

# Extreme Book Nerd 2025 Categories and Book Suggestions

These books are suggestions and not required reading. Participants may select any title that meets the category and program requirements. If you need help finding a title that meets your specific needs and wants, please contact the Meridian Library and staff will be happy to assist you.

## 0. Wild Card - Discard 1 category & replace with 1 of your own

*Choose any one category to discard and replace with a book of your choosing. This is an optional category that will count toward your 50 books.*

## 1. A book originally published outside of the US.

- [Love in the Big City](#) by Sang Young Park
- [Septology](#) by Jon Fosse
- [The Years](#) by Annie Ernaux
- [Dance of the Happy Shades](#) by Alice Munro
- [The Remains of the Day](#) by Kazuo Ishiguro
- [Waking Lions](#) by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen
- [The Kamogawa Food Detectives](#) by Hisashi Kashiwai
- [The Lying Life of Adults](#) by Elena Ferrante
- [Violeta](#) by Isabel Allende
- [The Night Always Comes](#) by Willy Vlautin

## 2. A book from the villain's perspective.

- [The Picture of Dorian Gray](#) by Oscar Wilde
- [A Clockwork Orange](#) by Anthony Burgess
- [The Talented Mr. Ripley](#) by Patricia Highsmith
- [Vicious](#) by V. E. Schwab
- [Lolita](#) by Vladimir Nabokov
- [The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes](#) by Suzanne Collins
- [You](#) by Caroline Kepnes
- [Soon I Will Be Invincible](#) by Austin Grossman
- [The Young Elites](#) by Marie Lu
- [And I Darken](#) by Kiersten White

## 3. A book with a neurodiverse main character.

- [The Maid](#) by Nita Prose
- [Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow](#) by Gabrielle Zevin
- [Thinking in Pictures](#) by Temple Grandin
- [The Rosie Project](#) by Graeme Simsion
- [Unmasking Autism](#) by Devon Price
- [Good Different](#) by Meg Eden Kuyatt
- [The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time](#) by Mark Haddon
- [The Kiss Quotient](#) by Helen Hoang
- [Turtles All the Way Down](#) by John Green
- [Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine](#) by Gail Honeyman

**4. A book whose title contains a word in a language other than English.**

- [\*Pachinko\* by Min Jin Lee](#)
- [\*The Last Cuentista\* by Donna Barba Higuera](#)
- [\*Khabaar\* by Madhushree Ghosh](#)
- [\*Death of a Macho Man\* by M. C. Beaton](#)
- [\*Les Misérables\* by Victor Hugo](#)
- [\*¡Hola Papí!\* by John Paul Brammer](#)
- [\*Ciao for Now\* by Kate Bromley](#)
- [\*Familia\* by Lauren E. Rico](#)
- [\*Twice a Quinceañera\* by Yamile Saied Méndez](#)
- [\*Miracles at the Higher Grounds Café\* by Max Lucado](#)

**5. A book that was turned into a movie.**

- [\*The Time Traveler's Wife\* by Audrey Niffenegger](#)
- [\*All the Pretty Horses\* by Cormac McCarthy](#)
- [\*A Simple Favor\* by Darcy Bell](#)
- [\*The Cabin at the End of the World\* by Paul Tremblay](#)
- [\*Room\* by Emma Donoghue](#)
- [\*The Outsiders\* by S. E. Hinton](#)
- [\*Bird Box\* by Josh Malerman](#)
- [\*Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century\* by Jessica Bruder](#)
- [\*Jurassic Park\* by Michael Crichton](#)
- [\*Leave the World Behind\* by Rumaan Alam](#)

**6. A book with magical realism.**

- [\*The Book of Form and Emptiness\* by Ruth Ozeki](#)
- [\*Beloved\* by Toni Morrison](#)
- [\*The Bear and the Nightingale\* by Katherine Arden](#)
- [\*Klara and the Sun\* by Kazuo Ishiguro](#)
- [\*A Long Petal of the Sea\* by Isabel Allende](#)
- [\*The Water Dancer\* by Ta-Nehisi Coates](#)
- [\*The Ocean at the End of the Lane\* by Neil Gaiman](#)
- [\*Before the Coffee Gets Cold\* by Toshikazu Kawaguchi](#)
- [\*1Q84\* by Haruki Murakami](#)
- [\*The Astonishing Color of After\* by Emily X. R. Pan](#)

**7. A book with the audiobook read by its author.**

- [\*Born a Crime\* by Trevor Noah](#)
- [\*Greenlights\* by Matthew McConaughey](#)
- [\*Kitchen Confidential\* by Anthony Bourdain](#)
- [\*Calypso\* by David Sedaris](#)
- [\*Bossypants\* by Tina Fey](#)
- [\*The Ocean at the End of the Lane\* by Neil Gaiman](#)
- [\*The Office BFFs\* by Jenna Fischer and Angela Kinsey](#)
- [\*The Princess Diarist\* by Carrie Fischer](#)
- [\*Outliers\* by Malcolm Gladwell](#)

- [\*If You Ask Me: \(and of course you won't\)\* by Betty White](#)
- [\*As You Wish: inconceivable tales from the making of the Princess Bride\* by Cary Elwes](#)
- [\*Why not me?\* by Mindy Kaling](#)

#### 8. A book with a Jewish main character.

- [\*Fleishman is in Trouble\* by Taffy Brodesser-Akner](#)
- [\*Spinning Silver\* by Naomi Novik](#)
- [\*The Book of V\* by Anna Solomon](#)
- [\*People of the Book\* by Geraldine Brooks](#)
- [\*Signal Fires\* by Dani Shapiro](#)
- [\*Everything is Illuminated\* by Jonathan Safran Foer](#)
- [\*The Last Train to London\* by Meg Waite Clayton](#)
- [\*The Storyteller\* by Jodi Picoult](#)
- [\*The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store\* by James McBride](#)
- [\*Mrs. Everything\* by Jennifer Weiner](#)

#### 9. A book with a body of water on the cover.

- [\*The Covenant of Water\* by Abraham Verghese](#)
- [\*Beautiful Ruins\* by Jess Walter](#)
- [\*The Ocean at the End of the Lane\* by Neil Gaiman](#)
- [\*The Old Man and the Sea\* by Ernest Hemingway](#)
- [\*Nights in Rodanthe\* by Nicholas Sparks](#)
- [\*Salt to the Sea\* by Ruta Sepetys](#)
- [\*28 Summers\* by Elin Hilderbrand](#)
- [\*The Boys in the Boat\* by Daniel James Brown](#)
- [\*Life of Pi\* by Yann Martel](#)
- [\*The Suite Spot\* by Trish Doller](#)

#### 10. A memoir by a BIPOC author.

- [\*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings\* by Maya Angelou](#)
- [\*Somebody's Daughter\* by Ashley C Ford](#)
- [\*Stay True\* by Hua Hsu](#)
- [\*Scenes from My Life\* by Michael Kenneth Williams](#)
- [\*We Are Never Meeting in Real Life\* by Samantha Irby](#)
- [\*Heart Berries\* by Terese Marie Mailhot](#)
- [\*Trejo: My Life of Crime, Redemption, and Hollywood\* by Danny Trejo](#)
- [\*Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning\* by Cathy Park Hong](#)
- [\*Solito\* by Javier Zamora](#)
- [\*Crying in the Bathroom\* by Erika L. Sanchez](#)

#### 11. A book about chronic illness.

- [\*The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating\* by Elisabeth Tova Bailey](#)
- [\*Brain on Fire: my month of madness\* by Susannah Cahalan](#)
- [\*Get a Life Chloe Brown\* by Talia Hibbert](#)
- [\*Fourth Wing\* by Rebecca Yarros](#)
- [\*The Body Keeps the Score\* by Bessel van der Kolk](#)

- [\*My Sister's Keeper\* by Jodi Picoult](#)
- [\*Sick Kids in Love\* by Hannah Moskowitz](#)
- [\*Five Feet Apart\* by Rachael Lippincott](#)
- [\*Seven Days in June\* by Tia Williams](#)
- [\*Between Two Kingdoms\* by Suleika Jaouad](#)

**12. A book with a body part in the title.**

- [\*The Left Hand of Darkness\* by Ursula K. Le Guin](#)
- [\*City of Bones\* by Cassandra Clare](#)
- [\*Heart of the Sea\* by Nora Roberts](#)
- [\*Stranger in My Arms\* by Lisa Kleypas](#)
- [\*The Bone Collector\* by Jeffery Deaver](#)
- [\*A Kingdom of Flesh and Fire\* by Jennifer L. Armentrout](#)
- [\*The Eye of the Needle\* by Ken Follett](#)
- [\*Speaking In Tongues\* by Jeffery Deaver](#)
- [\*In the Hand of the Goddess\* by Tamora Pierce](#)
- [\*The Girl with Ghost Eyes\* by M.H. Boroson](#)

**13. A book published posthumously.**

- [\*When Breath Becomes Air\* by Paul Kalanithi](#)
- [\*The Diary of a Young Girl\* by Anne Frank](#)
- [\*Madly, Deeply\* by Alan Rickman](#)
- [\*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo\* by Stieg Larsson](#)
- [\*The Silmarillion\* by J. R. R. Tolkien](#)
- [\*I'll Be Gone in the Dark\* by Michelle McNamara](#)
- [\*A Moveable Feast\* by Ernest Hemingway](#)
- [\*The Mystery of Edwin Drood\* by Charles Dickens](#)
- [\*Persuasion\* by Jane Austen](#)
- [\*A Confederacy of Dunces\* by John Kennedy Toole](#)

**14. A book that would fit in 3 or more categories.**

- [\*Cloud Cuckoo Land\* by Anthony Doerr](#) (Neurodiverse, Clouds, Ancient Civilization)
- [\*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings\* by Maya Angelou](#) (BIPOC, Narrated by Author, Silhouette)
- [\*The Matzah Ball\* by Jean Meltzer](#) (Jewish main character, chronic illness, title contains a word other than English)
- [\*Ask Me About My Uterus: a quest to make doctors believe in women's pain\* by Abby Norman](#) (Chronic Illness, Body part in title, Read by the author)
- [\*The Martian\* by Andy Weir](#) (unlikely hero, recommended on a podcast, turned into a movie)
- [\*Year of Yes\* by Shonda Rhimes](#) (BIPOC, narrated by author, element of time)
- [\*Beloved\* by Toni Morrison](#) (Contains a person's name, narrated by author, turned into a movie)
- [\*Flowers for Algernon\* by Daniel Keyes](#) (Neurodiverse, Nebula award winner, turned into a movie)
- [\*The Graveyard Book\* by Neil Gaiman](#) (recommended on a podcast, narrated by the author, magical realism)
- [\*The House of the Spirits\* by Isabel Allende](#) (originally published outside the US, Magical Realism, turned into a movie)

**15. A book with a main character who has already died.**

- [\*Lincoln in the Bardo\* by George Saunders](#)

- [\*The Five People You Meet in Heaven\* by Mitch Albom](#)
- [\*Sophie's Choice\* by William Styron](#)
- [\*Beloved\* by Toni Morrison](#)
- [\*Masters of Death\* by Olivie Blake](#)
- [\*The Dead Zone\* by Stephen King](#)
- [\*The Ghost Writer\* by John Harwood](#)
- [\*Before I Fall\* by Lauren Oliver](#)
- [\*The Brief History of the Dead\* by Kevin Brockmeier](#)
- [\*Thirteen Reasons Why\* by Jay Asher](#)

**16. A book set in a place you'd like to visit.**

**17. A non-fiction book about outer space.**

- [\*Cosmos\* by Carl Sagan](#)
- [\*Packing for Mars\* by Mary Roach](#)
- [\*The Asteroid Hunter\* by D. S. Lauretta](#)
- [\*How I Killed Pluto and Why It Had It Coming\* by Mike Brown](#)
- [\*Moonbound\* by Jonathan Fetter-Vorm](#)
- [\*Rocket Men\* by Robert Kurson](#)
- [\*Alien Earths\* by Lisa Kaltenegger](#)
- [\*Starstruck\* by Sarafina Nance](#)
- [\*What We See in the Stars\* by Kelsey Oseid](#)
- [\*A City on Mars\* by Kelley and Zach Weinersmith](#)

**18. A book featuring an ancient civilization.**

- [\*The Last Kingdom\* by Bernard Cornwell](#)
- [\*Beneath a Scarlet Sky\* by Mark T. Sullivan](#)
- [\*Cleopatra's Daughter\* by Michelle Moran](#)
- [\*The Song of Achilles\* by Madeline Miller](#)
- [\*Till We Have Faces\* by C.S. Lewis](#)
- [\*Imperium\* by Robert Harris](#)
- [\*The Historian\* by Elizabeth Kostova](#)
- [\*The Throne of Fire\* by Rick Riordan](#)
- [\*Caesar's Women\* by Colleen McCullough](#)
- [\*The Book of Fire\* Christi Lefteri](#)

**19. A book about a celebrity or author you share a birth month with.**

**20. A book set in Central America.**

- [\*The Lost World\* by Michael Crichton](#)
- [\*The Wind Knows My Name\* by Isabel Allende](#)
- [\*The Mosquito Coast\* by Paul Theroux](#)
- [\*The Center of the World\* by Jacqueline Sheehan](#)
- [\*Where there was Fire\* by John Manuel Arias](#)
- [\*The Adventurer's Son\* by Roman Dial](#)

- [\*The Layover\* by Lacie Waldon](#)
- [\*The Maltese Iguana\* by Tim Dorsey](#)
- [\*The Lost City of the Monkey God\* by Douglas Preston](#)
- [\*The Saboteurs\* by Clive Cussler](#)

**21. A book with clouds on the cover.**

- [\*The Lovely Bones\* by Alice Sebold](#)
- [\*Silver Alert\* by Lee Smith](#)
- [\*First Love\* by James Patterson](#)
- [\*Cloud Atlas\* by David Mitchell](#)
- [\*Met Her Match\* by Jude Deveraux](#)
- [\*Summer Stage\* by Meg Moore](#)
- [\*Elizabeth of East Hampton\* by Audrey Bellezza and Emily Harding](#)
- [\*Window on the Bay\* by Debbie Macomber](#)
- [\*Heart of the Storm\* by Michael Buckley](#)
- [\*The Body in the Backyard\* by Lucy Score](#)

**22. A book with a person's name in the title**

- [\*The Talented Mr. Ripley\* by Patricia Highsmith](#)
- [\*Madame Bovary\* by Gustave Flaubert](#)
- [\*Rebecca\* by Daphne du Maurier](#)
- [\*Major Pettigrew's Last Stand\* by Helen Simonson](#)
- [\*Anna Karenina\* by Leo Tolstoy](#)
- [\*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn\* by Mark Twain](#)
- [\*Carrie\* by Stephen King](#)
- [\*Jude the Obscure\* by Thomas Hardy](#)
- [\*The Picture of Dorian Gray\* by Oscar Wilde](#)
- [\*Bridget Jones's Diary\* by Helen Fielding](#)

**23. A book featuring a healthcare worker.**

- [\*Cutting for Stone\* by Abraham Verghese](#)
- [\*The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires\* by Grady Hendrix](#)
- [\*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest\* by Ken Kesey](#)
- [\*Misery\* by Stephen King](#)
- [\*The English Patient\* by Michael Ondaatje](#)
- [\*My Name is Mary Sutter\* by Robin Oliveira](#)
- [\*A Duty to the Dead\* by Charles Todd](#)
- [\*The Cider House Rules\* by John Irving](#)
- [\*On Rotation\* by Shirlene Obuobi](#)
- [\*Charlatans\* by Robin Cook](#)

**24. A book featuring Asian mythology.**

- [\*Bestiary\* by K-Ming Chang](#)
- [\*Daughter of the Moon Goddess\* by Sue Lynn Tan](#)
- [\*The Fox Wife\* by Yangsze Choo](#)

- [\*The Poppy War\* by R. F. Kuang](#)
- [\*She Who Became the Sun\* by Shelley Parker-Chan](#)
- [\*The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts\* by Hong Kingston](#)
- [\*An Arrow to the Moon\* by Emily X. R. Pan](#)
- [\*When the Tiger Came Down the Mountain\* by Nghi Vo](#)
- [\*Black Water Sister\* by Zen Cho](#)
- [\*The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida\* by Shehan Karunatilaka](#)

**25. A book with footnotes.**

- [\*The Ruin of Kings\* by Jenn Lyons](#)
- [\*The Indifferent Stars Above\* by Daniel Brown](#)
- [\*Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell\* by Susanna Clarke](#)
- [\*An Abundance of Katherines\* by John Green](#)
- [\*Grandmaster of Demonic Cultivation\* by Moxiangtongxiu](#)
- [\*Saint Death's Daughter\* by C. S. E. Cooney](#)
- [\*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao\* by Junot Díaz](#)
- [\*The Bomber Mafia\* by Malcolm Gladwell](#)
- [\*Babel, or the Necessity of Violence\* by R. F. Kuang](#)
- [\*Crazy Rich Asians\* by Kevin Kwan](#)

**26. A book with an unlikely hero.**

- [\*The Rosie Project\* by Graeme Simsion](#)
- [\*Jane Eyre\* by Charlotte Bronte](#)
- [\*Cloak of the Light\* by Chuck Black](#)
- [\*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy\* by Douglas Adams](#)
- [\*Good Omens\* by Neil Gaiman](#)
- [\*The Road\* by Cormac McCarthy](#)
- [\*A Confederacy of Dunces\* by John Kennedy Toole](#)
- [\*The Magicians\* by Lev Grossman](#)
- [\*Never Let Me Go\* by Kazuo Ishiguro](#)
- [\*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time\* by Mark Haddon](#)

**27. A book from a [Little Free Library](#).**

**28. A book set in Appalachia.**

- [\*The Glass Castle\* by Jeannette Walls](#)
- [\*Cold Mountain\* by Charles Frazier](#)
- [\*Demon Copperhead\* by Barbara Kingsolver](#)
- [\*The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek\* by Kim Michele Richardson](#)
- [\*Punch Me Up to the Gods\* by Brian Broome](#)
- [\*These Silent Woods\* by Kimi Cunningham Grant](#)
- [\*A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail\* by Bill Bryson](#)
- [\*Prodigal Summer\* by Barbara Kingsolver](#)
- [\*Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe\* by Fannie Flagg](#)
- [\*Blacktop Wasteland\* by S. A. Cosby](#)

**29. A novella.**

- [\*The Pearl\* by John Steinbeck](#)
- [\*Foster\* by Claire Keegan](#)
- [\*This is How You Lose the Time War\* by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone](#)
- [\*Convenience Store Woman\* by Sayaka Murata](#)
- [\*Every Heart a Doorway\* by Seanan McGuire](#)
- [\*A Mirror Mended\* by Alix E. Harrow](#)
- [\*The House on Mango Street\* by Sandra Cisneros](#)
- [\*What Moves the Dead\* by T. Kingfisher](#)
- [\*The Empress of Salt and Fortune\* by Nghi Vo](#)
- [\*A Psalm for the Wild-Built\* by Becky Chambers](#)

**30. A book with a silhouette on the cover.**

- [\*Little Bee\* by Chris Cleave](#)
- [\*The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate\* by Jacqueline Kelly](#)
- [\*The Girl Who Could Silence the Wind\* by Meg Medina](#)
- [\*The Sisters Brothers\* by Patrick deWitt](#)
- [\*The Book of Lost Things\* by John Connolly](#)
- [\*The Story of Beautiful Girl\* by Rachel Simon](#)
- [\*Chains\* by Laurie Halse Anderson](#)
- [\*Love, Lies and Spies\* by Cindy Anstey](#)
- [\*The Language of Thorns\* by Leigh Bardugo](#)
- [\*The Twin's Daughter\* by Lauren Baratz-Logsted](#)

**31. A book featuring a garden.**

- [\*Scent of a Garden\* by Namrata Patel](#)
- [\*Wild Things\* by Laura Kay](#)
- [\*The Seed Keeper\* by Diane Wilson](#)
- [\*The Heirloom Garden\* by Viola Shipman](#)
- [\*The Last Garden in England\* by Julia Kelly](#)
- [\*The Garden of Small Beginnings\* by Abbi Waxman](#)
- [\*The Forgotten Garden\* by Kate Morton](#)
- [\*The Gilded Wolves\* by Roshani Chokshi](#)
- [\*Taproot\* by Keezy Young](#)
- [\*Lady Tan's Circle of Women\* by Lisa See](#)

**32. A book with a cat in it.**

- [\*The Cat Who Saved Books\* by Sosuke Natsukawa](#)
- [\*A Man Called Ove\* by Fredrik Backman](#)
- [\*The Master and Margarita\* by Mikhail Bulgakov](#)
- [\*Pet Sematary\* by Stephen King](#)
- [\*The Cat Who Could Read Backwards\* by Lillian Jackson Braun](#)
- [\*The Complete Maus\* by Art Spiegelman](#)
- [\*The Cat of Bubastes: a tale of Ancient Egypt\* by G.A. Henty](#)



- [What the Cat Saw by Carolyn G. Hart](#)
- [The House in the Cerulean Sea by T.J. Klune](#)
- [The Last House on Needless Street by Catriona Ward](#)

**33. A book by an Australian author.**

- [The Book Thief by Markus Zusak](#)
- [Homecoming by Kate Morton](#)
- [The Narrow Road to the Deep North by Richard Flanagan](#)
- [The Light Between Oceans by M. L. Stedman](#)
- [The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams](#)
- [The Rosie Project by Graeme C. Simsion](#)
- [Into the Night by Sarah Bailey](#)
- [The Women in Black by Madeline St. John](#)
- [All That's Left Unsaid by Tracey Lien](#)
- [Horse by Geraldine Brooks](#)

**34. A book that features the 'Found Family' trope.**

- [The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife by Anna Johnston](#)
- [The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet by Becky Chambers](#)
- [Legends and Lattes by Travi Baldtree](#)
- [The Boys in the Boat by Daniel Brown](#)
- [The Bromance Book Club by Lyssa Adams](#)
- [Family Family by Laurie Frankel](#)
- [The People We Keep by Allison Larkin](#)
- [The Lost Girls of Paris by Pam Jenoff](#)
- [The Raven Boys by Maggie Stiefvater](#)
- [If We Were Villains by M. L. Rio](#)

**35. A book with pirates.**

- [Deep as the Sea, Red as the Sky by Rita Chang-Eppig](#)
- [Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson](#)
- [The Adventures of Amina al-Sirafi by S. A. Chakraborty](#)
- [Born to be Hanged: the Story of the Gentlemen Pirates Who Raided the South Seas, Rescued a Princess, and Stole a Fortune by Keith Thomson](#)
- [The Starless Sea by Erin Morgenstern](#)
- [If the Tides Turn by Rachel Rueckert](#)
- [Sister of Starlit Seas by Terry Brooks](#)
- [Deadmen Walking by Sherrilyn Kenyon](#)
- [Along the Saltwise Sea by Deborah A. Baker](#)
- [The Pirate's Wife by Daphne Palmer Geanacopoulos](#)

**36. A book with red on the cover.**

- [Magpie Murders by Anthony Horowitz](#)
- [Interior Chinatown by Charles Yu](#)
- [The Falcon Thief: a True Tale of Adventure, Treachery, and the Hunt for the Perfect Bird by Joshua Hammer](#)

- [\*The Nickel Boys\* by Colson Whitehead](#)
- [\*Olga Dies Dreaming\* by Xochitl Gonzalez](#)
- [\*Fire Weather: a True Story from a Hotter World\* by John Vaillant](#)
- [\*Crying in H Mart\* by Michelle Zauner](#)
- [\*The Sympathizer\* by Viet Thanh Nguyen](#)
- [\*You Made a Fool of Death with Your Beauty\* by Akwaeke Emezi](#)
- [\*The Mercies\* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave](#)

**37. A book with a main character doing something on your Bucket List.**

**38. A book with a cowboy.**

- [\*Lonesome Dove\* by Larry McMurtry](#)
- [\*Even Cowgirls get the Blues\* by Tom Robbins](#)
- [\*Riders of the Purple Sage\* by Zane Grey](#)
- [\*Blood Meridian\* by Cormac McCarthy](#)
- [\*Close Range\* by Annie Proulx](#)
- [\*Kiowa Trail\* by Louis L'Amour](#)
- [\*Angle of Repose\* by Wallace Stegner](#)
- [\*My Antonia\* by Willa Cather](#)
- [\*True Grit\* by Charles Portis](#)
- [\*Last Go Round\* by Ken Kesey](#)

**39. A book whose title includes a measure of time.**

- [\*In This Grave Hour\* by Jacqueline Winspear](#)
- [\*13 Minutes\* by Sarah Pinborough](#)
- [\*Magic Hour\* by Kristin Hannah](#)
- [\*In A New York Minute\* by Kate Spencer](#)
- [\*22 Seconds\* by James Patterson](#)
- [\*The Ninth Hour\* by Alice McDermott](#)
- [\*Seven Minutes in Heaven\* by Eloisa James](#)
- [\*Happy Hour\* by Marlowe Granados](#)
- [\*15 Seconds\* by Andrew Gross](#)
- [\*Every Fifteen Minutes\* by Lisa Scottoline](#)

**40. A book on the Extreme Book Nerd 2025 Categories and Book Suggestions list.**

- Any title from this list.

**41. A book wherein the main character is cursed.**

- [\*Malas\* by Marcela Fuentes](#)
- [\*Six Crimson Cranes\* by Elizabeth Lim](#)
- [\*The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue\* by V. E. Schwab](#)
- [\*The Pursuit of William Abbey\* by Claire North](#)
- [\*The Frangipani Tree Mystery\* by Ovidia Yu](#)
- [\*The Last Kingdom\* by Bernard Cornwell](#)

- [\*Such Sharp Teeth\* by Rachel Harrison](#)
- [\*This Vicious Grace\* by Emily Thiede](#)
- [\*A Deadly Education\* by Naomi Novik](#)
- [\*Half a Soul\* by Olivia Atwater](#)

**42. A Nebula Award winner.**

- [\*Annihilation\* by Jeff VanderMeer](#)
- [\*Flowers for Algernon\* by Daniel Keyes](#)
- [\*The Left Hand of Darkness\* by Ursula K. Le Guin](#)
- [\*The Calculating Stars\* by Mary Kowal](#)
- [\*The Saint of Bright Doors\* by Vajra Chandrasekera](#)
- [\*All the Birds in the Sky\* by Charlie Anders](#)
- [\*Paladin of Souls\* by Lois Bujold](#)
- [\*Network Effect\* by Martha Wells](#)
- [\*A Master of Djinn\* by P. Djèlí Clark](#)
- [\*Among Others\* by Jo Walton](#)

**43. A book that spans multiple generations.**

- [\*The Covenant of Water\* by Abraham Verghese](#)
- [\*The Heart's Invisible Furies\* by John Boyne](#)
- [\*The House of the Spirits\* by Isabel Allende](#)
- [\*The Joy Luck Club\* by Amy Tan](#)
- [\*The Poisonwood Bible\* by Barbara Kingsolver](#)
- [\*A Thousand Splendid Suns\* by Khaled Hosseini](#)
- [\*We Were the Lucky Ones\* by Georgia Hunter](#)
- [\*Red at the Bone\* by Jacqueline Woodson](#)
- [\*East of Eden\* by John Steinbeck](#)
- [\*The Dutch House\* by Ann Patchett](#)

**44. A bestseller from your birth year.**

**45. A book you judged by its cover.**

**46. A book with a title that is also a song title.**

- [\*There, There\* by Tommy Orange](#)
- [\*A Night to Remember\* by Walter Lord](#)
- [\*Helter Skelter\* by Vincent Bugliosi](#)
- [\*Go Tell it on the Mountain\* by James Baldwin](#)
- [\*California Dreamin'\* by Penelope Bagieu](#)
- [\*What I Like About You\* by Marisa Kanter](#)
- [\*Here Comes the Sun\* by Nicole Dennis-Benn](#)
- [\*Ring of Fire\* by Brad Taylor](#)
- [\*Breakfast at Tiffany's\* by Truman Capote](#)
- [\*Exes and O's\* by Amy Lea](#)

**47. A book about one of your hobbies.**

**48. A book recommended on a podcast or radio show.**

Need somewhere to start looking? Check out these shows:

- [NPR's Book of the Day](#)
- [The New Yorker's Fiction Podcast](#)
- [The Book Review Podcast from the New York Times](#)
- [Book Fight!](#)
- [The Book Riot Podcast](#)
- [You're Booked](#)
- [Overdue Podcast](#)
- [If Books Could Kill](#)
- [NPR's The Book Show](#)
- [The Book Report Radio Show](#)

**49. A buddy read.**

Need a buddy? Check out one of our book clubs:

- [Extreme Book Nerd Book Club](#)
- [Mystery Book Club](#)
- [Healing Centered Book Club](#)

Or, read along with a celebrity book club:

- [Oprah's Book Club](#) (Oprah Winfrey)
- [Mindy's Book Studio](#) (Mindy Kaling)
- [Read with Jenna](#) (Jenna Bush Hager)
- [Reese's Book Club](#) (Reese Witherspoon)
- [Belletrist](#) (Emma Roberts and Karah Preiss)
- [Teatime Book Club](#) (Dakota Johnson)
- [Our Shared Shelf](#) (Emma Watson)

**50. A book with a tree as an important point of the story.**

- [The Island of Missing Trees by Elif Shafak](#)
- [The Copper Beech by Maeve Binchy](#)
- [The Child Thief by Brom](#)
- [All the Birds in the Sky by Charlie Jane Anders](#)
- [I'm Traveling Alone by Samuel Bjørk](#)
- [Keeping Christmas by Dan Walsh](#)
- [Garden Spells by Sarah Allen](#)
- [The Queen of Blood by Sarah Beth Durst](#)
- [Born a Crime by Trevor Noah](#)
- [Finding the Mother Tree by Susan Simard](#)