The 10-Second Triage Test

Five checks per book. Fail one, and it skips the library box.

1 THE SNIFF TEST

Open it and breathe in. Musty, smoky or basement smell?

Out. Mold travels. Recycle it.

☐ PASS ☐ FAIL

2 THE FLIP TEST

Fan the pages. All there, unstained, attached to the spine?

A cracked spine is fine. A loose page isn't.

☐ PASS ☐ FAIL

3 THE CALENDAR TEST

Would the information still be true today?

Novels never expire. Computer manuals do.

☐ PASS ☐ FAIL

4 THE STRANGER TEST

Would someone you've never met pay $2 for it?

Be honest. Very honest.

☐ PASS ☐ FAIL

5 THE HEART TEST

Are you giving it up willingly?

If you'll miss it in March, put it back on the shelf.

☐ PASS ☐ FAIL

Passed all five? Library box.

Failed one? Use the box labels to find it a better home.