What's On Your Nightstand
Book Recommendations - October 2023

FICTION

The Glass Chateau by Stephen Kiernan - Inspired by the life of Marc Chagall, a gripping tale of hope, healing, and the redemptive power of art set against the turmoil of post WWII France.

The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy - Equal parts powerful family saga, forbidden love story, and piercing political drama.

The French Lieutenant’s Woman by John Fowles - A Victorian gentleman, Charles Smithson, is by turns entranced, befuddled, and devastated by a mysterious woman who is, according to local gossip, the spurned ex-mistress of a French naval officer.

Stone Diaries by Carol Shields - Fictionalized autobiography of Daisy Goodwill Flett – a subtle but affecting portrait of an everywoman reflecting on an unconventional life.

Switchboard Soldiers: A Novel of the Heroic Women Who Served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps During World War I by Jennifer Chiaverini

Resistance Women by Jennifer Chiaverini - Saga that recreates the danger, romance, and sacrifice of an era and brings to life one courageous, passionate American and her circle of women friends who waged a clandestine battle against Hitler in Nazi Berlin.

We Have Always Lived in the Castle by Shirley Jackson - Gothic tale of a peculiar girl named Merricat and her family's dark secret.

Who Was Changed and Who Was Dead by Barbara Comyns - An English village struck by a mysterious epidemic — Flood, fire, madness descend on Comyns's characters occasionally accompanied by ducks (yes..ducks! KB)

The Witches: Suspicion, Betrayal, and Hysteria in 1692 Salem by Stacy Schiff - In 1692 Massachusetts, a minister's daughter began to scream and convulse. Less than a year later, 19 men and women had been hanged and an elderly man crushed to death.
**NONFICTION**

*Pastoral Song* by James Rebanks - Story of the regeneration of one family's traditional English farm

*The Shepherd’s View: Modern Photographs from an Ancient Landscape* by James Rebanks - A breathtaking book of photography of England’s Lake District that chronicles an ancient way of living

*You Could Make This Place Beautiful* by Maggie Smith - Smith writes of her personal heartbreak and takes on contemporary womanhood, traditional gender roles, and the power dynamics that persist even in many progressive homes.