



Whitcoulls
 – TOP –
 100
 BOOKS

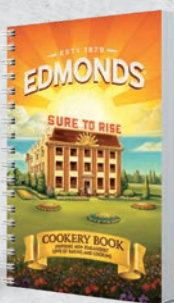
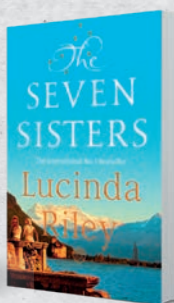
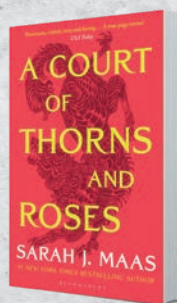
Whitcoulls

2024/2025 List as voted by New Zealanders

www.whitcoulls.co.nz

Whitcoulls TOP 100

THIS YEAR'S TOP 5 VOTED TITLES



1 A Court of Thorns and Roses Series

Sarah J. Maas

FANTASY

A fantasy series that follows the journey of mortal nineteen-year-old huntress Feyre Archeron after she is taken by a beast to the hidden and legendary lands of Prythian for murdering a faerie. There she learns that every story she's heard about Prythian are lies, and this beautiful and dangerous world is home to the Fae. But an ancient, wicked shadow is growing, and Feyre must find a way to stop it or doom the Fae and their world - forever.

2 The Emperyan Series

Rebecca Yarros

FANTASY

Enter the brutal and elite world of a war college for dragon riders. These two books *Fourth Wing* and *Iron Flame* have taken the world by storm, exciting millions of fans now desperate for more books in the series.

3 The Seven Sisters Series

Lucinda Riley

FICTION

A series of eight books based on the legend of the Seven Sisters star constellation with *Atlas: The Story of Pa Salt*, wrapping up the story.

4 Edmonds Cookery Book

Edmonds

COOKING

This has been New Zealand's most trusted cookbook since it first appeared in Kiwi kitchens in 1908, and is still going strong!

5 Throne of Glass Series

Sarah J. Maas

FANTASY

The thrilling and epic story of a teenage assassin who uncovers a conspiracy threatening her world, all whilst confronting her own murky past.

6 Lessons in Chemistry

Bonnie Garmus

FICTION

Elizabeth Zott is a smart scientist and host of a 60's TV cooking show. Unconventional and idiosyncratic, she's a force of nature who with her daughter Mad and their dog Six-Thirty will slowly steal your heart.

8 A Good Girl's Guide to Murder Series

Holly Jackson

CRIME

A series of young adult crime thrillers which feature Pip, a high school student who investigates cold cases with the help of her online sleuthing community.

10 The Women

Kristin Hannah

FICTION

Wonderful historical fiction about a young woman who joins the Army Nurse Corps to serve in Vietnam, only to be ostracised on her return. The naïve young girl who went to war comes back both wiser and wearier.

7 Twisted Series

Ana Huang

ROMANCE

A very popular four book romance series which follows a group of four college roommates and best friends as they find love in different ways. These books are filled with steam, suspense and some darker themes.

9 The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo

Taylor Jenkins Reid

FICTION

The entrancing story of a reclusive Hollywood starlet as she reflects on her relentless rise to the top and the long-held secrets the public could never imagine.

11 Harry Potter Series

J.K. Rowling

FANTASY

These wonderful books have now captivated several generations of readers and the love for them shows no sign of abating. They're timeless, ageless stories which have become modern classics.

Whitcoulls TOP 100

12 Pride and Prejudice

Jane Austen

CLASSIC

Jane Austen's popularity goes on and on - this classic is consistently voted to a high position on our List.

13 Fungi of Aotearoa

Liv Sisson

REFERENCE

A practical and up-to-date guide which takes readers on a journey to discover the unique and diverse fungi Aotearoa has to offer. 🐸



14 The Covenant of Water

Abraham Verghese

FICTION

This magnificent book is set throughout three generations in Kerala, southern India, from 1900 - 1977. It's big, epic in scale and totally immersive.

15 Verity

Colleen Hoover

THRILLER

The husband of author Verity Crawford has hired Lowen, a struggling writer, to complete the remaining books in a series his injured wife is unable to finish. Then Lowen uncovers an unfinished autobiography Verity never intended anyone to read.

16 101 Ways to Find Calm

Rebekah Ballagh

SELF HELP

Learn how to safely feel and process your emotions, how to rewire your brain and nervous system, and how to deeply connect with yourself. 🐸

17 Powerless

Lauren Roberts

FANTASY

Red Queen meets *The Hunger Games* in this epic and sizzling fantasy romance. Only the extraordinary belong in the kingdom of Ilya... the exceptional. The Elites.

18 Where the Crawdads Sing

Delia Owens

FICTION

An exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. This is wonderful.

19 The Lord of the Rings

J.R.R. Tolkien

FANTASY

New Zealand embraced this series and made it its own - the classic epic which still stands the test of time.

20 It Ends with Us

Colleen Hoover

ROMANCE

Lily has never had it easy. When she starts a new relationship things look too good to be true - which means they probably are.

21 Secrets of the Land

Kate Mahony

FICTION

Imogen Maguire is bewildered when in 2018 she is accosted in a Melbourne Street by a mysterious stranger who says her grandfather in New Zealand needs her help. But her grandfather is dead, isn't he? 🐸

22 The Hunger Games Series

Suzanne Collins

SCIENCE FICTION

The original trilogy plus the series prequel, *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*, all highly popular with our readers who eagerly await the newest book, *Sunrise on the Reaping*, which is also being turned into a film!

23 The Housemaid Series

Freida McFadden

THRILLER

An unbelievably twisty read that will have you glued to the pages late into the night, for fans of *The Woman in the Window* and *The Girl on the Train*.

24 The Nightingale

Kristin Hannah

FICTION

The *New York Times* bestseller, about two sisters navigating their way through war-torn, German-occupied France. This is an amazing book.

25 Shatter Me Series

Tahereh Mafi

FANTASY

Six books in a young adult dystopian series which centres on Juliette Ferrars, a seventeen-year-old girl with a lethal touch.



26 Lola in the Mirror

Trent Dalton

FICTION

An unnamed girl living in a Brisbane scrapyard has a dream, and a curated commentary throughout the book suggests she might just make it, despite all the obstacles in her way. It's truly outstanding.

27 A Little Life

Hanya Yanagihara

FICTION

The much acclaimed novel about the decades long relationship between four men, which was nominated for many literary prizes.

Whitcoulls TOP 100

28 The Song of Achilles

Madeleine Miller

FICTION

This version of the epic Trojan War is a dazzling feat of the imagination, a devastating love story, and an almighty battle between gods and kings, peace and glory, immortal fame and the human heart.

29 The Book Thief

Markus Zusak

FICTION

A sophisticated work that has found favour with both teens and adults. Death himself narrates this World War II story about Liesel.

30 The Boys of Tommen Series

Chloe Walsh

ROMANCE

Set in Cork, Ireland, these books are based around the lives of Johnny, Shannon, Gibsie and their friends as they navigate their way through their prestigious private school, Tommen College, and prepare for adulthood.

31 The Secret History

Donna Tartt

CLASSIC

Under the influence of their charismatic Classics professor, a group of clever, eccentric misfits at an elite college begin a downhill slide into obsession and evil. A modern classic.

32 Crescent City Series

Sarah J. Maas

FANTASY

A blockbuster modern fantasy series where one woman seeks revenge for a series of brutal murders that have shaken the very foundations of her city.

33 The Bible

SPIRITUAL

The Bible has appeared on every single Top 100 List since we started taking votes. It continues to inspire and guide, and is as relevant now as it ever was.

34 The Folk of the Air Series

Holly Black

FANTASY

This series follows the journey of mortal girl Jude Duarte and faerie prince Cardan Greenbriar as they navigate the world of hate, betrayal and contempt, along with their feelings for each other.



35 The Frozen River

Ariel Lawhon

FICTION

Based on historical documents, this is set in 19th Century Maine when a body is found entombed in the frozen river. The local midwife Martha Ballard is asked to determine the cause of death, but when she pronounces it as murder the men in her village turn against her.

36 The Silent Patient

Alex Michaelides

THRILLER

A shocking psychological thriller of a woman's act of violence against her husband and of the therapist obsessed with uncovering her motive.

37 Once Upon a Broken Heart Series

Stephanie Garber

FANTASY

Set in the world of the *Caraval* series, which is also on this List, these books follow Evangeline Fox who makes a deal with Jacks, the Prince of Hearts, and the unexpected consequences of their agreement.

38 The Bee Sting

Paul Murray

FICTION

This is the story of an Irish family in crisis. Dickie, Imelda, Cass and PJ all have their own issues to contend with. There's a family mythology about a bee which got caught up in Imelda's veil on her wedding day - but even that, like so much about them all, is not as it seems on the surface.

39 The Last Secret Agent

Pippa Latour & Jude Dobson

MEMOIR

This is the astounding true story of one of the last female Special Operations agents in France to get out alive after its liberation in World War II, and who ultimately made New Zealand her home. As with all these agents her level of courage was extraordinary and her story has been devoured by thousands of local readers.

40 Knockemout Series

Lucy Score

ROMANCE

A hugely popular chart-topping modern romance series sprinkled with crime and complicated pasts, set in the small town of Knockemout, Virginia.

41 The Girl from London

Olivia Spooner

FICTION

A stunning debut from a Kiwi author, set from 1940 to the modern day. This is about a family through generations. It's a heart-wrenching story of love, loss and the resilience of the human spirit.

42 Happy Place

Emily Henry

ROMANCE

Harriet and Wyn seem like the perfect couple - except they've broken up and no one knows. How can you pretend to be in love - and get away with it - in front of the people who know you best?

Whitcoulls TOP 100

43 Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow

Gabrielle Zevin

FICTION

Sam and Sadie - often in love, but never lovers - come together as creative partners in the world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, duplicity and, ultimately, a kind of immortality.

44 All the Light We Cannot See

Anthony Doerr

FICTION

An utterly brilliant, captivating World War II story which transcends all the others. We don't know anyone who has read this who hasn't absolutely loved it. Definitely a must-read.



45 Magnolia Parks Universe

Jessa Hastings

ROMANCE

Magnolia Parks and BJ Ballentine are meant to be, and everyone knows it, although they try their best to sabotage what should be a good thing and they've built a world where neither has ever let the other go completely.

46 Prophet Song

Paul Lynch

FICTION

This book is set in an apparently dystopian future, which sees Ireland become a fascist state and one desperate mother takes things into her own hands to try to save her family. Winner of the 2023 Booker prize.

47 Hello Beautiful

Ann Napolitano

FICTION

When William Waters meets the four Padavano sisters little does he know that a catastrophic rift is coming, which leaves their family inhabiting two sides of a fault line.

48 Normal People

Sally Rooney

FICTION

Two people who meet as teenagers and then reconnect at University must each confront how far they are willing to go to save the other. Highly acclaimed.

49 The Axeman's Carnival

Catherine Chidgey

FICTION

The prizewinning, highly acclaimed novel about Tama the magpie chick, Marnie who rescues him and her farmer husband Rob, as the story moves inexorably towards the annual Axeman's Carnival. 🐦

50 To Kill a Mockingbird

Harper Lee

CLASSIC

A timeless classic about racial tension, beloved by generations of readers.

51 Wavewalker

Suzanne Heywood

MEMOIR

Suzanne's family went on a three year voyage which ended up taking ten. She was desperate to go to school and make friends but was instead the object of her parents' inexplicable indifference, who denied her a childhood while showing her the world.

52 I Am Pilgrim

Terry Hayes

THRILLER

An astonishingly good thriller which has electrified everyone who's read it. We love this book as much as our readers do!

53 Atomic Habits

James Clear

SELF HELP

James Clear knows that real change comes from the compound effect of hundreds of small decisions.

54 The Thursday Murder Club Series

Richard Osman

CRIME

In a peaceful retirement village four unlikely friends meet up once a week to investigate unsolved killings. These books are charming.

55 Bridgerton Series

Julia Quinn

ROMANCE

A collection of eight Regency romance novels featuring the Bridgerton siblings and their love stories. These have become hugely popular after being brought to the screen by Netflix.



56 Dune

Frank Herbert

SCIENCE FICTION

A stunning blend of adventure and mysticism, environmentalism and politics which has become one of the bestselling science fiction novels of all time.

57 The Hobbit

J.R.R. Tolkien

FANTASY

Tolkien's classic has enduring appeal, and is particularly loved here in New Zealand.

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58 Ugly Love

Colleen Hoover

ROMANCE

When Tate Collins finds airline pilot Miles Archer passed out in front of her apartment door, it is definitely not love at first sight. They wouldn't even go so far as to consider themselves friends. But what they do have is an undeniably strong mutual attraction.

59 The 48 Laws of Power

Robert Greene

SELF HELP

For anyone with an interest in conquest, self-defence, wealth, power or simply being an educated spectator, this is one of the most useful and entertaining books ever - an indispensable and witty guide to power.

60 Before the Coffee Gets Cold

Toshikazu Kawaguchi

FICTION

A Tokyo coffee shop offers its customers a unique experience: the chance to travel back in time. But the journey into the past does not come without risks: customers must sit in a particular seat, they cannot leave the cafe, and finally, they must return to the present before the coffee gets cold.

61 The Tattooist of Auschwitz

Heather Morris

FICTION

Based on a true story this book has a huge following for its empathetic depiction of life in the Camps in World War II and has recently been turned into a TV series.

62 The Inheritance Games Series

Jennifer Lynn Barnes

THRILLER

This series focuses on a girl named Avery Kylie Grambs, and the Hawthorne family. In the first book it's revealed that she's been chosen to inherit the will of deceased billionaire Tobias Hawthorne.

63 Everything is Beautiful and Everything Hurts

Josie Shapiro

FICTION

Mickey Bloom is a loner - shy, dyslexic, awkward, with a life full of insults and regrets - until she discovers running which turns out to be the one thing that she can do, and ultimately it saves her.

64 The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue

V.E. Schwab

FANTASY

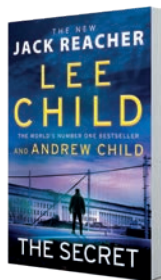
When Addie LaRue makes a pact with the devil, she trades her soul for immortality. But there's always a price - the devil takes away her place in the world, cursing her to be forgotten by everyone.

65 I'm Glad My Mom Died

Jennette McCurdy

MEMOIR

Former Nickelodeon child star Jennette McCurdy opens up about her difficult childhood and relationship with her 'momager'. Told with refreshing honesty and dark humour, this is hilarious, inspiring and truly heart-rending reading.



66 The Secret

Lee Child & Andrew Child

THRILLER

Jack Reacher races to identify a cold-blooded killer and uncover a secret that stretches back 23 years, whilst navigating his way around a government investigation. Will he bring the bad guys to justice the official way... or his way?

67 The Alchemist

Paulo Coelho

FICTION

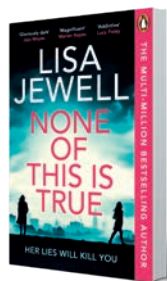
A parable that has touched millions of lives with its thoughtful message.

68 Feijoa

Kate Evans

HISTORY

The feijoa has become iconic in New Zealand, but its history is far more widespread and interesting. A fascinating read.



69 None of this is True

Lisa Jewell

THRILLER

Alix, a podcaster, finds an interesting subject for her series, but slowly starts to realise that the woman is hiding some very dark secrets.

70 Babel

R.F. Kuang

FICTION

Set in Oxford in 1836, this is an astonishing novel in the dark academia genre about the power of language, colonialism, and the sacrifices of resistance.

71 Boy Swallows Universe

Trent Dalton

FICTION

This autobiographical novel follows young Eli in Brisbane in 1983, trying to follow his heart and learn how to be a good man despite all the obstacles put in his way. Highly acclaimed.

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72 Daisy Jones and the Six

Taylor Jenkins Reid

FICTION

Everybody knows Daisy Jones and the Six. From the moment Daisy walked barefoot on to the stage at the Whisky, she and the band were a sensation. Then, on 12 July 1979, Daisy Jones and the Six split up. Nobody knew why - until now.

73 Circe

Madeleine Miller

FICTION

To protect what she loves most, Circe must summon all her strength and choose, once and for all, whether she belongs with the gods she is born from or with the mortals she has come to love.

74 Demon Copperhead

Barbara Kingsolver

FICTION

David Copperfield is reinvented in the Appalachians during the opioid crisis. Demon Copperhead is a young, redheaded boy whose journey towards adulthood is fraught, but exquisite in the telling.

75 The Kite Runner

Khaled Hosseini

FICTION

A terrific novel about friendship in difficult circumstances - set against the challenging political turmoil of Afghanistan.

76 Archer's Voice

Mia Sheridan

ROMANCE

This is the story of a woman chained to the memory of one horrifying night and the man whose love is the key to her freedom; and it's about the transformative power of love.

77 Auē

Becky Manawatu

FICTION

The award winning New Zealand novel about Arama, Taukiri and Beth - and Lupo, the dog. Tragedy, sorrow, hope and aroha are imbued within these pages. 🐾

78 Caraval Series

Stephanie Garber

FANTASY

A fantastical young adult series about the magical, once-a-year circus performance Caraval and the two sisters who get caught up in its mystery.

79 Me Before You

Jojo Moyes

FICTION

Falling in love can be the most beautiful thing in the world, but it can also be the most painful. This is wonderful.



80 Kings of Sin Series

Ana Huang

ROMANCE

A series of steamy billionaire romances themed around the seven deadly sins, with each book featuring a different sin and a different couple.

81 Outlander Series

Diana Gabaldon

FICTION

Big, fat, wonderful historical fiction - this series has thousands of obsessed fans here!

82 Kingsbridge Series

Ken Follett

FICTION

This epic, wonderful series starts with the building of cathedrals in the 12th Century and beyond. The first in the series, *The Pillars of the Earth*, is a true Top 100 classic - it's been on the List since day one.

83 Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine

Gail Honeyman

FICTION

Meet Eleanor Oliphant: she struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. A runaway bestseller.

84 The Midnight Library

Matt Haig

FICTION

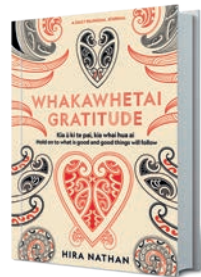
When Nora Seed finds herself in the Midnight Library she has a chance to make things right. Up until now, her life has been full of misery and regret, and she feels she has let everyone down, including herself. But things are about to change.

85 Yellowface

Rebecca F. Kuang

FICTION

When an author dies in a freak accident, Athena Liu sees the chance to steal her work in progress and pass it off as her own. This is biting satire, insightful and very clever. This author is also known as R.F. Kuang, with her book *Babel* on this List at number 70.



86 Whakawhetai

Hira Nathan

SPIRITUAL

A beautiful bilingual gratitude journal to help improve your te reo and your life. Kia u ki te pai, kia whai hua ai. Hold on to what is good and good things will follow. This book has had a profoundly positive impact on thousands of New Zealanders. 🐾

Whitcoulls TOP 100

87 Lioness

Emily Perkins

FICTION

Therese enjoys a life of luxury with her developer husband, but when rumours of corruption arise she starts to see her privileged lifestyle with new eyes, and asks: how did she become this person? And what exactly should she do about it? This book was the winner of the 2024 Ockham Fiction Prize and has been highly acclaimed. 🗨️

88 The House in the Cerulean Sea

T.J. Klune

SCIENCE FICTION

Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. At forty, he lives with a devious cat and his old records. As a Case Worker at the Department in Charge Of Magical Youth, he spends his days overseeing the well-being of children in government-sanctioned orphanages.

89 After the Tampa

Abbas Nazari

MEMOIR

Abbas and his family fled Afghanistan, finally arriving in Australian waters on board The Tampa which became caught up in a major political scandal. This tells the story of what it's like to be a refugee, and of finding a home in New Zealand. 🗨️

90 My Favourite Mistake

Marian Keyes

FICTION

The Walsh sisters are back! Anna had a dream life but she's chucked it in and is back in Dublin with her parents and with no partner, job, nor any sense of direction.

91 Chestnut Springs Series

Elsie Silver

ROMANCE

A collection of contemporary romance novels set in a small town in Texas. Follow the love stories of five different couples as they face challenges, secrets and second chances.

92 Wuthering Heights

Emily Brontë

CLASSIC

The story of Heathcliff and Catherine has been beloved by generations of readers and is a firm favourite of voters for this List.

93 The Night Circus

Erin Morgenstern

FICTION

Brilliantly inventive, this story of a circus which only performs at night and the cast of performers whose fate hangs in the balance, is truly a feast for the senses and the heart.



94 A Song of Ice & Fire Series

George R.R. Martin

FANTASY

Thousands of new readers have discovered these books, whose popularity is undiminished - even as everyone waits (and waits!) for number six in the series!

95 The Stormlight Archive

Brandon Sanderson

FANTASY

A fantasy series of epic proportions, spanning five books and multiple parts - an astonishing body of work from one of the greatest science fiction writers alive today.

96 Jane Eyre

Charlotte Brontë

CLASSIC

A triumph of storytelling which has endured through generations and is as much loved today as it was in the beginning. A true classic.

97 The Wager

David Grann

HISTORY

In 1740, a British Man O' War named HMS Wager with 250 crew on board, set sail in search of a treasure laden Spanish galleon. It was wrecked on a desolate island off the coast of Patagonia and ultimately only 145 men survived, who were then accused of treason. An astonishing true story.

98 When the Moon Hatched

Sarah A. Parker

FANTASY

Raeve is an assassin for the rebellion, but when she's caught and imprisoned, only Kaan Vaegor, on a quest of his own, can get her out, and the two begin to work together to unravel the truth about the world and each other. 🗨️

99 The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F***

Mark Manson

SELF HELP

Forget about trying to find the good in everything - just accept that life is tough, and deal with it. Don't keep pretending that everything is perfect! This has been a consistent best seller and interest is as strong as ever.



100 Better Than the Movies

Lynn Painter

ROMANCE

Liz Buxbaum must reexamine everything she thought she knew about love, and rethink her own ideas of what Happily Ever After should look like.