

wormhole

hi there, bookworms. this is a community resource we're building, where you're free to leave book recommendations or check out other people's suggestions. just some things to take note of:

- everything's anonymous but feel free to sign off if you want, it's up to you!
- we trust you, please do not edit or delete what other people have written
 - all genres and types of books are welcome, go nuts

thanks for sharing, we hope you find your next favourite book here or help someone find theirs

Title	Author/Illustrator	Anything you want to say about your recommendation
Night Film	Marisha Pessl	contains: mysterious horror movie director, MURDER, a disgraced journalist. in other words, a must-read for spooky szn
Convenience Store Woman	Sayaka Murata	If you love Japanese books with weird main characters and no plot, this is it.
Crying in H Mart	Michelle Zauner	AKA Japanese Breakfast! Who is not Japanese but Korean-American.
My Year of Rest and Relaxation	Otessa Moshfegh	an extremely unlikeable protagonist + lotsa sleeping and drugs. a book about nothing, TBH. but anything Otessa Moshfegh writes is "chef's kiss"
The Dutch House	Ann Patchett	Rich people family drama! Loves it.
Severance	Ling Ma	A pandemic hits, leaving NY streets empty. Sounds familiar...? It gets worse though!
Circe	Madeline Miller	Feminist take on the myth of Circe with a strong female gaze on the usual Greek legends
Exhalation	Ted Chiang	Short stories on technology, bioethics and their ramifications on human free-will
The Paper Menagerie	Ken Liu	Another short story book that spans all kinds of fields such as the immigrant experience to VR tech
Two Homes	Claire Masurel	Childrens book dealing with divorce and the reality of having two of everything in their lives! V easy to read with a gender neutral protagonist
Standing On My Own Two Feet	Tamara Schmitz	Childrens book helping to affirm their place amidst divorcing parents (Singapore has little/no selection of books for children dealing with divorce so I had to order this all from overseas :'))
Breathe Like A Bear	Kira Willey	Teaches kids how to calm themselves down and sit with their feelings when dealing with unwanted or difficult emotions, animal references and sounds make it v fun
War of the Foxes	Richard Siken	Poetry v open to interpretations but his command over words is unparalleled
Pachinko	Min Jin Lee	Follow a Korean family across a span of 70 years across Korea and Japan and... CRY
How We Disappeared	Jing-Jing Lee	A book that covers the horrors that comfort women face during World War II and how one particular comfort woman survived the ordeal and learnt to live again
Do Not Say We Have Nothing	Madeline Thien	This book made me cry and become more interested in modern Chinese history. It follows a 10-year-old girl and her mother taking in a refugee of the Tiananmen massacre. The writing is gorgeous and breathtaking.
Breasts and Eggs	Mieko Kawakami	This is Kawakami's debut novel and it's great! The novel follows 3 woman as they navigate through their issues.
On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous	Ocean Vuong	G A Y but also about the immigrant experience in the US. It's kinda soft around the edges and I really enjoyed it
If I Had Your Face	Frances Cha	This books covers so many deep-seated issues within Korea (e.g. debt, working in the sex industry, plastic surgery) and is both eye-opening and an enjoyable read
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe	Benjamin Alire Sáenz	Very character driven LGBT YA novel with not much of a plot. I cried for half an hour after I finished it.
The Song of Achilles	Madeline Miller	Gay retelling (?) of the story of Achilles and his lover, Patroclus. Miller's writing is easy to read and is very reminiscent of a translated Greek epic, which lends a lot of authenticity to the novel
Hotel Kerobokan	Kathryn Bonella	Inside look at the notorious prison in Bali, with interviews and pictures.
Night	Elie Wiesel	Memoir of the Holocaust from a man who survived Auschwitz and Buchenwald.
Cartel Wives	Mia & Olivia Flores	Narrated by the wives of the Flores twins, this book gives us a look into their origins, and how they grew. Told by the wives, it is more of a look into their characters and personalities rather than the twins, but it's a very good read.
All The Light We Cannot See	Anthony Doerr	Not immediately compelling, but there's something haunting and ephemeral about the story and writing.
Genius Makers	Cade Metz	Insights on the origins and some of the pioneers of AI, the AI arms race and the impacts thereof and contrasting mindsets surrounding Artificial Intelligence
I Capture The Castle	Dodie Smith	Enchanting!
The Five Wounds	Kirstin Valdez Quade	Must-read if you love character-driven stories. You'll fall in love with the deeply-flawed characters.
Passing	Nella Larsen	This book is on the protagonist's daily life, and touches on themes like race. Very interesting book and it's not a very long book so it's easy to read!
Lamb	Christopher Moore	In short, the Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal - keep an open mind, wicked sense of humor required
Night on the Galactic Railroad	Kenji Miyazawa	Series of shorts posthumously published by this Very Sad Very Philosophical man called Kenji Miyazawa. The titular story is a giant space metaphor for afterlife, etc. -- and while it isn't the most subtle, it is also insanely gorgeous and heartbreaking. Also made into a very weird anime in 1985.
All The Lovers in the Night	Mieko Kawakami	
The Vegetarian	Han Kang	
Ministry of Moral Panic	Amanda Lee Koe	
Three Billy Goats Gruff	Mac Barnett, Jon Klassen (illus.)	Funny and unexpected retelling of the Billy Goats Gruff story, with fantastic illustration that's slightly dark (uncommon for a kid's book) but still playful and cute in a rough sorta way. Brilliant book for children and the children-at-heart (i.e. ME A TWENTY+ YEAR OLD WITH UNPARALLELED LOVE FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS)
Water Drop Journeys	Tan Eng Chew	A must-read for better mental health. A beautifully illustrated book that is both simple and profound: simple in that the content is presented as a children's story and profound in its use of analogies to illustrate the lessons and existential philosophy in subtle, hidden language. The short mindfulness meditations with audio recordings also help readers ground in the present.
Shaolin and You	Poon Yew Fai	Shaolin and You is borne out of the author's re-imaginings of how the ink illustrations in traditional Chinese Kung Fu manuals might look like rendered through modern pencil drawing (in his self-taught style)
Spirits Abroad	Zen Cho	gorgeous scfi + fantasy anthology based on Malaysian folklore. for lovers of the genre who crave more of those stories from a local lens.
Bunny	Mona Awad	a book that's simultaneously 0 and 5 stars for me, yet absolutely will not leave my mind. dark academia tinged with bubblegum pink.
Someone Who Will Love You in All Your Damaged Glory	Raphael Bob-Waksberg	for fans of bojack horseman and speculative fiction that borders on absurdism
going home	Jonathan Chan	poetry across Singapore, US, South Korea, England
the elegance of the hedgehog	Muriel Barbery	Ignore the ending, everything else is great - perfect if you hate people!
The Lost Children of Gloam's End	Clementine Darling	A brilliant gothic fantasy/ghost story by internationally-renowned artist Jan Yong of Umami Baby, with photos and original art -- SUPPORT LOCAL!
The Five Elements Cookbook	Zoey XinYi Gong	If you think TCM is for grannies and is only about strong tasting concoction and double-boiled soup, this cookbook will change your mind. Easy to follow recipes using readily available ingredients
The Vegan Chinese Kitchen	Hannah Che	I used to think Chinese food was mostly about rich and tasty meat dishes prepared in multiple steps and didn't own any chinese cookbook till this one came along
Lessons in Chemistry	Bonnie Garmus	An empowering story about a chemist navigating the 1960s and the challenges of the time.
boys weekend	mistretta, jay f	very interesting storyline about a trans femme attending an all boys party
Gus: The Life & Opinions of the Last Raffles' Banded Langur	Jon Gresham	An action packed, eco-fiction about a Raffles' Banded Langur trying to get home at the end of the world. The novel is the story of his journey through a Singapore falling apart, and his search for home and community.
Forbidden Notebook (Quaderno proibito)	Alba de Cespedes	A stunning, gut-wrenching work about a woman suffocating within a social trap. With a notebook as her only constant companion, our protagonist writes about her stale, loveless marriage, the fraught relationship with her adult daughter, worries about her unmotivated son, and her blossoming affair with a man at work. It's masterful, incisive, and cuts to the core of the human condition. A great book that deserves more attention. I also reviewed this book in further detail on my book-centric Instagram account: www.instagram.com/thebookscout/
A Certain Hunger	Chelsea G. Summers	Female Hannibal with very sardonic tone. More dark comedy than horror/crime, though there is gore.
The Sibyl	Hamant Singh	A collection of horror poetry by a Singaporean author living overseas. Nominated for several important awards.
Year of the Rabbit	Lin Elizabeth	Trauma, addiction and growth are big themes in this collection of poems by an ex-alcoholic stripper from the Arkansas underbelly.
The English Understand Wool	Helen Dewitt	A novella written mostly in epistolatory form where the character whom the story is focalised through is (comically) very concerned about avoiding "mauvais ton" (bad taste). Saw the book described as an amorality tale. Key ideas: high culture, what the bigger picture actually is, the publishing industry, trust.
The Great Unexpected	Dan Mooney	Humorous but sad at the same time. Main character wanted to commit suicide but instead, found a new friendship that made him find hope in life.
One By One	Chris Carter	Very violent, please be warned. Not for the faint-hearted but amazing for people who find thrills in violence and gore. Mind blowingly good for sure, you can choose any books from this author.
Wordslut	Amanda Montell	A comical but undeniable take on differences of communication styles based on societal expectations and norms
At Night all Blood is Black	David Diop	A soldier cannot bring himself to bring an end to his best friend's suffering when he was injured on the battlefield, leaving him to die slowly and excruciatingly. The story thereafter shows the main character's descent into madness as he tries to cope with the aftermaths of his actions.
Memory Keepers Daughter	Kim Edwards	The Memory Keeper's Daughter (2005) by Kim Edwards is a drama following Dr. David Henry, who, in 1964, secretly gives away his newborn daughter, Phoebe, who has Down syndrome, to his nurse, Caroline, to spare his wife, Norah, from grief. While Caroline raises Phoebe as her own, the secret devastates David's family over 25 years. Slow build up with great language, author does a great job of building independent stories and then eventually weaving them back together.