

Soddy-Daisy
Community Library
2023 Summer Reading
Recommendations

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The Soddy-Daisy Community Library is proud to present our 2023 Mythical Summer of Reading Recommendations. These books were chosen by a panel of librarians, educators and book industry professionals, and represent a diverse cross-section of interests so there is something appealing here for every reader.

These recommendations will not only build on your education and reading abilities, but will also provide pleasure, relaxation, and fun.

Happy Reading!

These recommendations cover a wide range of grades, ages, and subjects. The content may not be appropriate for everyone. If you need help making choices or would like additional recommendations, we're happy to help.

Classics

The Handmaid's Tale

by Margaret Atwood
Dystopian novel where women are only valued for their fertility.

That Was Then, This Is Now

by S.E. Hinton
Two best friends and the tension that develops between them as they grow up and grow apart.

Their Eyes Were Watching God

by Zora Neale Hurston
Janie Crawford is a Southern Black woman in the 1930s who grows from a free-spirited girl to a woman of independence and substance.

Lake Wobegon Days

by Garrison Keillor
Tales of ordinary people whose lives contain extraordinary moments.

Fantasy / SciFi

Violet Made of Thorns

by Gina Chen
Dark fantasy about a morally gray witch, a cursed prince, and a prophecy that ignites their fate-twisted destinies.

The Chaperone

by M Hendrix
When Stella glimpses both real freedom and the dark truths behind New America, she has no choice but to fight back against the world she knows, risking everything to set out on a dangerous journey across what used to be the United States.

The Honeys

by Ryan La Sala
Mars attends a prestigious summer retreat to discover the truth about their sister's death.

Snow Like Ashes

by Sara Raasch
Meira undertakes a quest to discover an ancient locket to free her kingdom's magic

Four Found Dead

by Natalie D. Richards
At the movie theater where Jo works, the last show has ended. But the nightmare is just beginning.

Mistborn

by Brandon Sanderson
Kelsier and a crew of talented allomancers work to pull off the greatest heist in history and throw down a divine despot.

The Rookie

by Scott Sigler
A lethal pro football league 700 years in the future, and a player who must face his own prejudices to stay alive.

I'll Stop the World

by Lauren Thoman
Teens living twenty years apart must work together to solve a murder that hasn't even happened yet.

Historical Fiction

Things Fall Apart

by Chinua Achebe
Africa's cataclysmic encounter with colonizing Europeans

My Dear Hamilton

by Stephanie Dray
Eliza shows her tireless devotion to her husband and our newly emerging country.

The Book of Lost Names

by Kristin Harmel
Eva, a document forger in the French resistance, preserves the names of the Jewish children she helped rescue in hopes of reuniting them with their families.

A Girl Called Samson

by Amy Harmon
A teenage girl disguises herself as a soldier to enlist in the Continental army to fight for America in the Revolutionary War.

As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow

by Zoulfa Katouh
Teen girl caught between her loyalty to her country, her family, the boy she loves, and her conviction to survive.

Sold on a Monday

by Kristina McMorris
Desperate mother sells two of her children in hopes they will have a better life.

The Things We Cannot Say

by Kelly Rimmer
A woman's urgent search for answers to a family mystery that uncovers truths about herself that she never expected.

I Must Betray You

by Ruta Sepetys
Romanian revolution, communist party, spies and informers - they must remember the past to change the future.

Realistic Fiction

With the Fire on High

by Elizabeth Acevedo
A teenage mom pursues her dream of becoming a chef.

Rules of the Road

by Joan Bauer
Jenna gets hired by her crusty old employer to drive cross county on an eye-opening adventure!

A Show for Two

by Tashie Bhuiyan
An aspiring screenwriter falls for the indie film star who goes undercover at her school

We Deserve Monuments

by Jas Hammonds
Family secrets, a swoon-worthy romance, and a slow-burn mystery collide in this novel!

Truly Devious

by Maureen Johnson

Young detective at a private boarding school hunts a murderer who has returned.

Side Effects May Vary

by Julie Murphy
Sixteen-year-old Alice has cancer and creates a take-no-prisoners bucket list that sets off a war at school - and then discovers she's gone into remission.

Loveless

by Alice Oseman
What does it mean to Georgia that she's never had a crush on anyone?

The Astonishing Color of After

by Emily Pan
Girl discovers family, love and art after mother's death.

Ain't Burned All the Bright

by Jason Reynolds
A smash-up of art and text for teens that viscerally captures what it is to be Black. In America. Right now.

Realistic Fiction

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Dress Codes for Small Towns

by Courtney Stevens

Deep friendships, small Southern town gossip, art, and unfolding romantic identity.

You've Reached Sam

by Dustin Thao

17yo Julie's boyfriend Sam dies, but she can still speak with him on her cellphone. Should she tell his family?

In the Wild Light

by Jeff Zentner

Should Cash leave his small Appalachian town for a full-ride scholarship, or stay to care for his aging grandparents who raised him?

Non-Fiction

Quiet Power: The Secret Strengths of Introverted Kids

by Susan Cain

Stories of teens who have tackled the challenges of not being extroverted and who have made a mark in their own quiet way.

Six Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make

by Sean Covey

Learn to face 6 major challenges of being a teen in the digital age.

Life is So Good

by George Dawson

Dawson, a slave's grandson who learned to read at age 98 shares his life and valuable lessons in living.

Episodes

by Blaze Ginsberg

Highly functioning autistic teen views life in a collection of "episodes".

David and Goliath:

Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants

by Malcolm Gladwell

The power of the underdog in success, motivation, and the role of adversity in shaping our lives.

You Will Get Through This Night

by Dan Howell

A practical guide to taking control of your mental health for today, tomorrow, and the days after.

Nevertheless, We Persisted

by In This Together Media

48 stories of defiance, strength and courage.

An Unquiet Mind

by Kay Redfield Jamison

Autobiography of psychologist who suffers from, and studies, bipolar and manic/depressive illnesses.

We Should Hang Out Sometime

by Josh Sundquist

Author tracked down old girlfriends to find out "what went wrong".

Social Anxiety Relief for Teens

by Bridget Flynn Walker

Step-by-step guide to feel confident and comfortable in any situation.

From a Whisper to a Rallying Cry

by Paula Yoo

The killing of Vincent Chin and the trial that galvanized the Asian American movement.

Graphic Novels

Demon in the Wood

by Leigh Bardugo
Prequel to the *Shadow & Bone* series, the origin story of the Darkling.

Parable of the Sower

by Octavia Butler
In 2024, amid environmental and economic crises that have created chaos, a young girl fights for survival and a new future.

Teen Titans: Beast Boy

by Kim Garcia
Garfield Logan has to learn to face the truth about himself and who truly matters in his life before life spirals out of control.

Teen Titans: Raven

by Kim Garcia
Raven must find the strength to face who she is and learn to trust others - and herself.

Poe: Stories and Poems

by Gareth Hinds

Graphic novel of Edgar Allen Poe's works.

Mary's Monster: Love, Madness and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein

by Lita Judge
The story of Mary Shelley's life and creation of Frankenstein.

Hey Kiddo

by Jarrett Krosoczka
Memoir about growing up in a family grappling with addiction, and finding the art that helps you survive.

Pumpkinheads

by Rainbow Rowell
Two teens discover what it means to leave a place - and a person - behind.

The Prince and the Dressmaker

by Jen Wang
A prince with a secret life and his best friend find identity, art and love.

Get ready for the
SDCL Mythical
Summer of Reading!
When you read this summer, you
can earn this great T-Shirt!



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