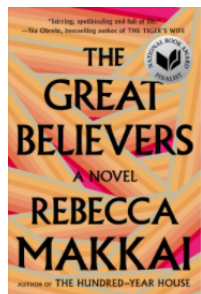


# Rise to the Challenge Reading Program:

## Read a book set in Illinois

Below are recommendations for books that take place in Illinois



### [The Great Believers](#)

by Rebecca Makkai

**Genre:** Historical Fiction

**Descriptors:** LGBTQ; Parallel narratives; Authentic; Character-driven; Compelling

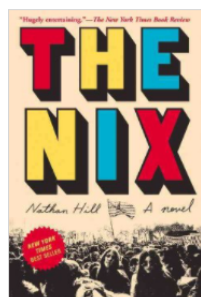


### [The Most Fun We Ever Had](#)

by Claire Lombardo

**Genre:** Contemporary Fiction

**Descriptors:** Family sagas; Stylistically complex; Well-developed; Engaging



### [The Nix](#)

By Nathan Hill

**Genre:** Fiction

**Descriptors:** Multiple perspectives; Fast-paced; Dark humor; Complex; Compelling



### [An American Summer](#)

by Alex Kotlowitz

**Genre:** True Crime

**Descriptors:** Society and culture; Communities; Candid; Well-researched





**[Pretty Baby](#)**

By Mary Kubica

**Genre:** Fiction/Mystery

**Descriptors:** Psychological suspense; Compelling; intricately plotted; multiple perspectives

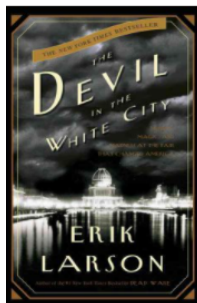


**[Dark Matter](#)**

by Blake Crouch

**Genre:** Science Fiction

**Descriptors:** Evil corporations; Well-developed; Fast-paced; Suspenseful; Descriptive

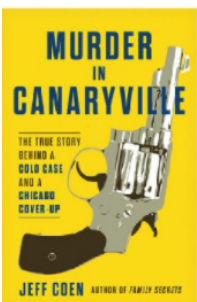


**[The Devil in the White City](#)**

by Erik Larson

**Genre:** True Crime

**Descriptors:** World's Fair; Suspenseful; Gritty; Richly detailed

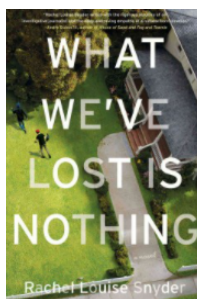


**[Murder in Canaryville](#)**

by Jeff Coen

**Genre:** True Crime

**Descriptors:** Cold Case; Well-researched; Thought-provoking; Dramatic



**[What We've Lost is Nothing](#)**

by Rachel Louise Snyder

**Genre:** Fiction

**Descriptors:** Issue-oriented; Intensifying; Engaging; Race

