



# Fahrenheit 451

by Ray Bradbury

“CRAM THEM FULL OF NONCOMBUSTIBLE DATA, CHOCK THEM SO...FULL OF ‘FACTS’ THEY FEEL STUFFED, BUT ABSOLUTELY ‘BRILLIANT’ WITH INFORMATION. THEN THEY’LL FEEL THEY’RE THINKING, THEY’LL GET A SENSE OF MOTION WITHOUT MOVING. AND THEY’LL BE HAPPY, BECAUSE FACTS OF THAT SORT DON’T CHANGE. DON’T GIVE THEM ANY SLIPPERY STUFF LIKE PHILOSOPHY OR SOCIOLOGY TO TIE THINGS UP WITH. THAT WAY LIES MELANCHOLY.”

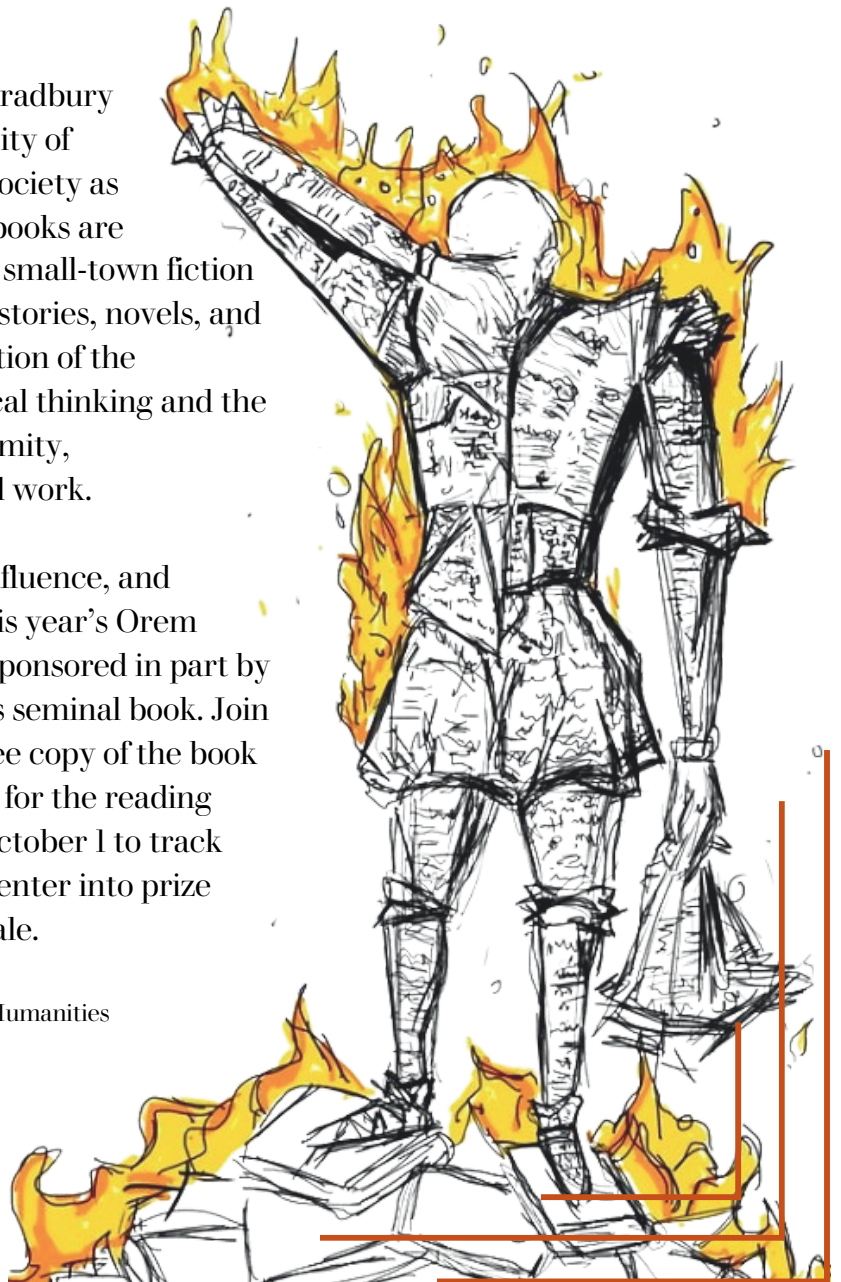
Published in 1953, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury is a dystopian novel that defends the necessity of books and reading to both individuals and society as a whole by bringing to life a society where books are illegal. Bradbury wrote across genres, from small-town fiction to horror to science fiction, including short stories, novels, and screenplays, but with its persuasive illustration of the indispensable impact of literature and critical thinking and the destructive power of censorship and conformity, *Fahrenheit 451* remains his most influential work.

Almost 75 years later, the book’s themes, influence, and cultural relevance continue to resonate. This year’s Orem Reads—a community-wide reading series sponsored in part by Utah Humanities—will focus on Bradbury’s seminal book. Join us at events throughout October to get a free copy of the book and contribute to the conversation. Sign up for the reading challenge at [orem.beanstack.org](http://orem.beanstack.org) starting October 1 to track your reading and earn tickets that you can enter into prize drawings. Prizes will be given out at the finale.

All Orem Reads events are part of the 27th Annual Utah Humanities Book Festival. Our thanks to the festival’s sponsors.



UTAH HUMANITIES  
Book Festival



# Events

Get a free copy of *Fahrenheit 451* at any Orem Reads event. 1 per adult, while supplies last.

**“OF ALL THINGS TO BAN, NOT BOOKS”: AN EVENING WITH SHANNON HALE  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3 | 7-8:30 PM | ASHTON AUDITORIUM**

Join New York Times bestselling author Shannon Hale at the kickoff for Orem Reads. Shannon, the author of more than 40 books ranging from picture books, graphic novels, teen fantasy, and adult romance, will discuss the impact of the recent trend in book banning on her writing career. There will be a book sale and signing after the presentation.

**FAHRENHEIT 451 CHAT & SNACK #1  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10 | 7-8:30 PM | SORENSON LEGACY ROOM**

Connect with other readers by attending our first Chat & Snack meeting. At this book club-style potluck event, we'll be discussing the writer Ray Bradbury, current trends in book banning, and chapter 1, "The Hearth and The Salamander," of *Fahrenheit 451*. Bring a snack to share!

**MURDER MYSTERY DATE NIGHT  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 | 7-8:30 PM | LIBRARY HALL**

You and your partner have been invited to a spooky October potluck, but before you even take a bite, the host has been found dead! Did you do it? Or did one of the other dinner attendees? Come solve the mystery and clear your name before it's too late!

For couples ages 18+. **PLEASE REGISTER ONLY FOR ONE TICKET PER COUPLE.** Please bring a potluck item to share. Register at [oremlibrary.org](http://oremlibrary.org).

**FAHRENHEIT 451 LUNCHTIME CHAT & SNACK  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 12-1:30 PM | SORENSON LEGACY ROOM**

Can't make our evening Chat & Snacks? Stop by this lunchtime one instead! We'll be discussing our responses to *Fahrenheit 451* and other books that explore similar topics in different ways. Bring a snack to share.

**FAHRENHEIT 451 CHAT & SNACK #2  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 | 7-8:30 PM | SORENSON LEGACY ROOM**

At the second evening Chat & Snack, we'll discuss the history of dystopian literature and chapters 2-3 ("The Sieve and the Sand" and "Burning Bright") of *Fahrenheit 451*. This is a potluck event, so bring a snack to share.

**FILM SCREENING: FAHRENHEIT 451 (NOT RATED, 1966)  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 | 6:30 PM | MEDIA AUDITORIUM**

In an oppressive future, a fireman whose duty is to destroy all books begins to question his task. Run time: 1 hr 52 min.

**FINALE: TITLES AND TREATS GALA  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29 | 7-8:30 PM | LIBRARY HALL**

Celebrate the end of Orem Reads by joining us for our Titles and Treats Gala. It's like trick or treating for adults, but with books instead of shenanigans. Decide what to read now that you've finished *Fahrenheit 451* by discussing books with our knowledgeable librarians and nosh some autumn delectables. Costumes are optional (but there will be prizes!).

