

Historical Fiction

Titles set in the past!

Code Name Hélène by Ariel Lawhon

[DB099499](#)

1944. Counterintelligence operative Nancy Wake, code name Helene to the British and Madame Andrée to the French, parachutes into France. Her life has been building to this moment, from marrying industrialist Henri Fiocca in the 1930s to her escape through Spain to avoid capture by the Gestapo.

Based on the true story of the spy hunted by the Gestapo. Fiction.

The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

[BR023958](#), [DB092598](#)

1942. Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew, has been transported to Auschwitz. When the Nazis discover he can speak multiple languages, he is put to work tattooing the incoming prisoners. He does what he can to keep his fellow prisoners alive and falls in love with Gita. Fiction.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer

[BR021120](#), [DB067526](#)

London, 1946. Writer Juliet Ashton corresponds with Dawsey Adams and other members of a literary society created as a front during the Nazi occupation of the British channel island Guernsey. Through letters, Juliet learns about their wartime experiences. Intrigued, Juliet sails to Guernsey, where she finds new inspiration. Fiction.

The House of Doors by Twan Eng Tan

[DB117570](#)

The year is 1921. Lesley Hamlyn and her husband, Robert, a lawyer and war veteran, are living at Cassowary House on the Straits Settlement of Penang. When "Willie" Somerset Maugham, a famed writer and old friend of Robert's, arrives for an extended visit with his secretary Gerald, the pair threatens a rift that could alter more lives than one. Maugham, one of the great novelists of his day, is beleaguered: Having long hidden his homosexuality, his unhappy and expensive marriage of convenience becomes unbearable after he loses his savings-and the freedom to travel with Gerald. His career deflating, his health failing, Maugham arrives at Cassowary House in desperate need of a subject for his next book. Lesley, too, is enduring a marriage more duplicitous than it first appears. Maugham suspects an affair, and, learning of Lesley's past connection to the Chinese revolutionary, Dr. Sun Yat Sen, decides to

probe deeper. But as their friendship grows and Lesley confides in him about life in the Straits, Maugham discovers a far more surprising tale than he imagined, one that involves not only war and scandal but the trial of an Englishwoman charged with murder. It is, to Maugham, a story worthy of fiction. A mesmerizingly beautiful novel based on real events, *The House of Doors* traces the fault lines of race, gender, sexuality, and power under empire, and dives deep into the complicated nature of love and friendship in its shadow. Fiction.

The Huntress by Kate Quinn

[BR023325](#), [DB094278](#)

Boston, 1946. Seventeen-year-old Jordan McBride is excited to meet the new woman in her long-widowed father's life. When introduced to Anneliese Weber and her daughter Ruth, Jordan is entranced. But Anna is hiding secrets, and Jordan becomes suspicious. Meanwhile, a British war correspondent hunts Nazis. Fiction.

The Man Who Saw Everything by Deborah Levy

[BR023846](#), [DB097314](#)

In 1988 Saul Adler is invited to Communist East Berlin to do research. While standing in the Abbey Road crosswalk waiting for his girlfriend, he is grazed by an oncoming car, changing the trajectory of his life. Fiction.

The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

[BR022817](#), [DB095925](#)

1962. Elwood Curtis lives with his grandmother, works when not in school, and admires Dr. Martin Luther King. But one innocent mistake sees him sentenced to reform school—the Nickel Academy. There he meets Turner, whose skepticism challenges Elwood. Their friendship has repercussions in the sadistic school. Fiction.

The Dressmaker's Gift by Fiona Valpy

[BR023904](#), [DB104672](#)

Harriet Shaw has arrived in Paris to work an internship. She uses the opportunity to find out more about her grandmother, Claire. What she discovers are secrets from a long-ago war in which Claire and her friends, Vivienne and Mireille, all had different missions. Fiction.

The Apollo Murders: A Novel by Chris Hadfield

[BR023959](#), [DB105368](#)

1973. As NASA is preparing to launch Apollo 18, flight controller Kazimieras "Kaz" Zemeckis knows there is a darker side to the publicly stated mission brief--there is a Russian space station spying on America. An accident reveals not everyone on the crew is who they purport to be. Fiction.

Last Night at the Telegraph Club by Malinda Lo

[BR024064](#), [DB104015](#)

1954. McCarthyism and the Red Scare are genuine threats to Lily's family; her father is already at risk of deportation despite his valid citizenship. Lily, who is Chinese American, could lose everything just for dating anyone white--let alone another girl--but she could lose herself if she isn't true to her feelings. For senior high readers and older readers. Fiction.

In the Distance by Hernán Díaz

[BR024216](#), [DB108120](#), [DB114673 \(Spanish\)](#)

A young Swedish immigrant finds himself penniless and alone in California. The boy travels East in search of his brother, moving on foot against the great current of emigrants pushing West. Driven back again and again, he meets naturalists, criminals, religious fanatics, swindlers, Indians, and lawmen, and his exploits turn him into a legend.