

Q&A

Questions and Answers



What is a Common Read?

A Common Read is when a large group of people read the same book at the same time and then have discussions about that book. The discussions can be in book clubs, classrooms, or gatherings in the library.

Is this the first time the Tangipahoa Parish Library is conducting a Common Read?

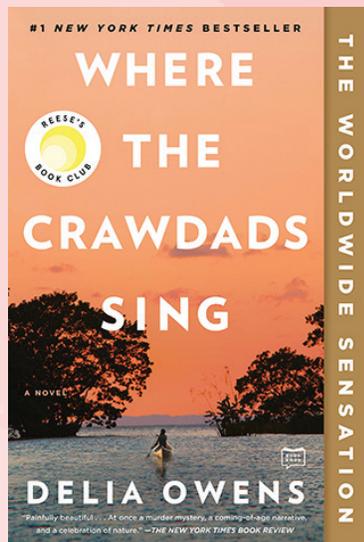
This is our fourth year conducting a Common Read.

What is this year's Common Read book?

The book is the New York Times bestseller *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens.

For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life--until the unthinkable happens.

Where the Crawdads Sing is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.



How can I get a copy of the book?

The library has purchased a number of copies of the paperback edition. We will also have audio books, e-books and large print books. Many of these will be cataloged for our branches, and cataloged for totes that will be loaned out to book clubs, senior centers, classrooms at schools, etc. People may check the book out from one of our branches or participate in a book club or other organization reading the novel.

What is the object of the Common Read?

The object is three-fold:

1. To encourage reading.
2. To stimulate dialogue about the themes in the book – Survival, Human Connection, Access to Education and Prejudice.
3. To foster a sense of community by bringing people together through literature.

What are the dates of the Common Read?

The library will begin Celebrating the Written Word with the Common Read on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2021, and continue until May, 2022. Throughout the year, there will be programs and activities tied to the book's theme.

Can I start reading the book and be part of the Common Read after the October kickoff?

Of course. The Common Read will last through the year. There will be many opportunities to discuss the book throughout the year.

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