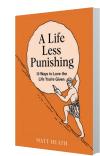
69 Magnolia Parks Universe

Jessa Hastings ROMANCE

Affluent socialite Magnolia Parks and self-described bad-boy BJ Ballentine are meant to be together and everyone knows it, although they try their best to sabotage what should be a good thing.



A Life Less Punishing

SELF HELP

Matt Heath got sick of feeling irritated, grumpy and stressed over things that didn't really matter and decided to find a way to live a life less punishing. This book gives you the tools to do the same.



ROMANCE

Liz Buxbaum decides she needs to rethink what her own idea of what Happily Ever After should look like in this wonderful young adult novel.



J.R.R. Tolkien

FANTASY

Tolkien's classic has enduring appeal, and is particularly loved here in New Zealand. Encounters with trolls, goblins, dwarves, elves and conversations with the dragon Smaug are just some of the adventures that befall homebody hobbit Bilbo Baggins.

63 The Girl From London

Olivia Spooner **FICTION**

From 1940 to the modern day, this is about a family through generations - it's a heart-wrenching story of love. loss and the resilience of the human spirit.

64 Caraval Series

Stephanie Garber FANTASY

A marvellous young adult series about the magical. once-a-year circus performance Caraval, and the two sisters who get caught up in its mystery

65 The Good Life

Gillian Swinton **NON-FICTION**

On their 2.7-hectare property in Central Otago, Gillian and Hamish lead a lifestyle that harks back to a simpler time You too can do it!

66 I Am Pilgrim

Terry Hayes THRILLER

An astonishingly good thriller which has electrified everyone who's read it. We love this book as much as our readers do!

The Inheritance Games Series

Jennifer Lynn Barnes THRILLER.

This series focuses on a girl named Avery Kylie Grambs and the illustrious Hawthorne family. In the first book it's revealed that she's been chosen to inherit the

will of deceased billionaire Tobias Hawthorne. 68 Project Hail Mary

SCIENCE FICTION

Ryland Grace is the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission, and if he fails, humanity and the earth itself will perish. Except that right now, he doesn't know that

69 Little Women

Louisa May Alcott CLASSIC

Timeless in its evocation of idealised family life and robustly enduring, Little Women is widely recognised as one of the best-loved classic stories of all time.

70 Feijoa

Kate Evans HISTORY

The feijoa has become iconic in New Zealand, but its history is far more widespread and interesting. This is a book about connection - between people and plants, individuals, cultures, and across disciplines.

Kings of Sin Series

ROMANCE

A series of steamy billionaire romances themed around the seven deadly sins, with each book featuring a different sin and a different couple. Ana Huang has been confirmed as a favourite of our readers with two series on this list!



72 Lola in the Mirror

Trent Dalton **FICTION**

An unnamed girl living in a Brisbane scrap yard has a dream, and a curated commentary throughout the book suggests she might just make it, despite all the obstacles in her way. It's truly outstanding.

73 The Kite Runner

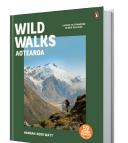
Khaled Hosseini **FICTION**

A terrific novel about friendship in difficult circumstances - set against the challenging political turmoil of Afghanistan.

The Stormlight Archive

Brandon Sanderson **FANTASY**

An epic fantasy series spanning five books and multiple parts. A truly astonishing body of work



Wild Walks Aotearoa

Hannah-Rose Watt

An informative and visually stunning guide to tramping in New Zealand for walkers of all levels and experience.

Set in Oxford in 1836, this is an astonishing novel about the power of language, the violence of colonialism, and the sacrifices of resistance.

77 The Frozen River

Ariel Lawhon **FICTION**

In 19th Century Maine a body Ballard is asked to determine the cause of death, but when she pronounces it as murder the men in her village turn against her.

When the Moon Hatched

FANTASY

But after she is arrested and incarcerated in a high security prison, she is forced to team up with a vengeful dragon rider to escape.

76 Babel

R.F. Kuang **FANTASY**

is found entombed in the frozen river. The local midwife Martha

Series

Sarah A. Parker

As an assassin for the rebellion. Raeve's job is to complete orders and never get caught.

79 Happy Place **FICTION**

Emily Henry ROMANCE

Harriet and Wyn seem like the perfect couple - except they've broken up and no one knows. How can you pretend to be in love - and get away with it - in front of the people who know you best?

The Poppy War Series

R.F. Kuang

FANTASY An epic grimdark fantasy inspired by the politics of mid-20th century China. Rin, an orphaned peasant girl, aces an Empire-wide test and is accepted into Sinegard, the most elite military school in the Nikan Empire.

The Bookshop Detectives Series

Gareth Ward & Louise Ward

The owners of Sherlock Tomes are booksellers and ex-detectives, suddenly immersed in mysteries and murders in their own home town. Witty, clever and highly entertaining.

The Axeman's Carnival

Catherine Chidgey

The prizewinning, highly acclaimed novel about Tama the magpie chick, Marnie who rescues him and her farmer husband Rob, as the story moves inexorably towards the annual Axeman's Carnival.

63 Crowns of Nyaxia

Carissa Broadbent

FANTASY A thrilling series set in a world of vampires, gods, magic and monsters, perfect for romantasy readers!

The Tattooist of Auschwitz Heather Morris

Based on a true story this book has a huge following for its empathetic depiction of life in the Camps in WWII.

85 Northbound

Naomi Arnold **MEMOIR**

The author spent nearly nine months walking the Te Araroa trail on her own, encountering all that nature has to offer. This is inspirational.

86 Meditations

Marcus Aurelius SPIRITUAL

Ruminations and reflections by the second-century Roman emperor, a staunch adherent to the Stoic philosophy.



All The Colours of the Dark

Chris Whitaker

THRILLER An immersive thriller which begins in 1975 when young girls are going missing from a small town in Missouri. Patch and Saint are best friends whose lives are changed forever when Patch gets caught up in one such abduction.

The Handmaid's

Margaret Atwood CLASSIC

Set in the near future, this describes life in what was once the USA, now called the Republic of Gilead It's prescient, horrifying and plausible, scathing satire.

89 Whakawhetai

Hira Nathan JOURNAL

A beautiful bilingual gratitude journal to help improve your te reo and your life. There is always something to feel grateful for, no matter how difficult life can seem. Kia ū ki te pai, kia whai hua ai. Hold on to what is good

and good things will follow.

Violent Ends Duology

Chloe Gong **FANTASY**

A brilliantly clever retelling of Romeo and Juliet which has been set in 1920's Shanghai where a generations-old blood feud between two gangs has created chaos and suspicion across the city. When a deadly madness strikes gangsters on both sides, Juliette and Roma must set their guns and grudges - aside.

91 Sea Change

Jenny Pattrick

FICTION A compelling story of a local community's fight for survival after being engulfed by a devastating tsunami, and from which a corrupt businessman

Remarkably Bright Creatures

sees a golden opportunity.

Shelby Van Pelt

Endearingly quirky, this novel charts the bond between aquarium worker Tova and Marcellus the cantankerous giant Pacific octopus, as they attempt to discover how and why Tova's son Erik disappeared over thirty years ago.

93 The Life of Dai Dai Henwood

With a diagnosis of incurable cancer, Dai shows that laughter can be a wonderful medicine and teaches us that often the gifts we've been searching for are right in front of us, if only we could see them.

94 The Alchemist

Paulo Coelho

A well-loved parable that has touched millions of lives with its thoughtful message.

The Crimson Moth Duology

Kristen Ciccarelli **FANTASY**

Rune Winters leads a double life

by day, she's a seemingly vapid socialite: by night, she's the Crimson Moth, a vigilante who helps her fellow witches escape persecution. Until a rescue goes wrong, and she realises that in order to gain the intel she needs. she must court a handsome and notorious witch hunter.



The Kindred's Curse Saga

FANTASY

An electrifying series that follows Diem, a mortal healer living in a world ruled by powerful demigods. Her mother's sudden disappearance and the discovery of a dangerous secret about her past offer an unexpected opportunity to enter the secretive world of the Descended.

97 Auē

Becku Manawatu

The award winning New Zealand novel about Ārama, Taukiri and Beth - and Lupo, the dog. Tragedy, sorrow, hope and aroha are all imbued within these pages.



68 The Courage to be Disliked Ichiro Kishimi & Fumitake Koga

This is simple yet profound advice showing us how to harness our inner power to become the person we would like

to be, as guided by a philosopher

69 A Song of Ice and Fire Series George R.R. Martin

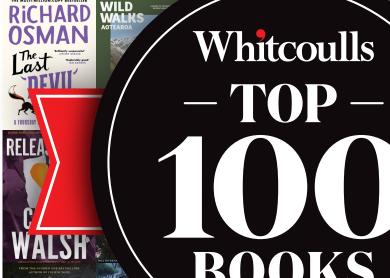
and a student.

FANTASY

Thousands of new readers have discovered these books, whose popularity is undiminished, even as everyone waits (and waits and waits!) for numbersix in the series!

100 The Twilight Saga Stephenie Meyer **FANTASY**

The most iconic vampire romance of the 21st century charts the later teenage years of Bella Swan, who falls in love with a one-hundred-andfour-year-old vampire named Edward Cullen, Bella expects her new life in Forks, Washington to be as dull as the town, but she is immediately enraptured by the beautiful, otherworldly Cullen family.



GARETH WARD & LOUISE WARD

REBECCA YARROS

THE

THEORY



REAPING

Jenny

Dattrick







ANDY

WEIR

Lucinda

CARISSA BROADBENT

TED

Whitcoulls

2025/2026 list as voted by New Zealanders www.whitcoulls.co.nz

THIS YEAR'S TOP 5 VOTED TITLES













4 A Little Life

The much acclaimed novel

which was nominated for a

5 The Nightingale

navigating their way through

German-occupied, war-torn

France. This is an amazing

The Boys of

Harry Potter

Series

J.K. Rowling

Tommen Series

book, and Kristin Hannah is

relationship between four men.

large number of literary prizes.

about the decades long

Hanya Yanagihara

FICTION

Kristin Hannah

The New York Times

FICTION

Chloe Walsh

ROMANCE

The Empyrean

Rebecca Yarros **FANTASY**

Dragons and fantasy are hugely popular themes at the moment and Rebecca Yarros caters to this interest in the most imaginative of ways. Her books are entertaining, thought provoking and fun, and provide pure escapism which is what a lot of readers are looking for They're set in the brutal and elite world of Basgiath War College for dragon riders. The first book in the series is Fourth Wing which follows scholarly Violet's attempts to stay alive while training to become a dragon rider.

The Thursday Murder Club Series

Richard Osman

In a peaceful retirement village four unlikely friends meet up once a week to investigate unsolved killings. These books are charming.



Sarah J. Maas

FANTASY

A modern classic of young adult literature. This thrilling. epic story follows the assassin Celaena Sardothien as she uncovers a conspiracy which threatens the safety of her world.

A Court of Thorns and Roses Series

Sarah J. Maas **FANTASY**

Journey with Feyre Archeron and her sisters Nesta and Elain, after Feyre is taken into the faerie lands of Prythian for unknowingly murdering one of the fae.

The Women

Kristin Hannah

best-seller, about two sisters Frankie McGrath joins the Army Nurse Corps to serve in Vietnam, only to be ostracised on her return. The naïve young girl who went to war comes beloved by our readers with back needing to remake her three titles on this Top 100. life in the shadow of so much chaos and destruction.

The Seven Sisters Series

Lucinda Rileu

A series of eight books based Set in Cork, Ireland, these on the legend of the Seven books are based around the Sisters star constellation lives of Johnny, Shannon, Gibsie and their friends as they which are much beloved by our readers and found a special navigate their way through place in the hearts of thousands their prestigious private school, of New Zealanders. Tommen College, and prepare for adulthood.

🖰 The Hunger Games Series

Suzanne Collins

SCIENCE FICTION The gripping original trilogy

FANTASY These books have now plus the two preguels, The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes and Sunrise on the Reaping of readers and the love for are perennial favourites with our They're timeless. readers and highly acclaimed.

Everyday Comfort Food

Vanya Insull COOKING

Warming, comforting, nostalgic treats to keep the whole tribe well fed and happy.

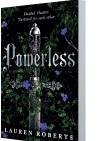
A Good Girl's 13 Guide to Murder Series

Holly Jackson CRIME

A series of young adult crime thrillers which feature who investigates cold cases

Jane Austen CLASSIC

This classic is consistently voted to a high position on our list.



15 Powerless Series

Lauren Roberts **FANTASY**

Red Queen meets The Hunger Games. Only the extraordinary belong in the kingdom of Ilya, so Paedyn Gray - an ordinary mortal - must blend in with the dangerous Elites.

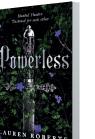
16 Lessons in Chemistry

captivated several generations them shows no sign of abating.

17 See How They Fall

Pip, a high school student with the help of her online sleuthing community.

📆 Pride and Prejudice



Bonnie Garmus FICTION

Elizabeth is a smart scientist and host of a 60's TV cooking show. She's unconventional. and a one woman force of nature.

Rachel Paris THRILLER

The uber rich Turner family operate a luxury goods empire, where their venal self interest knows no bounds. This is a compelling insight into the world of the one percenters.

Where the Crawdads Sing

FICTION

An exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. This is wonderful.

The Seven 🔟 Husbands of **Evelyn Hugo**

Taylor Jenkins Reid

The entrancing story of a reclusive Hollywood starlet as she reflects on her relentless rise to the top and the long-held secrets the public could never imagine.



Callie Hart **FANTASY**

Twenty-four-year-old Saeris inadvertently finds herself transported into a realm of ice and snow, and into the middle of a centuries-long conflict between the Fae.

The Let Them Theory

Mel Robbins SELF HELP

If you've ever felt stuck, overwhelmed, or frustrated with where you are, the problem isn't you - it's the power you give to other people. Two simple words - let them - will set you free.

77 The Housemaid Series

Freida McFadden THRILLER

An unbelievably twisty read that will have you glued to the pages late into the night.

23 Verity

Colleen Hoover **THRILLER**

After Lowen is hired by the husband of acclaimed author Verity Crawford to help complete a series she is unable to finish. Lowen discovers an unfinished autobiography that Verity never intended anyone to read.

24 The Secret History

Donna Tartt CLASSIC

has to offer.

Under the influence of their charismatic Classics professor, a group of clever, eccentric misfits at an elite college begin a downhill slide into obsession and evil. A modern classic.

25 Fungi of Aotearoa Liv Sisson

REFERENCE A practical and up-to-date guide which takes readers on a journey to discover the unique and diverse fungi Aotearoa



26 Shatter Me Series

SCIENCE FICTION

Seven books in a young adult dystopian series which centres on Juliette Ferrars, a seventeen year old girl with a lethal touch.

To Kill a Mockingbird

Harper Lee CLASSIC

A timeless classic about racial tension. This book is beloved by generations of readers.

28 Twisted Series

Ana Huang **ROMANCE**

A very popular four book romance series with steam, suspense and darker themes.

29 The Book Thief Markus Zusak

FICTION

A sophisticated work that has found favour with both teens and adults. Death himself narrates this WWII story about Liesel.

30 In Too Deep Lee Child & Andrew Child THRILLER

Jack Reacher wakes to find himself the captive of a gang who have some very disturbing plans in this high-octane, addictive thriller.

The Song of Achilles

Madeline Miller **FICTION**

This version of the epic Trojan War is a dazzling feat of the imagination, a devastating love story, and an almighty battle between gods and kings.

32 The Bible SPIRITUAL

The Bible has appeared on every single Top 100 List since we started taking votes. It continues to inspire and guide, and is as relevant now as it ever was.

Real The Lord of the Rings

J.R.R. Tolkien **FANTASY**

The classic epic which still stands the test of time.

Once Upon a 34 Broken Heart Series

Stephanie Garber **FANTASY**

These books are about love curses, and the lengths that people will go to for happily ever after.

35 The Silent Patient

Alex Michaelides **THRILLER**

A shocking psychological thriller of a woman's act of violence against her husband and of the therapist obsessed with uncovering her motive.

Six of Crows Duology

Leigh Bardugo **FANTASY**

Six dangerous outcasts set out to pull off an impossible heist, led by the criminal prodigy Kaz Brekker.



The Ministry of Time

Kaliane Bradleu

FICTION

In a near future London the Government's experimenting with time travel, where new arrivals to the 21st Century are confronted by the internet. dating apps and Spotify. Strangely, it works - brilliantly

38 It Ends with Us Colleen Hoover

ROMANCE Lily has never had it easy. When she starts a new relationship things look

too good to be true, which means they probably are. 39 Normal People

Sally Rooney **FICTION**

Two people who meet as teenagers and then reconnect at University must each confront how far they are willing to go to save the other.

40 Kingmaker

Sonia Purnell **BIOGRAPHY**

Pamela Churchill Harriman acted as a courtesan to help British efforts in WWII, took countless lovers, married three times (it was said, for money) and became US Ambassador to France, wielding enormous power and influence.

The Shepherd King Duology

Rachel Gillig **FANTASY**

A sweeping, gothic fantasy where magic is drawn from rare Providence Cards, and one young woman must collect the set in order to save both her kingdom, and herself.



This magnificent book is set throughout three generations in Kerala, southern India, from 1900 - 1977. It's big, epic in scale and totally immersive

All the Light We Cannot See Anthony Doerr

FICTION An utterly brilliant, captivating WWII story which transcends all the others. We don't know anyone who has read this

The Folk of the Air Series

who hasn't absolutely loved it.

Hollu Black **FANTASY**

This series follows the journey of mortal girl Jude and faerie prince Cardan as they navigate their world of hate, betrayal and contempt, along with their feelings for each other.

45 Atomic Habits James Clear

SELF HELP James Clear knows that real change comes from the compound effect of hundreds of small decisions

Tomorrow and 46 Tomorrow and **Tomorrow**

This has been New Zealand's

most trusted cookbook since

kitchens in 1908 - and is still

recipes that are sure to be

One Hundred
Years of Betty

A joy of a book, telling the

life of Betty as she looks back

over her 100 years with all the

twists and turns, surprises

and disappointments, love

over all that time.

Series

Elsie Silver

ROMANCE

and hard-won independence

Chestnut Springs

A collection of contemporary

romance novels set in a small

town in Texas. Follow the love

and second chances.

stories of five different couples

as they face challenges, secrets

Debra Oswald

FICTION

going strong. Full of everyday

it first appeared in Kiwi

Gabrielle Zevin FICTION

COOKING

a success.

Sam and Sadie - often in love. but never lovers - come together as creative partners in the world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, duplicity and, ultimately, a kind of immortality.

Edmonds Cookery Book

Bryce Quinlan's life was perfect, until a demon murdered her closest friends, leaving her bereft and alone. When the accused is behind bars but the crimes start again, she finds herself at the heart of the investigation.

52 Demon Copperhead

Series

Sarah J. Maas

FANTASY

Barbara Kingsolver

This is the story of David Copperfield reinvented in the Appalachians in the middle of the opioid crisis. Demon Copperhead is a young, redheaded boy who enters foster care after his mother dies and whose journey towards adulthood is fraught, but exquisite in the telling.

53 The Great Alone Kristin Hannah

FICTION

Ernt Allbright, a former Vietnam POW moves his family north to Alaska, where they will live off the grid in America's last true frontier. A portrait of both human frailty and resilience.

The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue

V.E. Schwab FANTASY

When Addie LaRue makes a pact with the devil, she trades her soul for immortality. But there's always a price - the devil takes away her place in the world, cursing her to be forgotten by everyone

The Last Secret Agent

Pippa Latour & Jude Dobson MEMOIR

The astounding true story A Tokyo coffee shop offers of one of the last female Special its customers a unique Operations agents in France to experience: the chance to get out alive after its liberation travel back in time. But the in WWII, and who ultimately journey into the past does not made New Zealand her home. Toome without risks: customers must sit in a particular seat, they cannot leave the café, Crescent City

to the present before their cup of coffee gets cold. 56 Jane Eyre

Charlotte Brontë

First published almost 180 years ago, this is a triumph of storytelling which has endured through generations and is as much loved today as it was in the beginning. A true classic

and finally, they must return

Before the Coffee

Gets Cold

Toshikazu Kawaguchi

FICTION



57 Red Rising Series

SCIENCE FICTION

make it habitable The Midnight

has a chance to make things including herself, but things

Pierce Brown

The earth is dying, and the Reds are humanity's last home Darrow is a Red. a miner in the interior of Mars whose mission is to extract enough precious elements from the planet to

Library

When Nora Seed finds herself in the Midnight Library she right. She constantly feels as though she's let everyone down, are about to change