Explore More: Recommended Library Reading List

Explore More Immigrant Lives

The Namesake, Jhumpa Lahiri. This classic portrait of the immigrant experience follows the Ganguli family from their traditional life in India through their arrival in Massachusetts in the late 1960s and their difficult melding into an American way of life. Mira Nair directed a feature film adaptation released in 2007. FICTION LAHIRI

No One Can Pronounce My Name, Rakesh Satyal. Lonely forty-something Harit dresses up in his dead sister's saris to comfort his grief-stricken mother and befriends a woman worried that her husband is having an affair. A funny and insightful look into the lives of people reconciling culture and tradition with their own dreams and desires. FICTION SATYAL

This Red Line Goes Straight to Your Heart, Madhur Anand. An experimental memoir about Partition, immigration, and generational storytelling from the perspective of a first-and second-generation Indo-Canadian family that weaves together imagined voices of the past with the vital authority of the present. *B ANAND 2020*

Explore More Social Change

The Archer, Shruti Anna Swamy. As Vidya comes of age in 1960s and 70s Bombay, her pursuit of artistic escape through dance becomes the most important thing in her life, even as she leaves home for college and falls in complicated love with her best friend. With an uncertain future looming, she must confront the tensions between romance, art, and the legacy of her own imperfect mother. FICTION SWAMY

Free Love, Tessa Hadley. Although 1967 London may be alive with the youth revolution, the suburban Fischer family belongs to an older world of conventional stability. But when something in pretty, dutiful Phyllis catches fire, she makes a choice that defies all expectations of her as a wife and a mother. FICTION HADLEY

Explore More Complicated Relationships

Little Disasters, Randall Klein. Two couples who became friends in the delivery room of a Brooklyn hospital must deal with the fallout of the affair that split them apart as a mysterious crisis shuts down Midtown Manhattan. An engrossing story of the bonds of love and family and our unending urges to test them, even when we need them most. FICTION KLEIN

Monogamy, Sue Miller. Derailed by the sudden passing of her husband of 30 years, photographer Annie struggles to pick up the pieces of her life. While still in mourning, she discovers a ruinous secret that will force her to question whether she ever truly knew the man who loved her. FICTION MILLER