

GFWC/IOWA ADVENTURES IN READING

2024-2026

All Iowa Reads

- 2025 Distant Sons by Tim Johnston
2024 The Seed Keeper by Diane Wilson
2023 How High We Go in the Dark: A Novel by Sequoia Nagamatsu
2022 The Butterfly Effect by Rachel Mans McKenny
2021 Little Faith by Nickolas Butler
2020 The Mothers by Brit Bennett
2019 This Blessed Earth: A Year in the Life of An American Family by Ted Genoways
2018 The Boys in the Bunkhouse by Dan Barry
2017 Bottomland by Michelle Hoover
2016 Lila by Marilynne Robinson
2014 Little Wolves by Thomas Maltman
2013 The Year We Left Home by Jean Thompson
2012 Strength in What Remains by Tracy Kidder
2011 Sing Them Home by Stephanie Kallos
2010 Driftless by David Rhodes
2009 The Rope Walk by Carrie Brown
2008 Digging to America by Anne Tyler
2007 Splendid Solution: Jonas Salk and the Conquest of Polio by Jeffrey Kluger
2006 Gilead by Marilynne Robinson
2005 The Master Butchers Singing Club by Louise Erdrich
2004 Niagara Falls All Over Again by Elizabeth McCracken
2003 Peace Like a River by Leif Enger

The purpose of All Iowa Reads is to foster a sense of unity through reading. We encourage Iowans statewide to come together in their communities to read and talk about a single book title in the same year. More information on the All Iowa Reads process, and additional book suggestions for teens and young readers can be found at the Iowa Center for the Book.

Authors from Iowa, or with Iowa Connections

Heather Gudenkauf	Donald Harstad	Allen Eskens
Mary Kay Shanley	Mike Draper	Larry Stone
Carol Bodensteiner	Fern Kupfer	Jane Smiley
Joseph Geha	Kali VanBaale	Mary Swander
Jann Freed		

This is just a partial list; more can be found at the Iowa Center for the Book. The Iowa Writers Workshop at The University of Iowa has hosted many authors of national and international reputation.

A Year-Long Challenge

Do this and you will have more than enough books to report in December!

January	Read a book you meant to read last year
February	Read a book made into a movie
March	Read a book with a green cover
April	Read a book with flowers on the cover
May	Read a book with a one-word title
June	Read a book by an author from the Southern Hemisphere
July	Read a book in your favorite genre
August	Read a book set in a small town
September	Read three books by the Same Author
October	Read a book set in Autumn
November	Read an inspiring nonfiction selection
December	Read a novel with a place in the title

Some other ideas to break out of your routine:

Read a book with a color in the title
Read a book set in the decade or year you were born
Read books set in each of the continents
Read books written in each of the decades you've been alive
Read a new release from every month of the year
Read books from the years each of your family members were born
Read a book that inspired your favorite movie
Re-read a book assigned in high school and you didn't like – you might change your mind!

Reporting Deadlines

Reporting period is December 1 – November 30 each year

December 1 st of each year:	Club members report to Club Reading Chairwoman
January 1 st of each year:	Club Reading Chair sends report to District Reading Chair
February 1 st of each year:	District Reading Chair sends the District report to the GFWC/Iowa Adventures in Reading Chair

Please let me know if you have questions, need additional information, or have suggestions.

Happy Reading!

Linda Hueser, GFWC/Iowa Adventures in Reading Chairwoman,
12059 NW 130th Ct, Madrid, Iowa 50156.
Home phone 515-999-2257, leave a message.
Email: dh12059@juno.com

Popular Authors

James Patterson	Ruth Ware	Colleen Hoover
Elin Hilderbrand	Louise Penny	Lisa Scottoline
Nora Roberts	J.D. Robb	C.J. Box
Jodi Picoult	Liane Moriarty	Nicholas Sparks
Heather Gudenkauf	Danielle Steel	Stuart Woods
Debbie Macomber	Sandra Brown	Kristin Hannah
John Grisham	Stephen King	

"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." — Anna Quindlen

Additional Resources

There are great resources available to find addition titles. Your local library is the best place to start.

Book clubs encourage reading selections that you might not choose for yourself, and will expose you to new genres and ideas – expand your horizons! There are celebrity book clubs and reading lists from the following:

Reese Witherspoon	Emma Watson	Sarah Jessica Parker
Oprah Winfrey	Bill Gates	

Every night, I have to read a book, so that my mind will stop thinking about things that I stress about." — Britney Spears

Local independent bookstores such as Prairie Lights in Iowa City, and Beaverdale Books in Des Moines are good resources. Support local and find new friends and reading treasures.

Your favorite periodicals may publish reading lists; book stores will provide lists, and online reading groups will have great ideas. Here are a few websites that will give you more suggestions:

Good Reads	New York Public Library	Book Girls Guide
Barnes & Noble	Literary Hub	Good Housekeeping
Reading Group Guides	New York Times	Book Riot
Washington Post	Cosmopolitan	NPR
Reading Group Choices	Washington Post	Book List Queen

Pulitzer Prize Winners

Fiction

- 2024 Night Watch by Jayne Anne Phillips
2023 Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver
2022 The Netanyahus: An Account of a Minor and Ultimately Even Negligible Episode in the History of a Very Famous Family by Joshua Cohen
2021 The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich
2020 The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead
2019 The Overstory by Richard Powers
2018 Less by Andrew Sean Greer
2017 The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead

Nonfiction

- 2024 A Day in the Life of Abed Salama: Anatomy of a Jerusalem Tragedy by Nathan Thrall
2023 His Name is George Floyd: One Man's Life and the Struggle for Racial Justice by Robert Samuels
2022 Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival & Hope in an American City by Andrea Elliott
2021 Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy by David Zucchino
2020 The End of the Myth: From the Frontier to the Border Wall in the Mind of America by Greg Grandin
2019 Amity and Prosperity: One Family and the Fracturing of America by Eliza Griswold
2018 Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America by James Forman Jr.
2017 Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond

"Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries." — Anne Herbert

The following lists are a starting point for your reading; some titles may fit more than one category.

Fiction

- The Book Woman's Daughter by Kim Michele Richardson
A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman
Age of Vice by Deepti Kapoor
Victory City by Salman Rushdie
Decent People by De'Shawn Charles Winslow
River Sing Me Home by Eleanor Shearer
Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
The House in the Pines: A Novel by Ana Reyes
Without a Trace: A Novel by Danielle Steel
The Boys from Biloxi: A Legal Thriller by John Grisham
Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver
Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

Romance

Dating Dr. Dil: A Novel by Nisha Sharma
Love on the Brain by Ali Hazelwood
Book Lovers by Emily Henry
Reminders of Him by Colleen Hoover
Funny You Should Ask: A Novel by Elissa Sussman
Weather Girl by Rachel Lynn Solomon
Thank You for Listening by Julia Whelan
The Bodyguard by Katherine Center
The Dead Romantics by Ashley Poston
Wherever the Wind Takes Us by Kelly Harms
Hotel Nantucket by Elin Hilderbrand
To Get to the Other Side by Kelly Ohlert

Mystery/Thriller

Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan
The Maid by Nita Prose
The Homewreckers by Mary Kay Andrews
A Mother Would Know by Amber Garza
The Widow by Kaira Rouda
The Last Invitation by Darby Kane
No One Left to Come Looking for You by Sam Lipsyte
All the Dangerous Things by Stacy Willingham
City Under One Roof by Iris Yamashita
Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone by Benjamin Stevenson
She's Gone by David Bell
Amok by Barry Eisler

Memoir/Biography

The Storyteller by Dave Grohl
Number One is Walking: My Life in the Movies and Other Diversions by Steve Martin
The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man by Paul Newman, written with David Rosenthal
Queen of Our Times: The Life of Queen Elizabeth II by Robert Hardman
Surrender: 40 Songs, One Story by Bono
Finding Me by Viola Davis
Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner
Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing by Matthew Perry
Have I Told You This Already? Things I Don't Want to Forget to Remember by Lauren Graham
Too Much by Tom Allen
A Private Spy: The Letters of John Le Carre by John Le Carre, David Cornwell, Tom Cornwell
A Book of Days by Patti Smith