

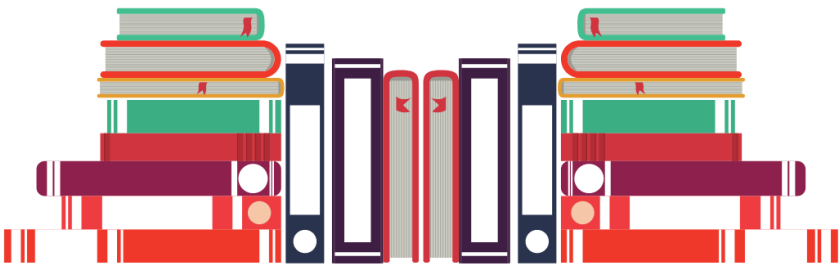


ULTIMATE BOOK NERD

Reading Challenge

Jan. - Dec. 2022

Read 50 books in 50 weeks
and achieve the rank of
ultimate book nerd!



AGES
18+

ULTIMATE BOOK NERD CHALLENGE OFFICIAL RULES 2022

50 BOOKS - 50 WEEKS - 50 CATEGORIES

- The Ultimate Book Nerd Challenge runs from January 2 to December 17 and is open to ages 18+. Only Caldwell Public Library cardholders are eligible for prizes.
- Eligible participants who complete the challenge win an Ultimate Book Nerd t-shirt or canvas book bag.
- There are 60 categories. Each participant must read 1 book in 50 different categories to win. Each book can only be used once. For each additional category completed, participants will receive a raffle ticket for a grand prize drawing.
- Books must be Middle Grade reading level (grade 4-8) or higher to count toward the challenge.
- All books must be recorded in the online log by 11:59 pm on Saturday, December 17. Paper logs must be submitted by Saturday, December 17 at 5 pm.
- Audiobooks, ebooks, and physical books count toward the challenge.
- Books must be started and completed within the contest time period.
- Sign-ups must be between January 2 and July 2, 2022.
- What needs to be recorded:
 - Title and Author of Book Read
 - Date Started and Completed

Read one book from 50 of the following categories:

A BANNED BOOK Find one on the American Library Association website:
www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT A CURRENT WORLD ISSUE (FICTION OR NON-FICTION)

Suggestions:

1. *Ten Lessons for a Post-Pandemic World* by Fareed Zakaria
2. *Caste: the Origins of our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson
3. *The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming* by David Wallace-Wells

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT AN ANIMAL(S)

Suggestions:

1. *Perestroika in Paris* by Jane Smiley
2. *Our Wild Calling: How Connecting with Animals Can Transform Our Lives and Save Theirs* by Richard Louv
3. *Spill Simmer Falter Wither* by Sara Baume

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK BY AN AUTHOR THAT DOES NOT LIVE IN THE U.S.

Suggestions:

1. Hiromi Kawakami
2. Alexander Solzhenitsyn
3. Aharon Appelfeld

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK BY AN IDAHO AUTHOR

Suggestions:

1. Donna Fletcher Crow
2. Anthony Doerr
3. Robin Lee Hatcher

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT OR RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH

Suggestions:

1. *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath
2. *Winter Girls* by Laurie Halse Anderson
3. *Into the Abyss: A Neuropsychiatrist's Notes on Troubled Minds* by Anthony David

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FEATURING A CHARACTER WITH A DISABILITY

Suggestions:

1. *The Silence Between Us* by Alison Gervais
2. *How We Roll* by Natasha Friend
3. *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A THEME OF FOOD OR DRINK

Suggestions:

1. *The Forgotten Recipe* by Amy Clipston
2. *Garden Spells* by Sarah Addison Allen
3. *The Merlot Murders* by Ellen Crosby

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK BY/ABOUT A NON-WESTERN WORLD LEADER

Suggestions:

1. *The Long Walk to Freedom* by Nelson Mandela
2. *The Great Successor: the Divinely Perfect Destiny of Brilliant Comrade Kim Jong Un* by Anne Fifield
3. *Assad or We Burn the Country: How One Family's Lust for Power Destroyed Syria* by Sam Dagher

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM YOUR “TO BE READ” LIST

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM THE GREAT AMERICAN READ LIST

Find one here: www.pbs.org/the-great-american-read/books

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Suggestions:

1. *Flights* by Olga Tokarczuk (Polish)
2. *Springtime in a Broken Mirror* by Mario Benedetti (Spanish)
3. *Night School: A Reader for Grownups* by Zsófia Ban (Hungarian)

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK PUBLISHED IN 2022

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK RECOMMENDED TO YOU BY SOMEONE

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET DURING A HOLIDAY

Suggestions:

1. *Yule Log Murder* by Leslie Meier
2. *Pride and Prejudice and Mistletoe* by Melissa De La Cruz
3. *Holidays on Ice* by David Sedaris

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WHERE THE MAIN CHARACTER WORKS AT YOUR CURRENT OR DREAM JOB

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT CHALLENGES YOUR VIEWPOINT ON ANY TOPIC

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK PUBLISHED POSTHUMOUSLY (AFTER THE AUTHOR HAS DIED)

Suggestions:

1. *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson
2. *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer
3. *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET IN A DIFFERENT WORLD

Suggestions:

1. *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
2. *The Golden Compass* by Philip Pullman
3. *The Name of the Wind* by Patrick Rothfuss

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET BEFORE 1900

Suggestions:

1. *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See
2. *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant
3. *The Tokaido Road* by Lucia St. Clair Robson

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT HAS BEEN MADE INTO A MOVIE

Suggestions:

1. *The Wizard of Oz* by Frank L. Baum
2. *The Devil Wears Prada* by Lauren Weisberg
3. *Fight Club* by Chuck Palahniuk

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT DO-OVERS OR FRESH STARTS

Suggestions:

1. *The Guncle* by Steven Rowley
2. *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes
3. *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A MADE-UP LANGUAGE

Suggestions:

1. *Lord of the Rings* Trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien
2. *Watership Down* by Richard Adams
3. *The Country of Ice Cream Star* by Sandra Newman

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH AN LGBTQ+ CHARACTER

Suggestions:

1. *Symptoms of Being Human* by Jeff Garvin
2. *Every Heart a Doorway* by Seanan McGuire
3. *Her Royal Highness* by Rachel Hawkins

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH RECIPES INSIDE

Suggestions:

1. *Blackberry Pie Murder* by Joanne Fluke
2. *Like Water for Chocolate* by Laura Esquivel
3. *Lunch in Paris: A Love Story with Recipes* by Elizabeth Bard

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY A PERSON OF COLOR

Suggestions:

1. Tomi Adeyemi
2. Celeste Ng
3. Rupi Kaur

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY A NATIVE AMERICAN AUTHOR

Suggestions:

1. Louise Erdrich
2. Joy Harjo
3. Stephen Graham Jones

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY AN AUTHOR WHOSE LAST NAME STARTS WITH THE SAME INITIAL AS YOURS

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK YOU OWN BUT HAVE NEVER READ

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A PULITZER PRIZE AWARD WINNER

Find one here: www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-categories

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES, ESSAYS, OR POEMS

Suggestions:

1. *Cutting Edge: New Stories of Mystery and Crime by Women Writers*
2. *Snow White Learns Witchcraft: Stories and Poems* by Theodora Goss
3. *How to Fly (in Ten Thousand Easy Lessons): Poetry* by Barbara Kingsolver

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A DARK ACADEMIA BOOK

Suggestions:

1. *Ninth House* by Leigh Bardugo
2. *Ace of Spades* by Faridah Abike-Iyimide
3. *The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A GRAPHIC NOVEL OR COMIC

Suggestions:

1. *Herding Cats* by Sarah Anderson
2. *Check, Please!* by Ngozi Ukazu
3. *Amazons, Abolitionists, and Activists: A Graphic History of Women's Fight for Their Rights* by Mikki Kendall

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY AN AUTHOR WHO HAS WRITTEN MORE THAN 10 BOOKS

Suggestions:

1. Octavia E. Butler
2. Isaac Asimov
3. Stephen King

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK PUBLISHED THE YEAR YOU WERE BORN

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A GOODREADS CHOICE AWARD OR NOMINEE FROM ANY YEAR Find one here: www.goodreads.com/choiceawards/index

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

REREAD A BOOK YOU LOVE

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

THE OLDEST BOOK ON YOUR TO-BE-READ LIST

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK BASED ON A TRUE STORY

Suggestions:

1. *Empress Orchid* by Anchee Min
2. *Arthur & George* by Julian Barnes
3. *The Revenant* by Michael Punke

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK PUBLISHED BEFORE YOU WERE BORN

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK YOU CHOSE FOR THE COVER

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT A UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

Suggestions:

1. *Polk: The Man Who Transformed the Presidency and America* by Walter R. Borneman
2. *The Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President* by Candice Miller
3. *The Accidental President: Harry S. Truman and the Four Months That Changed the World* by A.J. Baime

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A PERSON'S NAME IN THE TITLE

Suggestions:

1. *Emma* by Jane Austen
2. *Carrie* by Stephen King
3. *The Truth About Alice* by Jennifer Mathieu

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK YOU THINK SHOULD BE REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL READING

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT TEACHES YOU SOMETHING NEW

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A HUMOROUS BOOK

Suggestions:

1. *Hyperbole and a Half: Unfortunate Situations, Flawed Coping Mechanisms, Mayhem, and Other Things That Happened* by Allie Brosh
2. *I Was Told There'd Be Cake: Essays* by Sloane Crosley
3. *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A CHARACTER WHO HAS BEEN ADOPTED OR IS IN FOSTER CARE

Suggestions:

1. *The Girl They Left Behind: A Novel* by Roxane Veletzos
2. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
3. *A List of Cages* by Robin Roe

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A NUMBER IN THE TITLE

Suggestions:

1. *A Thousand Pieces of You* by Claudia Gray
2. *Seven Dials* by Anne Perry
3. *Daisy Jones & the Six* by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

THE NEWEST BOOK ON YOUR TO BE READ LIST

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM THE EASTERN LITERARY CANON

Find one here: www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/eastern-canon

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

THE FIRST BOOK IN A SERIES

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ON A MEDICAL TOPIC

Suggestions:

1. *Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality* by Pauline W. Chen
2. *How We Do Harm: A Doctor Breaks Ranks About Being Sick in America* by Otis Webb Brawley
3. *The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic and How It Changes Science, Cities, and the Modern World* by Steven Johnson

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A CHILD OR TEEN PROTAGONIST

Suggestions:

1. *Room* by Emma Donoghue
2. *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel
3. *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT A SPORT

Suggestions:

1. *Those Guys Have All the Fun: Inside the World of ESPN* by James A. Miller
2. *Seabiscuit: An American Legend* by Laura Hillenbrand
3. *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A MULTIGENERATIONAL STORY

Suggestions:

1. *The House of Spirits* by Isabel Allende
2. *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee
3. *The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows of Ava Lavender* by Leslye Walton

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM A CELEBRITY BOOK CLUB

Find one here: www.bookriot.com/celebrity-book-clubs

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH AN UNRELIABLE NARRATOR

Suggestions:

1. *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* by Agatha Christie
2. *Shutter Island* by Dennis Lehane
3. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET IN SPACE

Suggestions:

1. *Leviathan Wakes* by James S.A. Corey
2. *Across the Universe* by Beth Revis
3. *The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet* by Becky Chambers

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM NPR'S BOOK CONCIERGE LIST

Find one here: www.apps.npr.org/best-books

Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH AN ALLITERATIVE TITLE

Suggestions:

1. *Gone Girl* by Gilliam Flynn
2. *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt
3. *Odd One Out* by Nic Stone

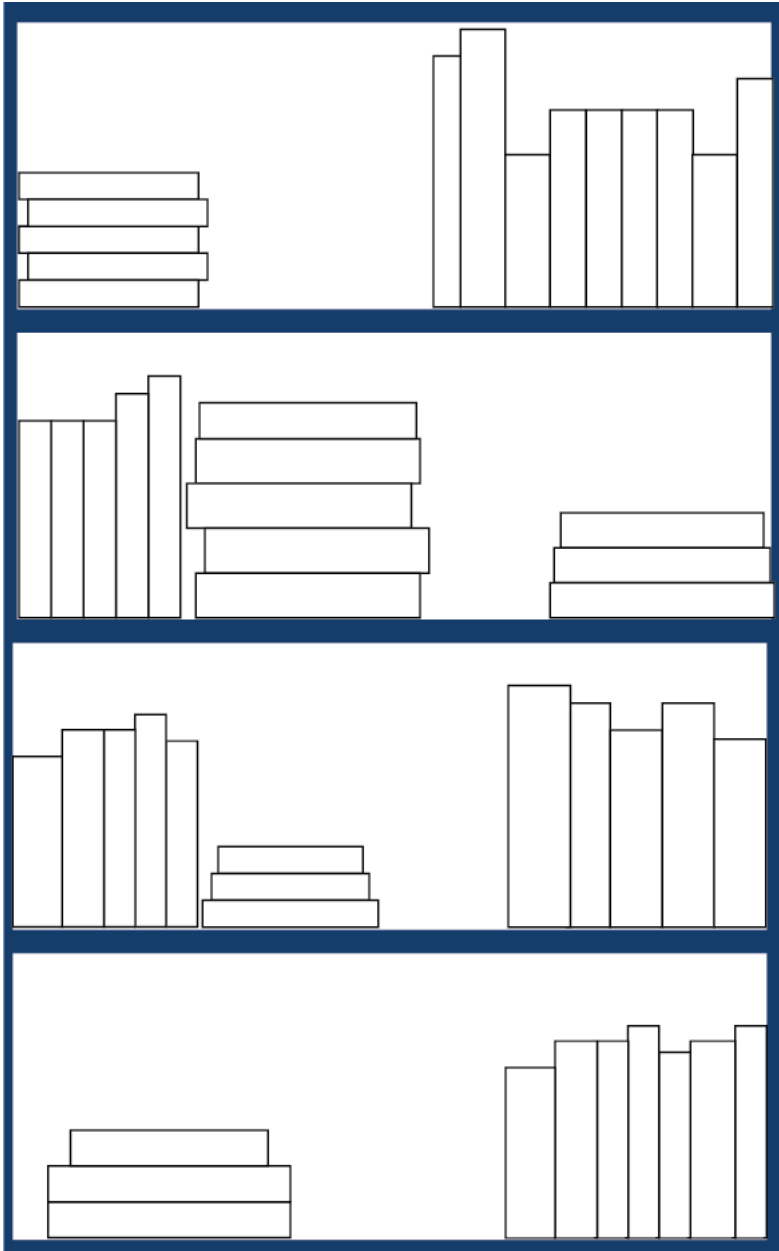
Title Read: _____

Date Started/Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

TRACK YOUR PROGRESS

There are 50 books on the bookcase below. Fill one in after every category you complete to keep track of how many books you have read and how many you have left.



DON'T KNOW WHAT TO READ?

TRY ONE OF THESE RESOURCES FROM THE LIBRARY!

1. Ask a librarian

The staff at the library is happy to help you find the perfect book! Feel free to stop by, give us a call, or start a chat on our website. You can also browse our entire collection from our online catalog or our new Ida app.

2. Try NoveList Plus

Search books by genre, audience, topic, and more! To get started, log into EBSCO with your library card number. The link to log in is located at www.caldwellpubliclibrary.org/databases. Click on the NoveList Plus icon and start your search.

3. Libby

If you are looking for an ebook or audiobook to complete one of the categories, try browsing on the Libby app, where you will find the library's digital collection.

4. Goodreads

The Internet is full of great book recommendations. If you are looking for a website that has recommendation lists and gives book descriptions and reader ratings, we suggest www.goodreads.com.

ADULT COMPLETION FORM

Name: _____

Date Completed: _____

Phone/Email Contact: _____

Library Card Number: _____

(non-Caldwell cardholders are welcome to participate, but only Caldwell patrons may be entered to win prizes)

Pick Your Prize

Congratulations, you completed the challenge! Please choose between an Ultimate Book Nerd canvas book bag or t-shirt. If you choose a t-shirt, please tell us which size you would prefer.

Canvas Book Bag

T-shirt

Choose a size (unisex): XS S M L XL XXL XXXL

Please remove this page and return to a staff member for review.

Staff will be in contact with you to redeem your prize. Prizes will be available in February, 2023, as they will be custom ordered and printed for prize winners only.

Library Staff Signature: _____



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