

Special points of interest:

- There are many aids to enhance your reading goals, whether they are academic, professional, or simply for leisure.
- There may be a literary genre you are unfamiliar with that this guide will explain.
- Sometimes, there are sub-genres within literary categories. This guide will direct you to these via electronic sources.
- Joining a book club can help you to share your interest in reading with others.
- A statistical slump in the reading populace has been shown to be reversing at the decade's end in a study by the NEA.

[Overview Commentary](#)

Whatever your reading goals, there are numerous sources that can help you to make choices that match your tastes and needs. Some of these are printed and others virtual on the Internet.

Sometimes, sources that originate in print are also online. In this case, there may be additional virtual features, such as pod casts, blogs, web casts, or RSS feeds that convey information about a topic, such as an author interview or a discussion of a certain title.

There are many web sites on the World Wide Web which focus on literature of a specific type. Very often, these specialized sites will feature links to access related sites. Also, these sites with frequently list authors who write in the genre. Some sites can feature information for genre writers, while others mix this with information for reading fans.



Oprah Winfrey hosts a live book club and also features many book club and reading items on her web site at:
www.oprah.com/index.

Some Highlighted Sources for Reading Enhancement

Three sources that you can go to for making your reading selections more pleasurable or appropriate to your needs are the New York Times newspaper (in print and virtual at www.nytimes.com), Oprah's Book Club (live on her show as well as at www.oprah.com/index), and Novelist, one of the Plainfield Public Library's available databases. To reach Novelist via our web site, Google www.plainfieldlibrary.info/. Once there, click the "Online Databases" icon at the bottom of the home page. That will allow you to link to "Jersey Clicks" and then to Novelist.



“A blessed companion is a book, — a book that fitly chosen is a life-long friend”.

Douglas William
Jerold
(1803–1857)

In-house Books

- Blood, Bedlam, Bullets, and Badguys : A Reader’s Guide to Adventure/Fiction by Michael B. Gannon (R 016.813 GAN)
- Make Mine a Mystery : A Reader’s Guide to Mystery and Detective Fiction by Gary Warren Niebuhr (R 016.808 NIE)
- What do Children and Young Adults Read Next? by Gale Publishers (R 011.62 HOL 2002 V. 4)
- The Salon.com Reader’s Guide to Contemporary Authors by Laura Miller (R 813.509 SAL)
- The Go on Girl! Book Club Guide for Reading Groups by Monique Greenwood (374.22 G85)

Articles

- Kaufman, Joanne. “Fought Over Any Good Books Lately?” New York Times, December 5, 2008, Arts section.
- Rich, Motoko. “Fiction Reading Increases for Adults.” New York Times, January 12, 2009, Arts section.
- “Reading on the Rise: A New Chapter in American Literacy.” National Endowment for the Arts, January 2009. www.nea.gov/research/ReadingonRise.pdf.

Online Resources



This is the logo of a readers’ web site where readers can share ideas. It’s at:
www.goodreads.com.

The library provides computers for Internet access for online research. Try some of these web sites for information on enhancing your reading enjoyment: www.online-literature.com, www.book-clubs-resource.com, www.mysterywriters.org, www.westernwriters.org, www.rwanational.org, www.blackbooksdirect.com/urbanfiction.html, www.horror.org, www.chicklitclub.com, www.historicalnovelsociety.org, <http://jclarkmedia.com/gaybooks>, www.professornana.com, www.poets.org, www.librarything.com/groups/nonfictionreaders