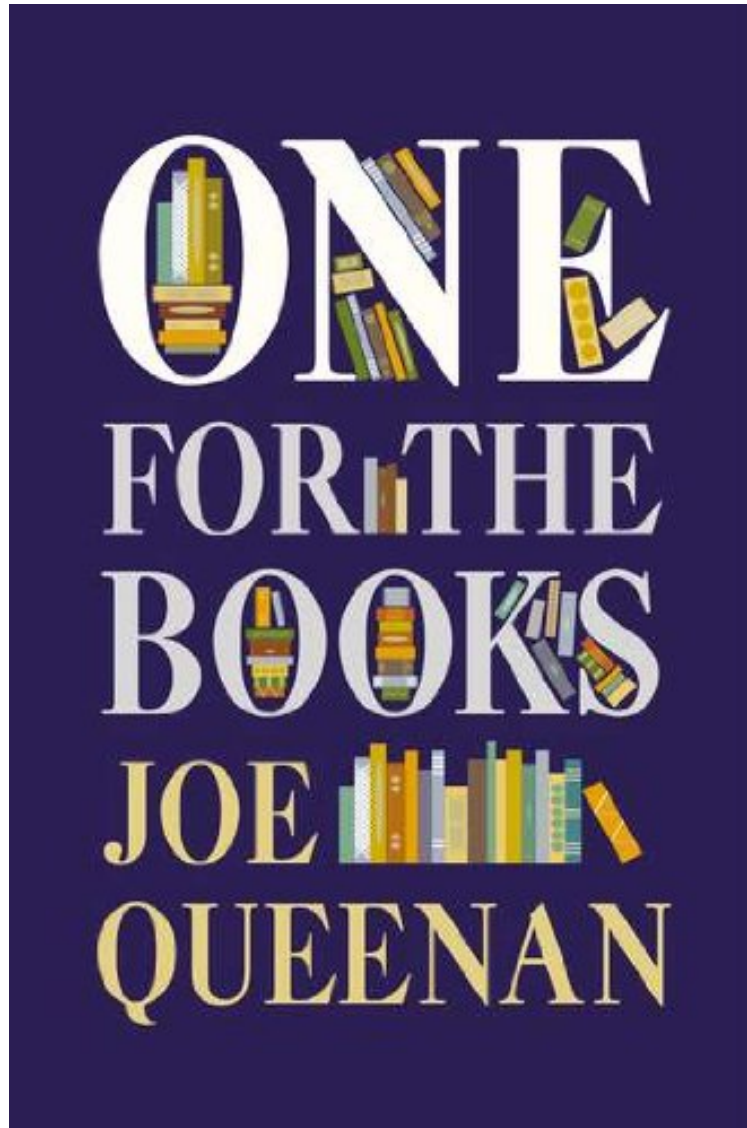


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One for the Books

Joe Queenan

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Joe Queenan : One for the Books before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised One for the Books:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Endless Lists, Kinda MaudlinBy EDWHave read most of Queenan's output and enjoy his cutting style. This one is interesting in that he reveals the full extent of his book "addiction". JQ seems to be pining for his alcoholic youth in France a bit much, and there is way too much "name dropping" in the way of long lists of obscure authors and book titles interspersed which I found myself skipping over after maybe the

100th time it happened. The wrap-up is surprisingly long and syrupy which is uncharacteristic. JQ is at his best when he's unloading on deserving targets. Sorry Joe, but like you I gotta call 'em like I sees 'em - absolutely no disrespect intended. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Book addicts will find themselves in here! By Fred Forbes I'm giving this one 5 stars as a fully addicted reader! I don't agree with much of what he espouses - I don't feel it disrespectful to the author to read in the bathroom (read parts of this one in there), I am not as big a fan of libraries (don't really want to hit a deadline for finishing a book), enjoy reading e-books despite all the things he mentions you can't do with a kindle and I like audio books, not really feeling they get between the author and the reader. He likes to own books so he can write in them, I only highlight and notate e-books but buy plenty of the physical versions as well, just don't mark them up. But, he does a great job of describing my obsession with books and reading, probing possible explanations for why we "book nuts" are the way we are and that alone is worth the price of admission. Some folks think I am weird since I read 10-12 books at a time but he makes me feel not so strange since he is reading 32! Some great anecdotes on bookstores and life included. So, all you book addicts, grab a copy as you will find it great fun. Those non addicts may not get as big a charge out of it, but it will help you understand friends and family who are! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Pleasure Reading Explained and Demonstrated. By Stephen M. Kerwick I've been a great fan of Mr. Queenan's work for a number of years, not least because he attended my high school a year ahead of me and occasionally mentions people or institutions with whom I am (or was) quite familiar. His wit and erudition are a matter of established record and are in full array here. Surprisingly, I wasn't aware that One for the Books had been released about 5 years ago and I rushed to get a copy. The very cheap used cutout versions make it a crime not to purchase one when the cost is less than the shipping expense. On a more idealistic note, One for the Books is one of the best examples of pleasant, enjoyable and accessible writing that I have taken up in a long time. Although unlike the author I'm no devoted or compulsive reader, I do spend a fair amount of time between the covers, although usually more in the non-classic, non-fiction area. Nonetheless Queenan communicates the sense of pleasure, relaxation and satisfaction that reading for relaxation can entail and motivates me to do even more in the area in future.

One of America's leading humorists and author of the bestseller Closing Time examines his own obsession with books Joe Queenan became a voracious reader as a means of escape from a joyless childhood in a Philadelphia housing project. In the years since then he has dedicated himself to an assortment of idiosyncratic reading challenges: spending a year reading only short books, spending a year reading books he always suspected he would hate, spending a year reading books he picked with his eyes closed. In One for the Books, Queenan tries to come to terms with his own eccentric reading style—how many more books will he have time to read in his lifetime? Why does he refuse to read books hailed by reviewers as “astonishing”? Why does he refuse to lend out books? Will he ever buy an e-book? Why does he habitually read thirty to forty books simultaneously? Why are there so many people to whom the above questions do not even matter—and what do they read? Acerbically funny yet passionate and oddly affectionate, One for the Books is a reading experience that true book lovers will find unforgettable.

"[Queenan's] passion for reading is infectious ... It's so rare to hear such a heartfelt defense of books — it's one of the most original works we read this year." ~New York Daily News (Best books of 2012) "A celebration of literature, reading and the call of books from a stylish humorist who has a soft spot for Georges Simenon and a hard time with trendiness and 'astonishing' reviews." ~Kansas City Star (Top 100 books of 2012) "A passionate, at times hilarious, account of a life spent reading and rereading." ~Minneapolis Star Tribune "Queenan's goal isn't just to declare his love for books and to list particular books that he loves, but to suss out the customs of book lovers: to analyze what books mean to his friends and acquaintances (not to mention a few enemies), and how books forge or destroy friendships." ~Leah Price, San Francisco Chronicle About the Author Joe Queenan has been a columnist for The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, GQ, and Spy. He has written for Time, Newsweek, Rolling Stone, Playboy, Golf Digest, The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and The New Republic, and contributes to The New York Times, and The Guardian. He has appeared on the Late Show with David Letterman, Good Morning America, Today, and The Daily Show. His books include The New York Times bestseller and Notable Book Closing Time: A Memoir.