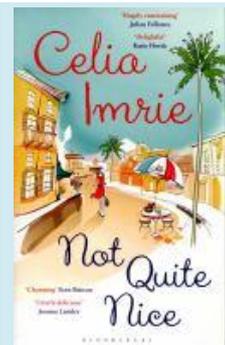


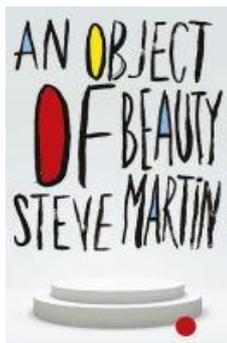
**Holding / Graham Norton**

Duneen is a quiet place, far enough from the big towns to have kept its own rhythms. Its residents include castdown policeman PJ who lives a lonely, uneventful life punctuated only by the next meal - until now; the beautiful and mysterious family of three spinster sisters each with their own secrets and sorrows; and of course, the town's gossip who think she knows the answers. When a grim discovery is made on a building site up by the old school, it becomes the catalyst for long buried secrets and rivalries to come to light and this silent, once innocent and repressed-seeming town is revealed to have a much darker, hungrier undertow...



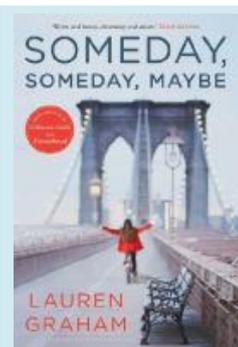
**Not quite nice / Celia Imrie**

Theresa is desperate for a change. Forced into early retirement, fed up with babysitting her bossy daughter's obnoxious children, she sells her Highgate house and moves to the picture-perfect town of Bellevue-sur-Mer, just outside Nice. Once the hideaway of artists and writers, it is now home to the odd rock icon and Hollywood movie star, and, as Theresa soon discovers, a close-knit set of expats. However, life is never quite as simple as it seems and as skeletons start to fall out of several closets, Theresa begins to wonder if life on the French Riviera is quite as nice as it first appeared.



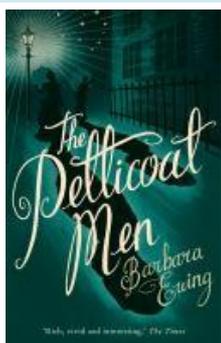
**An object of beauty / Steve Martin**

Lacey Yeager is beautiful, captivating, and ambitious enough to take the NYC art world by storm. She begins her career at Sotheby's, amidst the winks and nods of the fabulously wealthy. But hungry for more - and pursued by a whiff of scandal - Lacey migrates to edgy Downtown, watching Hirsts and Warhols multiply in value before her eyes. Charming men and women, old and young, rich and even richer, Lacey's ascendancy seems assured. But when the art world bubble looks set to burst, a secret from her past rears its head, threatening to undermine everything she has worked for.



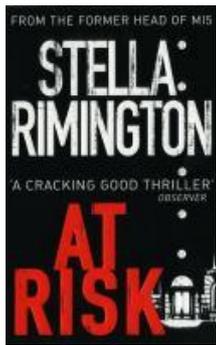
**Someday, someday, maybe : a novel / Lauren Graham**

A witty, charming, and hilariously relatable debut novel and New York Times bestseller about a struggling young actress trying to get ahead, and keep it together, in New York City. It's January 1995, and Fanny Banks has just six months left of the three-year deadline she set for herself when she came to New York, dreaming of Broadway and doing 'important' work. But all she has to show for her efforts so far is a part in an ad for ugly Christmas sweaters, and a gig waiting tables at a comedy club. Everything is riding on the upcoming showcase for her acting class, where she'll finally have a chance to perform for people who could actually hire her.



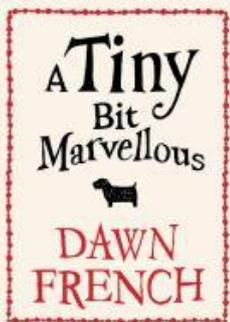
**The petticoat men / Barbara Ewing**

The Victorian gossipmongers called them The Petticoat Men. But to young widow Mattie Stacey, they are Freddie and Ernest, her gentlemen lodgers. It is Mattie who admires their sparkling gowns, makes their extravagant hats and laughs at their stories of attending society balls dressed up as the glamorous 'Fanny' and 'Stella'. But one fateful night Fanny and Stella are arrested, and Mattie and her family are dragged into a shocking court trial. Outraged, Mattie is determined to save her family from ruin, and her friends from shame and penury. She embarks on a brave journey to expose the establishment's hypocrisy - including the involvement of Mr Gladstone the Prime Minister, and the Prince of Wales.



**At risk / Stella Rimington**

For MI5 Intelligence Officer Liz Carlyle the nagging complications of her private life are quickly forgotten at Monday's Counter-Terrorist meeting. An invisible may have entered mainland Britain. An 'invisible' - a terrorist who is an ethnic native of the target country, who can cross its borders unchecked and move about unnoticed - is the ultimate nightmare. For Liz this signals the start of an operation that will test her to the limit. Who or what is the target? Where and who is the invisible? With each passing hour the danger increases. But as she desperately sifts the incoming intelligence and analyses the reports from her agents she finally realises that it is her ability to get inside her enemy's head that is the only hope of averting disaster.



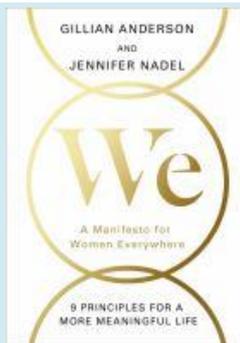
**A tiny bit marvellous / Dawn French**

The suffragette movement is reaching fever pitch but for broke Fleet Street tomboy Frankie George, just getting by in the cut-throat world of newspapers is hard enough. Sent to interview trapeze artist Ebony Diamond, Frankie finds herself fascinated by the tightly laced acrobat and follows her across London to a Mayfair corset shop that hides more than one dark secret. Then Ebony Diamond mysteriously disappears in the middle of a performance, and Frankie is drawn into a world of tricks, society columnists, corset fetishists, suffragettes and circus freaks. How did Ebony vanish, who was she afraid of, and what goes on behind the doors of the mysterious Hourglass Factory?



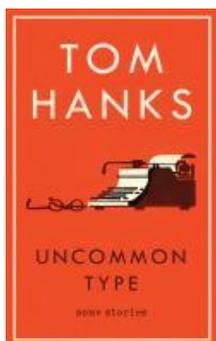
**Bonfire : a novel / Krysten Ritter**

Abby Williams left Barrens, Indiana and is working as an environmental lawyer in Chicago. When a new case takes her back home, the successful life Abby painstakingly created begins to crack. Tasked with investigating Optimal Plastics, the town's most high-profile company and economic heart, Abby begins to find strange connections to a scandal from more than a decade ago, involving the popular Kaycee Mitchell and her closest friends just before Kaycee disappeared for good. Troubling memories begin to resurface; Abby begins to doubt her own observations, and unearths a secret ritual called "The Game" that threatens reputations and lives including hers.



**We: a manifesto for women everywhere: 9 principles for a more meaningful life / Gillian Anderson and Jennifer Nadel.'**

Imagine a sisterhood -- across all creeds and cultures. An unspoken agreement that we, as women, will support and encourage one another. That we will remember we don't know what struggles each of us may be facing elsewhere in our lives and so we will assume that each of us is doing our best ... So begins WE: an inspiring, empowering and provocative manifesto for change. Change which we can all effect, one woman at a time.



**Uncommon type : some stories / Tom Hanks**

A collection of seventeen wonderful short stories showing that two-time Oscar winner Tom Hanks is as talented a writer as he is an actor.

**More fiction related to the theme:**

Nice Work (If You Can Get It) / Celia Imrie  
Close call / Stella Rimington  
According to Yes / Dawn French  
Oh Dear Silvia / Dawn French  
A Vision of Fire / Gillian Anderson  
Grace and Mary / Melvynn Bragg  
Now it the time / Melvynn Bragg  
The St. Tropez Lonely Hearts Club / Joan Collins  
Palto Alto / James Franco  
Postcards from the edge / Carrie Fisher

**More non fiction related to the theme:**

The Happy Hooper / Celia Imrie  
Talking as fast as I can / Lauren Graham  
12 Books that changed the world / Melvynn Bragg

**Next Book Group**  
***Monday 19 November***  
***1PM***