

Eddleston Book Club
Books we have Read

No.	Title/Date/Host	Author	About
1	One Day	David Nicholls	Every year on the same day from 15th July 1988 for the next 20 years Emma and Dexter meet up
2	The Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother	Amy Chua	Is she for real - true account of one obsessively driven Chinese mother (Harvard Professor) who insists on the best for and from her American/Chinese daughters
3	Lighthouse Stevensons	Bella Bathurst	Epic story of Robert Louis Stevenson's engineering ancestors and the building of the Scottish coastal lighthouses against impossible odds.
4	Water for Elephants	Sarah Gruen	Vet student's chance encounter (when he jumps onto a passing train) with second-rate travelling circus struggling to survive during the Great Depression. The two women in his life are Marlena (the owner's wife and Rosie) a badly treated elephant
5	When God was a Rabbit	Sarah Winman	Spanning four decades and moving between suburban Essex, the wild coast of Cornwall and the streets of New York, this is a story about childhood, eccentricity, the darker side of love and sex, the pull and power of family ties, loss and life.
6	The Reluctant Fundamentalist	Moshin Hamid	Pakistani/American banker enticed away from a Western dream into a religious and political struggle
7	Great Expectations	Charles Dickens	Classic 19 th century novel starring young orphan Pip, escaped convicts, broken hearted Miss Havisham and the enticing Estella
8	The Good Earth	Pearl Buck	Pulitzer prize winning story of family life in rural China in the early 20 th century
9	A Foreign Field	Ben Macintyre	WW1 tale of daily life behind the enemy lines in occupied France
10	3 Seconds	Anders Roslund and Borge Hellstrom	Thriller about Swedish double agent who gets involved in a drug deal which goes badly wrong.
11	The Island	Victoria Hislop	Story of an English girl looking for info about her ancestors in an island leper colony in rural Greece
12	Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen	It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a large fortune, must be in want of a wife - tale of love and morals in 18 th Century England
13	An Evil Cradling	Brian Kennan	Harrowing tale of 4 years in captivity in Beirut by fundamentalist Shi'ite militiamen
14	The Great Gatsby	F Scott Fitzgerald	Classic 1920s novel of young and mysterious millionaire and the social and political nuances of the 'American Dream'
15	Cold Comfort Farm	Stella Gibbons	1930s shades of Jane Austen's Emma as a young girl tries to influence the lives of the people around her
16	Tenderness of Wolves	Steff Penney	1860s historical romance/murder thriller in the Canadian north

17	Being Emily	Ann Donovan	Touching tale of families and life in a tenement flat with a young girl looking for her place in the world
18	Place of Reeds	Caitlin Davies	A clash of cultures for a young British girl settling in Botswana and of courage, resilience and survival.
19	The Siege	Helen Dunmore	Story of love and survival in the siege of Leningrad
20	Winter in Madrid	C J Sansom	Thriller/ love story, of three young men, navigating the tumultuous world of 1940s Spain.
21	Mortal Engines	Philip Reeve	Futuristic children's novel about survival in the moving city of London, trying to survive in a world running out of resources
22	Life of Pi	Yann Martell	Surrealist tale about a boy, a boat and a tiger, alone on a raft after a shipwreck
23	State of Wonder	Ann Patchett	Among the tangled waterways and giant anacondas of the Brazilian Rio Negro, an enigmatic scientist is developing a drug that could alter the lives of women for ever.
24	Three Cups of Tea	Greg Mortenson	One man's mission to promote peace in Afghanistan and Pakistan – one school at a time
25	Crow Road	Ian Banks	What has happened to Uncle Rory? Scottish tale of families and skeletons in their cupboard
26	Thousand Splendid Suns	Khaled Hosseini	Fictional story of two women in Afghanistan from the 1960s to 2003 and incorporating much of the history of Afghanistan during that time.
27	Anna Karenina	Leo Tolstoy	Russian epic: "All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way"
28	Quite Ugly One morning	Christopher Brookmyre	Crime novel set in Edinburgh and introducing detective Jack Parlabane.
29	Sweet Tooth	Ian McEwan	M15 spy/love story with a literary twist
30	Put out more Flags	Evelyn Waugh	Wartime activities of characters introduced in earlier books
31	The Shock of the Fall	Nathan Filer	The story follows a boy battling schizophrenia as he comes to terms with his role in the death of his brother 10 years earlier
32	Birds Without Wings	Louis de Bernieres	Tale of the fortunes of one small Greek community where Christian and Muslim traditions have co-existed peacefully for centuries
33	The Book Thief	Marcus Suzak	Story of 9-year-old Liesel, growing up in a foster family in a small town in Bavaria in Nazi Germany after her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp.
34	Gone Girl	Gillian Flynn	Amy and Nick's marriage is not what it seems as we follow the tale of her disappearance and its consequences – with many a twist
35	Empress Dowager Cixi	Jung Chang	True story of the concubine who launched modern China
36	Wild Sargasso Sea	Jean Rhys	Prequel to Jane Eyre and the story of the first Mrs Rochester
37	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time	Mark Haddon	Story of a boy with Asperger's syndrome told through the eyes of the 15 year old 'hero' who describes himself as "a mathematician with some behavioural difficulties

38	Beware of Pity	Stefan Zweig	In 1913 a young soldier had no idea the girl was lame when he asked her to dance with his compensatory afternoon calls relieving his guilt but giving her a dangerous glimmer of hope.
39	The Drum Tower	Farnoosh Mushiri	This novel, told by a 16-year-old girl, tells of the effects of the Iranian Revolution of 1979 and of the fall of the Drum Tower, the house of a family descended from generations of War Ministers.
40	The Ruby in the Smoke'	Philip Pullman:	Children's mystery set in Victorian London's east end
41	The Hare with Amber Eyes	Edmund de Waal	Costa 2010 Biography Award Story behind 264 tiny wood and ivory carvings, leading to harrowing accounts of anti-Semitism over the years
42	Testament of Youth	Vera Brittain	Biography of the life and times of a middle-class girl before, during and after the First World War
43	The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie	Muriel Spark	Little girls - you are la crème de la crème. Misguided but inspiring teacher in her prime seeking to mould young minds in 1930s Edinburgh
44	The Elegance of the Hedgehog	Muriel Barbery	The story flits between the confessions of two women: the concierge in a Parisian block of luxury apartments, and a precocious 12-year-old girl, the daughter of one of the most bourgeois families in the house.
45	The Adventures of the Busts of Eva Peron	Carlos Gamerro	Ransom demand for Argentinian politician includes placing of a bust of Eva Peron in all ninety-two offices of Argentina's leading construction company.
46	The Churchill Factor	Boris Johnston	Boris Johnston's take on the life and times of Winston Churchill
47	The Fault in our Stars	John Green	Love affair of two terminally ill teens
48	Out Stealing Horses	Per Petersen	Winner of the 2006 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize, this is the story of the events of a father and son's summer in the country in 1948, remembered by the son 20 years on.
49	All the Light we Cannot See	Anthony Doerr	Winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize, this is the story of a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II
50	The Night Circus	Eris Morgernstern	The Night Circus is a 2011 fantasy novel about a magical circus written from various viewpoints
51	The Rosie Project	Graeme Simpson	The Rosie Project explores the romantic and amusing errors of a Professor of Genetics with undiagnosed Asperger's Syndrome, as he looks for a wife.
52	Porterhouse Blues	Tom Sharpe	A satirical look a Cambridge University Life told through the eyes of a porter
53	The Lady in the Van + film	Alan Bennett	The true story of Miss Shepherd, an eccentric woman of uncertain origins, who 'temporarily' parks her broken-down van in writer Alan Bennett's London driveway, and proceeds to live there for the next 15 years.
54	Ross Poldark	Graham Winston	Tale of 18 th century Cornwall and the lives and times of two feuding families

55	West with the Night	Beryl Markham	Autobiographical tale of the amazing life of aviator Beryl Markman in Kenya in the 20s and 30s
56	To Kill a Mockingbird	Harper Lee	Pulitzer Prize Winning classic of racial injustice in 1930s America
57	Dancing Arabs	Sayed Kashua	Dancing Arabs centres on a young boy from a poor Arab village, his haphazard receipt of a scholarship to a Jewish boarding school, and the dislocation and alienation that ensues when he finds himself faced with the impossible: the imperative to straddle two famously incompatible worlds.
58	The Lady and the Unicorn	Tracey Chevalier	From the author of the Girl with the Pearl Earring, this is the story of a famous tapestry with a fictional cast of characters woven around it
59	I Let You Go	Clare MacIntosh	At the scene of a tragic accident, life changes immediately for everyone involved. Finding it impossible to stay in Bristol, Jenna Gray moves to a remote cottage on the Welsh coast. She is desperate to escape the past, but is haunted by the accident, by the loss of her son, and by her own fears.
60	The Words in my Hand	Guinevere Glasford	This debut novel tells the story of Helena Jans, a Dutch maid in the 17 th century who became the lover of philosopher René Descartes
61	12 Years a Slave	Solomon Northrup	In the years before the Civil War, Solomon Northrup a free black man from upstate New York, is kidnapped and sold into slavery in the South. Subjected to the cruelty of one malevolent owner he also finds unexpected kindness from another, as he struggles continually to survive and maintain some of his dignity. Then in the 12th year of the disheartening ordeal, a chance meeting with an abolitionist from Canada changes Solomon's life forever.
62	The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society	Mary Ann Schaffer and Annie Barrows	In 1946 a London-based writer begins exchanging letters with residents on the island of Guernsey, which was German-occupied during WWII. Feeling compelled to visit the island, she starts to get a picture of what it was like during the occupation
63	The Goldfinch	Donna Tart	A boy in New York is taken in by a wealthy Upper East Side family after his mother is killed in a bombing at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Many twists and turns

64	The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks	Rebecca Skloot	This is the story of the life, and afterlife, of one woman who changed the medical world forever. Balancing the beauty and drama of scientific discovery with dark questions about who owns the stuff our bodies are made of. An extraordinary journey in search of the soul and story of a real woman, whose cells live on today in all four corners of the world.
65	The Golem and the Djinni	Helen Wecker	A story interweaving the the genre of historical fiction with elements of fantasy - telling the story of two displaced magical creatures in 19th century New York City
66	Fingersmith	Sarah Waters	London 1862. Sue Trinder, orphaned at birth, grows up among petty thieves - fingersmiths - under the rough but loving care of Mrs Sucksby and her 'family'. But from the moment she draws breath, Sue's fate is linked to that of another orphan growing up in a gloomy mansion not too many miles away.
67	Grief is the Thing with Feathers	Max Porter	In a London flat, two young boys face the unbearable sadness of their mother's sudden death. Their father, a Ted Hughes scholar and scruffy romantic, imagines a future of well-meaning visitors and emptiness
68	Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine	Gail Honeyman	Eleanor Oliphant leads a simple life. She wears the same clothes to work every day, eats the same meal deal for lunch every day and buys the same two bottles of vodka to drink every weekend. She is happy. Nothing is missing from her carefully timetabled life. Except, sometimes, everything. One simple act of kindness is about to shatter the walls Eleanor has built around herself. Now she must learn how to navigate the world that everyone else seems to take for granted - while searching for the courage to face the dark corners she's avoided all her life.
69	A Fortunate Man: The Story of a country doctor	John Berger	The story of a country doctor in the Forest of Dean. his work occupies and fulfils him, he lives amongst the patients he treats, the line between his life and his work is happily blurred

70	We Are all Completely Beside Ourselves	Karen Joy Fowler	Rosemary is now an only child, but she used to have a sister the same age as her, and an older brother. Both are now gone - vanished from her life. There's something unique about Rosemary's sister, Fern. And it was this decision, made by her parents, to give Rosemary a sister like no other, that began all of Rosemary's trouble. So now she's telling her story: full of hilarious asides and brilliantly spiky lines, it's a looping narrative that begins towards the end, and then goes back to the beginning. Twice.
71	The Dry	Jane Harper	Amid the worst drought to ravage Australia in a century, tensions in the community become

			<p>unbearable when three members of the Hadler family are brutally murdered. Everyone thinks Luke Hadler, who committed suicide after slaughtering his wife and six-year-old son, is guilty.</p> <p>Policeman Aaron Falk returns to the town of his youth and is unwillingly drawn into the investigation. As questions mount and suspicion spreads through the town, Falk is forced to confront the community that rejected him twenty years earlier.</p>
72	Finding Gobi	Dion Leonard	An inspiring tale of the unlikely friendship between Gobi, a lost dog who kept pace with an ultramarathon runner, across a vast desert. We hear of Gobi's kidnapping and the struggle to find him and to bring him home to Scotland for good
73	Prisoners of Geography	Tim Marshall	All leaders are constrained by geography. Their choices are limited by mountains, rivers, seas and concrete. Yes, to follow world events you need to understand people, ideas and movements - but if you don't know geography, you'll never have the full picture.
74	Do No Harm	Henry Marsh	An insight into the highs and lows of a life dedicated to operating on the human brain, in all its exquisite complexity. With astonishing candour and compassion, Henry Marsh reveals the exhilarating drama of surgery, the chaos and confusion of a busy modern hospital, and above all the need for hope when faced with life's most agonising decisions.
75	Anything is Possible	Elizabeth Strout	Reverberating with the deep bonds of family, and the hope that comes with reconciliation, this is like a book of short stories which come together towards the end of the novel
76	Rise	Gina Miller	Gina Miller came to prominence when she brought one of the most significant constitutional cases ever to be heard in the British Supreme Court. Gina successfully challenged the UK government's authority to trigger Article 50 - the formal notification to leave the European Union - without parliamentary approval. For standing up for what she believed was right, Miller became the target of not just racist and sexist verbal abuse, but physical threats to herself and her family.
77	A Man Called Ove	Fredrik Blackman	Ove is the quintessential angry old man next door. An isolated retiree with strict principles and a short fuse, who spends his days enforcing block association rules that only he cares about, and visiting his wife's grave, Ove has given up on life. After a boisterous young family moves in next door and accidentally flattens Ove's mailbox, an unlikely friendship forms.
78	The Sixteen Trees of the Somme	Lars Mytting	The story of Edvard who grows up on a remote mountain farmstead in Norway with his grandfather, the mysterious death of his parents

			when he was three years old, and the puzzle of what happened to his great uncle – a master craftsman. From Norway to Shetland and the battlefields of France - a gripping tale
79	A Soldier's Return	Melvyn Bragg	When Sam Richardson returns from the war in Burma to Wigton in Cumbria, he finds the town little changed. But the war has changed him, broadening his horizons as well as leaving him with traumatic memories. His six-year-old son now barely remembers him, and his wife has gained a sense of independence from her wartime jobs. As all three strive to adjust, the bonds of loyalty and love are stretched to breaking
80	Jane Eyre + film	Charlotte Bronte	Jane Eyre is an epic love story set against the magnificent backdrop of the Yorkshire moors. Jane is governess to the daughter of the mysterious, sardonic and attractive Mr Rochester. Ultimately their grand passion is called upon to survive cruel revelation, loss and reunion, only to be confronted with tragedy.
81	House of Orphans	Helen Dunmore	Set in Finland, Eeva, orphaned daughter of a failed revolutionary, battles to find her independence and identity. Destitute when her father dies, she is sent away to a country orphanage, and then employed as servant to a widowed doctor. Slowly, he falls in love with her ... but she has committed herself long ago to a boy from her childhood who is now caught up in Helsinki's turmoil of resistance to Russian rule.
82	Good Me Bad Me	Ali Land	Annie's mother is a serial killer. The only way Annie can make it stop is to hand her in to the police. With a new foster family and a new name - Milly - she hopes for a fresh start. Now, surely, she can be whoever she wants to be. But as her mother's trial looms, the secrets of Milly's past won't let her sleep. Gripping psychological thriller
83	The Garden of Evening Mists	Tan Twan Eng	In the highlands of Malaya, a woman sets out to build a memorial to her sister, killed at the hands of the Japanese during the brutal Occupation of their country. Yun Ling's quest leads her to The Garden of Evening Mists, and to Aritomo, a man of extraordinary skill and reputation, once the gardener of the Emperor of Japan. When she accepts his offer to become his apprentice, she begins a journey into her past, inextricably linked with the secrets of her troubled country's history.
84	The Wisdom of Sally Redshoes	Ruth Hogan	Once a spirited, independent woman with a rebellious streak, Masha's life has been forever changed by a tragic event twelve years ago. Unable to let go of her grief, she finds comfort in

			her faithful canine companion Haizum, and peace in the quiet lanes of her town's lido. Then a chance encounter with two extraordinary women - the fabulous and wise Kitty Muriel, a convent girl turned magician's wife turned seventy-something roller disco fanatic, and the mysterious Sally Red Shoes, a bag lady with a prodigious voice - opens up a new world of possibilities, and the chance to start living again. But just as Masha dares to imagine the future, her past comes roaring back .
85	Pollyanna	Eleanor H Porter	Made famous by Hayley Mills in the 1960 film, young orphan Pollyanna always looks for something to be glad about even when life is at its most challenging. But when she moves in with her dour aunt, she is introduced to a range of disheartened folks who challenge her upbeat outlook. Not to be discouraged, she sets to work spreading hope and good cheeruntil tragedy strikes
86	Vox	Christina Dalcher	Dystopian thriller where women are limited to 100 word a day and not otherwise allowed to communicate. But when the president needs a brilliant female scientist to save his brother.....
87	The Other Half of Augusta Hope	Joanna Glen	A precocious child and now an adult, Augusta has no interest in the goings-on of the small town where she lives with her parents and her beloved twin sister, Julia. When an unspeakable tragedy upends everything in Augusta's life, she's propelled headfirst into the unknown. She's determined to find where she belongs - but what if her true home, and heart, are half a world away?
88	Notes on a Nervous Planet	Matt Haig	Looking at sleep, news, social media, addiction, work and play, Matt Haig invites us to feel calmer, happier and to question the habits of the digital age.
89	The Black House	Peter May	Murder mystery set on the Isle of Lewis
90	The Binding	Bridget Collins	Fantasy Novel about innermost thoughts removed and bound into a book - with dark and abusive undertones
91	The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle	Kirsty Wark	Set on the island of Arran, it's the story of two women who never actually meet Elizabeth Pringle leaves her house on the Isle of Arran to Anna Morrison, Martha's mother, who when she was younger used to visit Arran with her children, for holidays
92	Hamnet	Maggie O'Farrell	Fictional account of Shakespeare's son, Hamnet, who died at age 11 in 1596.

93	Where the Crawdads Sing	Delia Owens	Story of the 'Marsh Girl' living in the swamps in North Carolina. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Love and the outside world change her life
94	The Thursday Murder Club	Richard Osman	Unlikely tale of a group of senior citizens dabbling in the world of private detectives
95	The Enchanted April	Elizabeth von Arnin	Enchanting story of a holiday to an Italian castle by a disparate group of ladies previously unknown to each other but who form lasting friendships
96	The World I fell out of	Melanie Reid	Autographical tale of journalist Melanie Reid in the aftermath of a horse riding accident
97	Pachinko	Min Jin Lee	An epic historical novel following four generations of a Korean immigrant family
98	A Room of One's Own	Virginia Woolf	Feminist classic where the author addresses the status of women, and women artists in particular. She asserts that a woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write . According to Woolf, centuries of prejudice and financial and educational disadvantages have inhibited women's creativity.
99	One August Night	Victoria Hislop	Set in Crete, this is a sequel to the Island. 25th August 1957 is the night of a great celebration held in Plaka to mark the closure of the leper colony at Spinalonga which sits across the bay: A cure has been found, and the residents of the island are finally free to return to their families and lives, but the events of the evening have some devastating effects
100	A Room with a View	EM Forster	Lucy Honeychurch, a young upper middle-class woman, visits Italy under the charge of her older cousin Charlotte
101	Dark Matters	Michelle Paver	A chilling ghost story set in the Arctic in the years before the second world war
102	The Gustav Sonata	Rose Tremain	Gustav's father has mysteriously died, and his adored mother Emilie is strangely cold and indifferent to him. Gustav's life is a lonely one until he meets Anton. An intense lifelong friendship develops but Anton fails to understand how deeply and irrevocably his life and Gustav's are entwined until it is almost too late...
103	Still Life	Sarah Winman	1944, Italy. As bombs fall around them, two strangers meet in the ruined wine cellar of a Tuscan villa and share an extraordinary evening. Ulysses is a young British soldier, Evelyn is a 64-year-old art historian She has come to salvage paintings from the wreckage of war and relive memories of her youth when her heart was stolen by an Italian maid in a particular room with a

			view. Ulysses' chance encounter with Evelyn will transform his life.
104	The Midnight Library	Matt Haig	Nora's life has been going from bad to worse. Then at the stroke of midnight on her last day on earth she finds herself transported to a library where she is given the chance to undo her regrets and try out each of the other lives she might have lived. Which raises the ultimate question: with infinite choices, what is the best way to live?
105	Headlong	Michael Frayn	<i>Headlong</i> begins when Martin Clay, a young would-be art historian, believes he has discovered a missing masterpiece. The owner of the painting is oblivious to its potential and asks Martin to help him sell it, leaving Martin with the chance of a lifetime: if he could only separate the painter from its owner, he would be able to perform a great public service, to make his professional reputation, perhaps even rather a lot of money as well. But is the painting really what Martin believes it to be? As Martin is drawn further into this moral and intellectual labyrinth, events start to spiral out of control . . .
106	Miss Benson's Beetle	Rachel Joyce	It is 1950. In a devastating moment of clarity, Margery Benson abandons her dead-end job and advertises for an assistant to accompany her on an expedition. She is going to travel to the other side of the world to search for a beetle that may or may not exist. Enid Pretty, in her unlikely pink travel suit, is not the companion Margery had in mind. And yet together they will be drawn into an adventure that will exceed every expectation. They will risk everything, break all the rules, and at the top of a red mountain, discover their best selves.
107	Identity Crisis	Ben Elton	A series of apparently random murders draws amiable, old-school Detective Mick Matlock into a world of sex, politics, reality TV and a bewildering kaleidoscope of opposing identity groups. Lost in a blizzard of hashtags, his already complex investigation is further impeded by the fact that he simply doesn't 'get' a single thing about anything anymore. Meanwhile, each day another public figure confesses to having 'misspoken' and prostrates themselves before the judgement of Twitter. Begging for forgiveness, assuring the public "that is not who I am".
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