

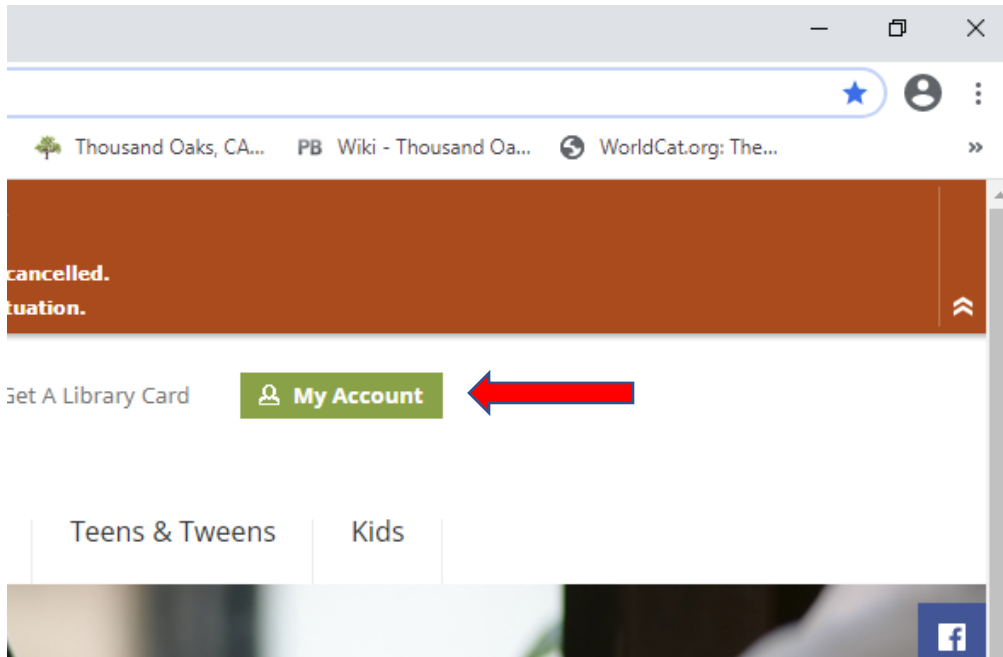
## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

Browsing – or searching for books, movies and other materials online can be a little different than walking along the shelves hoping that something catches your eye!

We hope that today you will learn some techniques for finding new materials that are fun, easy, and produce great results.

To begin, one of the best tools at your disposal is your library catalog – see <https://www.tolibrary.org/> to get started.

There are lots of things you can see, and databases you can use, but one handy tool is your library account. If you've never logged in to "My Account" before, let's take a moment to log in now and see how you can use a few simple features to make reading lists for yourself.



Click on "My Account" at the upper right corner of your screen.

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

The screenshot shows the City of Thousand Oaks Library website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: City Home, Hours, Events, Ask A Librarian, Get A Library Card, and a My Account button. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links: Home, Services, Virtual Library, Readers' Corner, Teens & Tweens, and Kids. On the right side, there is a language selection dropdown and a My Book Cart (0 items) link with a Login button. The main content area features a search bar with the text "Search" and a play button icon. Below the search bar, there is a link to "Advanced Search".

You may find you need to also click “Login” on the second page, or you may go directly to the login page

The screenshot shows the library login page. At the top, there is a red notice: "If you've recently returned items that had been checked out from the Thousand Oaks Library, thank you! Due to the high volume of returns, you may not see those items taken off your account immediately. Staff will checkin the item(s) using the date they were returned. Please contact us if the items remain on your account for more than two weeks." Below this, there is a section titled "Please enter both Library card number and PIN to log in." with a link "Don't have a Thousand Oaks Library card? Apply for one online." The login form has two input fields: "Library Card Number" and "PIN". Below the "Library Card Number" field, there is a note: "Please enter a complete 14-digit barcode or a 7-digit temporary barcode from online registration." Below the "PIN" field, there is a note: "If you don't know your PIN, try the last 4 digits of your phone number on your library record. Forgot Your PIN?" There is a "Remember me" checkbox and a "Submit" button. At the bottom, there are links: "Reset Your PIN", "Library Home", and "Español". Below these links, there is text: "Renew online or by phone 805-449-2686 or 805-449-2688" and "Pay fines online with your VISA or MASTERCARD". At the very bottom, there is a footer with the address and phone numbers for the Grant R. Brimhall Library and Newbury Park Branch Library.

Enter your library card number (14 digits) and PIN to access your account page.

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

The screenshot shows the City of Thousand Oaks Library website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: City Home, Hours, Events, Ask A Librarian, Get A Library Card, and a My Account button. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links: Home, Services, Virtual Library, Readers' Corner, Teens & Tweens, and Kids. The main content area features a search bar with a play button icon and a link to Advanced Search. To the right of the search bar, there are links for My Book Cart (0 items), My Account, and a Logout button. Below the search bar, there is a section for Special Coll. Office with fields for Home Library (Thousand Oaks Library) and Email. There is also an Edit account button and a link to Edit pin. On the left side, there is a sidebar with links: Holds (0), Reading History (highlighted), Checkouts (0), Fines/Fees (\$29.97), My eBooks (0), Messages, Preferred Searches, and My Lists. At the bottom of the sidebar is a link to Back to top. On the right side of the main content area, there is a Print button.

There are lots of tools on this page, but two you might want to use in connection with finding books and other materials are:

### 1. Reading History and My Lists

Reading History is only turned on when you opt in by clicking “Save Reading History” it cannot go back in time and show items checked out before you opted in, but it will show your checkouts from this point forward. This can be helpful in trying to remember an author you liked, or in figuring out if you’ve read something before.

My Lists are something you can create by searching the library catalog. When you find a title you might like, click the basket icon to “Add to cart”

The screenshot shows two book entries from the library catalog. The first entry is "Whiskers in the dark : a Mrs. Murphy mystery" by Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown, illustrated by Michael Gellatly. It is a book from 2019, available at TO Mystery (Mystery). The second entry is "Probable claws / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown" by Rita Mae Brown, illustrated by Michael Gellatly. It is a book from 2018, available at TO Mystery (Mystery). Both entries have a "Request Hold" button and an "Add to cart" button. The "Add to cart" button is highlighted with a red arrow.

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

You can add multiple items to a cart, or just one. When you have something you want to save, then you'll see a new option beside those titles to "View Cart"

**Whiskers in the dark : a Mrs. Murphy mystery** / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly  
Brown, Rita Mae, author.  
BOOK | 2019  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) see all

Request Hold

Additional actions: ☆ ✉ +

This item is in your bookcart  
remove | view cart

**Probable claws** / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly  
Brown, Rita Mae, author.  
BOOK | 2018  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) see all

Request Hold

Additional actions: ☆ ✉ +

This item is in your bookcart  
remove | view cart

You can also see the option "My Book Cart" at the top and bottom of the screen.

Select Language ▼

Search cats mystery Advanced Search

Did you mean: nazi mystery?

Results 1 - 25 of 227 for cats mystery

Sorted by Relevance | Date | Title | Author

Refine by:

Availability

At the library (224)

**The cats came back [compact disc]** / Sofie Kelly  
Kelly, Sofie, 1958- author.  
SPOKEN CD | 2018  
Available at TO Audiobk. Mystery (Mystery) see all

Request Hold

Additional actions: ☆ ✉ +

My Book Cart (3 items) | My Account | Logout

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources



You can click any of these links, and you will see all of the selected items in your cart, as well as a list of options

< Back to previous page




Request Hold Remove from cart Add tag Email Save to list Print

Select All None

☒

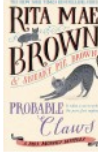

**Whiskers in the dark : a Mrs. Murphy mystery / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly**  
Brown, Rita Mae, author.  
 **BOOK** | 2019  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

Request Hold




Additional actions:  
  

This item is in your bookcart  
[remove](#)

☒



**Probable claws / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly**  
Brown, Rita Mae, author.  
 **BOOK** | 2018  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

Request Hold




Additional actions:  
  

This item is in your bookcart  
[remove](#)

☒

**A hiss before dying : a Mrs. Murphy mystery / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly**  
Brown, Rita Mae, author.  
 **BOOK** | 2017  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

Request Hold

Additional actions:  
  

This item is in your bookcart  
[remove](#)



If you click “Save to List” it will offer you the chance to name your list, or if you already have named lists, you will have the option to save the titles to an existing list.

< Back to previous page

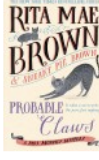

Request Hold Remove from cart

Select All None

☒

**Whiskers in the dark : a Mrs. Murphy mystery / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly**  
Brown, Rita Mae, author.  
 **BOOK** | 2019  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

☒

**Probable claws / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly**  
Brown, Rita Mae, author.  
 **BOOK** | 2018  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

Save to My List

Name:

Description:

Create Cancel

Included items:

- Whiskers in the dark : a Mrs. Murphy...
- Probable claws / Rita Mae Brown &...
- A hiss before dying : a Mrs. Murphy...

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

If you click back to My Account, you will now see your list in your account. It will stay there until you delete it.

Special Coll. Office

Home Library: 

Thousand Oaks Library

Email:

Edit account

Edit pin

Holds (0)

Reading History

Checkouts (0)

Fines/Fees (\$29.97)

My eBooks (0)

Messages

Preferred Searches

**My Lists**

Delete All

Delete Marked

My Lists ( 1 )

MARK	LIST NAME NOT SORTED	DESCRIPTION NOT SORTED	DATE UPDATED SORTED DESCENDING
Delete <input type="checkbox"/>	Cat Mysteries (3)	mysteries with cats	12-01-2020

Delete All

Delete Marked

Print

Back to top

If you click the title of a list, you will see all of the records you have saved.

Special Coll. Office

Home Library: 

Thousand Oaks Library

Email:

Edit account

Edit pin

Holds (0)

Reading History

Checkouts (0)

Fines/Fees (\$29.97)

My eBooks (0)

Messages

Preferred Searches

**My Lists**

Delete All

Delete Marked

Export List

Move marked

Change name

Back to My Lists

My Lists > Cat Mysteries ( 3 )

MARK	TITLE NOT SORTED	AUTHOR NOT SORTED	DATE ADDED SORTED DESCENDING
Delete <input type="checkbox"/>	A hiss before dying : a Mrs. Murphy mystery / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly.	Brown, Rita Mae, author.	12-01-2020
Delete <input type="checkbox"/>	Probable claws / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly.	Brown, Rita Mae, author.	12-01-2020
Delete <input type="checkbox"/>	Whiskers in the dark : a Mrs. Murphy mystery / Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown ; illustrated by Michael Gellatly.	Brown, Rita Mae, author.	12-01-2020

Delete All

Delete Marked

Export List

Move marked

Change name

Back to My Lists

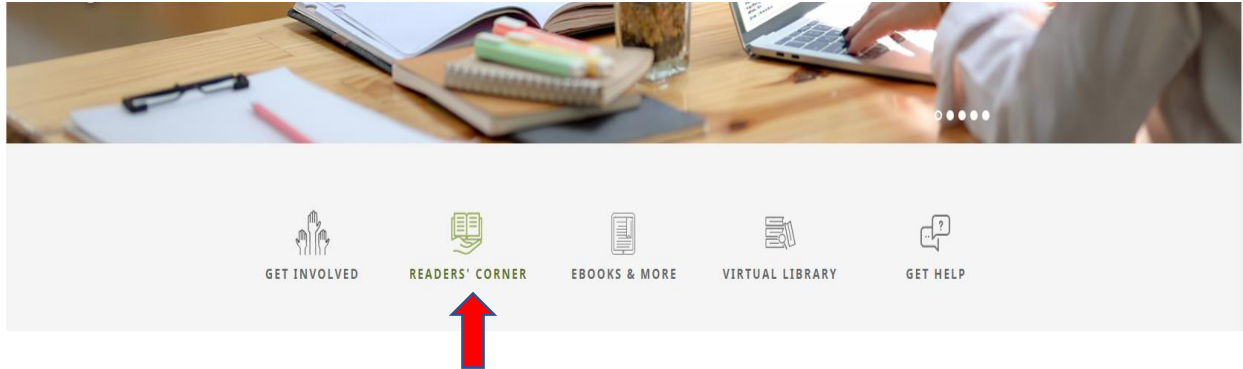
Print

Back to top

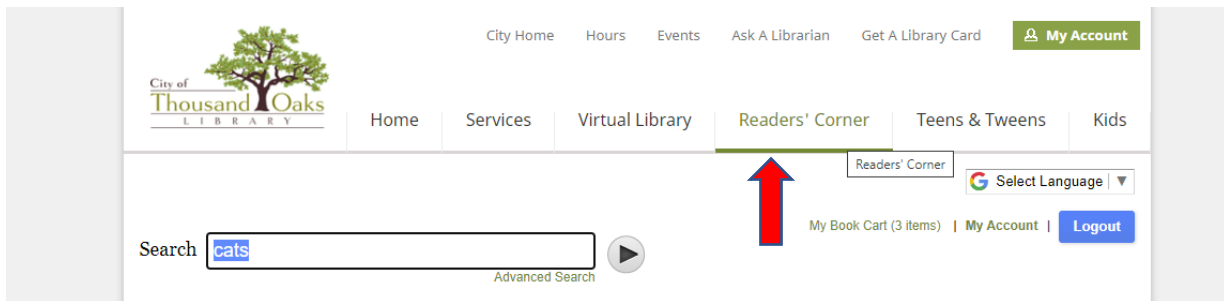
## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

### 2. Other helpful ways to browse for books or other items

#### The Reader's Corner



Click the “Reader’s Corner” from the bottom of our home page, or from the tabs on any of our catalog pages



## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

Book Club in a Box

+ New York Times Best Sellers

+ New Materials for Adults

Friendly Book Discussion Group

History Book Discussion Group

Classics and Award Winners

Staff Picks


Suggest a Purchase

BookPage Online Edition

+ Thousand Oaks Reads: One City One Book

### Readers' Corner

Font Size: [+](#) [-](#) [Share & Bookmark](#) [Feedback](#) [Print](#)



## Readers' Corner

Book Club in a Box

New York Times Best Sellers

New Materials for Adults

New Materials for Teens

New Materials for Kids

Staff Picks for Kids & Teens

Classics & Award Winners

One City One Book

BookPage Online Edition

Online Newspapers & Periodicals

Links on the Reader's Corner take you to book lists, award winners, new books, and enable you to Suggest a Purchase

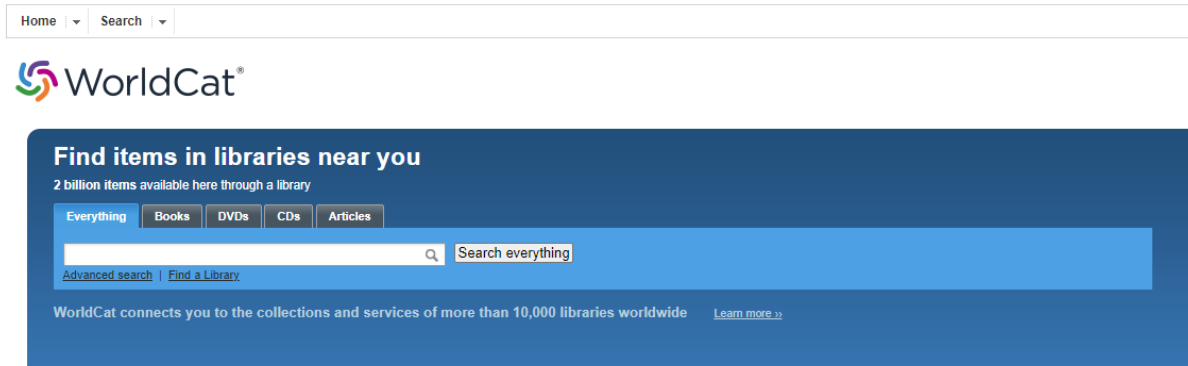


## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

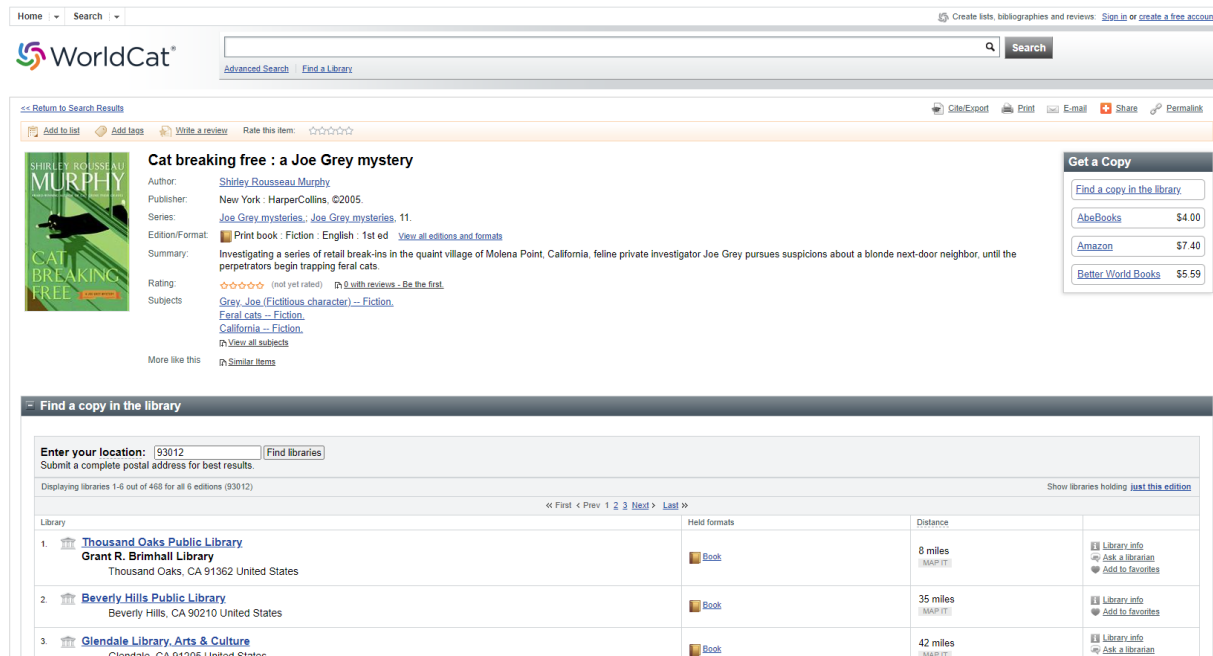
### 3. WorldCat

WorldCat is a free compilation of books held by libraries around the world. This can help you to find older titles and titles not held by Thousand Oaks Library.

<https://www.worldcat.org/>



When you search WorldCat, if you add your zip code, you can see what the closest library is that holds a given book.



If you see the book is held by the Thousand Oaks Library, you can click the link in the center column "Book" and WorldCat will take you to our catalog. Sometimes WorldCat isn't fully up to date, and when you click through it may not match a title in our collection.

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

You can also create a free account with WorldCat to save lists of books you might want to suggest for purchase, or request through InterLibrary Loan (ILL)

Sample – books and audio saved to a personal list.

The screenshot displays a search results page for audiobooks. It features a list of five items, each with a checkbox, a small image placeholder, a title, author information, format, language, publisher, and a 'My Note' field. The items are:

- 6. **The Shadow : radio's greatest man of mystery.** by Orson Welles; Bill Johnstone; John Archer; Bret Morrison; Added 2013-11-27 17:39
- 7. **Sherlock Holmes : the lost episodes from the 1948-1949 season.** by John Stanley, (Radio actor); Ian Martin, (Radio actor); Wendell Holmes; Nostalgia Ventures Inc.; Added 2013-11-27 17:35
- 8. **The ultimate Sherlock Holmes collection.** by Basil Rathbone; Added 2013-11-27 17:32
- 9. **Sherlock Holmes : the world's most famous detective.** by John Stanley; Wendell Holmes; Cy Harrice; Howard Merrill; Max Ehrlich; Basil Loughrane; Albert Buhrman; Nostalgia Ventures Inc.; Added 2013-11-27 17:29
- 10. **The new adventures of Sherlock Holmes** by Arthur Conan Doyle; Edith Meiser, John Stanley, actor; Alfred Shirley Added 2013-11-27 17:27

At the bottom of the list, there is a pagination bar showing 'Results 1-10 of about 37 (.89 seconds)' and navigation links: '<< First < Prev 1 2 3 Next > Last >>'. Below the pagination bar, a message states: 'No one has tagged any of the items that appear on list: Radio'.

These lists can be private or you can make them public to share with friends.

### 4. Tools to help you find books and other materials you might want.

The first powerful tool is the library catalog – when you have a book you know you liked, you can use this as a way to find similar books, and to find other titles in the same series, if it is part of a series.

This works with all formats, but it works best with print books.

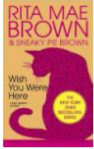
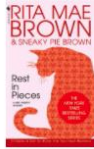
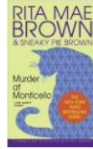

Search your title, then give the record a minute to load, and scroll to the bottom of the screen

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

**NoveList Results**

Books in this series

Mrs. Murphy mysteries

1. Wish you were here  
1 copy available










2. Rest in pieces

3. Murder at Monticello, or, Old sins  
1 copy available

4. Pay dirt, or, Adventures at As...  
1 copy available

Read-alikes




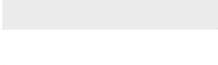
**Similar Titles**

**Similar Authors**

- Garrison Allen
- Carole Nelson Douglas
- Susan Wittig Albert
- Anne Rivers Siddons
- Chris Ewan
- Suzette A. Hill
- Shirley Rousseau Murphy
- Lillian Jackson Braun
- Marian Babson

**Similar Series**

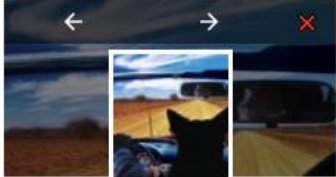
NoveList interacts with the book records to add content including Books in the series, and Read Alikes.

Read Alikes are books, authors and series that have points in common with the book you have searched. Clicking any of the titles or icons will take you to the suggested match.

So if I click on Dog On It (upper left of “Similar Titles”) I will be taken to more information for the title

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

Read-alikes



**Dog on it**  
Spencer Quinn

1 copy available

Why this title?  
Novelist recommends "Chet and Bernie mysteries" for fans of "Mrs. Murphy mysteries". Check out the first book in the series.

Find it

Similar Authors

- Garrison Allen
- Carole Nelson Douglas
- Susan Wittig Albert
- Anne Rivers Siddons
- Chris Ewan
- Suzette A. Hill
- Shirley Rousseau Murphy
- Lilian Jackson Braun
- Marian Babson

Similar Series

- Hamish Macbeth mysteries
- Lilian Jackson Braun  
Cat Who mysteries
- Midnight Louie mysteries

If I like this summary I can click on "1 copy available" or on "Find it" and I will be taken to the record for this title.

Did you mean: [elinor irwin spencer?](#)

Results 1 - 4 of 4 for Dog on it Quinn, Spencer

Sorted by [Relevance](#) | [Date](#) | [Title](#) | [Author](#)

Refine by:

Availability

☐ At the library (4)

Format

☐ Book (2)  
☐ Digital Audio Player (1)  
☐ Spoken CD (1)

Collection

☐ Thousand Oaks Library (4)

Location

☐ TO Adult (4)

Language


☐ English (4)

Tag

☐

Publish Date


YYYY to  YYYY



**Dog on it / Spencer Quinn**  
Quinn, Spencer.  
BOOK | 2009  
Available at TO Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

Request Hold

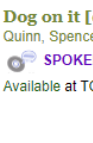
Additional actions:  
[Request](#) [Email](#) [Share](#)



**Dog on it [digital audio player] / Spencer Quinn**  
Quinn, Spencer.  
DIG.AUD.PLAYER | 2009  
Available at TO Audiobk. Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

Request Hold

Additional actions:  
[Request](#) [Email](#) [Share](#)



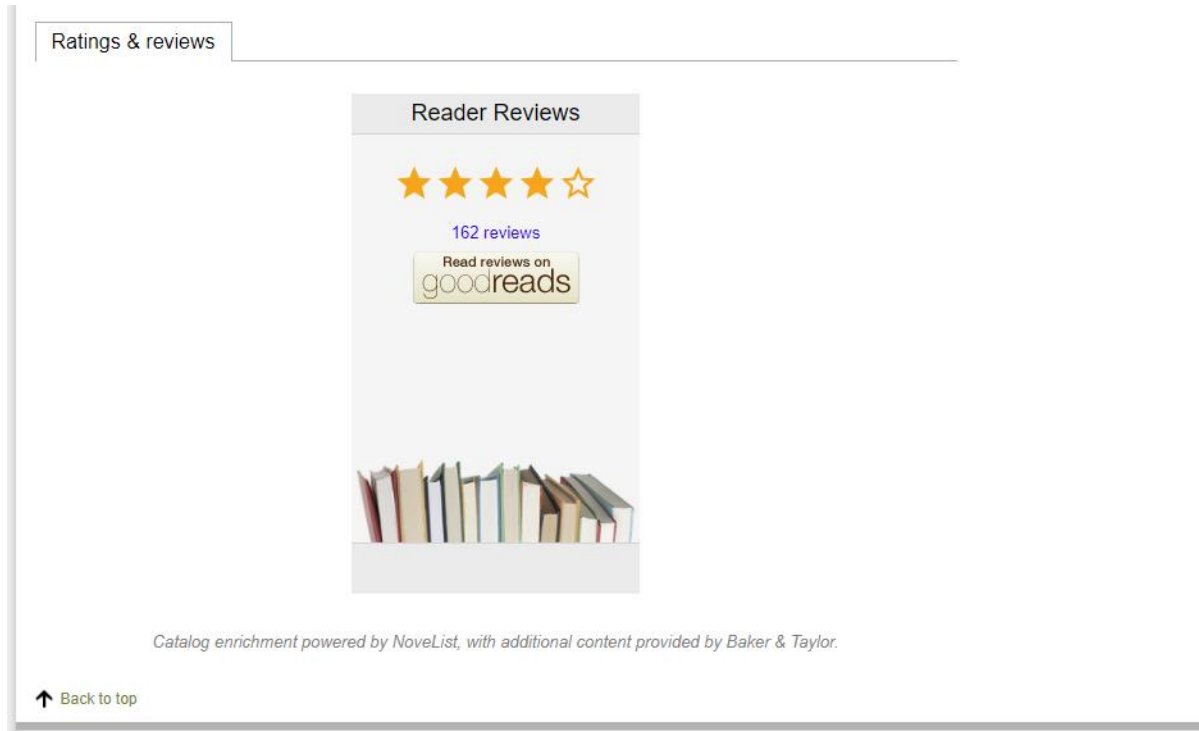
**Dog on it [compact disc] / by Spencer Quinn**  
Quinn, Spencer.  
SPOKEN CD | p2009  
Available at TO Audiobk. Mystery (Mystery) [see all](#)

Request Hold

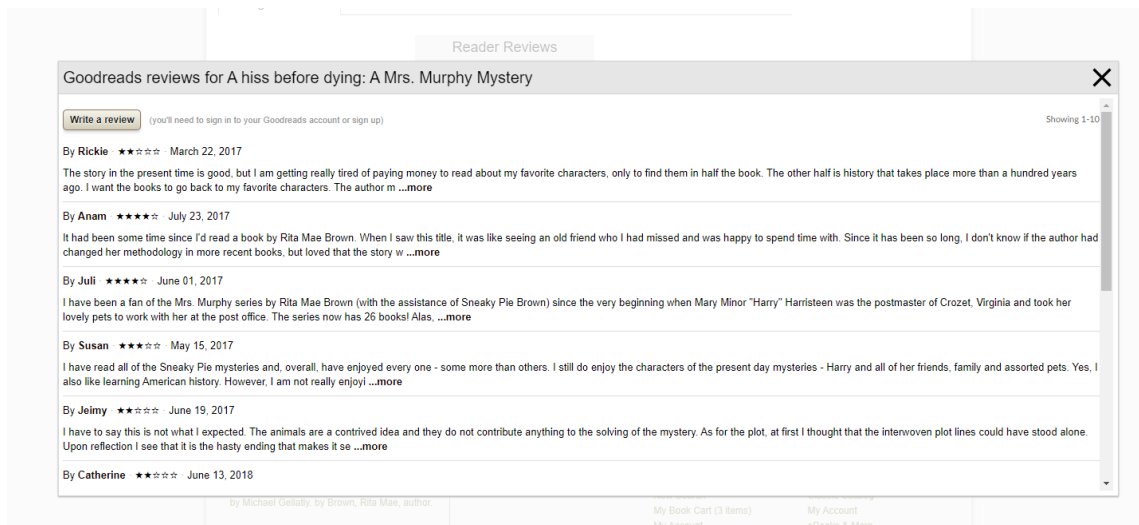
Additional actions:  
[Request](#) [Email](#) [Share](#)

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

Continuing down the page from the Read Alikes, you may see a rating from GoodReads (if it hasn't been rated, this will not show)



You can click on the link under the stars to see more about the ratings and read reviews.

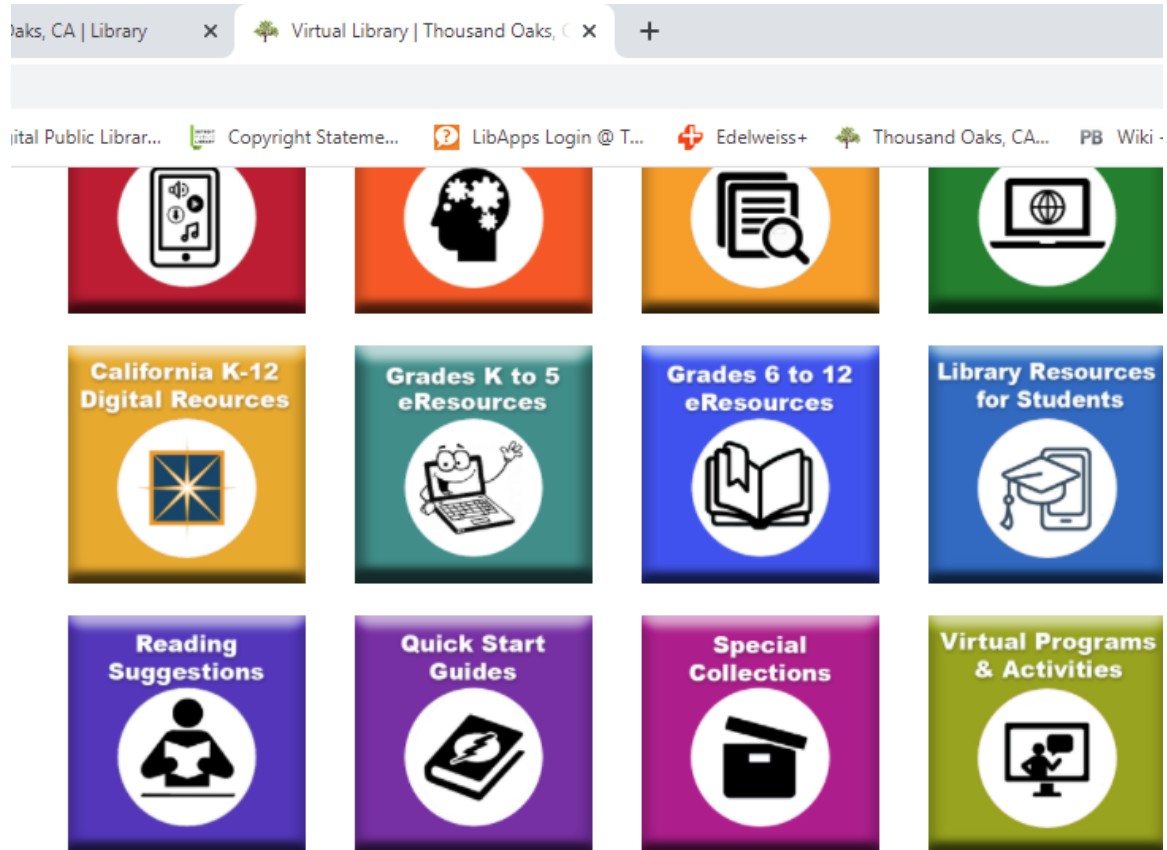


These are typically non-professional reviews by other readers, so like Yelp, you'll mostly see love/hate reviews.

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

### More about NoveList

If you liked the idea of NoveList, but linking from your favorite books didn't find enough for you, or you want something different from what you have been reading, then you can use our "Virtual Library" <https://www.tolibrary.org/research> link to go to the full edition of NoveList:



And Click Reading Suggestions on the lower left of the icons

You will see links for  
Beanstack  
NoveList Plus  
NoveList K-8 Plus

Today, we are just looking at the adult reading suggestions, but if you are searching for children's titles Beanstack and K-8 are very helpful with looking for younger readers.



## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources



Looking for your next great read? Try the following reading resources.



Discover our favorite books and apps matched to your child's age and interests.

[View Tutorial](#)



Reading suggestions for teens and adults with summaries.

[View Tutorial](#)



Reading suggestions for young readers from kindergarten to grade 8th.

Click the Icon for NoveList Plus.

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

On this page you can see you can Sign In – you can create a personal account if you wish, to build book lists within NoveList, or you can just use the service. You do not have to sign in to use the Search features.

You can browse preset lists from the links at the left, or use the search feature to search for specific types of books.

### Recommended Reads Lists

Fiction

Nonfiction

Adult

Teen

Ages 9-12

Ages 0-8

[Audiobooks: Fiction »](#)  
[Australian and New Zealand Fiction »](#)  
[Best of 2019: Fiction »](#)  
[Canadian Fiction »](#)  
[Fantasy »](#)  
[Fiction A to Z »](#)  
[For Fans of... »](#)  
[Graphic Novels, Manga, Anime »](#)  
[Historical Fiction »](#)  
[Horror »](#)  
[Literary Fiction »](#)  
[Mysteries »](#)  
[NoveList Staff Faves »](#)  
[Reading During Pandemic »](#)  
[Romance »](#)  
[Science Fiction »](#)  
[Thrillers and Suspense »](#)  
[Westerns »](#)

Home

Browse By

Especially For

Quick Links

How Do I?



Select a Field (optional) ▾

Search

Clear

?

AND ▾

Select a Field (optional) ▾

AND ▾

Select a Field (optional) ▾

+


-

[Basic Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Search History](#)



## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

You can use Advanced Search to add more filters to the search



Select a Field (optional) ▾

AND ▾

Select a Field (optional) ▾

AND ▾

Select a Field (optional) ▾

+

−

[Basic Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Search History](#)

### Browse

[Subjects/Appeals](#) [Author](#) [Series](#) [Title](#) [Dewey](#)

#### Search Modes and Expanders

Search modes ?

☐ Boolean/Phrase

☒ Find all my search terms

☐ Find any of my search terms

☐ SmartText Searching [Hint](#)

Apply related words

☐

Also search within the full text of the articles

☐

#### Limit your results

Published Date

Month ▾

Year:

—

Month ▾

Year:

Award Winner

☐

Starred Review

☐

Media Mentions

All

ABC: 20/20

ABC: Good Morning America

ABC: Jimmy Kimmel Live!

Forthcoming

☐

Audience

☐ Adult

Fiction/Nonfiction

☐ Fiction

Review Available

☐

Number of Pages

All ▾

Includes Media Mentions

☐

Include Series Titles

☐

Document Type


All

Audiobook


Author

Author Read-alikes

When you find a title you like, be sure to click through “Check Availability” to see if we have the book here at the Thousand Oaks Library. NoveList interacts with our collection to link to titles we have, but it searches for any published book.

13.  **Undercover cat** (Jan 1963)  
By: Gordons  
Popularity: ★☆☆☆☆ **Adult** **Fiction**  
[Title Read-alikes](#) [Check Availability](#)

Not owned by this library

14.  **Royal cat** (Jun 1995)  
By: Allen, Garrison  
When the reigning "Queen" is murdered at the Elizabethan Faire in Empty Creek, Arizona, bookstore owner Penelope Warren agrees to be Queen until the Then Penelope and Mycroft, her Abyssinian cat, try to discover who stabbed the previous Queen. Readers may also enjoy humorous mysteries by Mary M with the Society for Creative Anacronism. (Description by: Carol Yarmolich) --.  
Series: [Big Mike mysteries, 2](#)  
Popularity: ★☆☆☆☆ **Adult** **Fiction**  
[Title Read-alikes](#) [Author Read-alikes](#) [Series Read-alikes](#)  
[Check Availability](#)

## Search Beyond the Shelves - Browsing Resources

If we do own the book, when you click the link to Check Availability, you'll see the number of copies we own, and you can click "Go to Catalog" to go back to our catalog where you can place a hold on the title or add it to your cart.

15.



Read reviews on  
goodreads  
★★★★☆  
54 reviews

Cat laughing last: a Joe Grey mystery (Jan 2002)

By: [Murphy, Shirley Rousseau](#)

When celebrated novelist Elliot Traynor and his wife arrive in Molena Point, strange events begin to occur, and feline sleuth Joe Grey and his cat c latest mystery and soon find themselves tracking a killer.

Series: [Joe Grey mysteries, 7](#)

Popularity: ★★★★★

Adult Fiction

Title Read-alikes

Check Availability

Copies Available

Print (1 of 1)

Go to Catalog

16.



Read reviews on  
goodreads  
★★★★☆  
44 reviews

Cat spitting mad (Jan 2007)

By: [Murphy, Shirley Rousseau](#)

A double murder leaves feline sleuth Joe Gray hopping mad as the chief of police stands framed for murder, and Joe and his sidekick Dulcie are th

Series: [Joe Grey mysteries, 6](#)

Popularity: ★★★★★

Adult Fiction

Title Read-alikes

Author Read-alikes

Series Read-alikes

Check Availability

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Tech Training 04/28/2021

Page | 18