<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Books</th>
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| 1996 | The Book of Ruth by Jane Hamilton  
Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison  
The Deep End of the Ocean by by Jacquelyn Mitchard |
| 1997 | The Meanest Thing to Say by Bill Cosby  
The Treasure Hunt by Bill Cosby  
The Best Way to Play by Bill Cosby  
Ellen Foster by Kaye Gibbons  
A Virtuous Woman by Kaye Gibbons  
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest Gaines  
Songs in Ordinary Time by Marry McGarry Morris  
The Heart of a Woman by Maya Angelou  
The Rapture of Canaan by Sheri Reynolds  
Stones from the River by Ursula Hegi  
She's Come Undone by Wally Lamb |
| 1998 | Where the Heart Is by Billie Letts  
Midwives by Chris Bohjalian  
What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day by Pearl Cleage  
I Know This Much is True by Wally Lamb  
Breath, Eyes, Memory by Edwidge Danticat  
Black and Blue by Anna Quindlen  
Here on Earth by Alice Hoffman  
Paradise by Toni Morrison |
| 1999 | A Map of the World by Jane Hamilton  
Vinegar Hill by A. Manette Ansay  
River, Cross My Heart by Breena Clarke  
Tara Road by Maeve Binchy  
Mother of Pearl by Melinda Haynes  
White Oleander by Janet Fitch  
The Pilot's Wife by Anita Shreve  
The Reader by Bernhard Schlink  
Jewel by Bret Lott |
| 2000 | House of Sand and Fog by by Andre Dubus III  
Drowning Ruth by Christina Schwarz  
Open House by Elizabeth Berg  
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver  
While I Was Gone by Sue Miller  
The Bluest Eyes by Toni Morrison  
Back Roads by Tawni O'Dell  
Daughter of Fortune by Isabelle Allende  
Gap Creek by Robert Morgan |
| 2001 | A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry  
The Corrections by Jonathan Franzen  
Cane River by Lalita Tademy  
Stolen Lives: Twenty Years in a Desert Jail by Malika Oufkir  
Icy Sparks by Gwyn Hyman Rubio  
We Were The Mulvaneys by Joyce Carol Oates |
| 2002 | Sula by Toni Morrison  
Fall on Your Knees by Ann-Marie MacDonald  
East of Eden by John Steinbeck  
Cry, The Beloved Country by Alan Paton  
One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel García Márquez  
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers  
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy  
The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck  
A Million Little Pieces by James Frey  
As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner  
The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner  
A Light in August by William Faulkner  
Night by Elie Wiesel  
The Measure of a Man by Sidney Poitier  
The Road by Cormac McCarthy  
Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides  
Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel García Marquez  
The Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett  
A New Earth by Eckhart Tolle  
The Story of Edgar Sawtelle by David Wroblewski  
Say You’re One of Them by Uwem Akpan  
Freedom by Jonathan Franzen  
A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens  
Great Expectations by Charles Dickens |