

Suggested Reading for Adults - Summer Reading Challenge 2022

Beach or Ocean Settings

The Wave: In Pursuit of the Rogues, Freaks and Giants of the Ocean by Susan Casey (2010) - Non-Fiction

Traces the recent discovery of physics-defying ocean waves at heights previously thought impossible, describing the efforts of the scientific community to understand the phenomenon, the pursuits of extreme surfers to ride dangerously large waves and the destructive capabilities of tsunamis.

Availability: Book: 551.463 CASEY; Libby: eBook

Beach Read by Emily Henry (2020) - Fiction

An acclaimed but blocked literary master and a best-selling novelist who has stopped believing in true love agree to a summer-long writing project that challenges them write well in each other's styles.

Availability: Book: FIC HENRY; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Saint X by Alexis Schaitkin (2020) - Fiction

When a brief but fateful encounter brings her together with one of the men originally suspected of killing her sister, Claire, hoping to gain his trust and learn the truth, forms an unlikely attachment with this man whose life is forever marked by the same tragedy.

Availability: Book: FIC SCHAITKIN; Large Print: LP FIC SCHAITKIN; Audiobook: CD FIC SCHAITKIN; Playaway SCHAITKIN; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

The Vacationers by Emma Straub (2014) - Fiction

Celebrating their thirty-fifth anniversary and their daughter's high-school graduation during a two-week vacation in Mallorca, Franny and Jim Post confront old secrets, hurts, and rivalries that reveal sides of themselves they try to conceal.

Availability: Book: FIC STRAUB; Large Print: LPB FIC STRAUB; Audiobook: CD FIC STRAUB; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

Something in the Water by Catherine Steadman (2018) - Fiction

Erin is a documentary filmmaker on the brink of a professional breakthrough, Mark a handsome investment banker with big plans. Passionately in love, they embark on a dream honeymoon to the tropical island of Bora Bora, where they enjoy the sun, the sand, and each other. Then, while scuba diving in the crystal blue sea, they find something in the water. . .

Availability: Book: FIC STEADMAN; Large Print: LPB STEADMAN; Audiobook: CD FIC STEADMAN, Libby: eBook, eAudio

About or Set in Libraries

The Lions of Fifth Avenue by Fiona Davis (2020) - Fiction

New York Public Library superintendent's wife reevaluates her priorities upon joining a woman's suffrage group in 1913, decades before her granddaughter's efforts to save an exhibit expose tragic family secrets.

Availability: Book: FIC DAVIS, Large Print: LPB FIC Davis; Libby: eBook, eAudio

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig (2021) - Fiction

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. Nora Seed finds herself faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one, following a different career, undoing old breakups, realizing her dreams of becoming a glaciologist; she must search within herself as she travels through the Midnight Library to decide what is truly fulfilling in life, and what makes it worth living in the first place.

Availability: Book: FIC HAIG; Large Print: LPB FIC HAIG; Audiobook: CD FIC HAIG; Playaway HAIG; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Library Book by Susan Orlean (2018) - Non-Fiction

The author reopens the unsolved mystery of the most catastrophic library fire in American history, and delivers a dazzling love letter to a beloved institution: our libraries.

Availability: Book: 027.4794 ORLEAN; Audiobook: CD 027.4794 ORLEAN; Playaway: 027.4794 ORLEAN; Libby: eBook, eAudio

The Last Chance Library by Freya Sampson (2021) - Fiction

June Jones emerges from her shell to fight for her beloved local library, and through the efforts and support of an eclectic group of library patrons, she discovers life-changing friendships along the way.

Availability: Book: FIC SAMPSON; Libby: eBook, eAudio

The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles (2020) - Fiction

Based on a true story, describes how a lonely, 1980s teenager befriends an elderly neighbor and uncovers her past as a librarian at the American Library in Paris who joined the Resistance when the Nazis arrived.

Availability: Book: FIC SKESLIEN CHARLES; LP, Audiobook: CD FIC SKESLIEN CHARLES; Playaway: SKESLIEN CHARLES; Libby: eBook, eAudio;

Bodies of Water in Title

The Ocean at the End of the Lane by Neil Gaiman (2013) - Fiction

Returning to his childhood home in the English countryside for a funeral, the unnamed middle-aged narrator of this haunting, lyrical fable finds himself drawn to an ordinary-looking

farmhouse that's anything but. As long-buried memories surface, he recalls events that occurred at Hempstock Farm when he was seven. When the malevolent Ursula Monkton insinuates herself into the fabric of his close-knit family, the farm's inhabitants, especially 11-year-old Lettie, offer their friendship and later their protection to the lonely, abused boy. However, their aid comes at a price, requiring a sacrifice he's unprepared to make.

Availability: Book: FIC GAIMAN, Large Print: LPB FIC GAIMAN; Audiobook: CD FIC GAIMAN; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

Sea of Lost Girls by Carol Goodman (2020) - Fiction

A teacher with a secret past endures attacks on her family when her son is implicated in the death of his girlfriend just before she discovers her husband's involvement.

Availability: Book: MYS GOODMAN; Large Print: LPB MYS GOODMAN; Audiobook: CD FIC GOODMAN; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio

The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune (2020) - Fiction

A magical island. A dangerous task. A burning secret. Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. At forty, he lives in a tiny house with a devious cat and his old records. As a Case Worker at the Department in Charge Of Magical Youth, he spends his days overseeing the well-being of children in government-sanctioned orphanages. Linus is given a curious and highly classified assignment: travel to Marsyas Island Orphanage, where six dangerous children reside: a gnome, a sprite, a wyvern, an unidentifiable green blob, a were-Pomeranian, and the Antichrist. Linus must set aside his fears and determine whether or not they're likely to bring about the end of days. But the children aren't the only secret the island keeps...

Availability: Book: FIC KLUNE; Playaway: KLUNE; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

The Sea of Tranquility by Emily St. John Mandel (2022) - Fiction

In order to investigate an anomaly in the North American wilderness, a detective travels hundreds of years in the past and meets a young Englishman exiled to Canada in 1912 and a famous writer who lives on a moon colony but is on a book tour on Earth in 2203.

Availability: Book: FIC MANDEL, Large Print: LPB FIC MANDEL; Audiobook: CD FIC MANDEL; Libby: eBook, eAudio

In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex by Nathaniel Philbrick (2000) - Non-Fiction

Recounts the story of the 1820 wreck of the whaleship Essex, which inspired Melville's classic "Moby-Dick," and describes its doomed crew's ninety-day attempt to survive whale attacks and the elements on three tiny lifeboats.

Availability: Book: BDG PHILBRICK; Audiobook: CD 910.9164 PHILBRICK, Libby: eBook, eAudio

Books Made into Movies

Death on the Nile by Agatha Christie (1937) - Fiction

Linnet Doyle is young, beautiful, and rich, and she has her best friend's love as her husband. They meet Poirot on a cruise on the Nile, where he feels something is dangerously amiss.
Availability: Book: MYS CHRISTIE; Large Print: LPB MYS CHRISTIE; Audiobook: CD FIC CHRISTIE; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio. Check out the DVD of Death on the Nile (2022, dir. Branagh) under DVD DEATH

French Exit: A Tragedy of Manners by Patrick DeWitt (2018) - Fiction

Bankrupted by her infamous litigator husband's tabloid death, a scandal-fearing widow flees New York for Paris, where her deadbeat son and she navigate near-comic self-destructive choices.

Availability: Book: FIC DEWITT; Large Print: LPB FIC DEWITT; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio. Check out the DVD of French Exit (2021, dir. Jacobs) under DVD FRENCH

The House of Gucci: A True Story of Murder, Madness, Glamour, and Greed by Sara Gay Forden (2000) - Non-Fiction

On March 27, 1995, Maurizio Gucci, heir to the fabulous fashion dynasty, was slain by an unknown gunman as he approached his Milan office. In 1998, his ex-wife Patrizia Reggiani Martinelli--nicknamed "The Black Widow" by the press--was sentenced to 29 years in prison, for arranging his murder. Did Patrizia murder her ex-husband because his spending was wildly out of control? Did she do it because her glamorous ex was preparing to marry his mistress, Paola Franchi? Or is there a possibility she didn't do it at all?

Availability: Book: 338.7687 FORDEN (Adult Popular Now); Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio. Check out the DVD of House of Gucci (2021, dir. Scott) under DVD HOUSE

Dune by Frank Herbert (1965) - Fiction

Set on the desert planet Arrakis, this is the story of the boy Paul Atreides, who would become the mysterious man known as Muad'Dib, avenge the traitorous plot against his noble family, and bring to fruition humankind's most ancient and unattainable dream.

Availability: Book: SCI FI HERBERT; Audiobook: CD FIC HERBERT; Libby: eBook, eAudio. Check out the DVD of Dune (2021, dir. Ferguson) under DVD DUNE

The Last Duel: A True Story of Crime, Scandal, and Trial by Combat by Eric Jager (2021) Non-Fiction

An evocative account of a true case of scandal, crime, and justice in medieval France pits a Norman knight against an old friend and fellow courtier whom his wife had accused of raping her, a case that led to accusations in the highest courts, a deadlocked trial, and sanctioned battle to the death that held everyone's fate in the balance.

Availability: Book: 394.8094 JAGER (Adult Popular Now); Libby: eBook. Check out the DVD of The Last Duel (2021, dir. Scott) under DVD LAST

Graphic Novels

The Body Factory: From the First Prosthetics to the Augmented Human by Heloise Chochois (2021) - Non-Fiction

A graphic novel exploring amputation, revealing details about famous amputees throughout history, the invention of the tourniquet, phantom limb syndrome, types of prostheses, and transhumanist technologies.

Availability: Book: GN CHOCHOIS

One of Those Days by Yehuda Devir (2020) - Fiction

Yehuda and Maya Devir began illustrating their life in comics when they moved into their first apartment together in Tel Aviv as newlyweds. In the years since, **One of Those Days** has become one of the biggest webcomics on the Internet, with millions of followers around the world. In this collection--the first time that the Devirs' comics have been compiled in one volume--they share stories that are heartwarming, hilarious, and universally recognizable. So even for those who don't feel like pulling out an assault rifle to wage war on a kitchen cockroach, the Devirs' challenges and triumphs are instantly familiar to anyone who's had one of those days.

Availability: Book: GN DEVIR

Sea of Sorrows by Rich Douek (2022) - Fiction

In the aftermath of the Great War, the North Atlantic is ripe for plunder by independent salvage crews. When a former naval officer hires the SS Vagabond, he leads the ship to a sunken U-boat, and a fortune in gold. Tensions mount as the crew prepares to double cross each other, but the darkness of the ocean floor holds deeper terrors than any of them have bargained for!

Availability: Book: GN DOUEK; Hoopla: eBook

Ballad for Sophie by Filipe Melo (2021) - Fiction

Following the life of a pianist turned showman, this fictional biography explores the intricacies of relationships, art, and life.

Availability: Book: GN MELO, Hoopla: eBook

Catalogue Baby: A Memoir of (In)fertility by Myriam Steinberg (2021) - Non-Fiction

A deeply moving tragicomic graphic memoir about a single woman's efforts to conceive in her forties. A few months after Myriam Steinberg turned forty, she decided she could not wait any longer to become a mother. But Myriam's journey was far from straightforward. She experienced the soaring highs and devastating lows of becoming pregnant and then losing her babies.

Availability: Book: GN STEINBERG

Immigrant Protagonists

Call Me American by Abdi Nor Iftin (2018) - Non-Fiction

A young Somalian, who learned English through American pop culture uses his skills to post secret dispatches to the Internet and NPR after a radical Islamist group comes to power and until he finally wins a visa lottery to emigrate.

Availability: Book: BIO IFTIN; Libby: eBook, eAudio

A Place for Us by Fatima Farheen Mirza (2018) - Fiction

Mirza's slow-brewing, affecting, California-set tale portrays a splintered Muslim Indian family in which immigrant parents Layla and Rafiq try to maintain Islamic traditions. Their daughters are intent on pleasing their strict, religious father; Hadia becomes a doctor, Huda a teacher. But their son, Amar, is born rebellious. Hungry for life, poetic, wily, and charming, he breaks taboos, takes risks, and is ultimately betrayed by those closest to him. Each complex, surprising character struggles with faith, responsibility, racism, fear, longing, and jealousy, while Mirza conveys with graceful specificity the rhythms of Muslim life, from prayer to wearing hijab, gender etiquette, food, holidays, and values, all of which illuminate universal quandaries about family, self, culture, beliefs, and generational change.

Availability: Book: FIC MIRZA; Large Print: LPB FIC MIRZA; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Sigh, Gone: A Misfit's Memoir of Great Books, Punk Rock, and the Fight to Fit In by Phuc Tran (2020) - Non-Fiction

In 1975, during the fall of Saigon, Phuc Tran immigrates to America along with his family. By sheer chance they land in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, a small town where the Trans struggle to assimilate into their new life. In this coming-of-age memoir told through the themes of great books such as *The Metamorphosis*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Iliad*, and more, Tran navigates the push and pull of finding and accepting himself despite the challenges of immigration, feelings of isolation, and teenage rebellion, all while attempting to meet the rigid expectations set by his immigrant parents.

Availability: Book: BIO TRAN; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

The Girl Who Smiled Beads: A Story of War and What Comes After by Clemantine Wamariya and Elizabeth Weil (2018) - Non-Fiction

Traces the author's harrowing experiences as a young child during the Rwanda massacres and displacements, which separated her from her parents and forced the author and her older sister to endure six years as refugees in seven countries, foraging for survival and encountering unexpected acts of cruelty and kindness before she was granted asylum in a profoundly different America.

Availability: Book: BIO WAMARIYA; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner (2021) - Non-Fiction

The Japanese Breakfast indie pop star presents a full-length account of her viral New Yorker essay to share poignant reflections on her experiences of growing up Korean-American, becoming a professional musician and caring for her terminally ill mother.

Availability: Book: BIO ZAUNER; Libby: eBook, eAudio

New York State Setting

Upstate by Kalisha Buckhanon (2005) - Fiction

In jail after being charged with his father's murder, seventeen-year-old Antonio finds his love with sixteen-year-old Natasha tested and engages in a ten-year correspondence with her from behind bars.

Availability: Book: FIC BUCKHANON; Hoopla: eAudio

Mr. Splitfoot by Samantha Hunt (2016) - Fiction

A contemporary gothic from an author in the company of Kelly Link and Aimee Bender, Mr. Splitfoot tracks two women—Ruth (a scam-artist foster kid), and, decades later, Cora (her pregnant niece)—as they march, each in her own time, toward a mysterious reckoning.

Availability: Book: FIC HUNT, Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio

The Plot by Jean Hanff Korelitz (2021) - Fiction

Wildly successful author Jacob Finch Bonner, who had stolen the plot of his book from a late student, fights to hide the truth from his fans and publishers, while trying to figure out who wants to destroy him.

Availability: Book: FIC KORELITZ or BDG KORELITZ; Large Print: LPB FIC KORELITZ; Audiobook: CD FIC KORELITZ; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Winter Sisters by Robin Oliveira (2018) - Fiction

When the two young daughters of friends killed in a late-19th-century storm vanish without a trace, a former Civil War surgeon launches a determined rescue effort that is challenged by a community that believes there is no hope and a violin-student niece who returns home from Paris with a secret agenda.

Availability: Book: FIC OLIVEIRA; Libby: eBook, eAudio

The Farm by Joanne Ramos (2019) - Fiction

Ensnared within a Hudson Valley retreat where expectant birth mothers are given luxurious accommodations and lucrative rewards to produce perfect babies, a Filipino immigrant is forced to choose between a life-changing payment and the outside world.

Availability: Book: FIC RAMOS; Large Print: LPB FIC RAMOS; Libby: eAudio

Our Country Friends by Gary Shteyngart (2021) - Fiction

When a group of old friends and friends-of-friends gathers in a country house to wait out the pandemic, they end up spending six months in isolation during which old betrayals emerge, forcing each character to reevaluate whom they love and what matters most.

Availability: Book: FIC SHTEYNGART; Large Print: LPB FIC SHTEYNGART; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Stonewall Book Awards*

*Full List: <https://www.ala.org/rt/rrt/award/stonewall/honored>

How We Fight for Our Lives: A Memoir by Saeed Jones (2019) - Non-Fiction

Award-winning poet and author of *Prelude to Bruise* documents his coming-of-age as a young, gay, black man in an American South at a crossroads of sex, race and power.

Availability: Book: BIO JONES

The Thirty Names of Night by Zeyn Joukhadar (2020) - Fiction

Follows three generations of Syrian Americans who are linked by a mysterious species of bird and the truths they carry close to their hearts.

Availability: Book: FIC JOUKHADAR; Libby: eBook, eAudio

In the Dream House: A Memoir by Carmen Maria Machado (2019) - Non-Fiction

Shares the story of the author's relationship with an abusive partner and how it was shaped by her religious upbringing, her sexual orientation and inaccurate cultural beliefs about psychological trauma.

Availability: Book: BIO MACHADO; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

Memorial by Bryan Washington (2020) - Fiction

A Japanese-American chef and a Black daycare teacher begin reevaluating their stale relationship in the wake of a father's death and the arrival of an acerbic mother-in-law who becomes an unconventional roommate.

Availability: Book: FIC WASHINGTON; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook

The Fixed Stars: A Memoir by Molly Wizenberg (2020) - Non-Fiction

A best-selling memoirist describes how, as a married woman with a toddler, she found herself drawn to a female attorney during jury duty and began to question her identity and desires and let go of ideals that no longer fit.

Availability: Book: BIO WIZENBERG; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio

Translated from Another Language

Anxious People by Fredrik Backman (2021) - Fiction

Taken hostage by a failed bank robber while attending an open house, eight anxiety-prone strangers—including a redemption-seeking bank director, two couples who would fix their marriages and a plucky octogenarian—discover their unexpected common traits.

Availability: Book: FIC BACKMAN, Large Print: LPB FIC BACKMAN; Audiobook: CD FIC BACKMAN; Playaway: BACKMAN; Libby: eBook, eAudio

The Corpse Flower by Anne Mette Hancock (2021) - Fiction

Danish journalist Heloise Kaldan is drawn into a nightmare when she begins receiving letters from a woman police believe is a killer, forcing her to revisit the darkest parts of her own past to confront someone she swore she'd never see again.

Availability: Book: FIC HANCOCK, Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio

Death is Hard Work by Khaled Khalifa (2019) - Non-Fiction

Draws on first-person experiences in the story of three siblings who set aside their differences and risk their lives during the Syrian civil war to honor their late father's final wishes.

Availability: Book: FIC KHALIFA; Libby: eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

The Mountains Sing by Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai (2020) - Fiction

Years after a family is forced by Vietnam's Communist Land Reforms to abandon their farm, a granddaughter comes of age as her loved ones depart for the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

Availability: Book: FIC NGUYEN; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio

Love in the Big City by Sang Young Park (2021) - Fiction

When his female best friend and roommate, Jaehee, leaves him to settle down, Young, a cynical gay man living in the lonely city of Seoul, tries to make sense of his life and his relationships as he finds himself torn between two very different men.

Availability: Book: FIC PARK; Libby: eBook; Hoopla: eBook

YA Books

Himawari House by Harmony Becker (2021) - Fiction (Graphic Novel)

The Himawari share house in Tokyo provides the landscape for three girls to connect, not only with each other but with the world and culture around them. Nao is a Japanese American looking to connect with her roots; the story begins with her arrival. This coming-of-age story shows the lives of those in the house as they explore their identities, friendships, and the language barriers around them.

Availability: Book: YA GN BECKER; Libby: eBook

Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley (2021) - Fiction

***2022 Printz Award Winner**

What do you do when you never fit in, and the one person you connect with may be involved in a murder? Daunis must decide. She's an 18-year-old biracial, unenrolled Ojibwe tribal member who spends her time taking care of fragile family members. Her brother's hockey teammate, Jamie, is the one escape. But his secrets may prove too much.

Availability: Book: YA FIC BOULLEY; Playaway: BOULLEY; Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eAudio

Colbert, Brandy. Black Birds in the Sky: The Story and Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre by Brandy Colbert (2021) - Non-Fiction

***2022 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Finalist**

The Tulsa Race Massacre has long failed to fit into the story Americans like to tell themselves about the history of their country. This book, ambitious and intimate in turn, explores the ways in which the story of the Tulsa Race Massacre is the story of America—and by showing us who we are, points to a way forward.

Availability: Book: YA 976.686 COLBERT, YA PLAYAWAY 976.686 COLBER; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Strange the Dreamer by Laini Taylor (2017) - Fiction

In the aftermath of a war between gods and men, a hero, a librarian, and a girl must battle the fantastical elements of a mysterious city stripped of its name.

Availability: Book: YA FIC TAYLOR; Libby: eBook, eAudio

Parachutes by Kelly Yang (2020) - Fiction

A teen from a privileged Asian family navigates culture shock, unexpected freedom, and a new relationship while attending school in California and renting a room from the family of an Ivy League hopeful whose debate coach has undermined her plans.

Availability: Book: YA FIC YANG, Libby: eBook, eAudio; Hoopla: eBook, eAudio