



Summer Reading Challenge for Grown-Ups

Crank up the the AC and curl up with a good book from these Tucson-inspired categories. We asked Pima County Public Library, Bookmans, Mostly Books and Antigone Books to recommend some fantastic titles. Challenge yourself to read them all or one from each section and share your progress using [#thisistucsonbookchallenge](https://twitter.com/thisistucsonbookchallenge). Reading superstars can even earn a prize!

Tucson famous

Memoir / biography

- "High Tide in Tucson" by Barbara Kingsolver
- "Isabella Greenway: An Enterprising Woman" by Kristie Miller
- "Gabby: A Story of Courage and Hope" by Gabrielle Giffords and Mark Kelly

Too hot to handle

Romance

- "Breathless" by Beverly Jenkins
- "The Lost Letter" by Jillian Cantor
- "Waiting to Exhale" by Terry McMillan

Take me away

Sense of place

- "Chasing Arizona: One Man's Yearlong Obsession with the Grand Canyon State" by Ken Lambertson
- "The Terranauts: A Novel" by T.C. Boyle
- "Circling the Sun" by Paula McLain

Cactus classics

Local must-reads

- "The Bean Trees" by Barbara Kingsolver
- "The Hummingbird's Daughter" by Luis Alberto Urrea
- "Ceremony" by Leslie Marmon Silko

Smells like rain

Nature

- "A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There" by Aldo Leopold
- "The Sonoran Desert: A Literary Field Guide" by Eric Magrane and Christopher Cokinos
- "The Emerald Mile: The Epic Story of the Fastest Ride in History Through the Heart of the Grand Canyon" by Kevin Fedarko

The food desert

Food

- "Eat Mesquite and More: A Cookbook for Sonoran Desert Foods and Living" by Desert Harvesters
- "Like Water for Chocolate" by Laura Esquivel
- "Coming Home to Eat: The Pleasures and Politics of Local Foods" by Gary Paul Nabhan

Once upon a time in the West

History

- "La Calle: Spatial Conflicts and Urban Renewal in a Southwest City" by Lydia Otero
- "Tortillas, Tiswin, and T-Bones: A Food History of the Southwest" by Gregory McNamee
- "News of the World" by Paulette Jiles

Honk if you ♥ La Llorona

Mystery

- "Deadly Sanctuary" by Sylvia Nobel
- "Downfall" by J.A. Jance
- "Thunderhead" by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child

Hot topics

Current events

- "The Devil's Highway: A True Story" by Luis Alberto Urrea
- "Church of the Old Mermaids" by Kim Antieau
- "Transgender History" by Susan Stryker

Jave laugh

Fun reads

- "Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus" by Dusti Bowling
- "Desert Dames and Doodles: A Coloring Book Inspired by the Sonoran Desert" by Audrey De La Cruz
- "Giant George: Life with the World's Biggest Dog" by Dave Nasser and Lynne Barrett-Lee

Saguaro you today?

Self help

- "Unprocessed: My City-Dwelling Year of Reclaiming Real Food" by Megan Kimble
- "Landwhale: On Turning Insults Into Nicknames, Why Body Image is Hard and How Diets Can Kiss My Ass" by Jes Baker
- "This Is Where You Belong: The Art and Science of Loving the Place You Live" by Melody Warnick

the desert sun sets

beauty fills the sky tonight

so many pictures

Poetry

- "Sonoran Strange" by Logan Phillips
- "Where Clouds are Formed" by Ofelia Zepeda
- "Troubling the Line: Trans and Genderqueer Poetry and Poetics" by T.C. Tolbert

