

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN STEAMS INTO NUMBER ONE SPOT

Paula Hawkins' bestselling title revealed as most borrowed book from UK public libraries

The latest annual data released today by Public Lending Right (PLR) shows that *The Girl on the Train* by best-selling UK author and former journalist Paula Hawkins was the most borrowed book from UK public libraries.

Commenting on her delight at the book's success in libraries during 2015-16 Paula Hawkins said: "As a voracious reader possessed of a fevered imagination, my childhood visits to the library were a thrill. I credit those weekly trips with making me the reader - and the writer - I became, so I could not be more delighted to discover that *The Girl on the Train* was the most borrowed book from UK libraries last year."

Top 10 Most Borrowed Titles, 2015/16

1. <i>The Girl on the Train</i>	Paula Hawkins
2. <i>Personal</i>	Lee Child
3. <i>Make Me</i>	Lee Child
4. <i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i>	Jeff Kinney
5. <i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul</i>	Jeff Kinney
6. <i>Alert</i>	James Patterson
7. <i>Go Set a Watchman</i>	Harper Lee
8. <i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever</i>	Jeff Kinney
9. <i>Awful Auntie</i>	David Walliams (illus Tony Ross)
10. <i>Truth or Die</i>	James Patterson

First published in 2015, *The Girl on the Train* quickly rose to the top of the bestseller list and was adapted into a film starring Emily Blunt in 2016.

PLR figures today also reveal that James Patterson was the most borrowed author for the 10th year running. His books clocked up over two million loans from UK public libraries during 2015-16. Over the 10 years he has been in the top spot his books have been borrowed over 20 million times.

Public Lending Right (PLR) was established by Act of Parliament in 1979 and is the responsibility of the British Library. PLR gives authors the legal right to receive payment from government each time their books are loaned through the public library system. In February 2017 PLR is distributing £6 million to 22,202 authors at a Rate Per Loan of 7.82 pence.

Children's authors once again figure strongly. Seven are featured among the top 10 and four of these had over one million loans from UK public libraries last year. The four are former Children's Laureate Julia Donaldson; Daisy Meadows, the brand behind the "Rainbow Magic" series; Roderick Hunt author of "*The Magic Key*" books, written as a part of the Oxford Reading Tree and Francesca Simon, author of the "Horrid Henry" series.

Top 10 Most Borrowed Authors, 2015/16 (2014/15 position in brackets)

1. James Patterson (1)	6. M C Beaton (5)
2. Julia Donaldson (2)	7. Adam Blade (6)
3. Daisy Meadows (3)	8. Jacqueline Wilson (7)
4. Roderick Hunt (14)	9. Roald Dahl (10)
5. Francesca Simon (4)	10. Nora Roberts (8)

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Editors' Notes

1. The Public Lending Right scheme is the responsibility of the British Library. It is administered from PLR's existing offices in Stockton-on-Tees.
2. PLR is funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) through the British Library. This year PLR is distributing £6 million to 22,202 authors at a Rate Per Loan of 7.82 pence. Since its inception in 1979, PLR has distributed over £160 million to authors. The Chancellor announced the results of the government's spending review in 2015. As part of this announcement the British Library was informed that PLR has received a 'flat-cash' settlement. Its funding will therefore remain at £6.6m up to 2019.
3. Authors are eligible for payment if their PLR earnings reach a minimum of £1. There is a maximum payment threshold of £6,600 for the top-lending authors. This year, 205 authors will receive the maximum payment.
4. The Digital Economy Act, passed in March 2010, cleared the way for the UK PLR legislation to be extended to include public library loans of audio-books ('talking books') and ebooks downloaded to library premises for taking away as loans ('on-site' ebook loans). The UK PLR Scheme has been extended from 1 July 2014.

Further legislation to extend UK PLR to include remote loans of ebooks is currently being drafted following changes in European copyright law.

5. British authors qualify for payment from a number of other European PLR systems. These include the Irish PLR system which is now administered through the UK PLR office on behalf of the Irish government. Payments to UK authors from PLR systems in countries such as France, Germany, Austria and the Netherlands are distributed by the Authors' Licensing & Collecting Society.
6. PLR's data analysis system (LEWIS) offers public libraries a vital tool to support effective and efficient business decisions. The analysis gives them a comprehensive picture of national reading trends, changes in our national and regional reading habits and a fascinating insight into our preferences, pastimes and obsessions.
7. For all the latest news follow PLR on Twitter [@PLR_UK](https://twitter.com/PLR_UK).