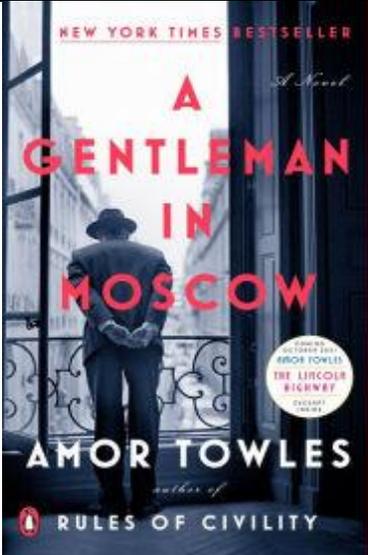
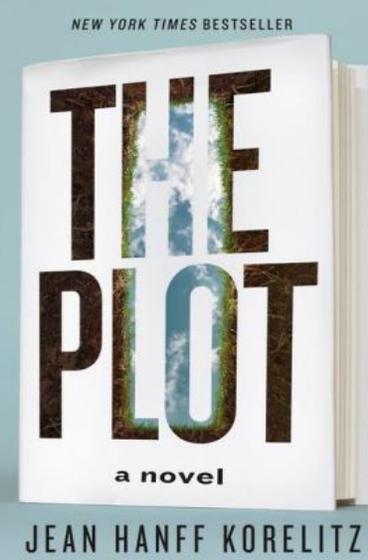
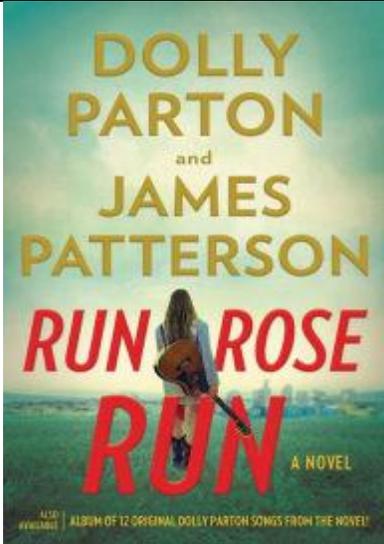
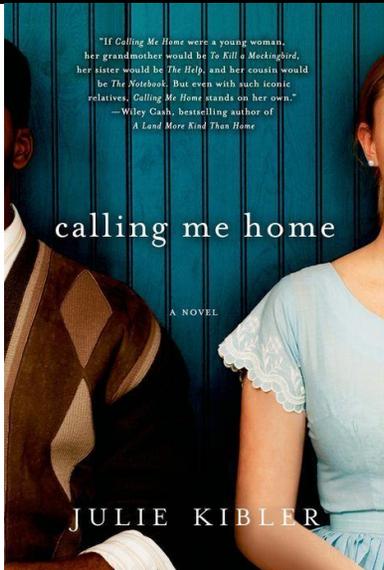


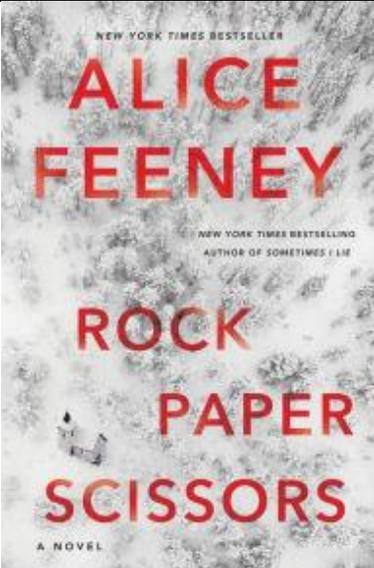
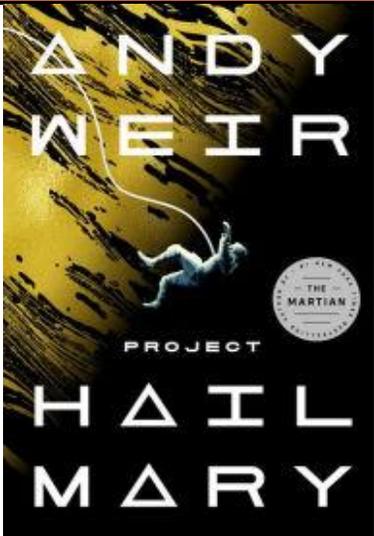
Marion Community Library Book Club Selections, January – December 2023

January 2023		
	<p>Title: A Gentleman in Moscow Author: Amor Towles Genre: Historical Fiction</p>	<p>Overview: In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery.</p> <p>Brimming with humor, a glittering cast of characters, and one beautifully rendered scene after another, this singular novel casts a spell as it relates the count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose.</p>
February 2023		
	<p>Title: The Plot Author: Jean Hanff Korelitz Genre: Mystery/Thriller</p>	<p>Overview: Jacob Finch Bonner was once a promising young novelist with a respectably published first book. Today, he's teaching in a third-rate MFA program and struggling to maintain what's left of his self-respect; he hasn't written—let alone published—anything decent in years. When Evan Parker, his most arrogant student, announces he doesn't need Jake's help because the plot of his book in progress is a sure thing, Jake is prepared to dismiss the boast as typical amateur narcissism. But then . . . he hears the plot.</p> <p>Jake returns to the downward trajectory of his own career and braces himself for the supernova publication of Evan Parker's first novel: but it never comes. When he discovers that his former student has died, presumably without ever completing his book, Jake does what any self-respecting writer would do with a story like that—a story that absolutely needs to be told.</p>

Marion Community Library Book Club Selections, January – December 2023

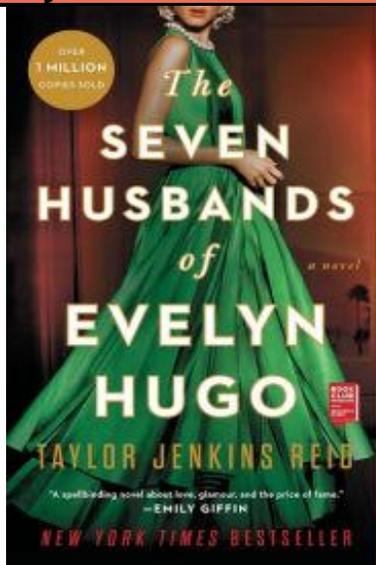
March 2023		
	<p>Title: Run Rose Run Author: Dolly Parton & James Patterson Genre: Fiction</p>	<p>Overview: James Patterson AND Dolly Parton in the same room is enough to give pause. But the thought of them writing a book together? We can just about hear Dolly's voice come through here as she teams up with Patterson for their writing duo debut. A lot of suspense plus the life of a musician and the songs that make your heart ache. We've already put the needle on the record, flipped it over AND then flipped it over AGAIN. Repeat plays. Repeat reads.</p> <p>From America's most beloved superstar and its greatest storyteller—a thriller about a young singer-songwriter on the rise and on the run and determined to do whatever it takes to survive.</p> <p>Every song tells a story. She's a star on the rise, singing about the hard life behind her. She's also on the run. <i>Find a future, lose a past.</i> Nashville is where she's come to claim her destiny. It's also where the darkness she's fled might find her. And destroy her.</p>
April 2023		
	<p>Title: Calling Me Home Author: Julie Kibler Genre: Historical Fiction</p>	<p>Overview: In <i>Calling Me Home</i> by Julie Kibler, eighty-nine-year-old Isabelle McAllister has a favor to ask her hairdresser Dorrie Curtis. It's a big one. Isabelle wants Dorrie, a black single mom in her thirties, to drop everything to drive Isabelle from her home in Arlington, Texas, to a funeral in Cincinnati. With no clear explanation why. Tomorrow.</p> <p>Curious whether she can unlock the secrets of Isabelle's guarded past, she agrees, not knowing it will be a journey that changes both their lives.</p> <p>Over the years, Dorrie and Isabelle have developed more than just a business relationship. They are friends. But Dorrie, fretting over the new man in her life and her teenage son's irresponsible choices, still wonders why Isabelle chose her.</p>

Marion Community Library Book Club Selections, January – December 2023

May 2023		
	<p>Title: Rock Paper Scissors Author: Alice Feeney Genre: Thriller</p>	<p>Overview: Things have been wrong with Mr. and Mrs. Wright for a long time. When Adam and Amelia win a weekend away to Scotland, it might be just what their marriage needs. Self-confessed workaholic and screenwriter Adam Wright has lived with face blindness his whole life. He can't recognize friends or family, or even his own wife.</p> <p>Every anniversary the couple exchange traditional gifts—paper, cotton, pottery, tin—and each year Adam's wife writes him a letter that she never lets him read. Until now. They both know this weekend will make or break their marriage, but they didn't randomly win this trip. One of them is lying, and someone doesn't want them to live happily ever after.</p> <p>Ten years of marriage. Ten years of secrets. And an anniversary they will never forget.</p> <p><i>Rock Paper Scissors</i> is the latest exciting domestic thriller from the queen of the killer twist, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Alice Feeney.</p>
June 2023		
	<p>Title: Project Hail Mary Author: Andy Weir Genre: Science Fiction</p>	<p>Overview: 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. He can't even remember his own name, let alone the nature of his assignment or how to complete it. All he knows is that he's been asleep for a very, very long time. And he's just been awakened to find himself millions of miles from home, with nothing but two corpses for company.</p> <p>His crewmates dead, his memories fuzzily returning, Ryland realizes that an impossible task now confronts him. Hurtling through space on this tiny ship, it's up to him to puzzle out an impossible scientific mystery—and conquer an extinction-level threat to our species.</p> <p>And with the clock ticking down and the nearest human being light-years away, he's got to do it all alone.</p>

Marion Community Library Book Club Selections, January – December 2023

July 2023



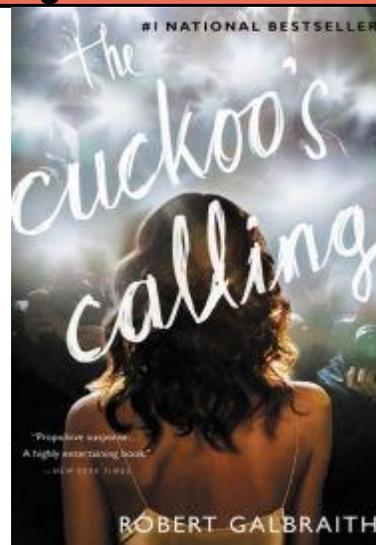
Title: The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo
Author: Taylor Jenkins Reid
Genre: Historical Fiction

Overview: Aging and reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous and scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? Why now?

Monique is not exactly on top of the world. Her husband has left her, and her professional life is going nowhere. Regardless of why Evelyn has selected her to write her biography, Monique is determined to use this opportunity to jumpstart her career.

Summoned to Evelyn's luxurious apartment, Monique listens in fascination as the actress tells her story. From making her way to Los Angeles in the 1950s to her decision to leave show business in the '80s, and, of course, the seven husbands along the way, Evelyn unspools a tale of ruthless ambition, unexpected friendship, and a great forbidden love. Monique begins to feel a very real connection to the legendary star, but as Evelyn's story near its conclusion, it becomes clear that her life intersects with Monique's own in tragic and irreversible ways.

August 2023



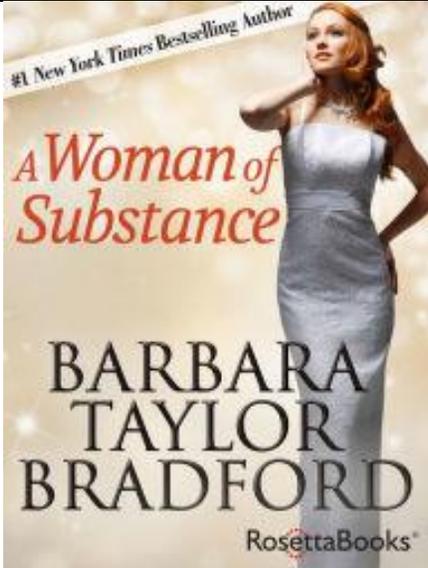
Title: The Cuckoo's Calling
Author: Robert Galbraith
Genre: Mystery

Overview: After losing his leg to a land mine in Afghanistan, Cormoran Strike is barely scraping by as a private investigator. Strike is down to one client, creditors are calling, and after a breakup with his longtime girlfriend, he's living in his office.

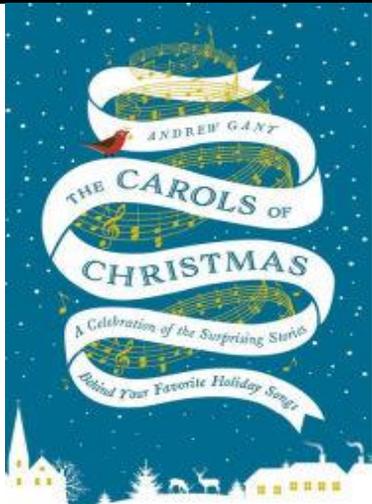
Then John Bristow walks through his door with a shocking story: His sister, the legendary supermodel Lula Landry – known to her friends as the Cuckoo – famously fell to her death a few months earlier. The police ruled it a suicide, but John refuses to believe that. The case plunges Strike into the world of multimillionaire beauties, rock-star boyfriends, and desperate designers, and it introduces him to every variety of pleasure, enticement, seduction, and delusion known to man.

You may think you know detectives, but you've never met one quite like Strike. You may think you know about the wealthy and famous, but you've never seen them under an investigation like this.

Marion Community Library Book Club Selections, January – December 2023

September 2023		
	<p>Title: A Woman of Substance Author: Barbara Taylor Bradford Genre: Fiction</p>	<p>Overview: From the servants' quarters of a manor house on the brooding Yorkshire moors to the helm of a profitable international business, Emma Harte's life is a sweeping saga of unbreakable spirit and resolve. Rising from abject poverty to glittering wealth at the upper echelons of society, there is only one man the indomitable Emma cannot have—and only one she yearns for. The novel was also the subject of a popular 1984 miniseries starring Jenny Seagrove and Deborah Kerr.</p> <p>"A long, satisfying novel of money, power, passion and revenge set against the sweep of 20th century history." —<i>Los Angeles Times</i></p> <p>"A wonderfully entertaining novel." —<i>The Denver Post</i></p> <p>"A mighty saga. Little has been so riveting since <i>Gone with the Wind</i>." —<i>Manchester Evening News</i></p> <p>"Tailor-made for fans of McCullough's <i>Thornbirds</i>." —<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p>
October 2023		
	<p>Title: Several Author: Various</p>	<p>Overview: Let us read a classic. Below are 5 options. Pick one you haven't read before and then discuss during the meeting!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genre: Classics Book Month <p>Choices are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca, by Daphne Du Maurier • Slaughterhouse-Five, by Kurt Vonnegut Jr. • The Diary of a Young Girl, by Anne Frank • One Hundred Years of Solitude, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez • All Quiet on the Western Front, by Erich Maria Remarque

Marion Community Library Book Club Selections, January – December 2023

November 2023		
	<p>Title: When the Men Were Gone Author: Marjorie Herrera Lewis Genre: Historical Fiction</p>	<p>Overview: A cross between Friday Night Lights and The Atomic City Girls, <i>When The Men Were Gone</i> is a debut historical novel based on the true story of Tylene Wilson, a woman in 1940's Texas who, in spite of extreme opposition, became a female football coach in order to keep her students from heading off to war.</p> <p>Football is the heartbeat of Brownwood, Texas. Every Friday night for as long as assistant principal Tylene Wilson can remember, the entire town has gathered in the stands, cheering their boys on. Each September brings with it the hope of a good season and a sense of unity and optimism. Now, the war has changed everything. Most of the Brownwood men over 18 and under 45 are off fighting, and in a small town the possibilities are limited. Could this mean a season without football? But no one counted on Tylene, who learned the game at her daddy's knee. She knows more about it than most men, so she does the unthinkable, convincing the school to let her take on the job of coach.</p> <p>Faced with extreme opposition—by the press, the community, rival coaches, and referees and even the players themselves—Tylene remains resolute.</p>
December 2023		
	<p>Title: The Carols of Christmas Author: Andrew Gant Genre: Seasonal</p>	<p>Overview But how did they get that magic? Gant—a choirmaster, church musician, university professor, and writer—tells the story of twenty carols, each accompanied by lyrics and music, unraveling a captivating, and often surprising, tale of great musicians and thinkers, saints and pagans, shepherds and choirboys.</p> <p>Along the way, Gant answers some of the biggest questions he's received about these beloved carols over the years, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the most beloved carols come to be? • Why do we sing the versions of carols that we do? • How did these carols stand the test of time? <p>A charming book that brims with anecdote, expert knowledge, and Christmas spirit, <i>The Carols of Christmas</i> is a fittingly joyous account of one of the best-loved musical traditions.</p>