

Get Ready for 2024! FONCPL is here for you!

1 message

Katherine <kathywlambe@gmail.com>

Wed, Jan 3, 2024 at 2:10 PM

Reply-To: kathywlambe@gmail.com

To: jahnbnb@gmail.com



Dear Friends,

Did you know that Dictionary.com's 2023 word of the year is "hallucinate?" Now you may think you know the definition of this word, but you would probably be wrong. The 2023 definition of "hallucinate" refers to the tendency of artificial intelligence (AI) tools to spew misinformation. In other words, it's when chatbots and other AI tools confidently make stuff up. And, no, I am not making this up. [Click here](#) to read this article.

The Washington Post and the New York Times both have directors of AI to keep the AI programs used in check. "For instance, if you ask ChatGPT about the impact of climate change on the economy, it could scan reams of information online and produce an answer – with a chance of hallucinating. Instead, The Post selectively feeds snippets or phrases from its own articles into the model so it can be sure of generating a trustworthy response."

By now you are probably scratching your collective heads, asking how this applies to Friends of the Library. Well, there are several directions we could take this conversation:

1. Use of technology. The world is rapidly changing and Friends should be, too. We should be accepting credit cards as payment for books and merchandise. We should have our own unique website and not be relying on a page on the library's website.
2. Benefits of FONCPL membership. FONCPL strives to provide information on current practices and to encourage idea sharing. We want to keep you abreast of changes potentially impacting Friends.
3. Board responsibilities. Just like the newspaper directors that oversee AI for their companies, your Board oversees and monitors the performance of your Friends. It sets guidelines, priorities, and goals.
4. Changes potentially impacting Friends' and library operations. Make no mistake about it, AI is going to have an impact. AI, at some point in the near future, may replace reference librarians. AI may create your Friends' newsletters.

You could probably think of a few other topics we might cover as well. We encourage you to start reading about AI and its many, many applications. If nothing more than to exercise your brain cells. Just for fun, write a short article for your members on the topic of "book banning and Friends of the Library." Then using a program such as ChatGPT or Copilot (built into the Edge browser) ask it to create a short article on the very same topic and see what you get. (You could instruct it to use the same number of words that you used in your article.) Share the two articles with your Friends. It can be fun, but also instructive and maybe even scary.

We hope you will renew your FONCPL membership for 2024, both personally and as a group. We wish your Friends every success in 2024!

Judy Hills
FONCPL President

IT'S TIME !! *Join us now for 2024!!*

Please Join US

Membership runs from January thru December each year



F·R·I·E·N·D·S

OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

FONCPL offers two membership options:

Group membership is open to Friends organizations and public libraries.
The Group Membership form and the Individual Membership form are available on our website.

<https://foncpl.org>

President
Judy Hills (Craven)
jahnbc@gmail.com

Director
Joyce Speas (Alleghany)
joyce.speas73@gmail.com

Library of NC Liaison
Lynda Reynolds
Lynda.reynolds@dncr.nc.gov

Secretary
Joanne Straight (Craven)
jostraight@gmail.com

Director
Kathy Lambe (Forsyth)
klambe@me.com



Treasurer
Tim Como (Catawba)
826mechanic@gmail.com

Director
Lyn Marsh (Forsyth)
mclincoln1@gmail.com

Director
Tess Thais
Tessthais88@gmail.com

President
Judy Hills (Craven)
jahnbc@gmail.com

Director
Joyce Speas (Alleghany)
joyce.speas73@gmail.com

Secretary
Joanne Straight (Craven)
jostraight@gmail.com

Director
Kathy Lambe (Forsyth)
klambe@me.com

Treasurer
Tim Como (Catawba)
826mechanic@gmail.com

Director
Lyn Marsh (Forsyth)
mclincoln1@gmail.com

Library of NC Liaison
Lynda Reynolds
Lynda.reynolds@dncr.nc.gov

Director
Tess Thais
Tessthais88@gmail.com

**Don't forget to join so you can win a chance for \$200 !
Join by Feb 28, 2024
to get a chance to win!**

An excerpt from.....
8 Quotes That Changed History

I know I have the body but of a weak, feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a King of England too, and think foul scorn that Parma or Spain, or any prince of Europe, should dare to invade the borders of my realm. - **Queen Elizabeth I**

I hold the sun to be situated motionless in the center of the revolution of the celestial orbs while the Earth rotates on its axis and revolves about the sun. — **Galileo Galilei**

That from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion — that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain — that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth. — **Abraham Lincoln**

I come to ask you to help to win this fight. If we win it, this hardest of all fights, then, to be sure, in the future it is going to be made easier for women all over the world to win their fight when their time comes. — **Emmeline Pankhurst**

We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender. — **Winston Churchill**

We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard. — **John F. Kennedy**

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. — **Martin Luther King Jr.**

I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons will live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to see realized. But, my lord, if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die. — **Nelson Mandela**

Top 10 Searched Titles In 2023

The grid displays the following book covers:

- LESSONS in CHEMISTRY by Bonnie Garmus
- IT ENDS WITH US by Colleen Hoover
- DEMON COPPERHEAD by Barbara Kingsolver
- IT STARTS WITH US by Colleen Hoover
- Verity by Colleen Hoover
- HAPPY PLACE by Emily Henry
- TOMORROW AND TOMORROW AND TOMORROW by Gabrielle Charbonnet
- FOURTH WING by Rebecca Yarros
- SEVEN HUSBANDS of EVELYN HUGO by Taylor Jenkins Reid
- SPARE by Prince Harry

An excerpt from...

81 Things That Blew Our Minds in 2023.....

by The Atlantic Science Desk

12/27/23

Mars has seasons, and in the winter, it [snows](#).

Bats are [arguably the healthiest mammals on Earth](#).

The overwhelming majority of [sweaters](#) available on the American mass market are made at least partly of plastic.

In 2003, a NASA Investigation Board blamed the disintegration of the space shuttle Columbia in part [on PowerPoint](#).

Mice and rats [can't vomit](#).

You have [two noses](#), and you can control them separately via your armpits.

If you are pregnant, your feet might grow roughly [half a shoe size](#) and lengthen by about 0.4 inches.

Gender-neutral baby names are [more popular in conservative states](#) than in liberal ones.

By 2051, North America may run out of three-digit [area codes](#).

Compostable plastic bags buried in soil [for three years](#) can still hold a full load of groceries.

By hacking a Tesla's rear heated seats, German researchers inadvertently accessed [private user data](#).

One of Saturn's moons likely has a [habitable](#) ocean.

AI avatars led a [church service](#) in Germany this summer.

A pill may be easier to swallow if you [turn your head as it goes down](#).

American cars [hit](#) more than 1 million large animals and as many as 340 million birds every year.

Podiatrists have seen a [spike](#) in plantar-fasciitis cases since the coronavirus pandemic began, partly because so many people who work from home shuffle around barefoot on hard floors.

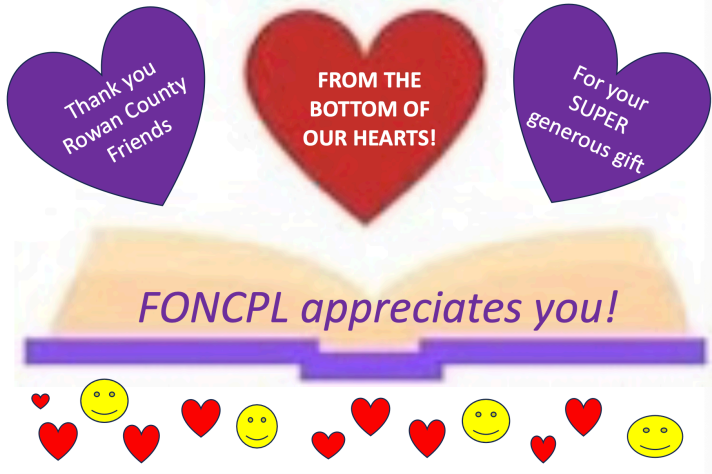
Made in LibraryAware • libraryaware.com

2024 READING CHALLENGE

Read along with us this year!

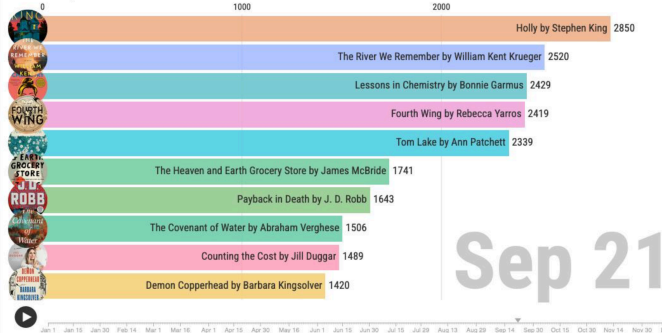
JANUARY	Start off the year exploring new authors by reading a 2023 debut. <i>NovelList tip: Search for the genre "Debut title"</i>
FEBRUARY	Read a romance or love story starring Asian characters.
MARCH	Read a book from the last five years that's been adapted into a movie or TV series. <i>NovelList tip: Search for the genre "Page to Screen"</i>
APRIL	Discover the joy of communal reading! Read to or in a group of two or more.
MAY	Read a standalone manga or the first volume of a manga series.
JUNE	Keep it quick by reading a novella.
JULY	Read a book set in Australia or New Zealand.
AUGUST	Enjoy a mix of magic and the macabre with a dark fantasy.
SEPTEMBER	Get ready for the coziest season by reading a cozy mystery.
OCTOBER	Embrace the scary by reading a creepy horror novel or ghost story.
NOVEMBER	Read a novel by an Indigenous author.
DECEMBER	Wrap up the year by reading an award-winning book from the last three years.

NovelList makes it easy to find a book for each month!



2023 Popular in Libraries from Syndetics Unbound

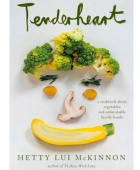
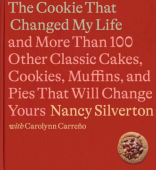



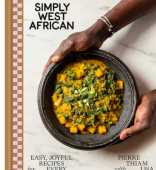


The Most Popular Books in US Public Libraries



Source: Syndetics Unbound - Numbers are not absolute, but represent a proportion of all interest across thousands of public libraries.

The Best Cookbooks of 2023

by Adam Rothbarth, 12/4/23

<p>Tenderheart Hetty Lui Kinninnon</p> 	<p>The Cookie That Changed My Life and More Than 100 Other Classic Cakes, Cookies, Muffins, and Pies That Will Change Yours Nancy Silverton with Carolyn Carrizo</p> 
<p>Fake Meat Isa Chandra Moskowitz</p> 	<p>Seed to Plate, Soil to Sky Lois Ellen Frank</p> 
<p>The Lula Café Cookbook Jason Hammel</p> 	<p>Simply West African Pierre Thiam</p> 
<p>Sweet Enough Alison Roman</p> 	<p>Food of the Italian Islands Katie Parla</p> 

<p>Veg-table Nik Sharma</p>		<p>Pulp Abra Berens</p>	
<p>Sohn-mat Monica Lee</p>		<p>Portico Leah Koenig</p>	
<p>Pasta Every Day Meryl Feinstein</p>		<p>Juke Joints, Jazz Clubs, and Juice Toni Tipton-Martin</p>	
<p>Signature Cocktails Amanda Schuster</p>			

Open Mic Night

with Judy!



Tuesday January 9
7:00 pm

Discussion:
*NC Center for Nonprofits 2023
 Legal Compliance updated,
 NC Charitable Solicitation
 License changes, Budgeting*

To join in the discussion by computer:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87311225075?pwd=SChKY2FYaXRyOGZVeUVVQV3NPaElqdz09>

To join by phone:
 305.224.1968
 Meeting ID: 873 1122 5075
 Passcode: 691168

Some Pop Culture Items from 2023

King Charles III's coronation

Twitter becomes X

Taylor Swift & Travis Kelce's romance

Prince Harry's "Spare" memoir

Britney Spears "The Woman in Me" memoir

2023 Deaths – a few of them are Tommy Smothers, Norman Lear, Ryan O'Neal, Frances Sternhagen, Rosalynn Carter, Matthew Perry, Suzanne Somers, David McCallum, Tony Bennett, Paul Reubens, Ron Cephas Jones, Alan Arkin, Gary Wright, Jimmy Buffett, Bob Barker, Sinéad O'Connor, Treat Williams, Tina Turner, Jerry Springer, Raquel Welch, Burt Bacharach, Cindy Williams, David Crosby, and Lisa Marie Presley

Box Office Hits "Barbie" & "Oppenheimer"

Historic writers' and actors' strikes grind Hollywood to a halt

The Most Beautiful Words in the English Language

Word Genius 5/4/23

Aurora- You might recognize this word as short for aurora borealis (also known as the northern lights). "Aurora" can also be another word for dawn, so no matter what the connotation, an aurora is bright, colorful, and inspiring.

Mellifluous- The definition of "mellifluous" also describes the word itself. "Mellifluous" means to have a pleasant, musical sound. You can practically sing the word. People typically use the word to describe someone's voice. Male voices such as James Earl Jones and Morgan Freeman stand out, but we're also partial to the mellifluous tones of Kathleen Turner.

Felicity- "Felicity" is a beautiful word — not just because of how it sounds, but also because of how it feels. "Felicity" means intense happiness. It can also mean that perfect satisfaction of finding the right words to express your thoughts. Given how hard it can be to express ourselves, felicity is any word lover's dream.

Lithe- Not all lovely words are long or even multisyllabic. "Lithe" is short, sweet, and evokes an image of grace. If you've ever seen a ballet dancer, you've seen "lithe" in person — lean, flexible, and agile.

Scintillating- This word's rising and falling syllables make it true to its definition. "Scintillating" means sparkling (literally), or especially skillful and clever. It stands out in every sense — whether you say it or see it.

Visceral- The beauty of this word comes from the intensity of its sound. When you say the word, it feels like it comes from deep within your chest. A visceral emotion comes from pure emotion with often no logic involved. The "viscera" are the internal organs in the abdomen, so "visceral" also refers to these bodily functions (though the intense, emotional definition is more poetic).

Effervescent- "Effervescent" is a word that makes you feel good. It is bubbly — both in a carbonated drink and in a person who brims with enthusiasm. Effervescent people usually have contagious laughter. You can't help but love them.

Gossamer- "Gossamer" — with its hard "G" — might not be a word you'd expect to hear when discussing delicate things. Once you repeat it a few times, however, you feel how gentle it is. You feel the silkiness of the word and it starts to feel like a cloud you can sink into.

Halcyon- "Halcyon" sometimes refers to peaceful days gone by, which sounds like a dream. It's also a bird — both real (a kingfisher) and mythical. The mythical version of a halcyon once lived at sea and had the power to calm water and wind.

Surreptitious- The beauty of "surreptitious" comes from its sound, but also its mystery. The word itself is like a whisper, which is probably what you're doing if you're keeping secrets as the word implies.

An excerpt from....

Life or Death: AI-Generated Mushroom Foraging Books Are All Over Amazon

By Samantha Cole August 29, 2023

Experts are worried that books produced by ChatGPT for sale on Amazon, which target beginner foragers, could end up killing someone.



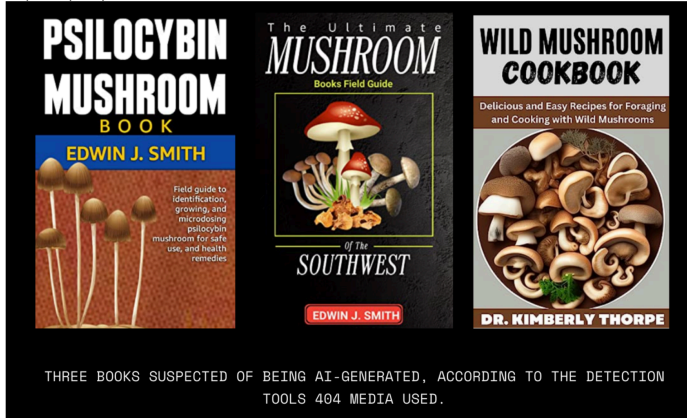
A genre of AI-generated books on Amazon is scaring foragers and mycologists: cookbooks and identification guides for mushrooms aimed at beginners.

Amazon has an AI-generated books problem that's been documented by journalists for months. Many of these books are obviously gibberish designed to make money. But experts say that AI-generated foraging books, specifically, could actually kill people if they eat the wrong mushroom because a guidebook written by an AI prompt said it was safe.

The New York Mycological Society (NYMS) warned on social media that the proliferation of AI-generated foraging books could "mean life or death."

"There are hundreds of poisonous fungi in North America and several that are deadly," Sigrid Jakob, president of the NYMS, told me in an email. "They can look similar to popular edible species. A poor description in a book can mislead someone to eat a poisonous mushroom."

A quick scan of Amazon's mushroom and foraging books revealed a bunch of books likely written by Chat GPT, but are sold without any indication that they're AI-generated and are marketed as having been written by a human when they're very likely not.

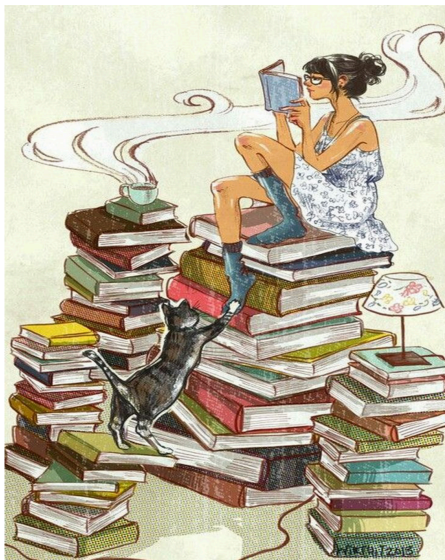


**This is incredibly interesting....and alarming....and if you wish to continue reading this article, please go to https://www.404media.co/ai-generated-mushroom-foraging-books-amazon/?utm_source=recommendedreads.com

Don't forget!!

If you pay your dues before February 28, 2024,
Your Friends Group will be entered
into a **\$200** drawing!!

That's FREE money!!!



HAPPY
NEW YEAR
to
YOU!

2024

This email was sent to jahnbc@gmail.com

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Cameron Commercial · PO Box 1785 · Kernersville, NC 27285-1785 · USA

