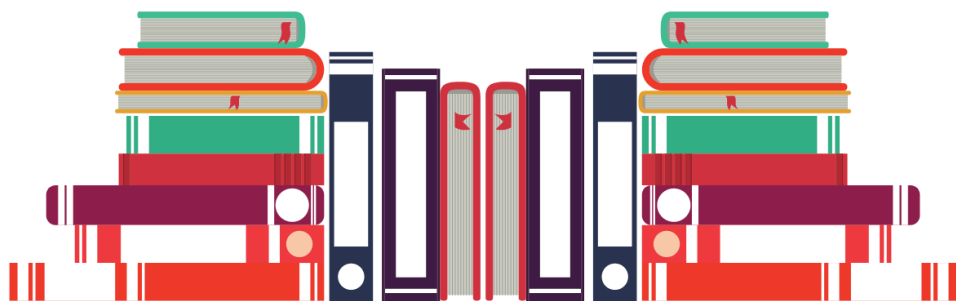




ULTIMATE BOOK NERD

Reading Challenge

Jan. - Dec. 2020



A Caldwell Public Library Program

1010 Dearborn Street | 208.459.3242 | caldwellpubliclibrary.org

ULTIMATE BOOK NERD CHALLENGE OFFICIAL RULES 2020

50 BOOKS - IN 50 WEEKS - 50 CATEGORIES

- The Ultimate Book Nerd Challenge runs from January 5 to December 19, and is open to ages 13+.
- Quarterly Silent Book Club meetings (March 31, June 30, September 29, December 8) to get some reading time in! Open to all ages, participants and non-participants. Get one point for each Book Club meeting attended.
- Participants who complete the challenge win an "Ultimate Book Nerd" t-shirt.
- There are 60 categories, each participant must read 1 book in each of 50 categories to win – for each additional category/ book completed, participants will receive a raffle ticket for a grand prize drawing. Each book you read counts toward ONE category – the same book cannot be used in multiple categories.
- Books must be Middle Grade reading level (grade 4-8) or higher to count toward the challenge.
- All books read must be recorded in the online log by 11:59pm on December 19, 2020.
- Audiobooks count toward the challenge.
- Books must be started and completed within the contest time period.
- Sign-ups must be between January 5 and July 1, 2020.
- What needs to be recorded:
 - Title and Author of book read
 - Date Started
 - Date Completed
 - Book rating (scale of 1-5?)

Read one book from 50 of the following categories:

A BANNED BOOK

Find one on the American Library Association website:

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks>

Suggestions:

1. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
2. Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson
3. Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

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

Suggestions:

1. The Uninhabitable Earth by David Wallace-Wells
2. Evicted by Matthew Desmond
3. This Land is Our Land by Suketu Mehta

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT A SUBJECT YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT ANIMALS

Suggestions:

1. Dog is Love by Clive D.L. Wynne
2. Dewey by Vicki Myron
3. The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT INCARCERATION

- Suggestions:
- 1. Holes by Louis Sachar
 - 2. Monster by Walter Dean Myers
 - 3. The 57 Bus by Dashka Slater

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ABOUT OR RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH

- Suggestions:
- 1. Turtles All the Way Down by John Green
 - 2. Words on Bathroom Walls by Julia Walton
 - 3. Brave Face by Shaun David Hutchinson

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK BY AN AUTHOR THAT DOES NOT LIVE IN THE UNITED STATES

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba
 - 2. Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
 - 3. The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK BY AN IDAHO AUTHOR

Suggestions:

1. Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
2. All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
3. Educated by Tara Westover

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK BY TWO OR MORE AUTHORS

Suggestions:

1. Once & Future by Cori McCarthy and Amy Rose Capetta
2. Good Omens by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman
3. The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FEATURING A CHARACTER WITH A DISABILITY

Suggestions:

1. Wonder by R.J. Palacio
2. The Silence Between Us by Alison Gervais
3. House Rules by Jodi Picoult

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM A GENRE YOU DON'T NORMALLY READ (IE. MYSTERY, HORROR, ROMANCE, HISTORICAL, ETC.)

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM AN OPPOSITE POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS VIEWPOINT THAN YOUR OWN

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM THE GREAT AMERICAN READ LIST

Find the list here: <https://www.pbs.org/the-great-american-read/books/#/>

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
 - 2. The Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett
 - 3. Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK FROM YOUR "TO BE READ" LIST

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ON THE MENSA READING LIST FOR GRADES 9-12

Find the list here: <https://www.mensaforkids.org/achieve/excellence-in-reading/excellence-in-reading-9-12-list/>

Suggestions:

1. The Divine Comedy by Dante
2. Moll Flanders by Daniel Defoe
3. A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Suggestions:

1. The Complete Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
2. 100 Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
3. A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK PUBLISHED IN 2020

Suggestions:

1. The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson
2. Long Bright River by Liz Moore
3. Devolution by Max Brooks

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK PUBLISHED POSTHUMOUSLY (AFTER THE AUTHOR HAS DIED)

Suggestions

- 1. Beren and Lúthien by J.R.R. Tolkien
- 2. The Opposite of Loneliness by Marina Keegan
- 3. The Lighthouse at the End of the World by Jules Verne

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK RECOMMENDED BY A BOOKSELLER

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK RECOMMENDED BY A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK RECOMMENDED BY A LIBRARIAN

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK RELATED TO A NEWS STORY

Suggestions:

1. Beneath the Tamarind Tree by Isha Sesay
2. The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead
3. Lost Children Archive by Valeria Luiselli

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET DURING A HOLIDAY

Suggestions:

1. The Halloween Tree by Ray Bradbury
2. A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
3. Hiddensee by Gregory Maguire

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET IN A DIFFERENT WORLD

Suggestions:

1. Red Rising by Pierce Brown
2. Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo
3. Graceling by Kristen Cashore

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET IN A PLACE YOU WANT TO VISIT

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET IN SUMMER

- Suggestions:
- 1. Prodigal Summer by Barbara Kingsolver
 - 2. This One Summer by Mariko Tamaki
 - 3. Keeping the Moon by Sarah Dessen

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET IN THE 1920S

- Suggestions:
- 1. Murder at Archly Manor by Sarah Rosett
 - 2. Radio Girls by Sarah-Jane Stratford
 - 3. Jazz Moon by Joe Okonkwo

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK SET IN WINTER

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Snow Child by Eowyn Ivy
 - 2. Winter Solstice by Rosamunde Pilcher
 - 3. One Day in December by Josie Silver

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT CHALLENGES YOUR VIEWPOINT ON ANY TOPIC

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT FEATURES A LIBRARY

Suggestions:

1. Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein
2. The Body in the Library by Agatha Christie
3. The Borrower by Rebecca Makkai

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT HAS BEEN MADE INTO A MOVIE

Suggestions:

1. American Gods by Neil Gaiman
2. Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson
3. The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT HAS BEEN ON THE NY TIMES BESTSELLER LIST FOR MORE THAN 10 WEEKS

Find the list here: <https://www.nytimes.com/books/best-sellers/>

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK THAT REIMAGINES A FAIRYTALE

Check out our blog <https://www.caldwellpubliclibrary.org/post/recommended-reads-ya-fractured-fairytales> for recommendations.

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A MADE-UP LANGUAGE

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Lord of The Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien
 - 2. Game of Thrones by George R. R. Martin
 - 3. Cat’s Cradle by Kurt Vonnegut

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A ONE-WORD TITLE

- Suggestions:
- 1. 1Q84 by Haruki Murakami
 - 2. Annabel by Kathleen Winter
 - 3. Emma by Jane Austen

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH A TITLE LONGER THAN FOUR WORDS

Suggestions:

1. The Girl and the Stars by Mark Lawrence
2. The Will and the Wilds by Charlie N. Holmberg
3. How to Tell if Your Cat is Plotting to Kill You by Matthew Inman

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH AN LGBTQ+ CHARACTER

Suggestions:

1. More Happy Than Not by Adam Silvera
2. I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson
3. Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH RECIPES INSIDE

Suggestions:

1. Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café by Fannie Flag
2. Aphrodite: A Memoir of the Senses by Isabel Allende
3. An Appetite for Violets by Martine Bailey

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WITH YOUR FAVORITE COLOR ON THE COVER

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY A NATIVE AMERICAN AUTHOR

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
 - 2. Ceremony by Leslie Maron Silko
 - 3. There There by Tommy Orange

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY A PERSON OF COLOR

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas
 - 2. Kindred by Octavia E. Butler
 - 3. The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY AN AUTHOR OVER 70

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Lost Landscape by Joyce Carol Oates
 - 2. Ripper by Isabel Allende
 - 3. The Heart Goes Last by Margaret Atwood

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK WRITTEN BY AN AUTHOR UNDER 30

Suggestions:

1. Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen
2. The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank
3. The Time Machine by H.G. Wells

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

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

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK YOU CAN READ IN A DAY

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK YOU OWN BUT HAVE NEVER READ

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A BOOK YOU PRETENDED TO READ IN HIGH SCHOOL, BUT DIDN'T

Need a list? Start here: https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/478.Required_Reading_in_High_School

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES, ESSAYS, OR POEMS

Suggestions:

- 1. Fiction and Poetry by Edgar Allen Poe
- 2. Black Enough : Stories of Being Young & Black in America edited by Ibi Aanu Zobo
- 3. Me Talk Pretty One Day by David Sedaris

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A CULT CLASSIC

Not sure where to start? Try this list: https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/2522.Cult_Classics

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A DEBUT NOVEL

Suggestions:

- 1. Ella Minnow Pea by Mark Dunn
- 2. Fourth of July Creek by Smith Henderson
- 3. The Time-Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A GRAPHIC NOVEL

Suggestions:

1. Fables by Bill Willingham
2. Valerian by Pierre Christin
3. Clockwork Planet by Yuu Kamiya

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A MEMOIR OR BIOGRAPHY

Suggestions

1. Blowing the Bloody Doors Off: And Other Lessons in Life by Michael Caine
2. Inside Out: A Memoir By Demi Moore
3. Cyndi Lauper: A Memoir by Cyndi Lauper

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A NONFICTION BOOK

Suggestions

1. A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking
2. Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow
3. David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants by Malcom Gladwell

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

A PULITZER PRIZE AWARD WINNER

See the winners here: <https://www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-categories>

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

BOOK OVER 400 PAGES

- Suggestions:
- 1. The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness
 - 2. Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell
 - 3. Red Rising by Pierce Brown

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

BOOK PUBLISHED THE YEAR YOU WERE BORN

Title Read: _____
Date Completed: _____
Thoughts on the Book: _____

BOOK WITH A PERSON’S NAME IN THE TITLE

- Suggestions:
- 1. Life of Pi by Yann Martel
 - 2. Carrie by Stephen King
 - 3. The Truth About Alice by Jennifer Matthieu

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

GOODREADS CHOICE AWARD WINNER OR NOMINEE FROM 2019

Not on Goodreads? Here's the 2019 list: <https://www.goodreads.com/choiceawards/best-books-2019>

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

RE-READ A BOOK YOU LOVE!

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

THE OLDEST BOOK ON YOUR TO-BE-READ LIST

Title Read: _____

Date Completed: _____

Thoughts on the Book: _____

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 the grand prize)

T-shirt Size: (Circle One)

Unisex: XS S M L XL XXL XXXL

Library Staff Signature: _____

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

Staff will be in contact with you to redeem your prize. Prizes will be available in February, 2021, as they will be custom ordered and printed for prize winners only.

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