

Dear Librarians,

It's the great Canadian book debate...this is [Canada Reads](#). Welcome to the 20th edition of CBC's battle of the books.

If this is your introduction to Canada Reads, it's our annual literary Survivor-style show. We go live-to-air on CBC Radio One at 11am from March 8-11. We convene five prominent Canadians around a table with our host, comedian Ali Hassan, and at the end of each show they vote off one book until only the winner remains. The show is also available as a livestream and airs at 1pm on CBC Television.



**This year we're looking for one book to transport us.** Books can be a safe place to go when times are tough. Whether reading to escape daily cares, to explore new perspectives or simply to lift spirits, these stories of perseverance, discovery and resilience transport us across Canada, around the world and to worlds beyond.

#### Introducing the Canada Reads class of 2021:

Singer-Songwriter **Scott Helman** champions *Two Trees Make a Forest* by Jessica J. Lee

Actor and Filmmaker **Devery Jacobs** champions *Jonny Appleseed* by Joshua Whitehead

Actor **Paul Sun-Hyung Lee** champions *Hench* by Natalie Zina Walschots

Olympian and Broadcaster **Rosey Edeh** champions *The Midnight Bargain* by C.L. Polk

Chef, and TV Host **Roger Mooking** champions *Butter Honey Pig Bread* by Francesca Ekwuyasi

#### **Here are some ways libraries participate in Canada Reads:**

- Host an event with a Canada Reads personality (typically in-person but virtual this year)
- [Host community debates with local personalities](#)
- Run a Canada Reads reading challenge or [book club](#)
- Create collections of the books, both [physical](#) and [digital](#)

#### **We want to help. Here are some of the resources we provide:**

- Coordination of a Canada Reads personality's participation in a virtual event
- [Downloadable posters \(we can also mail out posters on request\) and downloadable bookmarks](#)
- Sets of books for contest prizing
- A [podcast series](#) will become available March 3, giving people who haven't finished the books another way to prepare for the show
- A full slate of videos and teaching guides will available on [Curio](#) (CBC's educational platform)

#### **If you have Canada Reads plans, please let us know. We can:**

- Add your event to our Canada Reads listings
- Connect you with your local CBC station to see if they're able to help promote your virtual event
- Share your initiatives with our [Canada Reads Facebook group](#) of over 8,500 very active members

We'd love to hear from you with any special requests you have, or feedback you'd like to share with us.

Kind regards,

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