

Why I Read The Serious Pleasure Of S Wendy Lesser

If you ally need such a referred **Why I Read The Serious Pleasure Of s Wendy Lesser** books that will have enough money you worth, get the enormously best seller from us currently from several preferred authors. If you want to comical books, lots of novels, tale, jokes, and more fictions collections are along with launched, from best seller to one of the most current released.

You may not be perplexed to enjoy every ebook collections **Why I Read The Serious Pleasure Of s Wendy Lesser** that we will completely offer. It is not a propos the costs. Its about what you craving currently. This **Why I Read The Serious Pleasure Of s Wendy Lesser**, as one of the most functioning sellers here will utterly be along with the best options to review.

The Great Mental Models: General Thinking Concepts Farnam Street 2019-12-16 The old saying goes, "To the man with a hammer, everything looks like a nail." But anyone who has done any kind of project knows a hammer often isn't enough. The more tools you have at your disposal, the more likely you'll use the right tool for the job - and get it done right. The same is true when it comes to your thinking. The quality of your outcomes depends on the mental models in your head. And most people are going through life with little more than a hammer. Until now. The Great Mental Models: General Thinking Concepts is the first book in The Great Mental Models series designed to upgrade your thinking with the best, most useful and powerful tools so you always have the right one on hand. This volume details nine of the most versatile, all-purpose mental models you can use right away to improve your decision making, productivity, and how clearly you see the world. You will discover what forces govern the universe and how to focus your efforts so you can harness them to your advantage, rather than fight with them or worse yet- ignore them. Upgrade your mental toolbox and get the first volume today.
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY Farnam Street (FS) is one of the world's fastest growing websites, dedicated to helping our readers master the best of what other people have already figured out. We curate, examine and explore the timeless ideas and mental models that history's brightest minds have used to live lives of purpose. Our readers include students, teachers, CEOs, coaches, athletes, leaders, followers, politicians and more. They're not defined by gender, age, income, or politics but rather by a shared passion for avoiding problems, making better decisions, and lifelong learning.
AUTHOR HOME Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Normal People Sally Rooney 2019-04-16 NOW AN EMMY-NOMINATED HULU ORIGINAL SERIES • NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • “A stunning novel about the transformative power of relationships” (People) from the author of Conversations with Friends, “a master of the literary page-turner” (J. Courtney Sullivan).
ONE OF THE TEN BEST NOVELS OF THE DECADE—Entertainment Weekly
TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR—People, Slate, The New York Public Library, Harvard Crimson
AND BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR—The New York Times, The New York Times Book Review, O: The Oprah Magazine, Time, NPR, The Washington Post, Vogue, Esquire, Glamour, Elle, Marie Claire, Vox, The Paris Review, Good Housekeeping, Town & Country
Connell and Marianne grew up in the same small town, but the similarities end there. At school, Connell is popular and well liked, while Marianne is a loner. But when the two strike up a conversation—awkward but electrifying—something life changing begins. A year later, they're both studying at Trinity College in Dublin. Marianne has found her feet in a new social world while Connell hangs at the sidelines, shy and uncertain. Throughout their years at university, Marianne and Connell circle one another, straying toward other people and possibilities but always magnetically, irresistibly drawn back together. And as she veers into self-destruction and he begins to search for meaning elsewhere, each must confront how far they are willing to go to save the other.
Normal People is the story of mutual fascination, friendship and love. It takes us from that first conversation to the years beyond, in the company of two people who try to stay apart but find that they can't. Praise for *Normal People* “[A] novel that demands to be read compulsively, in one sitting.”—The Washington Post “Arguably the buzziest novel of the season, Sally Rooney’s elegant sophomore effort . . . is a worthy successor to *Conversations with Friends*. Here, again, she unflinchingly explores class dynamics and young love with wit and nuance.”—The Wall Street Journal “[Rooney] has been hailed as the first great millennial novelist for her stories of love and late capitalism. . . . [She writes] some of the best dialogue I’ve read.”—The New Yorker

Great Books David Denby 2013-06-18 THE NATIONAL BESTSELLER At the age of forty-eight, writer and film critic David Denby returned to Columbia University and re-enrolled in two core courses in Western civilization to confront the literary and philosophical masterpieces – the “great books” – that are now at the heart of the culture wars. In *Great Books*, he leads us on a glorious tour, a rediscovery and celebration of such authors as Homer and Boccaccio, Locke and Nietzsche. Conrad and Woolf. The resulting personal odyssey is an engaging blend of self-discovery, cultural commentary, reporting, criticism, and autobiography -- an inspiration for anyone in love with the written word.

Books IV-VII Edmund Spenser 1909

Browsings Michael Dirda 2015-08-15 Pulitzer Prize-winning critic Michael Dirda has been hailed as “the best-read person in America” (The Paris Review) and “the best book critic in America” (The New York Observer). His latest volume collects fifty of his witty and wide-ranging reflections on a life in literature.

Reaching from the classics to the post-moderns, his allusions dance from Samuel Johnson, Ralph Waldo Emerson and M. F. K. Fisher to Marilynne Robinson, Hunter S. Thompson, and David Foster Wallace. Dirda’s topics are equally diverse: literary pets, the lost art of cursive writing, book inscriptions, the pleasures of science fiction conventions, author photographs, novelists in old age, Oberlin College, a year in Marseille, writer’s block, and much more. As admirers of his earlier books will expect, there are annotated lists galore—of perfect book titles, great adventure novels, favorite words, books about books, and beloved children’s classics, as well as a revealing peek at the titles Michael keeps on his own nightstand.Funny and erudite, *Browsings* is a celebration of the reading life, a fan’s notes, and the perfect gift for any booklover.

Lost in a Book V. Nell 1988-01-01 Examines the social forces that have shaped reading, discusses the nature of reading skills, and suggests connections between reading and dreaming and hypnotic trance

The Pleasures of Reading in an Age of Distraction Alan Jacobs 2011-05-26 In recent years, cultural commentators have sounded the alarm about the dire state of reading in America. Americans are not reading enough, they say, or reading the right books, in the right way. In this book, Alan Jacobs argues that, contrary to the doomsayers, reading is alive and well in America. There are millions of devoted readers supporting hundreds of enormous bookstores and online booksellers. Oprah’s Book Club is hugely influential, and a recent NEA survey reveals an actual uptick in the reading of literary fiction. Jacobs’s interactions with his students and the readers of his own books, however, suggest that many readers lack confidence; they wonder whether they are reading well, with proper focus and attentiveness, with due discretion and discernment. Many have absorbed the puritanical message that reading is, first and foremost, good for you—the intellectual equivalent of eating your Brussels sprouts. For such people, indeed for all readers, Jacobs offers some simple, powerful, and much needed advice: read at whim, read what gives you delight, and do so without shame, whether it be Stephen King or the King James Version of the Bible. In contrast to the more methodical approach of Mortimer Adler’s classic *How to Read a Book* (1940), Jacobs offers an insightful, accessible, and playfully irreverent guide for aspiring readers. Each chapter focuses on one aspect of approaching literary fiction, poetry, or nonfiction, and the book explores everything from the invention of silent reading, reading responsively, rereading, and reading on electronic devices. Invitingly written, with equal measures of wit and erudition, *The Pleasures of Reading in an Age of Distraction* will appeal to all readers, whether they be novices looking for direction or old hands seeking to recapture the pleasures of reading they first experienced as children.

Scandinavian Noir Wendy Lesser 2020-05-05 “Even those unmoved by its subject will thrill to [Scandinavian Noir], a beautifully crafted inquiry into fiction, reality, crime and place . . . Perhaps when it comes to fiction and reality, what we need most are critics like Lesser, who can dissect the former with the tools of the latter.” --Kate Tuttle, The New York Times Book Review An in-depth and personal exploration of Scandinavian crime fiction as a way into Scandinavian culture at large For nearly four decades, Wendy Lesser’s primary source of information about three Scandinavian countries—Sweden, Norway, and Denmark—was mystery and crime novels, and the murders committed and solved in their pages. Having never visited the region, Lesser constructed a fictional Scandinavia of her own making, something between a map, a portrait, and a cultural history of a place that both exists and does not exist. Lesser’s Scandinavia is disproportionately populated with police officers, but also with the stuff of everyday life, the likes of which are relayed in great detail in the novels she read: a fully realized world complete with its own traditions, customs, and, of course, people. Over the course of many years, Lesser’s fictional Scandinavia grew more and more solidly visible to her, yet she never had a strong desire to visit the real countries that corresponded to the made-up ones. Until, she writes, “between one day and the next, that no longer seemed sufficient.” It was time to travel to Scandinavia. With vivid storytelling and an astonishing command of the literature, *Wendy Lesser’s Scandinavian Noir: In Pursuit of a Mystery* illuminates the vast, peculiar world of Scandinavian noir—first as it appears on the page, then as it grows in her mind, and finally, in the summer of 2018, as it exists in reality. Guided by sharp criticism, evocative travel writing, and a whimsical need to discover “the difference between existence and imagination, reality and dream,” *Scandinavian Noir* is a thrilling and inventive literary adventure from a masterful writer and critic.

The Pleasures of Reading Robert Alter 1996 A distinguished critic rescues literature from the ivory tower and reestablishes reading as a personal source of complex pleasure and insight.

Trust Hernan Diaz 2022-05-03 LONGLISTED FOR THE 2022 BOOKER PRIZE “Buzzy and enthralling ...A glorious novel about empires and erasures, husbands and wives, staggering fortunes and unspeakable misery...Fun as hell to read.” —Oprah Daily “A genre-bending, time-skipping story about New York City’s elite in the roaring ‘20s and Great Depression.”—Vanity Fair “A riveting story of class, capitalism, and greed.” —Esquire “Captivating.”—NPR “Exhilarating.” —New York Times An unparalleled novel about money, power, intimacy, and perception Even through the roar and effervescence of the 1920s, everyone in New York has heard of Benjamin and Helen Rask. He is a legendary Wall Street tycoon; she is the daughter of eccentric aristocrats. Together, they have risen to the very top of a world of seemingly endless wealth—all as a decade of excess and speculation draws to an end. But at what cost have they acquired their immense fortune? This is the mystery at the center of *Bonds*, a successful 1937 novel that all of New York seems to have read. Yet there are other versions of this tale of privilege and deceit. Hernan Diaz’s *TRUST* elegantly puts these competing narratives into conversation with one another—and in tension with the perspective of one woman bent on disentangling fact from fiction. The result is a novel that spans over a century and becomes more exhilarating with each new revelation. At once an immersive story and a brilliant literary puzzle, *TRUST* engages the reader in a quest for the truth while confronting the deceptions that often live at the heart of personal relationships, the reality-warping force of capital, and the ease with which power can manipulate facts.

The Pagoda in the Garden Wendy Lesser 2005 A tale set in England during three distinct twentieth-century time periods follows the lives of three sets of people, including a master novelist and his student, a middle-aged writer and a flirtatious Canadian, and a King’s College grad student and her lover, in an account that sets their lives against such historical events as the death of Queen Victoria and the end of the Vietnam War.

How to Read and Why Harold Bloom 2001-10-02 At a time when faster and easier electronic media threaten to eclipse reading and literature, the author explores reasons for reading and demonstrates the aesthetic pleasure reading can bring.

Lit Up David Denby 2016-02-02 An inspiring firsthand investigation into the crucial challenge of turning teenagers into lifelong readers It’s hardly a secret that millions of American kids, caught up in social media, television, movies, and games, don’t read seriously—that is, they associate serious reading with duty or work, not with pleasure. This indifference has become a grievous loss to our standing as a great nation—and a personal loss, too, for millions of teenagers who may turn into adults with limited understanding of themselves and others. Can this be changed? Can teenagers be turned on to literature? What kind of teachers can do it, and what books? To find out, Denby sat in on a tenth-grade English class in a New York public school for an entire academic year, and made frequent visits to an inner-city public school in New Haven and to a respected public school in Westchester county. He read all the stories, poems, plays, and novels that the kids were reading, and here combines a chronicle of what he observed with fresh and inspiring encounters with the books themselves, including *The Scarlet Letter*, *Brave New World*,1984, *The Alchemist*, *Slaughterhouse Five*, *The Kite Runner*,*Long Way Gone* and many more. Denby’s book is a dramatic narrative that traces awkward and baffled beginnings but also exciting breakthroughs and the emergence of pleasure in reading. In a sea of bad news about education and the fate of the book, David Denby reaffirms the power of great teachers and the importance and inspiration of great literature.

How Should One Read a Book? Virginia Woolf 2021-11-24 First delivered as a speech to schoolgirls in Kent in 1926, this enchanting short essay by the towering Modernist writer Virginia Woolf celebrates the importance of the written word. With a measured but ardent tone, Woolf weaves together thought and quote, verse and prose into a moving tract on the power literature can have over its reader, in a way which still resounds with truth today. I have sometimes dreamt, at least, that when the Day of Judgement dawns and the great conquerors and lawyers and statesmen come to receive their rewards – their crowns, their laurels, their names carved indelibly upon imperishable marble – the Almighty will turn to Peter and will say, not without a certain envy when he sees us coming with our books under our arms, “Look, these need no reward. We have nothing to give them here. They have loved reading.”

A Little Life Hanya Yanagihara 2015-03-10 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • A stunning “portrait of the enduring grace of friendship” (NPR) about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. A masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century. A NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • A MAN BOOKER PRIZE FINALIST • WINNER OF THE KIRKUS PRIZE A Little Life follows four college classmates—broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition—as they move to New York in search of fame and fortune. While their relationships, which are tinged by addiction, success, and pride, deepen over the decades, the men are held together by their devotion to the brilliant, enigmatic Jude, a man scarred by an unspeakable childhood trauma. A hymn to brotherly bonds and a masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century, Hanya Yanagihara’s stunning novel is about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. Look for Hanya Yanagihara’s new novel, *To Paradise*, coming in January 2022.

Classics for Pleasure Michael Dirda 2008 Organized thematically, a collection of essays introduces nearly ninety of the world’s most entertaining and informative books, covering masterpieces of fantasy and science fiction, horror and adventure, epics, history, philosophy, essays, and children’s literature, by authors ranging from Sappho and Petronius to Frederick Douglass, Arthur Conan Doyle, and Georgette Heyer. Reprint.

Serious Pleasure Sheba Collective 1991 “Good girls, bad girls, in love or out, young or old, we wanted to read about lesbians making love, desiring other women, desiring themselves, making each other dizzy with lust, turning each other on, delighting each other beyond belief, taking each other to heaven and back... Serious Pleasure is the original collection of sexually and culturally diverse erotic literature by lesbians. Cheryl Clarke, Jewelle Gomez, Fiona Cooper, and more!”--Page 4 of cover.

The Word Pretty Elisa Gabbert 2018 Literary Nonfiction. Women’s Studies. Memoir. Cultural Criticism. In THE WORD PRETTY Elisa Gabbert brings together humor and observational intelligence to create a roving and curious series of lyrical essays on writing, reading, and living. Combining elements of criticism, meditation, and personal essay, this book reveals a poet’s attention turned to subjects from translation to aphorism, from unreliable memory to beauty and the male gaze.

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Robert Louis Stevenson 1907 Dr Jekyll is a well-respected, curious scientist who tries to separate his good characteristics from his evil impulses. Dr Jekyll uses science to explore his alter ego Mr Hyde and attempts to control Mr Hyde’s evil urges, even as they grow in intensity.

Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters Pat McKissack 2002 Describes the customs, recipes, poems, and songs used to celebrate Christmas in the big plantation houses and in the slave quarters just before the Civil War.

To Read Or Not to Read: A Question of National Consequence Dana Gioia 2008-03 Executive Summary for a report which gathers & collates the best national data available to provide a reliable & comprehensive overview of American reading today. This report relies on large, nat. studies conducted on a

regular basis by U.S. fed. agencies, supplemented by academic, foundation, & business surveys. Although there has been measurable progress in recent years in reading ability at the elementary school level, all progress appears to halt as children enter their teenage years. There is a general decline in reading among teenage & adult Americans. Both reading ability & the habit of regular reading have greatly declined among college grad. The declines have demonstrable social, economic, cultural, & civic implications. Charts & tables.

Two Serious Ladies Jane Bowles 2022-03-17 'My favourite book. I can't think of a modern novel that seems more likely to become a classic' Tennessee Williams 'The book I give as a gift . . . It feels like giving someone an exotic fruit' Sheila Heti' A modern legend . . . A very funny writer' Truman Capote 'Profoundly witty, genuinely unusual in its apprehensions, and bracingly, humanely true' Claire Messud I am going on a trip. Wait until I tell you about it. it's terrible. Miss Goering, an eccentric, impulsive New York heiress, resides in her house and tries not to be unhappy. Mrs Copperfield, an anxious, dutiful married woman, has a great fear of drowning, of lifts, of intruders in the night. Two serious ladies, nothing is natural for them and anything is possible. For Mrs Copperfield - a trip to Panama, where she abandons her husband for love of a local prostitute. For Miss Goering - a move to a squalid little house on an island and a series of sordid encounters with strangers. Both go to pieces -and both realise this is something they've wanted to do for years. With an introduction by Naoise Dolan A W&N Essential

The Sundial Shirley Jackson 2014-01-28 Before there was Hill House, there was the Halloran mansion of Jackson’s stunningly creepy fourth novel, *The Sundial* When the Halloran clan gathers at the family home for a funeral, no one is surprised when the somewhat peculiar Aunt Fanny wanders off into the secret garden. But then she returns to report an astonishing vision of an apocalypse from which only the Hallorans and their hangers-on will be spared, and the family finds itself engulfed in growing madness, fear, and violence as they prepare for a terrible new world. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Serious Noticing James Wood 2020-01-14 The definitive collection of literary essays by The New Yorker’s award-winning longtime book critic Ever since the publication of his first essay collection, *The Broken Estate*, in 1999, James Wood has been widely regarded as a leading literary critic of the English-speaking world. His essays on canonical writers (Gustav Flaubert, Herman Melville), recent legends (Don DeLillo, Marilynne Robinson) and significant contemporaries (Zadie Smith, Elena Ferrante) have established a standard for informed and incisive appreciation, composed in a distinctive literary style all their own. Together, Wood’s essays, and his bestselling *How Fiction Works*, share an abiding preoccupation with how fiction tells its own truths, and with the vocation of the writer in a world haunted by the absence of God. In *Serious Noticing*, Wood collects his best essays from two decades of his career, supplementing earlier work with autobiographical reflections from his book *The Nearest Thing to Life* and recent essays from *The New Yorker* on young writers of extraordinary promise. The result is an essential guide to literature in the new millennium.

How to Read a Book Mortimer J. Adler 2014-09-30 Analyzes the art of reading and suggests ways to approach literary works, offering techniques for reading in specific literary genres ranging from fiction, poetry, and plays to scientific and philosophical works.

How to Read a Novelist John Freeman 2013-10-08 The novel is alive and well, thank you very much For the last fifteen years, whenever a novel was published, John Freeman was there to greet it. As a critic for more than two hundred newspapers worldwide, the onetime president of the National Book Critics Circle, and the former editor of *Granta*, he has reviewed thousands of books and interviewed scores of writers. In *How to Read a Novelist*, which pulls together his very best profiles (many of them new or completely rewritten for this volume) of the very best novelists of our time, he shares with us what he’s learned. From such international stars as Doris Lessing, Haruki Murakami, Salman Rushdie, and Mo Yan, to established American lions such as Don DeLillo, Norman Mailer, Toni Morrison, Marilynne Robinson, Philip Roth, John Updike, and David Foster Wallace, to the new guard of Edwidge Danticat, Dave Eggers, Jonathan Franzen, and more, Freeman has talked to everyone. What emerges is an instructive and illuminating, definitive yet still idiosyncratic guide to a diverse and lively literary culture: a vision of the novel as a varied yet vital contemporary form, a portrait of the novelist as a unique and profound figure in our fragmenting global culture, and a book that will be essential reading for every aspiring writer and engaged reader—a perfect companion (or gift!) for anyone who’s ever curled up with a novel and wanted to know a bit more about the person who made it possible.

Where I’m Reading From Tim Parks 2015-05-12 Why do we need fiction? Why do books need to be printed on paper, copyrighted, read to the finish? Do we read to challenge our vision of the world or to confirm it? Has novel writing turned into a job like any other? In *Where I’m Reading From*, the novelist and critic Tim Parks ranges over decades of critical reading—from Leopardi, Dickens, and Chekhov, to Virginia Woolf, D. H. Lawrence, and Thomas Bernhard, and on to contemporary work by Peter Stamm, Alice Munro, and many others—to upend our assumptions about literature and its purpose. In thirty-seven interlocking essays, *Where I’m Reading From* examines the rise of the “international” novel and the disappearance of “national” literary styles; how market forces shape “serious” fiction; the unintended effects of translation; the growing stasis of literary criticism; and the problematic relationship between writers’ lives and their work. Through dazzling close readings and probing self-examination, Parks wonders whether writers—and readers—can escape the twin pressures of the new global system and the novel that has become its emblematic genre.

Serious Pleasure Sheba Collective 1991 “Good girls, bad girls, in love or out, young or old, we wanted to read about lesbians making love, desiring other women, desiring themselves, making each other dizzy with lust, turning each other on, delighting each other beyond belief, taking each other to heaven and back... Serious Pleasure is the original collection of sexually and culturally diverse erotic literature by lesbians. Cheryl Clarke, Jewelle Gomez, Fiona Cooper, and more!”--Page 4 of cover.

How to be both Ali Smith 2014-12-02 MAN BOOKER PRIZE FINALIST • A novel all about art’s versatility, borrowing from painting’s fresco technique to make an original literary double-take. “Cements Smith’s reputation as one of the finest and most innovative of our contemporary writers. By some divine alchemy, she is both funny and moving; she combines intellectual rigor with whimsy” —The Los Angeles Review of Books *How to be both* is a fast-moving genre-bending conversation between forms, times, truths and fictions. There’s a Renaissance artist of the 1460s. There’s the child of a child of the 1960s. Two tales of love and injustice twist into a singular yarn where time gets timeless, structural gets playful, knowing gets mysterious, fictional gets real—and all life’s givens get given a second chance. Passionate, compassionate, vitally inventive and scrupulously playful, Ali Smith’s novels are like nothing else. A NOTE TO THE READER: Who says stories reach everybody in the same order? This novel can be read in two ways, and the eBook provides you with both. You can choose which way to read the novel by simply clicking on one of two icons—CAMERA or EYES. The text is exactly the same in both versions; the narratives are just in a different order. The ebook is produced this way so that readers can randomly have different experiences reading the same text. So, depending on which icon you select, the book will read: EYES, CAMERA, or CAMERA, EYES. (Your friend may be reading it the other way around.) Enjoy the adventure. (Having both versions in the same file is intentional.)

The Pleasure of the Text Roland Barthes 1975-01-01 What is it that we do when we enjoy a text? What is the pleasure of reading? The French critic and theorist Roland Barthes’s answers to these questions constitute “perhaps for the first time in the history of criticism . . . not only a poetics of reading . . . but a much more difficult achievement, an erotics of reading. . . . Like flings which gather to form a figure in a magnetic field, the parts and pieces here do come together, determined to affirm the pleasure we must take in our reading as against the indifference of (mere) knowledge.” --Richard Howard

Books Promiscuously Read Heather Cass White 2022-07-05 The critic and scholar Heather Cass White offers an exploration of the nature of reading. Heather Cass White’s *Books Promiscuously Read* is about the pleasures of reading and its power in shaping our internal lives. It advocates for a life of constant, disorderly, time-consuming reading, and encourages readers to trust in the value of the exhilaration and fascination such reading entails. Rather than arguing for the moral value of reading or the preeminence of literature as an aesthetic form, *Books Promiscuously Read* illustrates the irreplaceable experience of the self that reading provides for those inclined to do it. Through three sections—Play, Transgression, and Insight—which focus on three ways of thinking about reading, *Books Promiscuously Read* moves among and considers many poems, novels, stories, and works of nonfiction by authors ranging from Cervantes, George Eliot, Thylais Moss, Mary Shelley, and more. The prose is shot through with quotations reflecting the way readers think through the words of others. *Books Promiscuously Read* is a tribute to the whole lives readers live in their books, and aims to recommit people to those lives. As White writes, “What matters is staying attuned to an ordinary, unflashy, mutely persistent miracle; that all the books to be read, and all the selves to be because we have read them, are still there, still waiting, still undiminished in their power. It is an astonishing joy.”

How Fiction Works James Wood 2008-07-22 A book-length essay by the forefront literary critic takes readers on a philosophical tour of the art of the novel, in a wide-ranging piece that explores such topics as the definition of style, the connection between realism and real life, and the qualities that make a story. By the author of *The Irresponsible Self*.

How to Talk About Books You Haven't Read Pierre Bayard 2010-08-10 In this delightfully witty, provocative book, literature professor and psychoanalyst Pierre Bayard argues that not having read a book need not be an impediment to having an interesting conversation about it. (In fact, he says, in certain situations reading the book is the worst thing you could do.) Using examples from such writers as Graham Greene, Oscar Wilde, Montaigne, and Umberto Eco, he describes the varieties of “non-reading”-from books that you’ve never heard of to books that you’ve read and forgotten-and offers advice on how to turn a sticky social situation into an occasion for creative brilliance. Practical, funny, and thought-provoking, *How to Talk About Books You Haven't Read*-which became a favorite of readers everywhere in the hardcover edition-is in the end a love letter to books, offering a whole new perspective on how we read and absorb them.

Why I Read Wendy Lesser 2014-01-07 The founder and editor of *The Threepenny Review* and award-winning author of *Music for Silenced Voices* draws on a lifetime of pleasure reading and decades of editing to describe a life lived in and through literature, exploring plays, poems and essays as well as a range of fiction and nonfiction works from a variety of perspectives. 15,000 first printing.

How Pleasure Works Paul Bloom 2010 "Examines the science behind humans' strange and curious desires, attractions and tastes, covering everything from the animal instincts of sex and food to the uniquely human taste for art, music and stories, in a book that draws on insights from child development, philosophy, neuroscience and more."

Undone John Colapinto 2016-03-21 Already hailed and persecuted for its perverse humor and wildly wicked sensibility, *Undone* is the tour-de-force black comedy by International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award Nominee John Colapinto. In modern day America, Dez is a former lawyer and teacher — an ephebophile with a proclivity for teenage girls, hiding out in a trailer park with his latest conquest, Chloe. Having been in and out of courtrooms (and therapists’ offices) for a number of years, Dez is adrift, at odds with a society that persecutes him over his desires. From his couch one afternoon, Dez watches an interview with Jasper Ulrickson, a dotting father and loving husband whose heartrending memoir, *Lessons from My Daughter*, has become a national bestseller. The memoir chronicles his journey with his wife, Pauline, who suffered a stroke giving birth to their only child and has been in a locked-in state ever since. Espousing their deep connection and chaste marriage, Jasper’s selfless devotion to his wife has made him one of the most popular and admired men in America. So Dez sets out to do what any red-blooded American would do: destroy Ulrickson by using Chloe to pose as the famous author’s long-lost daughter, infiltrate his family, seduce him, and, when

Why I Read Wendy Lesser 2014-01-07 "Wendy Lesser's extraordinary alertness, intelligence, and curiosity have made her one of America's most significant cultural critics," writes Stephen Greenblatt. In *Why I Read*, Lesser draws on a lifetime of pleasure reading and decades of editing one of the most distinguished literary magazines in the country, *The Threepenny Review*, to describe her love of literature. As Lesser writes in her prologue, "Reading can result in boredom or transcendence, rage or enthusiasm, depression or hilarity, empathy or contempt, depending on who you are and what the book is and how your life is shaping up at the moment you encounter it." Here the reader will discover a definition of literature that is as broad as it is broad-minded. In addition to novels and stories, Lesser explores plays, poems, and essays along with mysteries, science fiction, and memoirs. As she examines these works from such perspectives as "Character and Plot," "Novelty," "Grandeur and Intimacy," and "Authority," *Why I Read* sparks an overwhelming desire to put aside quotidian tasks in favor of reading. Lesser's passion for this pursuit resonates on every page, whether she is discussing the book as a physical object or a particular work's influence. "Reading literature is a way of reaching back to something bigger and older and different," she writes. "It can give you the feeling that you belong to the past as well as the present, and it can help you realize that your present will someday be someone else's past." This may be disheartening, but it can also be strangely consoling at times." A book in the spirit of E. M. Forster's *Aspects of the Novel* and Elizabeth Hardwick's *A View of My Own*, *Why I Read* is iconoclastic, conversational, and full of insight. It will delight those who are already avid readers as well as neophytes in search of sheer literary fun.

Why I Write George Orwell 2021-01-01 George Orwell set out ‘to make political writing into an art’, and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature - his descriptions of authoritarian regimes helped to form a new vocabulary that is fundamental to understanding totalitarianism. While 1984 and *Animal Farm* are amongst the most popular classic novels in the English language, this new series of Orwell’s essays seeks to bring a wider selection of his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. In *Why I Write*, the first in the Orwell’s Essays series, Orwell describes his journey to becoming a writer, and his movement from writing poems to short stories to the essays, fiction and non-fiction we remember him for. He also discusses what he sees as the ‘four great motives for writing’ - ‘sheer egoism’, ‘aesthetic enthusiasm’, ‘historical impulse’ and ‘political purpose’ - and considers the importance of keeping these in balance. *Why I Write* is a unique opportunity to look into Orwell’s mind, and it grants the reader an entirely different vantage point from which to consider the rest of the great writer’s oeuvre. ‘A writer who can - and must - be rediscovered with every age.’ — Irish Times

How to Raise a Reader Pamela Paul 2019-09-03 A parent's guide to raising a lifelong reader, packed with practical ideas for engaging children of all ages in books, plus wonderful lists of books, arranged by age and subject matter, will keep the shelves stocked and young readers' interests high from birth through teens.

The Good Soldier Ford Maddox Ford 2021-01-28 *The Good Soldier* is considered Ford's masterpiece. This tale of adultery and deceit centers around two couples, Edward and Leonora Ashburnham, and their American friends, John and Florence Dowell. John Dowell narrates the events of Florence's affair with Edward, the "good soldier," and her subsequent suicide. Through Dowell's confused and perhaps unreliable narrative, Ford attempted to recreate real thoughts. This literary technique was a forerunner to literary techniques employed by such later writers as Samuel Beckett and J.M. Coetzee. Ford Madox Ford (Ford Madox Hueffer) was born in 1873. He was a novelist, poet, literary critic, editor, and one of the founding fathers of English Modernism. He published over eighty books, including two collaborations with Joseph Conrad (Inheritors in 1901 and *Romance* in 1903). He died in 1939.