The Philadelphia Story
All of these recommendations are set in Philadelphia.

FICTION

FINAL JUSTICE. By W.E.B. Griffin
FIC GRI
The most recent volume in the ‘Badge of Honor’ Series is a compelling story of the Philadelphia Police Department and Detective Matt Payne. Griffin provides the readers with in-depth and accurate descriptions of Philadelphia – throughout the series. With each book in the series, you get to know different characters that are present in all the books. (Kristin Redmond, CHPL)

ANGELINA’S BACHELORS. By Brian O’Reilly
FIC ORE, LP
An enjoyable story about a young widow in South Philadelphia - all of a sudden, she is left on her own and out of her job. She doesn’t know how she will support herself. She starts preparing meals for a few single men in the neighborhood to keep her busy and it grows from there. She is quite a cook and they all love her food. Recipes included! (Kristin Redmond, CHPL)

TILL THE END OF TOM. By Gillian Roberts
M ROB
The Amanda Pepper series, stars amateur sleuth Amanda Pepper, an English teacher in a fictional private high school in Philadelphia. When Amanda discovers a body in her school, she can’t help but try to solve the crime, she gets in deeper when she learns the dead man was at the school to see her. This series began with Caught Dead in Philadelphia in 1987. All books in the series are set in Philadelphia with some good details about the city. (Kristin Redmond, CHPL)

DEVIL’S CORNER. By Lisa Scottoline
M SCO, LP, CD, EBOOK
Assistant US Attorney Vicki Allegretti, living and working in Philadelphia, gets into trouble while working a case when her ATF partner is shot and killed. Vicki starts her own investigation into the murder of her partner and comes up against more than she bargained for. The author has written many other ‘legal thrillers’ set in Philadelphia. (Kristin Redmond, CHPL)
LITTLE EARTHQUAKES: A NOVEL. By Jennifer Weiner
FIC WEI, LP, CD
A wonderful story of friendship and motherhood set in center-city Philadelphia. Learn the stories of four separate women and how their lives become entwined as they deal and cope with their pregnancies and relationships. Several other books by the author, like In Her Shoes and Good in Bed, are also set in Philadelphia. (Kristin Redmond, CHPL)

THIRD AND INDIANA. By Steve Lopez
FIC LOP
Essentially a novel about adult relationships, this book draws together the narrative threads of several characters that are connected to the 14-year old Gabriel Santoro, while living in the dangerous gang-controlled streets of the Badlands section of Philadelphia. Focusing on a real-life intersection of Third Street and Indiana Avenue in the Fairhill area of the city that is known for its prevalence of drug dealers, the novel brought a level of notoriety to the area to a far wider audience and gained the attention of many. (Vincent Wood, TheCultureTrip.com)

TEMPEST RISING. By Diane McKinney-Whetstone
FIC MCK
One of a series of novels following life in a South Philadelphia African American neighborhood. This work by the noted Philadelphia author traces the trials and tribulations faced by one middle-class family in the 1960s. (PhillyFiction.com)
NONFICTION

A PRAYER FOR THE CITY. By Buzz Bissinger
974.811 BIS
A powerful inside look at former Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell’s first administration, beginning in 1991. The author was permitted to spend his days and nights as an insider to the ins and outs of the running of the City of Philadelphia. (Kristin Redmond, CHPL)

DR. MUTTER’S MARVELS: A TRUE TALE OF INTRIGUE AND INNOVATION AT THE DAWN OF MODERN MEDICINE. By Cristin O’Keefe Aptowicz
B MUTTER, T., CD
The Mutter Museum has long been a strange and fascinating destination for tourists and locals alike. This well-researched book tells the true story of the eccentric doctor who revolutionized surgery in the 19th century and founded what was to become the nation’s most famous museum of medical oddities. From performing operations without anesthesia to early plastic surgery experiments, this mesmerizing book takes an eye-opening look at the man known as the “P.T. Barnum of the surgery room.” You may never look at the museum or modern medicine the same way again. (phillyvoice.com)

BRING OUT YOUR DEAD: THE GREAT PLAGUE OF YELLOW FEVER IN PHILADELPHIA IN 1793. By J. H. Powell
614.541 POW
As a warning to future generations, this painstakingly researched account tells the story of one of the most dangerous scourges in urban America. The book delves into the plague that killed thousands of people in Philadelphia at the end of the 1700s, paralyzing the burgeoning city and bringing the nation’s capital to a standstill. The story is a predecessor to another excellent book about medical malady - "The Great Influenza" - that traces one of the worst flu outbreaks to the City of Brotherly Love in 1918. (phillyvoice.com)

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. By Benjamin Franklin
B FRANKLIN,B., EAUDIO
A roundup of Philly reads would not be complete without this gem. Chock full of homespun wisdom and curious stories about the statesman-inventor’s unique perspective on life (this guy was way ahead of his time), his world comes to life on the pages. His philosophies about working hard and thinking outside the box still resonate in today’s fast-paced digital world. One can almost imagine Franklin as his era’s Steve Jobs. Something tells me that he would have loved to have created his own app. (phillyvoice.com)