

Turn the Page in 2026: A Call to Read - Bennington Free Library's Reading Challenge

Our goal is to encourage readers to read widely, beyond their usual reading habits and share recommendations. Programs focusing on reading and discovery and related activities will take place throughout the year.

Join in the reading for a chance to win one of five \$100 Bennington Bookshop gift certificates! Get Started Today! Print your [Turn the Page in 2026 Reading Log Sheets](#) and [Book Review Forms](#) from the library's website, or pick them up at the library, along with a free wall calendar!

Check out our Calendar of Events:

Sunday, March 22 at 2pm – Discussion of *A Continued Clap of Thunder: Essays to Celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution*, edited by Damien McCaffrey and Tyler Resch

Saturday, June 20 at 10:30am – Discussion of *Good Dirt* by Charmaine Wilkerson

Friday, September 25 – Save the date: an Evening Under the Stars

Saturday, December 12 – Save the date: End-of-Year Reading Celebration

Turn the Page in 2026: A Call to Read Bennington Free Library's Yearlong Reading Challenge Recommended Reads by BFL staff

A Self-Help Book:

10% Happier, Dan Harris 158.1 HAR

Atomic Habits, James Clear 155.24 CLE

Mindset: The New Psychology of Success, Carol S. Dweck

A Medical Drama:

The Nurse's Secret, Amanda Skenandore

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, Ane Fadiman

A Book About Learning A New Hobby:

How to Cook Everything, Mark Bittman 641.5 BIT

Juggling: What It Is and How to Do It, Thom Wall (ebook available from Hoopla)

A Book About Another Culture:

Beekeeper of Aleppo, Christy Lefteri FIC Lefteri Christy

Learning to Bow: An American Teacher in a Japanese School, Bruce S. Feiler

The Widows of Malabar Hill, Sujata Massey FIC Mystery Massey Sujata

A Book Written By A Current TV Star:

Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood, Trevor Noah BIO Noah Trevor

A Book of Poems:

Judevine, David Budbill 811 BUD

Crossing the Unknown Sea, David Whyte

Devotions and Dog Songs, Mary Oliver 811.54 OLI

Healing the Divide: Poems of Kindness and Connection 811.008 HEA

A Book on Marriage:

Day, Michael Cunningham

A Marriage at Sea: A True Story of Love, Obsession, and Shipwreck, Sophie Elmhirst

A Book of Symbols:

The Secret History of Freemasonry, Jeremy Harwood Oversize 366.1 HAR

The Da Vinci Code: A Novel, Dan Brown FIC MYSTERY Brown Dan

A Book About Las Vegas:

Casino Royale: A James Bond Novel, Ian Fleming FIC MYSTERY Fleming Ian

Positively Fifth Street: Murderers, Cheetahs, Binion's World Series of Poker, James McManus (ebook available from Hoopla)

The Princess of Las Vegas: A Novel, Chris Bohjalian FIC Bohjalian Chris

A Book Set During a Holiday:

Manchester Christmas: A Novel, John Gray (ebook available from Hoopla)

Murder for Christmas, Francis Duncan FIC Mystery Duncan Francis

A Classic:

The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald FIC Fitzgerald F. Scott

Cold Mountain, Charles Frazier FIC Frazier Charles

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee FIC Lee Harper

The Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson, Mark Twain YA TWA

A Young Adult Novel:

Eleanor & Park, Rainbow Rowell YA ROW

Alex and Eliza: A Love Story, Melissa De La Cruz YA DEL

Gather, Cadow, Kenneth M. YA CAD

Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, Mark Haddon FIC Haddon Mark

Last Night at the Telegraph Club by Malinda Lo FIC Lo Malinda and YA LO

A Book From A Male Point-Of-View:

Less, Andrew Sean Greer FIC Greer Andrew Sean

Montana 1948: A Novel, Larry Watson

A Rising Man, Abir Mukerjee FIC Mukherjee Abir

Patriot: A Memoir, Alexei Navalny BIO Navalny Alexei

A Romantic Fiction Book:

Love Story, Erich Segal FIC Segal Erich

Blush, Jamie Brenner, FIC Brenner Jamie

I Almost Forgot About You, Terry McMillan FIC McMillan Terry

A Book You Choose Because of Its Cover:

Hester, Lauri Lico Albanese FIC Lico Albanese Laurie

The Book of Luke, Lovell Holder FIC Holder Lovell

A Book By Shakespeare:

Romeo & Juliet (in *Tales from Shakespeare* 822.3 LAM)

A Contemporary Fiction Book:

The Names, Florence Knapp FIC Knapp Florence

Hello Beautiful, Ann Napolitano

No Two Persons, Erica Bauermeister FIC Bauermeister Erica

A Fantasy Novel:

Like Water for Chocolate, Laura Esquivel

Name of the Wind, Patrick Rothfuss (ebook available from Libby)

Snow Child, Eowyn Ivey FIC Ivey Eowyn

A Book About Memphis:

If Beale Street Could Talk, James Baldwin FIC NC Baldwin James

A Book With Q, X, Or Z In The Title:

Zo, Xander Miller FIC Miller Xander

The Tattooist of Auschwitz, Heather Morris FIC Morris Heather

Zorro: The Legend Begins, Isabel Allende FIC Allende Isabel

A Historical Fiction Book:

The Personal Librarian, Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murphy FIC Benedict

Gates of Fire, Steven Pressfield

Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague, Geraldine Brooks

The Only Woman in the Room, Marie Benedict FIC Benedict Marie

A Book From A Female Point-Of-View:

Lessons in Chemistry, Bonnie Gamus FIC LP Garmus Bonnie

The Female Eunuch, Germaine Greer 301.41 GRE

A Book That Will Help Your Career:

What Color Is Your Parachute?, Richard Nelson Bolles 650.14 BOL 2019

Secret Lives of Booksellers and Librarians, James Petterson and James Eversmann

A Book About Sports:

The Natural, Bernard Malamud FIC Malamud Bernard

Ya Gotta Have Wa, Roger Whiting

The Cross-Country Ski Book, John H. Caldwell

Ball Four, Jim Bouton and Leonard Shecter

A Book Written By A Celebrity:

Be Ready When the Luck Happens, Ina Garten BIO Garten Ina (new)

100 Rules for Living to 100, Dick VanDyke BIO LP Van Dyke Dick (new)

A Book By A Canadian Author:

Slammerkin, Emma Donoghue FIC Donoghue Emma

Home Game, Ken Dryden and Roy MacGregor

Indian Horse, Richard Wagamese

Handmaid's Tale, Margaret Atwood, FIC Atwood Margaret

A Book By An African-American Author:

The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store, James McBride FIC McBride James (new)

Slumberland, Paul Beatty

The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother, James McBride

All About Love: New Visions, bell hooks

A Book About An Important Time in History:

The Women, Kristen Hannah (Vietnam War and after) FIC Hannah Kristin

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek, Kim Richardson FIC Richardson Kim Michele

A Book About Food:

Sweetbitter, Stephanie Danler FIC Danler Stephanie

The Potlikker Papers, John T. Edge

A History of the World in 6 Glasses, Tom Standage

Julie and Julia, Julie Powell 641.5 POW

A Book About the Law:

Last Trial, Scott Turow FIC Turow Scott

Courage of Their Convictions, Peter H. Irons

A Time to Kill, John Grisham FIC Grisham John

A Book You Can Read With Your Kids:

Attack of the Black Rectangles, Amy Sarig King J-FIC KIN (Children's Room)

Rascal, Sterling North M-FIC Nor (Children's Room)

Knight Owl, Christopher Denise PB DEN (Children's Room)

A Historical Non-Fiction Book:

River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey, Candice Millard

BIO Roosevelt Theodore

There Is Power in a Union, Philip Dray

Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI, David Grann

976.6 GRA

The CIA Book Club: The Secret Mission to Win the Cold War with Forbidden Literature,

Charlie English, 028.7 ENG

A Faith Based Book:

A Grief Observed, C.S. Lewis 242 LEW

My Life with the Saints, James Martin

All My Knotted-Up Life: A Memoir, Beth Moore BIO Moore Beth