



2023 Reading Challenge

# JANUARY

A book less than  
100 pages in length

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "A fantastic short story with an excellent foreword; truly unlike anything else I've ever read."

**A Reader from Florence** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "A novella I read in one sitting that left me crying at the close. Loved the characters, the restraint, the child mind, the depiction of loss and want and need, the elegance and empathy, the voices, the setting..."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Imaginary Borders* by Martinez, Xiuhthzcatl: "This short YA, non-fiction about combining art and the movement for climate change, makes you consider your footprint, the changing climate impact on communities of color and impoverished nations, and how you can get involved to help."

**A Reader from Hudson** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "This is one of those books that can easily be mistaken as a children's book or a silly nonsense book, but I can imagine reading this every year and getting something new out of it every time!"

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *Black is the Softest Color* by Diane Lato: "An incredible work of poetry weaving darkness and softness into a singular chapbook. Beautiful imagery too."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Finding Cinderella* by Colleen Hoover: "I thought the character development was great. Hooked from the beginning. Would love to read a sequel."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Sad story that makes me reflect on aging and memory loss and the impact it has on both the individual and their family."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "An amazing Greek mythology retelling in a short story format. Was able to give this classic story a fresh breath of air."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *this way, Charlie* by Charles Santoso & CARON LEVIS: "This is a Children's picture book that tells a beautiful story about friendship, pain, and acceptance."

**A Reader from Chatham** read *The Red Pony* by John: "Not finished yet. A complicated story about fathers and sons and growing up learning the hard parts of life. And searching for things beyond our personal horizons."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *A Good Man is Hard to Find* by Flannery O'Connor: "I remember reading this short story in high school and it was a lot more engaging this time around. O'Connor is so talented and the commentary on religion/Christianity is still relevant today."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Bartleby the Scrivener* by Herman Melville: "Interesting short story about a reluctant scribe. Apparently became bored and possibly depressed about his humdrum work as a scrivener in a law firm. His behavior was odd, perhaps an indication of mental illness. This book reportedly is considered a class."

**A Reader from Easthampton** read *The Hawk's Way* by Sy Montgomery: "Surprisingly intense for such a short book! But I thought it was beautiful and really enjoyed it."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan: "In the last pages I was cheering Bill Furlong along, and praying that his wife and daughters would recognize the goodness in his heart."

**A Reader from Lee** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Translated by Richard Howard: "The Little Prince is a lovely story about friendship and growing up. It made me feel nostalgic for my childhood and reminded me to stay open-minded and curious."

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Backman doesn't pull the emotional punches in this novella. I cried, but I would recommend it to others."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *The Tea Dragon Society* by K. O'Neill: "I enjoyed reading this children's book which I hadn't read when I was younger. It was a cozy book with beautiful illustrations."

**A Reader from Barnstable** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: "I first read Ethan Frome while in high school. In the years (decades) after, particularly during the winter months here in New England, I am reminded of how this short, but haunting, novel."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "I haven't read any other versions of this myth, so I don't have anything to compare it to, but I appreciated how succinct it was, and the short story format was definitely part of that."

**A Reader from Chicago** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: "The book was an interesting, confusing, sad/wistful read. It brought up enough thoughts in less than 93 pages that stay with me than books 3x its length."

**A Reader from PEMBROKE** read *I have the Right to Destroy Myself* by Young-ha Kim: "It's dark and atmospheric. Heavy trigger warnings for death and suicide/suicidal ideation."

**A Reader from Rowe** read *The Sleeper and the Spindle* by Neil Gaiman: "A lovely retelling of Sleeping Beauty (with a hint of Snow White). Still felt like a fun, classic fairy tale, but with a strong woman as the hero, humorous dwarves, beautiful illustrations, and a magical plot twist that surprised and delighted me."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "This book wasn't earth shattering in concept, but still a worthwhile read. I wish the author had true action plans for how to implement changes to our gender biases. But certain sentiments resonated with me like thanking husbands for changing diapers but mothers not."

**A Reader from Westford** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrick Bachman: "I enjoyed the book but I felt a little confused what the message was that the author was trying to convey."

**A Reader from Northfield** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: "Classic Murakami -- weird -- with a rather innocent character caught in a strange situation. While I'm tempted to think that it's just weird, and maybe a joke about the (non-present) dangers of libraries, the final page lends a tone of seriousness that makes me rethink the relationship of reading to aloneness."

**A Reader from Plainville** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "I thought it was very powerful, especially considering how short it is! She really gets her point across, in a very relatable way."

**A Reader from South Portland** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I enjoyed rereading this short story. Read it a long time ago, in school, and it felt like it finally clicked as to why read it in school."

**A Reader from North Reading** read *Walt Disney's Alice In Wonderland* by Walt Disney: "I did not care for this book because if you hadn't watched the movie, it would have made no sense. Also they cut out the best parts from the movie, which I hated, even though I don't like the movie very much either."

**A Reader from North Reading** read *Walt Disney: Jungle Book* by Walt Disney: "I did not like this book because it was not like the movie. Some of the dialogue was not in character, in my opinion."

**A Reader from North Reading** read *Walt Disney Pictures: The Black Cauldron* by Walt Disney: "This book was okay. I'm interested to watch the movie, which I've never seen, so I can see how close it is to the story told there. Overall though, I was interested to see what would happen next . . ."

**A Reader from Reading** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Loved this book. Summed up thoughts on the subject perfectly."

**A Reader from Sutton** read *Le Petit Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "This quote is at the heart of what speaks to me: "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Man Who Planted Trees* by Jean Giono: "This is a small book that packs a big punch. A moving story about generosity, hope, and rebirth; and a testament to the interdependence of all living things. Makes you reflect on what truly matters in life and how individual actions can have a big impact."

**A Reader from Andover** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "I haven't read this since high school, but still very thought provoking. Especially for such a quick read, filled with metaphors that are still relevant today."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Lift* by Kelly Corrigan: "Kelly Corrigan is my favorite author but unfortunately, this was my least favorite of her books. I loved the sentiments in it. I can relate to all the chaotic, emotional, turbulent, gratifying moments of parenthood that she describes. The text didn't flow."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros: "A quick and thought-provoking read, with both insight into a specific culture and universal themes."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *The Neighbor* by Dean Koontz: "My first Dean Koontz book and probably my last. I'm not really into horror and it felt like it was written for kids."

**A Reader from Wilbraham** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "I wish I paid attention to this book in high school. It gave me too much anxiety thinking about it in modern context."

**A Reader from Hadley** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Ms. Adichie reads this book length essay in a clear and calm voice, letting the commonsense of her ideas to penetrate as the reader listens. I love how she circles back to her opening story of being called a feminist as a young woman . . ."

**A Reader from Forestdale** read *Dogs' Letters to Santa* by Bill Adler: "Cute and funny for the person who loves the antics of dogs."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *A Purrfect Gift* by Jae: "Delightful and humorous, this sapphic romance novelette is as warm a plate of fresh baked Holiday cookies. Bonuses for a cute cat and cooking together."

**A Reader from Medford** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "A sweet and poignant book about how a family lovingly supports an old man as he begins to experience the mental decline associated with dementia."

**A Reader from Harwich** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Foster is quintessentially Irish: melancholy, heartbreaking, and entirely beautiful."

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Death of Ivan Illych* by Leo Tolstoy: "Maybe it was just me, but I wasn't thrilled with the book. Possibly the translation is what made it tough for me."

**A Reader from East Bridgewater** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: “What a perfect book for the January challenge and to read on MLK Jr. Day, no less. I couldn’t firmly decide which character was which race (the point, really). I imagine this would be a really great book to analyze in an English class or as a book club.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Native American Wisdom* by Kristen Maree Cleary: “I enjoyed reading quotes from Native people who were both known to me and some unknown. It made me think about how imperative preservation is in every sense.”

**A Reader from Lynnfield** read *Letters to a Young Poet* by Rainer Maria Rilke: “Rilke is one of my favorite poets, and this slim book has been on my TBR for a long time. I also love being reminded of the lyrical qualities that long-form letter-writing can take (as opposed to emails).”

**A Reader from East Falmouth** read *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros: “Esperanza Cordero is an observant thinker growing up in the Hispanic quarter of Chicago. Mango Street is her current home, filled with colorful neighbors. I was touched by the richness of her character as she exhibits resiliency and hope . . .”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck: “In many ways this was one of the saddest books I have ever read, but it was much more than that. It was a moving examination of the human condition and the dreams and companions that make it bearable.”

**A Reader from Essex** read *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor: “I thought this was a well written story of a young woman far from home who encounters an unexpected and deadly challenge.”

**A Reader from Marshfield** read *And Yet: Poems* by Kate Baer: “Good study and reflections on being a mother in USA.”

**A Reader from Bolton** read *The Cook* by Maylis de Kerangal: “100 pages is quick! It was actually hard at first to find one. This was the first one I picked up in the fiction section, it sounded interesting. Good writing, nice story. When it’s so short you choose your words wisely.”

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *Simple Passion* by Annie Ernaux: “I loved how the narrator captured grieving the end of a romantic relationship from such a visceral place. But since this was an affair that took place during the late 1980s and early 1990s, it was hard to sympathize with how long the grieving lasted . . .”

**A Reader from Franklin** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “I think the essay is very powerful. It gives us a good definition of feminism for today’s world. It made me consider feminism beyond my own American lens as well.”

**A Reader from Plainville** read *And Every Morning the Way Home gets longer and longer* by Fredrik Backman: “Book about a family saying goodbye due to illness and dementia.”

**A Reader from Reading** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “I think that it’s a nice introduction into gender studies. Particularly because it comes from a woman of color so it does touch on intersectional feminism.”

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *Bonsai* by Alejandro Zambra: “This book was written with a unique and interesting voice, commenting on the characters and their choices throughout their relationships and lives. I loved how evocative the imagery of the bonsai was . . .”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Broke back Mountain* by Annie Proulx: “I really enjoyed the book even though it was sad. The two men couldn’t live their lives the way they wished.”

**A Reader from HAMPDEN** read *Evidence of the Affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: “Enjoyed the storyline told only through letters. Taylor Jenkins Reid writes beautifully and may be becoming one of my favorite authors!”

**A Reader from Hanson** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “I attended an all women’s college and left with a bad taste about what the word feminist stood for. This book was a refreshing insight to another way of viewing the word feminism very enjoyable story.”

**A Reader from Lunenburg** read *Cicada* by Shaun Tan: “A beautiful YA graphic novel with stunning (and stirring) illustrations and a message that resonates deep in just 32 pages.”

**A Reader from Winthrop** read *Marigold and Rose: A Fiction* by Louise Gluck: “It was delightful! I loved the unique perspective and reflective quality.”

**A Reader from SCITUATE** read *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy: “‘Life is difficult but you are loved.’ Our world needs more kindness and this book beautifully explores human emotions. Fabulous!”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *NIGHT* by Elie Wiesel: “NIGHT by Elie Wiesel describes the growing mood sense of the book. Dark images becoming the norm, humanity struggling to make sense of their plight, and how quickly humanity gives up Hope as it is crushed with one atrocity after another. It is definite.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupery: “The book contains deceptively simple wisdom about relationships give life meaning.”

**A Reader from Reading** read *THE LOST WORDS* by Robert Macfarlane: “Recently the Oxford Junior Dictionary dropped about forty common words used in nature. THE LOST WORDS takes twenty of the dropped words (acorn through wren) and creates an acrostic celebrating each.”

**A Reader from Cohasset** read *The Old Man And The Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: “This classic story of Man vs. Nature details how the Old Man battled the giant fish, and other predators, in bringing his great catch to shore. I thought this was a sad tale of a poor, unlucky fisherman who singlehandedly braved the cold, dark, hunger . . .”

**A Reader from Erving** read *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson: “It was interesting to read an early version of community lotteries that have been represented in more contemporary tales like the Hunger Games.”

**A Reader from Hamilton** read *The old man and the sea* by Ernest Hemingway: “Glad I finally read this one, what a powerful little book.”



**A Reader from Salem** read *Great Stone Face* by Hawthorne: "I grabbed this book because I liked the old fashioned marble binding. It was a great collection of short stories taking place in the area around the White Mountains of New England. The stories had a fable quality to them . . ."

**A Reader from SCITUATE** read *Seasons at Eagle Pond* by Donald Hall: "An exquisitely lyrical study of the 4 seasons, decades ago, at the rural New Hampshire home of U. S. Poet Laureate Donald Hall. From the tiniest details, he expands our understanding of nature and life."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *The Sorrows of Young Werther* by Goethe: "Honestly it was a slog. Chose it as it was the only book I could find on my shelves under 100 pages and I knew I wouldn't have time to go get something else. Some fun turns of phrase here and there but overall an antiquated sense of personal identity . . ."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "I guess it depends on the version of the book that you read, but this felt like it was under 100 pages. :-) It is a sweet little book about what it means to be family and to be taken care of and cherished, from a little girl's point of view."

**A Reader from Franklin** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "I connected with the book as a mother wanting to do anything for her children and enjoying the simple pleasures of life with them."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *Love Poems for Anxious People* by John Kenney: "It was so funny, I kept sharing lines with a friend. It was like Dad jokes that need a Xanax."

**A Reader from Brookline** read *Final Poems* by Rabindranath Tagore: "This was such an incisive and insightful collection, reflecting on life, illness, and passing on in simple soulful verse. Glad to have found a new poet!"

**A Reader from Lowell** read *A Day in the Life of a Baby Bear* by Peter and Susan Barrett: "This cute children's book about bears features beautiful drawings. The story goes beyond "a day" and "a baby bear" and covers the first year in the life of two bear cub siblings as they learn, grow, and face certain dangers."

**A Reader from Boston** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "It was a very heartwarming story; although the language was simple and the story was short, it contained valuable life lessons applicable for anyone!"

**A Reader from Centerville** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "A bittersweet novella depicting the beauty right before the sunset of life. I am a huge fan of Fredrik Backman and waited too long to read this one. Thank you MASS BOOK for making this happen."

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Strange Bird* by Jeff VanderMeer: "A beautiful, weird, and empathetic story. Even the least recognizably human characters felt real."

**A Reader from North Reading** read *The Little Mermaid* by Walt Disney: "This book was better than the other ones in the Disney classic series, more close to the actual movie. That being said, however, the story still wasn't perfect and needed a couple more explanatory sentences here and there . . ."

**A Reader from Framingham** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "We should absolutely all be feminists! Regardless of where you fall on the gender spectrum, you can and should be a feminist."

**A Reader from Cambridge** read *Is it a man or a violin?* by Plato, Marina: “Cycladic sculpture and it’s relation to Modern Art. A great read especially if you are traveling to Greece!”

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “On the one hand, this was a concise introduction to discourse around gender roles. However, the author had some heteronormative and trans exclusionary views that were uncomfortable to read and made me think less of the book overall.”

**A Reader from Paxton** read *The little prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: “It was fun, I’m sure I would have loved it as a child and it would have had me thinking about it a lot back then. I will probably read it again aloud to my children.”

**A Reader from Brewster** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “A classic yet haunting tale. One of the few books I read in high school that I still go back to every so often.”

**A Reader from Carver** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Backman: “Very sweet, quick read about what it is like to be alongside someone experiencing dementia/Alzheimer’s.”

**A Reader from Lincoln** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: “I read the book a few times years ago and thought I'd like to reread it for January. I was surprised that all the characters the prince meets are male and the humans are white . . .”

**A Reader from Wilbraham** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Wonderful easy read filled with engaging antidotes on the double standards between how men and women are treated. Never be afraid to say you are a feminist.”

**A Reader from Braintree** read *The Yellow Wall-Paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Creative writing which depicts the declining mental health of a woman suffering from mental illness through the description of what she sees in the tacky wallpaper of her room.”

**A Reader from Hudson** read *The Gift of the Magi* by O Henry: “This is a perennial favorite. The unselfishness of love is the heart of this book. One gives his/her most prized possession to secure a well-thought out gift for the other only to find out that the best gift is love.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan: “Poignant look into the history of the Magdalen Libraries, relieved by the good will actions of one person.”

**A Reader from Oakham** read *My Private Property* by Mary Ruefle: “OK, it's actually 103 pages, but I bought after reading Ruefle's essay "Pause" online <https://awomensthing.org/blog/pause-mary-ruefle-essay-menopause/>. Glad I decided to read the rest. Short essays, bordering on poetry, full of hidden meaning.”

**A Reader from Melbourne** read *Burt Dow, Deep-water Man* by Robert McCloskey: “Fun childrens' book that can even tickle an adult. My partner and I are still chuckling about Tidely-Idely's "tender spots" and paint colors. Read it out loud to another adult and see if you can't get a chuckle, too!”

**A Reader from Marlborough** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “A sharp, effective essay about gender; the common misconceptions about what feminism is/isn't, who it includes/excludes, and why it is to our collective benefit that we should ALL be feminists. Will recommend and re-read for many years to come.”



**A Reader from Belchertown** read *NIGHT* by Elie Wiesel: “Slowly the reader is plunged into a Hell never conceived or thought about. The book shares the author's views of how humans are turned into animals to exist. Not a light read but the 108 pages are a lesson to always give voice.”

**A Reader from North Hampton** read *The Universe in You: A Microscopic Journey* by Jason Chin: “A beautifully illustrated picture book on living matter in our world.”

**A Reader from Bolton** read *The Lorax* by Dr Seuss: “Fun to re read with my son.”

**A Reader from Boston** read *Angelina Ballerina Loves the Library* by Katharine Holabird, Helen Craig: “I bought this book for a friend's daughter and read it aloud several times with her. She and I both enjoyed it and it helped us start a conversation about visiting the library.”

**A Reader from East Bridgewater** read *The Yellow Wallpaper and Other Stories* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “I particularly enjoyed *The Yellow Wallpaper* and *Cottagette*.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Mandarins Daughter* by Geranne Leonard: “This is a simple children’s tale but was enjoyable and relaxing!”

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu: “This book had a lot of wisdom for personal or business interactions told through the context of a Chinese war expert from approx. 500 BC. Parts of it were a bit dense and difficult to consider applying to non-war situations . . .”

**A Reader from Methuen** read *The English Roses* by Madonna: “A very cute book with a lovely art style and a well executed message for children. I loved this book when I was younger, and rereading it was a very nostalgic experience.”

**A Reader from Wilbraham** read *Cats of the Pacific Northwest* by J.W. Donley: “Short, sweet, and punchy. A great bite of horror to sate a quick craving.”

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Overall, this was a good, quick read. I think it would be suited for someone dipping their toes into learning about feminism and not a more advanced learner.”

**A Reader from Dracut** read *War Game* by Michael Foreman: “My husband was so excited to buy this book and remembered it from his childhood. I found it interesting that they included historical facts and documents intertwined with the story and book illustrations that supported each part of the story.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: “I enjoyed the book. It was an allegory about reading, safety and security. His writing is excellent.”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: “Kind of a slog. It took a long time to get used to the writing style and I just couldn't get into the story as a result.”

**A Reader from Hanson** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: “Had wanted to read this classic. Sad commentary about the human condition.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Hope the Happiness Fairy* by Daisy Meadows: “I really liked how the book was very descriptive when talking about the Golden Palace and the activities that surrounded it. My

favorite part was when Kristy, Rachel, and Hope found the goblins shearing the bush into the shape of Jack Frost.”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrik Backman: “Every Fredrik Backman book touches me. I feel more for each of his characters than I do for any other author's character. I care about them; I love them. I cannot bring myself to read his book Beartown and its sequel because I fear I will be overwhelmed . . .”

**A Reader from Chester** read *The Mitford Snowmen* by Jan Karon: “It was cute, but clearly not meant to be read by some one that has not read other books in the series.”

**A Reader from TALLAHASSEE** read *Passing* by Nella Larsen: “This is a short, quiet, but gripping novella about the disturbing impact of racism. Set in the 1920's, two light skinned black women, both married, with children, become friends. Both live in an affluent setting because they can “pass.” Unexpected plot.”

**A Reader from North Attleboro** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: “It was a thought-provoking read, which I will return to in an attempt to re-interpret its meaning. I enjoyed the fact that I might not have fully understood it in a first read-through and it will probably take on deeper meanings the more I return to it.”

**A Reader from Braintree** read *The Cook* by Maylis de Kerangal: “The book was a little boring but I got through it fast because it was only 100 pages.”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Who was Marie Curie* by Megan Stine: “The book I chose was *Who Was Marie Curie*, I chose this book because I knew nothing about her and i love Science and learning. I liked this book because I got to learn about science and the Nobel prize.”

**A Reader from Uxbridge** read *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran: “A classic book of inspirational essays that I have never read and now wish I had read much earlier in my life. Life, good or bad, we should be happy to have the experience. And the illustrations were beautiful.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “An extremely quick, heartbreaking read, with simple, yet lyrical prose. Anyone who has had a loved one struggle with dementia will find that this novella is a swift punch to the gut.”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: “I enjoyed this book - it was interesting in the way to two girls interacted with various situations, and how time jumped forward at certain points during the story.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Boy, The Mole, The Horse and The Fox* by Charlie Mackesy: “The message of this book is a balm on the heart in the midst of the distress of the world today.”

**A Reader from Lynnfield** read “*Esio Trot*” by Roald Dahl: “A sweet romantic story, even if the romance is built on dishonesty, but it has a happy ending for everyone.”

**A Reader from Southborough** read *The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas* by Ursula K. Le Guin: “A story based on the question - does the benefit of many outweigh the suffering of few? Has always been intriguing and I love the approach taken here. I was moved is all I can say.”

**A Reader from S. Hamilton** read *Incarceration: Punishment or Rehabilitation?* by Erin L. McCoy: “This was a great book that looked at the intersections of the criminal justice system in the US along with race, socioeconomic status, age, and several other identifying demographics.”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *Witches, Witch-Hunting, and Women* by Silvia Federici: “A historical look at which hunting through the modern era. The book explores the surge in violence against women and how historically individuals who wanted to subvert women used the label of witch.”

**A Reader from Methuen** read *The Bookstore Sisters* by Alice Hoffman: “A quick page turner about the stories we create for ourselves and how a family’s bookstore ultimately reunites two sisters with a tragic past.”

**A Reader from Waltham** read *The Grownup* by Gillian Flynn: “Gillian Flynn does not disappoint. Although I was a little thrown off by the beginning of the book, I was hooked until the end.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: “I enjoyed spending time with the old man. Hemingway’s language style was easier to read than I anticipated! Very good story about what accomplishing goals on your own.”

**A Reader from North Grafton** read *Cold Enough for Snow* by Jennifer Au: “It was beautifully written and evocative. A bit challenging to read because of uncertainty surrounding narrator, but I think that it questions how much human beings are able to really know each other.”

**A Reader from North Reading** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “It wasn’t my favorite book. For under 100 pages I struggled to get through it.”

**A Reader from Providence** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “This book had been sitting on my desk for an entire semester before I read it for this challenge -I cannot believe I waited so long to read such a gem! Adichie gave a TEDx Talk called "The Power of A Single Story" prior to this book being published . . .”

**A Reader from Whately** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: “I recalled hearing Gorman read this poem at Biden's inauguration. Reading it again reminded me how playful she is with words, inverting and twisting things to make you think and pay attention. It was so of the moment, yet I think it will resonate in 10 or so years . . .”

**A Reader from Cambridge** read *Please like me (but keep away)* by Mindy Kaling: “This book (really more of a long essay) was a witty examination and retelling of Mindy Kaling’s social anxiety. It perfectly and relatably describes the assumptions and judgements that all of us make about other people in social situations . . .”

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “I read the story and thought about my own experience with post partum depression. I am grateful that treatment has come a long way.”

**A Reader from Millers Falls** read *A Hermit for the Masses* by Sophie Olson: “This book provides a fascinating detail of John Smith, the hermit of Erving, who lived in a cave by the town in the late nineteenth century. From reading it I got a sense of who he was and what he did, and what it meant to be a Hermit at that time . . .”

**A Reader from South Deerfield** read *Space Invaders* by Nona Fernandez: "I really enjoyed the poetic, dreamlike prose that evoked scenes from childhood under the Pinochet regime."

**A Reader from Millers Falls** read *A Hermit for the Masses* by Sophie Olson: "The discussion of the economics of being a hermit in the 19th century, in two countries, is fascinating, and, while I knew about the local hermit's cave, I had no idea who the hermit actually was. Great to get some history filled in."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Night* by Elie Weisel: "I really liked the Book Night by Elie Weisel. The book told a very hard to hear story in an easy way to understand."

**A Reader from OREM** read *Homespun and Angel Feathers* by Darlene Young: "Gorgeous little book of poetry--by a woman of my same faith--that captures a lot of my experience, especially of being a mother."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Night* by Elie Weisel: "I really enjoyed gaining more knowledge on the holocaust."

**A Reader from SOUTH YARMOUTH** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "I loved the humor and the insight into what was going on personally and politically in both countries. Brought back lovely memories of writing to foreign pen pals through the 60's and 70's!"

**A Reader from northampton** read *the importance of being earnest* by oscar wilde: "this is an enjoyable romp exploring the role that pretense plays in our relations with others. it's always fun to see society's airs mocked."

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Yellow Wallpaper and Other Stories* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "The Yellow Wallpaper is just as chilling on reread as it was when I was in High School. Horror is definitely at its best in short story format and this short story is no exception."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "It's amazing how the author was able to pack such a strong message and complete story into 90 pages. It's been a while since I picked up a John Steinbeck book, and it reminded me how much I appreciated the other books of his I read years ago."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas* by Ursula LeGuin: "It was a little depressing, but also thought provoking. Does walking away accomplish anything?"

**A Reader from Franklin** read *The Hangman* by Louise Penny: "It clarified some references in other books in the series."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Love and Freindship (yes, that is the spelling)* by Jane Austen: "Appalling in the best way- ladies swooning, running mad, defying paternal wishes...It's almost Monty Pythonesque. You'd swear Jane Austen was parodying her "real" books but this one was written before them! For Austen fans only, or at least mainly."

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "Such a wonderful reminder of the inauguration day. Also, reminds me how powerful my generation is and all the change we can and will make."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan: "Sweet yet powerful story about a coal merchant in 1980s Ireland who's raising his five daughters, all while the sinister nature of a local Magdalene laundry slowly reveals itself to him."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *Be A Triangle* by Lilly Singh: "Took me over an hour to find a book that was less than 100 pages at the library that interested me! lol Book was written by a young millennial and was a very casual read."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran: "This book contains the author's interesting observations and musings about topics such as love, friendship, children, giving, time, good and evil, religion and death."

**A Reader from Providence** read *Aarvy Aardvark Finds Hope* by Donna O'Toole: "A very good book for anyone dealing with loss, no matter their age. Definitely cathartic without being preachy."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "It was a good book. I'm not going to leave much more of a review for that until Harper Collins gives the HC Union a fair contract though. Sorry!"

**A Reader from North Dighton** read *The Prince* by Niccolò Machiavelli: "I thought this book was really interesting especially after learning about Machiavelli in school. I loved learning more about his philosophy and reading more from that time period."

**A Reader from Centerville** read *A Short Guide to a Happy Life* by Anna Quindlen: "A bit cliché yes and not as robust and profound as Thich Nhat Hanh's books and lectures but I'll admit Quindlen's simple ruminations on living a fuller, richer, happier life is much more accessible to the everyday person."

**A Reader from Borne** read *And Yet* by Kate Baer: "Thought-provoking short poems about everyday life."

**A Reader from Essex** read *A Room of One's Own* by Virginia Woolf: "Written in 1929 and women still struggle. We have come a far way but only have to look at unequal salaries etc to see we have a long way to go."

**A Reader from North Hampton** read *Breakfast at Tiffany's* by Truman Capote: "Enjoyable, short read following the shenanigans of wanna-be socialite Holly Golightly narrated by her neighbor, "Fred" in New York City."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *A Trip to the Stars* by Nicholas Christopher: "This novel is gripping from the beginning. By the end, it feels a bit too perfect."

**A Reader from Fall River** read *The Book of Form and Emptiness* by Ruth Ozeki: "I chose this book because I knew Ruth Ozeki (then Ruth Lounsbury) when I was in college. I really, really wanted to like this book, and I did like certain parts of it. But it was much too long . . ."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Fairy's Mistake* by Gail Carson Levine: "Charming retelling of a classic fairy tale. Fun way to start off the year!"

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Though this would not be a book I would pick out on my own, I did end up enjoying the characters and the scenery quite a bit at introduction. It seemed to be a beautiful beach/sea town in Mexico and the man seemed to really love his family . . ."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: "This Victorian gothic horror tale has been on my tbr for a long time, and I was excited to finally sit down and read it. Though I found it really difficult to engage with the writing, I appreciated the story's exploration of good and evil, morality, human."

**A Reader from Hanson** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "I thought it is a very interesting little book. I can't believe I waited so long to read it. It's been on my shelf for years."

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Family Under the Bridge* by Natalie Savage Carlson: "Heartwarming story about family, caring about others and what's most important."

**A Reader from Sutton** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "This is a lovely, quick read that reminds us to see with our hearts and not just our eyes."

**A Reader from Wilbraham** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "This is a very disturbing story about a woman confined to a home in order to recover from what is apparently post-partum depression. Her restricted activities result in a descent into severe mental illness. She becomes obsessed with the wallpaper . . ."

**A Reader from Brockton** read *A Child's Christmas in Wales* by Dylan Thomas: "This book reminds me of the jumble of childhood Christmas memories that come back to me every year. The food, the music, the older relatives, all the nostalgia."

**A Reader from Leominster** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "As a woman and the mother of a daughter, I connected to the message about there being contemporary issues with gender and that we as a global society must do better."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *We should all be feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Feminism with examples of the author's personal life. This author has a brilliant way with words."

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Neighbour Rosicky* by Willa Cather: "I enjoyed the short read. The main character Mr. Rosicky reminds me of the fact that true success is the pursuing of happiness."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros: "Hardscrabble existence through an adolescent girl's perspective told in a poignant, lyrical voice -- poetic, at times. I found her story new and interesting, recounted in concise descriptions of her life in the family and neighborhood . . ."

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu: "I've been meaning to read this for a long time. When you look at the sayings the metaphors to real life become clear, and I think you can learn a lot, especially as a manager."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "Intriguing short story, reminded me of modern internet creepypastas."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "I hadn't read this book since high school. It's such an interesting take on power and how it can change people. Literally by the end the animals and the humans look the same, the animals are changed by power and the desire to rewrite history . . ."



**A Reader from Springfield** read *38 Minutes* by various: "We're coming up on the 5-year anniversary of the false missile alert in Hawaii that lasted for 38 minutes on January 13, 2018. I wanted to read the playbook for this play so I could see how a variety of local writers worked through their feelings . . ."

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *Wit: A Play* by Margaret Edson: "I wasn't familiar with this book but a patron at my library returned it when I was at work yesterday and I read the entire thing in one sitting. It won a drama Pulitzer Prize so it won't be surprising to hear that it's beautifully written, compelling . . ."

**A Reader from East Bridgewater** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "What an interesting book. It's amazing to see how far women have come in society- and that this author was one of the first to recognize it."

**A Reader from Yarmouth** read *Elf's Cottage* by Paulette D Marshall: "This is a series of books I have been ready. This book had a good story, however the writing left little to be desired in this book. Very repetitive."

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *Very Good Lives* by J.K. Rowling: "Well crafted and inspiring."

**A Reader from Yarmouth Port** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "Took me a while to get into it . . . and then it ended when I wanted more!"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "It was intriguing, and I appreciated reading the Afterword as well to learn more of her thoughts and process. I did not learn the Greek myths in school, and enjoy learning through Ms. Miller's lens."

**A Reader from Southborough** read *Becoming the Dark Prince* by Kerri Maniscalco: "I loved the series this novella is based in! The story flows well and the character's relationship is so lovely. It's great to see a female in a male dominated environment like most occupations in the 1800's."

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "I read it in one sitting! The correspondence is real and made me wish for a historical fiction novel that fleshed out the characters."

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery: "Beautifully written and wonderful for children or adults."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *We should all be feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "A great overview of feminism."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Time Machine* by H.G Wells: "What incredible futures to imagine! I have always enjoyed the movie and it was great to read this story."

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "This was my first time reading *The Little Prince* and I absolutely fell in love with the little prince and his thoughtfulness and humor. I didn't want to put the book down."

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *Letters to a Young Poet* by Rainer Maria Rilke: "I went into this book cold, knowing nothing about Rilke nor Kappus. I think you need some background before fully appreciating the book. Perhaps it would have meant more to me as a struggling young adult . . ."

**A Reader from Lowell** read "you don't have to suffer" by Medece P. Cione: "Material wasn't really for me but glad to support a local writer."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Down the Rabbit Hole* by Juan Pablo Villalobos: “A child's perspective of some chilling and difficult events. I liked it!”

**A Reader from Scituate** read *Under the Moonlight* by Ashley Nemer: “Adult version of little mermaid with an unsatisfying ending.”

**A Reader from Northfield** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: “An inspiring book. The old man had perseverance and compassion for the fish. Some of his conversations with himself were funny and helped him to continue on.”

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “A short but good look at how culture and the need for feminist advocacy intersect.”

**A Reader from Seekonk** read *Every Day the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “I enjoyed the interactions between the grandfather, Ted and Noah. It provided insight into how each saw and dealt with the loss of the grandfather's memories.”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *Mr Salary* by Sally Rooney: “Very quick read but the author was able to get a lot of information in 33 pages.”

**A Reader from Easthampton** read *Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: “It was fun to read the original of this well known horror story.”

**A Reader from Swansea** read *My Seneca village* by Marilyn Nelson: “Wonderful collection of poetry. Eye opening and certainly heart wrenching when thinking of the village that was destroyed.”

**A Reader from Quincy** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: “I had always heard about this classic, famous, witty book. It was full of funny lines, but I did not enjoy it as much as I thought I would, based on the hype.”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: “I was disappointed with the ending of the book and I felt that the story wasn't really resolved.”

**A Reader from Arlington** read *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: “A classic thriller that has stood the test of time. I'm glad I finally read it!”

**A Reader from Reading** read *Very Good Lives* by J.K. Rowling: “Despite my reservations about the author, this speech was very uplifting and inspiring to me personally since I am going through a period of transition. It's a nice quick pick me up when you need some words of encouragement.”

**A Reader from Burlington** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: “The story was at the same time both absorbing and bizarre. The surrealist nature of both the story and the composition of the book left me feeling uneasy, just as I think I was supposed to!”

**A Reader from WORCESTER** read *THE PEARL* by JOHN STEINBECK: “It made me think about the down side of what we think great wealth will bring us. This may be applicable to people who win huge amounts of money in lottery drawings.”

**A Reader from Pepperell** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “It's a sad story about a very loving relationship between a grandfather and a grandson and how they approach the grandfather's dementia.”

**A Reader from Ipswich** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer : a novella* by Fredrik Backman: "This book was well written but very very sad. It hit too close to home since I too had to recently deal with a parent losing their memory and having to say goodbye."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The legend of sleepy hollow* by Washington Irving: "I really liked it. I've seen the movie, but the book is very different."

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *Tithing in Under a Hundred Pages:Are Believers Really Required to Tithe Today?* by Nate Foy: "This book was educational but short and to the point. Answers many questions I had about tithing in the church and if it was necessary or not."

**A Reader from Hampden** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrik Backman: "I really enjoyed this book. It was a very touching story about a father, his son, and grandson. It was about the aging process and how it affects family."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Galatea: A Short Story* by Madeline Miller: "Short but to the point. I like how Galatea got her revenge."

**A Reader from Kingston** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche: "Chimamanda does a beautiful job unpacking her understanding of feminism and her journey of self-identifying as a feminist. I appreciated her personal examples and encouragement for all people to consider what they have learned about gender . . ."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *Movie star* by Jessica Simpson: "Glad it was such a short read. Strange tale of her relationship with the unnamed Movie Star. Sorry i wasted my free Prime ebook on it, but did get my book read for January. May do a different one too."

**A Reader from Hanson** read *Larger than life* by Jodi Picoult: "I enjoyed reading about the complicated (and amazing) life elephants! I wish it was longer."

**A Reader from Yarmouth Port** read *Sammy Spat and the Big Rescue* by Kahren Dowcett: "Cute exploration of the lifecycle of an oyster."

**A Reader from Malden** read *The Factory Witches of Lowell* by CS Malerich: "I like the idea of the looms being linked to their operators and having the ability to use them to their advantage."

**A Reader from Boston** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: "It was a strange book, and I am not sure if I can say I liked it or could recommend it. I felt a bit detached but the strange situation kept me reading. The images scattered through the story were a good touch."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "I thought this book was very interesting, and how it relates to events in the world is very fascinating."

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *Bartleby the Scrivener* by Herman Melville: "This can best be described as a 19th century office drama page turner. It was unexpectedly hilarious. Anyone who manages people in their job will be able to relate to something experienced by the narrator in this story."

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *The Most Precious of Cargoes* by Jean-Claude Grumberg: "Although a fable, the book told a story of the heart and love."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Art of War* by Sun Tzu: “Unapplicable to my life but nice quick read to jumpstart my year of reading.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *A Dolls House* by Frank McGuinness: “It made me very aware of how women are made to feel like children by their husbands.”

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *Daisy Miller* by Henry James: “I hadn't read any Henry James before. Not sure I will again.”

**A Reader from Leverett** read *Mathnet Casebook #5: The Case of the Mystery Weekend* by David D. Connell & Jim Thurman: “Light comedy/mystery for children. It's supposed to promote mathematical thinking, but there isn't actually a lot of math.”

**A Reader from Basking Ridge** read *The Future of Work: Compulsory* by Martha Wells: “Good start to the awesome Murderbot Series”

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “This novella was touching and sad. A bit hard to keep up with - but I think that was intentional. Quick read.”

**A Reader from Bolton** read *An Allagash Haunting: The Story of Emile Camille* by Tim Caverly: “More of a children's book, and not terribly engaging.”

**A Reader from Northborough** read *Al Ghazali* by Demi: “I loved the illustrations and think the book very summarizes the life of Al Ghazali.”

**A Reader from Turners Falls** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “Great to reread this novel, as it had been so many years since I initially read it. Interesting take on society, revolution, betrayal, power abuse, so much to think about.”

**A Reader from Quincy** read *Mesmerizingly Sadly Beautiful* by Matthew Lippman: “This book truly was beautiful. While the subject matter was not always beautiful, Lippman had a beautiful way of talking about current events.”

**A Reader from SWANSEA** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “I found it fascinating that the pigs ended up taking the place of humans and created the same (or worse?) hierarchy that they set to abolish in the rebellion.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *There's no such place as far away* by Richard Bach: “This book is short and sweet but has profound meaning. It is also philosophical and talks about one's spiritual journey.”

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *The Great Cake Mystery* by Alexander McCall Smith: “I enjoyed the book and thought it was a great introduction to the mystery genre for kids. I liked that the book stressed the importance of not assuming something and gathering evidence instead.”

**A Reader from Cambridge** read *Dear Ijeawele, or A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “This book was part of the summer reading in past years at the school where I used to be a teacher, and I appreciated it for its accessibility. The suggestions will likely come across as simplistic if you read and think about feminism . . .”

**A Reader from Portland** read *I'll love you til the cows come home* by Kathryn Cristaldi and Kristyna Litten: "I loved sharing this book — recommended by dear friends— to my two month old son. Right now he really enjoys rhymes."

**A Reader from Somerset** read *Larger Than Life* by Jodi Picoult: "Jodi Picoult never disappoints and this book captured two areas of interest (psychology & elephants)."

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Who was Susan B. Anthony?* by Meg Belviso and Pam Pollack: "I knew most of the facts about this book, but it was interesting to hear about it more in-depth. I was particularly interested in the fact that Fredrick Douglas was a supporter in women's' rights. I though that that was nice."

**A Reader from Seekonk** read *Very Good Lives* by J. K. Rowling: "I enjoyed the first point about handling failure. The second point named "imagination" was more about advocacy and I was distracted by it."

**A Reader from Norton** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Having read this in high school many years ago and not remembering it making an impression, I decided now would be a good time to give it a second chance. I am so glad I did!"

**A Reader from Lunenburg** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "I liked his writing style. The Pearl represents the dreams & opportunities for Kino's family. The Pearl represents the greed and jealousy of people. The Pearl represents the devastation that it brought to Kino's family . . ."

**A Reader from Oxford** read *Finding Cinderella* by Colleen Hoover: "Absolutely loved it. Couldn't put this novella down, but that's a given with any Colleen Hoover Book for me."

**A Reader from Chelmsford** read *Bless the Daughter Raised by a Voice in Her Head: Poems* by Warsan Shire: "This was a haunting, devastating, and gorgeous collection."

**A Reader from Westborough** read *Muse of Fire* by Dan Simmons: "Intriguing picture of the future, in which a Shakespearean troupe travels from planet to planet performing. Inspiring me to read more Shakespeare!"

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Luscious Love* by Zach Sweets: "Steamy story, nice character descriptions. Not alot of surprise in the story but the conversation behind the conversation was interesting."

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Peach* by Emma Glasd: "The book was unique, but I was not a fan of it."

**A Reader from Bourne** read *The Hangman* by Louise Penny: "I liked it. I hadn't been aware that it was an Gamache book until I searched books under 100 pages."

**A Reader from North Falmouth** read *Assume the Worst: the Graduation Speech You'll Never Hear* by Carl Hiassen: "Carl Hiassen, with illustrations by Roxy Chast, have told it like it really is! No fluff. Nothing fancy. Just a dose of reality that most graduates don't want to hear, but need to in order to not come apart at the seams when they enter the 'real world.'"

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: "Interesting, but sad tale of a poor family at the turn of the century in northern New England."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *You're not a kid anymore...* by Jeff Foxworthy: "It was a humorous look at getting older."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad: "This book was difficult to read both because of the contents and the writing style. I do not understand why it is thought of as a great book."

**A Reader from Sunderland** read *The Family Under the Bridge* by Natalie Savage Carlson: "My mom bought this book at a used book shop for me because I am a French teacher and it is set in Paris. Though not perfect, I thought the book's portrayal of France's Roma people was surprisingly positive for a book written in the 50s . . ."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Wandering* by Herman Hesse: "I found this book to be a lovely mediation on the human experience. The mix of prose, poetry, and drawings made you feel how immense and beautiful Hesse's view of the world is."

**A Reader from Dracut** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrick Backman: "This book was sad but in a beautiful way. A good look into the world of a decaying mind."

**A Reader from FRANKLIN** read *(Don't) Call Me Crazy* by Kelly Jensen: "Short stories in which some were relatable."

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Beautiful and heartbreaking work about memory loss. Fredrik Backman has such a unique way with words that has me reading and rereading sentences."

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "This book/poem was very powerful and did an excellent job at portraying how this would have been spoken and the emotion that was behind it."

**A Reader from Yarmouth** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Powerful, tragic yet uplifting at end. Clear presentation of man's facing moral decisions, cultural values, traditions, etc."

**A Reader from Yarmouth** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Powerful, tragic yet uplifting at end. Presents clear moral dilemmas. Compassionate description of cultural mores."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Glass Menagerie Script* by Tennessee Williams: "I enjoyed the character development, especially the mother daughter dynamic between Amanda and Laura. However, I thought the plot was a little slow moving, though I think that might have been the point."

**A Reader from Andover** read *Teaching Men of Color in the Community College: A Guidebook* by J. Luke Wood, PhD/Frank Harris III, EdD/Khalil White, EdD: "I loved that this guidebook clearly explained some of the challenges faced by men of color in higher education and examples of ways faculty members can help address these challenges. It provided some basic tips on how to engage in authentic ways with students . . ."

**A Reader from Merrimack** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Frederik Backman: "Short but great! I will be thinking about it for a bit."

**A Reader from Hudson** read *And Every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrick Backman: "A story about an aging man and his relationship with his grandson. Expressing regrets and struggles with his memories. I found it emotional and mirroring my own father's struggles with dementia."



**A Reader from Greenfield** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: "Having read the book many years ago it was interesting to read it again."

**A Reader from Stanford** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "I found the book a challenge to get through. The animal characters were difficult to keep track of. All the details in this satire have some political significance."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *The Prophet* by Khalil Gibran: "I really enjoyed the style of the book and the wisdom of the main character gave me a lot to think about. Even though it is not many pages, I've been going back to it over the last few days to re-read certain passages."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "A multi-faceted novella. The writing connects the reader deeply with the narrator, pulling you into her madness and its causes."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *The Twits* by Roald Dahl: "I enjoyed Charlie and the Chocolate Factory years ago. This book was listed as children Humor. Basically a terrible old couple enjoys playing nasty tricks on each other and tormenting their caged monkeys by making them stand on their heads all day . . ."

**A Reader from Southampton** read *Larger than Life* by Jodi Picoult: "Nice story about the depth of a parent's love."

**A Reader from Hudson** read *Tails with Gig* by Katherine L. Babson, Jr.: "Written from the perspective of a black lab puppy, this book is based on the Facebook Dog Blog @Katherine Babson. The book is fully illustrated by Katherine Macdonald. Dog owners can certainly relate to Pippi's (often destructive) adventures."

**A Reader from South Hamilton** read *Seedfolks* by Paul Fleischman: "Great story about how gardens bring together a neighborhood."

**A Reader from Hampden** read *One Mitten* by Kristine O'Connell George: "A very nice little story with great illustrations. the ending has to do with friendship."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "Fascinating look at the book world through the 20 year correspondence between a bookseller and an author."

**A Reader from Hampden** read *Winter* by Charlotte Lyons: "The craft ideas are very interesting and the recipes sound delicious. Mary Engelbreit's drawings remind me of Tasha Tudor's illustrations."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *We should all be feminists* by Chimamanda Adichie: "It is a reminder that feminism is important because society is not equal in terms of gender."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Galatea* by Madeline: "I enjoyed reading it in one sitting. It seemed more like a short story than a book but that really doesn't matter. I'd like to reread it since I'm having trouble now remembering it."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Killer Fudge* by Mary Kay Andrews: "This short story was a fast paced mystery. I enjoyed the lead character Callahan Garitty so much, I had read another in the series, Fatal Fruitcake. Looking forward to reading more of this series."

**A Reader from Somerville** read *The Shawl* by Cynthia Ozick: “Profound and moving.”

**A Reader from Sutton** read *We should all be feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Great short read and insightful.”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “I haven't read this short story in years and thought it would be a great story to get back into reading. I didn't find my thoughts different than before as I thought I would since I have recently become a mother.”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *The Brass Key* by Caleb Wygal: “A sweet prequel to the author's myrtle beach series.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: “The only thing I liked about this book was the illustrations. The horror/nightmare quality of the story is just not my cup of tea.”

**A Reader from West Yarmouth** read *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan: “It was heart warming and terrifying at the same time. Makes you realize that good and evil exist in the world at the same time and are perceived differently by different people. Real, selfless love seems to be the answer.”

**A Reader from Milford** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “This could be an excellent book for a young person or someone humbly curious about feminism. I had been meaning to read it for a long time, so I welcomed this month's challenge as a reason to do it.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *At Home Only With God* by Arthur Eagle: “Great picture. Interesting essay.”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “Mythology never disappoints.”

**A Reader from Agawam** read *Daisy Dawson on the Farm* by Steve Voake: “I thought it was really interesting because Daisy was able to understand animal language.”

**A Reader from Cohasset** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “A classic and cautionary tale that I enjoyed reading for the first time in 30 years.”

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *Signal Moon* by Kate Quinn: “It was a very different kind of story from Kate Quinn and even though time travel stories aren't typically my top choice I really enjoyed this story.”

**A Reader from Rockport** read *Treaty Words* by Ameer Craft: “I thought the book was moving in its simplicity, a telling of a Canadian First Nation origin story and treaty between the earth and moon, the water and the sky, etc.”

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *A Short Guide to a Happy Life* by Anna Quindlen: “A reminder to focus on the things that are most important.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *We should all be feminists* by Chi Amanda ngonizi adiche: “The importance of speaking clearly about patriarchy and power.”

**A Reader from Seekonk** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “I thought that the author was able to evoke strong feelings from a child's point of view.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "I loved it—I love everything he writes."

**A Reader from WEYMOUTH** read *Happy Days* by Laurent Graff: "The book provides an interesting alternative outlook on life; a glimpse into a life that some may wish for during difficult times, but not really be able truly envision as a day to day reality."

**A Reader from Hubbardston** read *What the Hex* by Alexis Daria: "I loved Alexis Daria's full-length romcoms, so I was excited to find this one as a freebie on Audible. I like her realistic fiction better, but the paranormal angle was fun."

**A Reader from TURNERS FALLS** read *Learn to Watercolor* by Sarah Van Der: "This book offered some interesting watercolor techniques that I hadn't seen before."

**A Reader from FRAMINGHAM** read *RFK 1925-1968* by James A. Hudson: "Brief history of the Robert Kennedy."

**A Reader from Paxton** read *Son of Sobek* by Rick Riordan: "Enjoyable short story existing within the Percy Jackson and Kane Chronicles series!"

**A Reader from Haverhill** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "I thought this provided a nice, but simple argument for feminism. It was nothing new or revolutionary to me."

**A Reader from sandwich** read *A Pair of Silk Stockings* by Kate Chopin: "It was okay. I don't usually read short stories. I guess I wanted more character development."

**A Reader from Sharon** read *Perennial Fall* by Maggie Dietz: "The imagery of nature was pretty though predictable. Overall, very gentle and unassuming."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "This was a fun quick read. The past tense and present tense was hard to follow. Overall a decent read."

**A Reader from Conroe** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: "I liked how each act had a twist at the end but was disappointed we didn't get to hear about the marriages."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I was a little confused at times; not sure if she was hallucinating, or a ghost, etc, but not bad for the time it was done in."

**A Reader from Wenham** read *The Grownup* by Lillian Flynn: "It was kind of strange and intriguing from the first page. Good read."

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *The Hangman* by Louise Penney: "The book is worth reading for the mystery and suspense and warm, likeable characters."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Trauma and healing. Heartbreaking and hopeful."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Insightful and persuasive. The perfect length! Any longer, and Adichie would lose those who most need to read this book. It's the perfect starting point for those looking to dip their toes into feminism."

**A Reader from SANDWICH** read *Seven Kinds of People You Find in Bookshops* by Shaun Bythell: "Lighthearted, witty, and very humorous."

**A Reader from Boston** read *Mrs. Spitzer's Garden* by Edith Pattou: "As a former Kindergarten teacher, this book brought back fond memories of my years of teaching."

**A Reader from Atlanta** read *Howl and Other Poems* by Ginsberg, Allen: "Like an openly queer Walt Whitman on acid or a beatnik William Blake, Ginsberg rambles and offends and seeks enlightenment and fashions worlds out of verse. I think America may still be my favorite."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Double Cross* by Jeffery Deaver: "It was more like a short story. I didn't really connect to it."

**A Reader from Lynnfield** read *What Kind of Woman* by Kate Baer: "I loved this book! I don't usually like poetry but this was thought provoking, I wish there was more!"

**A Reader from Lynnfield** read *What Kind of Woman* by Kate Baer: "Very insightful! Great poems."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Inheritance: A Visual Poem* by Elizabeth Acevedo: "I enjoyed the visuals that made this to the top of my list for recommendations for parents and guardians of children to share with their little ones. It's a picture book that reminds me that empathy and inclusivity are here and now, and it's heartwarming."

**A Reader from Mashpee** read *Love Poems* by Emily Dickinson: "I enjoyed reading this book of poems and found it to be quite personal and from the heart."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *Light for the World to See* by Kwame Alexander: "As a mother, it broke my heart thinking about how much more worry mothers of brown and black children must experience everyday. The words on the pages along with the graphics was powerful, shocking, saddening and enlightening."

**A Reader from Bolton** read *And the Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Sweet story about aging man who is trying to hold on to his memories of his son and grandson."

**A Reader from Medford** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "Brutal and icy!"

**A Reader from Clinton** read *We should all be feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Interesting and powerful."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "I haven't read this since high school and enjoyed the re-read. It's interesting that all these years later the lessons about power and corruption still apply to today's politics and in society."

**A Reader from Kingston** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "Timely read considering the tragedy in Duxbury, MA this week and the issue of post partum psychosis."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James: "I have seen multiple versions of this book in film, and this was my first time reading it. It's was not as frightening as I expected, though a number of details now seem much clearer to me. Overall, I enjoyed the story and am glad I've now closed the loop."

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "I loved the development of the relationship between the little girl and the temporary foster parents. I am still a little confused about the ending but I think maybe I am reading too much into the "goodbye."

**A Reader from Fall River** read *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams: "I thought this book was heartwarming, and so very deep for a children's book. I loved the themes presented throughout and the way the author drew the reader into the world of the rabbit."

**A Reader from Easthampton** read *The hawk's way* by Sy Montgomery: "Beautiful and compelling! Not for the faint of heart."

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Kanye West* by Barbara Sheen: "I thought the book was informative but too easy to read."

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Babe Ruth* by Norman L. Macht: "I thought that this book was a good book to read if you know about him and his legacy."

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Who was Anne Frank?* by Ann Abramson: "In the book "Who was Anne Frank?" the book was telling me how and when Anne grew up and how she hid from the nazis. I found this book interesting in many ways. Also I learned that her father was the only one out of then to survive and published Annes diary."

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Who was Pablo Picasso* by True Kelley: "I thought that the book was very interesting and gave me insight into a great artists life."

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *Assembly* by Natasha Brown: "Beautifully written and provocative. Also complex and layered."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Ruby's Chinese New Year* by Vickie Lee: "I enjoyed reading this book with my kids, and I thought it was an interesting take on the Chinese Zodiac and which animals are included in it as I had no background knowledge about this previously."

**A Reader from Arlington** read *Outcomes over Outputs* by Josh Seiden: "I read this for work, it was the best book on this topic I've ever encountered."

**A Reader from Andover** read *Quiet Fire* by Carol Dommermuth-Costa: "This book helped me understand Emily Dickinson and her poetry better."

**A Reader from Southborough** read *Winter Recipes from the Collective* by Louise Glück: "I will allow time for these recipes to simmer, but they seem less bitter than some, and made with tried and true staples, like loss, grief, aging, etc. -- my personal favorites:)"

**A Reader from East Falmouth** read *Death in Venice* by Thomas Mann: "I didn't read the synopsis before I checked out the book and assumed from the title that it was a mystery. Surprised that it turned out to be a story of passionate unrequited love of a young man by an older man. Enjoyed and was moved by the book . . ."

**A Reader from Chatham** read *Henry Beston's Cape Cod* by Don Wilding: "I have always been fascinated by the story of Beston's Outermost House. This is the story of the man who lived/wrote the Outermost story. I remember when the house finally succumbed to the sea during the Blizzard of '78."

**A Reader from Scituate** read *Shine* by Mary Obana: “A great way to start 2023! I loved the simplicity of the writing and the acknowledgement of the farfetched nature of the subject matter.”

**A Reader from Erving** read *I am an American: The Wong Kim Ark Story* by Martha Brockenbrough, Grace Lin: “A little known story of the man who was brave enough to fight to prove he was an American.”

**A Reader from Woods Hole** read *The Famous Magician* by Cesar Aira: “A good read. I was surprised, but pleased by the ending.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “I thought the book was ok, there were times that I lost interest — and it’s a short one! The ending made sense to me but it felt abrupt.”

**A Reader from Peabody** read *Division by Zero* by Ted Chiang: “Thought provoking and confusing.”

**A Reader from Berlin** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “I enjoyed the book for it reminded me of visiting my great aunt when I was a child. It did bother me that the child was not provided with an explanation of why she was there. I am glad she was loved.”

**A Reader from Saugus** read *Missing May* by Cynthia Tuohy: “Another excellent work from one of my favorite young adult authors. She makes it clear how important memories are for all to cherish.”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *Return to Ithaca* by Barbara Newborn: “Story of recovery from an individual who experienced a stroke at the young age of 22. Staying connected to the person who has the health concern is essential for a physical therapist to be a true care provider.”

**A Reader from Reading** read *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad: “Book was somewhat disturbing in its depiction of the way the Congo was being exploited and the harsh way the natives were treated.”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London: “This is an interesting book since it was told with an third person narrator with a focus on a dog’s perspective. The book also somewhat focuses on a perspective of the Gold Rush period I had never read about.”

**A Reader from Hanover** read *Boston Freedom Trail* by Blanche Linden, Steve Dunwell: “This book reminded me of our amazing heritage. The sites speak to the freedoms that were fought for themselves and for future generations. Each site had several pages devoted to descriptions and the history over centuries. The photography was excellent . . .”

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Wolfpack* by Abby Wambach: “Practical.”

**A Reader from Gill** read *The Adventures of John Nicol, Mariner, During Thirty Years at Sea* by John Nicol: “This was an interesting firsthand account, more a series of anecdotes than a coherent narrative.”

**A Reader from Franklin** read *Leroy Ninker Saddles Up: Tales from Deckawoo Drive* by Kate DiCamillo: “This was a sweet spinoff from the Mercy Watson series. I've enjoyed getting to know Kate DiCamillo's quirky characters and her sense of humor - and my kids love her stories, too!”

**A Reader from melrose** read *the Mystery of the White Wolves* by Ron Roy: “The book gave a good description of the area of Maine that I have visited. I liked the story of the wolves and how the family watched them through the telescope. I wish I was able to watch wild animals growing in their natural environment.”



**A Reader from Stoneham** read *The Yellow Wall-Paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I think it was a good short story. I also don't read many short stories. I don't know if the last few pages were in the perspective of the narrator or the girl in the wallpaper."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *Larger than life* by Jodi Picoult: "Engaging story. Quick read. Moving story."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Twice Alive* by Forest Gander: "Reading poetry is hard for me and I picked up a collection of poems not realizing it's also the April challenge. I read this collection of poems over the course of the month and although I didn't understand them or "get them" I appreciated that they were about nature and the environment."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The yellow wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "Interesting read on what seems like post Partum depression...or the lack of acknowledgment of it!"

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The Hangman* by Louise Penny: "This was my first introduction to this author. I enjoyed the short story format, and the cozy atmosphere of Three Pines, but the plot was a bit morbid."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Things Seen* by Annie Ernaux: "I found *Things Seen* to be thought-provoking, especially when comparing the political and social descriptions of the 90s to present day. This was my first introduction to Ernaux's work and I look forward to reading more."

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Dead* by James Joyce: "Liked some of the language but not I was not interested in it."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Very Funny, Elizabeth* by Valerie Tripp: "I liked it it was a good historical fiction and had some comedic moments good for a quick read."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Bad kitty* by Nick Bruel: "It was really fun to read."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Five people you meet in heaven* by Mitch Albom: "It was a book about retrospection and how we go through life, not paying attention to certain people or situations which may have had a profound impact on it."

**A Reader from Florence** read *The Metamorphosis* by Frank Kafka: "I didn't expect this book to be so sad. The way Gregor's family treats him after his metamorphosis is heartbreaking."

**A Reader from Westborough** read *The Leadership Pill* by Ken Blanchard and Marc Muchnick: "The book talks about three ingredients of effective leadership-Integrity, Partnership and Affirmation."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan: "Lovely."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "This book is an enthusiastic call for all people to be feminists. It was a thought provoking read."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Bathtime for Chickies* by Jane Yolen: "My little sister got this book at the library and can't read it so I read it to her. It was fun reading a book so short and easy."

**A Reader from Stow** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: "Always wanted to read this since seeing friends perform it in college. Silly and farcical but a fun read."

**A Reader from Rochester** read *Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "Had to read this book in school. Enjoyed it then and now. Perseverance I think is the lesson from this book."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *We should all be feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Great read! Wonderful insight and narrative about feminism."

**A Reader from Sunderland** read *The easy way* by Eleanor Robins: "It was an OK book about teamwork and hardwork."

**A Reader from Weston** read *Captain Awesome to the Rescue* by Stan Kirby: "He is a super hero but he's really not."

**A Reader from Boston** read *Becoming a Good Creature* by Sy Montgomery: "Very charming and good for all ages."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "The term feminism is often misunderstood, but true gender equality would benefit all people."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Charles Rennie Mackintosh* by Fiona Davidson: "I loved the beautiful photos of Mackintosh's architectural and furniture design, and the succinct biographical text about his too-short life."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *Rated. Write a Review Edit My Activity Ejaculate Responsibly: A Whole New Way to Think About Abortion* by Gabrielle Stanley Blair: "This book was a really interesting read! It was a refreshingly different take on reproductive rights and responsibilities."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Bald Bandit* by Ron Roy: "I liked how there was a mystery to find the red-headed kid from high school from the detective, who was really a bad guy. I like the twists and turns of A-Z mysteries."

**A Reader from Franklin** read *That's Not My Panda* by Fiona Watt: "My first book with my brand new niece! Kids love the tactile bits, and it ages up with them - as they get older, they can play "find the mouse" on each page."

**A Reader from Revere** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "It was a short but very interesting book covering a topic that I found very intriguing."

**A Reader from Rockport** read *Home What It Means and Why It Matters* by Mary Gordon: "Home by Mary Gordon shared her many different homes and thoughts on what those homes meant to her while sharing quotes from famous writers."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: "It was pretty blunt, and also pretty funny, and the characters were pretty great!"

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *The Christmas Mixup* by Justin Johnson: "It was really cute and fun to read with my kids."

**A Reader from Buzzards Bay** read *Anne-Marie the Beauty* by Yasmina Reza: "It was a wonderful surprise. Just the main character talking about her life as a stage actress from her vantage point of a senior retiree."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Navigate Your Stars* by Jesamyn Ward: “The book was beautifully illustrated. It was the best description of privilege and generational trauma I’ve ever read without being heavy handed. It feels like a good gift to give a graduate; I can see how it was a successful speech!”

**A Reader from Sunderland** read *Plunge* by Terry Johnson: “This was an inspiring book about the author’s tracing a piece of family history, her pilot father being sheltered in an Italian village in WWII. It was beautifully told.”

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *Animal farm* by George Orwell: “Excellent satire of political nature telling the story of farm animals that revolt.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *We should all be feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “I love how Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie writes. And the stories she told us, sad and so real.”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *Very Good Lives* by JK Rowling: “A published version of Rowling’s lauded 2008 Harvard Commencement Address. Inspirational and thought-provoking”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: “It was hard to follow at first but smoothed out as the story went on.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *You don’t have to suffer* by Medece P. Cione: “Not really my style content wise, but I did enjoy branching out into a new genre.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *You don’t have to suffer* by Medece P. Cione: “Not really my style of book but it was okay. I submitted other entries one for this and one for Time Machine in January but I don’t seem to have received a confirmation.”

**A Reader from Boston** read *The Sixth Wedding* by Elin Hilderbrand: “enjoyed reading this "short" that tagged onto one of Hilderbrand’s earlier novels.”

**A Reader from East Falmouth** read *Full House* by Maeve Binchy: “Interesting story about family dynamics as children become adults.”

**A Reader from South Hadley** read *38 Minutes* by Various: “This was a really emotional read, especially as I read it right around the 5-year anniversary of this happening. It was a traumatic experience for many.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Death in Venice* by Thomas Mann: “I didn’t enjoy it - tale was a bit creepy, honestly. Not sure why it’s received such great accolades.”

**A Reader from Leominster** read *Alice Bliss* by Laura Harrington: “Admittedly, I didn’t think I would like the book from the plot description but the characters were so wonderfully developed. I was moved by the longing and loss.”

**A Reader from Concord** read *Hawking* by Jim Ottaviani: “Interesting read on Hawking and his work in theoretical physics.”

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “A great take on Pygmalion. Short but explosive.”

**A Reader from Rochester** read *Kant in 90 minutes* by Paul Strathern: “It was a difficult read. I wouldn’t suggest it.”

**A Reader from Brookline** read *The overcoat* by Nikolai Gogol: “This fatalistic story of a poor clerk who scrimps and saves to buy a new overcoat reminded me of why those gloomy 19th century Russian novelists are not my cup of (samovar) tea. Sixty pages was about as much as I could stand.”

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *We Should all be Feminist* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Well written essay on women and feminism. Many good life stories the author uses to discuss the treatment of women.”

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “This is a sad and dark retelling of a Greek myth. A woman made of stone is brought to life and it’s implications are a meditation on how men treat women as objects and are valued.”

**A Reader from Wellesley** read *Chubby's First Year* by Flavia Gag: “This book is SO CUTE! Written as an introduction to the months for very young children, it's very sweet and informative about both the seasons of the year in a temperate climate and the general antics of kittens . . .”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “Haven't yet read anything by Backman before (though he's on my tbr!), and this was a touching introduction. I loved the relationship between Noah and his grandpa, and the short format made it emotional without being overdone.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “I really enjoyed this powerful commentary on misogyny, the fetishization of female purity, and the objectification of women! It was an engaging read and a perfect way to ease into 2023 reading!”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “This story was very intriguing and sad. It appeared to be describing the symptoms of postpartum depression.”

**A Reader from Clinton** read *Yes, And* by Kristi Coulter: “I loved it! A sweet, candid, and nuanced telling of the author's experience with marriage, affairs, and (non)monogamy.”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *Un regalo de gracias: La leyenda de la Altagracia* by Julia Alvarez: “Beautiful language; fun to read the DR’s take on la Virgen.”

**A Reader from Lynnfield** read *Apple of My Die* by Wendy Heuvel: “This short cozy mystery was a short, fun look into the Faith and Foils cozy mystery series set in the Branford Apple Orchard. A clean cozy with a faith element.”

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Return of the Sorceress* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia: “I liked the plot and setting but felt it definitely could have been longer; it was almost like a subplot to a larger plot. Wish it were longer!”

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Space Between* by Gertrude Halstead: “Rereading Halstead's poems after many years brought a fresh perspective to her poetry. The depth and strength she achieves in so spare a language.”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “Loved it, didn't want it to end. And didn't want it to end as it did. A beautiful, spare story that made me cry.”

**A Reader from Boston** read *Notes on Grief* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche: "A very moving tribute to the author's father. A nice combination of the specific and the universal, when it comes to grieving the loss of a parent."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *What I Mean When I Say I'm Autistic* by Annie Kotowicz: "This book is a great window into an autistic woman's mind. She loves who she is & is not to be pitied. It clarifies but also is encouraging from the standpoint of a parent with autistic children."

**A Reader from MARSTONS MILLS** read *The Yellow Wall-Paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "A story of a woman suffering from postpartum depression is brought to the country for fresh air by an absent husband that silences her feelings, treating her more like a pet than a human."

**A Reader from Rockland** read *Breakfast at Tiffany's* by Capote, Truman: "Most folks think of the film with Audrey Hepburn, but this is what the film is based on -- Holly Golightly is an anti-hero if ever there was one! "She's a phony, but a real one.""

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *Lyra's Oxford* by Philip Pullman: "It was a cute little addition to the 'His Dark Materials' series."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *Lifeboat No. 8 Surviving the Titanic* by Elizabeth Kaye: "It was interesting learning about the sinking of the Titanic through the view of different passengers."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Thank you, Christmas!* by ChaShiree M: "Not my cup of tea but a fast holiday romance read. Quick way to start off my own 2023 challenge of 75 books."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Foster* by Clairee Keegan: "This is a beautifully written short story told from the perspective of a young girl in rural Ireland as she experiences a summer of quiet gentleness and kindness in foster care. A wonderful read to start the new year."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *Fruiting Bodies* by Ashley Robin Franklin: "It was okay-my first adult comic I've read."

**A Reader from Whitinsville** read *Tiagu and Vovo* by Djofa Tavares: "A lovely book about a boy coming to the US from Cape Verde."

**A Reader from Boylston** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "A delightful collection of letters written over the course of twenty years, brimming with wit, charm and an ever increasing fondness between the writers was a delightful first book of 2023. . ."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "A great bite-sized retelling of the Pygmalion myth that empowers the statue and draws parallels between the behavior of Pygmalion and today's 'incels.'"

**A Reader from Braintree** read *The Dead* by James Joyce: "There was a lot to absorb in this short story - isolation, nostalgia, loss. I plan to read it again to get a fuller understanding."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "A sharp, effective, and convincing read on our culture mindset and how it impacts women and men in both small and large ways. I found myself relating to almost every example and nodding along. I want everyone I know to read this book . . ."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "An absolutely charming, funny, serious, and ultimately heart-breaking book. Helene Hanff's love of books is so palpable and for all of us who love books (which, I suspect, is the case for anyone participating in this challenge) make this a true delight."

**A Reader from Cohasset** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Sparse yet revealing prose make this a short story to dwell on."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *A Perfect Fit* by Naomi and James Jones: "I loved this book; it was great to read with my 3 year old, and to discuss not only the shapes but also feeling left out."

**A Reader from Hyannis** read *The Old Man and The Sea* by Hemingway: "I feel like I must have read this in high school (I'm now 65) since I knew the general outline. Besides the beautiful writing, not a lot happens so it is very different from many "thrillers" written today . . ."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "This story packs so much emotion and struggle into such a short amount of space. A woman struggling with post-partum depression being confined into a small room only to escape in the form of losing her mind . . ."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *We should all be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Wonderful non blaming book. Highly recommend."

**A Reader from Erving** read *The Sleeper and the Spindle* by Neil Gaiman: "I love books that take a twist on a classic tale and this book did just that. I love that the story changed to that where the main character did not fit the typical stereotype portrayed in the original."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *Goodnight Gorilla* by Peggy Rathman: "I love this book. How all the characters join together with the zookeeper and his wife for bedtime. Great book to read with children because it invokes such descriptive responses."

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *The strange case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: "I read this book years ago in college and realized it is under 100 pages. I was interested to read it again. The concept of all of us having good and evil in us and how we make choices of right and wrong . . ."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *becoming broken* by Masada Jones: "Stunning collection of poetry about grief, self-love, and hope. Loved it. The photo attached is from when I bought the book back in 2020 and Masada's note to me."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Darkness Visible* by William Styron: "This is probably the best description of depression that I've read. He manages to nearly explain the abyss that is severe depression."

**A Reader from Middleborough** read *And Every Morning The Day Gets Longer And Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "This was a sweet story about the love between a grandfather and grandson. Dementia could not break the bond between the two."

**A Reader from halifax** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by chimamanda Nzogi Adichie: "I enjoyed this quick & interesting read. It spoke the truth."



**A Reader from Belchertown** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I found the book very interesting, especially given its history as an early feminist work."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "I enjoyed that it gave a new perspective on feminism from another culture."

**A Reader from Billerica** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "Twyla and Roberta who shared a room for four months in an orphanage, are shaped by the society they live in. We are never told their races. My belief is Morrison wanted the reader to see in the end it doesn't matter - we are all trapped by the racism . . ."

**A Reader from Palmer** read *A Woman's Battles and Transformations* by Edouard Louis: "A beautiful, spare and candid book about the difficult life of the author's mother."

**A Reader from Fall River** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Wow. Who knew 76 pages could pack such a punch? A beautiful story about an old man letting go of his mind and his life, and how he lets his grandson know that the end is coming. Loved it!"

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *George's Marvelous Medicine* by Roald Dahl: "A quirky children's book that I thought might end on a happy note but didn't."

**A Reader from ARLINGTON** read *Rain* by W. Somerset Maugham: "This short story is about how not accepting people for who they are, being too righteous, and being a hypocrite can be very damaging."

**A Reader from Dighton** read *Lifeboat No.8* by Elizabeth Kaye: "I've always been fascinated with stories of the Titanic. This told a story that kept me interested the entire time!"

**A Reader from WILBRAHAM** read *What Child is This?* by Rhys Bowen: "The setting for the story is London, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day during the bombing of London in WWII. It showed the effect of the war on main characters Maggie and Jack and the strength of the human spirit in spite of adversity. I enjoyed it!"

**A Reader from Melrose** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Lovely although not mindblowing."

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Loved the view into the mind of an old man with either dementia or Alzheimer's and how his grandson loved him back to reality. Beautiful picture of relationships and end of life."

**A Reader from Marblehead** read *Ladies' Abecedary* by Arden Levine: "LADIES' ABECEDARY is a haunting account of women written in the "orderly" and obsessive form. I loved Levine's mastery of sound and imagery as well."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "So good I read it twice! Also good on audio read by the author."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Thought provoking essay about feminism with the author's own life experiences & research."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Drowned City : Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans* by Don Brown: "This book is a graphic telling of the Hurricane Katrina disaster, and it is terrific. Author/illustrator Don Brown

did a marvelous job capturing the scope of the tragedy, and the successes and failures of the leaders involved . . .”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Parents Here & There: A Kid's Guide To Deployment* by Marie-Therese Miller: “Good introduction for young kids about being part of a military family.”

**A Reader from Palmer** read *The Cancer Journals* by Audrey Lorde: “Interesting reading, though I probably would have gotten more out of it had I been more familiar with the author or had breast cancer myself.”

**A Reader from Falmouth** read *The English understand wool* by Helen DeWitt: “A quirky and fascinating read. Such fun.”

**A Reader from Boston** read *\*A New English Grammar* by Jeff Dolven: “Thought-provoking for rule-followers and rule-breakers alike!”

**A Reader from Spencer** read *The true gift : a Christmas story* by Patricia MacLachlan: “This is a sweet story about a boy's concern for a lonely cow.”

**A Reader from STOUGHTON** read *Grave Message* by Mary Jennifer Payne: “It was very meaningful to me as since I lost a family member this year. It was intriguing and thought provoking, while being easy to read.”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer: A Novella* by Fredrik Backman: “Love the way Fredrik Backman writes- this is a heartwarming, sweet story about the end of a life and memories and relationships. You learn so much about the characters in so little words.”

**A Reader from South Hadley** read *Paradise Sands* by Levi Pinfold: “This children's book is a hauntingly told story about decision making and the repercussions from those choices. From outward appearances it looks like a picture book but it is definitely not for toddlers. It is a very enjoyable read.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Letter to the Americans* by Jean Cocteau: “I didn't understand a lot of this book, which is rather ironic considering the few parts I did. I think it'll take a few more reads to fully appreciate.”

**A Reader from Yorba Linda** read *The Friendly Snowflake* by M. Scott Peck, MD: “Beautifully written and illustrated. The story of a young girl's curiosity and wonder about life, nature, family and faith.”

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *Binto* by Needing Okorafor: “Great SciFi story about a young person traveling from the known into the unknown in order to attend University. A little story of lesson learning.”

**A Reader from Rockland** read *Evidence of the Affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: “I enjoyed this short novella and really felt like I got to know the characters with just letters back and forth.”

**A Reader from Northfield** read *Good Dog. Stay* by Anna Quindlen: “Having had to put not one but 3 old pups to sleep in the last 6 months, this book hit me hard in the feels. The way she writes, so simplistic and to the point. I think everyone who's ever had a dog's love should read this book.”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor: "It was indeed an interesting book. I couldn't put it down once I started it."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrick Bachman: "I thought this story was very emotional with the account of an older gentleman sharing his life with a member of his family."

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Punished!* by David Lubar: "Fun story of a boy running in the library and punished with a curse of speaking in puns. Only cure is to find 7 oxymorons, anagrams and palindromes."

**A Reader from Marion** read *Envelope Poems* by Emily Dickinson: "Interesting to see the process of substitutable words in her drafts. Some of the more complete poems flicker like candle flames and sort of come together into something you can absorb. . ."

**A Reader from Bolton** read *Poke the Box* by Seth Godin: "This was about starting, innovating, not waiting for permission. It has me thinking about starting some projects regardless of great of failure."

**A Reader from North Attleboro** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrik Backman: "A bittersweet little story about the value of life, and legacy, and what we would trade for people we love."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: "I honestly think I might have missed the point of this book. An easy enough read but I think I don't understand what it may be standing for."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Being Perfect* by Anna Quindlen: "It's too hard to be perfect. Be your authentic self with all your flaws and imperfections. Being perfect is boring!"

**A Reader from Needham** read *A Woman's Battles and Transformations* by Edouard Luis: "It was better than expected. It was only partly about a woman's battles and transformations - also about how her child understood his mother and how her life evolved."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The very hungry cattle* by Eric Carle: "I love this children's book. I read this to my nephews Head Start class yesterday. Shows you not to judge a book(or insect!) By its cover!"

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *The Ladies of Grace Adieu* by Susanna Clarke: "It's really funny but with a mysterious, otherworldly twist. Can't wait to read the other stories in the collection!"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Sidney and Norman* by Phil Vischer: "This is a touching picture book with a moral of the story that both children and adults can appreciate."

**A Reader from Methuen** read *The Bookstore Sisters* by Alice Hoffman: "This was a wonderful short story about loss, reconciliation and coming home."

**A Reader from Harrisburg** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "Perhaps the first written case of a man gaslighting a woman into thinking she's fine, when she so clearly isn't. I loved the forward published with the short story. . ."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *And Every Day the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Frederik Bachman: "It was very heartwarming and sad."

**A Reader from Rochester** read *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor: "Gripping! Loved the main character and will be reading the rest of the trilogy to see what she does next."

**A Reader from Elbridge** read *Christmas at Thompson Hall* by Anthony Trollope: "This is the most implausible book I have ever read, including sci fi/fantasy. It takes place in the 1870's, and concerns a woman who, while staying in a hotel in Paris, accidentally puts a mustard plaster on an unknown, sleeping man whom she thinks is her husband . . ."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "An absolutely charming, funny, serious and ultimately, heart-breaking book. Helene Hanff's love of books is so palpable that those of us who share her passion (I suspect that pertains to those who are in the Book Challenge) will find this book a true delight . . ."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Emmanuel's Dream-The True Story Of Emmanuel* by Laurie Ann Thompson: "I thought the book was very interesting! The genre was non-fiction picture boom."

**A Reader from Rochester** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Short story, but with a powerful message. Wealth does not always guarantee happiness."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *Guts* by Chuck Palahnuik: "This short story (I think it counts) was gross and uncomfortable. Exactly how I want a Chuck Palahnuik book to be."

**A Reader from SANDWICH** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Summed up: the author states 'The problem with gender is that it prescribes how we \*should\* be rather than recognizing how we are. Imagine how much happier we would be, how much freer to be our true individual selves, if we didn't have the weight of gender expectations.'"

**A Reader from Seekonk** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrik Backman: "A wonderful, heartwarming story about life choices and legacies and how it is never too late to change the outcome of those choices."

**A Reader from Bolton** read *Freedom's Wings, Corey's Underground railroad Diary* by Sharon Dennis Wyeth: "I really enjoyed how the story was told from Corey's point of view. His family's escape from slavery was told from his heart each step of the journey. This is book 1 in a series of 3."

**A Reader from WILBRAHAM** read *The Sopping Thursday* by Edward Gorey: "Dark and gloomy."

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* by George Saunders: "A fun whimsical read with themes of community and overcoming adversity."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *A murder in the dark city: a blue detective blue blaze sci-fi crime story* by Steve Farkas: "I like the idea of a robot detective solving mysteries. I also like the old school crime noir feel of the story even though it takes place in a dystopian future world."

**A Reader from Chelmsford** read *The Gift* by Freida McFadden: "Not her usual WTF ending but good for a short book."

**A Reader from Boston** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "A sad and hard truth told in the most heart warming way."

**A Reader from Bourne** read *The Beach House* by Rachel Hanna: "Beautiful beach side story of love, disappointment, betrayal all woven in the reality of life . Author Rachel Hanna talks of life so simple, but complicated."

**A Reader from Oakton** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Absolutely wonderful! Heartbreaking yet hopeful. Very short but packs so much sentiment."

**A Reader from Great Barrington** read *The Boy in the Smoke* by Maureen Johnson: "This is a novella prequel to her Shades of London series that I want to read, & at 86 pages fits perfectly into January's category. Teens, ghosts, Eton, wealth, MI5 are part of the series."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *The ghost of Sherwood* by Carrie Vaughn: "Robin Hood and Maid Marion's children are as clever as their parents and a mischievous as their parents."

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrik Backman: "Even in his shortest stories, Fredrik Backman takes you on quite the journey. Unsettling yet satisfying."

**A Reader from Granby** read *Of mice and men* by Steinbeck: "I didn't like the book. But it was written a long time ago so writing was different."

**A Reader from North Andover** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Struck such a chord for me-do not read without a box of tissues handy-I cried through the entire novella! Hit home having had a grandfather with dementia and this was so beautifully imagined."

**A Reader from Haverhill** read *The Hangman* by Louise Penny: "This was an interesting book. Very short, but a lot of characters. I think this is a wonderful introduction to Louise Penny. I will read more of her in the future."

**A Reader from West Wareham** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "The mythological story of Pygmalion and Galatea evolves to modern times and is written in lyrical prose. It is written in the same style as Miller's Song of Achilles and tells the story of a wife and her sculptor husband. It is a brief but enjoyable read!"

**A Reader from West Bridgewater** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "It was a quick read and an interesting premise. A very feminist take on a Greek myth, that gives voice to characters that never had one."

**A Reader from Holden** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrick Backman: "This book was incredibly heartwarming and very sad."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "I appreciate Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's opinion that feminism is a societal flaw based on long ago history which should and could be rectified by how we raise our boys and girls now."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Time Machine* by H.G Wells: "What incredible futures to imagine! It was fun to read this after having always been a fan of the most recent film. I found I enjoyed the descriptions in this a lot more!"

**A Reader from Taunton** read *Lights On! A century of Christmas in Taunton* by William F Hannah and Charles E Crowley: "I thoroughly enjoyed reading about the past Christmas displays on Taunton Green. The photos made me wish that I could travel back in time to see them in person."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Female* by Andrea Long Chu: "This book presented very interesting ideas about gender and sexuality. I enjoyed the arguments presented to the reader. Some of the information was difficult to read and hard to comprehend. Overall a very special read."

**A Reader from Newton** read *Foster* by Keegan: "This spare and haunting book beautifully explores the feelings and experiences of an Irish foster child and the family that cares for her. I can't stop thinking about it."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Happening* by Annie Ernaux: "This was a short book that packed a huge punch. It's one of the best memoirs I've read, both highly specific and absolutely universal."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "It's interesting to think about this book and other retellings of Pygmalion. It definitely has a different viewpoint on what kind of guy the sculptor/mentor is."

**A Reader from Wayland** read *The little prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "It was an interesting book that was formatted like a children's book, but with darker themes about adulthood. It really makes you think about the fear of growing up and wanting to stay a child forever. I enjoyed it."

**A Reader from Leeds** read *My Evil Mother* by Margaret Atwood: "This book read like an outline of a potentially longer novel. I feel like the stage was set with the main character's relationship with her mother as a child. We learned a bit about her father, who she met as an adult. Then, she sped through her relationship with her own daughter."

**A Reader from Lynnfield** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche: "An insightful read based on a TEDx talk the author gave in 2012. Focuses mostly on feminism in an African, and specifically Nigerian context, but certainly relative to the world at large. Recommend for all readers, but especially men . . ."

**A Reader from Forestdale** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "I loved how strongly you could see and feel a mother's love!"

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "An interesting, personal introspective. A woman confined to a bedroom without the real help she needs. It was hard to find a book under 100 pages! But this one told a meaningful story in short space."

**A Reader from Bolton** read *An Allagash Haunting: The Story of Emile Camile* by Tim Caverly: "It's a quick, engaging story, mainly written for young people."

**A Reader from Seekonk** read *Terror in Wichita* by Paul F. Caranci: "Terror in Wichita is a true story of two brothers who commit murder and one of the victims who survived the shooting unimaginable. This book was very graphic in detail . . ."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Frederick Backman: "It was a sad story about a father who makes a deal with a lady wearing a grey sweater (similar to angel of death) to save a 5yr old girl dying of cancer. He also has cancer and asks the lady to trade his life for hers . . ."



**A Reader from Mashpee** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "It was too short. I wish it had been longer so I could have gotten to know Galatea better."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Ghost Wall* by Sarah Moss: "A fascinating story, the level of detail really grabbed me."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "I loved this book so much, I'm now on the wait list for the audio version, to hear it read by the author. EVERYONE should read this book. It is written, not in a finger-pointing way, but in a we-can-and-should do better way."

**A Reader from Bolton** read *A Cruel Christmas* by Victor Earle: "Based on a true case, this tragic novel's plot is catalyzed by the unavailability of legal abortions in the 1950s. I can't help but wonder if the author, writing in 2007, ever imagined *Roe v. Wade* would have been overturned."

**A Reader from Orange** read *The Bookstore Sisters* by Alice Hoffman: "I loved this. It's beautifully written and it reminded me of my own mother and the time that we spent on Prince Edward Island although it was set further south on an island off the Maine coast."

**A Reader from New York** read *We Should all be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche: "This was by far the shortest book I've ever read and as well as one of the most thought provoking. A great gateway into a topic I've been looking to read more about but wasn't sure where to start."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "It was short and sweet and straight to the point! We should all be feminists and consider men and women as equals in every aspect of society. I am a supporter of this movement! 'Culture does not make people, people make culture!'"

**A Reader from Methuen** read *Very Good Lives* by J. K. Rowling: "I wasn't too sure about it at first but then when she spoke about what she learned whilst working at Amnesty International I was hooked. It is actually prompting me to rethink adding them to my list of charities as money comes in."

**A Reader from Northborough** read *Lost on a Mountain in Maine* by Donn Fendler as told to Joseph Egan: "True story of a 12 year old boy lost on Mt.Katahdin for 9 days in 1939."

**A Reader from Leominster** read *Seasons at Eagle Pond* by Donald Hall: "This is a beautiful collection of essays about the seasons of the year on the author's farm in New Hampshire. Lovely nature writing, with a warm and personal touch."

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Lifeboat No 8. The Untold Tale of Love, Loss, and Surviving the Titanic* by Elizabeth Kaye: "This is a unique story about a particular lifeboat from the Titanic. A riveting read."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "According to the lengthy introduction by Zadie Smith, this is the only short story that Toni Morrison ever published, and has just recently been published as a single book. The "twist" in this story is that it's about a black child and white child who spent a few months together at a shelter, and then meet at several points in their adult lives . . ."

**A Reader from Lancaster** read *Henry & Glenn Forever* by Tom Neely: "Definitely a spoof on a "relationship" between Henry Rollins of Black Flag and Glenn Danzig of the Misfits. Both are well-respected in their field of punk rock . . ."

**A Reader from Yarmouth Port** read *Billy Budd, Sailor* by Herman Melville: "Great story of young sailor's in the 18th century, jealousy that turns into an unintentioned murder. Difficult to read Melville's prose."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Boston Cradle of Liberty* by Edward Weeks: "This is a book written in 1965. It's only 64 pages, most of which are beautiful sketches by Fritz Busse. It's a brief history of Boston, including its change from a town hemmed in on a peninsula to a thriving city, circa 1965 . . ."

**A Reader from Scituate** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrik Bachman: "It was a sad tale about an old man preparing for death. It was also sweet, heartwarming and reminds me to take the time to truly be present for those I love."

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche: "Culture is ever-changing. Feminism is for all."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Doubt: A Parable* by John Patrick Shanley: "As an educator, I connected more to this text than I expected. There are so many systems at play, and so much doubt—even on paper, the tension is palpable."

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Whipping Boy* by Sid Fleischmann: "I thought it was a good twist on the story of the Prince and the Pauper."

**A Reader from Arlington** read *Bonsai* by Alejandro Zambra: "A lot (maybe too much) crammed into 77 pages but I'm glad I tried a new "category" of books (ie less than 100 pages long)."

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "I found this book to be a sweet way to look at how a child sees adults and their "foolishness." I had read this last year in school and thought it was ok, but now I loved reading it and the ending."

**A Reader from Waltham** read *Kontemporary Amerikan Poetry* by John Murillo: "Stunning and hard-hitting poetry. I buy very few books but I'll probably be buying this one so I can reread and share it."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *Fox 8* by George Saunders: "A quick read that is in the perspective of a Fox trying to alert humans of their existence and need to survive and live with us in the same world. A great fable that teaches the reader to remember the wildlife all around us."

**A Reader from North Andover** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "The book was heartbreaking. It details the feeling of losing someone who is still alive. It was very deep for such a short book."

**A Reader from East Taunton** read *Día De Los Muertos* by Ann Heinrichs: "I like this book because it was interesting to learn about the history and culture of the celebration of Día De Los Muertos."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *A Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "It was a great novella to enter the world of Hemingway. I heard a lot about his style of writing and his worldview, but this is my first book of his."

**A Reader from SCITUATE** read *Things to Look Forward To* by Sophie Blackall: "This is the perfect book for the start of a New Year and for emotional uplift during the gray days of winter. Blackall is a delightful illustrator who usually creates books for children, but this one is for all of us . . ."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "This book was moving, and told the story of compelling characters in a historical setting that comments on contemporary issues."

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *Recitatif* by Morrison: "Morrison's truth is that people's stories change and what one once thought was true may not have been true. I loved Smith's introduction, which made me consider the value of race as a human construct."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrick Backman: "This book made me take a pause in my day to look back at how I have lived and yo weigh out the importance of my life.such a short story but a powerful impact."

**A Reader from Swampscott** read *Racitafif* by Toni Morrison: "It was a dream to reconnect with Toni Morrison!"

**A Reader from Salem** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "I enjoyed Miller's feminist retelling of the myth of Galatea. Powerful and haunting."

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *Jonah's Judgment* by Robert W. Foster: "Interesting retelling from Jonah's point of view with no emphasis on the whale (Jonah and the whale). I liked how the author expresses Jonah's conflicted feelings of saving the people of Nineveh and his desire for judgment."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *Nine Lives* by Ursula K. Le Guin: "(originally published in 1969 in Playboy, I read it as part of the "The Future is Female!" anthology, published by Library of America in 2018)."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Really interesting and well paced - the book gave me anxiety throughout because of the sense of dread that the narrative builds up."

**A Reader from Merrimac** read *Everyday Calm: Relaxing Rituals for Busy People* by Darrin Zerr: "Short but very insightful and offers many possibilities to reach a state of calm."

**A Reader from conway** read *A Cafecito Story* by Julia Alvarez: "loved it- sweet eco fable bi cultural and bi lingual set in Idaho and Dominical Republic- a hopeful read for anyone who loves good coffee, nature and a sweet love story. Plus beautifully illustrated (wood carved prints) by Belkis Ramirez."

**A Reader from Seekonk** read *The Hawk's Way* by Sy Montgomery: "The hawk encounters at the New Hampshire School of Falconry teach the author about the need of raptors to hunt."

**A Reader from Somerville** read "*Evil in Small Places*" in *Marple* by Lucy Foley: "This was a short story in a new collection of stories about Agatha Christie's well-loved detective, Jane Marple. Lucy Foley did an excellent job setting up an English countryside murder in the vain of Christie - but with a twist!"

**A Reader from Scituate** read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck: "Steinbeck's writing is so powerful it clearly creates images that are so realistic that one can envision a that is described. His social commentary fir someone writing in the 30's is humbling."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Dhammapada* by Anonymous: "While The Dhammapada is referred to as "one of the canonical books of the Bhuddists," I didn't feel like I was reading a book on religion; instead, it read as simply a collection of verses to inspire insightful self-reflection and promote mindfulness."

**A Reader from South Pasadena** read *evidence of the affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: "The book, overall, was stunning. It dragged me along by my heartstrings, forcing me to outsource my idea of true love from

the standard box-outline. The format in letters truly made the entire novel so much more eloquent, and the characters made the story.”

**A Reader from SPRINGFIELD** read *Below* by Laurel Hightower: “Very creepy. I adored how the author used West Virginia’s paranormal lore, like Mothman and The Grinning Man as part of the story. The ending wasn’t what I expected, but I was surprised at how much I liked it.”

**A Reader from Sudbury** read *A Dead Djinn in Cairo* by P. Djèlí Clark: “I read the full length sequel to this short story back in December, and I wish I had read this first!! A fantasy/sci-fi reimagining of early 20th century Egypt that brings mythology and fun characters to life.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Marigold and Rose* by Louise Glück: “Loved it. Very original look at the first year of life of twins, from their perspective. And they can’t talk, but language happens, anyway.”

**A Reader from Wareham** read *boy* by Patrick Phillips: “curious, moving, clever, unexpected, beautiful - a gift.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: “I can’t believe I’m nearly 52 years old and have never read this lovely book. It captures the innocence of viewing the world as a child. It’s a reminder to be sure to appreciate life when things get burdensome as we age . . .”

**A Reader from Lawrence** read *Stacey’s Extraordinary Words* by Stacey Abrams: “It was a inspirational read that allows children to embrace what makes them who they are. Even though it was a picture book, I gained just as much knowledge as I would from a regular novel.”

**A Reader from Swansea** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “This is not a book I would normally read but I found myself very invested to find out what was actually happening. I felt it wasn’t face value - and I was correct. However I’m still not 100 percent sure what/who was actually in that room.”

**A Reader from Swansea** read *Very Good Lives* by J. K. Rowling: “I thought that this book, which was J. K. Rowling’s speech at Harvard’s commencement, was very inspiration. My favorite quote was ‘Imagination ... is the power that enables us to empathize with humans whose experiences we have never shared.’”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *American Indian Stories* by Zitkala-Sa: “The book was interesting and enlightening. It was also very sad and made me angry at the treatment of Native Americans in the past and still today.”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrick Backman: “Wonderful book about Grandson who is witnessing his Grandfather going through his struggles with dementia. Very moving but sad.”

**A Reader from Randolph** read *84 Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: “This was an uplifting, light, interesting and easy to read book. It was full of history.”

**A Reader from Woods Hole** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “A very intriguing book about post-partum depression. It gives a view from the perspective of the depressed mind, how its view of the world is and the challenges it is facing.”

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "Very descriptive and allowed reader to understand how the man was feeling while fishing. Although it's a short story it did start to drag on at the end. I just wanted to read more about the man's reunion with the boy."

**A Reader from Southborough** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "I thought the book was beautifully written and powerfully expressed the cost of relentless greed of humans, especially men."

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *Red Bird* by Mary Oliver: "I loved this poetry collection from beginning to end. Mary Oliver is quickly becoming one of my favorite poets."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "A beautiful and melancholy interpretation of the myth, again Miller kills it."

**A Reader from Three Rivers** read *The Legend Of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving: "It was interesting to finally read the legend that many movies and shows have drawn inspiration from that I have seen."

**A Reader from Atkinson** read *Dark Testament:Blackout Poems* by Crystal Simone Smith: "The author of Dark Testament took the book Lincoln in the Bardo and created blackout poems using the text. The poems have to do with blm and victims of police brutality and are very powerful."

**A Reader from Swansea** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "The depth of this "simple" story that reflects love and friendship and the depth of the invisible is heartwarming and thought provoking. It is a story that I will go back to many times."

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "Very descriptive and allows reader to feel what the man was feeling while fishing. It did start to drag on towards the end and I wanted to read about his reunion with the boy."

**A Reader from NORTHAMPTON** read *Alive at the End of the World* by Saeed Jones: "Saeed Jones has a great voice and his poems about his mother (that sense of love and loss) especially resonated with me. The way he weaves continuations of themes through the book is true to the way anxieties and obsessions recur to us as we negotiate with the world . . ."

**A Reader from Woburn** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "This story really had me examining my internal biases about race, as it was very much about race but the races of the two main characters is never shared. I also appreciated this edition's introduction by Zadie Smith, as it provided excellent context."

**A Reader from Yarmouth Port** read *Fox 8* by George Saunders: "Tone of a folk tale - a poignant story of development (that takes away a forest) as told by a clever fox that speaks interpretative-English. Would be good for teens and adults."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Book Store Sisters* by Alice Hoffman: "This was a fun short story about sisters reconnecting."

**A Reader from Bolton** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "I thought it was very thoughtful and insightful essay about feminism. It dispels the stereotypes and points out the inequalities that are so prevalent in many cultures."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *The Grownup* by Gillian Flynn: "Loved the ending."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *God Bless you, Dr. Kevorkian* by Kurt Vonnegut: "I loved this book! I thought it was a very interesting take on life after death."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *Being Perfect* by Anna Quindlen: "The author encourages us to give up the quest for perfection and instead work toward being our own best self. Beautiful black and white photos throughout."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Rookfield* by Gordon B. White: "A story as weird and horrible as the pandemic itself. White keeps up a good pace and paints a vivid and complete picture of both the scene and it's characters given the length of the book."

**A Reader from Blackstone** read *The Yellow Wall-Paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "This was a deep and intense look at mental health."

**A Reader from Bourne** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: "A sad story that reminds you some people don't have, or don't feel they have, options when they get stuck in a bad situation. And tense because you had an inkling of what was ahead!"

**A Reader from West Yarmouth** read *The Sub-Conscious Speaks* by Paul Ferrell & Edna Ferrell Grabe: "It's the 1932 precursor to *The Secret*. Shared by my Great Aunt Mabel to my mum in 1990, thought it was finally time to read it! Glad I did."

**A Reader from Sutton** read *The collectors* by Philip Pullman: "A nice little mystery story, more fun for those familiar with the *Dark Materials* books."

**A Reader from Manchester** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "A tiny bite of a horror story based on Greek mythology. Excellent read! Easily read in about 20 minutes."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Sea Prayer* by Khaled Hosseini: "While not a book of a length I would normally choose at my age, *Sea Prayer* packs a powerful punch into its few pages. I really enjoyed the book because it humanizes refugees, and it portrays well the relationship between a father and son."

**A Reader from Boston** read *Rain! Rain! Rain!* by Rabab Hamiduddin: "It was a cute book that allowed me to practice Arabic, a language that I am studying in university."

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *The Leaf and the Cloud* by Mary Oliver: "I really liked this book. Mary has a way with words that pulls me in."

**A Reader from Parsippany** read *The Undoing Project: A Friendship That Changed Our Minds* by Michael Lewis: "This book was freaking amazing. I loved the two different personalities colliding beautifully with each other."

**A Reader from Medford** read *We should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Quick read but brings home the point of what feminism is. Talks about the age old problem of gender and what women make salary wise."

**A Reader from Columbus** read *Micromegas* by Voltaire: "I came across this described as science fiction of which I read a lot. It's about as much sci-fi as *Gulliver's Travels* is fantasy. Which is to say, maybe technically but mostly the aliens are a means for the satire, which was hilarious. Laugh out loud fun."



**A Reader from Seekonk** read *So Long a Letter* by Mariama Ba: "This novella is brief but filled with the dichotomy of loyalty to culture and loyalty to personal beliefs. I was incredibly moved by Ramatoulaye's letter to Aissatou and I am left pondering the delicate balance all women must face between societal expectations and one's own pride, goals, hopes, and dreams."

**A Reader from Yarmouth** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "This book looks at the world outside our own, while opening up our hearts. It was a carefully structured book that seems to be whispering to you while pulling at your heart strings."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "This was a great look into the process one goes through as their memory begins to slowly fade. I loved the bond between the grandpa and his grandson so precious."

**A Reader from Pelham** read *The Hawk's Way* by Sy Montgomery: "Sy Montgomery gives insight into how, and why, hawks hunt. It's a fascinating read."

**A Reader from East Bridgewater** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I felt bad that the woman was put in isolation by her husband that ultimately led to her hallucinations even when she tried talking with her husband and he wouldn't listen to her. I feel as though maybe she was dealing with some postpartum issues . . ."

**A Reader from Boston** read *Spy Superb* by Matt Kindt: "Excited to see how this mystery pans out!"

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan: "I was disheartened that the setting for this story was so recent. We want to believe that such atrocities occurred long ago."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "This book was my first time reading anything by Madeline Miller (which is crazy, considering the amazing things I've heard about *Song of Achilles* and *Circe*), and I was very pleasantly surprised by her writing style. Her narrator has such a realistic voice."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park: "My son and I read this and I thought it was eye-opening to see the journey people go through for life's basic needs."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "It was very eye-opening and different from Toni Morrison's other works that I've read. I really enjoyed the mystery of race in the story, and how it challenges preconceived notions."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Navigate Your Stars* by Jesmyn Ward: "This book is a motivational read that lets people know that while education is important, it's not the only reason for success nor the only key to success. It is a good read for those just starting on their life journey or struggling through it . . ."

**A Reader from Boston** read *Dear Ijeawele, or a Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions* by Chimanda Ngozi Adichie: "The premise of it (suggestions from one friend for another on how to raise your child a feminist) was so heartwarming. The book itself was touching and honest and easy to learn from."

**A Reader from South Dennis** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "It was even better reading as an adult. Courage and defeat, yet the old man achieved a personal triumph."

**A Reader from Lee** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "I thought this book was a beautiful story about growing up, friendship and love."

**A Reader from Rochester** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "It was a classic story of what greed can do to a usually good person."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Ten Days in a Mad House* by Nellie Bly: "It was an interesting view into what insane asylums and how the women were treated. It's horrifying to hear the conditions and treatments, but sad to say that although regulations are much better now the treatment and conditions are still a concern . . ."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Being Perfect* by Anna Quindlen: "A great book for anyone trying to figure out their place in the world. Lots of good points on how to live the life that will make you happy without always trying to be perfect in everyone else's eyes."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrick Backman: "This book was very well written, quick and kept my attention the whole time."

**A Reader from Fairhaven** read *The Strange Library* by Murakami, Haruki: "I loved the graphic element of the book! The typeface and layout were really interesting. The story was so odd and left me wondering at the end what had actually happened to the main character!"

**A Reader from North Chelmsford** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "Galatea is a bold and smart feminist retelling of the Greek statue Galatea and her sculptor, Pygmalion. I enjoyed reading the catharsis of Galatea freeing herself from an abusive situation and honestly wish this story was longer."

**A Reader from Hartland** read *The Country of the Pointed Firs* by Sarah Orne Jewett: "I enjoyed Ms. Jewett's portrayal of Maine characters. Willa Cather thought it was an enduring work. . ."

**A Reader from Lynnfield** read *Bartleby the Scrivener* by Herman Melville: "I like Melville's writing, but I'm not sure what the point of this story is supposed to be."

**A Reader from Naples** read *The Egg and Other Stories* by Andy Weir: "This month I 'read' several short books, including two by Weir - *The Egg and Other Stories* and *James Moriarty, Consulting Criminal* - my first foray into his books. Loved his sense of humor and will try other titles . . ."

**A Reader from Hadley** read *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin: "This is such an important and timely book (despite having been published almost 60 years ago). Baldwin's language and insight are immeasurable. This book should be on everyone's list."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "A vibrant retelling of the myth of Pygmalion, narrated from the POV of Galatea, the living sculpture. The story, much like its main character, pulsates with life."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Very Good Lives* by J.K. Rowling: "It was very eye opening. It made me realize that I always need to be grateful for what I have and to live life to the fullest! It is important to have a good quality life rather than a long one."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "I've read about Hemingway and did not like the man I read about. Reading this was my attempt to discover why he is so

highly regarded. And now I must say “mea culpa” .....I was a fool for not reading him sooner! Simple words, simple story, so sad . . .”

**A Reader from Salem** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “I first read this book over 30 years ago as a high school student. It certainly reads differently now that I’m more aware of the world and the meaning behind the story.”

**A Reader from Dracut** read *Evidence of the Affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reed: “It was a great read between two people who were going through a similar situation with the same feelings and trying to help one another through it.”

**A Reader from Hanover** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: “Always love this book. Very simple but really makes you think.”

**A Reader from Lunenburg** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: “The nature of dreams. The nature of loneliness. The cruelty of one person to another. The hopelessness and powerlessness of poverty. Integrity: keeping promises even when it hurts.”

**A Reader from Holden** read *Marigold and Rose* by Louise Glück: “The book was a touching depiction about the innate connection between twins, and a deeper look at where we all fit in the constellations of our families. It’ was also more challenging to find a book with 100 pages, or less, than I expected.”

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *diary of an ass hat* by Andy weir: “It was short and sweet. I liked it a lot.”

**A Reader from Billerica** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: “It was a gorgeously written story about a family who wants to better itself in life but continues to struggle when the book's portion of their story ends.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Magic Tree House-Narwhal on a Sunny Night* by Mary Pope Osborne: “It was hard to find a book that fit the requirements but I am glad I thought about this series from my childhood. I even learned some new facts about narwhals!”

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *Ole Goes To War* by Jerry Rosholt: “Norwegian immigrants who fought in the Civil War.”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Navigate your stars* by Jesmyn ward: “Inspirational words given at Tulane commencement. The author urges graduates to persevere and continue with their educations throughout life, learning new things and also from those who came before.”

**A Reader from Erving** read *the sleeper and the spindle* by Neil Gaiman: “This was one of the most creative books that could happen in under 100 pages. To mix like sleeping beauty, snow white and like a walking dead type thing all in one fantasy is an amazing book for the imagination . . .”

**A Reader from Brockton** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: “A fun read consisting of letters written a New York writer and a book store in London that specializes in out of print books! A unique look at life, books, and what binds people together.”

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “This book portrayed layers of information about how women were seen and treated in the 1800s. I found this book

fascinating and intriguing, so much so, that I read a few analyses to fully understand the deeper symbolism in the book.”

**A Reader from Lunenburg** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: “A treatise of what it means to be human...the dreams, the need for respect, the loneliness, the sacrifice are common to us all. How economic injustice and powerlessness go hand in hand . . .”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Testament of Mary* by Colm Toibin: “This is a fictional account of the later life of Mary, the mother of Jesus. It is told from the perspective of Jesus as a historical figure and not divine.”

**A Reader from Gt. Barrington** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: “While the verbiage is old fashioned and full of riddles, the overall message of this classic was clear as can be. As we age into adulthood, we focus more on the tangible world and forget what is important: ‘anything essential is invisible to the eyes,’ . . .”

**A Reader from Indian Orchard** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “This book has been on my list for awhile and I’m so glad I got a chance to read it. A very insightful essay like read.”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: “The story was about two 8 year old girls who meet at St.Bonaventure orphanage. One girl is black and one is white. Their ethnicity is never revealed. I enjoyed and could not tell by speech who was who.”

**A Reader from Hopedale** read *Call of the Wild* by Jack London: “I read this book many years ago as a student. It is a timeless classic with many themes. My favorite one is how Buck's love for John Thornton was able to suppress the primordial call of his ancestors . . .”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “We have learned nothing from the past. History certainly repeats itself.”

**A Reader from East Bridgewater** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer & Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “Touching story about the ones we love and the end of life.”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *Parade* by Hiromi Kawakami: “The book gave me some insight into Japanese folklore. It was refreshing to be immersed in a different culture for this short book.”

**A Reader from Framingham** read *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus: “This book had me from the first chapter. The characters were well developed, and I enjoyed going back in time learning how limiting being a woman was.”

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *Cold enough for snow* by Jessic Au: “This quiet novella is about a mother and daughter who meet in Tokyo for a vacation where they travel around to different sites, whose descriptions are lovely, but they don’t seem to spend much of their time together talking about how they really feel.”

**A Reader from Wrentham** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “This should be required reading. It was basically the text of a TED talk that I wish I had seen or heard.”

**A Reader from Southborough** read *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams: “The Boy loved the Rabbit so much that he became Real. I thought it was really heartwarming and I loved the idea that love and the Boys childlike innocence could make a stuffed toy Real.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *A Small Place* by Jamaica Kincaid: “A poignant look at the impact of colonialism (and Western tourism) on Kincaid's home country of Antigua. The first part, told in second person, is an especially scathing critique of tourism and how it has impacted Antiguan.”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *The Basic Laws of Human Stupidity* by Carlo Cipolla: “Insightful theoretical scientific analysis of human stupidity and its effects on society and ultimately governance.”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *The boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy: “Beautiful. Heartfelt. Gorgeous.”

**A Reader from Princeton** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Quite a feminist book, and depressing to read! The author's desire to work as a writer is challenged by her husband, who essentially doesn't want her to do anything but rest, and her mental health issues increase as she stays in her bedroom all day studying . . .”

**A Reader from Reading** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrik Backman: “I cried through almost the entire thing. It is a very beautiful and emotional journey.”

**A Reader from Burlington** read *Escape Room Museum Heist* by Stephane Antequil: “A fun twist on the classic choose-your-own-adventure style of books, where you have to solve puzzles to determine the next page to turn to.”

**A Reader from Bolton** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: “Family, society...ideals of normal and alienation of that which isn't.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrik Backman: “This was a beautiful and sad book, and I loved the accompanying illustrations.”

**A Reader from Newton** read *Kid Me Not: an anthology by child free women of the 60's now in their 60's* by Aralyn Hughes: “An eye-opening collection of life stories about what it was like to come of age in the 1960's as a woman, dealing with societal expectations surrounding having a family, and how these women were resilient and stayed true to themselves . . .”

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Ordinary love* by Jane Smiley: “Honest and insightful depiction of family dynamics.”

**A Reader from Gill** read *Bartleby the Scrivener* by Herman Melville: “Delightful! Funnier than I expected from Melville, but also mysterious and haunting.”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *The Snow Goose* by Paul Gallico: “Beautifully written. Transported me.”

**A Reader from Boston** read *Woman In The Dark* by Dashiell Hammett: “Loved it. Entertaining. Quick read. Writing was fact paced, wry and humorous. Small details gave the story a sense of the realism for which Hammett is known.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Skin Deep* by Alan Brennert: “Excellent sci-fi doesn’t just show you the future, it makes it glaringly clear that the more things change the more they stay the same. This short story was an aching look at how humans judge each other.”

**A Reader from Allston** read *The Cook* by Maylis de Kerangal: “The book was easy to read and touched on the specifics of working in the service industry, but it did so with an existential twist.”

**A Reader from Hopedale** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “Great little story about dementia and loss, having lost my Grampy in May 2022 to dementia it was relatable.”

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *The GrownUp* by Gillian Flynn: “This is a short story. It was described as an homage to the classic ghost story. It was a bit creepy but I found it to be a little disjointed, especially the ending. I would not recommend it. But is fit the bill as a book of less than 100 pages.”

**A Reader from Marriottsville** read *The Boy, the mole, the Fox and the Horse* by charlie Mackesy: “Beautiful! Touching! Uplifting! Read it before when I lost my husband. It was so comforting. Will be sending a copy to my teenage granddaughter.”

**A Reader from Harwich** read *The GivingTree* by Shel Silverstein: “It made me happy that the tree was able to give to the boy. It made me sad that the boy took everything from the tree. In the end the tree still gave the boy a seat.”

**A Reader from West Chesterfield** read *Lost Cat* by Caroline Paul: “Yes, it’s 150 pp. of out loud laughter, snorts, tears and what was that? thoughts and feelings that all pet people, especially cat co-habitants, will appreciate and laugh over again the next day. A book you will want to share with someone . . .”

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: “It’s a Children’s Book that I never read as a child, and it was sweet and very charming!”

**A Reader from Bolton** read *Happily Broken* by Clementine Bihiga: “This was an emotional read about a woman’s experience as a child in war-torn Rwanda, followed by her experiences as a teen and adult in the US. It has a good message of persevering through suffering.”

**A Reader from Dracut** read *Ghost Dick: Private Eye* by Peter Derk: “Ghost Dick caught my eye on Amazon because of its quick humor and easy to read intrigue. The narrator’s voice hooks me, but the plot lacks detail and color that I wish it had more of.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Red Pony* by John Steinbeck: “This small book packs an emotional punch. I thought it would be a quick read, but I found myself wanting to savor every single page.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *A Man Named Thoreau* by Robert Burleigh: “This book was lovely to read because I’ve always been interested in Thoreau. The illustrations were an excellent addition to the writing about Thoreau’s life, musings and writings. This short book re-inspired me to visit Walden Pond!”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: “A very imaginative story with memorable characters that made me want to finish the story in one sitting (being under 100 pages did help!). I enjoyed the vivid descriptions of both the characters and the setting.”



**A Reader from Hampden** read *And one more thing before you go...* by Maria Shriver: "I thought the book was just okay. Maria gave great advice to young woman just getting out of high school and heading for college. What I didn't care for is that she never addressed the young woman who don't plan on going to college."

**A Reader from Centerville** read *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan: "I honestly was expecting more from a shortlisted Booker prize book. The story felt lacking in substance, though the prose was beautiful."

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *A Pelican Beach Affair* by Michelle Gilcrest: "Really nice beach read!"

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: "It took me a short while to warm up to the farcical tone of this play, but I did end up enjoying Wilde poking fun at the social mores of Victorian England. I'm especially glad to have read this classic . . ."

**A Reader from WAKEFIELD** read *Animal Farm* by Orwell: "It seems the lessons of authoritarianism are still relevant today. A quick read with a powerful message."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "I was really drawn into this book. I can't believe I had never read it. Steinbeck is a master storyteller."

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *The Tale of the Unknown Island* by Jose Saramago: "I thought it was a cute story, very simply written. It was a little hard to read at times because of the way dialogue was punctuated, but I enjoyed it overall."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Things to do* by Elaine Magliaro: "Things to do is a children's book full of wonder to start the year. Poems and glimpses of ordinary things of joy."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *And Every Morning The Day Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrick Backman: "Having watched a loved one suffer from Alzheimer's, this book was beautifully written portraying a devastating illness."

**A Reader from East Boston** read *The Only Harmless Great Thing* by Brooke Bolander: "It was slightly hard to follow at times and obviously doesn't have a happy ending, but was very interesting and I enjoyed it!"

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Call of Cthulhu* by HP Lovecraft: "Well, maybe when it was written it was considered scary or horrifying, but in today's world it seems pretty tame. It was OK, but not anything I'd read again because it didn't really capture my attention."

**A Reader from South Yarmouth** read *The Unstrung Harp* by Edward Gorey: "It was great! Very cute."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Cold Enough for Snow* by Jessica Au: "When the twist was revealed in this book, it was not as exciting as I expected. However I appreciated how this story was told - with the chronological flow of thoughts and events."

**A Reader from Quincy** read *Jumanji* by Chris Van Allsburg: "Definitely interesting to see how this was adapted to the film."

**A Reader from Groveland** read *I hope this finds you well: poems* by Kate Baer: "I was blown away by Kate Baer's ability to transform internet comments into affirming and profound poetry."

**A Reader from Santa Cruz** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: “Very enjoyable read.”

**A Reader from Palmer** read *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry: “I enjoyed the irony of the book and I liked how neither one of them were upset at the other one, they were just grateful for each others love. I think this is a nice story and an easy read.”

**A Reader from Somerset** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: “This was a really interesting reflection on race. It was also a striking portrayal of what it means to be in the system, what it means to be a mother, and what it means to be human.”

**A Reader from SALEM** read *For everyone* by Jason Reynolds: “This is a favorite I revisit often. The audio is amazing.”

**A Reader from Scituate** read *Movin'* by Dave Johnson: “I thought the book was motivational and deserves more credit. I would definitely recommend this book!”

**A Reader from Braintree MA** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Well articulated, and convincing. The title says it all.”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Reform in Parliamentary business: House of Lords (1884)* by William Rathbone, T Dyke Aceland: “It is interesting that almost 150 years later, reform in the House of Lords has not effectively addressed the issues raised in this book.”

**A Reader from North Dighton** read *Peluda* by Melissa Lozada-Oliva: “A thoughtful collection of poems navigating, in part, identity and body image. I love the personal voice and inclusion of Spanish throughout.”

**A Reader from New Bedford** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupery: “This is my second time reading this. I had forgotten most of it, but after reading it again, realized it has so much meaning and emotion. Fantastic.”

**A Reader from Malden** read *Woman in the Dark* by Dashiell HMMWRR: “Fast paced, easy but compelling read that had many surprises at the end.”

**A Reader from CHICOPEE** read *Being Perfect* by Anna Quindlen: “I really enjoyed the book which included lots of cool illustrations of people of all ages having fun, reading, or just taking an imperfect picture . . .”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: “There is the literal way to interpret the book as a man crashes a plane and hallucinates a little “alien” and there is the spiritual interpretation of it was all in someone’s mind and they were learning about the “important things” in life . . .”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Tea Dragon Society* by Kay O’Neill: “Reading this book was like settling in for a good cup of tea. It is full of beautiful illustrations and sentiments.”

**A Reader from Erving** read *The Empress of Salt and Fortune* by Nghi Vo: “It was a window into ancient China and how politics were played out with words, objects and action.”

**A Reader from Whitinsville** read *We should all be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Interesting book about how society, especially Nigeria, looks at women. She goes into the negative connotation some people have with the world feminist.”

**A Reader from South Hamilton** read *In Conclusion, don't worry about it* by Lauren Graham: “An encouraging reflection that is a road map for being happy whatever you do.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving: “This is a book I have always intended to read but never gotten to. I enjoyed getting to know the story that I've seen used but never read in full.”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer And Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “I did not enjoy this book a much as other books I've read by this author. For me, personally, the narrative was too difficult to follow.”

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Published in 1892, this story depicts the loneliness of postpartum depression. Well written, as you can feel the angst and misunderstanding among the characters.”

**A Reader from South Weymouth** read *God Bless You, Dr. Kevorkian* by Kurt Vonnegut: “It was really thought-provoking, but I wish that the conversations had been longer or deeper.”

**A Reader from Ludlow** read *Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them* by Newt Scamander/ JK Rowling: “A Harry Potter fan since the beginning when you had to wait... for each book. I loved this, very creative, clever, often funny.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The bicycle man* by Allen Say: “I have a new granddaughter and bicycling is my passion. So when my wife found this book in their local library near Philadelphia, of course I had to read it to her.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Power on!* by Jean Ryoo & Jane Margolis: “Wonderful graphic novel! Really highlights the challenges of secondary computer science education in a way that I found compelling, and seems like it would be relatable to young people, too. I really liked the art.”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Visit* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “It was a great short story about old friends who had to confront the past and find a way to embrace the future.”

**A Reader from Ludlow** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: “I always knew of the plot because it's such a famous book, but it was something else actually sitting down to read it. It was very mysterious and made one really think about the fight between the good and evil in all of us.”

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *Things To Look Forward To* by Sophie Blackall: “A helpful book for seniors which reminds us that there are many pleasurable activities to be enjoyed as the parameters of our lives shrink. New friendships and relationships can lift one's spirits and renew one's energy on a day to day basis.”

**A Reader from Somerville** read *The Hangman* by Louise Penny: “Obviously a lot simpler than her full novels, but it was still a pretty good story.”

**A Reader from West Yarmouth** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "I liked it very much. The form of writing this, as letters, held my attention. It was interesting, how the two main characters developed a strong friendship through their correspondence."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: "The book is a play. There is wonderful banter among the characters and it is all very humorous."

**A Reader from Enfield** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "I love the writing of this author. He makes you feel every feeling of his characters. This book reminded me to appreciate my loved ones."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros: "The House on Mango Street was a fast easy read about a young girl and her family and all of the different people that came and went through the girls time at Mango Street. A place she knew she did not want to stay her whole life...she wanted her own house."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy: "This is a book about friendship and kindness - so many wise thoughts expressed by the characters- 'There is more love in this world than you could possibly imagine.' A book with wonderful drawings and a book for all ages! I loved it and read it over and over."

**A Reader from East Falmouth** read *The English Understand Wool* by Helen DeWitt: "An odd little gem of a book with so many clever turns of phrase. I wished I could have spent more time with the main character!"

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "A great feminist call to action. I actually wish it had been a little longer! She has a wonderful style and I flew right through it on my kindle. I'll have to try out one of her novels!"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *What I Mean When I Say I'm Autistic* by Annie Kotowicz: "Great insight into an autistic woman's world!"

**A Reader from Harwich** read *The Hummingbird's Gift* by Sy Montgomery: "Absolutely lovely! Just heard about this author and will read more of her books about animals."

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "A perspective on feminism from a Nigerian author and how it translates in the modern world. Thought provoking story from her childhood when she was first called a feminist by a person she was best friends with and why he perceived it as an insult to her . . ."

**A Reader from Topsfield** read *God Bless You, Dr. Kevorkian* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.: "Weird, delightful, and thought-provoking."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Stick Together* by Jon Gordon & Kate Leavell: "A simple bit of inspiration."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *HOLY MOMENTS* by MATTHEW KELLY: "A GREAT BOOK TO GROUND YOU FOR THE START OF THE NEW YEAR."

**A Reader from Lompoc** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: "It was much more interesting than I thought it would be, I wish it was a little but longer even to go more in depth about how peculiar the situation was or to better show how Jekyll personifies good."

**A Reader from Somerville** read *Food Related Stories* by Gaby Melian: "Not my favorite food & life philosophy book but cute nonetheless! I knew Gaby before from Bon Appetit, and I really enjoyed the ultimate affirmation that it's ok to change your dreams and "give up" on them to pursue other things."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *The Hat* by Jan Brett: "Great read aloud book for parents, grandparents teacher and librarians!"

**A Reader from Boston** read *The Yellow Wall-Paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I found this book to be comical at times, in how she writing about her pure hatred for this wallpaper. She would be discussing herself or what she's going through living and "resting" in this nursery and then bam-- she'd make some snide comment about the wallpaper . . ."

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "I finished this by the fire on the night of our first snow storm. Gorgeous use of language, finely woven storytelling, a perfect start to this challenge."

**A Reader from Gloucester** read *Fiona's Lace* by Patrica Polacco: "I loved this book. Patricia Polacco was one of my favorite books as a child because of her illustrations and her stories about Jewish immigrant ancestors which I related to. This story is about her dad's side of the family which is Irish, just like mine!"

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *Dear Ijeawele, or a Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "compulsively readable. through-provoking and literary."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *Assume the Worst: The Graduation Speech You'll Never Hear* by Carl Hiaasen: "This very short book is written as a commencement speech would be if it were comically realistic, rather than idealistic. It's only 64 pages long...with pictures! But the illustrations are by the hilarious New Yorker cartoonist Roz Chast . . ."

**A Reader from Manchester** read *Bluest Nude* by Ama Codjoe: "This is a standout collection of poetry. Transportive imagery with enough of a narrative thread to keep the reader hooked."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Indigo* by Alice Hoffman: "Indigo tells a beautiful story of three young people who do not fit in their town. They set out on an adventure and, in getting lost, they are both found and understood. Alice Hoffman's writing is, as always, spectacular."

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *The Whipping Boy* by Sid Fleischman: "Interesting children's book. Winner of 1987 John Newbery Medal. The spoiled young prince learns a lesson about life and friendship when he runs away from the castle."

**A Reader from Westford** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "I was disappointed Gregor stayed a cockroach and died at the end. I was really holding out hope that he'd transform back into a person somehow . . ."

**A Reader from FITCHBURG** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "An uplifting and hopeful poem rooted in history, but looking forward. The line "Our future first, we must first put our differences aside." is something to daily reflect on and put into practice."

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Who Was Sojourner Truth* by Yona Z. McDonough: "I thought it was a very good book, and told the story very well."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "As an artist I was fascinated by the description of the patterns and how the protagonist's need for stimulation warped them into such sinister images. This book explores the need for meaningful work to keep a person's sanity and self worth."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "This book explored how a creative mind needs the stimulation of work to keep sane. I was fascinated by the description of the patterns in the wallpaper and how the author used them to show the protagonist's decline into insanity."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *#RescueMe* by S.R. Marks: "The book is a collection of short horror stories by a local author. I enjoyed them even though some of the stories seemed a bit unpolished."

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Just wonderful. She also wrote *Small Things Like These*...so well written."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: "It was good to finally go to the source after all the popular references to Jekyll and Hyde. I chose it because I read *Treasure Island* a year ago and was surprised how much I enjoyed it. The atmosphere of London is masterfully portrayed."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Christmas at eagle pond* by Donald Hall: "It was a cute story that made me dream about spending a Christmas in New Hampshire like in the old days."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *Daisy Miller* by Henry James: "It was a pleasure to be transported to late nineteenth-century Rome. The plot describes an unmarried young lady, Daisy Miller, who flouted the social norms of the time by daring to walk unchaperoned in public with a man . . ."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Law: A Dresden Files Novella* by Jim Butcher: "Harry takes a pro bono case to help a woman in need, and it helps him in moving forward after a great battle and loss of friends. The woman is helping children and other women by her tutoring franchises and needs Harry's help to keep from losing it all . . ."

**A Reader from Erving** read *Ten Days in a Mad-House* by Nellie Bly: "Eye-opening, especially considering that Ms Bly took on this assignment in the 19th century. Her report was published in 1887, far before the women's suffrage movement."

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *The Country of the Pointed Firs* by Sarah Orne Jewett: "Good description of classic Maine characters."

**A Reader from Brookline** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche: "This book really made a compelling argument as to why we should all be feminists, even men. Such a powerful voice to read!"

**A Reader from Lenox** read *I Know This to be True* by Ruth Bader Ginsburg: "Beautiful book that encapsulates her values, determination, battles and fortitude."



**A Reader from READING** read *Night* by Ellie Wiesel: “This book is autobiographical in nature, and the author Elie Wiesel ( then 16 year old) shares his experiences in a concentration camp. In this painful journey he was accompanied by his father, and lost his mother and 7 year old sister . . .”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Beyond the Gender Binary* by Alok Vaid-Menon: “A nice quick primer on breaking down the gender binary.”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas* by Ursula LeGuin: “An eerie rendition about a place that seems ideal but holds an unsettling secret.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Greatest Gift* by Philip Van Doren Stern: “I have always watched the movie, It's a Wonderful Life, but never realized it was based on a book. What a lovely little story and a nice read to close out the holiday season.”

**A Reader from AMHERST** read *A Christmas Memory* by Truman Capote: “Capote's early childhood memories of Christmases shared with his elderly cousin in rural Alabama is a nostalgic short story worth reading and rereading, especially around the holidays.”

**A Reader from Barnstable** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “Enjoyed how a ‘short’ book (in length) could be so provocative.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *I Hope This Finds You Well* by Kate Baer: “This was an empowering book of poems created by comments and emails either received by the author or regarding public news. I love that each poem is a poignant response to some of the lovely or heinous things people write on the internet . . .”

**A Reader from Alexandria** read *The Yellow Wall-Paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Such a gripping and powerful commentary on postpartum depression and (mis)treatment at a time when women had so few rights or available resources.”

**A Reader from LeClaire** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: “Steinbeck can say so much in so few words. I can see the characters in my mind so clearly. There is a grief in his writing and *The Pearl* is no exceptional.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu: “I enjoyed the book. I thought the author's advice about keeping perspective and cultivating mindsets to succeed in the long run are still applicable today.”

**A Reader from Hadley** read *Make Trouble* by John Waters: “A short, inspiring, cheeky, subversive read for anyone in the fine arts.”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Win No Matter What: A guide to hyping up your life* by Nihar Suthar: “This book is very simple, but did have quite a few cute and emotional stories. It is all about keeping a positive outlook and attitude on life.”

**A Reader from Enfield** read *Poems for Nighttime* by Various: “This had a few poems I liked, but I'm not a huge Poetry person. I will still keep trying though, cause I would like to like Poetry.”

**A Reader from West Simsbury** read *Six Characters in Search of an Author* by Luigi Pirandello: “It took me a bit to get into it; interesting and complex premise, but was ultimately drawn in. It would be compelling to see it performed.”

**A Reader from Dorchester** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Blackman: "Heartwarming story about an elderly man who is suffering from memory loss and he shares his memories with his grandson. Many topics of discussion are the boy's love of math, how is school going for the boy and how the man met and fell in love with his wife . . ."

**A Reader from Sagamore Beach** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "A short story based on Greek mythology, nicely written with the narrator and main character a stone statue that was born to live by the sculpture. Thought provoking on the idea of how men look at women."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr.Suess: "It is a fun read that any one can enjoy."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *God Will Use This For Good: Surviving The Mess of Life* by Max Lucado: "'God Will Use This for Good" was a well-written 47-page book. It helped make reflect on how I want to handle the tough times in life."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *El Coronel No Tiene Quien le Escriba* by Gabriel García Márquez: "Remarkable. In just 99 pages, captures the relentless sensations of fear, resignation, and disappointment of poverty and corruption in a nameless South American town during the late 20th century. Easy to see why Márquez is such a celebrated Spanish-language author."

**A Reader from West Yarmouth** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "Author is very talented, story had me engaged right from the very beginning and was able to vividly imagine what the main character Galatea was feeling. Quick read and enjoyable story for the adult reader who appreciates mythology and empowerment."

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *The Eumenides* by Aeschylus, Hugh Lloyd-Jones (tr.): "Though a brief work - being the final installment in Aeschylus' dramatic trilogy, *The Oresteia* - this play is replete with wise observations on things such as truth and justice, written in the elegant style that is often associated with ancient authors . . ."

**A Reader from Kingston** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "I thought that this interpretation of Ovid's version of Pygmalion was done with grace and through a different lense. First, Miller gave the sculpture a name, Galatea. This gave her character more independence from the get-go . . ."

**A Reader from Andover** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "it was a beautifully written book and i loved the language the author used. Will be recommending to friends."

**A Reader from Andover** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "An engaging and entertaining collection of letters between an American writer and a used book dealer in London which documents their growing friendship, and shared love of books, across the miles."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Poetess of Auschwitz and The Boy with Six Names* by Alexandra Hays: "This is my sister-in-law's first published book! It's a very interesting story of a Slovakian mother and her son separated during World War II, and then reunited after traveling through a whole bunch of countries in Europe."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The Metamorphosis (in Franz Kafka the complete stories)* by Franz Kafka: “Kafka always gets me thinking, and *The Metamorphosis* is no exception. I like the reflection on identity and obligation.”

**A Reader from Erving** read *Gratefully yours* by Jane Buchanan: “I had never heard of the orphan train (or did not remember hearing about it) This was an endearing story that took me to another time and place in US history. I enjoyed it!”

**A Reader from Leominster** read *Larger than Life* by Jodi Piccolt: “I don’t usually read short books, and I found that I was left wanting more. The story was sad, and good, however, I would’ve liked more character development.”

**A Reader from Hopedale** read *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson: “Not what I thought it was going to be!”

**A Reader from Andover** read *Passing* by Nella Larsen: “*Passing* took on so many meanings for me. It was a story about passing into a new life, passing as a new identity, and passing over, or missing, a part of yourself. It was just a lovely reflection on the impact of the choices we make for ourselves . . .”

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall* by William L. Riordan: “This is said to be based on the actual speeches of Tammany boss George Washington Plunkitt (1842-1924). I was not impressed by his views on politics and honesty.”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Lifeboat No. 8: An Untold Tale of Love, Loss, and Surviving the Titanic* by Elizabeth Kaye: “Appropriately chilling to hear of first hand accounts about people who survived, or didn't on the Titanic. How desperately knowing the history and outcome we (as the reader) want to inform the characters (real people) of what's to come and how to avoid it.”

**A Reader from Holyoke** read *Mary Ventura and the Ninth Kingdom* by Sylvia Plath: “This book has left me wondering about how so many of us willingly submit into the monotony of everyday life. Is everything really an illusion of choice?”

**A Reader from Wellesley** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “A beautifully written story of a young Irish girl sent to live with older distant relatives for a summer. In contrast to her home life, she is treated with love and tenderness, but must return to her family at the end of the summer.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Emergency Skin* by NK Jemisin: “A biting social commentary that flips the patriarchy on its head in Science Fiction format. 4 stars out of 5.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Undercover* by Tamsyn Muir: “A sweet quick light horror read that asks us to question the definition of human.”

**A Reader from Sutton** read *Very Good Lives* by J. K. Rowling: “This book was surprisingly dark, in a good way.”

**A Reader from Northborough** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: “Suspenseful. I couldn't wait to see how it ended. I really felt for the characters.”

**A Reader from New Bedford** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “I enjoyed the feminine viewpoint of the classic myth which previously seems to have only perpetuated a male dominance fantasy.”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *The Tiny Book of Tiny Stories* by Joseph Gordon-Levitt: “The universe is not made of atoms; it's made of tiny stories.”

**A Reader from Monson** read *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse: “Knowledge can be communicated, but not wisdom.” I would never have picked up this book without this challenge. A powerful, spiritual journey of finding peace and destiny.”

**A Reader from Leominster** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “A quick introduction to feminism and what it means, not the stereotype that people believe it to be.”

**A Reader from Whitinsville** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Frederick Bachman: “I really enjoyed this emotional read.”

**A Reader from East Bridgewater** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “This novella left me speechless after reading it in less than an hour. The characters were phenomenal and very easy to connect to while the plot was heavy with emotion.”

**A Reader from Wilbraham** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “A perfect little gem illustrating the female reality behind the Greek myth and showing to what lengths a mother will go to protect her daughter.”

**A Reader from Andover** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “I adored this book so much that I already picked up Keegan's other novella, *Small Things Like These!*”

**A Reader from Dracut** read *Nick and Charlie* by Alice Oseman: “A lovely follow up to one of my favorite graphic novel series. The characters are a little older and facing a change that was very relatable to me, even though the transition from high school to college is long behind me.”

**A Reader from Dartmouth** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “Loved it. Perfect take on this myth for this time. She is one salty statue. 💙”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: “This is a sad tale of want and need, and how the promise of something better really changes everything for the worst.”

**A Reader from Erving** read *Resting Scrooge Face* by Meghan Quinn: “Cute but predictable. Turned out to be a short story.”

**A Reader from Bondsville** read *The Grownup* by Gillian Flynn: “It was good, but not something I'd normally read. I wanted something a little “scarier” for a horror novella.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Gratitude* by Oliver Sacks: “After finishing these four short but profound essays on life and death, I look forward to reading Sacks' autobiographical *On the Move: A Life.*”

**A Reader from Salem** read *Daisy Miller* by Henry James: “I liked the dialogue and James' writing style (I have never read a Henry James before), but I did find the plot a little bit stagnant.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “A re-read from high school, this holds a different perspective now that I am a mother myself and realizing what triggered her to write this story.”

**A Reader from Saugus** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I thought the book was interesting and I've never read anything like it before. It was interesting to read a book from long ago that speaks to women's issues in that time period."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu (Michael Nylan): "Reading for it's application to business and was able to interpret advice on facing the competition and manage "troops". As an instruction manual I can imagine it a useful guide to early war."

**A Reader from Haverhill** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "I love mythology and had never heard of or read the inspiration for this book, Pygmalion. She knew she was made of marble, sometimes acted that way, but learned to have feelings- love for her daughter resentment for her husband. I didn't know what to expect . . ."

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Lover* by Marguerite Duras: "This is a book I never would have selected if it weren't for this challenge! I plucked it from Salem Public Library's display, and I am grateful. It brought me into a world--colonized French "Indochina"--about which I had limited knowledge . . ."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Address Unknown* by Katherine Kressman Taylor: "This is a small, quick book that packs a lot of punch. Consisting only of letters between two friends, the author conveys the terror and insidious nature of Hitler's take over of Germany . . ."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "Found the book to be bizarre, which I suppose is to be expected, given the nature of Kafka's writing. Was particularly surprised at the abrupt nature of the book's end."

**A Reader from Salem** read *She and Her Cat* by Makoto Shinkai and Naruki Nagakawa: "Quick and cozy read exploring the intertwining of complex relationships. Both of the female and feline varieties."

**A Reader from Whately** read *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Future* by Michael J. Fox: "Even though this book is geared towards graduates, it is appropriate for all ages. There are many life lessons in this book. It made me think about some of my life experiences."

**A Reader from Peabody** read *7 Husbands of Eleanor Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins: "I enjoyed this book, it was light reading, fast moving and very creative. I could pick it up and step right back into the characters."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "It was really good, although I think Miller's longer works (*Circe*, *The Song of Achilles*) were better because they had much more room for storytelling and character development. I would still recommend this to anyone looking for a (very) quick read."

**A Reader from East Taunton** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "I feel as if I would've enjoyed this more if I first read it as a child, and then re-read as an adult. Alas, I had never read this before and it didn't touch me in the way it seems to have others."

**A Reader from Norton** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "This short story by the author of *Circe* and *The Song of Achilles* gives us the story Galatea, a beautiful marble statue brought to life . . ."

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *The Bookstore Sisters* by Alice Hoffman: "It was an engaging short story. It had all the parts of a story and was tied up neatly at the end for being so short!"

**A Reader from Spencer** read *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad: "Honestly, I know why I didn't care for it 30 years ago when it was assigned in school."

**A Reader from Andover** read *Beak and Ally: unlikely friends* by Norm Feuti: "Very nice representation of friends and friendship. A warm hilarious story."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Summer of 79'* by Elin Hilderbrand: "It was a pleasant update on all characters."

**A Reader from Brookline** read *Story of Your Life* by Ted Chiang: "This story makes you think hard and also breaks your heart a little. Cool!"

**A Reader from Haverhill** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "Animal Farm is an easy read. A political fable with an underlining meaning that still relates to today's world."

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *If you're not yet like me* by Edan Lepucki: "Had some good moments and some pretty writing but a little bit disjointed."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I felt sorry for her. She was manipulated but also mentally weak and unstable. She made me sad"

**A Reader from North Bethesda** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Quiet but packed with emotion."

**A Reader from Barnstable** read *Cold Enough For Snow* by Jessica Au: "Rich, slow, ponderous, mother and daughter story, very moving. I don't usually read short stories, but now I appreciate how they can capture and share so much in just one handful."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "Loved this book about getting older, losing memories, possibly Alzheimer's. Immediately gave as a gift to a family member caring for her mother with Alzheimer's."

**A Reader from Randolph** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "This book is at first glance a seemingly simple story of two 8 yr old girls whose lives intersect as children and later as adults. As Toni Morrison masterfully writes it, the story is more - a true challenge to our conscious and unconscious biases . . ."

**A Reader from MENDON** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "I was surprised by the beauty and tenderness in this short book. The way the author imagined the experience of someone struggling with the loss of memories at the end of life touched me deeply."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey: "Very cute story with wonderful illustrations. Reminds me of picking blueberries in New England as a kid."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Who was Walt Disney* by Whitney Stewart: "It was interesting and it was a roller coaster of up and downs. It had a lot of times when Disney was struggling and then made a new movie or cartoon that got him moving back up."

**A Reader from HAMPDEN** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "I found it confusing and can't really understand it as a children's classic."



**A Reader from Reston** read *Daisy Miller* by James Henry: “Daisy Miller was written by James in 1878 comparing European Society and American Society behavior and what is acceptable for a young woman. High European society questions if her flirtatious behavior is out of innocence or not . . .”

**A Reader from Danvers** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: “This was a sweet book of letters shared over 20 years between an American author Helene Hanff and staff from Marks & Co. a little bookstore in London post WW2. The letters stretch from 1949 to 1969 and it is so lovely to read . . .”

**A Reader from Wilbraham** read *We Are Called To Be A Movement* by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II: “This is a thought provoking, inspirational sermon. Rev. Barber presents a powerful and relevant message, and a convincing call to action.”

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *The Best Poems Ever* by Various: “I liked about half of the poems. Some were hard to follow. A good book if you like poetry.”

**A Reader from Sutton** read *Dinner with a Perfect Stranger* by David Gregory: “Quick but interesting read.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Assemblu* by Natasha Brown: “I found a lot of the subject matter (poverty, upward mobility, racism and sexism in the workplace, women even in exec roles being reduced to coffee maker or flight booker when male coworkers are in need, generational wealth) to be interesting . . .”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Open Heart* by Elie Wiesel: “elie wiesel spoke at my high school and still cried when describing the horrors he experienced during the holocaust. between that and reading night, his story had profound effect on my life . . .”

**A Reader from Boston** read *Walking Meditation* by Nguyen Anh-Huong & Thich Nhat Hanh: “A good balance of knowledge and practice, provides some good stuff to think about in daily life even if I wasn’t reading it to follow the steps exactly.”

**A Reader from Boston** read *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor: “I really wish that the middle of the book had been flushed out more. I know it was a short story but I felt it was missing something.”

**A Reader from North Reading** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer And Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “This book was okay, but there were parts that I had to read again and again to grasp their meaning. I don't know if I would say that I enjoyed it because of that.”

**A Reader from Buzzards Bay** read *Chess Story* by Stefan Zweig: “Excellent and intriguing read about a game I don't play.”

**A Reader from Worcester** read *52 Ways to Ignite Your Congregation: Practical Hospitality* by Randy Hammer: “This is a practical handbook for congregational ministers on how to grow the membership of their churches or synagogues. It includes everything from the value of clear signage to the power of a personal contact from the pastor after someone's first visit.”

**A Reader from Stoneham** read *If You're Not Yet Like Me* by Edan Lepucki: “This short story was refreshingly realistic in terms of dating in today's world. It was an interesting point of view being from the author talking to her unborn child. I can't say I loved it, but I don't believe I was supposed to.”

**A Reader from South Hadley** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “Beautifully written, saying much in so few words. Coming of age, important difference between secrets vs the unspoken, with an ending that left me thinking. Loved this little gem.”

**A Reader from Mashpee** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu: “Thought provoking and exciting to ponder. Has been on my to read for years. Loved it!”

**A Reader from Salem** read *City of Incurable Women* by Maud Casey: “This is a first hand account of women who were treated in the same French mental hospital at the turn of the last century. The narratives are frightening, haunting, and disturbing . . .”

**A Reader from Andover** read *Evidence of the Affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: “Told in a correspondence format between spouses whose partners are engaged in an affair. Loved the surprise ending.”

**A Reader from Andover** read *Old man and the sea* by Ernest Hemmingway: “easy to read, a fable but descriptions of the poor fish too graphic and detailed for me. Upsetting.”

**A Reader from Andover** read *The Power of Light* by Isaac Bashevis Singer: “This is a collection of wonderful stories about Hanukkah for the young and those young at heart. The stories are simple and range from old tales to Holocaust-related memories.”

**A Reader from Merrimac** read *Maurice and His Dictionary: A True Story* by Cary Fagan: “An amazing story about the power of family and education even in the face of great adversity. The Holocaust and lack of schooling did not stop Maurice from realizing his dream to become a lawyer.”

**A Reader from Yarmouth Port** read *The Strange Case Of Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stephenson: “I didn’t expect to like it, but I did. The quality of the writing, especially the descriptions of London, act as a balance for the triteness of the plot.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Factory Witches of Lowell* by C.S. Malerich: “A captivating fantasy that has you cheering for the exploited women of the Lowell Mills as they attempt to form a union.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *Even Though I Knew The End* by C.L. Polk: “A Romantic and enchanting story of mystery, intrigue and magic. A mystical detective plunges into the affairs of Chicago's underworld to guarantee a future for herself and the love of her life.”

**A Reader from Dracut** read *Happening* by Annie Ernaux: “Brutally honest, this book will stay with me forever.”

**A Reader from WOBURN** read *We all should be feminist* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Adichie's words are extremely powerful and relatable. It focuses less on pointing fingers and placing blame and more on providing thoughtful insight and evidence as to why certain gendered ideas don't make sense and practical strategies for moving forward.”

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *Hub Fans Bid Kid Adieu* by John Updiker: “Perfect sports writing and praise for a great player of a great sport.”

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *The Hawk's Way* by Sy Montgomery: “This book is a great compliment to H is For Hawk. It is more about technique, training and handling of the hawk. Sy Montgomery does a good job of explaining the many facets of the hunt, and working with a dog . . .”

**A Reader from Malden** read *The Year I Learned to Fly* by Jacqueline Woodson: "This is the story of two black children who's grandmother encourages them to imagine themselves in a better place when they can't control what's going on in their lives . . ."

**A Reader from Centerville** read *Heartstones* by Ruth Rendell: "Classic Rendell told in the style of a Gothic novel. Had me squirming from the very beginning and wondering 'Did she or didn't she?'"

**A Reader from Reading** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer tells the story of a man with dementia, learning to say goodbye while he still has some semblance of his faculties. In just a few pages, Backman develops tender, complex relationships . . ."

**A Reader from Sutton** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: "More difficult to read than I thought given the older language, but really enjoyed the story and overall message."

**A Reader from East Falmouth** read *Woolgathering* by Patti Smith: "I enjoyed the combination of poetry and prose and dream sequences. Her writing brings vivid images to mind."

**A Reader from Forestdale** read *The House On Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros: "The House On Mango Street was an interesting book. I liked how it was told through the authors eyes. I felt as though I was walking through Esperanza's life with her."

**A Reader from Reading** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "This book is a story about the wonder of imagination. I love the dedication."

**A Reader from Chelmsford** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "Probably full of great meaning but really just a story about a man who turns into a bug. Sounds like a nightmare to me."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakami: "This superb book made me think back to when I was a child. Oh, to be young again and have grand adventures!"

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Lady Into Fox* by David Garnett: "Strange and touching fantasy about the irrational power of love."

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *Seasons at Eagle Pond* by Donald Hall: "This book really describes New England weather and it's seasons very well. The effect the weather had on small farmers and the hard physical labor the old time farmers did is well portrayed."

**A Reader from worcester** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: "Who was it who said, 'This letter would have been shorter had I had more time to write.'? Morrison took the time. What she wrote in 40 pages will stay with me, and will continue to haunt me at times. An exceptional book . . ."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Always We Begin Again* by John McQuiston II: "This is a lovely "how to live" book based on the teachings of St. Benedict. The suggestions include especially being appreciative and giving thanks, while serving others instead of serving oneself. Not religious, but very spiritual."

**A Reader from Franklin** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "A beautiful generational tale of love among the layered tale of loss."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Beast* by Clarissa Wild: "It is a quick read about mafia dealings and all the trapping of the lifestyle. The main characters trauma bond in order to survive."

**A Reader from Lakeville** read *Everything you need to know about E Collar Training* by Larry Krohn: "Great informative book, with simple guidance to help assist with training dogs. After reading this book I feel much more confident with my training techniques."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Small Thing Like These* by Claire Keegan: "What I liked about the book was that mild mannered Bill helps out the young girl without any fanfare, any indecision just because it was the right thing. It's such a gentle book about such a heavy topic and it's so accurately reflected in Bill's solemnity."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Mary Ventura and the Ninth Kingdom: A Story* by Sylvia Plath: "I really enjoyed how this novella, written by Plath while she was a student at Smith College, reflects on the societal repression of women in the 1950s . . ."

**A Reader from WEST BARNSTABLE** read *My Life and Hard Times* by James Thurber: "This is a collection of anecdotes taken from Thurber's youth up until 1918 when he was 24 and was originally published in 1933 so I was surprised that they held up so well despite the passage of time . . ."

**A Reader from Holden** read *Notes on Grief* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "This was a profound book about the author's processing of her disbelief and grief surrounding her father's sudden death. It was touching and tragic but also amazingly poignant and relatable . . ."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The old man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "Classic book about courage, loss and transformation."

**A Reader from middleboro** read *the basic laws of human stupidity* by cipolla, carlo m.: "Author Carlo Cipolla must of had a really bad day, met someone he thought was stupid and went on a rant. low and behold his rant was published. Yes some of what he says is true, but still it sounds like him having a bad day. don't recommend."

**A Reader from WORCESTER** read *THE PEARL* by JOHN STEINBECK: "As I read about the man who was obsessed with the great value of the pearl to pull him and his family out of poverty it made me think about current day people and their views of the mega money in the lottery."

**A Reader from Andover** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Richard Howard (Translator): "I want stars that make me laugh. And never to become a grown-up."

**A Reader from Holden** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "I loved this inspirational, powerful poem that speaks of promise, community, and hope...a call to action to repair our nation."

**A Reader from Thorndike** read *The Fox and the Star* by Coralie Bickford-Smith: "The story was sweet, and the illustrations were BEAUTIFUL!"

**A Reader from Fitchburg** read *Evidence of the Affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: "It was a fun easy read but also predictable."

**A Reader from AMESBURY** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “A fabulous book to revisit. It strikes a perfect balance of disturbing, eerie, and humorous. The word “creeping” sticks with me long after I read it. It is a book that always make me smile.”

**A Reader from Longmeadow** read *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* by F. Scott Fitzgerald: “I had never read this book and had no idea it was a short story. It’s impressive that Fitzgerald packed such a fascinating tale into 52 pages!”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: “This short novel tells of the tragic life of Ethan Frome and his doomed love for his wife's cousin, Mattie Silver. Not only is the book very effective at evoking the desperation Ethan feels at his life's disappointments, but it also paints a vivid picture.”

**A Reader from FRANKLIN** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “Moving story about growing older and the memories and people that are important in life.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Shakespeare Bats Cleanup* by Ron Koertge: “Good message about how writing can help us, but the poetry by the jock-turned-poet was underwhelming. It was a cute and fast read.”

**A Reader from Scituate** read *Blue Lady* by Stephanie Tullis: “This prequel probably has meaning for regular series readers, but it didn’t recruit me.”

**A Reader from South Yarmouth** read *Marigold and Rose* by Louise Gluck: “It was sweet and ingenious. Loved it!”

**A Reader from Salem** read *To Those Who Were Our First Gods* by Nickole Brown: “Poems that serve as elegy, apology, and praise to the animals, our equals, with whom we share this planet. Stong poems, clear and sometimes brutal imagery. I highly recommend this small, important book. Mercy.”

**A Reader from Sagamore Beach** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “A satire, fairy story (from 1945) as it's referred to seems to mimic today's everyday chaotic life. For decades we've fought for equality; continue to do so today and yet America is presenting itself in quite a divided state of turmoil for all . . .”

**A Reader from Chicopee** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: “This inaugural speech is filled with rhyme and reason. It is hopeful, thoughtful, and filled with truth.”

**A Reader from Methuen** read *The Dip: A Little Book That Teaches You When to Quit (and When to Stick)* by Seth Godin: “While I thought that this was a great idea and was excited to learn more about it, 100 pages was just not enough to flesh it out fully!”

**A Reader from West Yarmouth** read *Who is Judy Blume?* by Kirsten Anderson: “This was a great middle grade biography of Judy Blume. As a school librarian I like to read what the kids are reading. Judy Blume was the author that got me reading as a kid, so thought this would be a great fit for under 100 pages.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Clara Lemlich* by Deborah Heiligman: “This was a book about a woman who fought for workers’ rights. She was arrested multiple times, threatened, and beaten but she always stood up for what was right. It was a great book!”

**A Reader from Florence** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "I haven't read anything by Steinbeck recently so I was a little surprised by the sexist tone. Other than that, and taking into account the time period it was written in, I found it a sad, but thoughtful book."

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *Evidence of the Affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: "I really enjoyed the style of this book. It was told entirely through letters!"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Poetess of Auschwitz and The Boy With Six Names* by Alexandra Hays: "Wonderful short account of a woman and her child and what survival looked like in 1940s Europe. We are losing these first hand stories and it was special to read."

**A Reader from Irvine** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "Interesting - a woman controlled by her husband. She slowly sinks into madness."

**A Reader from Seattle** read *The Murder* by Anton Chekhov: "I read this for a Russian literature class. I've never read Chekhov before, but really enjoyed the thrill!"

**A Reader from Teaticket** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery: "Actually took me a bit to get into it but in the end appreciated the messages of the story."

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *Inside Job* by Connie Willis: "This is a fun story of skepticism and a send-up of American culture, with a side helping of romance. I've read it before and enjoyed reading it again!"

**A Reader from NORTHAMPTON** read *The Shawl* by Cynthia Ozick: "Very sad story on the ongoing trauma of Holocaust survivors."

**A Reader from Brookline** read *The strange library* by Haruki Murakami: "Weird and strange. I love this author and had never read this short story before."

**A Reader from Salem** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "It was such a great take on the term feminism. I especially loved her review on the friend who thought everything was fine for women now, but who was given a reality check. The author makes it clear that feminism has come a long way from the bra burners."

**A Reader from Somerville** read *Finna* by Nino Cipri: "I loved how Ava's character evolved from being avoidant to being proactive over the course of the adventure. I always enjoy multiverse stories. :)"

**A Reader from Reading** read *Gift from the Sea* by Anne Morrow Lindbergh: "My mother gave me an old copy of the book and said, 'it feeds the soul.' It did."

**A Reader from Plainville** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I read this book for High School and it was interesting reading this again now to have a perspective on it as an adult. As a high schooler, I was not able to fully understand narrator's depression. I am glad I read it again as an adult"

**A Reader from Palmer** read *The Snow Queen* by Hans Christian Andersen: "The story moved very fast for all that it contained but the descriptions were beautiful. My favorite was the dreams that ran along the walls of the castle."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Ultimate jungle rumble* by Jerry Pallota: "Very interesting book - read collection of all animals and sharks."



**A Reader from Brewster** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "A very enjoyable story. Interesting how it parallel the affairs of the world in time period it was written."

**A Reader from Pittsfield** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "I enjoyed this cautionary tale about wealth. I have always been a fan of Steinbeck's writings. It is impressive how such a short story can be so moving and captivating."

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *So Long A Letter* by Mariama Ba: "I enjoyed being emersed in the culture and politics of the Senegalese as told by the point of view of a woman. Amazing how there are common themes between their culture and American culture."

**A Reader from Uxbridge** read *Zen in the Art of Archery* by Eugen Herrigel: "Archery is an activity which requires thinking to be placed on hold. The connection described in Herrigel's book between breathing, mindfulness and letting go of control/outcomes revealed the process of the patience and time required to discover how to live into this reality not just in archery but in life."

**A Reader from Sunderland** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "This month's challenge was the perfect motivation to finally read this classic I had heard so much about, and it certainly lives up to is surreal reputation. The story has broad allegorical potential regarding many socioeconomic issues . . ."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "This book was very touching and emotional."

**A Reader from Andover** read *The Tea Dragon Society* by K. O'Neill: "A whimsical, sweet story of two young apprentices who take on the responsibility of learning the ancient art of caring for the elusive Tea Dragons and brewing their magical tea. Inter-generational, inclusive, and loving . . ."

**A Reader from Grafton** read *The Silence Dogood Letters* by Benjamin Franklin: "I'm sorry I didn't read it sooner. Each of the 14 letters provides nuanced and satirical insight into the issues of the day - some of which haven't changed too much. Especially liked Letters 4 (education) and 5 (women's rights)."

**A Reader from Scituate** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: "Although knew story this prompted me to read entire book. Fascinating to read duality of personality/good vs evil was partly based on a play Stevenson had written about a real individual. Fantastic depiction of Victorian society."

**A Reader from South Easton** read *Woolgathering* by Patti Smith: "An intriguing, slim collection mixing stories, poems and photography. Reads like a love letter to moments, people, and places of Smith's youth."

**A Reader from Holyoke** read *my darling from the lions* by rachel long: "It was a pretty good poetry collection. I was glad to pick it up as it had been on my tbr for a while."

**A Reader from Cotuit** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: "What a love triangle. I so wanted Ethan to be happy."

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *Incident at Vichy* by Arthur Miller: "It pointed out that although most of the group knew what was going on they chose to deny it even to themselves. Also it pointed out that although they claimed that prejudice was wrong they demonstrated that they carried their own prejudices . . ."

**A Reader from Leominster** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupère: “Insightful. Sad. Thought provoking. Sums up many human feelings in a charming nutshell.”

**A Reader from Acton** read *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor: “What a captivating novella! I love anything sci-fi and was struck by the Afro-futurist world building and character development that took place in such a short amount of time. I can’t wait to read the rest of the series.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Camouflage: The Hidden Lives of Autistic Women* by Sarah Bargiela: “Thought it was a good introductory primer for those looking to learn or understand more about autistic women and how autism presents often differently in women than in men. It serves as a good jumping off point for other, deeper, material on the same subject.”

**A Reader from Rochester** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupère: “This cherished novella, both a children’s book and a fable for grownups, written in a somber measured tone, shows how life should be lived absent selfishness and materialism. Simple elegant watercolor illustrations are integral to the story’s poetic spirit.”

**A Reader from Sutton** read *Brokeback Mountain* by Annie Proulx: “I now understand why it is difficult to find a book for adult's that is less than 100 pages in length. I felt like I was reading way too fast to understand what was happening, but that was just how the story was written. Jumping from one moment to the next.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *Those Who Walk Away From Omelas* by Ursula K Le Guin: “Technically this is a short story so I am not sure that this will count but: My partner recommended this story to me and had analyzed it through a vegan lens, so that was on my mind when reading it. Overall, it was a poignant story . . .”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Dad jokes holiday edition* by Jimmy Kimmel: “Cute, punny jokes I got to make my kids groan at. A few were too much related to the current events when it was published, but most were ones you could use anytime.”

**A Reader from Scituate** read *No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference* by Greta Thunberg: “A quick read for middle and high school students looking to know more about the young environmental activist's message.”

**A Reader from South Hadley** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: “I thought it was an interesting story with an interesting, unique, and challenging premise.”

**A Reader from Haverhill** read *Walt Disney famous quotes* by Dave Smith: “I love books of quotes and working in a school I am always looking for new ones for bulletin boards and presentations. This book is organized by theme so it makes it really easy to reference.”

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *Samantha learns a lesson* by Susan S. Adler: “I thought the book was interesting and good! It made me feel like I was living in the 1900's.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Twelve Points of Caleb Canto* by Sam Starbuck: “A comfy romance set in the fictional nation of Askazer-Shivadlakia, featuring the reluctant star Caleb Canto, music teacher and songwriter, and the series of cascading events that lead him to performing at Eurovision . . .”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Gripping and chilling. Glad I didn’t read this in the midst of early pandemic lockdown.”

**A Reader from Dennis Port** read *The Metamorphosis* by Frank Kafka: “I read this many times as a young teenager and now as an adult, it still frustrates me. The family dynamic of obligation and lack of personal identity and fulfillment is so irritating.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The King's Chessboard* by David Birch: “I read this book to my class to have a discussion on the concept of doubling. The story also opened up a discussion on perspective and making judgements about people. Great book!”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *What Learning Leaves* by Taylor Mali: “This book of poetry is a funny but powerful reflection on teaching. Every poem made me either laugh or feel something. Loved it.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Frederik Bakman: “This book evoked lots of emotion through imagining and conveying the perspective of a person with dementia / memory loss. I cried. I felt connected to how the narrator was feeling about his life and his most important relationships . . .”

**A Reader from Reading** read *No one is too small to make a difference* by Greta Thunberg: “Inspiring young woman. I will strive to learn more about climate change because of this read.”

**A Reader from N Falmouth** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “Pretty wild adaptation of Greek mythology - I was very turned off by the husband, so I’m glad this book wasn’t drawn out. I thought the ending where she drowned was peaceful - at least she found slumber.”

**A Reader from Plainville** read *On the Horizon* by Lois Lowry: “I loved reading the first account perspectives on WWII. I especially enjoyed reading about Lowry's memories as a child during that time.”

**A Reader from West Hartford** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “A powerful and thought provoking story. As a reader you are immediately captured and the story moves swiftly to its conclusion. Galatea is a woman to be reckoned with. She is fierce in her love, especially for her daughter.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Fall Into You* by Georgina Kiersten: “Autumn is in the air in this sapphic romance novella starring a Black BBW. And we get to take a motorcycle ride with a hot butch. Hot and sweet.”

**A Reader from SALEM** read *Fireheart Tiger* by Aliette De Bodard: “I was surprised by how much depth there was in such a short book!”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *The Hawk's Way* by Sy Montgomery: “I love learning about the birds and falconry while following the author's personal, emotional journey. 5 stars!”

**A Reader from Blandford** read *I Speak of Simple Things* by Donna G. Humphrey: “The beautiful telling of a woman’s life through her own poetry.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *Lifeboat No. 8* by Elizabeth Kaye: “You're reading along the day's events through the eyes of various people and all of a sudden, BAM! Elizabeth Kaye hits you with gut-wrenching words that induces clear images of the tragic sinking of the Titanic . . .”

**A Reader from Longmeadow** read *The Hunting Gun* by Yasushi Inoue: "I love the authenticity evoked by making this a "found" story, like a message in a bottle."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Kind of Hindu* by Mindy Kaling: "Kaling discusses her feelings about following an organized religion now that she has a child. I can relate to the concept of fearing the unknown in terms of raising a child without religion. I like how she added some small touches of her religion . . ."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Tapees and Trailer Parks* by Hope Callagan: "It was a cute, quick read. Normally I wouldn't choose this sort of a book, but that is exactly who I joined this challenge To make myself read things out of my normal comfort zone."

**A Reader from mELROSE** read *Being Perfect* by Anna Quindlen: "It was about how silly we are trying to be perfect and how hard it is to change and just be yourself."

**A Reader from New York** read *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll: "The book was actually really funny. The humor was so subtle, which made me appreciate the story so much more as an adult."

**A Reader from CAMBRIDGE** read *Fashionista: Fashion Your Feelings* by Maxine Beneba Clarke: "For kids looking for license to dress creatively, this book is a cheerful affirmation that each day is an opportunity to show who they are."

**A Reader from Madison** read *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder: "An absolutely chilling recollection of moments in history that led to authoritarian behavior and rule. Alarming and shockingly applicable to today. Cannot overstate how clear and present this danger is . . ."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse: "A novella of self-discovery! This has always been on my "to-read" list and now I finally checked it off :)"

**A Reader from Brookline** read *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (short story)* by F. Scott Fitzgerald: "I like this short story because it is unusual and quite haunting."

**A Reader from Brockton** read *The Real Estate Seesaw* by Lorraine Lalli: "A very funny glimpse into the life of a female realtor."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Filled me with anxiety throughout because of its dread-filled narrative. Great short book!"

**A Reader from Boxford** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "This book is very sad but the Irish setting and detailed prose are so worth reading."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "This was a strange book that took a dark look at the unexpected change of Gregor, a lowly office worker who lives in a flat with his family, into a bug. The last paragraph of this translation by Wylie suggests he survives after being swept up by the charwoman, but I think it's missing the correct ending . . ."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Space. Between* by Gertrude Halstead: "Halstead, a Holocaust survivor, writes short succinct poems about her experiences escaping from Germany. She also writes on art, nature, music and the people around her. Each poem is a small gem. She never over states or gets maudlin. I admire her poetry."

**A Reader from Florence** read *Sekhmet: Lady of Flame, Eye of Ra* by Olivia Church: “Interesting book on the Egyptian goddess, Sekhmet. Learned about her story and the ways she was honored in cults and rituals.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Forgotten Drink of Colonial New England* by Hirsch, Corin: “Quite a fun read on local history and drinks. I think I do have a funny copy of the book though: mine ends on page 98 and is missing pages mentioned in the Table of Contents.”

**A Reader from NORTH ANDOVER** read *And every morning the way home gets longer* by Fredrick Backman: “Everyone needs to read this. Not sure how he fit so much in into less than 100 pages. Get the tissues. Beautiful story of the circle of life among 3 generations.”

**A Reader from Pittsfield** read *Potted Meat* by Steven Dunn: “The book provides powerful and moving imagery the main characters childhood experience.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: “It is an inspiring poem that grapples with hardship and inequity but also focuses on the light inside ourselves. We are the change!”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James: “I enjoyed the book.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall: A Series of Very Plain Talks on Very Practical Politics* by William L. Riordon: “A short classic about politics in the machine era. Senator Plunkitt was a “politician philosopher” about the practical practice of politics in Tammany Hall in New York City!”

**A Reader from Bourne** read *The Royal Game A Chess Story* by Stefan Zweig: “I enjoyed this book as I am an avid chess player. This short story has a surprising ending I did not expect.”

**A Reader from Brunswick** read *The Strange Library* by Haruki Murakumi: “Dark, creepy & unresolved.”

**A Reader from Stow** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: “It reminded me how to treat people and what it really matters to care about something important in your life.”

**A Reader from Northborough** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Beautifully written and makes a clear argument for why feminism is actually about us all, not just women.”

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor: “Great world building, but didn't love it.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *3 Streets* by Yoko Tawada: “Non-traditional ghost short stories by Yoko Tawada. Unfortunately, not my favorite work by Tawada.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The strange library* by Haruki Murakami: “This is a stunning book with interesting folds outs and illustrations. The story is bizarre and unsettling but also very enthralling.”

**A Reader from Haverhill** read *Where there's smoke* by Jodi Picoult: “I love the backstory for Serenity from *Leaving Time*. After the ending of *Leaving Time* left me shocked, I was so grateful to have the background on this character.”

**A Reader from Scituate** read *The Ultimate Gift* by Jim Stovall: “This book was about the posthumous challenge a wealthy man leaves his nephew. He needs to learn some life lessons before he can get his inheritance.”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *Walking* by Henry David Thoreau: "Reawakened the joys of a walk in the woods during this dreary January 2023. Comfort as always."

**A Reader from Scituate** read *Small things like these* by Claire Keegan: "I found it to be heartbreaking and hopeful. A beautifully written character driven story."

**A Reader from West Dennis** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "I felt bad for the fish. He wanted to live so bad and put up a good fight. Only to be eaten by sharks after the old man caught him. The old man should have been smarter than to dangle a fish from his boat."

**A Reader from Dracut** read *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* by George Saunders: "Very cute story with a great message about taking care of your neighbors - not turning your back on them. Very appropriate for today."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Such a smart book and such an interesting examination of feminism."

**A Reader from Somerset** read *The Greens As I Knew Them* by John M. Bullard: "Bullard was part of the law firm that served Hetty Green and her family, with Bullard reminiscing about business deals, wills, and other legal matters concerning the family. Interesting, but family connections were not always clear . . ."

**A Reader from Chelmsford** read *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin: "Timely, moving, and poetic."

**A Reader from Hyannis** read *Return with the Light* by Tara Shannon: "Simple book, yet a perfect one for anyone experiencing loss in their life."

**A Reader from Arlington** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "This book is a beautiful story about a grandfather and grandson and how their relationship changes as they age."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* by Phillis Wheatley: "it was a beautiful collection of poetry, very moving :)"

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "I consider this a horror story, a realistic and frightening view into the suffering women have endured when seeking help for taboo subjects. The lack of awareness when this was published in 1892 is just as alarming as it is today in 2023 . . ."

**A Reader from WAKEFIELD** read *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson: "Very dark and complex."

**A Reader from Bernardston** read *The Death of Bessie Smith* by Edward Albee: "Play written about rumored, although later debunked, circumstances of Bessie Smith's untimely death. Modern readers will find the language (as well as the characters) racist and offensive. Powerful."

**A Reader from Beaverton** read *The Cybernetic Tea Shop* by Meredith Katz: "A wonderful novella highlighting a deep friendship/romance that evolves between a sentient android and a non-binary ACE character. Without talking very deeply about sex or gender norms, the story gives you both character's perspectives very well . . ."



**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Weasels in the Attic* by Hiroko Oyamada: "A very unsettling set of connected novellas with themes of conception, loneliness, and the relationship between animals (in all forms) and humans. Well-constructed and creepy, this book has been in my head weeks after I completed it."

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Hill: "Loved her poetry such a timely response to the times."

**A Reader from Salem** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "This book pulled on my heartstrings!"

**A Reader from Hatfield** read *Doctor Who: Time Lord Fairytales* by Justin Richards: "Utterly delightful!"

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrik Backman: "I feel like I didn't fully understand it, but I found it sad."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari* by Robin S. Sharma: "I love this book even though it is a little longer than 100 pages."

**A Reader from East Bridgewater** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: "This book was great, I learned a lot about how feminism began and how the medical profession controlled women in the 19th century. Post Partum Depression is real (as evidenced by recent news stories from Duxbury MA) and you can't just brush it aside . . ."

**A Reader from East Longmeadow** read *Fortunately, The Milk* by Neil Gaiman: "If you've only read Neil Gaiman's books for adults, you are missing out. This book has less than 10,000 words and packs a lot of laughs and adventure for the 10-year-old inside all of us."

**A Reader from Plainville** read *Serpentine* by Philip Pullman: "I love that it's a "bridge" book that bring us to answers between adventures and touches on their relationship. So many times I wonder what characters think and feel between storylines."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka: "Sweet, sad, kind story about Japanese brides brought to America in the time between the world wars. Told in first person plural ("we"), which is interesting."

**A Reader from Hatfield** read *Doctor Who: Time Lord Fairytales* by Justin Richards: "Utterly charming!"

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *La Champagne, Le Champagne and Les Champenois* by Yoko: "A delightful self published book on Champagne. Filled with colorful notes, its a wonderful guide for anyone who loves sparkling wines."

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *the Art of War* by Sun Tzu: "Interesting... good ideas that are applicable to everyday life as well as planning a battle."

**A Reader from Plainville** read *So Long a Letter* by Mariama Ba: "Novellas might be my new favorite. To tell such a beautiful story in so few words is such a gift."

**A Reader from Erving** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer: a novella* by Fredrick Backman: "I liked the depiction of a man losing his faculties. The essence of the man stayed but his ability to understand the world changed."

**A Reader from Cambridge** read *Life and Death in a Venetian Convent: The Chronicle and Necrology of Corpus Domini, 1395–1436* by Sister Bartolomea Riccoboni (Daniel Bornstein, ed.): “A very curious document of interest to religious historians! Part of the Other Voices in Early Modern Europe series through the University of Chicago Press. Essentially two short books in one . . .”

**A Reader from Marblehead** read *Ladies' Abecedary* by Arden Levine: “I saw myself in this book, in all the characters of Levine's alphabet.”

**A Reader from Falmouth** read *The Sleeper and the Spindle* by Neil Gaiman: “An imaginative retelling of Sleeping Beauty, with Snow White and some of her dwarves as the heroes. Beautifully illustrated.”

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery: “I never read this book as a child, so reading it for the first time as an adult completely changed how I interpreted “The Little Prince.” This is such a magnificent story filled with childlike wonder, curiosity, love and the magic of being a kid.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “Touching story of a little girl whose parents send her to live with another family over one summer. In the Kinsella's home she finds love and acceptance that she never had at home. In spare prose we see love and loss in two different families . . .”

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: “A simple novella exploring profound emotions. A quote from the book sums this one up for me – ‘I feel at such a loss for words but this is a new place, and new words are needed.’ I'm sure I'll think about this little story for quite a while.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Twits* by Roald Dahl: “The book was very entertaining and gross and very funny!”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson,, Peter Parnell: “Very cute true story.”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Lost Trail: Nine Days Alone in the Wilderness* by Donn Fendler: “a must-read for any scouting family. A fantastic book!”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *I dare you* by Jeff Ross: “GREAT lesson for teens re: social media.”

**A Reader from Lambertville** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: “A heartbreaking story, beautifully written and has held up over time.”

**A Reader from Auburn** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu: “My takeaway: whether you are vanquished or victorious will depend on the analysis, planning, and execution of the ‘battle’ you wage, from war room, to board room, to bedroom. Knowledge is power. I’m a huge advocate.”

**A Reader from Erving** read *The Complete Birdhouse Book* by Donald & Lillian Stokes: “I really enjoyed this book and learned a lot about making & where to put a birdhouse to attract certain birds to your yard. It was also informative about predators & what birds will or will not use a birdhouse. The pictures and diagrams were also helpful.”

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Galatea: A Short Story* by Madeline Miller: “This was a wonderful introduction to Madeline Miller’s work. I’ve been intimidated by her longer novels, but after getting a taste for her writing in this short story, I am looking forward to reading more!”

**A Reader from WESTFORD** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "I thought the concept of the book was amazing - the unraveling of a man's mind in the early stages of dementia - but it fell flat. The novella was uninspiring and repetitive."

**A Reader from Wilbraham** read *We Are Called To Be. Movement* by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II: "Barber's book is an inspiring reminder of the Old and New Testament calls to justice, that all moral and political reform requires commitment to the poor and rejected."

**A Reader from East Falmouth** read *Evidence of the affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: "It was good. Sad and eye opening."

**A Reader from Taunton** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by E. Hemingway: "An old fisherman is determined to catch a fish, and goes out 84 days without a bite. Then catches the catch of his life. Shows dedication and perseverance pays off, now matter what others think."

**A Reader from Andover** read *One* by Otoshi: "I shared this beautiful story about the power of kindness with my nephews."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Game of thrones* by George RR Martin: "A book about fighting for power."

**A Reader from Milford** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "a book about the loveliness of letter writing, and the possibility of connection. made me want to write a letter and get to know a stranger, let them be known. we can do more good by being ourselves, by existing than we think."

**A Reader from Yarmouth Port** read *Do What They Say Or Else* by Annie Ernaux: "Quite fascinating look at a young girl's transition to womanhood. One long paragraph, so not everyone's easy reading."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: "I thoroughly enjoyed this play, and it was the first Oscar Wilde I've ever read. A hilarious examination of marriage, morality and the perpetuation of the absurd Victorian upper class!"

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Museum of Rain* by Dave Eggers: "I am so happy I picked this book up from my library (it was in the January reading challenge display!) this month. I loved everything about it; the main character, the imagery, the concept."

**A Reader from Hingham** read *You Have Arrived at Your Destination* by Amor Towles: "Interesting premise of how medical technology can be misused, but the plot and character development fell flat at the end."

**A Reader from Boylston** read *Strange beliefs and customs of New England* by Leo Banfanti: "Interesting look at the history of New England superstition."

**A Reader from Shrewsbury, MA 01545, USA** read *Each Day Is a Gift* by Lee J. Painter: "Beautiful miniature book reminding us to be grateful for the everyday moments in our lives that really are "gifts" to be treasured because each day we are given is truly a gift and we need to make the most of them."

**A Reader from Monson** read *The Poetry of Solitude: A Tribute to Edward Hopper* by Edited by Gail Levin: "The poetry collection consists of paintings by Edward Hopper with an ekphrastic poetic or prose responses to each painting. Most of the paintings inspire the feeling of loneliness or aloneness . . ."

**A Reader from SOUTH DEERFIELD** read *White Pine* by Mary Oliver: "I love Mary Oliver's writing and was surprised to realize that I hadn't read this particular anthology. I spent pre-bedtime in January reading 3

or 4 poems and then would fall asleep with the images and questions floating in a gentle, soothing verse.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas* by Ursula K LeGuin: “Reminiscent of Shirley Jackson's "The Lottery," with a philosophical bent. I thought it was basically the trolley problem of short fiction, but you can't go wrong with Ursula K. LeGuin.”

**A Reader from Rockland** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: “I loved this true story told through letters between the author and a charming British bookstore. Witty and quaint.”

**A Reader from Burlington** read *Serpentine* by Pullman: “Being a fan of His Dark Materials, I loved returning to the world, though it wasn't as satisfying as the earlier full books.”

**A Reader from Mashpee** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “It was too way short. Felt like I couldn't really get into the story very deeply.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *There's No Such Place As Far Away* by Richard Bach: “Lovely book with a philosophical message.”

**A Reader from Mansfield** read *The Poems of Phillis Wheatley with Letters and Memoir* by Phillis Wheatley: “An excellent book - enjoyed it greatly. I read it in conjunction with one of the only biographies about Phillis Wheatley.”

**A Reader from Barrington** read *Office Yoga* by Darrin Zeer: “Great reminders to stretch that I can incorporate at my desk throughout the day without drawing a lot of attention to myself. There's even a stretch you can do in a crowded elevator, and another that you can do in an empty elevator :-)”

**A Reader from Yarmouth Port** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: “Really liked this book. It was very thought provoking and made me look closely at my own preconceived ideas.”

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Adichie: “It was interesting and gets the point across in succinctly. I enjoyed the audio version. I dislike books that say what they have to in a few chapters, then fill it with fluff or different ways of saying the same thing. This didn't do that.”

**A Reader from METHUEN** read *DAREDEVIL* by CHRIS ZDARSKY: “I always love comics and this always brightens my day especially when I am down.”

**A Reader from Duxbury** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “I had been meaning to read this for a long time, so January's challenge was a good excuse. Great intro to the importance of intersectional feminism.”

**A Reader from Hanson** read *Seedfolks* by Paul Fleischman: “Seedfolks - this is a great book that appeals to a range of readers. A vacant lot that is overrun with garbage is slowly transformed by neighbors. It addresses the diversity within a neighborhood and the mutual respect that develops . . .”

**A Reader from Burlington** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrick Blackman: “This book really made you feel both a perspective of someone going through stages of dementia and their struggle, and also family members learning how say goodbye to the person they love.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Bartleby, the Scrivener* by Herman Melville: “I would prefer not to:). But seriously, I thought Bartleby was a fascinating character. Although he was probably mentally ill, which of course isn’t funny, I got a kick out of the way his boss was confounded by the passive resistance.”

**A Reader from Irvine** read *Train* by Alice Munro: “This is a decades spanning short story with characters who make you want to read it again.”

**A Reader from Randolph** read *The Machine Stops* by EM Forster: “Amazing story, especially since it was written in 1909. A warning about over dependence on technology and dangers of dependence on authority.”

**A Reader from Berkley** read *Christmas Crumble* by M. C. Beaton: “I love the Agatha Raisin mysteries and this one was fun with a Christmas theme. The author did a good job of making a short book that was still a good romp.”

**A Reader from Florence** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: “An interesting read. I was sad at the end because I kept thinking he'd turn back to himself.”

**A Reader from Lunenburg** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrick Backman: “Interesting reflection on life and love for each other.”

**A Reader from BARNSTABLE** read *Reminders of Him* by Colleen Hoover: “Have read 8 books so far....mostly mysteries ...Mel Sherratt, Ben Winters, Linda Fairstein, Ann Cleeves....I generally finish a book a week,..avid and fast reader...read daily. I have heard about her books and this was first one I have read, enjoyed it . . .”

**A Reader from South Hadley** read *Llama Llama Red Pajama* by Anna Dewdney: “I read this for the first time with my 1.5 year old after receiving it from Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library. I knew of it and wasn’t sure what I would think of it, but I loved the rhythm of the text!”

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams: “Touching story that brought me tears reminiscing of my stuffed bunny growing up.”

**A Reader from Middleboro** read *The Tiny Book of Tiny Stories: Volume 1* by Joseph Gordon-Levitt: “It was short and sweet, I enjoyed it!”

**A Reader from Seekonk** read *The Hill we Climb* by Amanda Gorman: “I am not usually a fan of Poetry but became a fan of hers after hearing speak at President Biden’s Inauguration. Her poetry is easy to comprehend and relatable to.”

**A Reader from BARNSTABLE** read *Woman on an Island* by Ann Cleeves: “This was a short book....other report was greater than 100 pages...misread the info. Have read 9 books so far this year.”

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: “Farm animals rebel and boot out the humans, vowing to self govern, which quickly deteriorates. First published in 1945, this is a not so disguised allegory of communism in the soviet union. Read in current times, it reflects any challenge to democracy . . .”

**A Reader from Sunderland** read *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan: "It was rather like a prose poem. And the author managed to tell the story completely from the pov of the protagonist-- she didn't talk a lot about what he felt, just showed it, and showed what he did-- it was succinct and delicious."

**A Reader from West Bridgewater** read *Evidence of the affair* by Taylor Jenkins Reid: "Easy read. Although it was a bit predictable, it was well written and enjoyable."

**A Reader from Reading** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine De SAINT-EXUPÉRY: "It was so fun to read a book that I read during high school again. I even read it in French."

**A Reader from Hamilton** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "Its story is one take how riches can lead to disaster."

**A Reader from Framingham** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "Having previously seen Adichie's TEDtalk that inspired this book, I appreciated how she continued to elaborate on how subtle sexism is reinforced by unsuspecting men when they don't make the effort to actively consider how sexism might factor into their d"

**A Reader from Wellesley** read *Foster is* by Claire Keegan: "I thought the use of the young girls voice throughout the book was excellent. The amount of love she had from the foster family and recognizing that they have lost a son; both are very moving."

**A Reader from Southborough** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "This is a classic my mom used to read to me when I was younger, fond memories are associated with the book. Immaculately written novella."

**A Reader from Norwell** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "How is that some authors can pack such a punch in a tiny book of 55 pages? Miller's retelling punches you right in the gut and leaves you with so many questions and thoughts."

**A Reader from Scituate, MA** read *The cat in the hat* by Dr. Suss: "Was a great book. Really showed the creative side of the writer."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Poignant. Life can be so hard for mothers and children without a loving man who cares for them."

**A Reader from Fall River** read *The Crayon Box that Talked* by Shane DeRolf: "I really liked this book because I make a lot of colorful artwork! So I enjoyed the cute little crayons and the book's message. That even though we are all different, everyone is special!"

**A Reader from middleboro** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "The Pearl is a reminder that money cannot buy happiness and you should enjoy the life you have. I liked reading this classic as it is not something that I would normally choose for myself."

**A Reader from North Smithfield** read *The Bookstore Sistets* by Alice Hoffman: "Ideal short story about family, quaint bookstore, and a little magic. Recommend for a quick read!"

**A Reader from Hopedale** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer And Longer* by Fredrik Blackman: "Equally parts heartbreaking as the grandfather slips further into dementia, and hopeful as his grandson is so loving and kind to his grandfather, helping him to cope. My eyes were filling up often."



**A Reader from Springfield** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "This book/speech is so impactful! It perfectly explains the negative connotation that "feminist" has and the progression of the term over the last 10+ years."

**A Reader from Franklin** read *And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer And Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "This novella is a sweet story of a Grandpa who is going senile. In his mind he is talking to his grandson, sometimes it is his son. It begins with Grandpa and grandson talking about Grandma. The nicest images are with Grandma . . ."

**A Reader from S Yarmouth** read *The Hill we Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "It's a powerful poem . Her voice is clear and strong for justice , truth will ring out and conquer hate."

**A Reader from Chelmsford** read *The Little Men* by Megan Abbott: "I love this writer and although just 61 pages, this novella illustrated her strengths in story telling and character development."

**A Reader from Reading** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: "I thoroughly enjoyed the journey and wide range of emotions, squeezed into so few pages. An easy story to fall in love with."

**A Reader from North Andover** read *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "Certainly morbid. Lives up to its status as a classic."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *Mr Salary* by Sally Rooney: "Mr Salary was an uncomfortable and emotional read. The main character, Sukie, has a complicated relationship with her father as he's an emotionally abusive addict but she visits him while he's in the hospital for cancer treatment . . ."

**A Reader from Laconia** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimanda Ngozi Adiche: "Short essay that doesn't reveal particularly new ideas about feminism but that makes the case for changing what we teach our children in order to create more equality for women."

**A Reader from Longmeadow** read *Journey to Outermost House* by Nan Turner Waldron: ""The Outermost House" by Henry Beston was published in 1928 and chronicled the author's year-long stay in a small cottage on "the Great Beach of Cape Cod." Beston's book has long been considered a nature-writing classic . . ."

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "I thought the book was an inspirational poem about our country today. Real yet full of hope."

**A Reader from Kngston** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "This was a very compelling book about a young girl who is sent to her aunt and uncle's one summer to be "fostered" while her pregnant mother is overwhelmed caring for the girl's younger siblings . . ."

**A Reader from Woburn** read *For Peter Pan on her 70th Birthday* by Sarah Ruhl: "This book is a lovely combination of the real and surreal, and an exploration of loss, 'growing up', family, and looking towards death."

**A Reader from Centerville** read *The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success* by Deepak Chopra: "A thought provoking little book of spiritual laws. Words to live and prosper by."

**A Reader from Wenham** read *Cardiff, by the Sea* by Joyce Carol Oates: "Phantomwise, one of the novellas in this collection was haunting and heart-breaking."

**A Reader from Andover** read *The Science of Hitting* by Ted Williams and John Underwood: “Good book. But it is hard to read about hitting a baseball better without actually practicing hitting. It is difficult to translate the book's lessons in real time.”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Lives of the Writers* by Kathren Krull: “This book provides insight into the lives of many writers as it includes authors of both tragedies and comedies. A definite read!”

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *Finna* by Nino Cipri: “I really enjoyed this adventure through a wormhole that opens in an IKEA analogue. The main characters felt very real and relatable and dynamic, and I enjoyed the many-worlds setting and fast-paced action.”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Who Was Marie Antoinette* by Dana Meachen Rau: “I thought my book was very interesting. It was fun getting to someone who was alive way before my time. Learning about her was also me getting to learn about how it was back in the day, in those different countries.”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Who Was Marie Antoinette?* by Dana Meachen Rau: “I thought that this book was a very fun, quick, and interesting read. I learned so much about Marie Antionette's quite tragic life in a fun way. I also really enjoyed all of the pictures and big font, it made the book go by faster.”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *Schooled* by Don stradley: “I think that this book was great and had a lot of information about two of my favorite athletes.”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *The Invisible Man* by H.G. Wells: “I thought that it was a really good book. At any part when I got a little bored, the book immediately had something in it that was exiting.”

**A Reader from Georgetown** read *June Bug* by Alice Mead: “It was overall a good book, it was also interesting.”

**A Reader from Harwich** read *The wild braid* by Stanley Kunitz: “A beautiful look at the cycle of life in a garden, in a long life, with friends and other poets. A reflection on a century of growing plants and ideas with lovely photographs and meaningful commentary.”

**A Reader from Milton** read *Strega Nona* by Tomie dePaola: “Story about a magical pasta pot that does all the cooking for Strega Nona. As a new mom, I wish I had one like it!”

**A Reader from Charlton** read *The yellow wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Interesting perspective from the 1800 on post partum depression.”

**A Reader from Conway** read *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London: “Great story about the hard life of sled dogs during the Alaskan gold rush and about about the ancestral knowledge passed through generations of animals.”

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Pocket Michelle Obama Wisdom* by Michelle Obama: “This book offers small but meaningful pieces of advice from the First Lady. I loved revisiting her words and wisdom.”

**A Reader from WOODS HOLE** read *Notes from a Pandemic* by Elizabeth Saito: “Weekly thoughts about the pandemic first published in our local newspaper.”

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Homie* by Danez Smith: “Mature language but beautiful and smart poetry.

Black American perspective, fierce poetry, driven by love.”

**A Reader from Reading** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “A heartbreaking take on the Pygmalion myth from the perspective of the statue, rather than the maker.”

**A Reader from New York** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “A charming novella of life once you grow old and memories of your past you want to carry on to the next generation.”

**A Reader from Lynn** read *Once I Ate a Pie* by Patricia & Emily MacLachlan: “It was a really cute picture book from different dog’s perspectives. Each page had a different poem about something a dog had done, and it included illustrations of different breeds of dog. It made me think about rescue dogs in shelters . . .”

**A Reader from Falmouth** read *The Gayogohono People in the Cayuga Lake Region* by Kurt A. Jordan: “The story of the Gayogohono (Cayuga) indigenous people in central NY. The book gave their history from the last ice age to the present and revealed a lot of previously unknown information and cleared up a lot of misconceptions.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Cat Who Went to Heaven* by Elizabeth Coatsworth: “I learned about this reading challenge on Jan. 30th, so I needed to find a book in my house (I discovered I have very few books under 100 pages!). I had this book for my niece, and it's certainly for young readers. The story takes you through several imaginative scenes about what a painter will include in his artwork . . .”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Ms Ice Sandwich* by Mieko Kawakami (translator: Louise Heal Kawai): “I was captivated by this unique novella, with its 10 year old boy narrator navigating the complex relationships with various women in his life: his grandmother, mother, school friend, and the woman who sells sandwiches at the local supermarket . . .”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Congratulations, by the way* by George Saunders: “Great reminder of what is important in life and getting back to the basics.”

**A Reader from BEVERLY** read *The Curious Life of Benjamin Buttons* by F. Scott Fitzgerald: “The book provided an interesting view of aging and perception often with mild dashes of humor. The book covered a lifetime in less than one hundred pages and piqued this reader's curiosity of ageism in our current society.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “Great book, by a great story interpreter!”

**A Reader from Kingston** read *The Last Christmas Ride* by Edie Hand: “This is an endearing story of tight knit family growing up on a ranch in northern Alabama! Through some years of heartbreak and loss, this inspirational family weathers each tragedy with grace and strength . . . gave me great hope!!”

**A Reader from Columbus** read *The Wild Iris* by Louise Glück: “This volume of poetry seemed deceptively straightforward, but as I kept reading the poems, I found myself wondering if we were hearing from the plants' perspective or from God's . . .”

**A Reader from Hadley** read *The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse* by Charlie Mackesy: “Just the treat I needed to brighten a grey winter day. A book to be read slowly, meditating on the thoughts and

drawings. Set aside cynicism for a little while and welcome comfort instead— ‘one of our greatest freedoms is how we react to things.’”

**A Reader from Florence** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “I found it a bit depressing but could see how it realistically depicts treatment of those with mental health issues in that era. Short read, don’t think I’d ever read it again.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck: “I loved it and thought it was a simple but incredibly poignant and insightful portrait of humanity. We have such power to influence each other’s lives for good or for evil.”

**A Reader from West Dennis** read *Ruths First Christmas Tree* by Elly Griffiths: “A short story but still captures the voice of the heroine of Elly Griffiths Norfolk mysteries. Also captures the Christmas spirit.”

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *The Tea Dragon Tapestry* by K. O'Neill: “I love the art style in the Tea Dragon books! The stories are so peaceful and beautiful.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Navigate your stars* by Jesmyn Ward: “I thought that Jesmyn Ward was right on target with what she was saying. Not just one choice but many choices and continued education lead to success.”

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *Galatea* by Madeleine Miller: “I enjoyed the story, not crazy about the writing style. Overall, it did not leave much of an impression.”

**A Reader from Saugus, MA** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “Madeline Miller has become an auto-read author for me. As I was reading, parts of the plot and character development reminded me of similar themes explored in *Circe*. Though I wish it was a tad longer, it was a gorgeous and impactful short story nonetheless.”

**A Reader from Avon** read *A Psalm for the Wild-Built* by Becky Chambers: “This is a very cozy and low stakes science fiction novella with themes purpose, identity, nature, and productivity.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *You Can Vibe Me On My Femme Phone* by Kamala Puligandla: “A queer, fantastical, funny book about the friendship and the ethics of technology! I totally loved it!”

**A Reader from Billerica** read *Recitatif* by Toni Morrison: “Great little book that made me think of how a character's race is defined in a book with no race being defined.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *This Is Real : Stories Drawn With Strangers* by Anthology: “Everyone has a story. This collection of mini-graphic memoirs is thoughtful, at times poignant, and always creative.”

**A Reader from West Roxbury** read *A Nation of Immigrants* by John F. Kennedy: “Interesting to learn about one's view of immigration policy then, in the 1950's/1960's, against the backdrop of immigration today.”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “Loved it!”

**A Reader from Falmouth** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: “Steinbeck’s writing is amazing. He transports the reader to another time and place. I highly recommend it!”

**A Reader from Hampden** read *Meditation* by Linda Williamson: "It was a wonderful explanation of meditation and how to relax your body and clear your mind with basic meditation techniques. I have had this book for a long time and I am so happy I finally read it!"

**A Reader from Hopkinton** read *A Pillow Book* by Suzanne Buffam: "Lovely meditation on motherhood and insomnia."

**A Reader from Melrose** read *India* by Manini Chatterjee: "This is a visually beautiful book with glorious illustrations that highlight India in its history, religious traditions, arts, science and other areas of interest."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "It was a quick read, and thought provoking."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Comfort Me With Apples* by Catherynne M Valente: "Very compelling and scary! I loved it!"

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "It was a childhood favorite of my husbands and featured in one of my favorite video games (Sky: Children of the Light) so I thought I'd give it a try. Unfortunately, I did not really like the Little Prince character. Oh well!"

**A Reader from San Diego** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "The author's writing is incredibly descriptive. Even in the short length of the story I was still able to be fully immersed in the narrator's surroundings."

**A Reader from Palmer** read *Death lights a candle* by Phoebe ArwoodTaylir: "I really didn't like it. It dragged on and the main characters boring."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Death Of Ivan Ilyich* by Leo Tolstoy: "It's been since I was an undergrad since I've read any of the Russians. I think my trepidation has been in trying to brush up on the cultural context and in keeping the names straight. A novella was a great opportunity for me to dip a toe back into that world."

**A Reader from Dighton** read *The Ferret Chronicles* by Richard Bach: "Interesting enough but not my usual genre."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrick Backman: "Oh my goodness. It is so touching!! So wonderfully written. Such a difficult topic to explore and Backman did it so well."

**A Reader from Cotuit** read *Simple Passion* by Annie Ernaux: "I loved this book. Ernaux really put me into the mind of her narrator experiencing her affair and it drove me crazy - in an intriguing sort of way."

**A Reader from greenfield** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "I recommend it, along with another of Keegan's, *Small Things Like These*. Keegan is a wizard at using an economical and lyrical way of writing to evoke deep and complex emotion."

**A Reader from Auburn** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: "It's a delightful, soft book about the love affairs between readers and books and booksellers. I love how the brash New Yorker cracked the veneer of Frank Doel. Funny, irreverent, touching, generous. A treasure . . ."

**A Reader from Ware** read *The Nutcracker comes to America* by Chris Barton: “Wonderful introduction for children and adults to The Nutcracker's eventual popularity in America and how the three Christensen brothers worked together and alone through the years. Fascinating illustrations.”

**A Reader from Woburn** read *Brokeback Mountain* by Annie Proulx: “I saw the movie years ago and hadn't read the book, but it invoked the same super strong emotions I remember from the movie! It was lovely and tragic.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: “Really liked seeing this in print after seeing the video of Gorman delivering it at the inauguration! The poem itself is beautifully laid out.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Everyone should be a feminist* by Adichie: “Loved it. Inspiring. Reminder of how important it is to be an active feminist.”

**A Reader from Wendell** read *Ten Days in a Mad-House* by Nellie Bly: “Chilling and horrifying. How sad.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *The Bookstore Sisters* by Alice Hoffman: “Loved this book! Cute little stories about sisters connecting!”

**A Reader from PLYMOUTH** read *The Overcoat* by Nikolai Gogol: “It seemed such a commentary on how peers influence self perception. Trying to “fit” equates to peril.”

**A Reader from Somerville** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: “Very thought-provoking and heartbreaking. The references to music throughout the book was a gorgeous way to describe emotions—I could feel Kino's pain and joy clearly. A book that will definitely make you think and feel, in ways you can't be prepared for.”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Phedre* by Jean Racine: “I loved how the characters who are in love go through great lengths to avoid the people they are in love with and are even mean to them. The dialogue does a great job of showing the inner conflict of the characters.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *Chike and the River* by Chinua Achebe: “It's so adventurous and really gives a detail about Nigeria and African literature. I like that is different than other stories I have read from a child's perspective.”

**A Reader from Easton** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: “A fantastic story about the importance of connecting and spending time with those who matter.”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton: “I enjoyed reading this book, the classic, tragic story of Ethan Frome and Mattie Silver. The bleakness of a rural New England winter is deeply felt, as is the desperation of a potentially clever and creative man who is trapped in a life and marriage . . .”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *The Mystery of Faith* by Michael J. Himes: “This is an introduction to Catholicism. I read the book because I've heard the author speak at Boston College and I enjoyed his talk. This book would be great for anyone thinking to convert to Catholicism.”

**A Reader from Colrain** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: “I love this book so much! I haven't read it in decades and it was a real treat to come back to it. It is impossible to not fall a little in love with both Helene and Frank through their correspondence. Filled with humor and heart . . .”



**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "I found the writing deeply "icky" but I suppose that is the point! While I understand the alienation and loneliness symbolism, as a member of Gen z, I think our experiences growing up in the age of the internet make this book harder to relate to . . ."

**A Reader from Forestdale** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "I liked it very much, great character depth. And I liked how it show the side of what can happen to humans when they suddenly have a windfall."

**A Reader from northfield** read *galatea* by madeline miller: "she told this story well. it is a terrible tale & made a surprising impact for such a short book. i liked reading it but i wish i never knew this story."

**A Reader from Conway** read *Frederick* by Leo Leonni: "Perfect for every age!!"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Best Christmas Pagent Ever* by Barbara Robinson: "I haven't read this book since I was a child. It was just as good as I remember!"

**A Reader from TEWKSBURY** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "Delightful tale of imagination and a child's perspective."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The magic tree house - Polar bears past bedtime* by Mary pope Osborne: "This was a great book, very cute and wholesome. Also, it's an educational superstar of a book."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "A very informative book for all ages and all genders. As a woman coming to age in the 70s, I was involved in the ERA movement. In the past few years, I have watched very important gains in women's right start to slip away . . ."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Passing* by Nella Larson: "The writer has a great talent at developing a story that pulls you right in .I swooned at the author's gift at conveying the inner turmoil of the complex characters throughout this semi autobiographical novel."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Soft Science* by Franny Choi: "I liked the way the author used vivid imagery and varied formats for the poems. I liked that the poems were connected to one another, and the world they created. However, I'm not a huge poetry reader so sometimes I felt a little lost . . ."

**A Reader from Portland** read *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams: "It was nostalgic and beautiful. One of my favorite children's books."

**A Reader from TEWKSBURY** read *Jorli The Story of a Swiss Boy* by Johanna Spyri: "An interesting old tale! I'd read Heidi, but not Jorli. This particular book is a school edition from 1924."

**A Reader from Reading** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Euxpery: "The LITTLE PRINCE is a story of pilot who crashes in the Sahara Desert and meets a strange young boy who calls himself the Little Prince. The Little Prince has traveled from his home on a distant asteroid with a single rose . . ."

**A Reader from Franklin** read *Sorry - No Budget* by Charles Preston: "Loved these selections of cartoons form the Wall Street Journal. This book is one that I have had on my shelf for years because it was a hand-me-down from my parents ...and the family bookshelf . . ."

**A Reader from Auburn** read *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf* by Leo Buscaglia: "This "story of life for all ages" is more poignant, reading it at an older age, than when I was younger. It made me think about those who have gone before us, and the sometimes loneliness of those left behind."

**A Reader from Palmer** read *Finding perfect* by Colleen Hoover: "Great ending to a great series. Quick and enjoyable read."

**A Reader from Montague** read *The Hawk's Way* by Sy Montgomery: "Enjoyed learning about raptors and falconry. Can't imagine I would let a hawk land on my hand but great to learn how others do it!"

**A Reader from Craryville** read *Blueberries For Sal* by Robert McCloskey: "Perhaps it was silly to choose a children's book to read, but I think there is no age limit on when a simple and cute story with beautiful illustrations can be enjoyed."

**A Reader from SALEM** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "Galatea's strength and smarts inspire me even as the story itself is sad. Miller captures in mythic mode aspects of gender relations that are very much a part of the reality of the culture we live in. Great job, Madeline!"

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *The Hawk's Way* by S'y Montgomery: "I felt a little let down by this book. The information and pictures were great but the ending was abrupt and did not do justice to the way she described having felt about the birds."

**A Reader from Claverack** read *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Growing Up in the Little House* by Patricia Reilly Giff: "Brief but surprisingly comprehensive outline of Laura's life. As a die-hard LIW fan, I even learned something new—the twists of hay they burned in the long winter were called 'cats.'"

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *POKE THE BOX* by Seth Godin: "It was very much intended to push the reader to deliver ongoing suggestions and innovative ideas for the improvement of whatever his/her company is involved in. To jump in fearlessly regardless of the imminence of failure and just START something and FINISH it . . ."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Le Petit Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "It's a charming and wise story, full of wit and beauty. It reminds us to take our group world of numbers and charts a little less seriously and ask the important questions like "what does your best friend's laughter sound like?"

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Purpose of Christmas* by Rick Warren: "I liked that this book was meant for everyone/anyone, regardless of their life's spiritual or religious journey, age, race, etc. It was a little over 100 p. but a quick read with short chapters that were full of valuable information, reflections, and connections to help guide full understanding . . ."

**A Reader from Braintree** read *Assume the Worst: The Graduation Speech You'll Never Hear* by Carl Hiaasen: "This was a depressing letter to graduates to not trust anyone and to embrace pessimism."

**A Reader from Monson** read *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "WOW...where to begin? I had to reread the beginning twice to make sure I had read it correctly the first time--it was very absurd and as I continued to read, I found myself feeling sad for the characters and about the overall situation . . ."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Poems for Nighttime* by Varied: "I enjoyed the quickness of reading the poems but didn't feel they flowed well together."

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *the red pony* by John Steinbeck: "I love this book. It is a sweet sad story about a young boy growing up on a ranch in California enduring the challenges of growing up and caring for animals . . ."

**A Reader from NIANTIC** read *The Centaur & The Bacchante* by Maurice De Guerin: "Translated from French, great imagery of the natural world populated with gods and goddesses and their followers."

**A Reader from Chatham** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "This is an inspirational poem. It was offered by the author at President Biden's inauguration, Jan. 20, 2021. It is worth reading again and again."

**A Reader from Washington** read *I Hope This Finds You Well* by Kate Baer: "Clever and creative it's at once inspiring and a smidge dispiriting."

**A Reader from Duxbury** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "This was my first experience with a short story, particularly a standalone. I think it was an emotional, thought-provoking take on a Greek myth of which I had little knowledge."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The King's Equal* by Katherine Paterson: "Arrogant insufferable prince eventually marries his goat-herding "equal." The story seemed a bit implausible as the basis for happily-ever-after, but the goats and the wolf are pretty wonderful."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Hill we Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "I had heard the poem performed by Ms. Gorman at the inauguration, but this was my first time seeing those words on paper. She is a powerful poet, and I look forward to what else she does in her career!"

**A Reader from Osterville** read *Opening to Grief* by Claire B. Willis and Marnie Crawford Samuelson: "Very nice book about coping with loss. Encourages reader to practice compassion for yourself and to grieve mindfully and in your own time a place. The list of other resources is also very helpful."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *A Walk in Jerusalem* by John Peterson: "The stations of the cross devotion, with a focus on the Jerusalem of today. Spirit lifting and informative, this book contained information that I didn't know and that made me think."

**A Reader from Southwick** read *A Dead Djinn in Cairo* by P. Djeli Clark: "It's an alternate history mystery. The world building was fun. A lot of story and world building in a slender volume."

**A Reader from Westford** read *Everything I Needed to Know I Learned from a Little Golden Book* by Diane Muldrow: "An insightful book for everyone at any age. Simple rules to live by for a happy life."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Kitchen Science* by Chris Maynard: "Kitchen Science is an extremely interesting book with over 50 experiments you can do using items you can find in your kitchen or home."

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu: "Not what I expected. I thought it would be more story like but it's literally a list of things to do/know for war."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell: "A fascinating book when considered both in the time it was written and in today's political environment."

**A Reader from Boston** read *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James: "Revisit the creepy ghost story you read in school...and ponder what is really happening to the governess and the two children in her care."

**A Reader from Sharon** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery: “The Little Prince is a charming ethereal story about the invisible things in life that matter most.”

**A Reader from Sharon** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery: “The Little Prince is a charming ethereal story about observing the invisible in life.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Portrait of a Wide Sea Islander* by Victoria Goddard: “I thought the book gave a really interesting look at a very different culture, with an interesting relationship to the sea-faring tradition of ancient Polynesian-type peoples. Made me want to read more from the author's series.”

**A Reader from Worcester** read *Letters to a Young Poet* by Rainer Maria Rilke: “While parts of the letters were interesting and thought-provoking, I was slightly underwhelmed. A friend recommended the book sharing how much it impacted her in her mid-20s, and my reaction to it was far more subdued.”

**A Reader from New Bedford** read *Feathers* by Jacqueline Woodson: “It was a beautifully written story and inspirational reminder to find hope in everyday places in our lives. I liked how Frannie and her friends grew to view each other and themselves differently. Pepper and I enjoyed this book very much!”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *The Element of Style* by William Strunk Jr. & E.B.White: “Picked this book to help my writing since I write a lot on social media. Learned a lot from it. Glad I read it.”

**A Reader from Amesbury** read *Quiet Strength* by Rosa Parks with Gregory J. Reed: “This book was a wonderful scope into the life of Rosa Parks. She spoke all about where she came from, what sparked certain moments of her life, and where she hopes the future brings us.”

**A Reader from Tewksbury** read *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu: “Some of his ideas are still relevant and right on point.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *Be a Triangle* by Lilly Singh: “Short book with some cute illustrations.”

**A Reader from Rochester** read *The Swamp Fox : Francis Marion's Campaign in the Carolinas 1780n* by David R. Higgins: “Though I had expected more of a biography, this was a technical, well-researched examination of the skirmishes, people, tactics, and background of this part of the Revolutionary War. It was a challenging and informative 80 page read!”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes: “Surprising. On my shelf since I was a kid and reading it for the first time at 51! And a connection to Coldplay’s latest album!”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Adichie offers some compelling anecdotes that illustrate the pervasiveness and power of everyday sexism, but her argument is undermined by language that repeatedly erases the LGBTQIA+ community and reduces gender to biological difference.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *Death in Venice* by Thomas Mann: “Death in Venice is the unsettling and twisted tale of one aging writer’s struggle to reconcile his sense of desire with that of duty, as he falls in love from afar with a beautiful young boy on Italian shores while on a trip . . .”

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway: “I found it tedious. I was looking forward to reading it because Hemingway has always been a favorite of my dad’s. This wasn’t for me.”

**A Reader from Prides Crossing** read *Journey into the Past* by Stefan Zweig: "Zweig captures the human heart in all its complexity & vulnerability."

**A Reader from Framingham** read *Bonsai* by Alejandro Zambra: "Really appreciated the novella and the ways characters move in and out of each other's lives. Nothing huge happens, and yet so much happens all at once."

**A Reader from Quincy** read *Stick Out Your Tongue* by Ma Jian: "I really enjoyed it! It had four short stories which were interconnected and followed one character. A lot of interesting, impactful information, especially for a 93-page book."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Collectors* by Philip Pullman: "I loved imagining how Marisa — Mrs Coulter — was magically interacting with the art collectors through the painting of her and the statue of her daemon. It was a short, satisfying taste of His Dark Materials . . ."

**A Reader from Watertown** read *Humble Inquiry* by Edgar H. Schein: "Insightful about embracing a very different kind of leadership."

**A Reader from South Yarmouth** read *The Unstrung Harp* by Edward Gorey: "It was quirky and delightful—just what you would expect from Edward Gorey! Of course the illustrations were half of it!"

**A Reader from South Yarmouth** read *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams: "It reminds me of how a stuffed bunny gave such joy and love to my niece Melissa when she was little. She named the bunny which I gave her - Old Bunny - and won a Dear Santa Letter Contest in Maine when she was six asking Santa for some little gifts . . ."

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *Galatea* by Madeleine Miller: "Miller has a perfect way with words--like CIRCE, GALATEA manages to make the ancient world of mythology feel extremely modern. This heartbreaking novella describes the dangers of playing god and explores how art allows us to see our own humanity . . ."

**A Reader from Salem** read *Ghost World* by Daniel Clowes: "My second time reading it, it felt a lot sadder this time around - I see the girls differently now that I'm older."

**A Reader from Ware** read *Cold Enough For Snow* by Jessica Au: "Deeply moving book about family and introspection."

**A Reader from Worcester** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrik Backman: "It was an incredibly moving story of how someone living with dementia deals with knowing they are slowly slipping away and how it affects the people around them."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Night* by Elie Wiesel: "I really liked the book because it really brought into perspective how the innocent Jews had to live under the force of the Nazis."

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Night* by Elie Wiesel: "I thought it was a great book which gave a lot of details from Elie Wiesel's perspective."

**A Reader from Sutton** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Adichie: "Seemed a little sociology 101 to me. Although it was short, I expected more depth."

**A Reader from READING** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Beautifully written emotional story."

**A Reader from SOUTH BOSTON** read *Notes on Grief* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “Heart wrenchingly real. This book was so good.”

**A Reader from Uxbridge** read *The Perilous Life of Jade Yeo* by Zen Cho: “This book was a fun read and the story was told through journal entries.”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Too relevant considering what happened recently in Duxbury :(”

**A Reader from Lowell** read *The Bookstore Sisters* by Alice Hoffman: “It was a sweet story about the relationship between sisters. The story was a bit rushed though and I wish it was longer.”

**A Reader from South Hadley** read *Too Loud a Solitude* by Bohumil Hrabal: “I thought that this book provided a wild look into the mind in times of strife, in which memories can blend together and timelines become uncertain. The somewhat unobvious connections made to the conflict in Prague of the time allowed this story to be transferred out of its time and into modern day in my reading of it.”

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran: “This was a beautiful poetic reflection on the great questions of life—love, happiness, grief, crime, death, family, etc.”

**A Reader from Weston** read *the berenstain bears and the spooky old tree* by Stan and Jan berenstain: “It was really spooky and fun to read with my nana and papa. Also I liked the riming in it.”

**A Reader from Salem** read *Congratulations, by the way* by George Saunders: “It was such a sweet sentiment told with a vivid voice. I felt like I was back at my graduation, feeling inspired and motivated. What a nice reminder to reflect on when we feel ourselves being kind, and to lean into those opportunities more frequently.”

**A Reader from Beverly Hills** read *The Nutcracker* by Stephanie Spinner: “A nice retelling of the story, suitable for children, with a page describing the history of the ballet, and including a CD of the Tchaikovsky music.”

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “Creepy in more ways than one. A woman loses her sanity, but is really a stand in for womankind being driven insane by the male patriarchy. One of the first feminist texts, but it also works on a horror level. Pretty ingenious.”

**A Reader from Swampscott** read *Dear Ijeawele, or A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “I loved this tiny book. It is sad and also hopeful. It holds a huge question - how to be and raise feminists in the world today. I love Adichie’s clear and concise tone, and how she incorporates elements of her own life and her experiences as a woman . . .”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Finding Perfect* by Colleen Hoover: “The book gave me some insight into some of the issues faced with adoption.”

**A Reader from south hadley** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “I really enjoyed the first person narrative and diary perspective. I also really enjoyed the madness of a woman, I think that mad women are incredibly interesting to write about and one of my favorite narratives.”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *Time is a Mother* by Ocean Vuong: “Lyrical book of poems but odd, sad, and disheartening.”



**A Reader from Lowell** read *Into the Riverlands* by Nghi Vo: “This is the third book in Nghi Vo’s Singing Hills cycle. Despite the short length it packs in a lot of action and heart. The crux of it asks “what is the truth in the stories we tell?””

**A Reader from Milford** read *(Don't) Call Me Crazy: 33 Voices Start the Conversation about Mental Health* by Kelly Jensen (Editor): “Great conversation starter for mental health and vocabulary building for describing to others what you are going through. It’s always helpful to know it is not just you!”

**A Reader from Lynn** read *Grown Ups* by Marie Aubert: “An honest depiction of adult sibling relationships, and the struggles of comparing perceived successes. Particularly relevant for those who may be single in their 30s who are feeling both the fertility clock ticking and the shifts in relationships with those who have already started families.”

**A Reader from Melrose** read *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “A young woman goes through postpartum depression in the 1890’s. Over the span of three months she completely unravels. Told through journal entries.”

**A Reader from Medford** read *The Cybernetic Tea Shop* by Meredith Katz: “Delightful little novella about wanderlust, personhood, love, and tea. It was really easy to get lost in the story, and I wish it were longer!”

**A Reader from Worcester** read *The Pearl* by Steinbeck: “I enjoyed rereading it after having not read it since I was in school.”

**A Reader from Everett** read *Love that Dog* by Sharon Creech: “A moving, understated account of a boy’s relationship with animals, and his journey into appreciating the art of poetry.”

**A Reader from Longmeadow** read *Gratitude* by Oliver Sacks: “A beautiful, very short book of essays/deathbed musings by one of my favorite authors.”

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Night* by Eli’s Wiesel: “I think the book helped the reader begin to understand what it was like to go through the holocaust in a captivating way to the reader’s attention.”

**A Reader from Sunderland** read *Moi Voiture a Moi* by Lisa Ray Turner and Blaine Ray: “Not a great work of literature, but a considerable challenge for me, after studying French on Duolingo.com since October. This was a text from my daughter’s French II class. The story reads like a children’s book, but it is far more interesting than the usual nonsense phrases and banal “where is the museum?” conversations that one normally reads at this level.”

**A Reader from EASTHAMPTON** read *Vincent van Gogh The Painter and The Portraits* by George TM Shakelford: “Wonderful little biography focusing specifically on Van Gogh’s portraits from his first to his last.”

**A Reader from Allston** read *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller: “Highly entertaining and chilling. Really enjoyed the commentary on mob mentality and institutional power dynamics.”

**A Reader from Centerville** read *And every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrik Backman: “The subject of the novella hits close home as dementia and Alzheimer unfortunately run in my family. Reading the story it’s hard to think it could be about me in the future.”

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *Picnic on Paradise* by Joanna Russ: “Enjoyable trek across the frozen wilderness of the planet Paradise. Alyx the heroine is transported from the distant past to guide a bunch of advanced but helpless tourists to safety.”

**A Reader from Woods Hole** read *Galectea* by Madeline Miller: “Fabulous look at mysagony and how it is perpetrated.”

**A Reader from Woburn** read *Alive at the End of the World* by Saeed Jones: “A book full of beautiful and heart-wrenching poetry. Saeed Jones is one of my favorite poets.”

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *The Grownup* by Gillian Flynn: “Yes, it's a 'ghost' story...but. Who do you root for? Who gets what they deserve? Why? Good story!”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen: “Eh, I liked the ending, but otherwise, I found it quite misogynistic.”

**A Reader from Eastham** read *Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech: “Love That Dog celebrates poetry through the eyes of an elementary student who thinks poetry is only for girls. After some required reading from his dedicated teacher, he discovers the value in poetry and even tries writing poems of his own . . .”

**A Reader from Yarmouthport** read *Wolfpack* by Amy Wambach: “My daughter is an avid fan of US Women's Soccer. I love this quote from the book: ‘I created a team culture based on more than just excellence. We not only won, we won with joy, honor, connectedness, commitment, and sisterhood. We were not only champions on the field—we were champions of each other’ . . .”

**A Reader from Danvers** read *Night* by Elie Wiesel: “Very interesting with lots of information provided about the Holocaust.”

**A Reader from Easthampton** read *The Hawk's Way: Encounters With Fierce Beauty* by Sy Montgomery: “A small but mightily profound work on hawks and human relationships with wildness.”

**A Reader from Danville** read *The Way to Wealth* by Benjamin Franklin: “I don't typically read this style of writing but found it was an overall interesting read where many of the principles still hold true. I also appreciated learning the origin as to where many of our clichés come from.”

**A Reader from Methuen** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: “I love modern stories that are based on myths and folk/fairy tales. Pygmalion has always had a special fascination for me since I was a child and saw “My Fair Lady.” I've read/seen a few variations, including Shaw's play . . .”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Every morning the way home gets longer and longer* by Fredrick Backman: “A very emotional story of an older gentleman's recall of family.”

**A Reader from Northampton** read *The Cancer Journals* by Audre Lorde: “A powerful treatise on breast cancer: the experience of detection and treatment as well as what it means to survive in a society that evaluates a woman's worth based on her aesthetic appeal to men.”

**A Reader from Shrewsbury** read *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer* by Fredrick Backman: “I don't tend to read short stories or novellas, but I liked the emotional pull of the

grandfather's story and the writing was very smooth. This was my first time reading this author, and it was a great introduction--I'm eager for more."

**A Reader from West Yarmouth** read *Wolfpack* by Amy Wambach: "I felt the content of this book was very inspiring, especially to women/girls to find their unique voices and shine their best light into the world. If one has any self doubt, then look no further.....just read this book and head for your goals . . ."

**A Reader from Franklin** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "I enjoyed Foster, especially since it was a quick read. The book was evocative and the language painted a vivid picture of rural Ireland. I had just watched *The Banshees of Inisherin*, which also left a deep impression of Ireland, but in a different way."

**A Reader from Northborough** read *Thing Explainer* by Randall Munroe: "It's a very interesting book and motivates to know more about how things work. The authors uses a lot of pictures which is a great way to get a better understanding."

**A Reader from Sandwich** read *Mercy Watson: Something Wonky This Way Comes* by Kate DiCamillo: "The final book of the Mercy Watson series and wow, what a joy. We read the series to our 5 year old and I think I enjoyed it almost as much as she did."

**A Reader from Conway** read *Questions for Angels* by Billy Collins: "I love his poetry. I had this on my shelf so re-read it for this challenge."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *Yoko* by Rosemary Wells: "This was my favorite children's book to read to my daughter when she was littler. It still inspires me to pack lovely lunches of new and interesting foods and to "Try everything!"

**A Reader from Gill** read *Churchill and Colonist li* by Fred Gluekstein: "It was a very interesting read. Live reading about historical men/women and their horses."

**A Reader from Plymouth** read *Gifts from the sea* by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock: "A sweet old fashioned story for a young girl - coming of age."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *We Should all be feminists* by Adichie: "Great insights into cultural views of feminism. We should, definitely, all be feminists."

**A Reader from Salem** read *As Radical, As Mother, As Salad, As Shelter: What Should Art Institutions Do Now?* by Paper Monument: "Interviews and essays with art workers in the wake of the 2016 Trump election - most of it was myopic and unimaginative and hard to get through. I did learn about some interesting grass roots arts orgs and Ken Chen's essay made it worth it."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *She Persisted: Ruby Bridges* by Kekla Magoon: "I read this aloud to my 8 year daughter. I would have loved for it to go into more depth, but it was probably just about the right length for my daughter."

**A Reader from Franklin** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "This book was good commentary on women in abusive relationships. It weaved a story about a clever woman who was very aware of her situation and her thinking about events that led her to where she was now- trying to escape and make a better life for her daughter . . ."

**A Reader from Los Alamos** read *Stories from a Midwest Childhood* by Joani Selement: "My friend wrote these seven short pieces about her childhood for her great-grandson to read one day. My favorite 'Shopping with Scissors' . . ."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde: "I thought it was a very funny, very smart story. It makes sense why it's commonly used in literature classes."

**A Reader from Harwich** read *Notes on Grief* by Adeshi: "I thought the author was incredibly open in writing about her father's death and its affect on her life. I could feel her pain and love as she told her story."

**A Reader from Guyton** read *The girl who leapt through time* by Yasutaka Tsutsui: "It was an interesting concept. I wish it was longer."

**A Reader from Taunton** read *Final Invasion of God* by Rev. John P. Woods: "This book was published in 1951, written by my uncle and the correct page length! As the title indicates it addresses how we, as Christians, can prepare for the second-coming or final invasion of God as referenced in Scripture! Excellent . . ."

**A Reader from Reading** read *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupery: "Thoughtful book, I'm surprised I've never read."

**A Reader from Wenham** read *Pooh and Piglet Go Hunting* by A.A. Milne: "I love how simple and honest the characters are. Pooh is tracking a 'woozle' in the snow and then as he walks in circles, he and Piglet see foot prints of another animal. This of course, is Piglet's own footprints. In the end Pooh says that he has been 'Foolish and Deluded' which is something I don't hear people say enough."

**A Reader from Gill** read *Bartleby the Scrivener* by Herman Melville: "Great! Funny and haunting."

**A Reader from Andover** read *The invisible boy* by Trudy Ludwig: "It was a wonderful book which shows how little act of kindness can change your invisibility."

**A Reader from Springfield** read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Stevenson: "A disturbing look at the good and evil that exists in each one of us, and the horrors we are capable of."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Happening* by Annie Ernaux: "An incredibly harrowing & compelling memoir."

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *Interlude in death* by J.d. Robb: "Great book. I plan to read the entire series."

**A Reader from Sutton** read *Fox8* by George Saunders: "Charming...but then I am a huge fan of George Saunders . . ."

**A Reader from Falmouth** read *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: "It was a strange book and I wasn't sure why it is such a famous book."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Good Mourning: A Kid's Support Guide to for Grief and Mourning Death* by Selden Peden, II: "Sadly, a former student lost her dad. I wanted to gift her some books that would help her on this new path. I really like how this book is written by a child who lost his mum. I think that perspective will be especially supportive to kids in similar situations."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Indigo* by Alice Hoffman: “Indigo is another wonderful book by this author where she uses magical realism. The characters are seeking to find something essential in themselves, and help each other to discover their deepest selves. A lovely book for young adults and old adults!”

**A Reader from Attleboro** read *A Dance for Emilia* by Peter S. BEAGLE: “This has to be one of the worst books I've ever read. The writing was atrocious. The characters were boring. I expected it to be about A CAT! Not a man who comes back briefly from the dead briefly as a cat. But even that description makes it sound better.”

**A Reader from Lawrence** read *Bound For Gold* by William Martin: “I enjoy historical fiction, and I also enjoyed the characters in the novel. This novel was the last in a series of books with the character named Peter Fallon, a rare book dealer from Boston.”

**A Reader from Worcester** read *The Tailor of Gloucester* by Beatrix Potter: “I started collecting used books that I loved as a child. This was one from the Beatrix Potter books. I would walk to the local library and take out two or three at a time as I first learned to read.”

**A Reader from East Sandwich** read *Assembly* by Natasha Brown: “I loved Mrs Dalloway by Virginia Woolf--it is one of my favorites and this book had so many echoes of that. Such an intriguing form and structure--bouncing from one moment to the next like a stream of consciousness . . .”

**A Reader from Weymouth** read *Inheritance* by Elizabeth Acevedo: “This is a stunning poem and the art matches it perfectly.”

**A Reader from Greenfield** read *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrick Backman: “Even in his shortest stories, Fredrik Backman takes you on quite the journey. “The Deal of a Lifetime” is unsettling yet satisfying.”

**A Reader from South Yarmouth** read *The Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens: “A must read every Christmas, timeless.”

**A Reader from Naples** read *In conclusion, dont worry about it* by Lauren Graham: “Very cute and optimistic book! A great reminder to be kinder to ourselves. Love LG and hope she continues to write more.”

**A Reader from Belchertown** read *84, Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff: “It was touching and funny at the same time. The correspondence between the author and the book dealer spanned years after WW2 and progressed from business to friendship over time.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder: “Snyder reminds us that it is not inevitable that history will move in only one direction toward liberal democracies. We all must work hard each day to insure that it does. Let’s keep trying!”

**A Reader from Dedham** read *How Can I Be Sure?* by John Stevens: “I did enjoy this book. It helps reassure us about living a Christian Life.”

**A Reader from Centerville** read *Open Heart* by Elie Wiesel: “starting with NIGHT, which I read in 1957, in my French High School, thanks to the 1st translation from the German I thought that I had read all his books; until, now in my eighties, and thanks to this Reading Challenge I had in my hand this book . . .”

**A Reader from Wilmington** read *If I Built a Car* by Chris Van Dusen: "I thought this book was a wonderful story to get kids thinking creatively of all the things they can build."

**A Reader from East Dennis** read *Happening* by Annie Ernaux: "Very timely look at the horrors of terminating a pregnancy when doing so is illegal amidst an anti-choice culture."

**A Reader from Hingham** read *River's Giving* by Heather Shaw: "I liked the twist at the end. And the growth in the dragon."

**A Reader from Medway** read *She Persisted: Maya Lin* by Grace Lin: "I loved learning about Maya Lin's childhood and how sculpting influenced her architecture."

**A Reader from READING** read *Foster* by Claire Keegan: "Interesting book, and a great book group discussion because the author has provided insights into her thoughts. Highly recommend it."

**A Reader from Marblehead** read *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman: "Have wanted to read this since the inauguration. Enjoyed reading this."

**A Reader from Reading** read *Galatea* by Madeline Miller: "Interesting perspective on a classic story. Definitely a new (and unflattering) way to view Pygmalion."

**A Reader from Lowell** read *Mr. Tiger Goes Wild* by Peter Brown: "I absolutely love Peter Brown's books and this one is no different!"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Uncommon Reader* by Allen Bennett: "This was a super clever book about Queen Elizabeth falling in love with reading after she wanders into the Book mobile while it's visiting Windsor Castle. It speaks to the power of reading and how it influences how we think, interact and live."

**A Reader from Chicopee** read *Gratitude* by Oliver Sacks: "A very short 4 essays that are heartfelt, and deeply personal shortly before his passing."

**A Reader from Fairhaven** read *The Strange Library* by Murakami, Haruki: "What a bizarre book! From the way it's formatted to the art to the story itself it was a weird, wild ride from beginning to end!"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Batman Nightwalker* by Marie Lu: "Really fun, but ended before he actually became Batman!"

**A Reader from Granby** read *Murder in an Irish Pub* by Carlene O'Connor: "It was very good. It kept you guessing who the murder was."

**A Reader from Holbrook** read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck: "John Steinbeck has been my favorite writer since I first read *Travels with Charley* when I was 12 or 13 years old. I have read several times over, great Steinbeck classics *The Grapes of Wrath*, *East of Eden*, etc etc. interestingly, I never read *The Pearl* . . ."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *A Room Called Earth* by Madeleine Ryan: "This book is set in Australia at Christmas & revolves around a single party and how it's processed by an autistic woman. The writer herself is autistic, which is what made me choose the book. It was good, but I wish the character had been given a name."



**A Reader from Hopedale** read *The Survivors* by Jane Harper: "This author is one of my favorites and is set on the island of Tasmania where I have never been. The main character is Kieran who revisits his home town after many years and bad memories surface as well as new problems arise . . ."

**A Reader from Holbrook** read *Dalvi* by Laura Galloway: "I loved reading about the anartica. How they take care of reindeers!"

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Swimming in the Dark* by Tomasz Jedrowski: "A star-crossed lovers story set in the communist Poland of the 80s, the book is a reflexion of a deep infatuation that crosses the barriers of ideology and politics. The depiction of both the poverty in Poland and its treatment of homosexuality is both precise and compassionate."

**A Reader from Wakefield** read *An Ordinary Wonder* by Buki Papillon: "So good! It has an important messages about acceptance, perseverance , and resilience. I wasn't sure what to expect and I was delightfully engrossed in Oto's life and story and only wish there was more about Lori's new life in NYC."

**A Reader from WORCESTER** read *THE YELLOW BIRD SINGS* by JENNIFER ROSNER: "THIS BOOK WAS BOTH SORROWFUL AND BEAUTIFUL. IT WAS SORROWFUL TO READ ABOUT THE EVILNESS AND HORROR OF WAR AND IT WAS BEAUTIFUL TO READ ABOUT THE COMPASSION AND KINDNESS OF A MOTHER'S LOVE AND COMPASSION OF STRANGERS IN THESE TERRIFYING CIRCUMSTANCES."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *Everything I never told you: A novel* by Celeste Ng: "A heartbreaking tale of the unsurmountable burden parents put on children. A gorgeous and devastating story of how everything left unspoken can create a ripple effect of nuclear proportions."

**A Reader from Rochester** read *Nantucket penny* by Steven. Axelrod: "Large colorful cast of characters both year round , summer help and non resident who don't always get along. You will have to pay attention to solve this one. Enjoyed this book"

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Incantation* by Alice Hoffman: "I love Alice Hoffman & loved this book! This history just isn't taught in the US & it's so fantastic to have this window into one character living it. Always share excerpts with my students."

**A Reader from Beverly** read *Versailles* by Colin Jones: "This was a really interesting book about the history of the hugely famous tourist site. The history didn't only encompass the usual history of the French monarchy, but also the history of the site as a museum and the different phases that went through."

**A Reader from Amherst** read *The Velvet Rage* by Alan Downs, PhD: "A profoundly influential work about what it is to be a homosexual man in America the second half of the 20th century. While it lacks the intersectionality to talk about the confluence of race, class, income, and serological status, keys of nuances understanding, it digs deep into the learned behaviors that plague white gay men in the US."

**A Reader from Wellesley** read *The Twist of a knife* by Anthony horowitz: "Wonderful . . . love Anthony Horowitz. He is a wonderful story teller. I stayed up all night trying to guess the culprit."

**A Reader from Hudson** read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: "A concise yet poignant call for action to affect change in our culture for greater gender equality. Short personal stories

from the author are effective at furthering the reality that gender equality has not yet been achieved today.”

**A Reader from Beverly** read *The Music of Dolphins* by Karen Hesse: “I love how Hesse changes not only the style & content but also the font size to show the main character’s “progress” and “regression.” It asks the question: if we are helping someone “for their own good,” is that really what we should be doing? . . .”

**A Reader from Granby** read *Ice* by Linda Howard: “It was very good. I finished the book in one night. Very exciting, you didn’t want to put it down.”