

Librarian Nancy Pearl Author, *Book Lust*

"Librarians were the nicest, kindest people to me in my childhood. I remember them with great fondness, and I became a librarian because I saw how reading could open your world, that it gave you the chance to be anyone, to go anywhere, and to do anything. I wanted to do good in the world, and I wanted to give that gift of books and reading to other children."



The first librarian ever to inspire her own action figure, Nancy Pearl was born and raised in Detroit, where her love of reading was encouraged by Miss Whitehead, her local librarian. She chose her career at age ten and earned a master's degree in library science from the University of Michigan in 1967. Following a long stopover in Oklahoma (where she earned another master's, in history, while raising a family), she moved to Seattle in 1993, becoming executive director of the Seattle Public Library's Washington Center for the Book and founding the much-imitated "If All Seattle Read The Same Book" program. A regular book reviewer for NPR's Morning Edition, Nancy is also the author of the *Book Lust* series and published her first novel, *George & Lizzie*, in 2017.



Nancy with her husband Joe Pearl and Tom Hanks; in the library; with Costco co-founder James Sinegal and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

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