



Talking Book Center
1 Churchville Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-6215

Global Reading Challenge: Brazil

DB47272 The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas: A Novel

by Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis (literature)

A wealthy Brazilian dies of pneumonia at age sixty-four and decides to write his autobiography to while away a part of eternity and to give humankind some record of his life. He concludes that the good and bad in his life cancelled each other out. First published in 1881.

DB41499 The Tree Of The Seventh Heaven by Milton Hatoum (family)

An adopted daughter narrates this tale of Emilie, the family matriarch who has just died. The family, gathered for her funeral, reminisce about aspects of Emilie's life, including her time in a convent, her marriage to a Muslim, the move from Lebanon to the Amazon jungle, and her children and disabled granddaughter. But most important are the secrets hidden in the trunk Emilie brought with her to the Amazon. 1989.

DB24914 High Art by Rubem Fonseca (thriller)

A Brazilian thriller that centers on the womanizing loner, Mandrake, who is a criminal attorney in Rio de Janeiro. While investigating the perverse murders of local prostitutes, Mandrake uncovers links to a mysterious videotape for which certain persons seem willing to kill. Tangled connections lead him to a massive criminal organization. Strong language and explicit descriptions of sex. 1983.

DB30255 The Strange Nation Of Rafael Mendes by Moacyr Scliar

In this English translation of a Brazilian bestseller, Rafael Mendes awakens to a stress-filled day. His business is failing, his daughter is having an affair, and his mistress threatens to have him arrested. Then, a box mysteriously appears on his doorstep. It contains two genealogical notebooks, which give Rafael his roots, his "Strange Nation"--his Jewish heritage. Violence and strong language. 1983.

DB25498 Dona Flor And Her Two Husbands: A Moral And Amorous Tale
by Jorge Amado (general fiction)

Dona Flor's first husband is a charming and carefree rogue who leads an exciting and precarious existence gambling, carousing, and lovemaking. Her second husband is the opposite. He is a druggist, methodical in all ways, including his sex life. 1966.

DB83660 The Complete Stories by Clarice Lispector (short stories)

Published in English for the first time, this collection of short fiction spans the entirety of the Brazilian author's career, gathered from the nine collections published during her lifetime. Originally written in Portuguese. 2015.

DB51179 A Concise History Of Brazil by Boris Fausto (history)

This 500-year history of Brazil focuses on its colonization, population, and politics. Discusses the wars with the indigenous peoples, the importation and enslavement of Africans, and the influx of immigrants. Addresses the ongoing conflicts between conservationists and business groups. 1999.

DB80424 Why Soccer Matters by Pelé (sports, nonfiction)

International soccer legend Pelé--born Edson Arantes do Nascimento in Brazil--explores the history of the sport and provides insights into soccer's role connecting and galvanizing players around the world. 2014

DBC02800 Dancing With The Devil In The City of God: Rio de Janeiro On The Brink
by Juliana Barbassa (travel)

Rio de Janeiro is a city of extremes, from carnival's hedonistic delights to soft seductive samba beats coming from every open window. But there is the dark side too, for years, Rio was ravaged by inflation, drug wars, and corrupt leaders. Now Rio is ready to remake itself into a global, modern capital ready for its turn on the world stage. Unrated. 2015.

DB90008 Amazon Adventure: How Tiny Fish Are Saving The World's Largest Rainforest by Sy Montgomery (science, nonfiction)

Explores how tiny fish called piabas can help preserve the Amazon rainforest, its misunderstood inhabitants, and Earth's entire environment. For grades 5-8. 2017.