



READING CHALLENGE

As we welcome in 5784 Rabbi Dara has encouraged us to grow through reading by participating in a reading challenge.

I. Read all the books on Rabbi Dara's list:

1. Candle, Feather, Wooden Spoon by Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles
2. Finding the Words by Colin Campbell
3. Four Thousand Weeks by Oliver Burkeman
4. In Love by Amy Bloom
5. Learning From the Germans by Susan Neiman
6. People Love Dead Jews by Dara Horn
7. Reader Come Home by Maryanne Wolf
8. Rest is Resistance by Tricia Hersey
9. The Sabbath by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel
10. The Wondering Jew by Micah Goodman

II. Pick a reading buddy or we'll help you find one. Set up a chevruta and commit to reading one book together and then discussing.

Ask a friend, a partner, a child...if you have a dog like Six-Thirty, then ask your dog. (If you don't know the reference, ask your reading friends!)

We have a group of moms from our Shabbat B'yachad program who meet in the park, every Sunday morning, and work their way through a book, page by page, discussing what they've read.

It's not dissimilar from a traditional Jewish practice called Daf Yomi where Jews around the world sync up their learning to read one page of Talmud a day.

And when you finish YOUR book, you should have a party like the Daf Yomi people who after 7 and a half years of reading together rent out MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey for a giant celebration. Or, you could sponsor an Oneg.



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III. Finally, we're setting up a book swap for Yom Kippur.

Bring ONE book to Royce Hall on Kol Nidrei or Yom Kippur morning and choose a new book to read...and I'm completely comfortable with you reading it during services. Especially if it displaces your phone. But let me be clear: Bring ONE book to swap which someone would actually enjoy reading. Do not bring illustrated cookbooks. That's just mean.

Other resources for books to read:

- [Jewish Book Council: 2023-2024 Annual Jewish Book Club Reading Guide](#)
- [URJ 9 Social Justice Books to read right now.](#)

There are also many lists of banned books, but these are the most often banned so far in 2023:

- Gender Queer. By Maia Kobabe. ...
- Flamer. By Mike Curato. ...
- Tricks. By Ellen Hopkins. ...
- The Handmaid's Tale (Graphic Novel) By Margaret Atwood. ...
- Sold. By Patricia McCormick. ...
- Push. By Sapphire. ...
- The Bluest Eye. By Toni Morrison. ...
- This Book is Gay. By Juno Dawson.

