Easy & Fun

Summer reading should be easy and fun. Someone tweeted not too long ago that a summer read is the best when you look up surprised that you’re still sitting by the pool, or the nurse just called your name in the doctor’s office, or you’re on a (go figure!) train. Those ARE the best summer reads, but sometimes even if the book is not that good, or it hasn’t pulled you into its story, you still feel obligated to finish it. Not true.

If you’re reading a book because your best friend needs you to read it so that you can discuss it with her over the phone on Wednesday night with a glass of wine, then, well, yes, maybe you DO have to finish it. But there is practically no other reason on earth that you have to read a book that you are not enjoying. Not even if it’s listed here on Cyndi’s Summer Reads and I said you should read it. Uh huh. Nope.

Books do not require your loyalty and fidelity. In fact, they seldom notice when you do show it to them. Save that for your humans.

1. Is the main character grating on your last interior longitudinal fasciculus? Pitch her!
2. Is the setting so improbable it might as well have been written by René Goscinny and Albert Uderzo? (if you don’t know, google them) Over the shoulder! Gone.

Be as selective, discriminating and demanding of your books as you choose to be. The best books and authors can take it. Let one of these suggestions take their best shot at you.

Summer of My Amazing Luck

Two young, Winnipeg welfare moms.

Raising 5 kids, not a dad in sight, not a penny to their name, not particularly honest, not skilled at adulting, not terribly wise. Always optimistic. Always rambling. But present. Always.

Some of the above statements are understatements and you’ll soon find out which ones.
Larry’s Party

One ordinary guy’s life.

Flashing back and forth in time, a man grows into his life slowly and surely, the way we all actually do, with a storyteller’s fresh, ironic and tender voice.

His name is Larry and he’s a lamb and he’s as real as my brother-in-law Bob and your cousin Mike.

Won the UK’s most prestigious literary award Orange Prize for Fiction

Worth Dying For / Lee Child

No home. No rent. No wheels. No work.

Carrying his toothbrush in his pocket, a credit card, a ton of history and a sure and deadly awareness of how best to take any bad guy(s) down …

at 20 paces …

at 7 …

spitting distance …

nosehair-to-nosehair.

So of course he’s going to meet a lot of bad guys.

They’re everywhere.

Watch. This. Man. Work.
Prudence is a city girl who got herself a farm. Well, a derelict plot of land called Woefield, somewhere in interior BC. Sounds promising.

She also got herself a mule, a failing thyroid, a whole big electrical issue thing, and a problem with her profitable roadside vegetable stand. And her farm hands are comprised of a virginal-but-not-by-choice agoraphobic, a shy, elderly, bluegrass legend and an 11 year old elite-poultry specialist with parenting (the recipient of) problems.

So …
Not quite.

Like what you just finished & want something similar? Cyndi may have a suggestion for you.

Pop her an email or drop by.

You can find all of Cyndi’s Summer Reads on the library website.