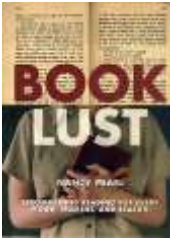


Books That Lead You to *More* Books!

A BooksTalk presentation

by Scott Clark / October & December 2013



[Book Lust: Recommended Reading for Every Mood, Moment and Reason](#)

by Nancy Pearl [028.9 Pea]
2003

What to read next is every book lover's greatest dilemma. Nancy Pearl comes to the rescue with this wide-ranging and fun guide to the best reading new and old. Pearl, who inspired legions of litterateurs with "What If All (name the city) Read the Same Book," has devised reading lists that cater to every mood, occasion, and personality. These annotated lists cover such topics as mother-daughter relationships, science for nonscientists, mysteries of all stripes, African-American fiction from a female point of view, must-reads for kids, books on bicycling, "chick-lit," and many more. Pearl's enthusiasm and taste shine throughout.



[More Book Lust: Recommended Reading for Every Mood, Moment and Reason](#)

by Nancy Pearl [028.9 Pea]
2005

The response to Nancy Pearl's surprise bestseller *Book Lust* was astounding: the Seattle librarian even became the model for the now-famous Librarian Action Figure. Readers everywhere welcomed Pearl's encyclopedic but discerning filter on books worth reading, and her Rule of 50 (give a book 50 pages before deciding whether to continue; but readers over 50 must read the same number of pages as their age) became a standard MO.



[500 Great Books for Teens](#)

by Anita Silvey [028.535 Sil]
2006

If you are looking for a book to give to a teenage reader, here's the reference you've been waiting for. Until now, there's been no accepted guide to what's good, bad, or indifferent in the flood of books coming off the presses in the hot new category of young-adult publishing. If it's true that you can't judge a book by its

cover, it is especially true for teen books, as publishers take aim at a new class of readers. The books land on shelves without a history, and so there is no standard by which to judge them.

Anita Silvey, one of the country's leading authorities on books for young people, has interviewed teenage readers all over the country and immersed herself in young-adult books, with an emphasis on books published in the last five years. The result is this invaluable and very readable guide for parents, teachers, librarians, booksellers, reading groups, and of course teens themselves.

With its extended essays describing 500 selections, parents will quickly see what their teenagers are actually reading -- and will be able to find good books to introduce them to. Teachers can spot excellent additions to summer reading lists. Booksellers can move customers from one favorite to a host of others in the same genre. Librarians can round out collections. Book groups -- for adults, teens, or both -- will have hundreds of new titles to consider.

500 Great Books for Teens is divided into twenty-one sections, including adventure and survival, politics and social history, horror, romance, war and conflict, fantasy, plays, graphic novels, poetry, memoir, and spirituality. Every section offers up classics, but the majority of titles are new. In "Beyond the 500," Silvey compiles a number of useful lists; including books organized by geographic location and historical period, as well as recommended audio books.



[They Died in Vain: Overlooked, Underappreciated and Forgotten Mystery Novels](#)

by Jim Huang [809.387 Hua]
2002

If characters die in a mystery novel, and no one reads their story, have they died in vain? Mystery experts -- booksellers, reviewers, genre devotees -- introduce you to personal favorites: obscure classics, up-and-coming new writers, great

books that unaccountably disappeared and lesser-known titles by bestselling authors. A companion volume to the Agatha and Anthony Award-winning 100 FAVORITE MYSTERIES OF THE CENTURY, this book takes you before the bestsellers, beyond the familiar, with essays recommending over 100 mystery novels -- buried treasures that will become new favorites.



100 Favorite Mysteries of the Century

by Jim Huang [not owned by LCL]
2000

The Independent Mystery Booksellers Association list of 100 favorite mysteries of the 20th century represents the accumulated wisdom of the most knowledgeable people in the business. These are the books we most enjoy, the books we present to our customers over and over again, and the books that we ourselves return to when we want to visit with cherished friends.

In this book, we journey through our list of 100, with essays contributed by booksellers across the United States and Canada. The book also features individual booksellers' lists of titles that did not make the list of 100 but should have, insights about mysteries and what our favorites mean to us, a directory of independent booksellers specializing in mysteries and, finally, a shopping list with current publication information about our 100 favorites.



Science Fiction: The 100 Best Novels – An English Language Selection, 1949-1984

by David Pringle [809.388 Pri]
1985

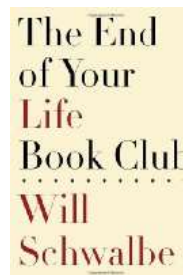
This lively and authoritative guide to science fiction comes with an introduction by Michael Moorcock, who says of David Pringle: “There are few modern commentators better qualified to make a selection of this sort.” The selection itself is broad in scope, ranging from such classics as Ray Bradbury’s *The Martian Chronicles* and George R. Stewart’s *Earth Abides* to the recent and much claimed *The Book of the New Sun* by Gene Wolfe. Included also are the equally powerful voices of Thomas M. Disch, Ursula Le Guin, Bernard Wolfe and John Sladek. As the essays progress in chronological order, the author traces the growth of science fiction and builds up a cogent history of the genre.



Science Fiction: The 100 Best Novels – 1985-2010

by Damien Broderick and Paul DiFilippo
[823.08 Bro]
2012

Inspired by David Pringle's landmark 1985 work *Science Fiction: The 100 Best Novels*, this volume supplements the earlier selection with the present authors' choices for the best English-language science fiction novels during the past quarter century. Employing a critical slant, the book provides a discussion of the novels and the writers in the context of popular literature. Moreover, each entry features a cover image of the novel, a plot synopsis, and a mini review, making it an ideal go-to guide for anyone wanting to become reacquainted with an old favorite or to discover a previously unknown treasure. With a foreword by David Pringle, this invaluable reference is sure to provoke conversation and debates among sci-fi fans and devotees.



The End of Your Life Book Club

by Will Schwalbe [Biography Schwalbe]
2012

During her treatment for cancer, Mary Anne Schwalbe and her son Will spent many hours sitting in waiting rooms together. To pass the time, they would talk about the books they were reading. Once, by chance, they read the same book at the same time—and an informal book club of two was born. Through their wide-ranging reading, Will and Mary Anne—and we, their fellow readers—are reminded how books can be comforting, astonishing, and illuminating, changing the way that we feel about and interact with the world around us. A profoundly moving memoir of caregiving, mourning, and love—*The End of Your Life Book Club* is also about the joy of reading, and the ways that joy is multiplied when we share it with others.

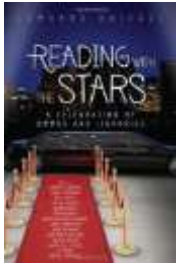


My Ideal Bookshelf

by Thessaly LaForce [028.9 Laf]
2012

The books that we choose to keep --let alone read-- can say a lot about who we are and how we see ourselves. In MY IDEAL BOOKSHELF, dozens of leading cultural figures share the books that matter to them most; books that define their

dreams and ambitions and in many cases helped them find their way in the world. Contributors include Malcolm Gladwell, Thomas Keller, Michael Chabon, Alice Waters, James Patterson, Maira Kalman, Judd Apatow, Chuck Klosterman, Miranda July, Alex Ross, Nancy Pearl, David Chang, Patti Smith, Jennifer Egan, and Dave Eggers, among many others. With colorful and endearingly hand-rendered images of book spines by Jane Mount, and first-person commentary from all the contributors, this is a perfect gift for avid readers, writers, and all who have known the influence of a great book.



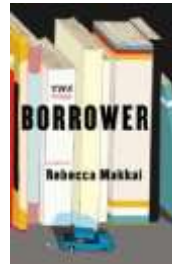
[Reading With the Stars: A Celebration of Books and Libraries](#)

by Leonard Kniffel [027 Kni]
2011

American Libraries editor in chief Leonard Kniffel offers a compelling collection of interviews with prominent figures--all of whom have special connections to libraries. From President Barack Obama to actress Julie Andrews; from basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar to former First Lady and librarian Laura Bush and many others, stars of literature, politics, entertainment, and the public arena speak with Kniffel about the ways libraries have been critical in their lives. Other highlights of this delightful volume

- TV icon Oprah Winfrey talks about library books as "her pass to personal freedom"
- Hard-boiled wordsmith David Mamet claims the public library as his "alma mater"
- Software mogul Bill Gates discusses his groundbreaking library computerization project and why he feels libraries are an important focus of his investment
- Former Vice President Al Gore addresses the "information ecosystem," including how libraries contribute to the informed citizenry that's required to manage today's challenges

With plenty to engage library advocates as well as casual readers, *Reading with the Stars* offers proof positive that libraries and librarians continue to perform vital services and hold a place of honor.



[The Borrower](#)

by Rebecca Makkai [Makkai]
2011

Lucy Hull, a children's librarian in Hannibal, Missouri, finds herself both kidnapper and kidnapped when her favorite patron, ten-year-old Ian Drake, runs away from home. Ian needs Lucy's help to smuggle books past his overbearing mother, who has enrolled Ian in weekly antigay classes. Desperate to save him from the Drakes, Lucy allows herself to be hijacked by Ian when she finds him camped out in the library after hours, and the odd pair embarks on a crazy road trip. But is it just Ian who is running away? And should Lucy be trying to save a boy from his own parents?



[Among Others](#)

by Jo Walton [Walton]
2011

Startling, unusual, and yet irresistibly readable, *Among Others* is at once the compelling story of a young woman struggling to escape a troubled childhood, a brilliant diary of first encounters with the great novels of modern fantasy and SF, and a spellbinding tale of escape from ancient enchantment.

Raised by a half-mad mother who dabbled in magic, Morwenna Phelps found refuge in two worlds. As a child growing up in Wales, she played among the spirits who made their homes in industrial ruins. But her mind found freedom and promise in the science fiction novels that were her closest companions. Then her mother tried to bend the spirits to dark ends, and Mori was forced to confront her in a magical battle that left her crippled--and her twin sister dead.

Fleeing to her father whom she barely knew, Mori was sent to boarding school in England--a place all but devoid of true magic. There, outcast and alone, she tempted fate by doing magic herself, in an attempt to find a circle of like-minded friends. But her magic also drew the attention of her mother, bringing about a reckoning that could no longer be put off...

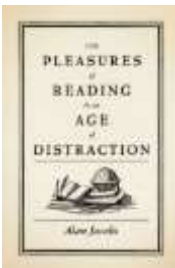
Combining elements of autobiography with flights of imagination in the manner of novels like Jonathan Lethem's *The Fortress of Solitude*, this is potentially a breakout book for an author whose genius has already been hailed by peers like Kelly Link, Sarah Weinman, and Ursula K. Le Guin.



[Tolstoy and the Purple Chair: My Year of Magical Reading](#)

by Nina Sankovitch [Biography Sankovitch] 2011

Catalyzed by the loss of her sister, a mother of four spends one year savoring a great book every day, from Thomas Pynchon to Nora Ephron and beyond. In the tradition of Gretchen Rubin's *The Happiness Project* and Joan Dideon's *A Year of Magical Thinking*, Nina Sankovitch's soul-baring and literary-minded memoir is a chronicle of loss, hope, and redemption. Nina ultimately turns to reading as therapy and through her journey illuminates the power of books to help us reclaim our lives.



[The Pleasures of Reading in an Age of Distraction](#)

by Alan Jacobs [028 Jac] 2011

In recent years, cultural commentators have sounded the alarm about the dire state of reading in America. Americans are not reading enough, they say, or reading the right books, in the right way.

In this book, Alan Jacobs argues that, contrary to the doomsayers, reading is alive and well in America. There are millions of devoted readers supporting hundreds of enormous bookstores and online booksellers. Oprah's Book Club is hugely influential, and a recent NEA survey reveals an actual uptick in the reading of literary fiction. Jacobs's interactions with his students and the readers of his own books, however, suggest that many readers lack confidence; they wonder whether they are reading well, with proper focus and attentiveness, with due discretion and discernment. Many have absorbed the puritanical message that reading is, first and foremost, good for you--the intellectual equivalent of eating your Brussels sprouts. For such people, indeed for all readers, Jacobs offers some simple, powerful, and much needed advice: read at whim, read what gives you delight, and do so without shame, whether it is Stephen King or the King James Version of the Bible. In contrast to the more methodical approach of Mortimer Adler's classic *How to Read a Book* (1940), Jacobs offers an insightful, accessible, and playfully irreverent guide for aspiring readers. Each chapter focuses on one aspect of approaching literary fiction, poetry, or nonfiction, and the book explores everything from the invention of silent

reading, reading responsively, rereading, and reading on electronic devices.

Invitingly written, with equal measures of wit and erudition, *The Pleasures of Reading in an Age of Distraction* will appeal to all readers, whether they are novices looking for direction or old hands seeking to recapture the pleasures of reading they first experienced as children.



[Twenty-Five Books That Shaped America: How White Whales, Green Lights and Restless Spirits Forged Our National Identity](#)

by Thomas C. Foster [810.9 Fos] 2011

Thomas C. Foster, acclaimed author of the phenomenal bestseller *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, returns with a hugely entertaining appreciation of twenty-five works of literature that have greatly influenced the American identity. In a delightfully informative, often wry manner, *Twenty-Five Books that Shaped America* looks closely at important literary classics that are true national treasures. From *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *Moby Dick*, and *Huckleberry Finn* through Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, and Thomas Pynchon's *The Crying of Lot 49*, *Twenty-Five Books that Shaped America* examines masterpieces of the written word that have greatly influence what we are as a people and a nation.



[The Reading Promise: My Father and the Books We Shared](#)

by Alice Ozma [Biography Ozma] 2011

When Alice Ozma was in 4th grade, she and her father decided to see if he could read aloud to her for 100 consecutive nights. On the hundredth night, they shared pancakes to celebrate, but it soon became evident that neither wanted to let go of their storytelling ritual. So they decided to continue what they called "The Streak." Alice's father read aloud to her every night without fail until the day she left for college.

Alice approaches her book as a series of vignettes about her relationship with her father and the life lessons learned from the books he read to her.

Books included in the Streak were: *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, the Oz books by L. Frank Baum, *Harry Potter* by J. K. Rowling, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, and Shakespeare's plays.



[The Night Bookmobile](#)

by Audrey Niffenegger [741.5 qNif]
2010

Audrey Niffenegger, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Time Traveler's Wife* and *Her Fearful Symmetry*, has crafted her first graphic novel after the success of her two critically acclaimed “novels-in-pictures.” First serialized as a weekly column in the UK’s *Guardian* newspaper, *The Night Bookmobile* tells the story of a wistful woman who one night encounters a mysterious disappearing library on wheels that contains every book she has ever read. Seeing her history and most intimate self in this library, she embarks on a search for the bookmobile. But her search turns into an obsession, as she longs to be reunited with her own collection and memories.

The Night Bookmobile is a haunting tale of both transcendence and the passion for books, and features the evocative full-color pen-and-ink work of one of the world’s most beloved storytellers.



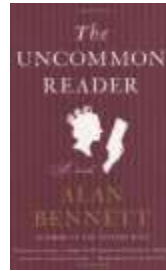
[Books: A Memoir](#)

by Larry McMurtry [Biography McMurtry]
2008

Spanning a lifetime of literary achievement, Larry McMurtry has succeeded at a wide variety of genres, from coming-of-age novels like *The Last Picture Show*, to essays like *In a Narrow Grave*, to the reinvention of the “Western” on a grand scale like the Pulitzer Prize–winning *Lonesome Dove*. Here at last is the private McMurtry writing about himself: as a boy growing up in a largely “bookless” world, as a young man devouring the world of literature, as a fledgling writer and family man, and above all as one of America’s most prominent “bookmen.”

A work of charm, grace, and good humor: reading *Books* is like reading the best kind of diary—full of wonderful anecdotes, amazing characters, spicy gossip, and shrewd observations. Like its author, *Books* is erudite, full of life, and full of great stories. Yet the most curious tale of all is the amazing transformation of a reluctant young cowboy into a world-class literary figure who has spent his life not only

writing books, but rounding them up the way he once rounded up cattle. At once chatty, revealing, and deeply satisfying, *Books* is Larry McMurtry at his best.



[The Uncommon Reader](#)

by Alan Bennett [Bennett]
2007

From one of England's most celebrated writers, the author of the award-winning *The History Boys*, a funny and superbly observed novella about the Queen of England and the subversive power of reading

When her corgis stray into a mobile library parked near Buckingham Palace, the Queen feels duty-bound to borrow a book. Discovering the joy of reading widely (from J. R. Ackerley, Jean Genet, and Ivy Compton-Burnett to the classics) and intelligently, she finds that her view of the world changes dramatically. Abetted in her newfound obsession by Norman, a young man from the royal kitchens, the Queen comes to question the prescribed order of the world and loses patience with the routines of her role as monarch. Her new passion for reading initially alarms the palace staff and soon leads to surprising and very funny consequences for the country at large.



[You've Got to Read This Book! 55 People Tell the Story of the Book That Changed Their Life](#)

by Jack Canfield [028.8 Can]
2006

There's nothing better than a book you can't put down—or better yet, a book you'll never forget. This book puts the power of transformational reading into your hands. Jack Canfield, co-creator of the bestselling *Chicken Soup for the Soul*® series, and self-actualization pioneer Gay Hendricks have invited notable people to share personal stories of books that changed their lives. What book shaped their outlook and habits? Helped them navigate rough seas? Spurred them to satisfaction and success?

The contributors include Dave Barry, Stephen Covey, Malachy McCourt, Jacquelyn Mitchard, Mark Victor Hansen, John Gray, Christiane Northrup, Bernie Siegel, Craig Newmark, Michael E. Gerber, Lou Holtz, and Pat Williams, to name just a few. Their richly varied stories are poignant, energizing, and entertaining. Author and actor Malachy McCourt tells how a tattered biography of Gandhi, stumbled

on in his youth, offered a shining example of true humility—and planted the seeds that would help support his sobriety decades later.

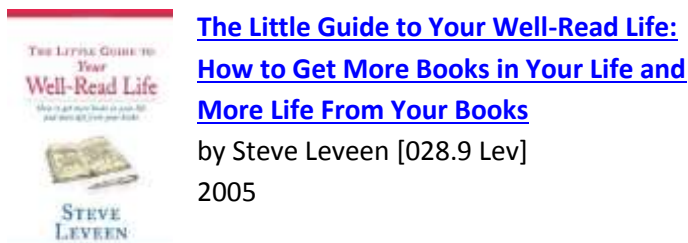
Bestselling author and physician Bernie Siegel, M.D., tells how William Saroyan's *The Human Comedy* helped him realize that, in order to successfully treat his patients with life-threatening illnesses, "I had to help them live—not just prevent them from dying."

Actress Catherine Oxenberg reveals how, at a life crossroads and struggling with bulimia, a book taught her the transforming difference one person could make in the life of another—and why that person for her was Richard Burton.

Rafe Esquith, the award-winning teacher whose inner-city students have performed Shakespeare all over the world, recounts his deep self-doubt in the midst of his success—and how reading *To Kill a Mockingbird* strengthened him to continue teaching.

Beloved librarian and bestselling author Nancy Pearl writes how, at age ten, Robert Heinlein's science fiction book *Space Cadet* impressed on her the meaning of personal integrity and gave her a vision of world peace she'd never imagined possible. Two years later, she marched in her first civil rights demonstration and learned that there's always a way to make "a small contribution to intergalactic harmony."

If you're looking for insight and illumination—or simply for that next great book to read—*You've Got to Read This Book!* has treasures in store for you.



[**The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life: How to Get More Books in Your Life and More Life From Your Books**](#)

by Steve Leveen [028.9 Lev]
2005

Do not set out to live a well-read life but rather your well-read life. No one can be well-read using someone else's reading list. Unless a book is good for you, you won't connect with it and gain from it. Just as no one can tell you how to lead your life, no one can tell you what to read for your life.

How do readers find more time to read? In *The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life*, Steve Leveen offers both inspiration and practical advice for bibliophiles on how to get more books in their life and more life from their books.

His recommendations are disarmingly refreshing, as when he advises when *not* to read a book and why not to feel guilty if you missed reading all those classics in school. He helps readers reorganize their bookshelves into a Library of

Candidates that they actively build and a Living Library of books read with enthusiasm, and he emphasizes the value of creating a Bookography, or annotated list of your reading life. Separate chapters are devoted to the power of audio books and the merits of reading groups.

The author himself admits he came "late to the bookshelf," making this charming little guide all the more convincing.



[**Leave Me Alone, I'm Reading: Finding and Losing Myself in Books**](#)

by Maureen Corrigan [028.9 Cor]
2005

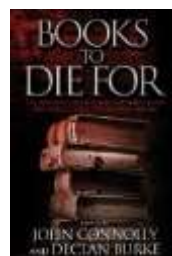
"It's not that I don't like people," writes Maureen Corrigan in her introduction to *Leave Me Alone, I'm Reading*. "It's just that there always comes a moment when I'm in the company of others—even my nearest and dearest—when I'd rather be reading a book." In this delightful memoir, Corrigan reveals which books and authors have shaped her own life—from classic works of English literature to hard-boiled detective novels, and everything in between. And in her explorations of the heroes and heroines throughout literary history, Corrigan's love for a good story shines.



[**So Many Books, So Little Time: A Year of Passionate Reading**](#)

by Sara Nelson [028.9 Nel]
2003

Sometimes subtle, sometimes striking, the interplay between our lives and our books is the subject of this unique memoir by well-known publishing correspondent and self-described "readaholic" Sara Nelson. From Solzhenitsyn to Laura Zigman, Catherine M. to Captain Underpants, the result is a personal chronicle of insight, wit, and enough infectious enthusiasm to make a passionate reader out of anybody.



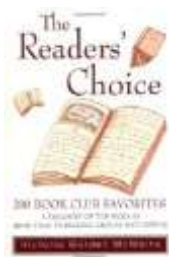
[**Books to Die For: The World's Greatest Mystery Writers on the World's Greatest Mystery Novels**](#)

by John Connolly [809.387 Con]
2012

With so many mystery novels to choose among, and so many new titles appearing each year, where should a reader start? What are the classics of the genre?

Which are the hidden gems?

In the most ambitious anthology of its kind yet attempted, the world's leading mystery writers have come together to champion the greatest mystery novels ever written. In a series of personal essays that often reveal as much about the authors and their own work as they do about the books that they love, 119 authors from 20 countries have created a guide that will be indispensable for generations of readers and writers. From Agatha Christie to Lee Child, from Edgar Allan Poe to P. D. James, from Sherlock Holmes to Hannibal Lecter and Philip Marlowe to Lord Peter Wimsey, *Books to Die For* brings together the cream of the mystery world for a feast of reading pleasure, a treasure trove for those new to the genre and for those who believe that there is nothing new left to discover. This is the one essential book for every reader who has ever finished a mystery novel and thought . . . *I want more!*



[The Reader's Choice: 200 Book Club Favorites](#)

by Victoria McMains [028.9 McM]
2000

Here are two hundred reader-tested answers to the question "What have you read that's good?" *The Readers' Choice* is the first book to feature titles based on the recommendations of numerous book clubs. Victoria McMains has collected two hundred favorites of more than seventy reading groups nationwide, ideal for book group members looking for a "good read," busy people seeking enjoyable books outside the bestseller lists, or anyone who wants to read more but isn't sure where to start.

Combining her skills as a book reviewer and a veteran book group member, McMains provides brief, captivating profiles of a diverse mix of fiction and nonfiction. There are love stories and war stories, fantasy and political intrigue, biography and nature-and much more. Each profile highlights the unique traits of the book and ends with a few questions for group favorites as well as little-known gems that have been discovered and treasured. Indexes organize the entries by title and subject matter, helping readers find books that appeal to their interest. For anyone wanting to learn the easy essentials of starting a book club, check out McMains's introduction.

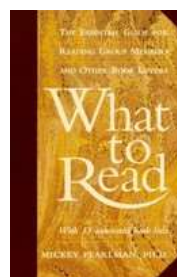


[The "Death on Demand" mystery series](#)

by Carolyn G. Hart [Hart]
series began 1987, 24 volumes by 2014

The "Death on Demand" mystery series, set on the fictional island of Broward's Rock, off the coast of South Carolina, is a well-written "amateur detective" series. The main sleuth in this series is Annie Laurance Darling – she starts out as merely Annie Laurance, then marries her paramour Max Darling in the 4th book.

Before the first book – *Death on Demand* – begins, Annie has inherited a mystery book shop from her uncle, and is continuing the family tradition. Annie is a passionate fan of the mystery genre, and the plots of every *Death on Demand* novel feature references to dozens of classic and contemporary mystery authors and novels. Some of those titles/authors are mentioned just in passing, while others actually have an impact of the plot of the current Hart novel. One quirky thing in every book in the series is that Annie, at her store, hangs five watercolor paintings of scenes from famous mystery novels. Her customers are encouraged to identify what books the scenes are from – first to guess all five correctly wins a free book. This "contest within a book" is really a challenging contest to us real-world readers! On her website - www.carolynhart.com - there is a page on which a librarian has listed all the books mentioned in every *Death on Demand* book!



[What to Read: The Essential Guide for Reading Group Members and Other Book Lovers](#)

by Mickey Pearlman [028.9 Pea]
1994

Compiled by editor, lecturer, and interviewer Mickey Pearlman, *What to Read* offers a lifetime supply of annotated, intriguing, and original book lists. Designed for reading club members who need new ideas and book lovers who want to know about wonderful contemporary and classic books that they may have missed. *What to Read* also includes tips on how to create your own reading group and maintain it with a minimum of trouble, as well as anecdotes gleaned from hundreds of conversations with reading group attendees – from what books work best for discussion to how members choose the next book to read.

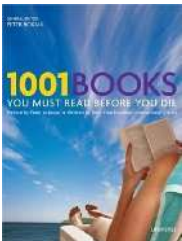


[Barlowe's Guide to Extraterrestrials](#)

by Wayne Douglas Barlowe and Ian Summers [809.388]
1979

Barlowe is the Audubon of otherworld creatures. He has spent years observing extraterrestrials in their natural habitats, identifying and illustrating entities from the works of Poul Anderson, Stanislaw Lem, Arthur C. Clarke, Robert Heinlein, Frank Herbert, Larry Niven, and more. Barlowe has documented each ET's distinguishing physical characteristics, history, habits, and rituals – from schematics revealing the complex mating behavior of Piers Anthony's Polarian to those showing the life cycle of James Blish's Lithian.

This gorgeously illustrated guide to some of the most well-known aliens from science fiction literature is a great aid toward visualizing some of the most bizarre creatures created for genre literature. But it is also a terrific resource for describing books you may not have run across in your reading – definitely worth checking out. Barlowe also had a [Barlowe's Guide to Fantasy](#) (1996), which did much the same thing for creatures from fantasy novels.



[1001 Books You Must Read Before You Die](#)

Edited by Peter Boxall [809.3 Box]
2006

A bold and bright reference to the novels and the writers that have excited the world's imagination. An incisive guide to the books which have had impact – whether in the form of critical acclaim or cult classic. An eclectic selection by an international team of writers, critics, academics, and journalists, a new take on old classics and a guide to what's hot in the huge contemporary fiction market. Featuring over 600 full-color images of book covers and frontispieces, posters and other contextual images, and detail with quotes from individual novels, this is the ideal book for anybody who loves to read.



[Crime & Mystery: The 100 Best Books](#)

by H.R.F. Keating [809.387 Kea]
1987

From Edgar Allan Poe to P.D. James, the mystery story has not only attracted generations of readers but it has also developed from puzzles written primarily for entertainment to powerful statements about contemporary society. In this authoritative and hugely entertaining survey, distinguished author and critic H.R.F. Keating draws on a lifetime's experience to select the 100 best works that the genre has to offer.

The essays are arranged in chronological order so that the book builds into a fascinating history of the genre, and details of first editions are provided, making it an invaluable reference for collectors, dealers and libraries.



[The Horror Readers' Advisory](#)

by Becky Siegel Spratford and Tammy Hennigh Clausen [809.386 Spr]
2004

Readers' advisors and reference librarians will appreciate the key tools this book provides to help readers navigate the horror genre, including listings of top books, authors, and award winners within eleven horror subgenres – including vampires, haunted houses, mummies, biomedical horror, and splatterpunk. Clear descriptions of the characteristics of books within each subgenre are provided throughout.

This BooksTalk presentation prepared based in part on the resources available online from the Lincoln City Libraries on the readers advisory web site

[BookGuide](#)

<http://lincolnlibraries.org/bookguide/>

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