Searching for Gentle Reads

Use appeal terms

NoveList’s appeal terms are useful for readers of all ages to help capture the “feel” of a book. Use them to narrow down a search, especially genre searches.

Examples of appeal terms to try when looking for clean reads: Chaste, Feel-good, Funny, Heartwarming, Homespun, Inspirational, Quiet, Sweet, and Upbeat. Note: some terms only apply to specific audience levels.

TRY IT

Try combining a genre and appeal search!

On the Advanced Search page, enter a genre (try Romance) in the search box and select Genre from the drop-down.

Enter an appeal term (try Heartwarming) in the next search box and select AP Appeal Factor from the drop-down.

Click Search

Avoid these terms

Watch for terms that identify potentially objectionable content. Subjects to avoid include: Child abuse, Psychopaths, Serial murderers, Violence, etc. Appeals to avoid include: Bawdy, Disturbing, Explicit, Gritty, Menacing, Steamy, Violent. Note: Presence or absence of a term does not guarantee a good fit.

Learn more about appeals: www.ebscohost.com/novelist/our-products/novelist-appeals

Search for gentle reads

Gentle Reads is a genre term that NoveList applies to books at the adult reading level that are characterized by no sex, no violence and little or no offensive language. These stories often occur in small towns, are upbeat, and may have an inspirational element.

Gentle Reads does not include Christian or religious fiction. Those subjects can be searched separately.

TRY IT

On the Advanced Search page, enter Gentle Reads in first search box.

Select GN Genre from the drop-down.

Click Search

Just looking for mysteries? Use the left side of the Result List to limit to the Cozy mysteries genre.

Try the classics

Looking for more? Try the classics. Not all classics will work for all gentle readers, but they can be a good place to start. Remember to look at the subject headings and appeals terms first (and also read the reviews!).

TRY IT

Enter GN Classics in the main search box.

Click Search

Use the limiters on the left to narrow down to a favorite genre or subject.

When to use:

Librarians: Want to recommend a book that doesn’t have a lot of sex, violence, and bad language in it?

Readers: Are you looking for a romance book, but want to make sure it’s a “clean book”?

Parents: Does your young child love to read, but you’d like them to avoid books that are “too mature”?

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April 2016