Psychological fiction relates stories about characters with real, relatable psychological problems. A psychological novel is defined as a work of fiction in which the thoughts, feelings, and motivations of the characters are of equal or greater interest than is the external action of the story. A psychological novel is a fictional narrative which emphasizes the unstable psychological states of its characters. It is often told through the viewpoint of psychologically stressed characters and focusing on the complex and often tortured relationships between characters in the novel.

The books on this list, which can be found in the Library collection, provide a representative sample of such books. Other psychological novels can be found in the Newton Library as well as in other Minuteman Library Network libraries by doing a Subject Search using the terms "Psychological fiction." The books are located in the second floor Fiction section arranged on the shelves alphabetically by the author's last name. The novels may be in the regular fiction collection or in the "Mystery" section. Ask a librarian, if you need help.

Baer, Neal. **Kill Again.** After being victimized for years, Rosa Sanchez is finally getting her life together, then she is abducted by a deranged criminal and killer.

Blondel, Jean-Philippe. **The 6:41 to Paris.** Cecile unexpectedly encounters a man with whom she had a passionate affair that ended very badly 30 years ago. This is a psychological thriller about past romance, with all its pain and promise.

Croft, Kathryn. **The Girl With No Past.** Leah Mills lives a life of a fugitive – until she meets Julian and becomes very happy. When her life with Justin is threatened, there are many questions. Is Leah all she seems? Or does she deserve everything she gets?

Gardner, Lisa. **Crash & Burn.** Who is Nicky Frank, and what happened the night her car sailed off the road? Was it a random accident? The deeper Boston Detective Wyatt digs, the more concerned he becomes.

Green, Jane. **Saving Grace.** Ted and Grace have a tumultuous marriage that is soon threatened when Ted’s new business assistant comes on the scene she might be the biggest threat of all, one that could cost Grace her marriage, her reputation, and even her sanity.

Hannah, Sophie. **The Carrier.** A stranger tells Gaby that the only man that she has every truly loved is accused of the murder of his wife. She also told her that he is innocent even though Tim Breary has confessed. He claims to have no idea why he murdered his wife.

Hannah, Sophie. **A Game For All the Family.** A woman must find the truth in order to defeat a mysterious opponent, protect her daughter, and save her own life in this psychological thriller with an unforgettable ending.

Hawkins, Paula. **The Girl on the Train.** Rachel takes the same commuter train every morning... until she sees something shocking. Rachel goes to the police. Has she done more harm than good?

Hopkins, Ellen. **Love Lies Beneath.** Tara Cannon, 40, has been married three times and then she is drawn to a handsome doctor, who evokes new emotions in her. Just when she thinks she has reached her happily ever after, things start to go awry. She begins receiving threatening emails and text messages. Battling her troubled past and her bright future, Tara must solve the mysteries that haunt her.

Katzenbach, John. **The Dead Student.** "Moth" Warner, a PhD student, wakes up on his ninety-ninth day of sobriety and discovers his uncle lying in a pool of blood. The police pronounce the death a suicide, but Moth refuses to believe that his uncle would take his own life. Moth and his former girlfriend search for the truth about Ed’s death and discover a madman seeking revenge.

Kellerman, Jonathan. **The Murderer’s Daughter.** A brilliant, dedicated psychologist, Grace Blades has a gift for treating troubled clients. Grace has a dark, secret side. After she turns away a prospective
client, she regrets her decision when a homicide detective appears on her doorstep. Grace decides to launch her own investigation about the death of the man she refused to help.

Kirk, Shannon. **Method 15/33.** She isn't your typical teenage kidnapped victim. She's a 16 year old pregnant teenager and she immediately begins to fight back in a cold and calculating manner to protect her unborn son and waits for the perfect moment to strike against the abductors.

Knight, Renee. **Disclaimer.** Reading a mysterious novel that recounts in haunting detail the day she became the victim of a dark secret, documentary filmmaker Catherine Ravenscroft is forced to confront the past to prevent her world from falling apart.

Kubica, Mary. **Pretty Baby.** Heidi has always been a charitable woman. Still, her husband and daughter are horrified when Heidi returns home one day with a young woman named Willow and her four-month-old baby in tow. What starts as an act of kindness quickly spirals into a story far more twisted than anyone could have anticipated.

Levy, Robert Joseph. **The Glittering World.** A dark tale of family secrets and the search for truth in this supernatural thriller. When Michael takes three friends into the wilds of Canada to sell a house he's inherited, it at first seems to everyone like the perfect getaway from New York. When Michael disappears, nothing could be stranger than the new mystery she brings with her.

Mason, Jamie. **Monday's Lie.** Dee Aldrich was very happy when she married Patrick, her college sweetheart. But now, years later, her marriage is falling apart and she's starting to believe that her husband has his eye on a new life - a life without her, one way or another.

McCReight, Kimberly. **Where They Found Her.** When a freelance journalist and recent newcomer is called upon to cover the report that the body of an infant was discovered in the woods near the town's prestigious university campus for the local newspaper, she discovers that there are lots of secrets and she is threatened after she begins asking questions about this incident.

Milchman, Jenny. **As Night Falls.** Sandy has no idea that tonight her life will be forever changed. Sandy has always tried to give her family everything. But, as the sky darkens over her secluded home in the Adirondacks and a heavy snowfall looms, an escaped murderer on the run draws close. Nick has the power and the determination to intrude on Sandy's life and family.

Nakamura, Fuminori. **The Gun.** When the alienated young man finds a corpse on a Tokyo riverbank, he decides to steal the revolver he finds next to the body. He quickly becomes obsessed about the gun and his focus is consumed by one idea: that possessing the gun is no longer enough - he must fire it.

Oates, Joyce Carol. **Jack of Spades: A Tale of Suspense.** A successful writer, Andrew Rush, slowly becomes subsumed by his dark alter ego in this tale of literary madness. When he is sued by a local woman who claims that Rush copied her ideas and stole her manuscript, he laughs off the charges, but his alter ego character wants revenge as Rush slowly descends into madness.

Pryor, Mark. **Hollow Man.** Dominic is a prosecutor, a musician, and an Englishman living in Texas. He's also a psychopath. When his world starts to crack, he hatches a plan with others to get some quick money which ends in murder. When cracks start to show in the conspiracy, Dominic has to decide whether to stick by his partners in crime, or let his true nature come out to play.

Reardon, Bryan. **Finding Jake.** A story of psychological suspense told from the point of view of a stay-at-home father of a high-school age son who is unaccounted for during a school shooting. Simon begins to search for answers, for hope. Is it possible he doesn't really know his son?

Rendell, Ruth. **Dark Corners.** A compelling story of blackmail, murders both accidental and one person's devouring of a weaker person's identity. Carl may be sitting pretty, but he's just a weak-willed milquetoast who is completely undone by a series of mind-boggling errors.

Rich, A. J. **The Hand That Feeds You.** A novel of psychological suspense about a woman involved with a man who proves to be an imposter. When he dies in a hideous manner, she discovers he was not the man he said he was. When other women associated with the dead man are murdered, she must find out who is killing the women as she increasingly fears for her life.

Robotham, Michael. **Life or Death.** Audie was sentenced to 10 years for a robbery. Five million dollars has never been recovered, and everybody believes Audie knows where the money is. When he escapes from jail the day before he is to be released, the hunt for Audie, and the money, is on. But Audie's not running to get the money; he is trying to save someone else's life.
Treadway, Jessica. **Lacy Eye.** A brutal home invasion leaves Hanna permanently disfigured and her husband dead. Three years later, the man convicted of the crime (her daughter's former boy-friend) has won an appeal, and Hanna is terrified about what is to come. Hanna must deal with her fierce love for her daughter and the slowly emerging truth about that fateful night.

Tremayne, S. K. **The Ice Twins.** One of Sarah's daughters died. But can she be sure which one – Kirstie or Lydia? Her surviving daughter claims they have mistaken her identity - that she, in fact, is Lydia - her world comes crashing down once again. When a violent storm leaves Sarah and her daughter stranded, they are forced to confront what really happened on that fateful day.

Ware, Ruth. **In a Dark, Dark Wood.** What should be a cozy and fun-filled weekend takes a sinister turn when a reclusive crime writer reluctantly agrees to make the trip. Forty-eight hours later, she wakes up in a hospital bed injured but alive, with the knowledge that someone is dead. Wondering "what have I done?", she tries to piece together the events of the past weekend.

Weinman, Sarah (Editor). **Women Crime Writers: Four Suspense Novels of the 1940s.** These four stories explore the terrors of family life, personality disorders, and horrors of the mind.

Weinman, Sarah (Editor). **Women Crime Writers: Four Suspense Novels of the 1950s.** These four stories examine isolated crimes within society that not only breed murder but destructive suspicions.

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