



2019 Reading Challenge for Adults

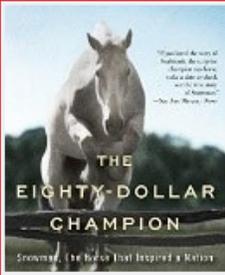
Suggested Reading List*

** This list is for ideas only. Chosen book should fit the theme, but no specific titles are required to participate in the reading challenge. Please enjoy!*

March

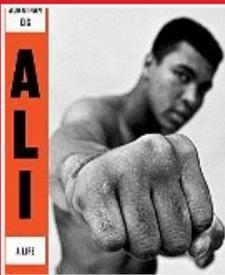
C.H.
BOOTH
LIBRARY

Sports, Athletes, Competition



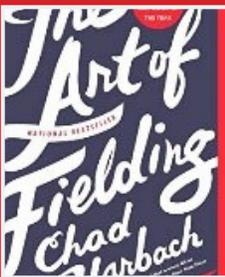
80 Dollar Champion by Elizabeth Letts

Harry de Leyer first saw the horse he would name Snowman on a truck bound for the slaughterhouse. The recent Dutch immigrant recognized the spark in the eye of the beaten-up nag and bought him for eighty dollars. On Harry's modest farm on Long Island, he ultimately brought Snowman to stardom.



Ali : A Life by Jonathan Eig

This biography gives this incredible man the complex book he deserves, shedding important new light on his politics, religion, personal life, and neurological condition. Ali is a story about America, about race, about a brutal sport, and about a courageous man who shook up the world.



The Art of Fielding by Chad Harbach

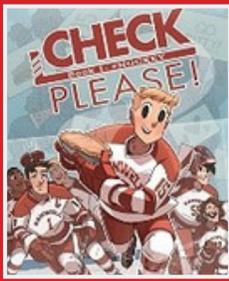
In a book that was on many "best of" lists, baseball star Henry Skrimshander seems destined for big league until a routine throw goes disastrously off course. In the aftermath of his error, the fates of five people are upended.



Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk by Ben Fountain

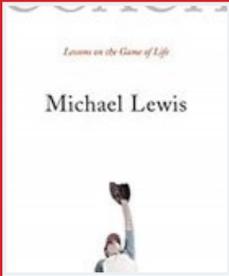
Billy Lynn and his Bravo squad mates are acknowledged heroes thanks to an embedded Fox News crew's footage of their firefight against Iraqi insurgents. During one day of their bizarre Victory Tour, set mostly at a Thanksgiving Day football game at Texas Stadium, their whirlwind fame comes to a head.

Annotations adapted from publisher, Amazon.com, BookRags.com, BN.com, Publisher's Weekly, & NY Times Book Review.



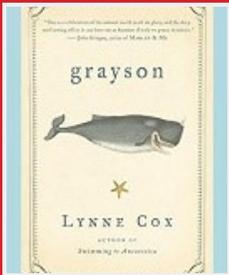
Check Please by Ngozi Ukazu

This first book of a hilarious and stirring two-volume coming-of-age story about hockey, bros, and trying to find yourself during the best four years of your life.



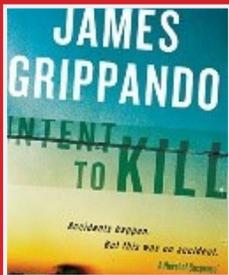
Coach: Lessons on the Game of Life by Michael Lewis

To many people, their high school coach is one of the most formative influences in their lives—and that is true for author Michael Lewis.



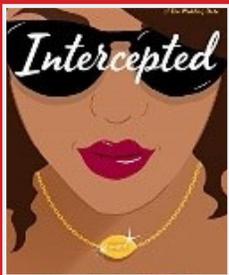
Grayson by Lynn Cox

The true story of a miraculous encounter between a teenaged girl and a baby whale off the coast of California.



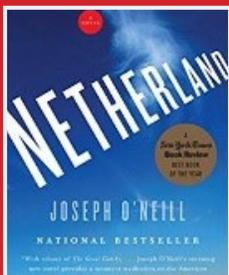
Intent to Kill by James Grippando

Intent to Kill electrifies from the first inning on—as a fallen baseball star-turned-sports radio “shock jock” tries to expose a conspiracy and outwit a killer.



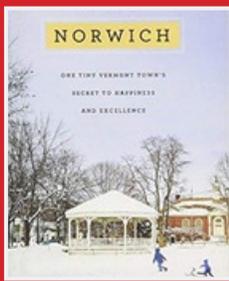
Intercepted by Alexa Martin

Marlee thought she scored the man of her dreams only to be scorched by a bad breakup. But there's a new player on the horizon, and he's in a league of his own...



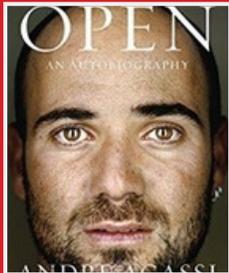
Netherland by Joseph O'Neill

In the aftermath of 9/11 in New York City, and left alone after his English wife and son return to London, Hans van den Broek stumbles upon the vibrant New York subculture of cricket, and revisits his lost childhood.



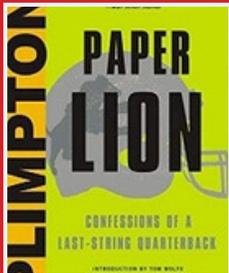
Norwich: One Tiny Town's Secret to Happiness and Excellence by Karen Krause

The extraordinary story of the small Vermont town that has likely produced more Olympians per capita than any other place in the country—and whose citizens provide a model for achieving excellence while leading a well-rounded life.



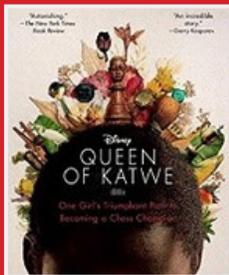
Open by Andre Agassi

Agassi writes candidly about his early success and his uncomfortable relationship with fame, his marriage to Brooke Shields, his growing interest in philanthropy, and—described in haunting, point-by-point detail—the highs and lows of his celebrated career.



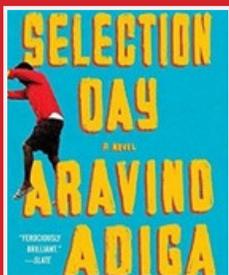
Paper Lion by George Plimpton

The book that set the bar for participatory sports journalism! With his characteristic wit, Plimpton recounts his experiences in talking his way into training camp with the Detroit Lions, practicing with the team, and taking snaps behind center.



The Queen of Katwe by Tim Crothers

The amazing true story of Phiona Mutesi—a teenage chess prodigy from the slums of Uganda.



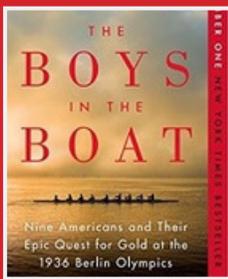
Selection Day by Aravind Adiga

Manjunath Kumar is fourteen and living in a slum in Mumbai. He knows he is good at cricket—if not as good as his older brother, Radha. His father pushes him to be a cricket star, no matter what Manjunath's own dreams.



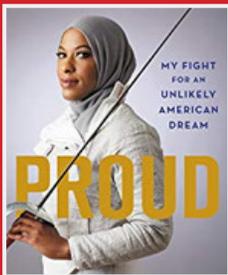
Slam by Pamela Ribbon

In the fast-paced, hard-hitting, super cheeky, all-female world of banked track roller derby, two young women will have to decide if their budding friendship is stronger than the pull of a team when a win is on the line.



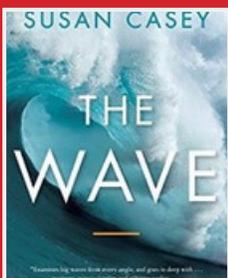
The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

Out of the depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant.



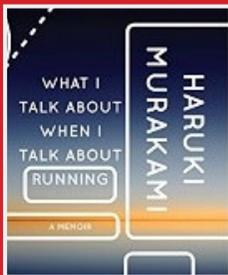
Proud: My Fight for an Unlikely American Dream by Ibtihaj Muhammad

Growing up in New Jersey as the only African American Muslim at school, Ibtihaj Muhammad always had to find her own way. When she discovered fencing, a sport traditionally reserved for the wealthy, she had to defy expectations and make a place for herself in a sport she grew to love.



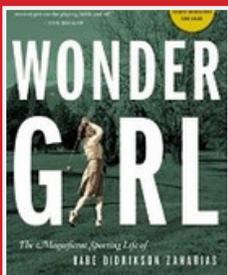
The Wave: in Pursuit of the Rogues, Freaks, and Giants of the Ocean by Susan Casey

In her astonishing new book Susan Casey captures colossal, ship-swallowing waves, and the surfers and scientists who seek them out.



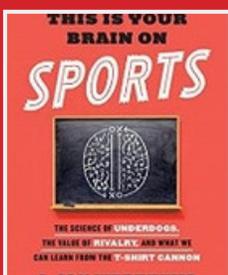
What I Talk About When I Talk About Running by Haruki Murakami

While training for the New York City Marathon, Haruki Murakami decided to keep a journal of his progress. The result is a memoir about his intertwined obsessions with running and writing, full of vivid recollections and insights, including the eureka moment when he decided to become a writer.



Wonder Girl by Don Van Natta

Texas girl Babe Didrikson never tried a sport too tough and never met a hurdle too high. Despite attempts to keep women from competing, Babe achieved All-American status in basketball and won gold medals in track and field at the 1932 Olympics. Time to excel in yet another sport—golf!



This is Your Brain on Sports by Jon Wertheim

Through the prism of behavioral economics, neuroscience, and psychology, discover the hidden influences and surprising cues that inspire and derail us—on the field and in the stands—and by extension, in corporate board rooms, office settings, and our daily lives.