**Sofrito**–Diederich, Phillippe  
*Cinco Puntos Press*  
Frank Delgado's restaurant is in financial trouble. He hears of a fabulous secret chicken recipe, stolen from his uncle by the government of Cuba, his parent's homeland. Frank travels to Cuba with the dangerous task of trying to steal back the recipe. Amidst espionage, intrigue, love, and discoveries of family secrets, Frank falls in love with the Cuba of his parents' youth.

**The Stranger**–Coben, Harlan  
*Penguin Random House*  
"Don't talk to strangers." A stranger approaches Adam and divulges a dark secret about his wife, Corinne. After he confronts her, she disappears. Working with Chief Johanna Griffin to unfold the stranger's mysterious words, Adam learns that the most familiar may be more dangerous.

**Sweet Damage**–James, Rebecca  
*Penguin Random House*  
Tim Ellison feels lucky to find a cheap room to rent in a mansion close to his work in Sydney. The only condition is to look after the mysterious owner, twenty year old Anna. He slowly learns about her past and her crippling fears. Tim feels uneasy as odd, mysterious things begin to happen, but he is also strangely attracted to Anna. What's really going on?

**The Truth According to Us**–Barrows, Annie  
*Penguin Random House*  
During the Depression, pampered Senator's daughter, Layla Beck, is cut off from allowances and is sent to work as a writer for the WPA's Writer's Project in little old Macedonia, West Virginia. Soon she comes to like the small town and her work. She discovers dark secrets that some want to stay hidden, and she finds that people have different versions of the truth and of the town's history.

**Uprooted**–Novik, Naomi  
*Penguin Random House*  
The Dragon, the wizard who protects the valley from the Wood's evil encroachment, demands the most special village girl as payment every 10 years. Neither graceful nor beautiful, Agnieszka is shocked and terrified when the Dragon chooses her, but finds she has an aptitude for learning magic. Her adventures include a deadly quest, true friendship, and court intrigue.

**The Water Knife**–Bacigalupi, Paolo  
*Penguin Random House*  
After environmental catastrophes, Nevada and California wage a war for water rights. The American Southwest becomes a gritty world of big money, ruthless business and seedy undertakings. Angel, a “Water Knife” who gets water for his employer any way he can, and a journalist search for the elusive paperwork that is behind a slew of murders, while a teenage orphan refugee struggles to find a way out of Phoenix.

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**LARIAT COMMITTEE**

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- **Reka Reynolds, Vice Chair**  
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  Dallas Public Library
- **Lisa Younghblood**  
  Harker Heights Public Library
- **Gail Woodward**  
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**HISTORY OF LARIAT**

The Lariat Adult Fiction Reading List was started in 2008 when Corinne Hill approached TLA to start a list for adults that would be a “pleasure to read.” Former TLA President, Melody Kelly, bestowed the name, “Lariat.” The Lariat Task Force was started on April 3, 2009. Since then, the selection of 25 outstanding fiction titles of the year have been carried out in various ways. Starting in 2012, the Lariat List Adult Fiction Author Session Luncheon began a new tradition of inviting authors from past and current lists.
Zack cannot wait to finish high school and work at the local video gaming store, but unfortunately his plans are ruined when he has to go fight the aliens who plan to blow up the world. His family and his favorite game, Armada, might be the key to the Earth's defense.

This thriller is alternately told by present day Tessa and her 16 year old self, Tessie, the only survivor of the "Black-Eyed Susan" killer in Fort Worth, Texas. Her original testimony sent a man to death row, but the real culprit might still be out there. Tessa teams up with experts who work to free wrongfully convicted death row inmates. The suspense builds as Tessa discovers devastating secrets from her past.

Simon Watson receives a package from a distant bookseller that seems to hold his family’s history, especially that of his mother. It turns out that there’s a spell on the women in his family that threatens to take away Enola, his sister and only family left. Can he save his sister and stop history from recurring?

Kitty Miller lives her carefree life as a single woman until she masters the violin and tries on her husband’s clothes, finding she is Katharyn Eyed Susans. As her husband still lives with his new wife. She makes up an imagined life about another couple a few doors down, but then sees something unexpected. The next day the woman vanishes. As Rachel gets involved in the investigation, the suspense builds. Things are not what they seem, with many twists and turns in this page turner of a thriller.

A major plane crash leaves Avery and four others stranded in the harsh wilderness of the Rocky Mountains in late November. After their rescue, she is emotionally torn between coping with what happened in the mountains and fitting back into normal life. Already in a relationship, she must also face her feelings for another man: fellow survivor and teammate, Colin Shea.

An Italian woman is married by proxy when her fiancé sends for her to join him in Argentina. At the port, her husband’s friend informs her that she is a widow. Deciding not to go back home, she masters the violin and tries on her husband's clothes, finding that they and a man’s lifestyle suit her.

Battling a magical forgetfulness, aging Britons Axl and Beatrice are determined to travel to see their son. Battling a magical forgetfulness, aging Britons Axl and Beatrice are determined to travel to see their son.

Alcoholic, unemployed Rachel rides the daily commuter train past her old home where her ex-husband still lives with his new wife. She makes up an imagined life about another couple a few doors down, but then sees something unexpected. The next day the woman vanishes. As Rachel gets involved in the investigation, the suspense builds. Things are not what they seem, with many twists and turns in this page turner of a thriller.

A former slave named Willie flees home to the Old West, followed by his enemies and father’s killers. See him become Nat Love, aka Deadwood Dick, a masterful gunslinger who comes back to avenge himself for all that he has lost.

Vianne and Isabelle live in German occupied France during World War II. Through them, we experience their different ways of living the war’s horrors and hardships. We witness the courage and strength of everyday people to do the impossible and what is necessary to fight for survival, ideals, country, and loved ones.

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