



Talking Book Center
1 Churchville Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-6215

Global Reading: Australia

DB15128 The Tree Of Man by Patrick White (historical fiction)

At the turn of the century, a young Australian takes a wife and builds a homestead on the wild frontier. He prospers, rears a family, and faces fire, flood, and drought. (1973 Nobel Prize in literature) 1955.

DB106281 The Words In My Hands by Asphyxia (dystopian sci-fi)

Organicore, a company that produces perfectly balanced synthetic meals, replaces wild food. But sixteen-year-old Piper McBride, who is deaf, begins to wonder if natural food is as dangerous as Organicore's propaganda says. Schneider Family Book Award. Some violence, some strong language, and some descriptions of sex. For senior high and older readers. 2020.

DB51148 The Thorn Birds by Colleen Mccullough (historical romance)

Saga of the Australian Cleary family set in a vast sheep station. Central characters are Meggie and the one man she truly loves--priest Ralph de Bricassart. Some strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. 1977.

DB64617 March by Geraldine Brooks (historical fiction)

Reverend March, the husband and father from Louisa May Alcott's Little Women leaves Connecticut to become an army chaplain during the Civil War. An assignment to teach freed slaves on a plantation changes March's view of humanity while hardship hurts his family. Pulitzer Prize winner. Strong language and some violence. 2005.

DB76319 Cocaine Blues; Phryne Fisher 01 by Kerry Greenwood (historical mystery)

Free-thinking Phryne Fisher leaves 1920s London for her native Australia to become a detective. Phryne soon finds herself embroiled in mysteries involving a drug-smuggling ring, corrupt cops, communists, a sexy Russian dancer, and a colonel's daughter suspected of being poisoned by her husband. Some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 1989.

DB87199 The Natural Way Of Things by Charlotte Wood (dystopian)

In the remote Australian outback, ten young women are kidnapped and held captive after being involved in sex scandals with powerful men. They must depend on each other if they are ever to find the strength to survive. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex. 2016.

DB79622 Big Little Lies by Liane Moriarty (contemporary mystery)

New to town, Jane--single mother of kindergartener Ziggy--becomes friends with Celeste and Madeline, who each have children in Ziggy's class. But the women are harboring secrets that lead to a disastrous school trivia night ending in multiple injuries--and one death. Strong language. Bestseller. 2014.

DB64158 A Commonwealth Of Thieves: The Improbable Birth Of Australia
by Thomas Keneally (nonfiction, history)

Author of Schindler's List chronicles the 1788-1792 colonization of the British penal colony in Australia by convicts and the officers guarding them. Discusses the first governor, Arthur Phillip, who believed in rehabilitation, and the discord with the Aborigines, who were represented by go-between Woolawarre Bennelong. Some violence. 2006.

DB91373 Dark Emu: Aboriginal Australia And The Birth Of Agriculture
by Bruce Pascoe (nonfiction, history)

Examination of the ways aboriginal Australians developed the land to support their societies long before colonization of the continent by European explorers. Topics include agriculture, aquaculture, population and housing, storage and preservation, fire, cultural norms, non-Aboriginal agriculture techniques, and understanding history to improve the future. 2018.

DB31133 The Road To Botany Bay: An Exploration Of Landscape And History
by Paul Carter (nonfiction, history)

A look at the Australia's origins and a history of travel leading to settlement. Through the use of charts and maps, Carter traces the exploration of the country as Europeans created a civilization in the land of aborigines. Carter suggests that as they explored, they created their own history by turning strange, unknown spaces into a familiar landscape called home.