Holy the Firm	Annie dillard	
The Water Statues	Fleur Jaeggy	
God Jr.	Dennis Cooper	
Duplex	Kathryn Davis	
Grief is the Thing with Feathers	Max Porter	
Housekeeping	Marilynne Robinson	

Ray	Barry Hannah	
The Eye	Nabokov	
Perfume	Patrick Suskind	
On Chesil Beach	Ian McEwen	
Black Dogs	Ian McEwen	
God of Small Things	Arundhati Roy	
Too Loud a Solitude	Bohumil Hrabal	
Death in Spring	Merce Rodoreda	
A Small Place	Jamaica Kincaid	
Small Things Like These	Claire Keegan	
The Loser	Thomas Bernhard	
The Disinvest Movement	Susana Gendall	
Giovanni's Room	Baldwin	
Psalm for the Wild Built	Becky Chambers	
Mother Muse Quintet	Naveen Kishore	
A River Runs Through It		
Mrs. Caliban	Rachel Ingalls	
Silk	Alessandro Barrico	
Ms. Palfrey at the Claremont	Elizabeth Taylor	
Like a Mule Bringing Ice Cream to the Sun	Landipo Manyika	
An Atavic Fear of Hailstorms	João Reis	
In Other Worlds	A A Attanasio	
Foster	Claire Keegan	
High Rise	JG Ballard	
Open Water	Caleb Azumah Nelson	
Chicago: City on the Make		Prose poem

And Our Faces, My Heart, Brief as Photos		
A Month in the County	J L Carr	
We Are the Animals	Justin Torres	
Hour of the Star	Clarice Lispector	
By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept		
	Stefan Zweig	
The White Castle	Orhan Pamuk	
The Pearl	John Steinbeck	<i>And La Perla directed by Fernandez a visual poem</i>
The Surrender Tree	Margarita Engle	
The Plains	Gerald Murnane	
The Obscene Madame D	Hilda Hilst	
Closely Watched Trains	Bohumil Hrabal	
The Ghost Wall	Sarah Moss	
Flyaway	Kathleen Jennings	
Maud Martha	Gwendolyn Brooks	
The House on Mango Street	Sandra Cisneros	
Dreams from Bunker Hill	John Fante	
West	Carys Davis	
The Housekeeper and the Professor	Yoko Ogawa	
Winter in Sokcho	Elisa Shua Dusapin	
Lying Awake	Mark Salzman	✨
Einstein's Dreams	Alan Lightman	
Found Audio	N J Campbell	
Up at the Villa	Somerset Maugham	

An Episode in the Life of a Landscape Painter	Cesar Aira	
The Owl, The Duck, and Miss Rowe	John Cowper Powys	
West	Cary Davies	
The Blue Flower	Penelope Fitzgerald	
Wide Sargasso Sea	Jean Rhys	
Golden Gate	Vikram Seth	
Flush	Virginia Woolf	Technically a biography of a dog
This is How You Lose the Time War		✨
Dandelions	Yasunari Kawabata	
Quicksand	Nella Larsen	
The Summer Book	Tove Jansson	
In the Cut	Susanna Moore	
Birchwood	John Banville	
Bonjour Triste	Marguerite Duras	
Treacle Walker	Alan Garner	
Anything	Jean Rhys	
Who Will Run the Frog Hospital?	Lorrie Moore	
A Dream in Luxembourg	Richard Aldington	
The Fortnight in September	R C Sherriff	
Waiting for Bojangles	Olivier Boudreault	
Swimming in the Dark	Tomasz Jedrowski	
Madonna in a Fur Coat	Sabhattin Ali	
Log of the SS Mrs. Urgentine	Stanley Crawford	

Machine	Peter Adolphsen	
Written on the Body	Jeanette Winterson	
Hour of the Star	Clarice Lispector	
Edinburgh	Alexander Chee	
The Whale Tattoo	John Ransom	
So Long, See You Tomorrow	William Maxwell	
The Geometer Lobachevsky	Adrian Duncan	
Slow Days, Fast Company: The world, the flesh, and LA	Eve Babitz	
The Yellow Rain	Julio Llamazares (trans. Margaret Jill costa)	
Academy Street	Mary Costello	
Last Night at the Lobster	Stewart O’Nan	<i>Save for a snowy day</i>
The Tunnel	Sabato	
No One Writes to the Colonel	Gabriel Garcia Marquez	
Cold Enough for Snow	Jessica Au	
On Schedule Beach	McEwan	
Snow, Dog, Foot	Morandini	
At Night All Blood is Black	David Diop	
Piranesi	Susanna Clarke	
Bariloche	Andres Neuman	
Fourth Island	Sarah Tolmie	
Hunger	Knut Hamsen	
Garbage	A R Ammons	Prose Poem
The House Uptown	Melissa Ginsburg	
The Member of the Wedding	Carson McCullers	
Why the Child is Cooking in the Polenta	Aglaja Veteranyi	

Relatively Unknown by Chita	Lafacadio	
Ethan Frome	Edith Wharton	
Cannery Row	Steinbeck	
The Death of Vivek Oji	Akwaeke Emezi	
Train Dreams	Denis Johnson	
The Bridegroom was a Dog	Yoko Tawada	
Like Water for Chocolate	Laura Esquivel	
Franny and Zooey	Salinger	
The Wife	Ethan Frome	
Invisible Cities	Calvino	
Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold	C S Lewis	
A Mountain to the North, A Lake to the South, Paths to the West, a River to the East	László Krasznahorkai	
Bluets	Maggie Nelson	
Story of a Brief Marriage	Anuk Arudpragasam	
Salter: A Sport and Pastime	Malouf	
The Vegetarian	Han Kang	
The White Book	Han Kang (trans. Smith)	
My Dead Book	Nate Lippen	
	Peter Handke	
Paris, When It's Naked	Etel Adnan	
Brokeback Mountain	Annie Proulx	
On Love and Other Demons	G Garcia Marquez	
Ghost Wall	Sarah Moss	
Written on the Body	J Winterson	
	Jean-Philippe Toussaint	

Permafrost	Eva Baltasar	
Kitchen	Banana Yoshimoto	
Die. My Love	Ariana Harwicz	
Ongoingness: The end of a diary	Sarah Manguso	
The Samurai's Garden	Gail Tsukiyama	
The Annual Migration of Clouds	Premee Mohamd	
Why Did I Ever	Mary Robinson	
The Sarah Book	Scott McLanhan	
Cat's Cradle	Vonnegut	
Life and Death of Harriet Frea	May Sinclair	
The Instant	Amy Liptrot	
Sexing the Cherry	Jeanette Winterson	
To Keep the Sun Alive	Ghaffari	
	Alessandro Baricco	
The Embassy of Cambodia	Zadie Smith	
A Place Called No HomeLand	Kai Cheng Thom	
Sula	Toni Morrison	
The Ponder Heart	Eudora Welty	
The Blue Flower	Penelope Fitzgerald	
The Peregrine	J A Baker	<i>Technically non-fiction, stay for the prose</i>
The Yellow Wallpaper	Gilman	
Love in a Blue Time	Hanif Kureishi	
The Sorrows of Young Werther	Goethe	

Plain Pleasures	Jane Bowles	
On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous	Ocean Vuong	
Rituals PErformed in the Absence of Ganymede	Mike Corrao	
Cold Enough for Snow	Jessica Au	
Department of Speculation	Jenny Ofill	
A Single Man	Christopher Isherwood	
Levels of Life	Julian Barnes	<i>Mixed genre</i>
	Raymond Carver	
So Long a Letter	Mariame Ba	
The Aspen Papers	Henry James	
The Turn of the Screw	Henry James	
Fish in Exile	Vi Khi Nao	
Agua Viva	Clarice Lispector	
Letters from a Seducer	Hilst	
Lincoln in the Bardo	Saunders	
The Stranger	Albert Camus	
Jonathan Livingston Seagull	Richard Bach	
The Sense of an Ending	Julian Barnes	
Women Without Men	Sharnush Parsipur	
The skin is an elastic sheath that surrounds the entire body	Rasmussen	
Music of Life	Andrei Makin's	
Desperate Characters	Raula Fox	
Pax	Pennypacker	
Burntcoat	Sarah Hall	



The Awakening	Kate Chopin	
Lolly Willowes	Sylvia Townsend Warner	
Behind the Attic	Sylvia Townsend Warner	
em	Kim Thuy	
Stoner	John williams	
Fever Dream	Samanta Schweblin	
The Beauty	Aliya Whiteley	
Morning and Evening	John Fosse	Also Aliss at the Fire
Cold Nights of Childhood	Tezer Oziü	
The Lady Who Liked to Clean Restrooms	J P Donleavy	
Mother Tongue	Demetria Martinez	
The Hearing Trumpet	Leonora Carrington	
A Feather on the Breath of God	Sigrid Nuñez	

**Pedro Páramo by Juan Rulfo**  
**No Longer Human, by Osamu Dazai**  
**The Palm Wine Drinkard, by Amos Tutuola**  
**Story of the Eye by Georges Bataille**  
**Animalinside by László Krasznahorka**  
**The Lover, by Marguerite Duras**  
**The Weight of Things by Marianne Fritz**  
**Ghosts by César Aira**  
**Dusklands by J. M. Coetzee**  
**The Passion According to G.H. by Clarice Lispector**  
**Ice by Anna Kavan**

**The Fourth World by Diamela Eltit, Dream Story by Arthur Schnitzler, The Cannibal by John Hawkes, Annotations by John Keene, The Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka, Pedro Paramo by Juan Rulfo, Hell Has No Limits by José Donoso, and The Halfway House by Guillermo Rosales! y Cold Enough for Snow but someone already did, so I'll say Morning & Evening and/or Aliss at the Fire by Jon Fosse and Cold Nights of Childhood by Tezer Özlü Death in Spring by Mercé Rodoreda**

**Too loud a solitude by Bohumil Hrabal**

**The Vegetarian by Han Kang**

**1Thousand Cranes by Yasunari Kawabata**

**4Log of the S.S. The Mrs. Unguentine**

**353Train Dreams by Denis Johnson**

**Self Portrait in Green by Marie NDiaye, one of my favorite books of this century**

**The Bridegroom was a Dog by Yoko Tawada**

**Holy Days of Gregorio Pasos. By Rodrigo Restrepo Montoya.**

**"An Atavic Fear of Hailstorms" by João Reis**

**History of Violence, Édouard Louis**

**Like Water for Chocolate by Laura Esquivel (which is not the slimmest but is a stunning, wonderful, underrated, very quick read)**