

Recommended Reads from Adams County Poet Laureate Kerrie Joy

“As a writer, I am constantly learning what it takes to create work that introduces me to a new world with different possibilities but still keeps me grounded in our present reality. This list offers colorful perspectives that speak to me as a Black, androgynous, poetic and spiritual woman, while challenging me to imagine infinite possibilities.”

— Kerrie Joy

Kerrie Joy’s Recommended Reads

“The Fire Next Time” by James Baldwin

“Red Lip Theology: For Church Girls Who’ve Considered Tithing to the Beauty Supply Store When Sunday Morning Isn’t Enough” by Candice Marie Benbow

“Patsy” by Nicole Dennis Benn

“Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds” by adrienne maree brown

“Octavia’s Brood: Science Fiction Stories from Social Justice Movements” edited by adrienne maree brown

“Parable of the Sower” by Octavia Butler

“The Water Dancer” by Ta-Nehisi Coates

“How To Love” by Thich Nhat Hanh

“Living Buddha, Living Christ” by Thich Nhat Hanh

“The Myth of Normal: Trauma, Illness, & Healing in a Toxic Culture” by Gabor Maté with Daniel Maté

“Rest Is Resistance - A Manifesto” by Tricia Hersey

“Their Eyes Were Watching God” by Zora Neale Hurston

“The Book of Night Women” by Marlon James

“The Fifth Season” (The Broken Earth Trilogy) by N.K. Jemisin

“Slaying the Dragon” by Michael Johnson

“Throw: Poetry and Prose” by Kahlil Koromantee

“Concrete Kids” by Amyra Léon

“Sister Outsider” by Audre Lorde

“The Bluest Eye” by Toni Morrison

“The Sympathizer” by Viet Thanh Nguyen

“Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens

“clarity & connection” by yung pueblo

“Sweat the Technique: Revelations on Creativity by the Lyrical Genius” by Rakim

“A Gospel of Bones” by Suzi Q. Smith

“The Violin Conspiracy” by Brendan Slocumb