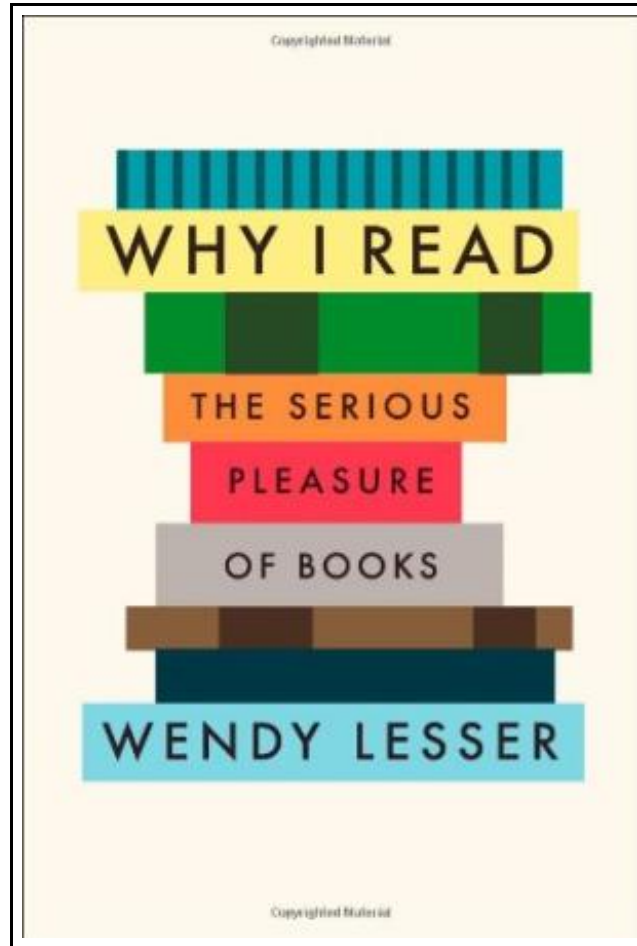


## Why I Read: The Serious Pleasure of Books



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FSG. 1 Cloth(s), 2014. hard. Book Condition: New. The founder and editor of The Threepenny Review, Wendy Lesser draws on a lifetime of reading, and decades of editing one of America's most distinguished literary magazines to describe her love of literature. Along with novels and stories, Lesser explores plays, poems, and essays, as well as science fiction and memoirs, considering these works from such perspectives as "Character and Plot," "Novelty," "Grandeur and Intimacy," and "Authority." Lesser's passion for this pursuit is unmistakable, whether discussing a book as a physical object or a particular work's influence."Reading Why I Read delivers all the pleasure of discussing one's favorite books with a marvelously articulate, intelligent, opinionated friend. It's like joining the book club of your dreams, one in which you don't have to do any of the work or think up intelligent things to say, but can simply enjoy reading about books you've read or want to read."Francine Prose"Lesser's taste is eclectic, her range large. She offers insights into George Orwell and Henning Mankell, Emily Dickinson and Roberto Bolaño, J.R. Ackerley and Shakespeare, Henry James and Isaac Asimov to name but a few. There is no claim to a comprehensive approach, nor even a sense that what is discussed is of greater importance than what is not. The effect is rather as if Lesser were writing to a friend about the most fabulous literary party of all time, where she'd been in conversation not with authors but with their works."Bookforum 223.



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