

# SEARCH & FIND

SEPTEMBER – BANNED BOOKS

Sapling – Page 1



## 1. Frankenstein.

**Clue:** *Frankenstein* is considered the first horror novel. It was published anonymously in 1818 and again in 1823 with the author's name, Mary Shelley. *Frankenstein* was banned in 1955 in South Africa for being "obscene" and containing "indecent" material.

Image: By Theodor von Holst; Wikimedia Commons; Public DomainBY-SA 2.0



## 2. Beowulf.

**Clue:** Originally recited from memory, scholars believe *Beowulf* to have been written down between 975 and 1025. The poems tell the story of the life of the hero Beowulf. In 1971, John Gardner wrote *Grendel*, a retelling of this classic tale. *Grendel* has been challenged due to its scenes describing torture and violence.



## 3. Langston Hughes.

**Clue:** Langston Hughes was an American poet and novelist. He was a notable figure in the Harlem Renaissance, a 1920s movement of interest and expansion of the African-American culture and society. In 2016, Texas prisons banned several of Hughes novels.

Image: By Jack Delano; Biography; ©Jack Delano



## 4. Ender's Game.

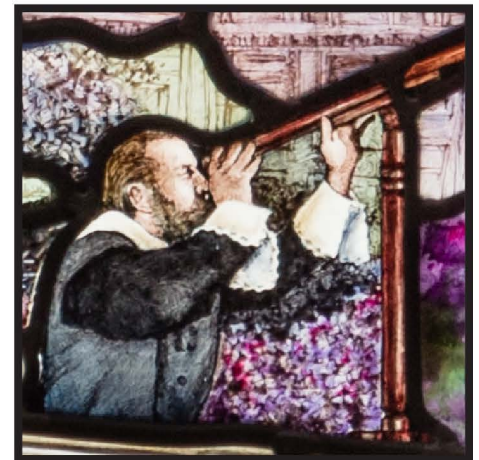
**Clue:** Orson Scott Card wrote *Ender's Game* in the mid-1980s. It takes place in a future version of Earth where a species of aliens have invaded and follows Andrew "Ender" Wiggin as he is trained to fight the aliens. *Ender's Game* has been challenged in South Carolina schools for having inappropriate content.



## 5. Dante Alighieri.

**Clue:** Dante Alighieri was an Italian poet and author of *La Divina Commedia* (*The Divine Comedy*). An Italian human rights group has called for *Divine Comedy* to be banned in schools because of its "offensive and discriminatory" content.

Image: By Sandro Botticelli; Wikimedia Commons; Public Domain



## 6. Galileo Galilei.

**Clue:** Galileo Galilei was an Italian astronomer, physicist, and mathematician. His books were banned and he was placed under house arrest for most of his life by the Catholic Church for advocating a heliocentric model of the solar system.

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Sapling– Page 2



## 7. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.

**Clue:** *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis follows four young siblings on a journey through a magical land. This book was banned in 1990 for depicting graphic violence, mysticism, and gore and again in 2005 for its religious themes.

Image: By C.S. Lewis and Pauline Diana Baynes; Worth Point; Public Domain



## 8. To Kill a Mockingbird.

**Clue:** *To Kill a Mockingbird* is a novel by Harper Lee. It is considered a classic of American literature. The novel is told from the point of view of Jean Louise "Scout" Finch. Scout's father, Atticus Finch, is a lawyer for Tom Robinson, who is a black man accused of raping a white woman. It is one of the most frequently banned books in the U.S.



## 9. Victor Hugo Quotes.

**Clue:** These quotes are by the french writer Victor Marie Hugo from his most famous novels *Les Misérables* and *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*. *Les Misérables* was on the Vatican's prohibited book list from 1864-1959 and *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame* was on the list from 1834-1850.



## 10. Pablo Neruda.

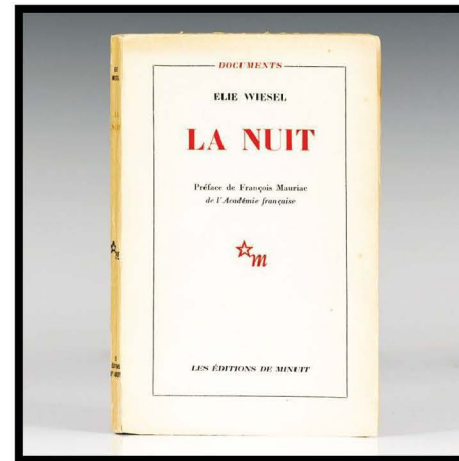
**Clue:** Pablo Neruda was a Chilean poet, diplomat, and Nobel Prize winner. He is considered one of the greatest writers of the 20th century. Neruda's books were banned in Chile during the early to mid-20th century due to his political views. People caught with his writings were persecuted or even imprisoned.

Image: By Unknown; Lithub; Public Domain



## 11. Utopia.

**Clue:** *Utopia*, by Sir Thomas More, is a philosophical and somewhat satirical novel about a perfect country that doesn't actually exist. With *Utopia*, More created a subgenre of books that include utopian and dystopian societies. Many books with these themes have been banned repeatedly. Ironically, More, as chancellor to Henry VIII, banned many books.



## 12. La Nuit (Night).

**Clue:** *La Nuit*, Night in English, by Elie Wiesel is a nonfiction book about his own experiences as a Jewish boy living in Nazi-occupied Hungary and Auschwitz concentration camp. In 2017, many parents objected to their students reading *La Nuit* and essentially banned it from the curriculum.

Image: By Elie Wiesel; Raptist Rare Books; ©Les Éditions de Minuit



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