

Summer Reads 2018 – Recommendations

Fiction:

Hatchet- survival story of teenager after a plane crash and Dog Song-excellent story of struggles and challenges of Arctic dogsled racing by Gary Paulsen (Aileen Nettleton)

The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson (Erin Bosch)

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles and Summer Hours at the Robber's Library by Susan Halpern (Orange Schroeder)

Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien (Aidan Small)

A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara (Jennifer Johncox) A moving book, not always easy to read, but hard to put down

The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas, Ramona Blue by Julie Murphy, Looking for Alaska by John Green, and Monster by Walter Dean Myers (Lynn Currie)

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng, Stranger in a Strange Land by Robert Heinlein, and The Forgetting Time by Sharon Guskin (Nancy Wunderlin)

Creation by Gore Vidal (Penny Eiler)

The Women in the Castle by Jessica Shattuck (Bob Park)

A Demon Summer by G.M. Malliet (Barb Park) Cozy mystery

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr (Barbara Frye)

Salvage the Bones, Sing Unburied Sing, by Jesmyn Ward (Patty Stockdale)

Sweetness in the Belly by Camilla Gibb, Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison, and Dance of the Jakaranda by Peter Kimani (Katrina Thompson)

A Thousand Years of Good Prayers and Kinder than Solitude by Yiyun Li and Selected Stories by William Trevor (Anthony Lugbert)

The Lost Woman by Sara Blaedel (Al Nettleton)

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Letters from Earth by Mark Twain (Rosemarie Lester)

Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish and Future Home of the Living God by Louise Erdrich (Dawn Hayslett)

The Sparrow and Children of God by Mary Doria Russell (Larry Hayslett) Speculative fiction – Jesuits in space. Beautifully written with complex concepts and characters; a very disturbing read. Warning: Do not stop after finishing The Sparrow, Atwood ties it all together in Children of God.

Nonfiction:

Men We Reaped by Jesmyn Ward (Patty Stockdale)

The Argonauts by Maggie Nelson and Racecraft by Barbara and Karen Fields (Katrina Thompson)

Janesville: An American Story by Amy Goldstein (Orange Schroeder)

Mayflower by Nathaniel Philbrick (Barbara Frye)

Lost Connections by Johann Hari, Tribe by Sebastian Junger, The Perfectionists: How Precision Engineers Created the Modern World by Simon Winchester (Kent Wenger)

Al Nettleton also recommended The Perfectionists.

Being Mortal by Atal Gawande (Peggy Small)

The World's Strongest Librarian by Josh Hanagarne (Deesa Pence) Thoughts from a librarian who struggles with Tourette's and lifts weights, with some references to Mormonism.

Founding Mothers by Cokie Roberts (Robin Proud) Women of the American Revolutionary period

Soccer in Sun and Shadow by Edvardo Galeano (Rick Ruecking) First published in 1982 and updated every four years after Messi misses another free kick.

The Distance Between Us: a Memoir by Reyna Grande (Mary Mullen) About a girls and her two siblings left behind in Mexico when her father, and then her mother, moved to El Otro Lado in the United States.

Yankee from Olympus by Catherine Drinker-Bowen (Ruth Calder)

The Way of the Writer by Charles Johnson (Anthony Lugbert)

Notes: "The Best Summer Reads of All Time" www.thedailybeast.com/the-best-summer-reads-of-all-time (Al Nettleton)

South Central Wisconsin Library System (start with your library, for example Madison) – Free downloads of books; use the "Libby" app. Audiobooks can be played through your phone or kindle. Library people will help you. (Ron Frye)