

CEO Dr. Geetha Murali's Top Five Books of 2022

Excited to kick off 2023 with a new book in hand? Room to Read CEO Dr. Geetha Murali shares her top five favorite books from this past year with us.

From a humorous fiction book set in the early 1960s following chemist Elizabeth Zott as she challenges society's gender expectations to a mystery novel featuring a woman detective, Precious Ramotswe, and her cunning exploits to a riveting memoir written by one of Room to Read's Author Advocates, Mohsin Zaidi, these diverse book recommendations are well worth the read.

Happy Reading!

1. "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus

Following woman chemist Elizabeth Zott, this fiction book brings lots of laughs to the page as readers navigate the early 1960s and the gender inequality that exists in society at the time, particularly within the chemistry space. Discover how Elizabeth navigates her life as a mother and a cooking show star where she shows off her revolutionary cooking skills that combine chemistry, confidence and courage.

2. "Four Thousand Weeks: Time Management for Mortals" by Oliver Burkeman

Oliver Burkeman brings readers an intriguing guide to time and time management, showcasing the obsession humans have with long to-do lists and constant productivity and how that obsession ties to self-worth. In support of all humans making the most of our roughly four thousand weeks of life, Burkeman draws insights from both ancient and contemporary philosophers, psychologists and spiritual teachers to reshape our approach to living fully as the clock continues to tick.

3. "A Dutiful Boy" by Mohsin Zaidi

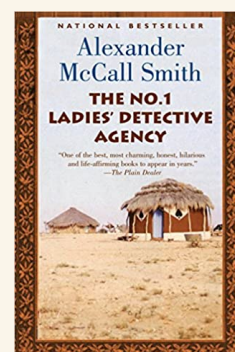
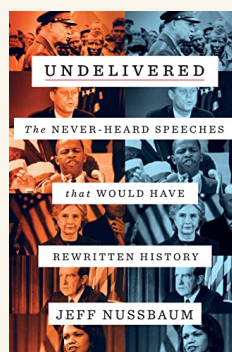
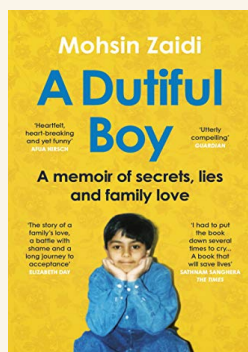
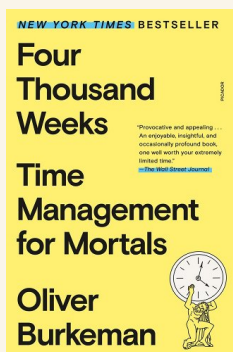
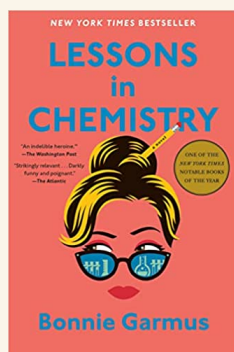
In this raw coming-of-age memoir, Mohsin shares what it was like growing up queer in a low-income area of east London among a devout conservative Muslim family and community. Learn about Mohsin's journey to acceptance, and how he became the first person from his school to attend Oxford University while leading a life isolated from his family.

4. "Undelivered: The Never-Held Speeches That Would Have Rewritten History" by Jeff Nussbaum

Political speechwriter Jeff Nussbaum shares the most notable undelivered speeches in this captivating compilation. From Dwight Eisenhower's apology for a D-Day failure to Richard Nixon's refusal to resign the presidency, these "second speeches" provide alternative histories and greater insight to inform us about both the past and present.

5. "The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency" by Alexander McCall Smith

Protagonist Precious Ramotswe is Botswana's premier lady detective who is drawn to her profession to help others face challenges or problems in their lives. She is hired for many diverse cases, yet there's one case in particular — a search for a missing 11-year-old boy — that lands her in danger. Yet despite peril, she commits to finding this boy and engages readers every step of the way.



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