Jackson County Library Services is excited to offer Book Club in a Bag, now available to area book clubs. Each kit offers 10 copies of a single book, a check out sheet, author information, and suggested discussion questions. Some may have a dvd, audiobook or large print edition also. Kits check out for six weeks and you can return the book bags to any JCLS library. Our reservation system, ‘KitKeeper’, is found on our webpage, jcls.org, and this makes it easy for our patrons to select and place a hold for a specific month.

For more information about the book club kits try the library webpage for more information. You can also contact the Library Reference Desk in person, by phone at 541-774-8689 (Medford) or 541 774-6996 (Ashland), by email at medref@jcls.org or visit jcls.org.

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Jackson County Library Services
541-774-8679 www.jcls.org
Alan Turing: The Enigma by Andrew Hodges, non-fiction
The inspiration for the film The Imitation Game, this is a gripping story of mathematics, computers, cryptography, and homosexual persecution.

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr,
Beautiful and ambitious novel about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

Ashley's War by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon, non-fiction
The gripping story of a groundbreaking team of female American warriors who served alongside Special Operations soldiers on the battlefield in Afghanistan.

At the Water's Edge by Sara Gruen,
Impeccably researched historical fiction about a privileged young woman’s realization that the values she holds dear are unsustainable as she experiences the devastation of World War II in a tiny village in the Scottish Highlands.

Behind the Beautiful Forevers by Katherine Boo, non-fiction
This dramatic story carries the reader headlong into one of the twenty-first century’s hidden worlds - a makeshift settlement in the shadow of luxury hotels near the Mumbai airport - and into the hearts of families striving toward a better life.

Being Mortal by Atul Gawande, non-fiction
Gawande offers examples of freer, more socially fulfilling models for assisting the infirm and dependent elderly, asserting that medicine can comfort and enhance our experience, and provide not only a good life but also a good end.

The Big Thirst by Charles Fishman, non-fiction
Fishman warns that everything about water is about to change—how we use it, how we share it, and how we value it. A comprehensive, remarkably readable panorama of our dependence on, and responsibilities to, a priceless resource.

The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison,
Mocked by other children for the dark skin, curly hair, and brown eyes that set her apart, Pecola Breedlove yearns for blond hair and blue eyes. This novel asks powerful questions about race, class, and gender with the subtlety and grace that have always characterized Morrison’s writing.

Born with Teeth by Kate Mulgrew, non-fiction
Kate Mulgrew is known for the strong women she’s played - Captain Janeway on Star Trek, the tough-as-nails "Red" on Orange is the New Black. Now, we meet the most inspiring and memorable character of all: herself. This memoir is by turns irreverent and soulful, laugh-out-loud funny and heart-piercingly sad.

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown, non-fiction
The improbable account of how the University of Washington’s eight-oar crew team, composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, managed to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain at the 1936 Olympics.

Broken Angels by Molly Best Tinsley,
CIA agent Victoria Pierce, tasked with tracking the secret export of enriched uranium from Ukrainian stockpiles, collides with a girl on the run from sex traffickers and finds herself entangled in a vicious web when she tries to save her.

Buried Giant by Kazuo Ishiguro
Set in first-century England, this parable revolves around Axl and Beatrice, an elderly couple tired of living in the dark. Fleeting memories haunt them. Did they once have a son? When did he leave? They set out on a journey looking for answers but, as befitting a quest novel, obstacles abound.

Cash Scow by B.K. Showalter
The reluctant hero, Chief Whitehorse, wanders off the Will Rogers reservation and into a world where inept villains, dodgy heroes and a couple of very competent women find themselves coping with bizarre circumstances.

Children’s Crusade by Ann Packer
An extraordinary tale of a Northern California family, laying bare the relationships between brother and sister, parent and child, while at the same time revealing the ways in which the past casts both shadow and light on the present.
China Dolls by Lisa See
San Francisco in 1938 is a city alive with possibilities - a world’s fair is preparing to open on Treasure Island, and a war is brewing overseas. Grace, Helen, and Ruby, young women from very different backgrounds, meet by chance at the glamorous Forbidden City nightclub. They become fast friends who rely on one another through unexpected challenges and shifting fortunes.

Clean by Amy Lynn Reed
A group of teens in a Seattle-area rehabilitation center form an unlikely friendship as they begin to focus less on their own problems with drugs and alcohol by reaching out to help a new member, who seems to have even deeper issues to resolve.

Cologne by Sarah Pleydell
Set in the early 1960s in a still-exhausted post-war Britain, this novel tells of a troubled English family whose lives are altered by the arrival of a German au pair. The values that served Britain so well during the war mask a lingering despair and sadness.

Cuckoo’s Calling by Robert Galbraith
After losing his leg to a land mine in Afghanistan, Cormoran Strike is barely scraping by as a private investigator. Then he’s hired to find the truth about the death of the legendary supermodel Lula Landry, known to her friends as the Cuckoo, who fell to her death a few months earlier in an apparent suicide.

The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown
When the Louvre's chief curator is murdered, Sophie Neveu, a French police cryptologist, and Harvard symbol expert Robert Langdon are on the case. This is an exhaustively researched page-turner about secret religious societies, ancient cover-ups and savage vengeance.

Divergent by Veronica Roth
In a dystopian future-era Chicago, 16-year-old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she uncovers powerful secrets and truths about her family and her society.

Doomsday Marbles by B.K. Showalter
Billy, an adult with kids of his own, remembers the mistakes and mishaps of his "Forties" childhood. Billy's story is a reminder that growing up really is hard to do.

84 Charing Cross Road by Helene Hanft, non-fiction
For 20 years, an outspoken New York writer and a rather more restrained London bookseller carry on an increasingly touching correspondence. This is a charming record of bibliophilia, cultural difference, and imaginative sympathy.

Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell
This is a story of first love between Eleanor, 15, the new girl at school and Park, a half-Korean boy. Eleanor is bullied because she's overweight and dresses in a flamboyant manner. Park still feels like an outsider in the town he has lived in his entire life.

Fault in Our Stars by John Green
At 16, Hazel Grace Lancaster, a three-year stage IV–cancer survivor, is clinically depressed. Her doctor sends her to a weekly support group where she falls in love with Augustus, a fellow cancer survivor. When Hazel becomes fascinated with a novel about cancer with an ambiguous ending, she and Augustus travel to Amsterdam to meet the author.

A Fine Romance by Candace Bergen, nonfiction
With her trademark wit, Bergen leads readers through the highs and lows of her professional and personal life in this entertaining and poignant memoir chock-full of Hollywood cameos.

The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom
This novel weaves together three stories about the same man: 83-year-old Eddie, the head maintenance person at Ruby Point Amusement Park. Sentimental and profoundly true, this is a contemporary American fable that reminds us what really matters here on earth.

Frog Music by Emma Donoghue
In the scorching summer of 1876, Jenny Bonnet, a cross-dressing bicyclist who traps frogs for San Francisco’s restaurants, is killed in a railroad saloon. Exotic dancer Blanche Beunon thinks she knows who shot her friend and why. This is an engrossing tale about moral growth, unlikely friendship, and breaking free from the past.
Gaining Ground: A Story of Farmer’s Markets, Local Food, and Saving the Family Farm by Forrest Pritchard, non-fiction

One fateful day in 1996, after discovering that five freight cars’ worth of glittering corn have reaped a tiny profit of $18.16, young Forrest Pritchard vows to save his family’s farm. What ensues - through hilarious encounters with all manner of livestock and colorful local characters - is a crash course in sustainable agriculture.

Gap Creek by Robert Morgan

Julie and Hank’s new life in the valley, in the last years of the 19th century, is more complicated than the couple ever imagined. Their struggles with nature, work, and the disappointments and triumphs of their union make Gap Creek a timeless story.

Garbology: Our Dirty Love Affair with Trash by Edward Humes

A Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist takes readers on a surprising tour of America’s biggest export, our most prodigious product, and our greatest legacy - our trash.

Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larson

Harriet Vanger, a scion of one of Sweden’s wealthiest families disappeared over forty years ago. Her uncle continues to seek the truth and he hires Mikael Blomkvist, a crusading, to investigate. Blomkvist is aided by the pierced and tattooed punk prodigy, Lisbeth Salander.

Girl on a Train by Paula Hawkins

Rachel takes the same commuter train every morning. Every day she watches the same couple breakfasting on their deck. Their life seems perfect. When she sees something shocking, Rachel becomes inextricably entwined in what happens next, as well as in the lives of everyone involved.

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet’s Nest by Stieg Larson

Lisbeth Salander lies in critical condition in a Swedish hospital, a bullet in her head. If and when she recovers, she’ll stand trial for three murders. But not before she seeks revenge against the man who tried to kill her and against the corrupt government institutions that nearly destroyed her life.

The Girl Who Played with Fire by Stieg Larson

Mikael Blomkvist, crusading publisher of the magazine Millennium, has decided to run a story that will expose an extensive sex trafficking operation. On the eve of its publication, the two reporters responsible for the article are murdered, and the fingerprints found on the murder weapon belong to his friend, the troubled genius hacker, Lisbeth Salander.

God in Ruins by Kate Atkinson

Teddy is an RAF bomber pilot and aspiring poet for whom warfare was nothing compared with the struggle to adjust to different expectations in peacetime.

The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt

Theo Decker miraculously survives an accident that takes the life of his mother. In the years that follow, he becomes entranced by one of the few things that remind him of his mother; a small, mysteriously captivating painting that ultimately draws Theo into the art underworld.

The Good Lord Bird by James McBride

Henry Shackleford is a young slave living in the Kansas Territory in 1857, when the region is a battleground between anti- and pro-slavery forces. When John Brown, the legendary abolitionist, arrives in the area, an argument between Brown and Henry’s master quickly turns violent. Henry is forced to leave town with Brown, who believes he’s a girl.

Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee

Go Set a Watchman features many of the characters from To Kill a Mockingbird some twenty years later. Returning home to Maycomb to visit her father, Jean Louise Finch—Scout—struggles with issues both personal and political, involving Atticus, society, and the small Alabama town that shaped her.

Guernsey Literary and the Potato Peel Pie by Mary Shaffer

In 1946, as England emerges from the shadow of World War II, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey and his eccentric friends, who tell her about their island, German occupation, and the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club born as an alibi during German occupation.
The Help by Kathryn Stockett
Limited and persecuted by racial divides in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, three women, including an African-American maid, her sassy and chronically unemployed friend, and a recently graduated white woman, team up for a clandestine project against a backdrop of the budding civil rights era.

H is for Hawk by Helen MacDonald, non-fiction
Heart wrenching and humorous, this book is an unflinching account of bereavement and a unique look at the magnetism of an extraordinary beast, with a parallel examination of a legendary writer’s eccentric falconry. A distinctive blend of nature writing and memoir from an outstanding literary innovator.

How the Winds Laughed by Addie Greene, nonfiction
In 1971, Addie Greene and her young husband decide to sail around the world in a 28-foot boat. A succession of catastrophes demands that she become the driving force in carrying them forward and eventually safely home.

If I Stay by Gale Forman
With no memory of the car accident itself, 17-year-old Mia must come to terms with never really knowing what happened one horrific winter’s day that changed her life forever.

The Impossible Knife of Memory by Laurie Halse Anderson
Hayley Kincaid and her father move back to their hometown to try a ‘normal’ life, but the horrors he saw in the war threaten to destroy their lives.

The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd
The story follows Hetty “Handful” Grimke, a Charleston slave, and Sarah, the daughter of the wealthy Grimke family. The novel begins on Sarah’s eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership over Handful, who is to be her handmaid, and follows the next thirty-five years of their lives.

Isaac Storm: When Arrogance Comes Up Against Mother Nature by Erik Larson, non-fiction
Provides an in-depth chronicle of America’s deadliest hurricane, which struck the city of Galveston, Texas, in 1900 and killed some ten thousand people, drawing on eyewitness accounts of the catastrophe and the writings of one of America’s earliest professional weathermen, Isaac Cline.

It’s a Long Story by Willie Nelson, non-fiction
The iconic Country Music Hall of Fame artist and 10-time Grammy winner shares the story of his personal life and career, from his early ambitions and indelible relationships through his bankruptcy and founding of Farm Aid.

Leaving Time by Jodi Picoult
Abandoned by a grief-stricken father and scientist mother who disappeared under mysterious circumstances, thirteen-year-old Jenna Metcalf approaches a disgraced psychic and a jaded detective in the hopes of finding answers.

Legitimate Business by Michael Niemann
When a young UN policewoman is shot dead in Zam Zam camp for Internally Displaced Persons in Darfur, the authorities are quick to write it off as an act of random mob violence. But her best friend and partner isn’t so sure.

Life of Pi by Yann Martel
Possessing encyclopedia-like intelligence, zookeeper’s son Pi Patel sets sail for America, but when the ship sinks, he escapes on a lifeboat and is lost at sea with a dwindling number of animals. Soon only he and a hungry Bengal tiger remain.

Lila by Marilynne Robinson
Abandoning her homeless existence to become a minister’s wife, Lila reflects on her hardscrabble life on the run with a canny young drifter and her efforts to reconcile her painful past with her husband’s gentle Christian worldview.

The Little Red Book of Holiday Homicides by MJ Daspit
It’s a mix of murder mystery styles, from hardboiled to barely singe.

Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake by Anna Quindlen, non-fiction
In this irresistible memoir, Pulitzer Prize winning author Quindlen writes about looking back and ahead - and celebrating it all - as she considers marriage, girlfriends, our mothers, faith, loss, and more.
Lucy Lied by MJ Daspit
In the Monterey, California of the late 1870s, a double triangle evolves linking Doctor Jason Garrett, a would-be healer; Sally Locke, the madame with her sights set on Doc Garrett; Lucy Strang, a mute woman on trial for the murder of her common-law husband; and gunman Matt Clancy, an eviction agent who forces settlers off railroad land yet defends Chinese immigrants.

Midwives by Chris Bohjalian
On an icy winter night in an isolated house in rural Vermont, a seasoned midwife named Sibyl Danforth takes desperate measures to save a baby’s life. She performs an emergency cesarean section on a mother she believes has died of a stroke. But what if Sibyl’s patient wasn’t dead - and Sybil inadvertently killed her?

Mink River by Brian Doyle
In a small fictional town on the Oregon coast there are love affairs, mystery and hilarity, bears and tears, brawls and boats, a garrulous logger and a silent doctor, rain and pain, Irish immigrants and Salish stories.

Nature of the Beast by Louise Penny
Hardly a day goes by when nine year old Laurent Lepage doesn’t cry wolf. But when a boy disappears, the villagers are faced with the possibility that one of his tall tales might have been true.

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy were students at an exclusive and secluded boarding school. Now, all grown up Kathy begins looking back at their shared past trying to understand just what it is that makes them special.

Northanger Abbey by Jane Austen
The story of the initiation into the social life of the English gentry of naïve but sweet Catherine Morland. As a willing victim of the fashionable craze for Gothic literature, she’s determined to see herself as the heroine of a dark and thrilling romance.

On the Move by Oliver Sacks, non-fiction
Recounts the author’s life and career, his experiences as a neurologist in the early 1960s, his obsession with motorcycles and speed, and how he found a long-forgotten illness in the wards of a New York chronic hospital.

The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window by Jonas Jonasson
After a long and eventful life, Allan Karlsson ends up in a nursing home, believing it to be his last stop. The only problem is that he’s still in good health. A big celebration is in the works for his 100th birthday, but Allan really isn’t interested. So he decides to escape.

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline
Penobscot Indian Molly Ayer is close to “aging out” out of the foster care system. A community service position helping an elderly woman clean out her home is the only thing keeping Molly out of juvie or worse.

Road to Character by David Brooks, non-fiction
Responding to what he calls the culture of the Big Me, which emphasizes external success, Brooks challenges us, and himself, to rebalance the scales between our “résumé” virtues - achieving wealth, fame, and status - and our “eulogy” virtues - kindness, bravery, honesty, and faithfulness.

The Rosie Effect by Graeme Simsion
Don Tillman and Rosie Jarman are back. The Wife Project is complete, and Don and Rosie are happily married and living in New York. But they’re about to face a new challenge because Rosie is pregnant.

The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion
Don Tillman, a brilliant yet socially inept professor of genetics, decides it’s time he found a wife. In the orderly, evidence-based manner with which he approaches all things he designs the Wife Project, a sixteen-page, scientifically valid survey to find his perfect partner.

S is for Silence by Sue Grafton
Thirty-four years ago, Violet Sullivan put on her party finery and left for the annual Fourth of July fireworks display. She was never seen again. For the six-year-old daughter Daisy she left behind, Violet’s absence has never been explained or forgotten. Now, Daisy wants the solace of closure.
**Satan’s Chamber** by Molly Best Tinsley
Junior CIA operative Victoria Pierce is posted to Khartoum, Sudan, where her father vanished five years before. Obsessed with solving the mystery of his disappearance, she uncovers a horrific plot that threatens to ignite World War III.

**Splintered** by A.G. Howard
Alyssa Gardner hears the whispers of bugs and flowers - precisely the affliction that landed her mother in a mental hospital years before. This family curse stretches back to her ancestor Alice Liddell, the real-life inspiration for Lewis Carroll’s Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.

**A Spool of Blue Thread** by Anne Tyler
The Whitshanks are one of those families that radiate togetherness: an indefinable, enviable kind of specialness. But they are also like all families, in that the stories they tell themselves reveal only part of the picture.

**State of Giving** by Greg Chaille and Kristin Anderson, non-fiction
Chaille and Anderson highlight the crucial role that nonprofits play as pillars of Oregon’s civic structure through their engaging profiles of the charismatic civic leaders, grassroots organizations, donors, and volunteers who are working to combat some of Oregon’s most enduring problems.

**Station Eleven** by Emily St. John Mandel
Kirsten Raymonde will never forget the night Arthur Leander, the famous Hollywood actor, had a heart attack on stage during a production of King Lear. That was the night when a devastating flu pandemic arrived in the city, and within weeks, civilization came to an end.

**Still Alice** by Lisa Genova
At fifty years old, Alice Howland is a cognitive psychology professor at Harvard and a world-renowned expert in linguistics with a successful husband and three grown children. When she becomes increasingly disoriented and forgetful, a tragic diagnosis changes her life, and her relationship with her family and the world.

**Stolen from Gypsies** by Noble Smith
Ambrogio Smythe, a hypochondriacal British nobleman, is obsessed by childhood memories of Gypsies. In Tuscany, Ambrogio meets a wondering storyteller, hears a magical yarn about a Gypsy babe kidnapped by a demon, buys a shred of parchment as evidence, and begins to write his own version of the saga.

**This is Your Life, Harriet Chance!** by Jonathan Evison
Harriet Chance receives word that her recently deceased husband, Bernard, has won an Alaskan cruise. Deciding to go on the trip, she is given a letter from her close friend Mildred, with instructions not to open it until she is on the cruise. The contents of this letter shatter Harriet and she begins to reevaluate her life and her relationships.

**Twelve Years a Slave** by Solomon Northrup, non-fiction
A harrowing memoir about one of the darkest periods in American history and an exceptionally vivid and detailed account of slave life.

**Unbroken** by Laura Hillenbrand, non-fiction
The incredible life of an American airman who, after his bomber crashed in the Pacific during World War II, survived 47 days on a life raft only to be captured by Japanese soldiers and subjected to inhuman treatment for the next two years at a series of POW camps.

**Underground Girls of Kabul** by Jenny Nordberg, non-fiction
Nordberg explores the lives of bacha posh, girls who are made over as boys so that their parents can claim the honor of having a son. Bacha posh experience what few Afghan females ever do - the freedom to go outside without a chaperone, speak their minds, and lead public lives - until adolescence, when they are forced back into a feminine role.

**Water for Elephants** by Sarah Gruen
Told in flashback by nonagenarian Jacob Jankowski, this novel recounts the wild and wonderful period he spent with the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth, a traveling circus he joined during the Great Depression.

**Wild: from Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail** by Cheryl Strayed, non-fiction
A powerful, blazingly honest, inspiring memoir: the story of a 1,100 mile solo hike that broke down a young woman reeling from catastrophe, and built her back up again.
Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel
England in the 1520s is a heartbeat from disaster. If the king dies without a male heir, the country could be destroyed by civil war. Despite the opposition of the pope and most of Europe, Henry VIII wants to annul his marriage and marry Anne Boleyn. Into this impasse steps Thomas Cromwell: a wholly original man, a charmer and a bully, both idealist and opportunist, and implacable in his ambition.

Yes Please by Amy Poehler, non-fiction
The gifted comic actress shares stories from her adolescence, her star-making tenure at Saturday Night Live and her abiding love of improvisation. Poehler has written a happy, angst-free memoir about the lessons she learned while achieving success through ambition and a resolute spirit.

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