# **Vancouver Writers Fest 2025 Reading List:** **Simple Text Version**

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# **Welcome**

Welcome to the 2025 Reading List! This Reading List represents over 115 authors who will be joining the Vancouver Writers Fest at our flagship Festival, taking place this year from October 20–26.

Click on any book title below to read the book’s synopsis. You’ll also find options there to purchase the books in hardcover, paperback, audiobook, or ebook form (where available).

This list represents all confirmed titles as of June 26, 2025. There’s more to come! Check our website for the latest additions: <https://writersfest.bc.ca/2025-books>

To find a list of only books with audiobooks available for purchase, check out our playlist on Libro.fm:

<https://libro.fm/playlists/vwf-2025?bookstore=writersfest>

# **Adult Titles**

[Elbows Up!: Canadian Voices of Resilience and Resistance](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/elbows-up)

Elamin Abdelmahmoud

[Other Worlds](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/other-worlds)

André Alexis

[Margaret's New Look](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/margarets-new-look)

Katherine Ashenburg

[Book of Lives: Memoir of Sorts](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/book-of-lives)

Margaret Atwood

[We Love You, Bunny](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/we-love-you-bunny)

Mona Awad

[A Daughter's Place](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-daughters-place)

Martha Bátiz

[Bodies of Art, Bodies of Labour](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/bodies-of-art-bodies-of-labour)

Kate Beaton

[The Idea of An Entire Life: Poems](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-idea-of-an-entire-life)

Billy-Ray Belcourt

[Carved in Blood](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/carved-in-blood)

Michael Bennett

[We, The Kindling](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/we-the-kindling)

Otoniya J. Okot Bitek

[The Tiger and the Cosmonaut](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-tiger-and-the-cosmonaut)

Eddy Boudel Tan

[Deep Cuts](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/deep-cuts)

Holly Brickley

[How to Survive a Bear Attack: A Memoir](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/how-to-survive-a-bear-attack)

Claire Cameron

[The Good Allies: How Canada and the United States Fought Together to Defeat Fascism during the Second World War](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-good-allies)

Tim Cook

[Gaysians](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/gaysians)

Mike Curato

[Raising Hare](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/raising-hare)

Chloe Dalton

[It Lasts Forever and Then It’s Over](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/it-lasts-forever-and-then-its-over)

Anne de Marcken

[Chasing Shadows: Cyber Espionage, Subversion, and the Global Fight for Democracy](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/chasing-shadows)

Ronald J. Deibert

[Precarious: The Lives of Migrant Workers](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/precarious)

Marcello Di Cintio

[Enshittification: Why Everything Suddenly Got Worse and What to Do About It](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/enshittification)

Cory Doctorow

[The Paris Express](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-paris-express)

Emma Donoghue

[Black Cherokee](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/black-cherokee)

Antonio Michael Downing

[Small Ceremonies](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/small-ceremonies)

Kyle Edwards

[Letters to Kafka](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/letters-to-kafka)

Christine Estima

[The Marionette](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-marionette)

Terry Fallis

[Tunnel Island: Stories](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/tunnel-island)

Bill Gaston

[On Oil](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/on-oil)

Don Gillmor

[After We Drowned](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/after-we-drowned)

Jill Yonit Goldberg

[Final Orbit](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/final-orbit)

Chris Hadfield

[Open, Heaven](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/open-heaven)

Seán Hewitt

[Big Chief](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/big-chief)

Jon Hickey

[The Antifa Comic Book: Revised and Expanded](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-antifa-comic-book)

Gord Hill

[The Science of Pets](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-science-of-pets)

Jay Ingram

[The Trouble with Fairy Tales](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-trouble-with-fairy-tales)

Plum Johnson

[21 Things You Need to Know About Indigenous Self-Government: A Conversation About Dismantling the Indian Act](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/21-things-you-need-to-know-about-indigenous-self-government)

Bob Joseph

[Written on the Dark](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/written-on-the-dark)

Guy Gavriel Kay

[How to Be Hopeful: Empowering Practices to Overcome Despair and Act for Climate Justice](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/how-to-be-hopeful)

elin kelsey

[The Life Cycle of the Common Octopus](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-life-cycle-of-the-common-octopus)

Emma Knight

[Katabasis](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/katabasis)

R.F. Kuang

[Beneath Dark Waters: The Legacy of the Empress of Ireland Shipwreck](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/beneath-dark-waters)

Eve Lazarus

[By the Second Spring: Seven Lives and One Year of the War in Ukraine](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/by-the-second-spring)

Danielle Leavitt

[October 7th: Searching for the Humanitarian Middle](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/october-7th)

Marsha Lederman

[Wild Life](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/wild-life)

Amanda Leduc

[Wrestling with Cadence](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/wrestling-with-cadence)

Dennis Lee

[The Hunger We Pass Down](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-hunger-we-pass-down)

Jen Sookfong Lee

[A Different Kind of Tension: New and Selected Stories](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-different-kind-of-tension)

Jonathan Lethem

[The World After Rain: Anne's Poem](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-world-after-rain)

Canisia Lubrin

[These Memories Do Not Belong to Us](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/these-memories-do-not-belong-to-us)

Yiming Ma

[An Accidental Villain: A Soldier's Tale of War, Deceit and Exile](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/an-accidental-villain)

Linden MacIntyre

[A Guardian and a Thief](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-guardian-and-a-thief)

Megha Majumdar

[The City Changes Its Face](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-city-changes-its-face)

Eimear McBride

[Highway Thirteen](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/highway-thirteen)

Fiona McFarlane

[A Precarious Enterprise: Making a Life in Canadian Publishing](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-precarious-enterprise)

Scott McIntyre

[No Fault: A Memoir of Romance and Divorce](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/no-fault)

Haley Mlotek

[The Seventh Veil of Salome](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-seventh-veil-of-salome)

Silvia Moreno-Garcia

[Gray Dawn: An Easy Rawlins Mystery](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/gray-dawn)

Walter Mosley

[The Girls Who Grew Big](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-girls-who-grew-big)

Leila Mottley

[Crowd Source](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/crowd-source)

Cecily Nicholson

[Snap](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/snap)

Susin Nielsen

[Against the Grain: Defiant Giants Who Changed the World](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/against-the-grain)

Terry O'Reilly

[Joyride](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/joyride)

Susan Orlean

[To the Moon and Back](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/to-the-moon-and-back)

Eliana Ramage

[Bread and Milk](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/bread-and-milk)

Karolina Ramqvist

[The Trial of Katterfelto](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-trial-of-katterfelto)

Michael Redhill

[How to Share an Egg: A True Story of Hunger, Love, and Plenty](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/how-to-share-an-egg)

Bonny Reichert

[Endling](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/endling)

Maria Reva

[52 Ways to Reconcile: How to Walk with Indigenous Peoples on the Path to Healing](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/52-ways-to-reconcile)

David A. Robertson

[The Longest Way to Eat a Melon](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-longest-way-to-eat-a-melon)

Jacquelyn Zong-Li Ross

[Mother Mary Comes to Me](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/mother-mary-comes-to-me)

Arundhati Roy

[Three Parties](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/three-parties)

Ziyad Saadi

[Mona's Eyes](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/monas-eyes)

Thomas Schlesser

[Chinatown Vancouver: An Illustrated History](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/chinatown-vancouver-an-illustrated-history)

Donna Seto

[Batshit Seven](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/batshit-seven)

Sheung-King

[Walking with Beth: Conversations with My Hundred-Year-Old Friend](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/walking-with-beth)

Merilyn Simonds

[A Steady Brightness of Being: Truths, Wisdom, and Love from Celebrated Indigenous Voices](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-steady-brightness-of-being)

Stephanie Sinclair

[Show Don't Tell: Stories](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/show-dont-tell)

Curtis Sittenfeld

[Bluff](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/bluff)

Danez Smith

[Soundtrack: A Lyric Memoir](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/soundtrack)

Michael V. Smith

[On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/on-tyranny)

Timothy Snyder

[Wellwater](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/wellwater)

Karen Solie

# [The Road Between Us](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-road-between-us) Bindu Suresh

[Big Girls Don't Cry: A Memoir About Taking Up Space](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/big-girls-dont-cry)

Susan Swan

[You Will Not Kill Our Imagination: A Memoir of Palestine and Writing in Dark Times](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/you-will-not-kill-our-imagination)

Saeed Teebi

[Pick a Colour](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/pick-a-colour)

Souvankham Thammavongsa

[The Book of Records](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-book-of-records)

Madeleine Thien

[State of Emergency](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/state-of-emergency)

Jeremy Tiang

[A Truce That Is Not Peace](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-truce-that-is-not-peace)

Miriam Toews

[Nobody Asked for This](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/nobody-asked-for-this)

Georgia Toews

[So Far Gone](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/so-far-gone)

Jess Walter

[November, November](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/november-november)

Isabella Wang

[The Riveter](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-riveter)

Jack Wang

[On Book Banning: Or, How the New Censorship Consensus Trivializes Art and Undermines Democracy](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/on-book-banning)

Ira Wells

[The Last Exile: A Wakeland Novel](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-last-exile)

Sam Wiebe

[You've Changed](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/youve-changed)

Ian Williams

[House of the Beast](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/house-of-the-beast)

Michelle Wong

[Welcome to the Neighbourhood](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/welcome-to-the-neighbourhood)

Clea Young

[Julie Chan Is Dead](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/julie-chan-is-dead)

Liann Zhang

# **Youth Titles**

# [A Pond, a Poet, and Three Pests](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-pond-a-poet-and-three-pests) Caroline Adderson

# [The Great Dinosaur Sleepover](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-great-dinosaur-sleepover) Linda Bailey

# [Lena the Chicken (But Really a Dinosaur!)](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/lena-the-chicken-but-really-a-dinosaur) Linda Bailey

# [Shark Girl](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/shark-girl) Kate Beaton

# [Allyship as Action: 7 Ways to Advocate for Others](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/allyship-as-action) Tanya Boteju

# [Free Piano (Not Haunted)](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/free-piano-not-haunted) Whitney Gardner

# [Carousel Summer](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/carousel-summer) Kathleen Gros

# [Among Ghosts](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/among-ghosts) Rachel Hartman

# [A Skeleton in the Closet](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/a-skeleton-in-the-closet) Claire Hatcher-Smith

# [We Carry the Sun](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/we-carry-the-sun) Tae Keller, Rachel Wada

# [Benny on the Case](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/benny-on-the-case) Wesley King

# [Songs for Ghosts](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/songs-for-ghosts) Clara Kumagai

# [He’s So Possessed with Me](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/hes-so-possessed-with-me) Corey Liu

# [Best of All Worlds](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/best-of-all-worlds) Kenneth Oppel

# [What Fish Are Saying: Strange Sounds in the Ocean](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/what-fish-are-saying) Kirsten Pendreigh

# [When a Tree Falls: Nurse Logs and Their Incredible Forest Power](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/when-a-tree-falls) Kirsten Pendreigh

# [Little Shoes](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/little-shoes) David A. Robertson

# [The World’s End: The Misewa Saga, Book Six](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/the-worlds-end) David A. Robertson

# [You Were Made for This World: Celebrated Indigenous Voices Speak to Young People](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/you-were-made-for-this-world) Stephanie Sinclair

# [I Won’t Feel This Way Forever](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/i-wont-feel-this-way-forever) Kim Spencer

# [Meet Me at Blue Hour](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/meet-me-at-blue-hour) Sarah Suk

# [My Summer Camp Has Mega Sloths](https://writersfest.bc.ca/reading-list-2025/my-summer-camp-has-mega-sloths) Rebecca Wood Barrett