

Books to Make You Laugh and Cry

For National Reading Group Day 2018, we asked reading groups nationwide what books they've read that caused an emotional reaction – the books that made them laugh or cry (or maybe both).

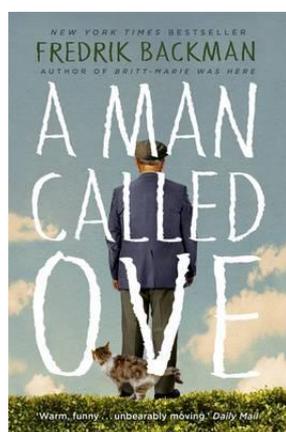
These are the books that you often remember the most, and the reactions can differ throughout the group! We've compiled a list from your suggestions – some of them made you laugh out loud, others made you cry like a baby. And some of them took you on an emotional rollercoaster...

Join the conversation on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) using [#NRGD18](#). Find out more at [Reading Groups for Everyone](#).



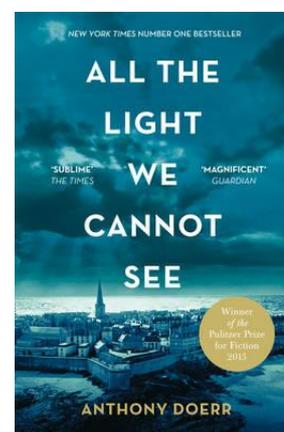
[Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine](#) by Gail Honeyman

"We laughed at her unique ways, her attempts at 'fitting in' and her unlikely new friendships, but certainly shed tears at the more sinister parts of the story. We each saw something of her in ourselves, maybe everyone isn't that different after all!"



[A Man called Ove](#) by Fredrik Backman

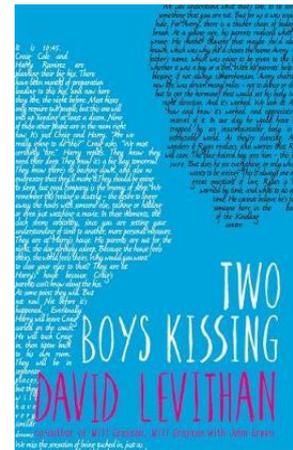
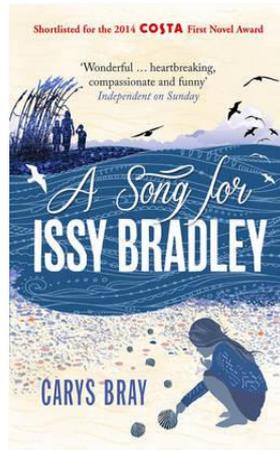
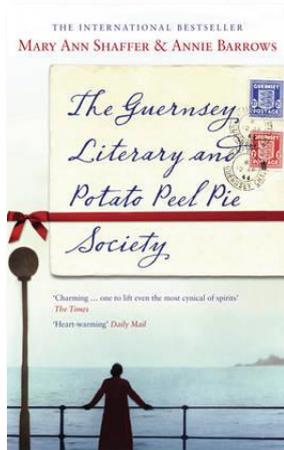
"An amusing book with moments of sadness, we were all drawn in by the plot and wrapped up in Ove's World."



[All the Light We Cannot See](#) by Anthony Doerr

"Beautifully written and it sparked very thought-provoking discussions, especially as it's interesting to have a snapshot from characters from both sides."

READING GROUPS FOR EVERYONE



[The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society](#) by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows

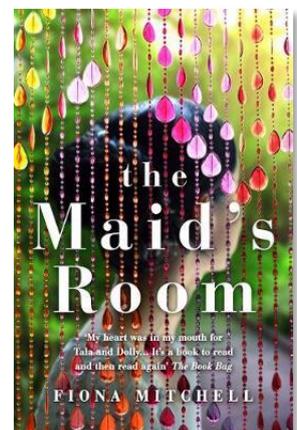
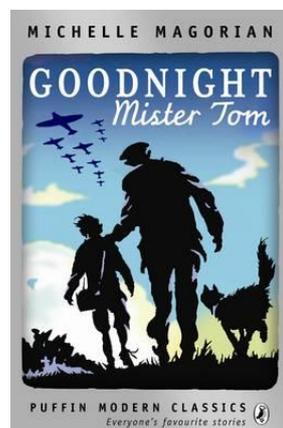
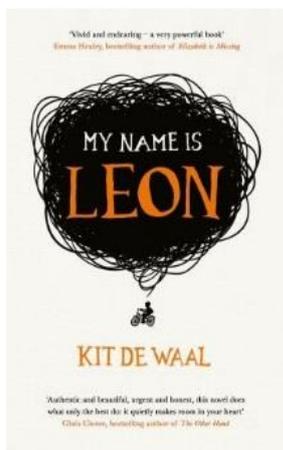
"We found so much humour and positivity in this and all loved it!"

[A Song for Issy Bradley](#) by Carys Bray

"A young Mormon family mourns the loss of their youngest child. We wept as the mother and youngest son especially struggled with their loss, and laughed at the antics of 13 year old Al who tried his best to be a good big brother when his family was falling apart around him."

[Two Boys Kissing](#) by David Levithan

"Funny, witty but also devastatingly sad. A really moving yet uplifting book where a generation of AIDS victims look down on gay lives today."



[My Name is Leon](#) by Kit de Waal

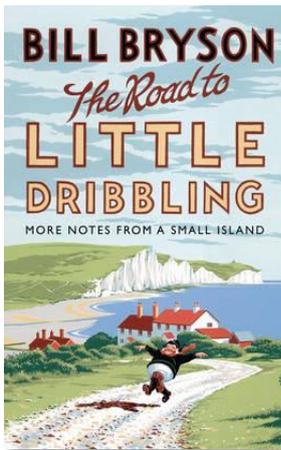
"Shockingly sad but ultimately uplifting, get the tissues ready."

[Goodnight Mister Tom](#) by Michelle Magorian

"A rollercoaster of emotions and a truly beautiful book."

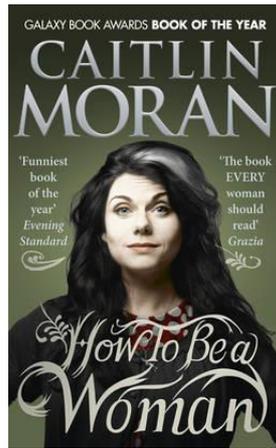
[The Maid's Room](#) by Fiona Mitchell

"A serious matter made into something enjoyable and even hilarious at times, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry!"



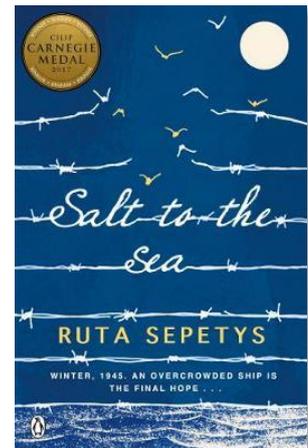
[The Road to Little Dribbling](#)
by Bill Bryson

"Quirky observations of Britain and our funny ways, told with affection for our land."



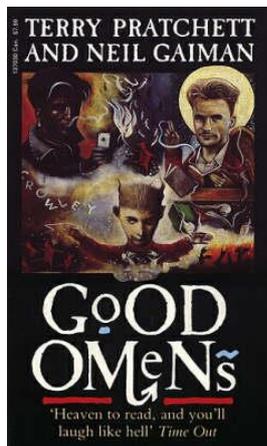
[How to Be a Woman](#) by
Caitlin Moran

"Very funny, reassuring and potentially transformative - a book that reinvigorated the feminist movement. I'd really recommend it for its frank honesty about female rites of passage, from leg-shaving and periods to childbirth and motherhood."



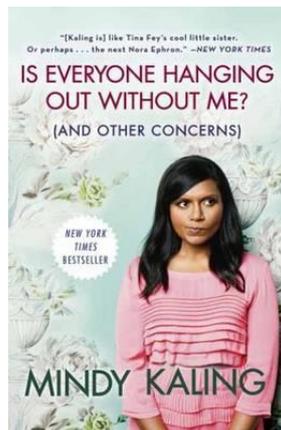
[Salt to the Sea](#) by
Ruth Sepetys

"Heart-warming, but tragic. You'll feel sympathy for all the characters and journey with each one of them."



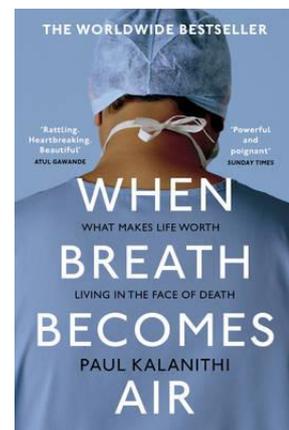
[Good Omens](#) by
Terry Pratchett and Neil
Gaiman

"Hilariously gives an unusual perspective of the world around us."



[Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?](#) by Mindy Kaling

"Reading this felt like a fresh, amusing, honest chit chat with a friend."



[When Breath Becomes Air](#) by
Paul Kalanithi

"An excellent, challenging and emotional read, it's a reminder that each day is precious and to be valued."