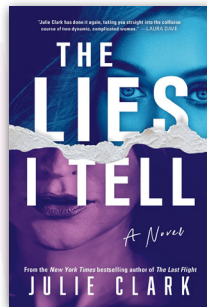
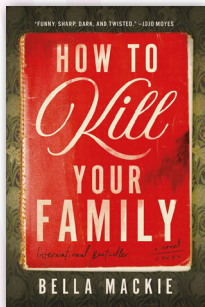


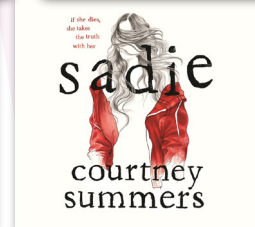
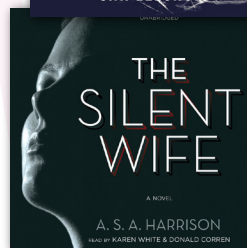
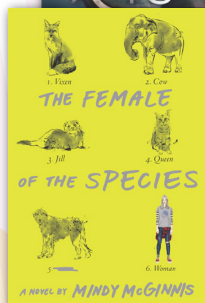
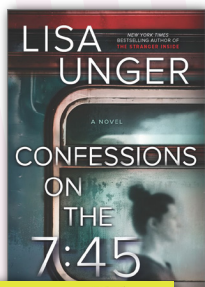
ANTI-HEROINES YOU'LL HATE TO LOVE

Our main protagonist, Chloe, is not your traditional hero. Heroes tend to be likable, well-meaning, and idealistic. Perhaps she is better categorized as an anti-hero: a main character in a story who lacks the typical heroic qualities of bravery, courage, morality, and the special ability and desire to achieve for the greater good. Traditional heroes inspire us to be our best selves, but anti-heroes let us ask the question: what if we weren't? What decisions might a protagonist make if they were led by darker motivations, like greed or revenge or power? This book list is filled with excellent morally gray protagonists who may—or may not—be redeemed in the end.



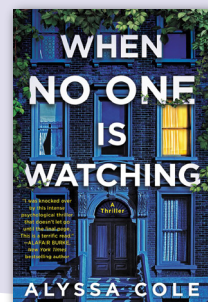
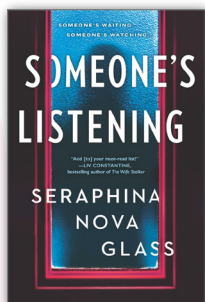
FUELED BY REVENGE

Getting even is a primal human desire as old as time. Most people have thought about enacting revenge for a perceived wrong. But most of us have the good sense to leave it in our heads, a fantasy we will never live out. Not so for Chloe, who spends the novel seeking revenge against her rapist. And not so for the characters in the following list of books.



COMPULSIVELY READABLE BOOKS ABOUT OBSESSION

Chloe obsesses over uncovering the killer, while also obsessing over how to enact revenge on Will. Stories of obsession create a deliciously dangerous world where the stakes are high and the character's fixation keeps us flipping the pages to see how far they'll go to get what they want. The following novels all plumb the uneasy depths of obsession, navigating deep, dark waters to fully explore the minds of both the obsessed and the obsession.



PSYCHOPATHS IN FICTION

There's no denying the allure of psychopaths. There's something disturbing but fascinating about people so ruthless and manipulative, who lack the ability to feel guilt or remorse over their actions. Perhaps hearing more about this often misunderstood disorder offers us a way to confront deep-seated fears and insecurities. Or perhaps it's one way to make sense of terrifying and horrific events. One thing is certain: psychopaths hold a particular sway in the cultural imagination. These novels explore psychopathy from a variety of angles.

