We need new names: a novel
Bulawayo, NoViolet.
Darling is only ten years old, and yet she must navigate a fragile and violent world. In Zimbabwe, Darling and her friends steal guavas, try to get the baby out of young Chipo’s belly, and grasp at memories of Before. Before their homes were destroye...

Salvage the bones: a novel
Ward, Jesmyn.
A hurricane is building over the Gulf of Mexico, threatening the coastal town of Bois Sauvage, Mississippi, and Esch’s father is growing concerned. A hard drinker, largely absent, he doesn’t show concern for much else. Esch and her three brothers are...

Open city: a novel
Cole, Teju.
A haunting novel about identity, dislocation, and history, Teju Cole’s Open City is a profound work by an important new author who has much to say about our country and our world. Along the streets of Manhattan, a young Nigerian doctor named Julius w...

Silver sparrow: a novel
Jones, Tayari.
With the opening line of Silver Sparrow, “My father, James Witherspoon, is a bigamist,” author Tayari Jones unveils a breathtaking story about a man’s deception, a family’s complicity, and the two teenage girls caught in the middle. Set in a middle-c...

Exit west: a novel
Hamid, Mohsin, 1971- author.
In a country teetering on the brink of civil war, two young people meet—sensual, fiercely independent Nadia and gentle, restrained Saeed. They embark on a furtive love affair, and are soon cloistered in a premature intimacy by the unrest rolling thei...

Breath, eyes, memory
Danticat, Edwidge, 1969-
At the age of twelve, Sophie Caco is sent from her impoverished Haitian village to New York to be reunited with a mother she barely remembers. There she discovers secrets that no child should ever know, and a legacy of shame that can be healed only w...

The god of small things
Roy, Arundhati.
Arundhati Roy’s modern classic is equal parts powerful family saga, forbidden love story, and piercing political drama. The seven-year-old twins Estha and Rahel see their world shaken irrevocably by the arrival of their beautiful young cousin, Sophie...

The newlyweds: a novel
Freudenberger, Neil.
This novel follows the story of Amina Mazid who, at age twenty-four, moves from Bangladesh to Rochester, New York, for love. This is an arranged marriage for the twenty-first century: Amina is wooed by and woos George Stillman online. For Amina, Geor...