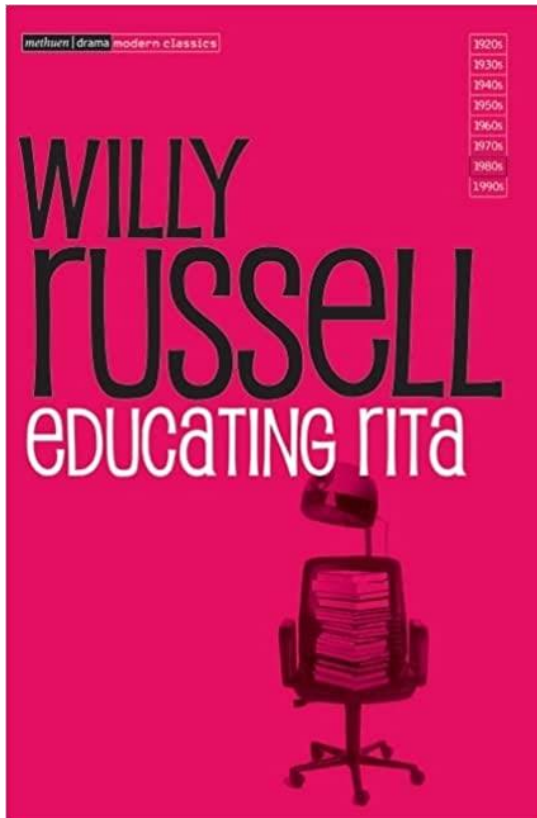


## RAD Book Club 2023 Books, voted for by our members



18 May 2023

**Educating Rita**

**Willy Russell**

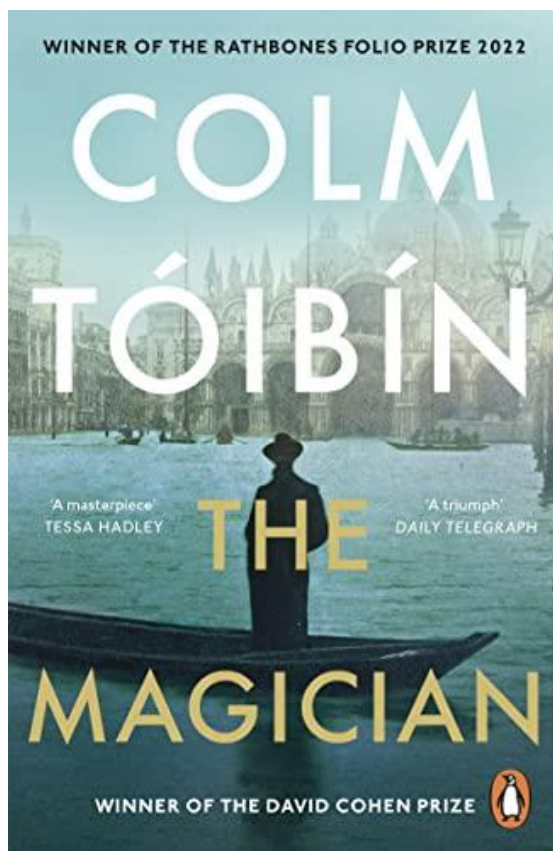
**1980**

**Fiction: Play**

**123 pages**

**Available in Paperback, eBook, DVD**

*Educating Rita*, about a working-class Liverpool girl's hunger for education, is simply a marvellous play, painfully funny and passionately serious; a hilarious social documentary; a fairy-tale with a quizzical, half-happy ending. Hairdresser Rita feels that life is passing her by. She wants an education. But does Frank have anything to teach her? Willy Russell's play gives a hilarious - and often moving - account of a young woman's determination to change her life.



18 June 2023

**The Magician**

**Colm Tóibín**

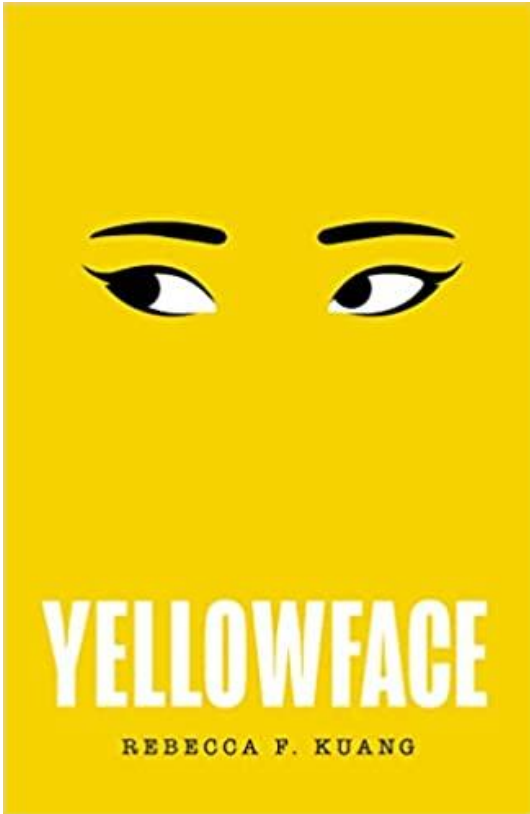
**Fiction: Historical**

**2021**

**498 pages**

**Available in Hardcover, Paperback, eBook, Audiobook**

Colm Tóibín's new novel opens in a provincial German city at the turn of the twentieth century, where the boy, Thomas Mann, was born. Young Mann hides his artistic aspirations from his father and his homosexual desires from everyone. He is the most successful novelist of his time, winner of the Nobel Prize in literature, a public man whose private life remains secret. *The Magician* is an intimate, astonishingly complex portrait of Mann, his magnificent and complex wife Katia, and the times in which they lived—the first world war, the rise of Hitler, World War II, the Cold War, and exile.



**27 July 2023**

**Yellowface**

**Rebecca F. Kuang**

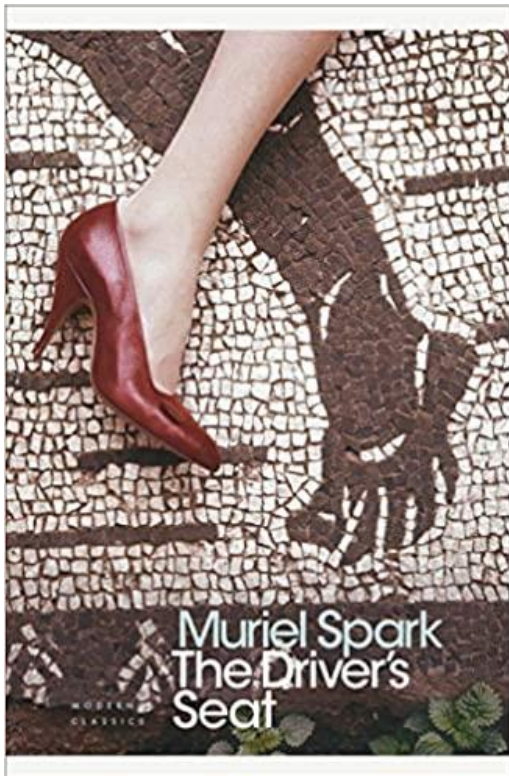
**Fiction: Thriller**

**2023**

**350 pages**

**Available in Hardcover, eBook, Audiobook**

Authors June Hayward and Athena Liu were supposed to be twin rising stars: same year at Yale, same debut year in publishing. But Athena's a cross-genre literary darling, and June didn't even get a paperback release. So when June witnesses Athena's death in a freak accident, she acts on impulse: she steals Athena's just-finished masterpiece, an experimental novel about the unsung contributions of Chinese labourers to the British and French war efforts during World War I. The book is a smash hit, but June can't get away from Athena's shadow, and emerging evidence threatens to bring June's (stolen) success down around her. As June races to protect her secret, she discovers exactly how far she will go to keep what she thinks she deserves.



**24 August 2023**

**The Driver's Seat**

**Muriel Spark**

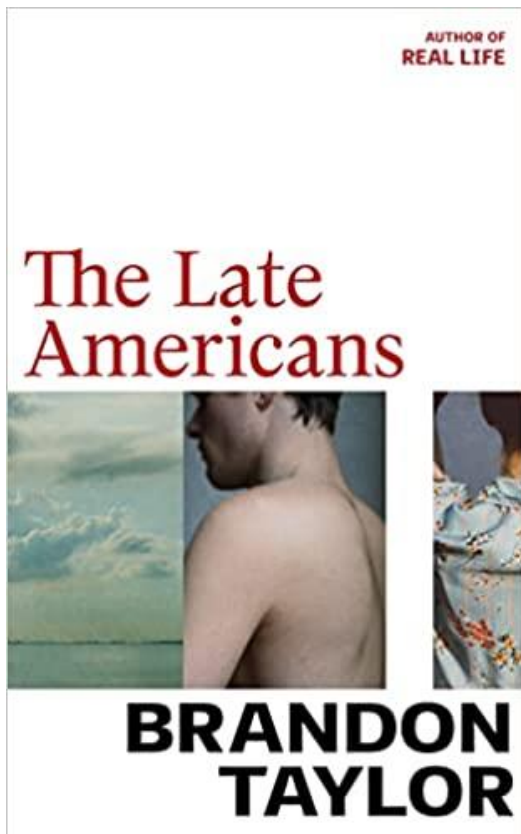
**1970**

**Fiction: Classic**

**103 pages**

**Available in Paperback, ebook, Audiobook**

Lise is thin, neither good-looking nor bad-looking. One day she walks out of her office, acquires a gaudy new outfit, adopts a girlier tone of voice, and heads to the airport to fly south. On the plane she takes a seat between two men. One is delighted with her company, the other is deeply perturbed. So begins an unnerving journey into the darker recesses of human nature.



**28 September 2023**

**The Late Americans**

**Brandon Taylor**

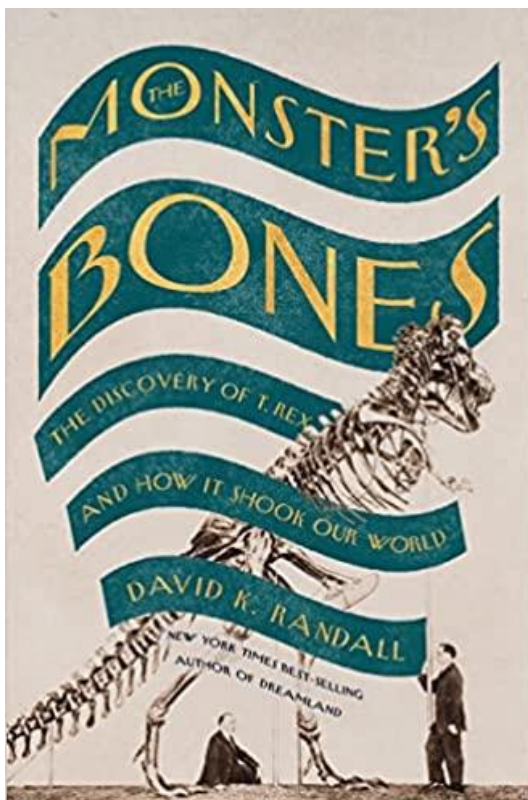
**2023**

**Fiction: Literary**

**320 pages**

**Available in Hardcover, eBook, Audiobook**

In the shared and private spaces of Iowa City, a loose circle of lovers and friends encounter, confront, and provoke one another in a volatile year of self-discovery. At the group's centre are Ivan, a dancer turned aspiring banker; Fatima, whose independence and work ethic complicates her relationships with friends and a trusted mentor; and Noah, whose anxiety has left him adrift. These three are buffeted by a cast of poet and mathematicians who populate the cafes, classrooms, and food-service kitchens of Iowa City, sometimes to violent and electrifying consequence.



**26 October 2023**

**The Monster's Bones**

**David K. Randall**

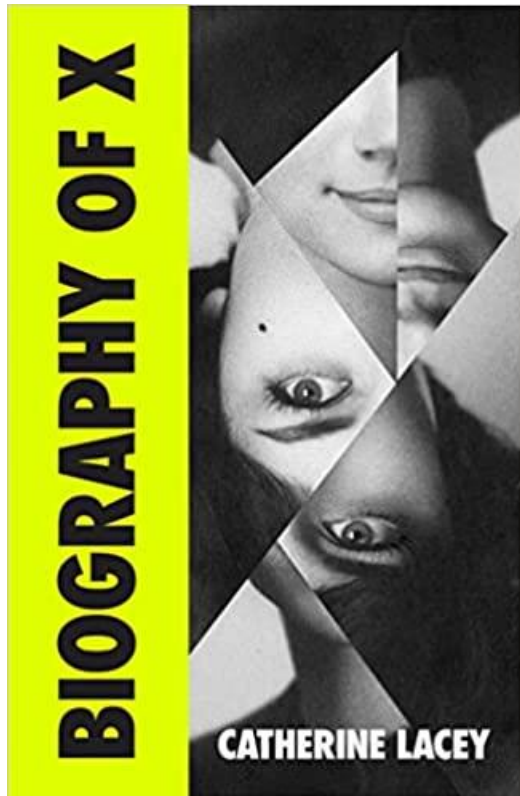
**Non-Fiction**

**2022**

**288 pages**

**Available in Hardback, Paperback, eBook, Audiobook**

A gripping narrative of a fearless palaeontologist, the founding of America's most loved museums, and the race to find the largest dinosaurs on record. Vivid and engaging, *The Monster's Bones* journeys from prehistory to present day. With a wide-ranging cast of robber barons, eugenicists, and opportunistic cowboys, David K. Randall reveals how a monster of a bygone era ignited a new understanding of our planet and our place within it.



**30 November 2023**

**Biography of X  
Catherine Lacey  
2023**

**Fiction: Literary**

**416 pages**

**Available in Hardcover, eBook, Audiobook**

When X—an iconoclastic artist, writer, and polarizing shape-shifter—falls dead in her office, her widow, wild with grief and refusing everyone’s good advice, hurls herself into writing a biography of the woman she deified. Though X was recognized as a crucial creative force of her era, she kept a tight grip on her life story. Not even CM, her wife, knew where X had been born, and in her quest to find out, she opens a Pandora’s box of secrets, betrayals, and destruction. Pulsing with suspense and intellect while blending nonfiction and fiction, *Biography of X* is a roaring epic that plumbs the depths of grief, art, and love.