

POPULAR Readersâ?? Choice Awards 2026: Singaporeâ??s Most-Voted Local Books

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The **POPULAR Readersâ?? Choice Awards 2026** have crowned this yearâ??s favourite homegrown books, and the winners say plenty about what Singapore readers are picking up: a statesmanâ??s memoir, Nyonya heritage fiction and a fresh crop of childrenâ??s stories. The 15th edition wrapped up on 14 November 2026 at Carlton Hotel, with close to 6,000 local readers casting more than 30,000 votes.



Winners pose in front of the awards backdrop. Image: POPULAR

What Singapore readers voted for in 2026

Run by bookstore chain POPULAR, the Readersâ?? Choice Awards celebrate titles written and published in Singapore, and the winners are decided entirely by public vote. That makes the results a handy snapshot of local reading tastes, from memoirs to cultural storytelling to bedtime reads.

According to POPULAR, this yearâ??s winners span inspiring life stories, cultural heritage fiction and childrenâ??s books, with the following titles singled out:

- *Tommy Koh: The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man*
- *I Am Not Good Enough*
- *The Albatross File*
- *ã??å°•å¨°æ??ä¹?ç¿ ç¿ å±±ã??*, a Nyonya heritage story in Chinese
- *The ABCs of Chinese New Year*
- *ã??ä¹•ä¹•å??ä½³ä½³ï¼?å?»æ ·å®£æ?ºå?ºã??*, a childrenâ??s story set at Changi Airport

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An award presentation on stage at the POPULAR Readersâ?? Choice Awards 2026. Image: POPULAR

Heritage, memoirs and childrenâ??s stories

The mix is telling. Professor Tommy Kohâ??s memoir sits alongside a Chinese-language Nyonya heritage title, while two childrenâ??s books â?? one on Chinese New Year traditions, the other a Changi Airport adventure â?? show how much appetite there is for stories that reflect everyday Singapore. For parents hunting for local titles to add to the shelf, the list is a useful starting point.



An author receives a trophy. Image: POPULAR

Winning authors and nominees were on hand to receive their awards in front of an audience of readers, publishers and POPULAR staff, with the evening also featuring a string quartet performance.



Winners and POPULAR representatives on stage. Image: POPULAR

Where to find the winning books

The titles are available at POPULAR outlets islandwide and on POPULAR Online. If you enjoy a good browse, our guide to NLB Sit â??n Read spots is worth a look, and you can plan the rest of your weekend with our things to do this weekend roundup.

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Winners of the childrenâ??s categories celebrate. Image: POPULAR

With the year-end holidays approaching, it is also a good moment to pick up a local title as a gift â?? and to support the Singapore authors and publishers behind them.

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