



Gunnersbury School
English Department
Literacy Newsletter



January 2024

Happy New Year!

Welcome to our monthly reading newsletter. Each month, we will recommend books from a range of genres and styles.

Don't forget to check out our reading lists aimed at specific year groups.

The English Department

The Five People You Meet in Heaven

Classics

Spirituality

Fantasy

Book of the Month

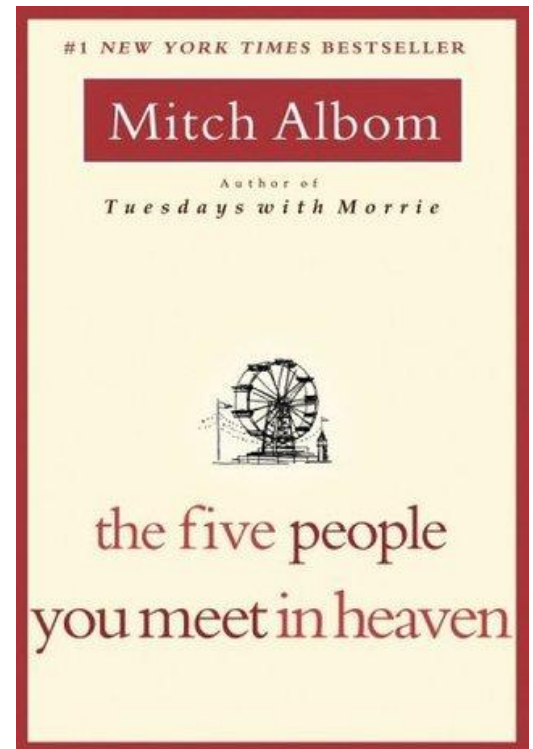
The Five People You Meet in Heaven

Mitch Albom

From the author of the phenomenal #1 New York Times bestseller *Tuesdays with Morrie*, a novel that explores the unexpected connections of our lives, and the idea that heaven is more than a place; it's an answer.

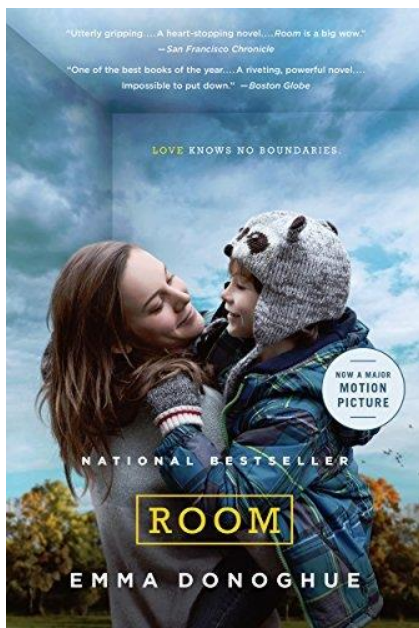
Eddie is a wounded war veteran, an old man who has lived, in his mind, an uninspired life. His job is fixing rides at a seaside amusement park. On his 83rd birthday, a tragic accident kills him as he tries to save a little girl from a falling cart. He awakes in the afterlife, where he learns that heaven is not a destination. It's a place where your life is explained to you by five people, some of whom you knew, others who may have been strangers. One by one, from childhood to soldier to old age, Eddie's five people revisit their connections to him on earth, illuminating the mysteries of his "meaningless" life, and revealing the haunting secret behind the eternal question: "Why was I here?"

Recommended by Mr Jukic





Our Recommendations



Room

Adult

Thriller

Crime

Room

Emma Donoghue

To five-year-old-Jack, Room is the world....

Told in the inventive, funny, and poignant voice of Jack, Room is a celebration of resilience—and a powerful story of a mother and son whose love lets them survive the impossible.

To five-year-old Jack, Room is the entire world. It is where he was born and grew up; it's where he lives with his Ma as they learn and read and eat and sleep and play. At night, his Ma shuts him safely in the wardrobe, where he is meant to be asleep when Old Nick visits.

Room is home to Jack, but to Ma, it is the prison where Old Nick has held her captive for seven years. Through determination, ingenuity, and fierce motherly love, Ma has created a life for Jack. But she knows it's not enough ... not for her or for him. She devises a bold escape plan, one that relies on her young son's bravery and a lot of luck. What she does not realize is just how unprepared she is for the plan to actually work.

Told entirely in the language of the energetic, pragmatic five-year-old Jack, Room is a celebration of resilience and the limitless bond between parent and child, a brilliantly executed novel about what it means to journey from one world to another.

Recommended by Ms Kaye

We love hearing about books you have read so let us know what book you think everyone should read!

