



# HHSS Fall & Winter Reading Guide 2025 / 2026

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2026, Front cover  
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Lauraleen Reoch

# welcome, readers!

It has been invigorating to return to another school year after two months of rest and relaxation. As we settle into our routine this fall and winter, take the opportunity to plan time to read - it doesn't have to be for a long period of time (five minutes is just fine).

Perhaps this fall and winter will find you relaxing at home, maybe you'll be curled up in a comfy chair at a library or somewhere else entirely enjoying your next favourite read.

Living in southwestern Ontario, we find ourselves moving into cooler weather - a shift away from lazy days back into days of routine. I look forward to the changes that come with the fall months as it offers time to chat with students and staff as to what they have been reading while away from HHSS. Your reading life should bring you joy, happiness and an eagerness to share your love of reading. There are so many amazing books which have been published in recent years that it is truly a daunting task to make reading choices. Hopefully, this fall and winter reading guide will offer you ideas to return to a vibrant and enjoyable life with reading taking centre stage.

As a teacher-librarian it is always enjoyable to see what books are being requested in person, as well as trends that are occurring on platforms such as #BookTok and #Bookstagram.

Hopefully, the categories highlighted in this guide will have selections that will pique your interest while encouraging some genres that perhaps you would not ordinarily select.

Follow what you feel about a book - follow your innate instincts.

# Reading Philosophy

Reading is a very personal activity. In many cases the timing of reading is everything. A plethora of good books exist and are being published regularly. Hopefully selections throughout this guide will offer you encouragement in your reading life.

The best advice to you - the reader - is to know what you need as a reader. Stay with your own tastes with a selection or two outside of your comfort zone to determine what you need right now. You are encouraged to "play" with genres that you would not normally gravitate to. Not sure about what you prefer as a reader? Track what you read noting the genre of the books you have been reading as you go.

As the fall and winter months progress, tag the HHSS library on social media (Instagram @hhsslibrary; Twitter @HHSS\_Library) to share your selections.

## Young Adult

The Romance Rivalry by Susan Lee  
HarperCollins - May 13, 2025



Salvacion by Sandra Proudman  
Wednesday Books - May 20, 2025



Sea Change by Susan Fletcher  
Amulet Books - June 3, 2025



Skipshock by Caroline O'Donoghue  
Walker Books - June 3, 2025



## Family & Friendship

Boy From the North Country by Sam Sussman  
Penguin Press, September 16, 2025



Speak to Me of Home by Jeanine Cummins  
Henry Holt, May 13, 2025



Run for the Hills by Kevin Wilson  
Ecco, May 13, 2025

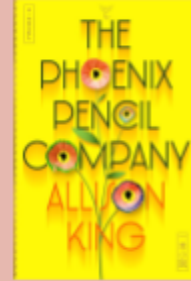


Bug Hollow by Michelle Huneven  
Penguin, June 17, 2025



## Historical Fiction

The Phoenix Pencil Company by  
Allison King  
William Morrow, June 3, 2025



The Great Mann by Kyra Davis Lurie  
Crown, June 10, 2025



The Martha's Vineyard Beach and  
Book Club y Martha Hall Kelly  
Ballantine, May 27, 2025



Typewriter Beach by Meg Waite  
Clayton  
Harper, July 1, 2025



# Refresh Your Reading Life

1. Don't finish every book you start
2. Track what you read
3. Try a new format (eBook, audiobook)
4. Switch up when you read
5. Read in a new location
6. Join a reading challenge
7. Join a book club (it could be in person or online)
8. Surround yourself with readers
9. Surround yourself with books

# Reading BINGO

B	I	N	G	O
Book finished in one sitting	A classic you've never read	A banned book	An historical fiction book	Book set somewhere you've never been
A book you saw someone reading	A book with a one word title	A book in a new to you genre	A book adapted into a movie	The first book in a series
A book recommended by a friend	An author who has your same initials	Free  space	A Young Adult book	A book with a number in the title
A book that will make you laugh	A personal improvement book	Listen to an audiobook	An award winning book	An autobiography
A book with your favourite colour on the cover	A book on display at the library	A book published this year	A book of poetry	A book with a non-human protagonist

## Useful Book Related Links

Take a look at the links provided below for some ideas as to what you may consider reading next!!

**HHSS Library:** Take a moment to visit the HHSS library website at [hrh.wrdsb.ca/library](http://hrh.wrdsb.ca/library) to see new additions to our collection. If we don't have a book you are looking for we can make a request from other high schools in the board.

**Goodreads:** This is a great resource for finding your next read. Check out [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com)

**Public Libraries:** Visiting your local branch of a library is another fantastic spot for book browsing. Check out [kpl.org](http://kpl.org) for the Kitchener Public Library; [wpl.ca](http://wpl.ca) for the Waterloo Public Library OR [cambridgepl.ca](http://cambridgepl.ca) for the Cambridge Library.

**Modern Mrs Darcy:** This is truly a delightful site for many things book related. Visit [modernmrsdarcy.com](http://modernmrsdarcy.com) for a variety of book type ideas and suggestions.

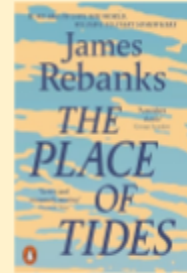
**Book Browse:** This site offers suggestions of newly released books, book club options and so much more. Visit [bookbrowse.com](http://bookbrowse.com) for a variety of book related themes and suggestions.

**Fable:** This app fits the bill for avid readers and movie lovers. It offers insight into genres that you gravitate to, allows you to set a goal for how many books you wish to read in a year and so much more. Check out [fable.co/](http://fable.co/) for more information.

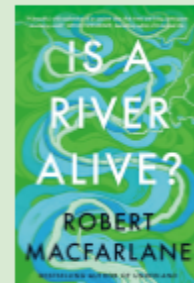
**Story Graph:** This website is another option for tracking what you read in a year. Take a look at [thestorygraph.com/](http://thestorygraph.com/) to see if this is an option for you.

## Nonfiction

The Place of Tides by James Rebanks  
Mariner, June 24, 2025



Is a River Alive? by Robert MacFarlane  
Random House, May 20, 2025



The Way of the Hermit by Ken Smith  
Hanover Square Press, May 28, 2024



A Spy in the Family by Paul Henderson  
et al  
HarperCollins, June 17, 2025



## Debut Novels

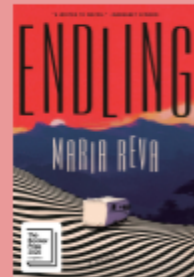
Julie Chan is Dead by Liann Zhang  
Atria, April 29, 2025



The Bright Years by Sarah Damoff  
Simon and Schuster, April 22, 2025



Endling by Maria Reva  
Doubleday, June 3, 2025



The Correspondent by Virginia Evans  
Crown, April 29, 2025



## My To Be Read List

A healthy To Be Read list will assist you in never being left looking for the next book to read. You are encouraged to not only include the title and author, but also why you have chosen the title.

Book Title	Author	why

## Literary Festivals to Look For

More literary festivals are back to having in person opportunities. Check out the list below with the possibility that you could attend one (or multiple) of these events in the upcoming year. Many authors will attend these festivals with their most recent releases - maybe you would enjoy curating your own collection of authored books!!

### Eden Mills Writers Festival ([edenmillswritersfestival.ca](http://edenmillswritersfestival.ca))

This wonderful festival is taking place in Eden Mills just outside of Guelph. Keep an eye on their website as the organizers will post information for the 2025 festival. The format is very informal and multiple authors will be providing insight into their writing process, reading from their most recent publication and so much more.

### GritLit ([gritlit.ca](http://gritlit.ca))

GritLit is a four day event held in downtown Hamilton. Participants can attend writing master classes, author readings and so much more. Keep an eye on their website for 2025 dates and author events!!

### Toronto International Festival of Authors ([festivalofauthors.ca](http://festivalofauthors.ca))

This multi day event is held in the Harbourfront area of Toronto with various events taking place in September and usually early June. Many author events take place with the opportunity to obtain an autographed copy of the author's most recent work.

### Toronto Comic Arts Festival ([torontocomics.com](http://torontocomics.com))

If manga, comics and / or graphic novels are of interest to you, check out this festival taking place June 2026. The event in 2025 was held at Toronto Metropolitan University's Mattamy Athletic Centre. A plethora of vendors will be available if you are looking to expand your personal library.

### Burlington Literary Festival ([bpl.on.ca](http://bpl.on.ca))

BurLITFest is a month-long event with various workshops available to participants along with author talks. Take a look at their site October 6 when various announcements will be made for this year's lineup.

## Useful Links For You

There are a number of useful links for the library at Huron Heights Secondary School. These can be useful for doing research, finding that next fantastic read and so much more!!



[Catalogue](#) for the WRDSB



HHSS [Library](#) website



HHSS Library X Account



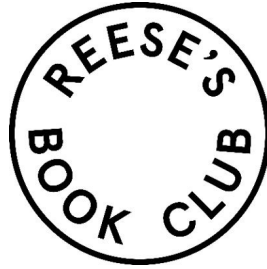
HHSS Library Insta

# Reading Journal

Title & Author		Thoughts & Summary	
Details			
Genre			
Recommended by			
Pages			
Start Date			
End Date			
My Rating			

## Celebrity Book Club Selections

Take an opportunity to find out what books various celebrities are choosing for their book clubs from the list below!!



Month	Title	Author
January	The Three Lives of Cate Kay	Kate Fagan
February	Isola	Allegra Goodman
March	Broken Country	Clare Leslie Hall
April	All That Life Can Afford	Emily Everett
May	Great Big Beautiful Life	Emily Henry
June	Seven Days in June	Tia Williams
July	Honey and Spice	Bolu Babalola
August	Once Upon a Time in Dollywood	Ashley Jordan
September	To the Moon and Back	Eliana Ramage



Month	Title	Author
January	Homeseeeking	Karissa Chen
February	Junie	Erin Crosby Eckstine
March	Count My Lies	Sophie Stava
April	The Sirens	Emilia Hart
May	The Original Daughter	Jemimah wei
June	Atmosphere	Taylor Jenkins Reid
July	The Compound	Aisling Rawle
August	Not Quite Dead Yet	Holly Jackson
September	The Book of Lost Hours	Hayley Gelfuso



Month	Title	Author
January	The Life Cycle of the Common Octopus	Emma Knight
February	This Is a Love Story	Jessica Soffer
March	The Dream Hotel	Laila Lalami
April	Heartwood	Amity Gage
May	The Names	Florence Knapp
June	A Family Matter	Claire Lynch
July	Happy wife	Meredith Lavender et al
August	My other Heart	Emma Nanami Strenner
September	Buckeye	Patrick Ryan