

Recommended Books



- 01** **A Thousand Splendid Suns** by *Khaled Hosseini* – A story of friendship between two women in Afghanistan and the tragedies, gender-based violence, and discrimination they face
- 02** **Bad Feminist** by *Roxane Gay* – Essays on modern feminism and what we need to do better
- 03** **The Bell Jar** by *Sylvia Plath* – Deals with society's expectation for women and the search for fulfillment
- 04** **Corazon** by *Yesika Salgado* – Poetry about fatness, brownness, womanness, love
- 05** **Frankenstein** by *Mary Shelley* – Frankenstein itself isn't a feminist book but MARY SHELLEY INVENTED SCIENCE FICTION WHEN SHE WAS ONLY 19 YEARS OLD!
- 06** **Girl, Interrupted** by *Susanna Kaysen* – "Mental illness through the feminist lens."
- 07** **The Handmaid's Tale** by *Margaret Atwood* – Essential to every feminist library
- 08** **Housekeeping** by *Marilynne Robinson* – Not actually about housekeeping, but: a "haunting, poetic story, drowned in water and light, about three generations of women"
- 09** **Hunger** by *Roxane Gay* – "A searingly honest memoir of food, weight, self-image, and learning how to feed your hunger while taking care of yourself."
- 10** **I Am Malala** by *Malala Yousafzai* – Malala's story of her fight for education for girls in Pakistan, the attempt at her assassination, and her recovery
- 11** **The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks** by *Rebecca Skloot* – Deals with ethics relating to race and class in medical research
- 12** **The Joy Luck Club** by *Amy Tan* – A novel about 4 Chinese immigrants and their American-born daughters; focuses on the deep mother-daughter connection and also the great divide between the Chinese-born mothers and the first-generation daughters
- 13** **Lives of Girls and Women** by *Alice Munro* – An earthy, elegant short story cycle about growing up feminist in Canada, by one of the masters of the craft

READING LIST



- 14** **Persepolis** by *Marjane Satrapi* – A graphic novel/memoir of the author’s life growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution
- 15** **The Power** by *Naomi Alderman* – Teenage girls have the power to electrocute people; story about how the world would change if women had the power
- 16** **The Purity Myth** by *Jessica Valenti* – Analysis of the United States’ obsession with female virginity
- 17** **The Radium Girls** by *Kate Moore* – A story about female factory workers who contracted radiation poisoning from painting products with radioactive paint during the early 19th century; touches on workers’ rights and justice
- 18** **Reading Lolita in Tehran** by *Azar Nafisi* – A memoir by an Iranian professor who read forbidden Western books with her students in her living room after universities were closed by Islamic fundamentalists
- 19** **Redefining Realness** by *Janet Mock* – A memoir of the trans activist’s life so far
- 20** **The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo** by *Taylor Jenkins Reid* – About a queer movie star during the Golden Age of Hollywood, forced to hide the real her and her relationship from the public
- 21** **Shrill** by *Lindy West* – Essays about fatness, sexism in the comedy world, and sexism online; so funny and so good
- 22** **Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud** by *Anne Helen Petersen* – Writer at BuzzFeed, essays on unruly women
- 23** **Tranny** by *Laura Jane Grace* – A memoir of the lead singer of Against Me! (a punk rock band) who came out as trans in 2012; reflections on her turbulent life and the band’s turbulent life
- 24** **The Vegetarian** by *Han Kang* – A short novel translated from Korean about a women who chooses to stop eating red meat in a culture where that means a lot, and how her act of subversion affects her life
- 25** **The Yellow Wallpaper** by *Charlotte Perkins Gilman* – A very short story written during the Victorian Era that deals with mental health and sexism; lots of symbolism!
- 26** **You Can’t Touch My Hair** by *Phoebe Robinson* – One of the “2 Dope Queens” podcasters, essays about race, gender, and pop culture