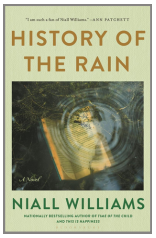
WHAT'S ON YOUR NIGHTSTAND

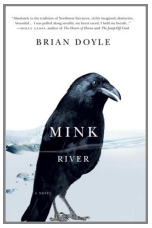
Book Recommendations

November 2026

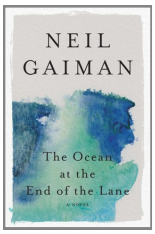
FICTION



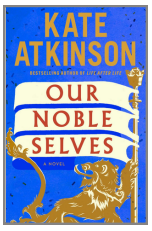
History of the Rain by **Niall Williams** - This novel introduces readers to Williams' enchanting Irish village of Faha in a profound, beautifully written book about family, legacy, and the incredible power of stories.



Mink River by **Brian Doyle** - Doyle's fiction debut brings a town – on the wet coast of Oregon, beneath the hills that used to boast the biggest trees in the history of the world – to life through the jumbled lives and braided stories of its people.



The Ocean at the End of the Lane by **Neil Gaiman** - Returning to his childhood home to attend a funeral, a middle-aged man is drawn back to a place once alive with monsters and magic; to a past where the impossible is all too frighteningly real . . .



Our Noble Selves by **Kate Atkinson** - A tale of post-World War II London, where the peace proves as tricky to navigate as the past. With an unforgettable cast of characters, this novel paints a vivid portrait of a former empire struggling with its identity in the aftermath of war.

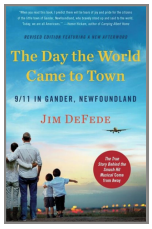


Partita by **Barbara Kingsolver** - A story of a brief, passionate, life-changing love affair, wrapped up in what might be the greatest romance of all: our eternal human longing for art and beauty.

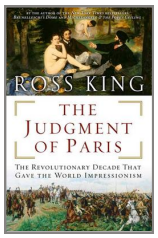


Scavengers by **Kathleen Boland** - A debut novel about a cautious daughter and her eccentric, estranged mother venturing west in search of buried treasure – and a way back to each other – before they run out of patience, money, and options

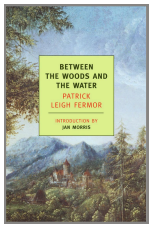
NONFICTION



The Day the World Came to Town: 911 in Gander Newfoundland (Updated Edition) by **Jim DeFede** - Recounts the inspiring story of the residents of Gander, Canada, whose acts of kindness following the grounding of 38 jetliners in their town on 911 touched the lives of thousands of people and have been an example of humanity and goodwill.



Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade that Gave the World Impression by **Ross King** - Chronicles the dramatic decade between two famous exhibitions – the scandalous Salon des Refuses in 1863 and the first Impressionist showing in 1874 – set against the rise and dramatic fall of Napoleon III and the Second Empire after the Franco-Prussian War.



A Time of Gifts: On Foot to Constantinople: From the Hook of Holland to the Middle Danube by **Patrick Leigh Fermor** - A coming-of-age memoir and account of a journey, this novel is also a portrait of a continent already showing ominous signs of the holocaust to come.

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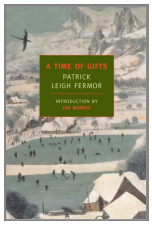

Between the Woods and the Water: On Foot to Constantinople: From The Middle Danube to the Iron Gates by **Patrick Leigh Fermor** - Continuing the epic foot journey across Europe begun in *A Time of Gifts*, Fermor writes about walking from Hungary to the Balkans.

ALSO DISCUSSED

Albrecht Durer - Painter, printmaker, and theorist of the German Renaissance.



Dürer's Self-Portrait at 26, 1498, Prado, Madrid



Young Hare, 1502, watercolour and gouache, 25 × 22.5 cm (Albertina, Vienna)



St. Jerome in His Study, 1521, Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga, Lisbon. Dürer's most important painting created during his fourth and last major journey.