



Cavan County Library

21st
Edition

Summer Reads 2025

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“You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me.”

C.S. Lewis

Welcome to the 21st edition of Cavan County Library Summer Reads! This year we have included a mix of Thrillers, Fantasy, Contemporary Fiction, Romance and even some Horror. There are non-fiction titles for those who prefer a more factual read, and we have titles As Gaeilge for our gaeilgeoir.

Supporting Irish authors is very important to us and we always try to highlight them in our Summer Reading List. This year is no exception with debut novels from Roisin O'Donnell, Barbara Leahy, Niamh Ni Mhaoileoin, Elaine Garvey, Róisín Lanigan and Sean Farrell.

Your opinion matters and we always love to hear our readers feedback – chat with our staff, or email library@cavancoco.ie
Bain taitheamh as!

Cavan Library Staff

Many titles are available as e-audiobooks and/or e-books on the Borrow Box app.

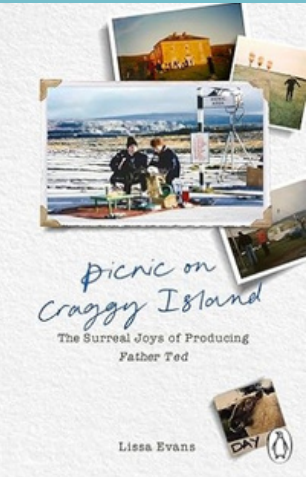


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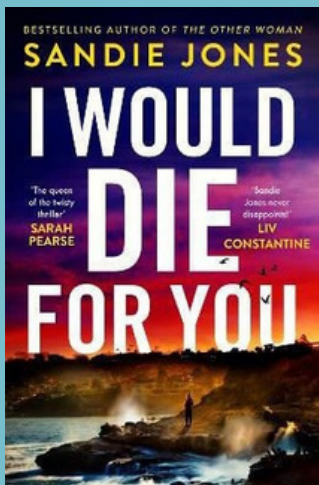
Nesting - Roisin O'Donnell

On a bright spring afternoon in Dublin, Ciara Fay makes a split-second decision that will change everything. Grabbing an armful of clothes from the washing line, Ciara straps her two young daughters into her car and drives away. Tense, beautiful, and underpinned by love, hope and resilience, this is the story of one woman's bid to start over.



Picnic on Craggy Island - Lissa Evans

Three decades after it first appeared on screen, Father Ted is still cherished, quoted and endlessly re-watched. Unforgettable to watch, it was also unforgettable to work on. Lissa Evans a producer on the second and third series presents a hugely affectionate and anecdotal account of what lay behind some of those moments of comic genius.



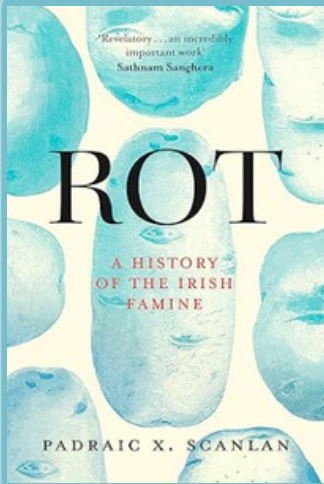
I Would Die For You - Sandie Jones

Now: Nicole lives a quiet life with her husband and daughter. One day, a writer asks for her insight into the downfall of the biggest British band of the 1980s. The same day, her daughter goes missing. 1986: 16-year-old Cassie is obsessed with the band Secret Oktober, but complications arise when lead singer Ben is interested in her older sister Nicole.



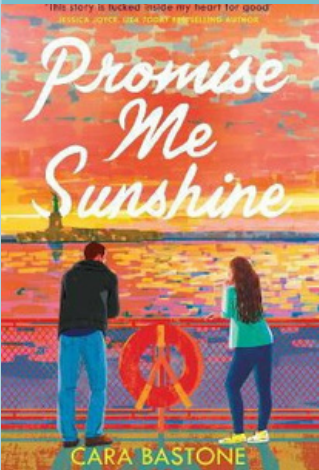
Greater Sins - Gabrielle Griffiths

1915 - A Scottish community is shaken by the discovery of a perfectly preserved body in a peat bog, unearthed by Lizzie, the wife of a wealthy landowner, and Johnny, a nomadic singer. For Lizzie the discovery reveals unanswered questions about her past while for Johnny, it threatens to uncover a history he's trying to outrun.



Rot - Padraic X. Scanlan

In the nineteenth century as Britain became the world's most powerful industrial empire, Ireland starved. The Great Famine fractured assumptions about political economy and civilisation, threatening disorder in Britain itself. This account reinterprets the history of this time and the result is a revelatory account of the Great Famine



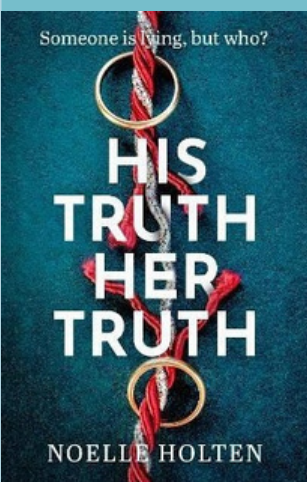
Promise Me Sunshine - Cara Bastone

Lenny is struggling since her friend Lou's death. She's avoiding everything except babysitting seven-year-old, Ainsley. Lenny acts like she's fine so no one will notice she's struggling. Ainsley's uncle, Miles, recognizes her grief and offers a deal: he will help her cope with her loss if she helps him reconnect with Ainsley and his sister.



The Swell - Kat Gordon

Iceland, 1910: In the middle of a storm, two sisters rescue a man from a shipwreck near their farm. Sixty-five years later, a young woman is spending time with her grandmother when they learn a body has been discovered on a mountainside near Reykjavik, perfectly preserved in ice. This is a spellbinding read, rich in Icelandic myth.



His Truth, Her Truth - Noelle Holten

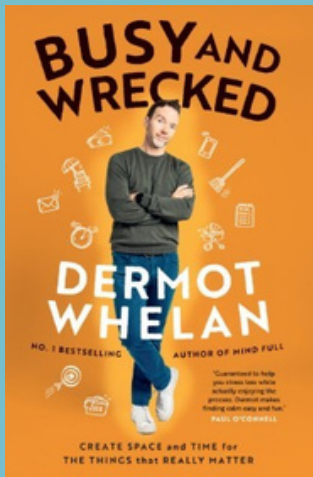


Two bodies found as a result of a home invasion. Then the police see the knives. One in his hand. One in hers. Joe and Beth appeared to have the perfect marriage. But there are two sides to every story. His truth. Her truth. And the actual truth. In this marriage of lies, only one person can be telling the truth, can't they?



Hungerstone - Kat Dunn

A carriage accident near their remote home brings the mysterious Carmilla into Lenore's life. Carmilla who is weak and pale during the day but vibrant at night; Carmilla who stirs up a hunger deep within Lenore. Soon girls from local villages begin to fall sick before being consumed by a bloody hunger. A compulsive reworking of Carmilla



Busy and Wrecked - Dermot Whelan

If 'busy and wrecked' is your common response to 'how are you?' you're not alone. Now Dermot Whelan, the bestselling author of Mind Full, is here to take you on a unique, insightful and hilarious exploration of busyness and introduce you to his favourite tips, tools and techniques for creating space and calm in a hectic world.



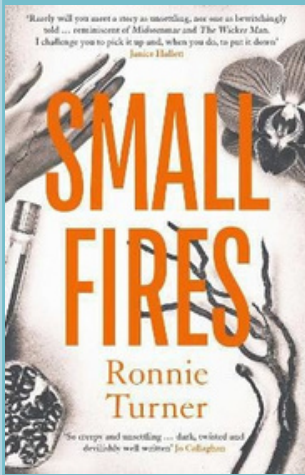
I Want To Go Home But I'm Already There - Roisin Lanigan

Áine should be feeling happy with her life. She's just moved in with Elliot. Their new flat is in a good neighbourhood, surrounded by bakeries, yoga studios and organic vegetable shops. They even have a garden. And yet, from the moment they move in, Áine can't shake the sense that there's something not quite right about the place



Good Dirt - Charmaine Wilkerson

Ebby flees to France, haunted by her past. And as she tries to process, she begins to think about the loss her family suffered eighteen years ago: a stoneware jar that had been in their family for generations, brought North by an enslaved ancestor. Little does she know that the jar held more than just her family's history - it might also hold the key to unlocking her own future.



Small Fires - Ronnie Turner

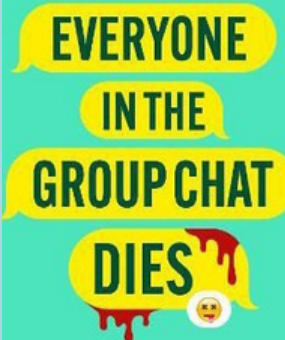
Suspected of killing their parents, sisters Lily and Della flee to a strange, unnamed island in Scotland. Della settles in too easily, the island folk drawn to her strangeness, but Lily is plagued by odd and unsettling dreams, and as an annual festival draws nigh, she discovers that she has far more to fear than she could ever have imagined.



The Knowing - Madeleine Ryan

Camille lives in the country. She's forgotten her phone. She's taking the train to work. She's got period pain. She can't escape herself ... or her toxic boss, Holly. And it's Valentine's Day. The Knowing is a day in the life of a woman who goes to work as usual while dreaming of more.

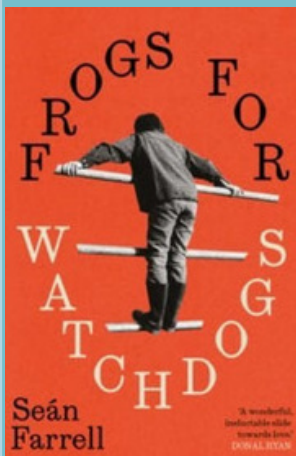
L.M. CHILTON



Everyone in the Group Chat Dies - L. M. Chilton

Kirby needs a break from everything: her crumbling flat; her dead-end job; her sleazy landlord; her housemates and the terrible thing they all did. Then a message on their old group chat pops up: everyone in the group chat will die. It's the first text her ex-flatmate Esme has sent for ages. The weird thing is, Esme died twelve months ago.

'Utterly compelling' KATY BRENT
'Murderously clever!' RUPERT HOLMES



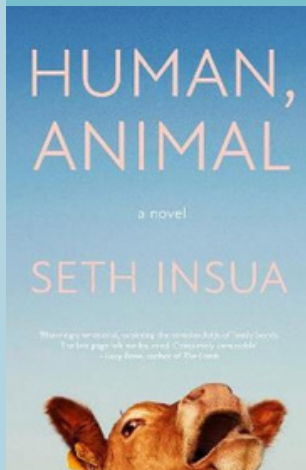
Frogs for Watchdogs - Sean Farrell

After years of moving from place to place, a young family finds shelter in an isolated house in the Irish countryside. Their father is missing, Mum is a healer and B a formidable big sister. A local farmer is stealing hay from the barn, someone is making nasty phone calls to the house at night and darkness is gathering at the edges of their lives. In his strange new territory, a wild little boy gives voice to his experience.



One Last Summer - Kate Spencer

Clara's life is chaotic: her dream job is disappointing, she's single, and she hasn't taken a break in years. She hopes to escape by joining friends at their childhood camp. However, upon arrival at Pine Lake Camp, she learns the owners are retiring, leading to a night of reminiscing between Clara and Mack. Soon the campfires aren't all that's throwing off sparks.



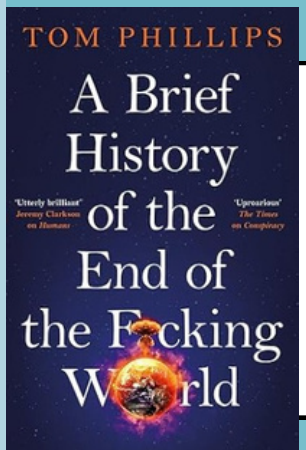
Human, Animal - Seth Insua

Since the death of his brother, dairy farmer George has been struggling to keep the family business afloat. His troubles only worsen when animal rights activists descend on his cowshed one morning to film content for their social media. The fallout is unprecedented, especially as George's youngest child appears to side with the activists.



The Morrigan - Kim Curran

From an ancient, storm-tossed sea, a tribe of gods reach the rocky shores of Ireland. Among them, a strange, hungry, red-haired girl. A girl who can change shape, from bird to beast to goddess. A girl who dreams of battle, of blood, of death and power. She does not know yet that a woman who seeks to rule will always be in danger



A Brief History of the End of the F*cking World - Tom Philiphs

This book is about the apocalypse, and how humans have always believed it to be nigh. Across thousands of years, we'll meet weird cults, failed prophets and mass panics, holy warriors leading revolts in anticipation of the last days, and suburbanites waiting for aliens to rescue them from a doomed Earth.

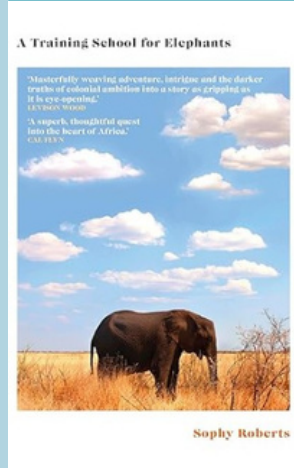


The Wardrobe Department - Elaine Garvey



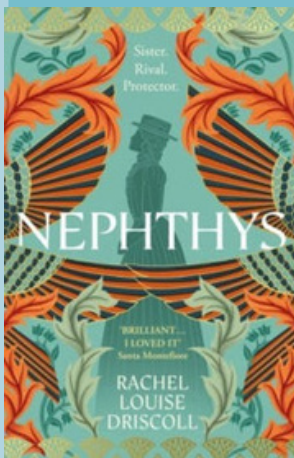
Mairéad works in a run-down West End theatre's wardrobe department. She does her best to avoid groping hands backstage and the terrible bullying of the show's producer. But Mairead feels caught between Soho and Ireland - running from the girl she was but unable to reveal the woman she'd hoped to become.

A Training School for Elephants - Sophy Roberts



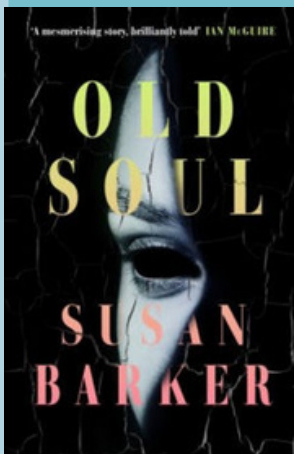
1879, King Leopold II of Belgium launched a plan to plunder Africa's resources. The key to cracking open the continent, or so he thought, was its elephants—if only he could train them. And so he commissioned the Irish adventurer Frederick Carter to ship four tamed Asian elephants from India to the East African coast. The aim was to establish a training school for African elephants.

Nephthys - Rachel Louise Driscoll



Clemmie is happy in the background. Her ability to read hieroglyphs makes her invaluable at the Egyptian relic parties which have made her father the toast of Victorian society. At one such party, the words Clemmie interprets from an unusual amulet strike fear into her heart. The glyphs she holds in her hands will change her life forever.

Old Soul - Susan Barker

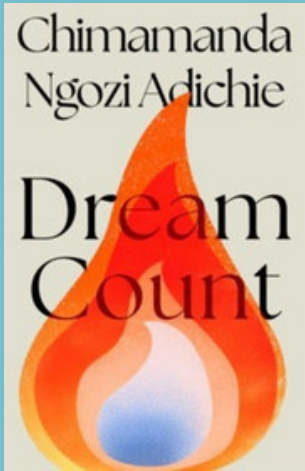


The woman never goes by the same name. She never stays in the same place too long. She never ages. She never dies. But those around her do. When two grieving strangers meet by chance in Osaka airport they uncover a disturbing connection. Jake's best friend and Mariko's twin brother each died, 6,000 miles apart, in brutal and unfathomable circumstances.



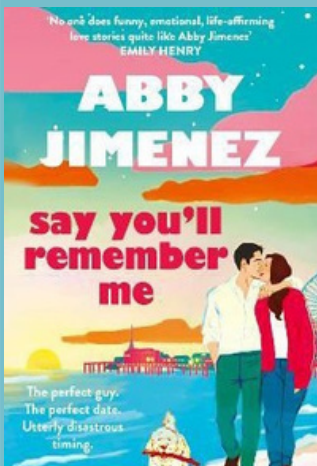
Rembrandt's Promise - Barbara Leahy

1642: The Dutch Golden Age. Geertje, a widow from Edam, enters a melting pot of wealth and culture when she becomes nursemaid in the house of painter Rembrandt. After Rembrandt's wife dies, Geertje grows close to him. Despite her friends' warnings she begins a passionate affair with devastating results.



Dream Count - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Chiamaka is a Nigerian travel writer in America reflecting on past lovers during the pandemic. Zikora a successful lawyer, must rely on someone she least expected after betrayal. Omelogor, a financial powerhouse in Nigeria, questions her self-identity. Kadiatou raises her daughter while facing hardships that threaten all she has worked to achieve.



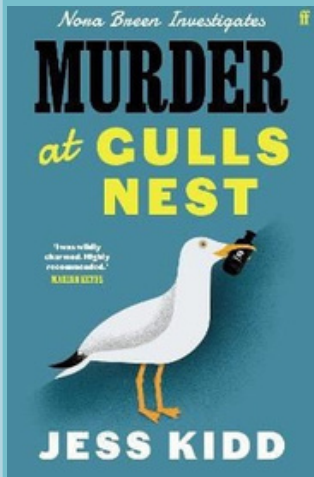
Say You'll Remember Me - Abby Jimenez

After an incredible date, Samantha is forced to admit that her family is in crisis and any kind of relationship would be impossible. Samantha begs Xavier to forget her. To remember their night together as a perfect moment. Only no amount of distance or time is nearly enough to forget the something between them.



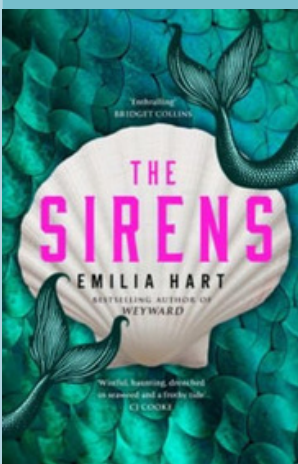
Beartooth - Callan Wink

In a timber house in the Absaroka-Beartooth mountains, two brothers are struggling to keep up with their debts. They live off the grid on the fringe of Yellowstone, surviving after the death of their father. Desperate for money, they are approached by a shadowy out-of-towner with a proposition and agree to attempt a heist of natural resources from Yellowstone, a federal crime.



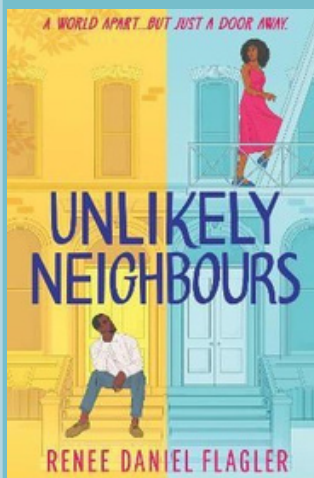
Murder at Gulls Nest - Jess Kidd

1954: When her former novice's letters stop, Nora asks to be released from her vows. Haunted by a line in Frieda's letter, Nora arrives at Gulls Nest, a charming hotel in a seaside town. Nora hides her identity and pries into the lives of her fellow guests, but when a series of bizarre murders occur it's time to ask if a dark past can ever really be left behind.



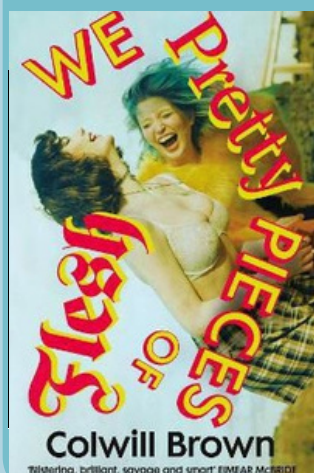
The Sirens - Emilia Hart

Sisters separated by hundreds of years. Voices that can't be drowned out. Lucy is running from what she's done, attacking a boy in her sleep. Pursued by nightmares, she makes for her big sister's house, but Jess is gone when she arrives. Lucy is now alone, in a strange town steeped in rumour and women's voices murmuring on the waves



Unlikely Neighbours - Renee Daniel Flagler

Holland leaves her small-town life behind when she inherits a townhouse in Brooklyn. She meets her neighbour, Noble a CEO and board member at her new job. There's a world of differences lying between them. But the sheltered small-town girl and the ambitious New York CEO feel a pull that just won't be denied



We Pretty Pieces of Flesh - Colwill Brown

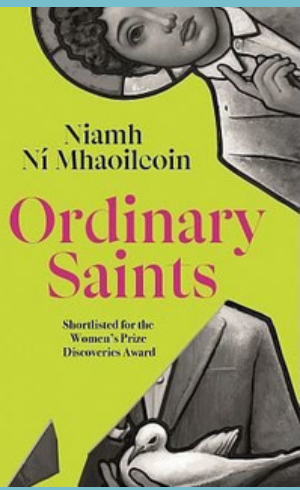
Rach, Shaz and Kel - lifelong friends. Never mind that Rach is skeptical of Shaz's bolder plots; or Shaz feels left behind when the others begin planning for uni; or Kel sometimes feels split trying to keep the peace - their friendship is indestructible. But as they grow up and away from one another, a festering secret threatens to rip them apart.



Ordinary Saints - Niamh Ni Mhaoileoin

Can you imagine it? I'd say to them. Can you imagine me there in the front row in Saint Peter's Square? The lesbian sister of a literal saint.

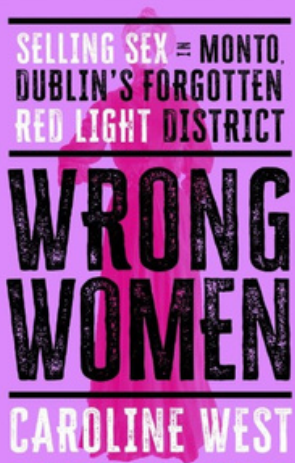
Ordinary Saints' is a brilliant debut novel from a fresh, exciting new voice which asks - who gets to decide how we are remembered - and who we will become?



Wrong Women - Caroline West

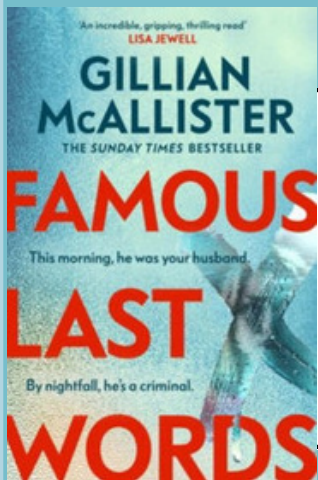
Tucked away in Dublin's north inner city, Monto purported to be Europe's biggest red-light district from 1860 to 1925 with up to 1600 sex workers at any one time - made headlines for wild tales of debauchery.

This account balances the historical origins of Monto and brings the women who made a home there to life



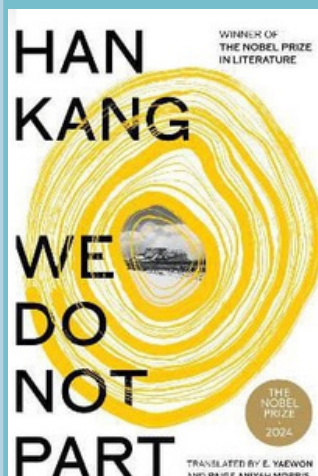
Famous Last Words - Gillian McAllister

After months of maternity leave Carmilla drops her daughter off at daycare for the first time and return work. When she wakes her husband Luke isn't there, but a cryptic note is. Then it starts. Breaking news: a hostage situation in London. The police arrive, and tell her Luke is involved. But he isn't a hostage – he's the gunman



We Do Not Part - Han Kang

Kyungha, is contacted by her friend, Inseon, from the city's hospital after an accident. Inseon asks her to return to Jeju Island to care for her bird which leads Kyungha on a difficult journey through the island during a snowstorm. As she hurries to save the bird she uncovers Inseon's family history and confronts the island's past.

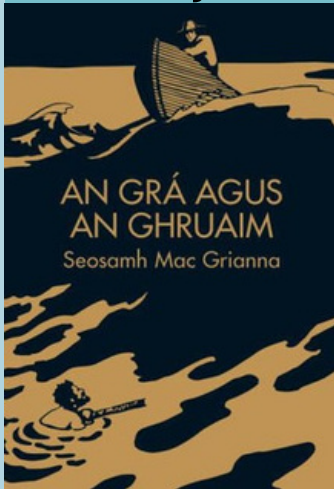


Why not make one of your Summer Reads an “As Gaeilge” title!



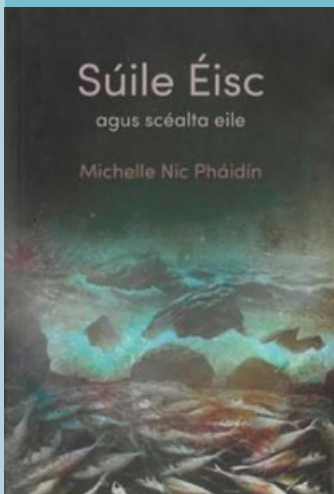
An Grá agus An Ghruaim - Seosamh Mac Grianna

Eagrán úr de chnuasach cháiliúil Sheosamh Mhic Grianna, bunaithe ar an chéad eagrán a cuireadh i gcló i 1929. Is iomaí léirmheas agus tráchtas a scríobhadh faoin tsaothar seo ó shin agus seasann sé mar cheann de mórshaothair na Gaeilge, scríofa ag scríbhneoir uaillmhianach óg a bhí go fóill ina chuid fichidí.



Súile Éisc agus Scéalta Eile - Michelle Nic Pháidín

Tugtar ar iliomad turas intinne muid sa chnuasach seo: chuig saol na samhlaíochta i gcuid de na scéalta; léirítear saol an cheantair ina bhfuil sí ina cónaí i gcuid eile; agus faightear blas na farraige sa chuid eile. Tá éagsúlacht as cuimse sa chnuasach seo ó thaobh ghlór an scéalaí. Insítear na scéalta ag úsáid réimse leathan daoine, páistí, mná agus fir agus a scéal féin á insint acu.



An Ghluaiseacht - Rónán Mac an Iomaire

Sa bhliain 1969, tháinig grúpa daoine óga le chéile i gConamara chun feachtas a sheoladh a d'athródh todhchaí na Gaeltachta go deo. Spreagtha ag gluaiseachtaí cearta sibhialta ar fud an domhain, bhunaigh siad Gluaiseacht Chearta Sibhialta na Gaeltachta mar sheasamh i gcoinne na n-éagóir atá os comhair pobal imeallaithe agus a dteanga.



Mná - Daithí Ó Muirí

Sa chnuasach seo, Mná, scríobhann an t-údar faoi shaol na mban i seacht scéal sainsiúil. Baineann a cuid scéalta leis an taobh sin dár nádúr nach féidir a chur i bhfocail go héasca, agus déanann an t-údar é seo le healaín agus paisean.

