

Recent Reads—February

Non-Fiction

Poverty, By America by Matthew Desmond

Desmond, a Pulitzer Prize winner for *Evicted*, makes a powerful appeal to reduce poverty in the U.S. in this slim, provocative book. By examining our country's spending on social programs, second only to France, Desmond shows that the demographic that needs the most help actually benefits the least from "welfare" programs.

Fiction

The Twyford Code by Janice Hallett

A code in a children's book, an unsolved WWII-era heist, and a more recent caper gone wrong have more in common than it would initially appear in this twisty story, told as a series of transcripts of voice memos recorded on a phone. Puzzle lovers will especially enjoy the ride in this mind-bending mystery.

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

An octopus and a widow develop an unusual relationship in this intriguing debut novel and runaway bestseller. Recommended for fans of quirky, feel-good fiction. A Book Club selection.

Audiobooks—Available on cloudLibrary

The Running Grave by Robert Galbraith

The latest Cormoran Strike/Robin Ellacott mystery finds the duo attempting to infiltrate a cult, protect an actress from a stalker, and deal with a mole in their organization, while also navigating tricky personal waters. Long and satisfying.

This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger

Four children, runaways from an Indian boarding school, travel down the Mississippi River during the height of the Great Depression. Through multiple adventures reminiscent of both *The Odyssey* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the children come to terms with their painful pasts and begin to forge new lives.