

Soddy-Daisy
Community Library
2026 Summer Reading
Recommendations

Adult

The Soddy-Daisy Community Library is proud to present our 2026 Futuristic Summer Reading Recommendations.

Some of these selections are recent, while others have been around for some time. We encourage you to step out of your normal reading genres and try something new. Look these books up online for more thorough descriptions - you may just find your next favorite book!

These books were chosen by a panel of librarians, educators, and book industry professionals, and represent a diverse cross-section of interests, so something is appealing here for every reader.

Happy Reading!

Realistic Fiction

The Reading List

by Sara Nisha Adams

A shared list of books brings together lonely strangers, offering comfort, healing, and unexpected friendship as each story helps them reconnect with themselves, their pasts, and the possibility of a new chapter.

Is This a Cry for Help?

by Emily Austin

A witty yet heartfelt look at one woman's struggle with loneliness and mental health, as she navigates the messy, often humorous search for connection, identity, and a sense of belonging in an overwhelming world.

My Friends

by Fredrick Blackman

A moving story of friendship and second chances, where the bonds we choose shape who we become and carry us through loss, love, and the enduring search for connection and meaning.

The Correspondent

by Virginia Evans

Through a series of letters, a woman reflects on love, loss, and the quiet moments that shape a life, revealing how connection can endure across distance, time, and the things left unsaid.

Shark Heart: A Love Story

by Emily Habeck

A newly married couple faces an unimaginable transformation, blending love and grief in a surreal, deeply emotional story about holding on to each other as everything familiar begins to slip away.

The River is Waiting

by Wally Lamb

A haunting story of grief and redemption, where one man must confront his past and the weight of his choices to find a path toward forgiveness, healing, and the hope of starting again.

Wild Dark Shore

by Charlotte McConaghy

On a remote island at the edge of the world, a family's fragile survival is tested as secrets emerge and the wild landscape becomes both refuge and threat, forcing them to confront what they're willing to risk for each other.

Nesting

by Roisin O'Donnell

A tender story of starting over, as one woman rebuilds her life and sense of home while navigating motherhood, independence, and the fragile but powerful hope of a new beginning.

My Husband

by Maud Ventura

A darkly compelling portrait of obsession, where a wife's all-consuming love slowly unravels, blurring the line between devotion, control, and the unsettling extremes of desire.

Historical Fiction

Daughter of Egypt

by Marie Benedict

A vivid reimagining of a remarkable woman's life in ancient Egypt, where ambition, intelligence, and resilience collide as she fights to shape her own legacy in a world of power and tradition.

Hold Strong

by Robert Dugoni

Set against the backdrop of war, this gripping story follows ordinary people pushed to extraordinary limits, revealing the strength, sacrifice, and courage it takes to endure and survive.

The Pretender

by Jo Harkin

A sweeping historical tale of identity and ambition, where a young man is thrust into a dangerous game of power and deception as he claims a destiny that may not truly be his.

The Story She Left Behind

by Patti Callahan Henry

A poignant journey through past and present, as a woman uncovers hidden truths about family, love, and loss, discovering how the stories we leave behind continue to shape those who follow.

Lady Tremaine

by Rachel Hochauer

A fresh and compelling reimagining of a familiar villain, exploring the ambition, heartbreak, and choices that transform a woman into the figure history—and fairy tales—remember.

Meet the Newmans

by Jennifer Niven

A heartfelt and often humorous look at one family's unraveling, as secrets, love, and second chances collide, forcing each member to confront who they are and who they want to be.

Astral Library

by Kate Quinn

Blending history and intrigue, this imaginative tale follows characters drawn into a mysterious world of books and secrets, where knowledge holds power and the past refuses to stay hidden.

The Artist

by Lucy Steads

A richly layered story of creativity and identity, as an artist navigates love, ambition, and self-discovery while searching for meaning in both their work and their life.

The Calamity Club

by Kathryn Stockett

A sharp and engaging story of friendship and resilience, where a group of women band together through life's upheavals, finding strength, humor, and unexpected support along the way.

Non-Fiction

The Indifferent Stars Above

by Daniel James Brown

A gripping true story of the Donner Party, revealing the harsh realities of the journey west and the incredible resilience it took to survive.

The Serviceberry

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Blending science and storytelling, this thoughtful look at nature explores how generosity and reciprocity can reshape how we live and connect.

How to Do Nothing: Resisting the Attention Economy

by Jenny Odell

A compelling invitation to slow down, rethink productivity, and reclaim your attention in a world designed to distract.

Mystery/Thriller

The Savage Noble Death of Babs Dionne

By Ron Carrie, Jr.

A dark, gripping tale of crime and consequence, where a woman's life and death unravel into a story filled with secrets, violence, and unexpected humanity.

This Story Might Save Your Life

by Tiffany Crum

A suspenseful and emotional journey where past trauma and present danger collide, forcing one woman to confront the truth before it's too late.

The Grim Reaper's Guide to Catching a Killer

by Maxie Dara

With a touch of dark humor, a reluctant grim reaper must solve a murder, uncovering secrets that blur the line between life, death, and justice.

Mad Mabel

by Sally Hepworth

A tense psychological story where family secrets and hidden truths slowly surface, leaving you questioning what's real—and who can be trusted.

Bright Young Women

by Jessica Knoll

Inspired by real events, this chilling story follows determined women seeking justice as they challenge the narrative around a notorious killer.

Last Girl Ghosted

by Lisa Unger

A gripping thriller where a woman's perfect romance vanishes without a trace, leading her into a dangerous search filled with lies, obsession, and fear.

Fantasy / SciFi /

Horror

Our Wives Under the Sea

by Julia Armfield

A haunting, atmospheric story of love and loss, where a deep-sea mission returns changed, and something strange and unsettling follows home.

Beautyland

by Marie-Helene Bertino

A strange and tender coming-of-age story where an outsider tries to understand humanity, blending humor, loneliness, and wonder in an unfamiliar world.

The Adventures of Amina al-Sirafi

by Shannon Chakraborty

A thrilling fantasy adventure follows a retired female pirate drawn back to sea, facing magic, danger, and old enemies on one last high-stakes journey.

Victorian Psycho

by Virginia Feito

A darkly twisted tale set in a proper Victorian world, where appearances hide disturbing truths and one woman's mind begins to unravel.

The Last Contract of Isako

by Fonda Lee

A fast-paced sci-fi story where a skilled assassin takes on one final job, navigating betrayal, high-tech danger, and the cost of survival.

Trad Wife

by Saratoga Schaefer

A chilling and satirical horror story where the pursuit of a perfect life takes a dark turn, revealing unsettling truths beneath the surface.

Romance

It Happened One Summer
by Tessa Bailey

A fun, steamy romance where a glamorous city girl lands in a small coastal town and clashes with a gruff local who just might steal her heart.

Under Loch and Key
by Lana Ferguson

A magical romance where secrets, danger, and undeniable chemistry collide, pulling two people together in ways neither of them expected.

Sky Daddy
By Kate Folk

A quirky and unconventional love story that explores obsession, longing, and the strange ways people search for connection.

The Wisteria Society of Lady Scoundrels
by India Holton

A whimsical, romantic adventure where proper ladies lead secret lives as pirates,

blending witty banter, danger, and swoon-worthy romance.

This Book Made Me Think of You
by Naira Kumar

A tender, reflective romance where books and memories intertwine, drawing two people together as they revisit the past and rediscover what love means.

Neon Gods
by Katee Robert

A modern, steamy retelling of myth and power, where desire and danger intertwine as two unlikely figures are drawn into a bold, forbidden romance.

Cherry Baby
by Rainbow Rowell

A heartfelt and charming romance that captures the sweetness and uncertainty of love, as two people navigate connection, timing, and growing up.

Get ready for the
SDCL Futuristic
Summer of Reading!
When you read this summer, you can
earn this awesome t-shirt!



Soddy-Daisy Community Library
9619 Dayton Pike * Soddy-Daisy, TN 37379
423.800.2367
KELCURTFoundation.org
founders@kelcurtfoundation.org



@TheSDCL