

## 2025 READING LIST

A list of adult fiction chosen by our code-cracking bibliophile Spybrarian with themes of espionage, secret agents and covert operations.

# MISSION CLASSIFIED

Reserve these titles and search for more Spy books on our library catalogue  
[library.bathurst.nsw.gov.au](http://library.bathurst.nsw.gov.au)



**Title:**  
The Peak  
**Author:**  
Sam Guthrie  
**Published:**  
2025

Adult Fiction  
eAudiobook  
eBook



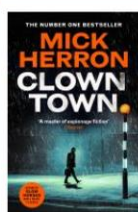
Charlie, a ruthless political fixer, will do anything to protect Sebastian—his oldest friend and a rising minister. But when Sebastian hears a phrase in Mandarin and triggers global chaos, Charlie must uncover a buried secret spanning Hong Kong, Beijing, and Canberra before the world—and their bond—collapses.



**Title:**  
The Poets Game  
**Author:**  
Paul Vidich  
**Published:**  
2025

Adult fiction

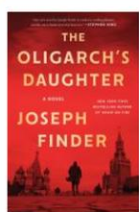
Haunted by loss and a buried past, ex-CIA officer Alex Matthews is pulled back into espionage. As a covert mission unravels and betrayal looms, he must uncover the truth behind BYRON—his enigmatic recruit—or risk losing his rebuilt life, his family, and his final shot at redemption



**Title:**  
Clown Town  
**Author:**  
Mick Herron  
**Published:**  
2025

Adult fiction

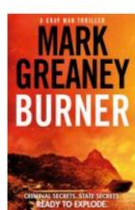
River Cartwright, sidelined spy, digs into his late grandfather's secrets. Meanwhile, Diana Taverner weaponizes blackmail, and Jackson Lamb watches his misfit agents stumble into danger. As old operations resurface and loyalties fray, Slough House faces a reckoning—because when spies play games, someone always gets burned.



**Title:**  
The Oligarch's Daughter  
**Author:**  
Joseph Finder  
**Published:**  
2025

Adult fiction

On the run with a million-dollar bounty, Paul Brightman must outwit Russian operatives and unravel a deadly conspiracy tied to his lover's oligarch father. From Wall Street to the New Hampshire wilderness, The Oligarch's Daughter is a high-stakes thriller of espionage, betrayal, and global intrigue.



**Title:**  
The Hidden Hand  
**Author:**  
Stella Rimington  
**Published:**  
2023

Adult fiction  
Large Print

Alex Velesky steals Swiss bank records, uncovering massive corruption. Now hunted by the Russian mafia and CIA, he's caught in a deadly chase. Court Gentry and Zoya Zakharova want him for different reasons—but first, they must survive. Loyalties clash, bullets fly, and survival is anything but guaranteed



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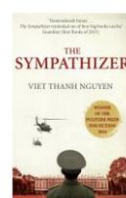
Li Min is forced from Harvard to Oxford, drawn into a covert Chinese centre with a dark mission. As its new head uncovers espionage, CIA agent Manon Tyler races to expose the truth and save Li before St Felix's secrets destroy them all.



**Title:**  
The Spy Coast  
**Author:**  
Tess Gerritsen  
**Published:**  
2023

Adult fiction  
eAudiobook  
Large Print

When a body turns up in her driveway, former spy Maggie Bird, forced into retirement after a mission went tragically wrong, turns to her "Martini Club" of former spies to help her uncover the truth about who is trying to kill her, and why.



**Title:**  
The Sympathizer  
**Author:**  
Viet Thanh Nguyen  
**Published:**  
2016

Adult fiction

In *The Sympathizer*, a Viet Cong mole escapes Saigon with South Vietnamese elites, secretly spying on them in exile. Torn between two cultures and loyalties, he navigates betrayal, identity, and the haunting legacy of war in a gripping tale of espionage, politics, and fractured belonging.



**Title:**  
Black Wolf  
**Author:**  
Kathleen Kent  
**Published:**  
2023

Adult fiction

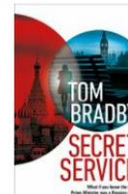
In 1990 Soviet Belarus, CIA agent Melvina Donleavy poses as a secretary while tracking nuclear smuggling. Gifted with perfect facial recall, she uncovers a chilling pattern of missing women—and draws the attention of the ruthless KGB chief, the Black Wolf, in a deadly game of espionage and survival.



**Title:**  
The Enigma Girl  
**Author:**  
Henry Porter  
**Published:**  
2024

Adult fiction

Slim Parsons, a volatile MI5 agent, is recalled to infiltrate a mysterious news site linked to wartime codebreakers. With her missing brother, a past mission gone wrong, and a looming threat to MI5 converging, Operation Linesman spirals into a deadly game—watched by someone even more covert than Slim herself.



**Title:**  
Secret Service  
**Author:**  
Tom Bradby  
**Published:**  
2019

Adult fiction

Kate Henderson, a senior MI6 officer, uncovers explosive intel: the British PM has cancer, and a potential successor may be a Russian agent. As the PM resigns, a frantic spy hunt begins—complicated by a second mole, Viper, threatening to unravel the British Establishment and push Kate to the brink.



**Title:**  
The Seventh Floor  
**Author:**  
David McCloskey  
**Published:**  
2024

Adult fiction

Six CIA officers, both dear friends and cherished enemies, have stolen other people's secrets for a quarter century, but now they must steal each other's.