



Tuesday's Tip

information provided by Adriance Memorial Library to make your life a little bit easier

The Greatest Books

January 12, 2016

The Greatest Books (<http://thegreatestbooks.org/>) web site uses an algorithm to condense 107 (at the time of this tip) individual "greatest books" lists into two single greatest books lists: one for fiction, and one for nonfiction:

Choose fiction or nonfiction

Select a date range, or click the cogwheel icon to specify a custom date range

The screenshot shows the website's header with 'The Greatest Books' and navigation tabs for 'Fiction' and 'Nonfiction'. A search bar is visible on the right. The main content area lists books, with the first entry being '1. In Search of Lost Time by Marcel Proust'. A callout points to the date filter 'all | 2000 | 1990 | 1980 | 1970 | 1950 | 1900 | ⚙️'. Another callout points to the cogwheel icon. The book entry includes a small portrait of Proust, a description of 'Swann's Way', and two checkboxes: 'I've read this book' and 'I want to read this book'. To the right, there is a section titled 'How is this list generated?' explaining the algorithm used to create the master list from 107 sources. Below that is 'The Lists' section, which includes a link to 'Top 100 Works in World Literature'.

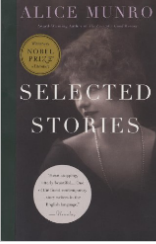
The books

The lists, and how the algorithm works

Displays of individual books provide a summary, a cover photo (often), and details of the lists the book appears on.

The Greatest Books [Fiction](#) [Nonfiction](#)

Selected Stories of Alice Munro by Alice Munro



Selected Stories is a volume of short stories by Alice Munro, published by McClelland and Stewart in 1996. It collects stories previously published in her eight previous books.

[- Wikipedia](#)

I've read this book I want to read this book

The 266th greatest fiction book of all time

This book is on the following lists:

- 7th on [For The Love of Books \(For The Love of Books\)](#)
- 8th on [The New Classics - 100 Best Reads from 1983 to 2008 \(Entertainment Weekly\)](#)
- 80th on [The Top 10: The Greatest Books of All Time \(The Top 10 \(Book\)\)](#)
- 100 [Books to Read in a Lifetime \(Amazon.com \(USA\)\)](#)

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From the menu at the upper right, you can:

- From “Misc”, download a .csv file (export into Excel) of the books, including title, author and publication date
- Create and sign in to your account to keep track of the books
- Search for specific titles or authors (the search does not appear to search both titles and authors at the same time)

Even if you don't agree with the results of the algorithm, the site is useful for the various “greatest books” lists.