

**Talking Book Center
2010 Adult Summer Reading Program**

**Reading is
ART-Rageous**



**Adult Summer Reading Program 2010
Reading Guide**

**Artistic Literature - Creative Intrigue
Artful Romance - Figurative Memoirs
Fine Art History and expressly more !!!**

**A statewide program for the Illinois State Library Network of
Talking Book and Braille Libraries Serving the Print Impaired**

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electronically. Please call the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service
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Artistic Literature

RC 53699

The Years with Laura Díaz

by Carlos Fuentes

Born in 1898, Laura grows up with the new century; her personal story intermingled with the turbulent history of Mexico. Among her friends she numbers Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, who paints her image into one of his murals. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language.

RC/DB 56671

Gould's Book of Fish

by Richard Flanagan

Nineteenth-century. Transported from England to the penal colony of Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), William Gould is indentured to the colony's surgeon, a deranged biologist, and set to painting illustrations of fish. Gould's hallucinatory mental voyages contrast starkly with the horrific realities of daily life. Some violence and some strong language. Available for download.

RC 56670

The Outcry

by Henry James

Early-twentieth-century satire on the rich. While wealthy American Breckenridge Bender travels to England to buy heirlooms from cash-poor British aristocrats, Lord Theign of Dedborough tries to marry off his

daughter in order to pay family debts. This was James' last novel.

RC/DB 56794

The Picture of Dorian Gray

by Oscar Wilde

First published in the late nineteenth century. A beautiful youth has his portrait painted by an artist with a flair for the morbid. The portrait becomes the mirror of its innocent-appearing subject's inner life. Introduction by Edmund White. Available for download.

RC/DB 56834

A Palestine affair

by Jonathan Wilson

Jerusalem, 1924. English artist Bloomberg and his American wife, Joyce, a non-Jewish Zionist, arrive in British-ruled Palestine to begin a new life. After a murder in their garden Joyce has an affair with Robert Kirsch, the British policeman investigating the crime. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 56933

Distant Shores

by Kristin Hannah

During their twenty-four years of marriage, Elizabeth Shore has devoted her life to Jack and their two daughters while ignoring her dream of painting. When Jack is offered a high profile sportscaster job in New York, Elizabeth begins to question her own priorities. Strong language and

some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 57011

Diary

by Chuck Palahniuk

As her husband lies comatose following a suicide attempt on Waytansa Island, former art student Misty Wilmot suffers mysterious ailments alleviated only by painting. Her mother-in-law and doctor suspiciously pressure her to resume her artwork despite the illness. Seemingly spirit-possessed, Misty is destined to comply. Strong language and some violence. Available for download.

RC 57473

Seek My Face

by John Updike

A young woman interviews elderly artist Hope Chafetz over the course of a spring day. Hope revisits her troubled marriages to painters and her personal struggle with self-expression, revealing the inner world of pop and abstract art in post-World War II America. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language.

RC 57517

In the Country of the Young

by Lisa Carey

Reclusive artist Oisín MacDara, of Irish heritage and gifted in his youth with second sight, yearns to encounter the spirit of his twin sister, Nívea, who died at fifteen. Instead Aisling, the ghost of a young girl,

enters his home and his heart. Some explicit descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 57540

Family Affairs

by Sandra Kitt

African American gallery owner Gayla dislikes the new exhibit, especially when she recognizes its artist, ex-con Dak, a streetwise kid Gayla's mother raised as her own. Despite having success and a loving boyfriend, Gayla is drawn into an intense encounter with her past. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC 57587

The Lady and the Unicorn

by Tracy Chevalier

Paris, 1490. Handsome, seductive painter Nicolas des Innocents is commissioned to design tapestries by nobleman Jean Le Viste. As the intricate design of the unicorn weaving develops, so does romance between Nicolas and Jean's daughter, Claude. Some explicit descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 57888

The Birth of Venus

by Sarah Dunant

Renaissance Florence. Sixteen-year-old Alessandra Cecchi, the educated, artistic daughter of a wealthy merchant, is forced to marry an older man, who promises her freedom. Upon discovering his true intentions, she turns for love to an artist commissioned by her father. Some

explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 58541

Plowing the Dark

by Richard Powers

Divorced artist Adie Klarpol participates in constructing a virtual reality chamber in Seattle that conjures up everything imaginable. Meanwhile, in Lebanon, American teacher Taimur Martin is kidnapped and held hostage. The lives of Adie and Taimur eventually converge in cyber-reality. Violence, some descriptions of sex, and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 58548

The Hound in the Left-hand Corner

by Giles Waterfield

Follows one outrageous day in the life of brilliant but troubled British museum director Auberon Booth as he prepares for an exhibition grand opening. The centerpiece, Gainsborough's portrait of Lady St. John attired as Puck, incites chaos among staff and guests while frazzled Auberon tries to keep peace. Available for download.

RC/DB 60162

Death in Venice and Other Tales

by Thomas Mann

Death in Venice relates the story of a lonely German artist in search of spiritual fulfillment in Venice, where he becomes spellbound by a beautiful Polish boy. Includes eleven other

stories displaying the Nobel-Prize-winning writer's use of irony, subtle characterizations, and complex plots. Available for download.

RC/DB 60513

Until I Find You

by John Irving

Chronicles the life and times of actor Jack Burns, whose unique bond with his mother, Alice, a Toronto tattoo artist, and their search for his missing father, William, shapes his relationships with women and his Hollywood career. Explicit descriptions of sex, violence, and strong language. Available for download.

RC 60736

Rococo

by Adriana Trigiani

1970. Bachelor Bartolomeo di Crespi is the renowned interior decorator of Our Lady of Fatima, New Jersey, where he lives amongst his large Italian clan. When Bartolomeo is hired to redo the local church, he gets stained glass artisans Rufus McSherry and Pedro Alarcon to help. Strong language and some descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 60866

The Portrait

by Iain Pears

Small island near Brittany, early 1900s. When famous British art critic William Naysmith visits Scottish artist Henry MacAlpine to sit for a portrait, he becomes captive to the artist's

diatribe. The artist indicts the critic's ruthless use of power and gradually reveals a plan of vengeance. Some descriptions of sex and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 60890

Life Studies

by Susan Vreeland

Seventeen short stories about creating art and about art's influence on people, by the author of *Girl in Hyacinth Blue* (RC 49678). In "A Flower for Ginette" Monet's gardener wants to keep a scrap of painted canvas so that his wife will always have a flower in her room.

RC/DB 61323

Leonardo's Swans

by Karen Essex

In fifteenth-century Italy, Isabella d'Este marries a minor aristocrat while her younger sister Beatrice weds the manipulative future duke of Milan. Isabella encourages the duke's advances in order to become a model for his resident artist, Leonardo da Vinci. Commercial audiobook. Available for download.

RC/DB 61752

Pawleys Island

by Dorothea Benton Frank

Huey Valentine and Abigail Thurmond are very content on Pawleys Island. Artist Rebecca Simms shatters their complacency when she arrives seeking a retreat from her chaotic life. Abigail, a lawyer, comes to Rebecca's aid, and in the process

finds her own peace. Available for download.

RC 62096

The Secret Supper

by Javier Sierra

1497. An anonymous informant known as the Soothsayer implicates painter Leonardo da Vinci in a heretical conspiracy surrounding his latest masterpiece, *The Last Supper*. Roman papal authorities dispatch Father Agostino Leyre to Milan to find the Soothsayer, examine da Vinci's mural, and confirm the accusations. Available for download.

RC/DB 62289

The Moon and Sixpence

by Maugham, W. Somerset

The life of Gauguin was the inspiration for this story of a London stockbroker who became interested in painting. Abandoning business, family, and conventional life, he settled in Tahiti and devoted himself to his art. Available for download.

DB/RC 62445

The Tenth Circle

by Jodi Picoult

Bethel, Maine. When his fourteen-year-old daughter is raped by her boyfriend, an overprotective father with a secret past decides to take the law into his own hands, a choice that takes him into the wilds of the Alaskan bush. Explicit descriptions of sex, violence, and strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 62616

Holy Skirts

by Rene Steinke

A fictional account of Baroness Elsa von Freytag-Loringhoven, who describes her many lovers as her career progresses from cabaret performing in 1904 Berlin to film acting with Marcel Duchamp and Man Ray in Greenwich Village.

Descriptions of sex and some strong language. National Book Award finalist. Available for download.

RC 62629

The Dream Life of Sukhanov
by Olga Grushin

Russia, 1985. The wealthy family life and secure position of art critic Anatoly Pavlovich Sukhanov begin to unravel as bizarre events occur. Memories and dreams assail him, reminding him of the youthful artistic ambitions he gave up for the Soviet Party, as his hold on the present slips.

RC/DB 62669

The Days of Summer
by Jill Barnett

Los Angeles, 1957. Cale and Jud Banning are raised by their tycoon grandfather after their parents die in a car accident that also takes the life of singer Jimmy Peyton. In 1970, complications arise when the brothers both fall in love with Jimmy's daughter Laurel. Some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 62690

A Burnt-out Case

by Graham Greene

Colonial-era Belgian Congo. Querry, a European architect with a lurid background, retires to an African leper colony run by clergy and an atheist doctor. He develops a saintly reputation by using his expertise to improve facilities until the arrival of an unscrupulous journalist threatens to expose his past. Available for download.

RC 63239

Life Mask

by Emma Donoghue

Late-eighteenth-century England. The lives of actress Eliza Farren, sculptress Anne Damer, and the earl of Derby intersect during great political instability. Marriages and friendships are made and broken as social success, pride, and morality hang in the balance. Some descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 63251

What I Loved

by Siri Hustvedt

After purchasing one of Bill Wechsler's provocative paintings in a SoHo gallery, art historian Leo Hertzberg befriends the artist. Over the next two decades, the men and their families develop intimate bonds tested by love and tragedy. Explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 63469

Paint it Black

by Janet Fitch

After twenty-two-year-old artist and Harvard dropout Michael Faraday commits suicide, his fiancée Josie Tyrell and his mother connect in their grief. But Josie, a teen runaway, discovers that Michael's mother Meredith Loewy, a famed concert pianist, was the cause of his emotional problems. Strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 63495

Sisters

by Danielle Steel

Four siblings pull together during a family crisis. After their mother is tragically killed and sister Annie, an artist, is blinded, supermodel Candy, television producer Tammy, and lawyer Sabrina move into a New York townhouse to grieve and cope. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 63932

Richard Temple

by Patrick O'Brian

Captured British spy Richard Temple retreats into his memories to survive Nazi imprisonment. He recalls his bleak childhood, his days as a student painter, and the poverty that forced him to become an art forger before joining the army at his socialite patron's instigation. Some violence and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 64146

The Brethren

by Beverly Lewis

Amish preacher's daughter Annie Zook, from *The Englisher* (RC 62875), still feels torn between her family's way of life and her dreams to become an artist and to pursue her love for non-Amish Ben Martin. Meanwhile Ben discovers he's adopted and sets out to uncover his surprising true identity. Available download.

RC/DB 64216

The Hesitant Hero

by Gilbert Morris

Artist Tyler Winslow flunks out of school in New York and moves to France to study painting. Tyler reunites with former acquaintance Jolie Vernay, now a physician at an orphanage. As the Nazi threat grows, Jolie and Tyler plot to help three Jewish children flee the country. Available for download.

RC 64331

Forgetfulness

by Ward Just

Expatriate Thomas Railles lives in the French Pyrenees with his adored native wife, Florette. When Florette is murdered by Algerians, Railles' friends in the CIA find the assassins. But during the prisoners' interrogation, Railles questions his own desire for revenge. Violence and strong language.

RC/DB 64338

The Baby Merchant

by Kit Reed

Pregnant and relegated to a home for unwed mothers on a world where healthy babies are rare commodities, Sasha Egan crosses paths with a famous journalist whose mentally unstable, barren wife has demanded that he obtain a baby for her. Strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 64509

Luncheon of the Boating Party

by Susan Vreeland

France, 1880. Artist Auguste Renoir responds to writer Emile Zola's criticism of Impressionist art by painting a leisurely outdoor scene of friends and acquaintances. Their lives unfold and connect as they gather at a restaurant along the Seine and enjoy la vie moderne. Some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 64716

Burning Bright

by Tracy Chevalier

Georgian London, 1790s. At the behest of circus impresario Philip Astley, the Kellaway family moves from the country and becomes neighbors to artist, poet, and free-thinker William Blake. Young Jem Kellaway falls in love with feisty city girl Maggie Butterfield, and both succumb to Blake's spell. Available for download.

RC/DB 65075

The Forest Lover

by Susan Vreeland

Fictional depiction of the life of Canadian artist and writer Emily Carr (1871-1945). Carr defies Victorian-era custom and her family's wishes by venturing to remote Vancouver Island, British Columbia, to paint tribal villages. There she forms strong friendships with a native basket-maker and others. Some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 65192

Portrait of an Unknown Woman

by Vanora Bennett

England, 1527. Meg Giggs, the foster daughter of Sir Thomas More, is wooed by her former tutor John Clement and by Hans Holbein, commissioned to paint a group portrait. Meg finds herself and her adoptive family endangered by More's staunch Catholic opposition to Henry VIII's conversion to the Protestant Church. Available for download.

RC/DB 65209

Bridge of Sighs

by Richard Russo

Friends Louis Lynch and Bobby Marconi grow up in the blue-collar town of Thomaston, New York. Louis stays in the area and marries his high school sweetheart Sarah, while Bobby changes his name, moves to Venice, Italy, and becomes a famous artist. Strong language and some

descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 65623

The Painted Kiss

by Elizabeth Hickey

Fictional account of the affair between Viennese painter Gustav Klimt and fashion designer Emilie Flöge, the model for Gustav's masterpiece *The Kiss*. Emilie, who first meets Gustav in the late 1800s at age twelve, enters the artist's subculture, becoming his mistress and muse. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 65637

The Sun Over Breda

by Arturo Pérez-Reverte

Flanders, 1625. Young Inigo Balboa signs on as the aide of Captain Alatríste as the Spaniards lay siege to the Protestant town of Breda. Inigo witnesses firsthand the furious combat and the devastation of battle that will be immortalized in the famous painting by Velázquez. Some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 65691

Duma Key

by Stephen King

An accident left self-made construction millionaire Edgar Freemantle brain damaged and without an arm. When Edgar's rage results in divorce, his therapist suggests he spend a year painting in Florida. With his phantom arm's help,

Edgar soon produces incredible, but dangerous, artwork. Violence and strong language. Bestseller.

RC/DB 65909

The Shadow Catcher

by Marianne Wiggins

Fictionalized biography of photographer Edward S. Curtis (1868-1952) portrays a complicated man who stages pictures of Native Americans and abandons his family. Wiggins interweaves an imaginary account of herself researching Curtis's life as she seeks closure in her own. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 66238

Life Class

by Pat Barker

Paul Tarrant falls in love with fellow London art student Elinor Brooke, who is pursued by painter Kit Neville. When World War I breaks out, Paul joins the Belgian Red Cross--and returns a changed man. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Available for download.

RC 66707

The Painter of Battles

by Arturo Pérez-Reverte

War photographer Andrés Faulques retires to a Spanish tower to paint a battle mural and forget the violent death of his lover. But one of his subjects, former Croatian soldier Ivo Markovic, threatens to make

Faulques pay for a damaging photo
Faulques shot. Some violence and
some strong language.

RC/DB 67289

The Great Man

by Kate Christensen

The death of New York City painter
Oscar Feldman--famous for his female
nudes--sends rival biographers Henry
Burke and Ralph Washington racing
to cover Oscar's life. Both writers
interview Oscar's three loves--wife,
sister, and mistress--who recall
complicated relationships with him.
Strong language and some explicit
descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 67829

**Valfierno: the Man who Stole the
Mona Lisa**

by Martín Caparros

A con artist reinvented as the
Marqués de Valfierno divulges his
escapades--from surviving a sordid
childhood in Buenos Aires, where he
was called Bollino, to perfecting an
audacious heist of the Mona Lisa from
the Louvre in 1911--and the reason
behind the theft. Some explicit
descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 68173

Chasing Fireflies

by Charles Martin

Glynn County, Georgia. A suicidal
woman ousts a boy from her car
before fatally colliding with a train.
Reporter Chase Walker follows up
with the orphan--"Snoot"--whose
history of abuse and neglect echoes

Chase's childhood. Snoot, an artistic
prodigy who does not speak, soon
captures the reporter's heart.

RC/DB 68578

The Women

by T. Coraghessan Boyle

Tadashi Sato, a fictional Frank Lloyd
Wright disciple, narrates the tale of
the architect's romantic
entanglements with four women--
three wives and a mistress who was
murdered in Taliesen, Wright's
beloved Wisconsin home. Sato
reveals their intrigues, scandals,
desperation, and joys. Some violence,
some strong language, and some
descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 68639

Espresso Tales

by Alexander McCall Smith

Edinburgh, Scotland. Nineteen-year-
old Pat decides to attend the local
university while she shares a flat with
Bruce and works for Matthew at his
art gallery. Meanwhile Bruce opens a
wine shop. Their neighbors include
six-year-old Bertie, who contends
with his overprotective mother, Irene.

RC/DB 69310

The World According to Bertie

by Alexander McCall Smith

Follows the adventures of eccentric
residents in an Edinburgh, Scotland,
neighborhood. Six-year-old Bertie
hopes that the arrival of his baby
brother will take some of his mother's
attention off of him. Meanwhile artist
Angus's dog has been impounded for

biting people, and Angus enlists Bertie's help to rescue it.

Creative Intrigue

RC 54929

Partner in Crime

by J.A. Jance.

Investigator J.P. Beaumont of Seattle and Joanna Brady of the Arizona sheriff's department combine forces to find the murderer of an artist who had been in a witness protection program. Some violence and some strong language.

RC/DB 55739

Engaged to Die

by Carolyn Hart

Bookstore owner Annie Darling and her husband, Max, attend an art gallery gala where widowed heiress Virginia Neville will announce her engagement to Jake O'Neill, a much-younger artist of dubious character. When Jake is murdered, Max is deputized, and Annie launches her own investigation to vindicate the prime suspect. Available for download.

RC/DB 55837

A Dead Man Out of Mind

by Kate Charles

London solicitor David Middleton-Brown and his lover, artist Lucy

Kingsley, investigate the murder of a vicar during a church robbery. When the vicar's replacement, a female curate not welcomed by the parish, is also killed, they suspect a connection. Meanwhile, Lucy's sulky teenaged niece proffers unwanted advice. Available for download.

RC/DB 56596

Light House

by William Monahan

Art student Tim Picasso absconds with the profits from a drug smuggling scam and hides in a Massachusetts inn inhabited by several eccentrics. But with a deadly storm approaching, Tim discovers that the dealer, Jesus Castro, is also at the hotel. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 57011

Diary

by Chuck Palahniuk

As her husband lies comatose following a suicide attempt on Waytansa Island, former art student Misty Wilmot suffers mysterious ailments alleviated only by painting. Her mother-in-law and doctor suspiciously pressure her to resume her artwork despite the illness. Seemingly spirit-possessed, Misty is destined to comply. Strong language and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 57137

The Ice Maiden

by Edna Buchanan

Discovery of burglar's body reopens a fourteen-year-old rape and murder case. A survivor, an ice sculptor, lives in seclusion. Miami News reporter Britt Montero attempts to melt the Ice Maiden's chilly defenses before the crook's accomplices finish what they started. Violence, some descriptions of sex, and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 57576

A Palette for Murder

by Donald Bain

Vacationing with friends in the idyllic Hamptons, mystery writer Jessica Fletcher gives in to her secret passion and takes a painting class. The foray turns deadly when a young nude model dies suddenly. Jessica investigates and discovers a possible connection to the deaths of an artist and, more recently, a reporter. Available for download.

RC/DB 57938

Divided in Death

by J.D. Robb

New York City, 2059. Detective Eve Dallas investigates a double homicide when her tycoon husband's trusted security specialist, Reva Ewing, is suspected of murdering her artist spouse and his mistress. A suspicious computer virus and more killings indicate a techno-terrorist attack. Explicit descriptions of sex, violence,

and strong language. Available for download.

RC 57978

Truth or Dare

by Jayne Ann Krentz

Arizona. Psychic interior designer Zoe of Light in Shadow (RC 55520) and her second husband, private investigator Ethan Truax, are settling into newlywed life when someone begins stalking Zoe and her friend Arcadia. Ethan uncovers suspects from their collective pasts. Explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language.

RC/DB 58275

Photo Finish

by Ngaio Marsh

Montague Reece invites Scotland Yard's Roderick Alleyn and artist wife Troy to his New Zealand estate and commissions Troy to paint his mistress, opera star Sommita. As Roderick tries to protect the singer from a nuisance photographer, rumors of drug involvement surface and Sommita is found murdered. Available for download.

RC 58813

Murder on the Leviathan

by Boris Akunin

Paris, 1878. An eccentric antiquarian is murdered and a priceless Indian shawl is missing. Detective Gauche deduces from clues at the scene that the killer will depart on the steamship Leviathan. Russian diplomat Erast Fandorin from The Winter Queen (RC

58580) assists the investigation on board. Some violence.

RC/DB 58895

The Ten Word Game

by Jonathan Gash

Hiding from cops and bounty hunters, antiques dealer Lovejoy is selling rarities at a port-side import emporium when he is lured aboard a Russia-bound cruise ship. His captors entangle him in a plot to rob the world's largest art museum, the famous Hermitage in St. Petersburg. Some strong language. Available for download.

RC 59009

Always a Thief

by Kay Hooper

Morgan West's upcoming museum exhibit is bait for a dangerous thief known as Nightshade. Cat burglar Quinn, supposedly helping authorities, takes the opportunity to get closer to Morgan, who can no longer deny an attraction. Sequel to *Once a Thief* (RC 55330). Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence.

RC/DB 59503

The Face of the Assassin

by David Lindsey

In projecting a face onto a mysterious skull forensic artist Paul Bern sees a likeness to himself and learns he is reconstructing the image of his twin, a murdered CIA operative. Soon Paul is caught in a deadly terrorist plot while impersonating his brother.

Violence and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 59695

Dating Dead Men

by Harley Jane Kozak

Los Angeles greeting card artist Wollie Shelley, busy with a dating research project, dashes off to visit her institutionalized, schizophrenic brother. She finds a body on the road and fears that her sibling could be involved. As Wollie investigates, a colorful cast of characters gradually enters her life. Available for download.

RC/DB 59822

Prince of Fire

by Daniel Silva

Following *A Death in Vienna* (RC 57796) a bomb destroys the Israeli embassy in Rome. Israeli secret agent Gabriel Allon, an art restorer, assembles a team for revenge. The bomber may also be the man responsible for the death of Allon's son. Violence and strong language. Available for download.

RC 59914

Kafka on the Shore

by Haruki Murakami

After teenager Kafka Tamura runs away, his father, a famous sculptor, is murdered. This crime links Kafka and an elderly illiterate man in inexplicable ways. Both journey separately to a private library where their destinies overlap. Some explicit

descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language.

RC/DB 60153

Hush Puppy

by Laurien Berenson

Searching for a painting at the Howard Academy, special-needs tutor and dog trainer Melanie Travis encounters caretaker Eugene Krebbs arguing with an unknown girl. When Krebbs is murdered with a pitchfork, Travis and her poodle risk their lives to investigate. Meanwhile, Travis's relationship with fiancé Sam turns prickly. Available for download.

RC/DB 60192

Double Homicide

by Faye & Jonathan Kellerman

Two short mysteries set in different locations. In *Still Life*, Santa Fe detectives investigate the murder of a wealthy but shady art gallery owner. The novella *In the Land of Giants*, set in Boston, features the death of a college basketball player. Some strong language. Available for download

RC/DB 60298

The Last Goodbye

by Reed Arvin

Atlanta attorney Jack Hammond doubts his friend Doug Townsend died from a drug overdose. Jack suspects murder after he discovers Doug's obsession with Michele Sonnier, an opera star with a troubled past who is married to a pharmaceutical mogul. Strong

language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Available for download

RC/DB 60350

Brimstone

by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child
FBI agent Aloysius Pendergast, last seen in *Still Life with Crows* (RC 57038, BR 14950), investigates serial murders that appear to be the work of the devil, complete with cloven hoof prints and odors of brimstone. Pendergast follows the killings to Italy. Violence and strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 60723

The Peabody Sisters

by Megan Marshall

Draws on personal letters to depict the first four decades of three New England sisters' lives in the nineteenth-century. Describes how the Peabodys' intellectual pursuits inspired the Transcendentalist movement. Relates the marriage of artist Sophia to writer Nathaniel Hawthorne and teacher Mary to educator Horace Mann--men Elizabeth also loved. Available for download.

RC/DB 61206

Acqua Alta

by Donna Leon

During the annual Venetian winter flooding, detective Guido Brunetti investigates the beating of gay American art historian Brett Lynch in the villa she shares with diva Flavia

Petrelli. After a museum curator is murdered, Brunetti and Lynch discover that Chinese antiques have been faked. Some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 61220

**Murder in Retrospect
by Agatha Christie**

England. A young woman hires private detective Hercule Poirot to exonerate her late mother who was convicted of killing her famous artist husband--the young woman's father--sixteen years earlier. To clear the mother's name, Poirot searches for the fatal flaw in what appears to have been the perfect poisoning. Available for download.

RC/DB 61221

**Whose Body?
by Dorothy L. Sayers**

Lord Peter Wimsey derives considerable amusement from outwitting Scotland Yard. When a nude corpse, wearing only a golden pince-nez, is found in a timid architect's bathtub, Lord Peter cleverly untangles the mystery with the help of a friend. Available for download.

RC/DB 61265

**Estate of Mind
by Tamar Myers**

To please her mother, North Carolina antiques dealer Abigail Timberlake buys an ugly reproduction at a church auction. Underneath the painting she discovers a hidden masterpiece

worth millions. Soon Abigail becomes the target of thieves and murderers. Some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 61500

**Baroque and Desperate
by Tamar Myers**

After Abigail Timberlake's antique store in Charlotte, North Carolina, is robbed, she agrees to help Tradd Burton identify the most valuable item in his family's mansion and split the proceeds. The rest of the family is hostile to Abigail--especially when someone murders the Burtons' maid. Some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 61791

**The Master Tanner Heads West
by W.C. Bamberger**

Tanner Jarry Kenninac leaves Rhode Island with his artist wife, Dolley, and two children, in search of the untamed West. They settle in Hugo, where in a matter of weeks Dolley tires of Jarry's romanticism, Jarry befriends some bizarre characters, and the town sheriff turns up dead. Violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 62033

**Tied up in Tinsel
by Ngaio Marsh**

Artist Troy Alleyn visits Hilary Bill-Tasman's estate to paint Hilary's portrait. As Hilary prepares for a pageant, one of his eccentric guests disappears. Troy's husband, Superintendent Roderick Alleyn,

arrives from London to help unravel the mystery and to interrogate Hilary's staff members--all of whom are convicted murderers. Available for download.

RC/DB 62258

Death Dance

by Linda Fairstein

Assistant district attorney Alexandra Cooper joins crime scene investigators Mike Chapman and Mercer Wallace to solve the murder case of ballerina Natalya Galinova at the Metropolitan Opera House. Suspects include her agent, a Broadway investor, and several Lincoln Center employees. Strong language, some descriptions of sex, and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 62291

False Impression

by Jeffrey Archer

Art dealer Dr. Anna Petrescu works for fraudulent financier Bryce Fenston, who collects Impressionist paintings. After the 2001 World Trade Center attack, Anna takes the opportunity to disappear and look into Bryce's latest Van Gogh purchase. FBI agent Jack Delaney also investigates. Some violence and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 62619

Trent's Last Case

by E.C. Bentley

When unlikable millionaire American financier Sigsbee Manderson is found shot to death at his English summer home, London newspaper editor Sir James Molloy contacts Philip Trent, an artist who occasionally solves murders. Trent takes on what could prove to be his final investigation. Available for download.

RC/DB 62883

Cat in a Quicksilver Caper

by Carole Nelson Douglas

Las Vegas' New Millennium Hotel hires Temple Barr to handle public relations for an exhibition of Russian artifacts including Czar Alexander's scepter. When two acrobats die during an accompanying aerial magic show and the scepter vanishes, feline sleuth Midnight Louie identifies possible suspects, one intimately close to Temple.

RC 62923

Death of a Dreamer

by M.C. Beaton

Scottish Highlands constable Hamish Macbeth investigates the suicide of artist Effie Garrard. Effie claimed to be engaged to painter Jock Fleming, who denies their relationship and involvement in her death. When an American tourist is murdered, Hamish tracks the killer but becomes

distracted by personal affairs--including his ex-fiancée's arrival.

RC/DB 63938

Death on the River Walk

by Carolyn Hart

Retired journalist Henrietta O'Dwyer Collins travels to San Antonio to find Iris Chavez, the granddaughter of an old friend, who has disappeared from her job at the Garza family art gallery. When a murder occurs, Henrie investigates the Garza clan's background. Some violence and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 64286

Playing with Fire

by Peter Robinson

Investigating a dual arson case that has claimed three lives on an English canal, Detective Inspector Banks teams up with fellow investigator Annie Cabot and discovers that the victims are linked to an art forgery operation. Available for download.

RC/DB 65024

A Splash of Red

by Antonia Fraser

Borrowing the London flat of novelist Chloe Fontaine, British television mystery program creator Jemima Shore is looking for peace. Instead she finds Chloe's body. Artist Kevin John Athlone--Chloe's former lover--is the prime murder suspect, but Jemima questions his guilt as more

romantic entanglements surface. Available for download.

RC/DB 65072

Bone mountain

by Eliot Pattison

Leading an expedition to return a long-lost Tibetan idol to a remote valley, former Beijing police inspector Shan finds the journey threatened by the murder of the monk guiding them and the Chinese army. Available for download.

RC/DB 65878

The Careful Use of Compliments

by Alexander McCall Smith

Edinburgh. Philosopher Isabel Dalhousie, from *The Right Attitude to Rain* (RC 64006), investigates rumors of forgery surrounding artwork attributed to a deceased Scottish painter who may have been the victim of foul play. Meanwhile, Isabel continues to contemplate marriage to her lover, Jamie, the father of her newborn son. Available for download.

RC 66121

The Purrfect Murder

by Rita Mae Brown

When Dr. Wylde is murdered, Mary Minor "Harry" Haristeen and the other residents of Crozet, Virginia, suspect a radical antiabortionist is behind it. Soon after, a wealthy newcomer is killed and Harry's architect friend Tazio is arrested. Trying to clear Tazio, Harry looks into both deaths--with her pets' help.

RC/DB 66477

Zapped

by Carol Higgins Clark

During a New York City blackout, PI Regan Reilly and her cop husband Jack juggle multiple mysteries. A thief tries to remove a safe from the Reillys' newly acquired loft--as does the safe's owner. A disturbed woman is stalking her latest victim, and a SoHo gallery is burglarized.

RC/DB 66731

Still Life

by Louise Penny

Shortly after elderly Jane Neal finally agrees to participate in the art show to be held in her small village outside of Montreal, she is killed by an arrow through the heart. As Chief Inspector Gamache investigates, he wonders if her unusual artwork provides a clue to her murder. Available for download.

RC/DB 66797

The Body in the Gallery

by Katherine Hall Page

Caterer Faith Fairchild helps her friend Patsy Avery, a trustee of a local museum. Patsy suspects someone has replaced a valuable painting with a forgery. Although Faith has promised her husband to stop her amateur sleuthing, she discovers the body of a young woman at the gallery.

RC/DB 66937

Blue Smoke and Murder

by Elizabeth Lowell

Arizona river guide Jill Breck receives a death threat shortly after her great-aunt leaves her a dozen unsigned paintings that once belonged to Jill's grandmother. Jill asks security expert Zach Balfour to investigate the origins of the paintings. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence.

RC/DB 67114

Messenger of Truth

by Jacqueline Winspear

England, 1930s. Artist and WWI veteran Nick Bassington-Hope falls to his death from a scaffold while preparing for his gallery opening. Nick's twin sister, Georgina, hires Maisie Dobbs to prove he was murdered. Maisie discovers that Nick's masterpiece is missing and she searches for clues among her client's relatives.

RC 67299

Moscow Rules

by Daniel Silva

Two Russian journalists die after learning that former KGB employee Ivan Kharkov plans to sell missiles to Al Qaeda. Art restorer Gabriel Allon, an Israeli agent, and CIA operative Sarah Crawford use Kharkov's wife Elena, an avid art collector, to learn more. Violence and some strong language. Bestseller.

RC/DB 67336

**The Science of Leonardo
by Fritjof Capra**

A modern scientist evaluates Leonardo's fifteenth-century notebooks in this biographical study that focuses on the artist's use of the scientific method and his wide-ranging achievements. Discusses Leonardo's systematic investigation of natural phenomena and his integrated worldview--futuristic in his day--that is still relevant to twenty-first-century inquiring minds.

RC/DB 67842

**Silent Thunder
by Iris Johansen**

Marine architect Hannah Bryson conducts a safety inspection on the decommissioned Russian nuclear submarine Silent Thunder, recently acquired by an American museum. Discovering a secret code and a lethal trap puts Hannah between rival Russian operatives, one whose interests include Hannah herself. Violence and some strong language.

RC/DB 68102

**The Gargoyle
by Andrew Davidson**

An adult-film star is hospitalized with severe burns after crashing his car during a drug-induced hallucination. He contemplates suicide until he befriends Marianne, a mentally unstable gargoyle sculptor whose insistence that they were lovers in medieval Europe brings him renewed vitality. Strong language, descriptions

of sex, and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 68206

**The Forgery of Venus
by Michael Gruber**

Commissioned to restore an Italian palazzo, struggling American painter Chaz Wilmot attracts the attention of shady art dealer Werner Krebs. Art that Wilmot creates during his past-life hallucinations as painter Diego Velázquez prompts Krebs to concoct a one-million-dollar art-forgery scheme. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex.

DB 69099

**The Language of Bees
by Laurie R. King**

Sussex, 1924. Mary Russell and her husband, Sherlock Holmes, receive a visit from Sherlock's estranged son, Damian, an artist and former drug addict, who needs help finding his wife and daughter. Meanwhile Mary delves into Damian's sordid past and investigates the disappearance of a bee colony from Sherlock's apiary.

RC/DB 69179

**The Empty Mirror
by J. Sydney Jones**

Austria, 1898. When a female model of controversial artist Gustav Klimt becomes the victim of a serial killer, authorities suspect Klimt may be involved. Lawyer Karl Werthen and criminologist Hanns Gross attempt to vindicate Klimt in an investigation that implicates members of the social and

political elite. Some violence.
Available for download.

RC/DB 69755
Dexter by Design
by Jeff Lindsay

Someone is using dead bodies to create works of art around Miami. When the artist targets Dexter's family, Dexter is surprised to feel that protecting them is as important to him as safeguarding his serial-killer identity. Sequel to Dexter in the Dark (RC 66839). Violence and strong language.

DB 69097
Aunt Dimity Slays the Dragon
by Nancy Atherton

The Renaissance festival comes to Lori Shepherd's town, bringing wenches, knights, general merriment-and a series of troubling "accidents" that seem to target the fair's founder, Calvin Malvern. Fearing an assassination plot, Lori turns to Aunt Dimity, her supernatural advisor.

RC/DB 69373
Deadlock
by Iris Johansen

United Nations artifacts expert Emily Hudson tracks Zelov's Hammer, a stolen mallet that conceals the Russian Romanov family's treasure map. In Afghanistan, CIA-hired soldier of fortune John Garrett rescues Emily from a warlord and assists in her search. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex.

Artful Romance

RC/DB 54124
Shotgun Wedding
by Olivia Rupprecht

Established New York artist Aaron Breedlove, returning to Appalachia when his father dies, marries beautiful Addy McDonald to keep peace between their feuding clans. Then he brings Addy back to the city, where they struggle to trust each other. Explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 55729
Safe Harbor
by Luanne Rice

Artist Dana Underhill, last seen in Firefly Beach (RC 53025), returns home to the Connecticut shore after her sister, Lily, and Lily's husband drown. Dana takes charge of her nieces, Quinn and Allie, and becomes reacquainted with childhood friend Sam Trevor. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 55926
The Rosary
by Florence L. Barclay

Artist Garth Dalmain falls in love with Jane Champion, the Duchess of Meldrums' plain niece, but she

refuses him because she is older. Three years later, Jane learns that Garth has been blinded, and she attempts to nurse him back to health without disclosing her identity. Available for download.

RC/DB 56493

Racing Moon

by Cassie Edwards

Louisiana, 1857. Watercolor artist Maureen O'Rourke is happy working for widower Taylor Clairmont until he makes advances toward her. Fleeing his home, she is captured by a Chitimacha Indian and becomes a pawn in a dangerous game. However, Maureen finds herself falling in love with Chief Racing Moon. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 57100

Safe Harbour

by Danielle Steel

After losing her husband and son, Ophélie Mackenzie and her eleven-year-old daughter, Pip, spend a summer at the beach where Pip befriends lonely artist Matt Bowles. Matt and Ophélie find solace together through heartache and betrayal until romance replaces their grief. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC 57426

The Green Hour

by Frederic Tuten

Art historian Dominique cannot forget her first love, a self-absorbed yet irresistible poet and social activist. After earning her doctorate, teaching in Paris, and surviving cancer, she must choose between passion or dependability when a wealthy man vies for her affections. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language.

RC/DB 57515

About Adam

by Stella Cameron

London, 1824. Princess Desirée returns to Mayfair Square determined to show Adam Chillworth she is no longer a child, but the portrait artist again denies her passion. As Desirée works to win Adam's love, enemies from his secretive past resurface, endangering them both. Explicit descriptions of sex and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 57888

The Birth of Venus

by Sarah Dunant

Renaissance Florence. Sixteen-year-old Alessandra Cecchi, the educated, artistic daughter of a wealthy merchant, is forced to marry an older man, who promises her freedom. Upon discovering his true intentions, she turns for love to an artist commissioned by her father. Some

explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 58080

**Somebody's Knocking at My Door
by Francis Ray**

Kristen Wakefield is devastated when forced to resign as curator of a New Orleans museum and forgo a project on nineteenth-century African American art. Enter Rafe Crawford, an old acquaintance still struggling with childhood abuse. Romance may help them both--if Rafe will let it. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 58344

**Now is the Time to Open Your Heart
by Alice Walker**

Fifty-seven-year-old writer Kate and her artist-lover Yolo begin separate journeys: Yolo to Hawaii and Kate to the Colorado and Amazon rivers. In the course of adventures filled with snakes, shamans, and memories, both experience spiritual alignment while cleansing themselves of materialism, past loves, and tragedies. Some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 59086

**Out of the Dark
by Sharon Sala**

Street artist Jade Cochrane is haunted by the years of abuse she endured in a cult her mother

belonged to. When her father learns she has escaped, he hires P.I. Luke Kelly to find her. But Jade is still in danger. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 59094

**When Night Falls
by Cait London**

Freelance artist Uma Thornton continues to mourn her murdered friend when the Warren brothers return to the small Oklahoma town. After eighteen years and despite the advances of her patient ex-husband, Uma is still drawn to Mitchell. Rumors spread while passion builds and a killer plots revenge. Explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 59665

**Impossible
by Danielle Steel**

Widowed gallery owner Sasha Boardman offers a contract to bad-boy artist Liam Allison. Soon conservative Sasha and staunch-nonconformist Liam begin an affair--though he is married and nearly a decade younger. Differences, complications, and personality clashes threaten their dramatic romance. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 59668

The Goddess Rules

by Clare Naylor

Aging French movie star Mirabelle Moncur hires bohemian London pet portraitist Kate Disney to paint her lion cub. Soon Mirabelle adopts Kate as her personal project, teaching her how to dress, act, and seduce men. But Kate's caddish boyfriend still attracts her. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 59789

Love will Find a Way

by Barbara Freethy

Six months after architect Gary Tanner's death, his insurance company refuses payment to widow Rachel, claiming Gary committed suicide. Rachel turns for help to Dylan Prescott, Gary's best friend and partner. While seeking the truth, the two become romantically involved. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 59820

Unexpected Blessings

by Barbara Taylor Bradford

Emma Harte's four great-granddaughters seek fulfillment in this sequel to Emma's Secret (RC 57943). Evan Hughes discovers her Harte heritage while living in London, Linnet tries to prove herself worthy of running the Harte stores, Tessa faces divorce, and India falls for an artist.

Some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. Available for download.

RC/DB 60418

The Baker's Daughter

by D.E. Stevenson

Beilford, Scotland; 1930s. Young Sue Pringle becomes a cook for English artist John Darnay and his wife. When Mrs. Darnay leaves her husband, Sue stays on. After John also departs, Sue embarks on a mission of love to the art worlds of London and Amsterdam to find him. Available for download.

RC/DB 60641

Toxic Bachelors

by Danielle Steel

Three bachelor friends spend summer cruising the Mediterranean. Philanthropist Charlie, celebrity attorney Adam, and artist Gray unexpectedly find true love. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 61324

The House

by Danielle Steel

San Francisco. A client has left workaholic lawyer Sarah Anderson an unexpected inheritance with the caveat to have fun with the money. Sarah decides to renovate a mansion and becomes absorbed in its history. Soon she finds herself falling in love with architect Jeff Parker. Descriptions of sex, strong language, and some violence. Available for download.

RC 61392

Moon over Water

by Debbie Macomber

Her mother's death is just one of several disturbing events Lorraine Dancy faces. She learns that the father she thought was dead is actually living in Mexico. Then, after being accused of stealing an ancient artifact, she falls in love with a former mercenary. Some descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 61564

Holly

by Jude Deveraux

Holly Latham, a restoration architect, has persuaded her parents to purchase a North Carolina plantation she once visited. She hopes to restore Belle Chere, a nearby estate, and marry its owner. But during the summer Holly finds herself drawn to the gardener. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 61932

Divine Evil

by Nora Roberts

Sculptor Clare Kimball returns to her Maryland home to confront her father's mysterious suicide, while Sheriff Cameron Rafferty investigates grave robbing, cattle mutilation, and murder. Clare and Cameron together uncover links between her father's death, the disturbing incidents, and Satanism. Explicit descriptions of sex, violence, and strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 62377

Jude's Law

by Lori Foster

Gallery owner May Price turns to actor Jude Jamison, an ex-prizefighter, when a loan shark gives her brother, Tim, an ultimatum: repay his fifty-thousand-dollar debt, kill Jude, or die. May hides at Jude's estate while Jude investigates the threat. Explicit descriptions of sex, strong language, and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 62477

The Seductive Impostor

by Janet Chapman

Architect Rachel Foster designed the seaside mansion Sub Rosa with her late father for art smuggler Thaddeus Lakeman. When Thad's heir Keenan Oakes asks Rachel to help him move in, Rachel exploits the opportunity to search for hidden treasure. Explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 62541

Before Sunrise

by Diana Palmer

Anthropologist Phoebe Keller, curator of a North Carolina Native American museum, receives a frantic call from a man claiming he discovered a Neanderthal skull. When the caller is found murdered, the FBI sends in agent Jeremiah Cortez--the Comanche who broke Phoebe's heart. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 63108

Taken

by Barbara Freethy

Her groom abandons San Francisco artist Kayla on their wedding night, while engineer Nick Granville returns from Africa to find his money stolen. Kayla and Nick join forces to find con man Evan Chadwick. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 63413

The Secret

by Shirley Hailstock

Adopted Dallas interior designer Stephanie Hunter wants answers from her biological mother, Devon Clayton. But Devon dies, leaving her adopted architect son, Owen, one final wish: to find long-lost Stephanie. Owen's search soon leads to Stephanie--and true love. Some explicit descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 64005

The Silent Harp

by Gilbert Morris

Wealthy socialite Sharon Winslow is devastated by the death of her fiancé in World War I. Deciding marriage is not for her, Sharon develops her artistic abilities. When she finds herself in a dangerous situation and Temple Smith rescues her, Sharon begins to love again. Available for download.

RC 64288

Always True to You in My Fashion

by Valerie Wilson Wesley

African American art dealer Randall Hollis romances three women--artist Medora, who throws him out; collector Ana, who sees him as a second chance at love; and student Taylor, who uses him to further her career. All three women meet at an exhibit. Strong language and some descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 64336

Natural Born Charmer

by Susan Elizabeth Phillips

After being dumped by her boyfriend, portrait artist Blue Bailey hitches a ride with Chicago Stars quarterback Dean Robillard from Colorado to his Tennessee farm. Along the way, the incompatible pair fall in love. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language.

RC/DB 64422

Tongue in Chic

by Christina Dodd

South Carolina. When Devlin Fitzwilliam catches Meadow Szarvas breaking into his Victorian mansion, she claims she has amnesia. Turning the tables, Devlin tells Meadow she is his wife. Meadow plays along only to obtain a priceless painting--until she uncovers Devlin's true motives. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 64484

Restoring Grace

by Katie Fforde

Divorcée Grace takes in artist and single mother-to-be Ellie as a boarder at the old English mansion she inherited from her aunt. The women become friends and begin renovations with some distractions from wine-shop owner Flynn Cormack and from the discovery of potentially valuable paintings. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 65042

Hot Dish

by Connie Brockway

Homemaking TV host Jenn Lind co-marshals a hometown Minnesota festival with Steve Jaax--the artist (and ex-con) who twenty-one years ago carved Jenn's bust from butter. When thieves steal the sculpture, Steve must find it before it melts and reveals a hidden secret. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC 66761

Not the Marrying Kind

by Hailey North

In high school, dumpy Harriet and popular Jake had one night together before he left town. Fifteen years later, Harriet is a well-known New York artist raising Jake's son Zach, when she, Zach, and Jake get called back to Doolittle, Arkansas, for Christmas. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Available for download.

RC/DB 66800

Daughter of the Sun

by Barbara Wood

American Southwest, 1150. Toltec leader Jakal kidnaps seventeen-year-old potter Hoshi'tiwa, taking her from her family and her betrothed to the Toltec's drought-stricken lands. There she is forced to make a jar that will bring rain--or face execution. Some descriptions of sex and some violence.

RC 66842

A Lady of Hidden Intent

by Tracie Peterson

1850s. When her shipping mogul father is accused of illegal slave trading, Catherine Newbury flees to America and starts a new life as a fashion designer. She unexpectedly encounters Carter Danby, a handsome architect she met in England, who learns the truth about her family and vows to help.

RC 67384

Practically Perfect

by Katie Fforde

Interior designer Anna buys a Cotswold cottage that she plans to restore, but she is stymied by local preservation officer Rob Hunter. Anna meets former crush Max Gordon, an architect, and they begin an affair. Gradually, however, as Anna recognizes Max's true nature, she falls in love with Rob.

RC/DB 67575

Cutting Loose

by Susan Andersen

Curator Jane Kaplinski and her two friends inherit the mansion and collections of a wealthy woman who befriended them as children. Jane has a bad first impression of the contractor they hire to work on the mansion, but sparks soon fly. Strong language and explicit descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 68019

After the Kiss

by Suzanne Enoch

1812. Battle-injured captain Sullivan Waring returns to London. Learning that his nobleman biological father has wrongfully claimed and dispersed Sullivan's late mother's artwork, Sullivan begins stealing the paintings back. He is discovered one night by Lady Isabel Chalsey--whose shock soon turns to passion. Some explicit descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 68031

Ice Blue

by Anne Stuart

Museum curator Summer Hawthorne's Japanese nanny gives her a blue ceramic bowl just before dying. Summer is then kidnapped for the coveted relic and rescued by handsome, dangerous Takashi O'Brien. Takashi also desperately wants the bowl and--despite himself--Summer. Strong language, explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence.

RC/DB 69384

Confessions of a Contractor

by Richard Murphy

L.A. contractor Henry Sullivan falls for two clients--purse designer Sally Stein and Sally's former best friend Rebecca Paulson, an unhappily married mother. Intrigued by the women's feud, Henry tries to discover its cause with the help of his Latino workers. Strong language and some descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 69410

Bed of Roses

by Nora Roberts

Florist Emma Grant, from Vision in White (RC 69355), enjoys success with her friends at their wedding-planning business but is unable to find the right man for herself. Then Emma opens her eyes to her longtime acquaintance, architect Jack Cooke. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex.

RC/DB 69467

A Summer Affair

by Elin Hilderbrand

Glass artist Claire Crispin, married mother of four, co-chairs the Nantucket's Children Summer Gala. Claire enlists her high school rock-star ex-boyfriend to entertain and begins sculpting artwork for donations, all while embarking on an affair with a married man. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Available for download.

Figurative Memoirs & Fine Art History

RC 46563

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec

by Jennifer Fisher Bryant

Presents biographical details and the artistic development of the French painter and poster designer.

Suffering from broken legs as a teenager, Henri was forced to limit his physical activities, but he continued to draw. As an adult, he enjoyed the nighttime entertainments of Paris and often used them as the subject of his painting.

RC 51320

The Shameful Life of Salvador Dalí

by Ian Gibson

Biography of the twentieth-century surrealist Spanish painter. Gibson describes Dalí's escapades in Europe, New York, and Hollywood. Explores his confused sexual relationships with poet Garcia Lorca and others, and the role of the painter's superstitious wife, Gala. Examines Dalí's major accomplishments, all achieved before age forty; summarizes events preceding his death in 1989.

RC 53408

Vermeer

by Anthony Bailey

A portrait of the seventeenth-century Dutch artist and the society in which he lived. Augments biographical facts with educated supposition. Includes historical and cultural information about Delft and some of its important citizens. Discusses Vermeer's paintings and their lasting contribution to the arts.

RC 53639

Brunelleschi's Dome

by Ross King

Discusses the intermittent construction during the 1300s of a cathedral in Florence that would require the largest dome in the world. Explains how this led to the 1418 competition for solving the architectural puzzle; how it was won by Filippo Brunelleschi, a clockmaker; and how he achieved engineering marvels.

RC/DB 54108

Vincent Van Gogh

by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan

Biography of the unconventional Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890). Describes the artist's passion for painting; how moving from wet, cold Holland to warm southern France influenced his work; and how he became famous only after his death. For grades 6-9. Siebert Honor. Available for download.

RC/DB 54489

Art, the Critics' Choice

by Marina Vaizey

A brief chronological history of Western art. An introductory overview of classical and early Christian art is followed by ten essays in which period specialists discuss exemplary masterworks, from the Middle Ages to the late twentieth century. Themes explored throughout include the relationships between painters and their subjects and the influence of particular works. Available for download.

RC 54671

Art Lover

by Anton Gill

Portrait of an influential collector of modern art. Discusses the New York socialite's promiscuous and scandalous private life, her years in Europe among artists and intellectuals, and her promotion of abstract painters such as Jackson Pollock.

RC 55556

Frida

by Hayden Herrera

Portrait of the twentieth-century Mexican artist often identified with the surrealists. Discusses the bus accident that brought her chronic pain from age eighteen until her death at forty-seven. Covers her tempestuous marriage to muralist Diego Rivera. Explores the relation between her paintings and her

physical and mental anguish. Some strong language.

RC/DB 55756

Michelangelo & the Pope's Ceiling
by Ross King

The author of Brunelleschi's Dome (RC 53639, BR 13856) recounts the struggle between Michelangelo and Pope Julius II over the painting of the Sistine Chapel. Discusses Renaissance politics, the rivalry between Michelangelo and Raphael, and the day-to-day work of creating frescoes. Dispels myth that Michelangelo painted the ceiling alone. Bestseller. Available for download.

RC/DB 55899

Lust for Life

by Irving Stone

Fictional biography of the passionate and beleaguered Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890). Based on the three volumes of van Gogh's letters to his brother, Theo. Basis for an Academy Award-winning movie. Available for download.

RC/DB 56257

Nineteenth-Century European Art
by Petra ten-Doesschate Chu

Art historian Chu traces the evolution of artistic works in the context of social and cultural trends from the mid-eighteenth century up to roughly 1900. She also explores the impact of new technology on art forms, focusing mainly on painting and sculpture, and incorporates

biographical sketches of individual artists. Available for download.

RC/DB 56800

One Man's Bible

by Xingjian Gao

Nobel Prize-winning expatriate's fictionalized autobiographical account of life during China's Cultural Revolution. A dissident artist and intellectual revisits memories of labor-reform school, several love affairs, and the political turmoil of Mao's brutal Communist regime. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 56807

Zelda Fitzgerald

by Sally Cline

English literary scholar reexamines the life of the Jazz Age writer, painter, and ballerina whose artistic efforts were overshadowed by the celebrity of her husband, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and undermined by encroaching mental illness. Cline illuminates Zelda's character, explores her sometimes enigmatic self-expression, and reevaluates her legacy.

RC/DB 58072

The Parthenon

by Mary Beard

A concise, lively history of the famed Greek temple. Classicist Mary Beard examines the building's construction in the fifth century B.C. and its subsequent roles as a Byzantine cathedral, Ottoman mosque, iconic

ruin, and modern tourist destination. Also discusses its gradual degradation, twentieth-century restoration efforts, and tips for prospective visitors. Available for download.

RC/DB 58659

The Arts

by Hendrik Willem Van Loon

A cultural survey of painting, sculpture, architecture, music, theatre, and many minor arts from prehistory to the twentieth century by the author of Van Loon's Lives (RC 55071). Covers creative expression in ancient Egypt and Greece, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance. Available for download.

RC/DB 58883

Goya

by Robert Hughes

Biography of Spanish artist, Francisco Goya. Chronicles Goya's development as a man and artist, offering critical analyses of his work, social milieu, professional influences, and dominant events like the Inquisition. Available for download.

RC/DB 59318

The King and I

by Herbert Breslin and Anne Midgette
Luciano Pavarotti's manager/publicist candidly recounts his thirty-six-year relationship with the opera singer. Breslin describes the tenor as evolving from a "simple, lovely guy" to a "determined, aggressive, and somewhat unhappy superstar."

Details his career, quirks, superstitions, and love life. Available for download.

RC/DB 59775

Grant and Twain

by Mark Perry

Describes the mutually beneficial relationship that developed in 1884 as Mark Twain, finishing *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (RC 57349), persuaded former president and Union general Ulysses S. Grant to write his *Personal Memoirs* (RC 24377). Discusses each man's quest for fame in the context of Gilded Age America. Available for download.

RC 60110

De Kooning

by Mark Stevens and Annalyn Swan

Biography of Dutch-born artist Willem de Kooning (1904-1997), who became a major figure in the mid-twentieth-century New York abstract expressionism scene. Explores de Kooning's bohemian habits, friendship with Gorky, financial backing from Hirshhorn and Fourcade, only marriage, and passion for painting. Pulitzer Prize.

RC/DB 60116

The Inner Voice

by Renée Fleming

Grammy-winning American soprano's autobiography traces her rise from an upstate New York childhood as the daughter of two music teachers through years of vocal training to an eventual operatic career. Includes

discussion of her mentors, various roles, and private life. Available for download.

RC/DB 60835

Impressionist Quartet

by Jeffrey Meyers

Prolific biographer details the intertwined lives of four Parisian Impressionist painters of the nineteenth century. Describes their complex relationships and rivalry and reexamines their art. Portrays bohemian Edouard Manet and his intimate friend, Berthe Morisot, as well as visually impaired Edgar Degas and his close companion, American-born Mary Cassatt. Available for download.

RC/DB 61093

Voltaire in Exile

by Ian Davidson

Portrait of eighteenth-century French playwright, poet, historian, and philosopher who in 1753 was banished by Louis XV to Geneva. References Voltaire's personal correspondence to detail the twenty-five-year isolation during which he developed ideas of equality and human rights, campaigned against injustice, and penned his satirical masterpiece *Candide* (RC 31736). Available for download.

RC/DB 61523

The Rescue Artist

by Edward Dolnick

Chronicles the 1994 theft and recovery of Edvard Munch's *The*

Scream, a painting valued at seventy-two million dollars. Describes the heist from Norway's National Gallery in Oslo and the subsequent three-month investigation by half-English, half-American undercover detective Charley Hill of Scotland Yard's elite Art and Antiques Unit. Strong language. Available for download.

RC 61816

Them

by Francine du Plessix Gray

Memoir about the author's mother and stepfather, Russian émigrés who fled occupied Paris for New York City in 1941. Portrays Tatiana du Plessix Liberman's rise as a famous hat designer and Alexander Liberman's ascent at Condé Nast Publications. Describes the publishing and fashion scenes and her parents' glamorous lives.

RC 62034

A Hungry Heart

by Gordon Parks

African-American artist, Parks (1912-2006), chronicles his career path that includes work as a fashion photographer, photojournalist, author, film director, and composer. Discusses his several marriages and numerous children. Strong language and some violence. Available for download.

RC/DB 62370

The Lost Painting

by Jonathan Harr

Professor and award-winning author recounts the search for Caravaggio's long-lost painting *The Taking of Christ*. Follows graduate student Francesca Cappelletti as she tracked the painting across Europe to Ireland, where clues led to the home of a Jesuit priest. Available for download.

RC/DB 62490

Barbra

by Christopher Andersen

Portrays Barbra Joan Streisand as the "Brooklyn goil-made-good." Andersen discusses Streisand's roles as singer, movie actress, director, producer, philanthropist, political activist, and iconic artist who has won nearly every major entertainment award. Some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 62853

The Irish Game

by Matthew Hart

Journalist author of *Diamond* (RC 55703) examines the 1986 heist at Ireland's Russborough House during which Dubliner Martin Cahill stole eighteen paintings including Vermeer's *Lady Writing a Letter with Her Maid*. Chronicles Scotland Yard's investigations and the sting that uncovered illicit drug connections and a stunning art discovery. Available for download.

RC 63038

Lightning Man

by Kenneth Silverman

Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer relates the life and times of Massachusetts-born artist Samuel Finley Breese Morse (1791-1872), dot-dash alphabet inventor and disputed creator of the electric telegraph. Describes Morse's early portrait-painting career, later political campaigns, personal life, and lifelong battle with anxiety and depression. Available for download.

RC 63139

Wedgwood

by Brian Dolan

History professor details the life of Englishman Josiah Wedgwood (1730-1795) from apprentice to master potter, scientist, and business tycoon. Covers his creation of Wedgwood pottery, division-of-labor practices, use of an early time-clock, marketing skills, and concern for and care of his employees. Some strong language.

RC/DB 63159

Dirty White Boys

by Stephen Hunter

Lamar Pye breaks out of an Oklahoma prison with his mentally disabled cousin Odell and artist Richard, pursued by highway patrolman Bud Pewtie. The convicts hide out on the farm of disturbed Ruta Beth Tull and raise havoc until they are cornered. Violence and strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 63180

Millennium Park

by Timothy J. Gilfoyle

Chronicles the design, funding, and construction of Chicago's Millennium Park, a twenty-four-acre public space serving as a park, performance venue, outdoor art museum, and cultural center that opened on July 16, 2004. Describes political controversy surrounding the project and the innovative architecture, sculpture, and landscaping of the finished site.

RC 63310

Sacred Monsters, Sacred Masters
by John Richardson

Twenty-eight profiles of artists, writers, tycoons, and trendsetters of the twentieth century by a former art dealer, who was personally acquainted with many of his subjects. "Bonnard's Amphibious Wife" records the sad history of the French artist's mistress and eventual wife, who "spent much of her life soaking in a bathtub." Available for download.

RC 63730

Olivier

by Terry Coleman

Authorized biography uses personal archives of actor Sir Laurence Olivier (1907-1989) to chronicle Olivier's personal life and professional career. Highlights his rivalries within the National Theater of Great Britain, his film roles, and his marriages to the actresses Vivien Leigh and Joan Plowright. Strong language.

RC/DB 63739

The Judgment of Paris

by Ross King

Traces the rivalry of two French artists of opposing schools during a time of social and political upheaval. Describes events occurring between 1863 and 1874 as world-renowned Ernest Meissonier and upstart Edouard Manet vied for exhibition space and fame. Available for download.

RC 64172

Artists and Writers of the Harlem Renaissance

by Wendy Hart Beckman

Biographical sketches of ten African American contributors to the art, literature, music, and social commentary of the Harlem Renaissance: James Weldon Johnson, Alain LeRoy Locke, Zora Neale Hurston, Bessie Smith, Aaron Douglas, Duke Ellington, Langston Hughes, Arna Bontemps, Countee Cullen, and Josephine Baker. For junior and senior high readers.

RC/DB 64722

The Living White House

by Betty C. Monkman

Former White House curator pens an updated edition of this celebration of the executive mansion in its various roles since 1800: office of the commander-in-chief, home to the first family, and historic residence. Describes two hundred years of daily routines, state occasions, weddings,

funerals, and renovations. Available for download.

RC/DB 64919

Still Looking

by John Updike

Eighteen appraisals of major American artists by novelist and art critic John Updike. Presents historical, biographical, and aesthetic commentary on nineteenth- and twentieth-century masters from John Singleton Copley to Andy Warhol. Features Winslow Homer, James McNeill Whistler, Jackson Pollack, photographer Alfred Stieglitz, and others. Available for download.

RC 65119

Leonardo da Vinci

by Charles Nicholl

Biography of Renaissance artist, philosopher, and scientist Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519). Author examines Leonardo's notebooks and contemporary manuscripts to search for the man behind the myth. Progresses chronologically through Leonardo's life and career and portrays his complexity and variety of interests.

RC 65182

Mellon

by David Cannadine

Life of financier and philanthropist Andrew Mellon (1855-1937), who was Treasury secretary under presidents Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover. Describes how Mellon helped rebuild the post-World War I U.S. economy

with laissez-faire capitalism. Discusses his establishment of the National Gallery of Art and his death before its completion.

RC/DB 67547

The Forger's Spell
by Edward Dolnick

Examines the dealings of small-time Dutch artist Han van Meegeren (1889-1947), who passed off his works as masterpieces by the seventeenth-century painter Johannes Vermeer, even selling one to Nazi leader Hermann Goering. Analyzes the forger's technique, talent for manipulating people, and trial for treason in Amsterdam. Some strong language. Available for download.

RC/DB 67829

Valfierno
by Martín Caparros

A con artist reinvented as the Marqués de Valfierno divulges his escapades--from surviving a sordid childhood in Buenos Aires, where he was called Bollino, to perfecting an audacious heist of the Mona Lisa from the Louvre in 1911--and the reason behind the theft. Some explicit descriptions of sex.

DB 68467

Waking Giant
by David S. Reynolds

Chronicles the cultural transformation of U.S. society between 1815 and 1848. Describes immigration, religious revivals, economic growth, transportation

advances, a literature and art renaissance, and the addition of new states. Highlights the rise of Andrew Jackson and his policies.

Braille

BR 01033

An Artist and the Pope
by Curtis Pepper

Angelo Roncalli, son of a tenant farmer near Bergamo, Italy, became Pope John XXIII, and Giacomo Manzù, son of a shoemaker from Bergamo, became a great sculptor. The relationship between these two townsmen, the Pope and the communist artist who had lost his faith, is the subject of this book.

BR 06063

The Other David
by Carolyn Coker

A beautiful, young American art historian serving an apprenticeship in Florence discovers what she believes to be a Michelangelo portrait of the young man who posed for the famous statue of David. Unfortunately someone else also knows the value of the painting and marks the young woman for death.

BR 11065

Necessary Madness

by Jenn Crowell

Novel by a seventeen-year-old tells of a young American widow in London. As Gloria Burgess helps prepare a show of her late English husband's paintings, she reflects upon the contrast between her short marriage and the unhappy union her parents endured after Gloria's father lost the love of his life. Some strong language.

BR 11218

Murder at the National Gallery

by Margaret Truman

Luther Mason, curator at the National Gallery for more than twenty years, is finally getting the Caravaggio exhibit he has dreamed of. But Luther also has other visions--he plans to keep one of the original paintings and substitute a forgery. Some violence.

BR 13360

Girl with a Pearl Earring

by Tracy Chevalier

A fictional account of how the seventeenth-century artist Vermeer came to paint a portrait of a young woman wearing a pearl earring. When sixteen-year-old Griet, a Protestant, becomes a maid in Vermeer's Catholic household, the drudgery of her duties is offset by working in the artist's studio. Some descriptions of sex.

BR 13856

Brunelleschi's Dome

by Ross King

Discusses the intermittent construction during the 1300s of a cathedral in Florence that would require the largest dome in the world. Explains how this led to the 1418 competition for solving the architectural puzzle; how it was won by Filippo Brunelleschi, a clockmaker; and how he achieved engineering marvels. Available for download from Web-braille.

BR 14076

Lydia Cassatt Reading the Morning Paper

by Harriet Scott Chessman

A sequence of five imaginary reflections by Lydia as she poses for her younger sister, impressionist painter Mary Cassatt, in late-nineteenth-century Paris. Although terminally ill with Bright's disease, Lydia enjoys the intimacy of sitting as a model, pondering immortality, the purpose of art, and Mary's relationship with Edgar Degas.

BR 14153

The Artist's Wife

by Max Phillips

From beyond the grave, the talented, seductive, and witty Alma Mahler tells the story of her extraordinary life in early-twentieth-century Vienna. She recounts her marriages to composer Gustav Mahler, architect Walter Gropius, and novelist Franz Werfel, and recalls her relationships with the

painters Gustav Klimt and Oskar Kokoschka. Some descriptions of sex.

BR 14458

Frida

by Hayden Herrera

Portrait of the twentieth-century Mexican artist often identified with the surrealists. Discusses the bus accident that brought her chronic pain from age eighteen until her death at forty-seven. Covers her tempestuous marriage to muralist Diego Rivera. Explores the relation between her paintings and her physical and mental anguish. Some strong language.

BR 14580

Artists of the Renaissance

by James Barter

Discusses the life and accomplishments of six Italian artists of the early and High Renaissance, whose works represent important innovations and achievements in painting, sculpture, and architecture. Includes Giotto, Donatello, Brunelleschi, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael. For grades 6-9.

BR 14817

The Quilter's Legacy

by Jennifer Chiaverini

While preparing for her wedding to Andrew, Sylvia searches for her late mother Eleanor's heirloom quilts but discovers they were sold decades ago. Pursuing leads to find them, she learns more about Eleanor's past and

events touching her, such as the sinking of the Titanic and the flu epidemic of 1918.

BR 14866

Die in Plain Sight

by Elizabeth Lowell

When Lacey Quinn reveals to the public her late grandfather's outstanding works of art, someone threatens to destroy her and the paintings. Security specialist Ian Lapstrake assists in protecting Lacey while they hunt for the culprit and fall in love. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence.

BR 15267

The Birth of Venus

by Sarah Dunant

Renaissance Florence. Sixteen-year-old Alessandra Cecchi, the educated, artistic daughter of a wealthy merchant, is forced to marry an older man, who promises her freedom. Upon discovering his true intentions, she turns for love to an artist commissioned by her father. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language.

BR 15405

Francisco Goya

by Evan S. Connell

Award-winning author traces the life and career of Spanish painter Francisco Goya (1746-1828). Describes the portraitist of royalty during the last days of the House of Bourbon and, while he pursued

wealthy patrons, witnessing the turmoil of the Inquisition and Napoleon's invasion.

BR 15459

Dead Line

by Brian McGrory

Boston Record newspaperman Jack Flynn gets a lead from the FBI about an unsolved museum heist. A prime suspect is the estranged son of Boston's mayor. After a murder Flynn realizes he's involved in a deadly cat and mouse game. Strong language and some violence.

BR 15987

The Portrait

by Iain Pears

Small island near Brittany, early 1900s. When famous British art critic William Naysmith visits Scottish artist Henry MacAlpine to sit for a portrait, he becomes captive to the artist's diatribe. The artist indicts the critic's ruthless use of power and gradually reveals a plan of vengeance. Some descriptions of sex and some violence.

BR 16507

False Impression

by Jeffrey Archer

Art dealer Dr. Anna Petrescu works for fraudulent financier Bryce Fenston, who collects Impressionist paintings. After the 2001 World Trade Center attack, Anna takes the opportunity to disappear and look into Bryce's latest Van Gogh purchase. FBI agent Jack Delaney also

investigates. Some violence and some strong language.

BR 16531

The Moon and Sixpence

by W. Somerset Maugham

Middle-aged London stockbroker Charles Strickland forsakes business and family to pursue a painter's life. Charles travels to Paris before eventually settling in Tahiti, where he takes a mistress and devotes himself to art despite poverty and a prolonged terminal illness. Inspired by the life of French impressionist Paul Gauguin.

BR 17475

Duma Key

by Stephen King

An accident left self-made construction millionaire Edgar Freemantle brain damaged and without an arm. When Edgar's rage results in divorce, his therapist suggests he spend a year painting in Florida. With his phantom arm's help, Edgar soon produces incredible, but dangerous, artwork. Violence and strong language.

BR 17513

Leonardo

by Martin Kemp

Oxford art historian examines the essential nature of Renaissance phenomenon Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519). Discusses the scientific investigations that sidetracked Leonardo from finishing his paintings--studies ranging from anatomy and

optics to engineering and geology. Considers the practicalities of Leonardo's painting process and explores his legacy.

BR 17758

Life Class

by Pat Barker

Paul Tarrant falls in love with fellow London art student Elinor Brooke, who is pursued by painter Kit Neville. When World War I breaks out, Paul joins the Belgian Red Cross--and returns a changed man. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language.

BR 18277

A Pale Horse

by Charles Todd

England, 1920. WWI veteran and Scotland Yard inspector Ian Rutledge investigates the case of a body found in the ruins of an abbey near an enormous prehistoric chalk carving of a horse. When his suspects are murdered, Rutledge realizes the War Office and the locals are working against him. 2008

BR 18335

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man
by James Joyce

Largely autobiographical novel portrays the Irish childhood, adolescence, and early manhood of Stephen Dedalus, one of the leading characters in Joyce's Ulysses (BR 10287). Stephen's growing self-awareness as an artist forces him to

reject the narrow world in which he was brought up.

Spanish Language

RC 14422

La Maja Desnuda
(The Nude Maja)

by V. Blasco Ibañez.

The story of Mariano Renovales, a rags-to-riches painter who is obsessed with the famous Goya painting, the Nude Maja. The painter's visit to the Prado Museum in Madrid serves as the author's pretext to comment on some of the famous paintings of the museum and to review briefly the lives of the Spanish painters, Goya and Velazquez. Spanish language.

RC 24767

La Hija de Mistral
(Mistral's Daughter)

by Judith Krantz

Captivating portrayal of Julien Mistral, a devoted bohemian French artist, and his life and loves. The novel details the worlds of art, society, and high-fashion modeling. Focuses on Teddy Lunel, the glamorous daughter of the artist's former mistress, and Fauve Lunel, Teddy's illegitimate daughter by Julien. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Spanish language.

RC 24773

**Diario de un Genio
(Diary of a Genius)**

by Salvador Dali

Autobiography of the famous surrealist painter which reveals, through word play and humor, the daily life of the artist and the great questions of art and conscience which occupy the mind of the genius. Spanish language.

RC 25187

Masterpiece

by Thomas Hoving

Romantic international thriller centers on the dashing director of the National Gallery of Art. He is pitted against the ambitious, beautiful young woman who is acting director of the Metropolitan Museum in a fight for ownership of a masterwork by the Spanish painter Diego Velazquez. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex.

RC 33856

Diego Velázquez

by Julián Gallego

The life and work of the famous Spanish painter of the early seventeenth century. Covers Velazquez's life from his Sevillian childhood, through his education and tutelage under Pacheco, his arrival in Madrid as court painter, his trips to Rome, and his subsequent ascent to the zenith of his profession. Letters, testimonials, and critical appreciations are appended to the biography. Spanish language.

RC 40877

**Un Grito en la Noche
(Cry in the Night)**

by Mary Higgins Clark

Jenny MacPartland, the struggling divorced mother of two small girls, meets and marries handsome, wealthy artist Erich Krueger, who takes her and her children away to his family mansion in Minnesota. Erich becomes brooding and rageful, and Jenny discovers that he is obsessed with the memory of his dead mother, Caroline. Spanish language.

RC/DB 56976

**Once Minutos
(Eleven Minutes)**

by Paulo Coelho

Disappointed by love, Maria begins working as a prostitute in Geneva. While pursuing a life of sex for hire, she has a chance encounter with a young painter that leads her to a new awareness about sex in the context of love. Explicit descriptions of sex. Spanish language. Available for download.

RC/DB 58957

**El Código Da Vinci
(The Da Vinci code.)**

by Dan Brown

Professor Robert Langdon investigates the crime scene of the Louvre's murdered curator. Joining him is French cryptologist Sophie Neveu. The clues left behind pit two Catholic societies against each other in search of the Holy Grail. Some

violence and some strong language.
Spanish language.

RC 58984

**La Conquista
(The Conquest)**

by Yxta Maya Murray

Sara Rosario Gonzalez, a rare book restorer at the Getty Museum, becomes obsessed with a sixteenth-century folio depicting the life of an Aztec princess enslaved and sent to Europe by Cortez. Meanwhile Sara's fiancé, Karl, is tired of waiting for her and may marry another woman.
Spanish language.

RC/DB 60985

**La Joven de la Pendiente Perla
(The Girl with the Pearl Earring)**

by Tracy Chevalier

Fictional account behind the seventeenth-century artist Vermeer's portrait of a young woman wearing a pearl earring. When sixteen-year-old Griet, a Protestant, becomes a maid in Vermeer's Catholic household, the drudgery of her duties is offset by working in the painter's studio. Some descriptions of sex. Spanish language. Available for download.

RC/DB 60987

**Los Años con Laura Díaz
(Years with Laura Díaz)**

by Carlos Fuentes

Born in 1898, Laura grows up with the new century, her personal story intermingled with the turbulent history of Mexico. Among her friends she numbers Frida Kahlo and Diego

Rivera, who paints her image into one of his murals. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language.
Spanish language. Available for download.

RC 61017

**El Paraíso en la Otra Esquina
(Paradise in the Other Corner)**

by Mario Vargas Llosa

Fictional biography of French painter Paul Gauguin and his feminist grandmother Flora Tristan. Their lives are played out in alternate chapters and different eras, united by the common theme of their passionate search for a personal paradise.
Spanish language.

RC 61026

**La Cena Secreta
(The Secret Supper)**

by Javier Sierra

1497. An anonymous informant known as the Soothsayer implicates painter Leonardo da Vinci in a heretical conspiracy surrounding his latest masterpiece, The Last Supper. Roman papal authorities dispatch Father Agostino Leyre to Milan to find the Soothsayer, examine da Vinci's mural, and confirm the accusations.
Spanish language. Available for download.

RC/DB 61028

**Cinco Cerditos
(Five Little Pigs)**

by Agatha Christie

England. A young woman hires private detective Hercule Poirot to

exonerate her late mother who was convicted of killing her famous artist husband--the young woman's father--sixteen years earlier. To clear the mother's name, Poirot searches for the fatal flaw in what appears to have been the perfect poisoning. Spanish language. Available for download.

RC/DB 61040

Tutankamon

by **Olga Álvarez Herrero**

Traces what is known about the short-lived Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen, information principally derived from the 1922 archaeological discovery of his undisturbed tomb. Describes efforts to preserve the burial site's priceless treasures and artifacts, which reveal a penetrating portrait of life in ancient Egypt. Spanish language.

RC/DB 61048

**Par de Detectives
(Partners in Crime)**

by **J.A. Jance**

Investigator J.P. Beaumont of Seattle and Joanna Brady of the Arizona sheriff's department combine forces to find the murderer of an artist who had been in a witness protection program. Some violence and some strong language. Spanish language. Available for download.

RC/DB 61074

El Sol de Breda

(The Sun over Breda)

by **Arturo Pérez-Reverte**

Flanders, 1625. Young Inigo Balboa signs on as the aide of Captain Alatraste as the Spaniards lay siege to the rebel town of Breda. Inigo witnesses firsthand the furious combat and the devastation of a battle that will be immortalized in the famous painting by Velázquez. Violence. Spanish language. Available for download.

RC/DB 68980

Diego Rivera y Frida Kahlo

(Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo)

by **Gabriel Sánchez Sorondo**

Explores the marriage of Mexican artists Kahlo and Rivera--she petite and physically impaired by injuries and pain; he twenty years her senior, corpulent, and given to drink. Author asserts that their volatile, politicized, and unconventional relationship changed Latin American art. Some descriptions of sex. Spanish language. Available for download.