

THE GREAT BOOKS

1986-2007



Here they are: the 413 books designated by women readers at Minnesota Women's Press, Inc. as "Great Books—Because Women Say So!" in the years from 1986 through 2007.

The 148 titles that are marked with a ★ are books that have been chosen by two or more groups. We call them the "Greatest of the Great," and we've included images of their covers where possible.

We hope you find here information, ideas and inspiration to stimulate both your personal reading and your book group activities.

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THE GREAT BOOKS



Accordion Crimes, E. Annie Proulx (1996). Beginning in the late 1800s and ending 100 years later, Proulx's story captures the immigrant experience in 20th century America through the life of a green button accordion.

Ada Blackjack: A True Story of Survival in the Arctic, Jennifer Niven, (2003). A young Inuit woman joined an Arctic expedition as seamstress and was the only member to survive.

Address Unknown, Kathrine Kressmann Taylor, (1938). A series of fictional letters between a Jewish art dealer living in San Francisco and his former business partner who returned to Germany in 1933.

Affinity, Sara Waters, (1999). An isolated young upper class Victorian woman becomes enmeshed with an imprisoned spiritualist in a notorious London women's jail.

Ahab's Wife, Sena Jeter Naslund (1999). Una, the wife of Captain Ahab of *Moby Dick* fame, recounts her past, from being exiled from her Kentucky home as a child, through her adventures aboard a whaler where she meets her husband, to their life together controlled by his obsession.

★ **Alias Grace**, Margaret Atwood, (1996). This novel is based on an actual sensational murder and trial in 1843 in Canada. Did 16-year-old Grace Marks kill her employer or not? Giller Prize, 1996

All Over Creation, Ruth Ozeki, (2003). Genetic modification of potatoes in Idaho is the backdrop for the tug and pull of a range of characters.

All Passion Spent, Vita Sackville-West, (1931). An 88-year-old woman asserts her independence from her family.

Allegra Maud Goldman, Edith Konecky, (1976). Story of precocious and funny Allegra, growing up in Brooklyn from age 3 to13.

Alma Rose, Edith Forbes, (1993). Forbes' first novel, about a woman discovering love and her own creative spirit in a small western town.

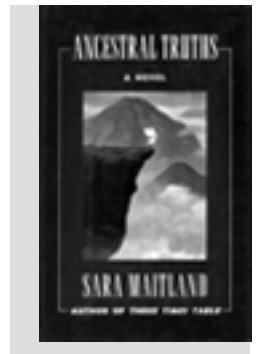
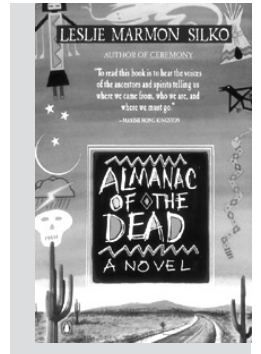
★ **Almanac of the Dead**, Leslie Marmon Silko, (1992). A mythological, complex novel of time and land set in contemporary Tucson, AZ. With more than 60 characters, Silko presents possibility of reclaiming land by native groups.

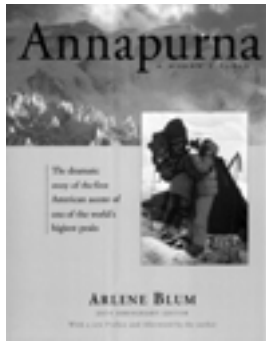
Always Coming Home, Ursula K. Le Guin, (1985). A utopian vision from the life story of a woman called Stone Telling.

American Chica: Two Worlds, One Childhood, Marie Arana, (2002). In this memoir, Arana describes growing up in Peru and the United States. Her Peruvian father's closeknit family and her U. S. mother's independent approach to life both shape who she becomes.

Among Women, Louise Bernikow, (1980). A combination of literary scholarship with biography, history, politics and myth. Women talk with each other across time.

★ **Ancestral Truths**, Sara Maitland, (1993). What happened on the mountain in Zimbabwe? Clare cannot remember, even when taken home to Scotland to be with her large, loving, questioning family, where she must face the truth about her past.

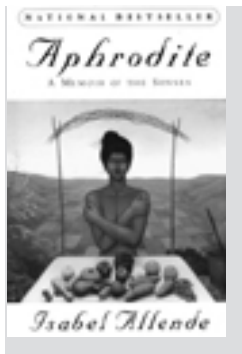




★ **Animal Dreams**, Barbara Kingsolver, (1990). A woman returning to Arizona confronts her past, finds her hometown threatened by an environmental catastrophe, and reconnects with her Native American high school friend.

★ **Annapurna: A Woman's Place**, Arlene Blum, (1980). True story of the first women's ascent of one of the world's highest peaks. This account describes both the physical and interpersonal challenges the women faced.

★ **Anything We Love Can Be Saved: A Writer's Activism**, Alice Walker, (1997). Walker continues to share her experiences and travels as she documents what she loves through poetry and essays.



★ **Aphrodite: A Memoir of the Senses**, Isabel Allende, (1998). The erotic world of aphrodisiacs, recipes, herbs and spices, as well as soups to have an orgy by, are described with humor in this visually colorful book.

Archangel Protocol, Lyda Morehouse (2001). In a theocracy where everyone must have an interactive computer implant, an investigator takes a case that tests her faith and courage.

★ **The Archivist**, Martha Cooley (1999). At the heart of this story are T. S. Eliot's letters to Emily Hale, and the moral and ethical dilemmas that confront the archivist who oversees them, not only in his work but also in his private life.



The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity, Julia Cameron, (1992). Through a 12-week program of writing and discovery, Cameron guides individuals toward honoring creativity of self.

Assassination Vacation, Sarah Vowell, (2005). American history that is funny, even as seen through presidential assassinations, and how these deaths have been used for fun, profit and political advantage.

Autobiography of a Face, Lucy Grealy, (1994). Poet Grealy's coming-of-age story as she struggled with cancer from age 9.

Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women, Susan Faludi, (1992). With careful documentation Faludi identifies the obstacles to women's equality. National Book Critics Circle Award, 1991.

★ **Bailey's Cafe**, Gloria Naylor, (1992). A gathering at Bailey's Cafe where food is not the main ingredient but a side-dish to the magic of the human connection.

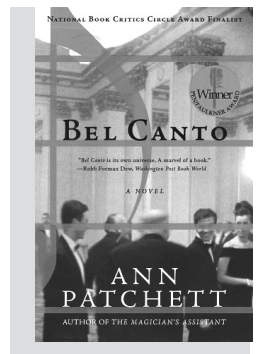
★ **Bastard Out of Carolina**, Dorothy Allison, (1992) The survival of a young girl coming of age in South Carolina surrounded by physical and emotional violence.

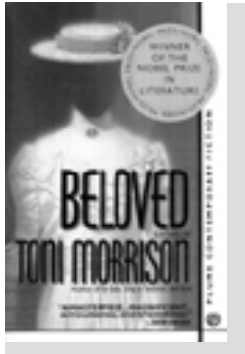
★ **The Bean Trees**, Barbara Kingsolver, (1988). Kingsolver's first novel introduces a heroine who "inherits" a baby, stops in Tucson when her '55 Volkswagen gives out, and becomes involved with Central American refugees.

Bee Season, Myla Goldberg, (2000). Eliza Naumann finds acceptance when she begins to win spelling bees, but her success rocks the foundation of her family. Her father gives most of his time to her brother, preparing him for rabbinical studies, and her mother seems involved in her law career. But the pattern is soon to change.

★ **Bel Canto**, Ann Patchett, (2001). A novel about the connections between human beings thrust together for a period of time. Opera and the power of music are key, as Patchett explores the humanity of jungle-born revolutionaries and sophisticated international hostages. PEN/Faulkner Award, 2002.

The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath, (1971). Poet Plath's only novel is based on the events of her 20th year and her struggle with questions of living and dying.





★ **Beloved**, Toni Morrison, (1987). In Ohio, after the Civil War, a mother makes heartrending choices based on her experiences as a slave. Pulitzer Prize 1988.

Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life, Anne Lamott, (1994). Witty, wise and inspiring essays for the would-be writer in us all.

Bird Girl and the Man Who Followed the Sun: An Athabaskan Legend from Alaska, Velma Wallis, (1997). (See **Two Old Women**, page 58.)

Bitter Grounds, Sandra Benitez, (1997). Set in El Salvador between 1932 and 1977, the story of passion, politics, death and love is framed by the connections of three generations of women.

Bitter Medicine, Sara Paretsky, (1988). In Paretsky's fourth mystery, V.I. Warshawski, a Chicago P.I., investigates a suburban for-profit hospital where inappropriate medical practice leads to the death of a 16-year-old pregnant woman from the inner city.

Blanche on the Lam, Barbara Neely (1992). Blanche White earns minimum wage as she cleans houses for the genteel families of North Carolina. A large, middle-aged, African-American woman, feisty Blanche has a perfect vantage point for solving murders, and she does it with style.

Blood Shot, Sara Paretsky (1988). Chicago private investigator V. I. Warshawski takes on big business and chemical corruption in her old South Chicago neighborhood. As in all of Paretsky's Warshawski series, social issues predominate.

The Blue Jay's Dance, Louise Erdrich (1996). Acclaimed novelist Erdrich writes about the birth and first months of her daughter's life, reflecting on her roles as mother, writer, woman.

★ **The Bluest Eye**, Toni Morrison, (1970). Morrison's novel of a young black girl who prays for blue eyes, believing that then she would be pretty and the family life that surrounds her would be beautiful.

★ **The Bone People**, Keri Hulme, (1983). Hulme, a Maori, writes a complex novel of three outcasts in New Zealand, a woman artist, a young boy who does not speak and his Maori foster father. Booker Prize, 1985.

Bones of Plenty, Lois Phillips Hudson, (1962). Hudson depicts a proud, independent North Dakota farm family and their struggle during the Depression.

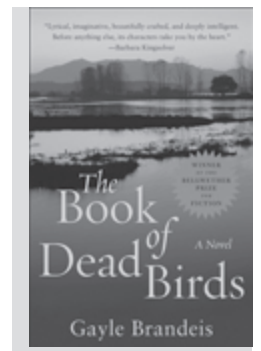
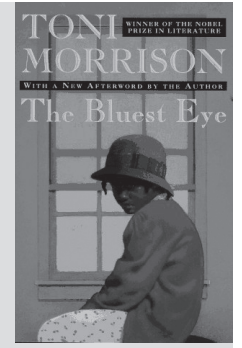
★ **The Book of Dead Birds**, Gayle Brandeis, (2003). This is a moving story of a mother-daughter relationship across cultures as each searches for her place. Winner of the second Bellwether Prize for Fiction.

The Book of Salt, Monique Truong, (2003). In this debut novel, Vietnamese-American Truong uses the famous literary couple Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas as a backdrop for her tale of their Vietnamese chef and the reasons for his forced displacement.

The Book Thief, Markus Zusak, (2006). A young girl in early 1940s Germany steals books from Nazi book-burnings and from the mayor's wife's library. As she learns to read, she reads her stolen books aloud to neighbors as well as to the Jewish man hidden in her basement.

Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country, Louise Erdrich, (2003). Erdrich travels by boat along the Minnesota/Canadian border with her baby and the baby's father, an Ojibwe healer, teacher and spiritual leader, viewing ancient pictographs and a unique island library.

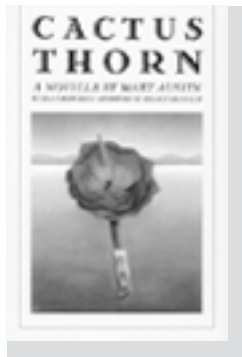
The Bookseller of Kabul, Asne Seierstad, (2002). Intimate description of an Afghan family, seen through the eyes of a Norwegian journalist who lived with them for several months.





Brain Plague, Joan Slonczewski, (2000). What if alien microbes could give us whatever our brains imagined—at a price? This futuristic biotech thriller is also a feminist and pacifist satire of human politics, a meditation on nanotechnology, artistic creativity and godhood.

★ **Breath and Shadows**, Ella Leffland (1999). In her fourth novel, Leffland moves back and forth through three generations of a Danish family, which includes a dwarf in the early 1800s, his great-granddaughter who lives near Copenhagen in the 1880s, and her granddaughter born in Illinois and living in Switzerland. A book about inheritance, roots and myth.



Burial Ground, Pauline Holdstock, (1991). Set in 1860 amid a smallpox epidemic, this novella tells of the culture clash between a missionary priest and a native village on the coast of British Columbia.

Bury Me Standing: The Gypsies and Their Journey, Isabel Fonseca, (1995). A moving and informative look at the culture and lives of a people who have been maligned for over a millennium.

★ **Cactus Thorn: A Novella**, Mary Austin, (1927). Austin's love of the southwestern desert shapes this semi-autobiographical story. Believing there is "no difference between what is social and what is personal," she weaves a tale of an eastern male politician and his connection with a self-sufficient woman of the desert.



The Canning Season, Polly Horvath, (2003). Two unwanted girls and a pair of eccentric old women create a quirky family, where they each find what they need in this young-adult novel that is both dark and humorous.

★ **The Cape Ann**, Faith Sullivan, (1988). The 6-year-old narrator tells of her mother's desire for a Cape Ann, a house chosen from the Sears catalogue. The story of a small Lutheran/Catholic town in Minnesota during the Depression.

Caramelo, Sandra Cisneros, (2002). Told through the narrator, a Chicago-born Mexican-American girl, this is the story of a grandmother who is a renowned maker of rebozos (shawls) in Mexico City, and the Chicago family who travel back and forth to visit.

Cat's Eye, Margaret Atwood, (1988). A Canadian woman in her 50s, exhibiting her controversial art, recalls vivid and haunting images of her girlfriends at age 10.

★ **Cellophane**, Marie Arana, (2006). An engineer and dreamer ferries his family into the Peruvian jungle. There he sets up a successful paper mill and over time masters the secret of manufacturing cellophane amid multiple human secrets and "plagues."

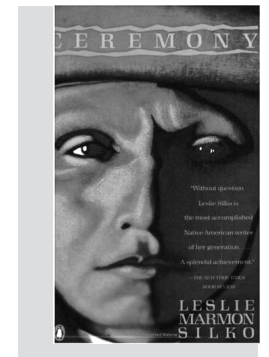
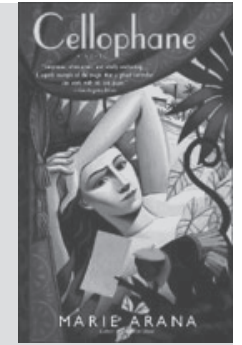
The Center of Everything, Laura Moriarty, (2003). A young girl growing up in the middle of Kansas, living with her single mother, faces the universal dilemmas of love and belief.

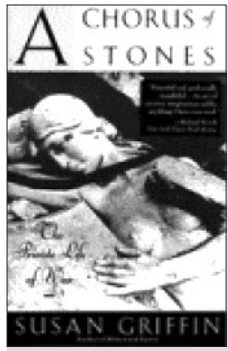
★ **Ceremony**, Leslie Marmon Silko, (1977). A young Native American returning from World War II finds he does not belong either on the Laguna Pueblo reservation or in the white community. To find himself he turns to the traditions of his Indian past.

★ **The Chalice and the Blade: Our History, Our Future**, Riane Eisler, (1987). Based on art, archaeology and history, Eisler tells a new story of our cultural origins.

Chamber Music, Doris Grumbach, (1980). A 90-year-old widow recalls her marriage to a famous American composer, her care of him in his illness, and her joyous connection to Anna, as she finds a community for aspiring artists, in tribute to her husband.

★ **The Changelings**, Jo Sinclair, (1955). Coming of age in the '50s, two young friends, one black, one Jewish, face the anger and hostilities that result from the integration of their neighborhood.





Child of Silence, Abigail Padgett (1993). Child-abuse investigator Bo Bradley is assigned to the case of a young boy abandoned near an Indian reservation. Her manic-depressive personality provides important discoveries as she protects the boy.

Children of God, Mary Doria Russell, (1998). A return mission to the planet of Rakhat, in this sequel to "The Sparrow," is centered around the consequences of the actions of the first mission. In this book, Russell further explores religious freedom, conscience, and long, skinny fingers.

Chocolat, Joanne Harris, (1999). Inspiration for this novel came from Harris's own background. Born in a sweetshop and being the great-granddaughter of a Frenchwoman known locally as a witch and healer, Harris uses both as a basis for "Chocolat."

★ **A Chorus of Stones: The Private Life of War**, Susan Griffin, (1992). In this book which is part autobiography and part history, Griffin writes of individual lives affected by wars, as she explores the function and meaning of war.

Circle of Stones: Woman's Journey to Herself, Judith Duerk, ed., (1989). A journey to the Feminine through stories, dreams and visions of women.

A Cold Day for Murder, Dana Stabenow (1992). This is the first book in Edgar Award-winner Stabenow's series featuring Kate Shugak, who solves murder and mayhem across Alaska.

Cold Sassy Tree, Olive Ann Burns, (1984). About small-town Southern life in the early 1900s, coming of age and the ties that bind families together.

Color of Distance, Amy Thomson (1999). Marooned in an uninhabitable rainforest populated by an amphibian species, a woman's only hope is to assimilate. This is a tale of two heroines, one human, one not.

The Color of My Words, Lynn Joseph, (2000). Twelve-year-old Ana Rosa Hernandez, growing up in the Dominican Republic, is passionate about writing. Through her stories she tells of the challenges her community faces and the heroism of her brother.

★ **The Color Purple**, Alice Walker, (1982). Novel of the difficult coming-of-age of a young woman in Georgia who finds the courage to love and to laugh after meeting her husband's female lover, a flamboyant blues singer. Pulitzer Prize 1983, National Book Award 1983.

Companions, Sheri Tepper, (2003). This book is set in the future when Earth is drastically overpopulated, and all resources have been depleted. On a newly discovered planet, language goes beyond words. Tepper returns to some favorite themes: ecology and animals' relationship to people.

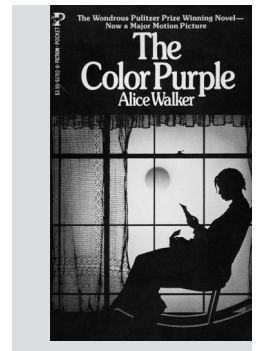
Confessions of Madame Psyche, Dorothy Bryant, (1986). An orphan, growing up in San Francisco, fakes a vision of houses falling just before the great earthquake of 1906. Known as Madame Psyche, she travels to Europe and becomes a mystic.

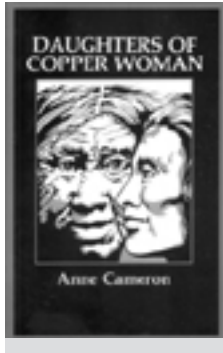
Copper Crown, Lane Von Herzen, (1992). Debut novel about violent racism in rural Texas in 1913 and the friendship of two young women, one white and one black.

The Creation of Patriarchy, Gerda Lerner, (1986). Historian Lerner looks back at the origins of the collective dominance of women by men.

The Crone: Woman of Age, Wisdom and Power, Barbara Walker, (1985). An affirmation of the wisdom of older women.

Crucial Conversations, May Sarton, (1980). A longtime marriage ends when a wife decides to leave her husband.





Dance of the Dissident Daughter: A Woman's Journey from Christian Tradition to the Sacred Feminine, Sue Monk Kidd, (1996). "I was surprised and, in fact, a little terrified when I found myself in the middle of a feminist spiritual reawakening," Kidd writes as she relates her 10-year journey to the sacred feminine. The eight pages of bibliographic notes provide the underpinnings for her journey.

Dakota: A Spiritual Geography, Kathleen Norris, (1993). Observations and contemplations by poet Norris, who moved from New York City back to her girlhood home in a small South Dakota town.

Dark Nantucket Noon, Jane Langton, (1986). One of Langton's mystery series featuring Homer Kelly. A murder takes place on Nantucket Island during an eclipse and Kelly sets out to find the culprit.

Daughter of Earth, Agnes Smedley, (1929). Smedley's only novel, based on her life from a poor Missouri childhood to involvement in revolutionary movements in India and China.

Daughter of Elysium, Joan Slonczewski, (1993). Raincloud and her husband Blackbear visit Elysium to learn of Elysians' greatest accomplishment: immortality.

The Daughter of Time, Josephine Tey, (1951). Inspector Alan Grant of Scotland Yard becomes fascinated with a portrait of Richard III and wonders whether he really was a villainous man of history—or was there more to the story of Richard Plantagenet?

Daughter of the Queen of Sheba, Jacki Lyden, (1998). A memoir by the daughter of a manic-depressive mother. A poignant story of survivors.

★**Daughters of Copper Woman**, Anne Cameron, (1981). A retelling of Northwest coast Indian myths shared with Cameron by native women of Vancouver Island.

Deadwood Beetle, Mylene Dressler, (2001). As he confronts the secrets of his family's Nazi past, an entomologist emerges from his solitary professional life in New York City.

★**Death Comes for the Archbishop**, Willa Cather (1927). A fictionalized account of the life of mid-19th century Santa Fe Archbishop Lamy, portrayed by Cather as Father Latour. Latour and his friend and fellow priest, Father Vaillant, work to win the Southwest for Catholicism.

The Devil's Chimney, Anne Landsman (1997). This novel explores race and gender in rural South Africa as Connie Lambrecht, dazed by alcohol and memory, becomes obsessed by 90-year-old stories of the disappearance of a young girl in a passage called the Devil's Chimney.

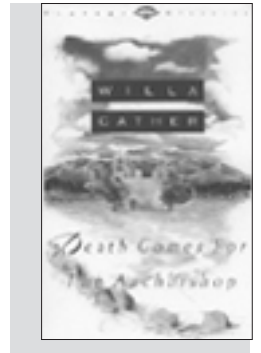
Diary of a Zen Nun: Everyday Living, Nan Shin, (1986). The author, struggling with ovarian cancer, finds hope through Zen as she writes of life and death.

Different Daughters: A Book by Mothers of Lesbians, Louise Rafkin, ed., (1987). Twenty-five mothers write about the essential questions mothers of lesbians confront.

Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk About Their Lives, Louise Rafkin, ed., (1990). Children of lesbians share their stories. Lambda Award 1990.

★ **The Dollmaker**, Harriette Arnow, (1954). A Kentucky mountain woman, who creates beautiful wood carvings, is uprooted from her backwoods home when her husband moves the family to wartime Detroit to find work.

Down the Wild River North, Constance Helmericks, (1989). Helmericks and her teenage daughters canoe down the Peace, Slave and MacKenzie rivers.





★ **Dreaming the Dark: Magic, Sex and Politics**, Starhawk, (1982). Starhawk's message of hope for healing self, the community and even the planet.

Dreaming of the Bones, Deborah Crombie (1997). A literary mystery in which Scotland Yard Superintendent Duncan Kincaid is off to Cambridge at his ex-wife's request to look into a long-ago suicide.

★ **The Dress Lodger**, Sheri Holman (2001). The lives of 15-year-old prostitute, Gustine, and a surgeon who needs corpses for his medical school, are tied together in this story set in 19th-century England. Cholera is spreading through the town and Gustine turns to the surgeon to help save the life of her child.

★ **Drinking the Rain**, Alix Kates Shulman, (1995). Writer Shulman lived in solitude on a Maine island six months of every year. This is the story of what led her there and held her over the years.

★ **The Driver's Seat**, Muriel Spark, (1994). Lise is one of life's ordinary misfits, a spinster and an accountant in an anonymous city somewhere in an unnamed country in Northern Europe, who, despite the fact that she seeks acknowledgment, also seeks death.

★ **Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World**, Linda Hogan (1995). Chickasaw poet and novelist explores the living world and all its inhabitants with her words on the nature of nature.

Eccentric Neighborhoods, Rosario Ferré, (1998). From Puerto Rico, Ferré weaves a novel, based on her mother's life, about the wealthy and the poor, of the role of women in a patriarchal society and the colonial status of the country.

The Education of Harriet Hatfield, May Sarton, (1989). At age 60, Harriet Hatfield opens a bookstore for women in a blue-collar neighborhood of Boston.

The Edge of the Sea, Rachel Carson, (1955). Carson's careful observation of sea life along the Maine coast over many years is described, in lyrical style.

84, **Charing Cross Road**, Helene Hanff, (1970). Any reader who appreciates bookstores and booksellers will find this classic memoir-in-letters to be a fascinating and rewarding read.

★ **Eleanor Roosevelt, Volume One: 1884-1933**, Blanche Wiesen Cook, (1992). History told around the life of a strong, dedicated woman. Lambda Award 1992.

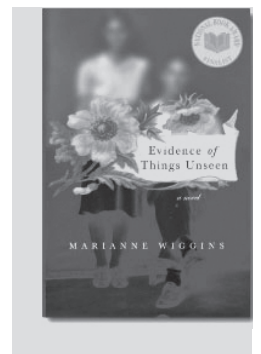
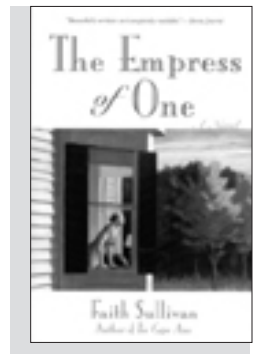
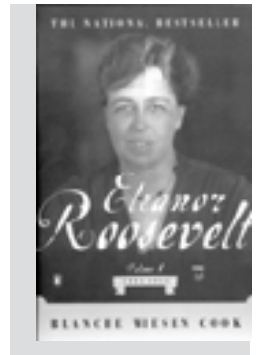
★ **The Empress of One**, Faith Sullivan, (1996). Sullivan's fifth novel tells of Sally's growing up during the '30s and '40s in small-town Minnesota. A story of how those who differ are treated by others, some with great understanding, some with no understanding.

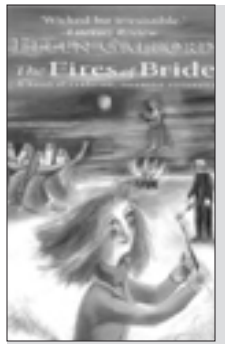
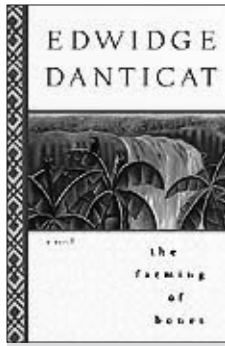
Enemy Women, Paulette Jiles, (2002). Accused of being a Confederate spy, an 18-year-old is imprisoned in Missouri during the Civil War. Escaping, she maneuvers across difficult territory as she returns to her home place. Each chapter begins with actual testimony from the period.

Ethan Frome, Edith Wharton, (1911). Tragedy blankets a stark Massachusetts farm as the three who live there find their lives spinning a web of sorrow from which there is no escape.

★ **Evidence of Things Unseen**, Marianne Wiggins, (2003). This novel describes America at the brink of the Atomic Age and the impact on a loving family's life.

★ **Ex Libris: Confessions of a Common Reader**, Anne Fadiman, (1998). Essays around the joy of words and reading by avid reader Fadiman.





Extra Innings: A Memoir, Doris Grumbach, (1993). A journal of a year of writer Grumbach's life as she approached her 75th birthday.

Face to Face: Women Writers on Faith, Mysticism, and Awakening, Linda Hogan and Brenda Peterson eds., (2004). Essays and poems of how women envision spirit—stories with a feminine view, from multiple perspectives.

Fall on Your Knees, Anne-Marie MacDonald, (1996). A multi-generational tale of four sisters who live in a family steeped in secrets and lies. Set on Cape Breton Island off Nova Scotia the story begins, "They're all dead now." Secrets are revealed as the novel unfolds. Winner of the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Best First Book, 1997.

The Family Tree, Sheri Tepper, (1997). A book of fantasy and science fiction—funny, imaginative, mythic and archetypal. Many characters are not what they seem. Police officer Dora Henry, who is investigating the murders of three geneticists, is a great hero. However, you may never look at a weed in the same way again.

★ **The Farming of Bones**, Edwidge Danticat, (1998). This novel of a 1937 massacre on the border of Dominica and Haiti is about love, fragility, barbarity, dignity and remembrance.

Fingersmith, Sarah Waters, (2002). A twisting novel, narrated by two orphan girls whose lives are inextricably linked. Set in Victorian London among a family of thieves.

The Finishing School, Gail Godwin, (1985). A teenage girl is uprooted to a new part of the country and begins a friendship with an older woman as they explore the woods together.

★ **The Fires of Bride**, Ellen Galford, (1986). Humorous tale about a young artist who ends up on a remote island in Scotland's Outer Hebrides, where the spiritual power of women has ancient roots.

★ **The Floor of the Sky**, Pamela Carter Joern, (2006). A family saga rooted in the Nebraska Sandhills. When a pregnant 16-year-old granddaughter comes to stay with her 72-year-old grandmother, she learns family secrets and their history of connection to the land.

For Her Own Good: 150 Years of the Experts' Advice to Women, Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English, (1978). An analysis of 150 years of disagreement between American women and "expert" professionals, especially doctors.

★ **The Forest Lover**, Susan Vreeland, (2004). Novel based on the life of fiercely independent Canadian artist Emily Carr, who painted the landscape and indigenous people of British Columbia.

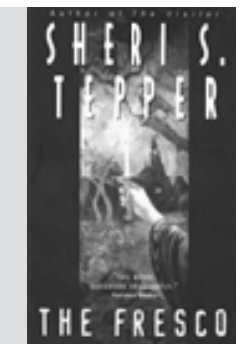
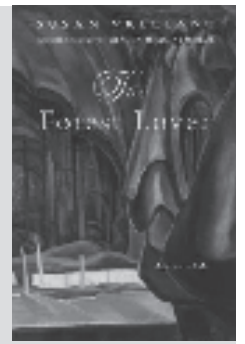
Forever Ours, Janis Amatuzio, (2002). From her experiences as county coroner, forensic pathologist Amatuzio tells stories of love, compassion and understanding following the death of a loved one.

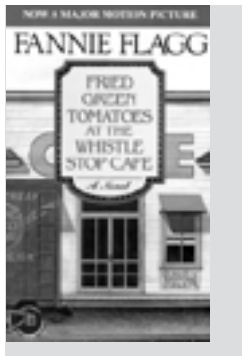
Four Souls, Louise Erdrich, (2004). This tale of revenge is vintage Erdrich.

The Four-Fold Way: Walking the Paths of Warrior, Teacher, Healer and Visionary, Angeles Arrien, (1993). Anthropologist Arrien presents ways to restore the balance in ourselves and in our environment.

Frankenstein, Mary Shelley, (1818). Written when Shelley was 19, the book dramatizes the danger of presuming to create life upon a laboratory table.

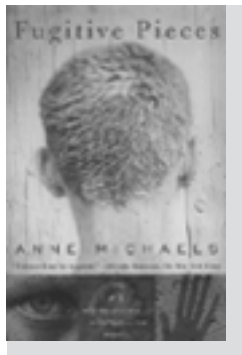
★ **The Fresco**, Sheri Tepper, (2000). When a benevolent race from another world contacts an abused Albuquerque housewife, she begins a journey of danger and redemption, for both herself and Earth.





Frida: A Biography of Frida Kahlo, Hayden Herrera, (1983). The tumultuous life of Mexican painter Frida Kahlo.

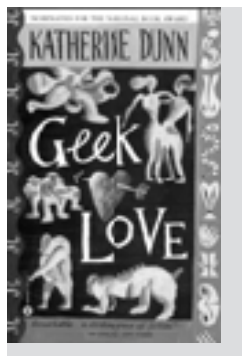
★ **Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe**, Fannie Flagg, (1987). An entertaining novel of the South told in the 1980s by an elderly woman as she reminisces to her middle-age friend. Among the highlights is the story of two women who ran the Whistle Stop Cafe in rural Alabama.



★ **Fugitive Pieces**, Anne Michaels, (1996). In this lyrical and haunting tapestry of pain and healing, a young boy, whose family has been annihilated by the Nazis, is befriended by a Greek geologist. He works his way through sorrow, pain and loss to eventual self-discovery. Orange Prize 1997.

★ **Full Tilt: Ireland to India with a Bicycle**, Dervla Murphy, (1965). Memoir by one of travel writing's most adventurous women.

★ **Gate to Women's Country**, Sheri Tepper, (1988). In this futuristic country, women raise the children and shape the culture, while warrior men live in garrisons outside the town.



Gathering Blue, Lois Lowry, (2000). At the center is a young person who is given the responsibility of preserving the memory of the culture—and who finds the vision to transform it.

Gaudy Night, Dorothy Sayers, (1935). Harriet Vane returns to Oxford for a reunion and finds herself in the middle of a mystery. Who is haunting her old college? Lord Peter Whimsey comes to help and they renew their earlier attraction to each other.

★ **Geek Love**, Katherine Dunn, (1989). A novel of an unusual carnival family which includes the grandmother who ingests drugs and other noxious things to make sure her babies are special; the daughter who is hairless and humpbacked; and the granddaughter whose only uniqueness is her tail.

Gertrude and Alice, Diana Souhami, (1991). Gertrude Stein and Alice Toklas' friendship and love from 1907 to 1957.

★ **Gibbon's Decline and Fall**, Sheri Tepper, (1996). In the year 2000, religious fundamentalism is sweeping worldwide. A group of women, friends for 40 years, unite to defend a 15-year-old girl. Their actions affect the future of all humanity.

★ **Gift From the Sea**, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, (1955). Lindbergh's meditations on youth and age, love and marriage, solitude and contentment, using sea shells as metaphor.

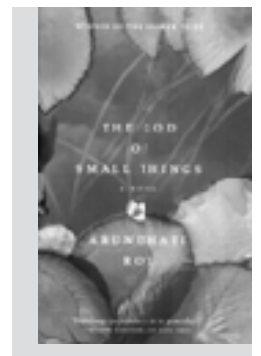
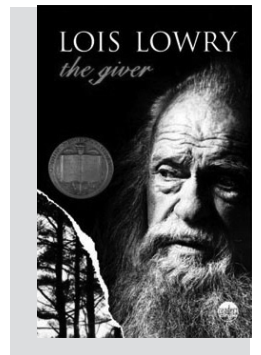
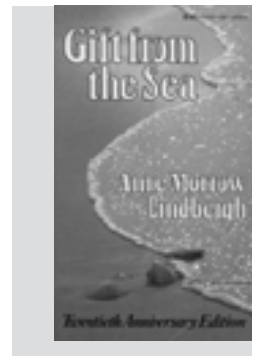
Girl with a Pearl Earring, Tracy Chevalier, (1999). In 17th-century Holland, a coming-of-age story of a fictional 16-year-old muse who might have inspired Vermeer's painting of the Girl with a Pearl Earring.

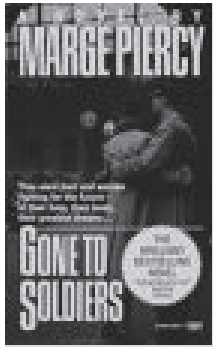
The Girl Within: A Groundbreaking New Approach to Female Identity, Emily Hancock, (1989). Psychologist Hancock identifies a turning point for women between age 10 and the onset of adolescence.

★ **The Giver**, Lois Lowry, (1993). Twelve-year-old Jonas lives in a seemingly ideal world. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark secrets behind this fragile community. Newbery Medal winner, 1994

The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls, (2005). This gritty memoir about surviving a painful childhood with parents who are loving but neglectful (to the point of abusive) raises questions about parenting, resiliency, and the tenacity of love.

★ **The God of Small Things**, Arundhati Roy, (1997). Winner of the 1997 Booker award, this first novel is of a family in southern India and the love between a man and woman of different castes.





The Goddess Celebrates: An Anthology of Women's Rituals, Diane Stein, ed., (1991). A collection of writings on rituals by women who are reclaiming Goddess-centered spirituality.

Going Out of Our Minds: The Metaphysics of Liberation, Sonia Johnson, (1987). Johnson chronicles her political journeys as well as her internal transformation.

★ **Gone to Soldiers**, Marge Piercy, (1987). One of the few novels about WWII honoring the range of sacrifices and the level of support women provided during those years. The stories of six women and four men bring personal depictions of survival during dark times.

The Great Cosmic Mother: Rediscovering the Religion of the Earth, Monica Sjoo and Barbara Mor, (1987). The authors explore the Goddess through religious, cultural and archaeological sources.

Green for Danger, Christianna Brand, (1945). A mystery set in a military hospital during a blitz in WWII. A patient dies, a nurse is murdered, six suspects surface. Inspector Cockrill investigates.

Growing Pains, Wanda Gág, (1940). Artist Gág's diaries from her adolescence and young womanhood.

Guardian Angel, Sara Paretsky, (1982). Chicago private investigator V.I. Warshawski takes on the labor unions and politicians in this 7th in a series.

★ **Gyn-Ecology: The Metaethics of Radical Feminism**, Mary Daly, (1978). Radical feminist Daly combines theology, mythology, philosophy, history and medicine as she leaps into a-mazing space.

★ **The Handmaid's Tale**, Margaret Atwood, (1985). A gripping tale, set in the near future, of women's lives when all their rights are taken away. Governor General's Award, 1986; Commonwealth Writers Prize, 1987.

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, J. K. Rowling, (2005). The sixth tale in the famous series is the darkest and most sophisticated yet.

★ **Hatteras Journal**, Jan DeBlieu (1987). In 1985 DeBlieu moved to Hatteras Island in North Carolina's Outer Banks. Her journal combines acute observations of the nature around her, and her reactions to it, along with scientific research and history.

Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years, Sarah and A. Elizabeth Delany, with Amy Hill Hearth, (1993). Two centenarians recall growing up in turn-of-the-century North Carolina. This dual memoir offers a glimpse of the birth of black freedom and the rise of the black middle class.

Haweswater, Sarah Hall, (2002). Based on actual events in the Lake District of England, this is a powerful tale of obsession, connection to the land, and the effects of progress.

He, She and It, Marge Piercy, (1991). Piercy explores the ethical questions raised by the creation of ever-more human-like machines as she asks the question: What makes humans human?

★ **Healing the Wounds: The Promise of Ecofeminism**, Judith Plant, ed., (1989). Essays, stories and poetry present a combined vision of feminist and ecological perspectives.

The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter, Carson McCullers, (1940). A young girl coming of age in a small Southern town in the '30s surrounded by a man who can't speak, a drunk radical, a disillusioned doctor and a restaurant owner. Through her connections with these lonely men, Mick Kelly searches for connection and meaning.





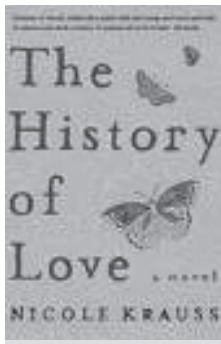
Heart of the Sound, Marybeth Holleman, (2004). How does one recover from disaster? That question is at the heart of this lyrical, elegiac response to Alaska's Valdez oil spill.

Heir to the Glimmering World, Cynthia Ozick, (2004). A novel of an intellectual, eccentric family escaping Hitler's Germany to an inconsequential life in the USA. A rich cast of characters ultimately pursuing the American Dream.

High Tide in Tucson: Essays from Now or Never, Barbara Kingsolver, (1995). Kingsolver writes of family, community and the natural world.

★ **Highwire Moon**, Susan Straight, (2001). The journeys of a Mexican migrant mother deported from the U.S. and the daughter left behind, seeking each other.

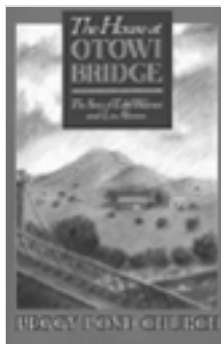
★ **The History of Love**, Nicole Krauss, (2005). Spanning a period of over 60 years, this is a story of lost love and the need to fill the void that is left.



Holding the Line: Women in the Great Arizona Mine Strike of 1983, Barbara Kingsolver, (1989). Kingsolver began her writing career with this book. Incorporating oral history and social criticism, the work honors the community of women during difficult circumstances.

Holes, Louis Sachar, (2001). For the young reader in us all, a story of Stanley, unjustly sent to a boys' detention center where every day the boys dig holes looking for something the warden is seeking. Newbery Medal, 1999

The Home-Maker, Dorothy Canfield, (1924). Traditional roles of husband and wife are reversed when the husband is confined in a wheelchair and his wife must work to support the family.



★ **The House at Otowi Bridge: The Story of Edith Warner and Los Alamos**, Peggy Pond Church, (1960). Part biography, part memoir, this is the story of Edith Warner, an Easterner who fell in love with New Mexico and settled there in the '30s, told by poet Church, who grew up in the remote area where Warner lived.

The House Tibet, Georgia Savage, (1989). Australian author writes of a young girl fleeing violence in her home, taking her autistic brother with her and joining a band of homeless children, ending up in a wondrous refuge called The House Tibet.

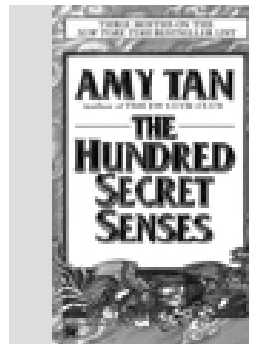
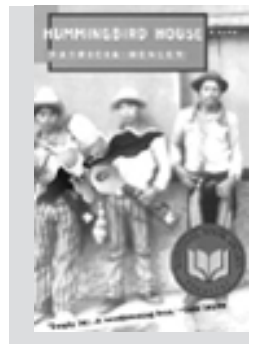
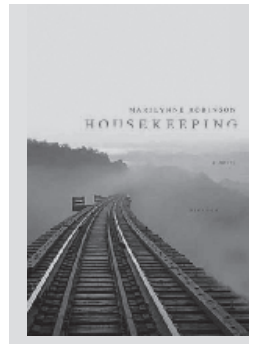
★ **Housekeeping**, Marilynne Robinson, (1981). A novel steeped in images of earth, water, air and fire. A family of women and a young girl's connection to her eccentric aunt.

★ **Hummingbird House**, Patricia Henley (1999). Kate follows her friend to Nicaragua and Guatemala during the mid-1980s, planning to return to the United States. When her friend is killed, Kate remains in Guatemala and becomes involved with the complex political realities of the region.

★ **The Hundred Secret Senses**, Amy Tan, (1995). Olivia wants nothing to do with her half sister, Kwan, who lives in a world of Chinese spirits. But when Olivia experiences changes in her personal life, Kwan brings the pieces of their sisterhood together in a journey of faith.

I Been In Sorrow's Kitchen and Licked Out All the Pots, Susan Straight, (1992). A big, Gullah-speaking South Carolina woman finds meaning in her life raising her twin sons.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou, (1969). The first of five autobiographical books about Angelou's difficult early life in Stamps, Ark., and St. Louis, Mo.





I Loved You All, Paula Sharp, (2000). Blending the political with the personal, Sharp creates a funny and moving novel of family life around the American politics of abortion.

I-Mary: A Biography of Mary Austin, Augusta Fink, (1983). Written 40 years after Austin's death, this biography provides a candid look at a remarkable, creative woman's life.

★ **In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development**, Carol Gilligan, (1982). Psychologist Gilligan explores women's voices and develops a female-oriented theory of moral development.

★ **In Search of Our Mother's Gardens: Womanist Prose**, Alice Walker, (1983). Essays from the '60s, '70s and '80s by poet/novelist/activist Walker, author of "The Color Purple."

In the Company of Strangers, Mary Meigs, (1991). Account of the making of the Canadian movie "Strangers in Good Company" by one of the women in the cast.

★ **In the Name of Salome**, Julia Alvarez, (2000). Dominican-American poet and novelist Alvarez based her novel on the lives of 19th-century poet laureate of the Dominican Republic, Salome Urena de Henriquez, and her daughter, asking, "Who are we as a people? How do we serve? Is love stronger than anything in the world?"

★ **In the Time of the Butterflies**, Julia Alvarez, (1994). This work of fiction honors the lives of four sisters who were among the leading opponents of the Trujillo dictatorship in the Dominican Republic.

Inheritance of Loss, Kiran Desai, (2006). From the Himalayas to New York City, the novel shows the human costs of immigration and colonialism. Man Booker Prize, 2006; National Book Critics Circle Award, 2006

An Intimate Wilderness: Lesbian Writers on Sexuality, Judith Barrington, ed., (1991). Essays, stories and poems of contemporary lesbian writers present a complex picture of lesbian sexuality.

★ **Into the Forest: A Novel**, Jean Hegland, (1996). Two sisters alone in the redwood forest of California learn to survive on the land as all modern systems crumble around them.

Jane Eyre, Charlotte Brontë, (1847). This classic novel tells the story of an unforgettable heroine, the spirited and courageous orphan Jane Eyre.

★ **Janet Frame: An Autobiography**, Janet Frame, (1982). New Zealand novelist and poet's personal struggle from poor childhood, through institutionalization, to literary recognition.

★ **Journal of a Solitude**, May Sarton, (1977). Sarton writes of her 59th year and the challenges of solitude in Nelson, New Hampshire.

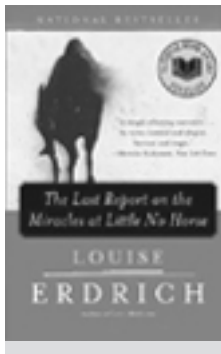
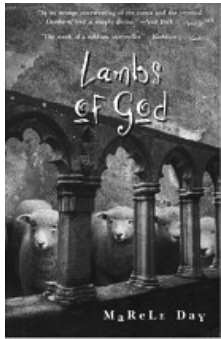
★ **The Journey**, Ida Fink, (1990). Two sisters escape the Jewish ghettos of Poland and with false identity papers volunteer for work in Germany.

★ **July's People**, Nadine Gordimer (1981). A servant, July, takes a white family to his home village for safety as civil war begins in South Africa. The question of whether he is their host, their savior or their keeper is the essence of the book.

★ **Kindred**, Octavia Butler, (1979). A time-travel tale in which a contemporary African American woman is transported back to a southern plantation where her ancestors were slaves.

Kingfishers Catch Fire, Rumer Godden, (1953). A young English woman and her family move to colonial India, encountering heartbreak as they adjust to a different culture.





King's English: Adventures of an Independent Bookseller, Betsy Burton, (2005). In this history of The King's English bookshop in Salt Lake City, owner Burton writes that she has pursued a simple objective since the store's inception in 1977: "Pick good books, pass them on. That's all that counts in the end."

Kissing the Virgin's Mouth, Donna Gershten, (2001). A story of the strength and survival of one woman, Guadalupe Magdalena Molina Vasquez, who grows up in a poor barrio of a Mexican coastal town, experiences American affluence, and ultimately returns to her childhood home with her half-American daughter to whom she passes on her wisdom. Bellwether Prize for Fiction, 2000

The Ladies, Doris Grumbach, (1984). A fictionalized telling of the true story of two Irish women who eloped to Llangollen, Wales, in the 18th century and lived as a married couple.

★ **Lambs of God**, Marele Day, (1998). Three nuns, forgotten by the world, lead a quiet life on an isolated island where they tend their sheep. One day, a priest arrives, and a battle of wills and faith ensues.

★ **The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse**, Louise Erdrich, (2001). The story focuses on a young priest, Father Damien Modeste, whom we meet briefly in earlier Erdrich books. His remarkable journey recapitulates the stories of some of the native peoples of North Dakota through memories, conversations, tales and reminiscences, shedding new light on these events, while his own story unwinds.

Land of the Burnt Thigh, Edith Eudora Kohl, (1938). Two young women homestead and become leaders in their small South Dakota community in 1907.

The Land of Little Rain, Mary Austin, (1903). Austin's first book is a classic of Southwestern nature literature. Ecologist, feminist, and mystic, Austin knew the desert.

Lao Tzu Tao Te Ching: A Book About the Way and the Power of the Way, A New English Version, Ursula K. Le Guin, (1997). Le Guin captures the poetry in English of the 81 short chapters of the 2,500-year-old Chinese spiritual classic of Tao Te Ching.

The Last Gift of Time: Life Beyond Sixty, Carolyn Heilbrun, (1997). A feminist shares, in essay form, her writing and reading life, as well as her life as wife, mother, academician and independent woman.

★ **Laughter of Aphrodite: Reflections on a Journey to the Goddess**, Carol Christ, (1987). Feminist theologian Christ shares her spiritual journey from Christianity to the Goddess.

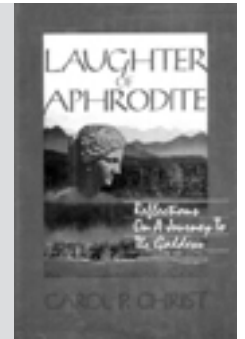
Leaving Mother Lake: A Girlhood at the Edge of the World, Yang Erche Namu, (2003). Memoir of growing up in a remote matriarchal Himalayan culture and of the yearning to see the larger world.

★ **Letters from Yellowstone**, Diane Smith (1999). On a scientific expedition in Yellowstone Park in 1898, a young woman botanist discovers the joys of the wilderness and the passion of discovery. Winner of the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Award for Fiction, 1999.

Letters to May, Eleanor Mabel Sarton, (1986). Thirty years of letters from mother to daughter, the first written when May Sarton was 3, the last, two years before Eleanor Mabel Sarton's death.

Life and Death in Shanghai, Nien Cheng, (1986). Nien Cheng's chronicle of six-and-a-half years' imprisonment in Communist China during the Cultural Revolution.

Life is Goodbye, Life is Hello: Grieving Well Through All Kinds of Loss, Alla Bozarth Campbell, (1982). A book about change, loss and healing.





Life's Companion: Journal Writing as a Spiritual Quest, Christina Baldwin, (1990). A guide to journal writing as a means of expanding inner horizons.

Like Water for Chocolate, Laura Esquivel, (1989). Exquisitely sensuous Mexican magic.

The Little Locksmith: A Memoir, Katharine Butler Hathaway, (1943). This memoir of transformation and spiritual truth covers Butler's childhood years, which she spent strapped to a board to cure a back condition; her eventual purchase of a house and her marriage.

Living in the Light: A Guide to Personal and Planetary Transformation, Shakti Gawain, (1986). Exercises, meditations and affirmations in learning to trust your creativity.

Long Walks, Intimate Talks, Grace Paley and Vera Williams, (1991). Drawings, poems and prose by writer Paley and artist Williams about peace and the celebration of each day.

The Longings of Women, Marge Piercy, (1994). Three women—an academic, a murderer, and a homeless woman—share the same longing to be valued and loved.

The Loony-Bin Trip, Kate Millett, (1990). Fiercely independent, Millett struggles with her diagnosis as manic-depressive and poses challenging questions to the medical establishment.

Looking for Lovedu: A Woman's Journey Across Africa, Ann Jones, (2001). Jones mixes travel adventure and African history in her account of her trans-Africa journey to find the matriarchal Lovedu tribe.

★ **Lost in Translation: A Life in a New Language**, Eva Hoffman, (1989). Hoffman's memoir of her early years in Poland, her teen years in Canada and her adult years as part of New York's literary world.

★ **Love Medicine**, Louise Erdrich, (1984). Saga of two Native American families across several generations, living on a reservation and in the Red River Valley of North Dakota.

The Lovely Bones, Alice Sebold, (2002). This story of the ramifications of a terrible death moves from grief to hope and healing.

Lucy Gayheart, Willa Cather, (1935). A story of the heartache that awaits a gifted young woman who leaves her small Nebraska town to pursue a life in art.

Luna, Sharon Butala, (1988). In this novel of the Canadian prairie, Butala writes of farm women and the variety of life choices they made.

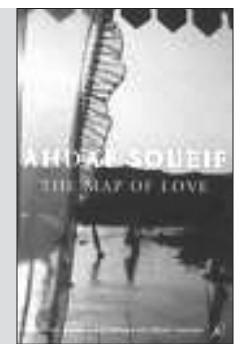
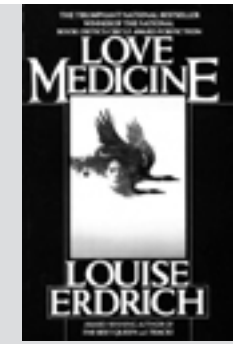
Madam Secretary, Madeleine Albright, (2003). Albright's autobiography covers her life from childhood through her time in the Clinton White House. It is very readable and a great way to read the back story on the global politics of the 1990s.

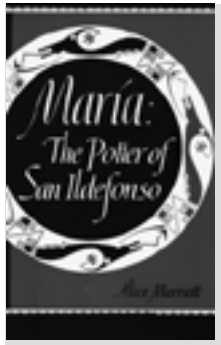
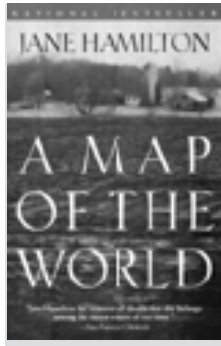
The Magician's Assistant, Ann Patchett, (1997). In this '90s love story the Los Angeles-born-and-bred Sabine, widow of the magician Parsifal, connects with his family on the plains of Nebraska and finds her life changed forever.

★ **Mama Day**, Gloria Naylor, (1988). Matriarch Mama Day calls up lightning storms on her Georgia sea island and struggles for her great-niece's life and soul, which are in danger from the island's dark forces.

★ **The Map of Love**, Ahdaf Soueif, (1999). A novel of Egypt told through a cross-cultural love affair between a divorced American journalist and an Egyptian-American conductor, framed by the earlier courtship of the journalist's great-grandparents nearly 100 years ago.

★ **A Map of the World**, Jane Hamilton, (1994). From her orchard farmhouse in Wisconsin, Hamilton writes about the precarious balance of imagined security.





★ **Maria: The Potter of San Ildefonso**, Alice Marriott, (1948). This biography/oral history tells of Maria Martinez, who became one of the most famous pueblo potters, and her people.

The Master Butchers Singing Club, Louise Erdrich, (2003). In her eighth novel Erdrich presents a tale of an immigrant German family in Argus, North Dakota, after WWI. Fidelis Waldvogel has brought sausages in his traveling case to the U.S. and becomes the butcher in this small town, where he begins an all-male singing club. A story of love, mystery, tragedy and friendship.

Maternal Thinking: Toward a Politics of Peace, Sara Ruddick, (1990). Ruddick explores a feminist peace politics based on the day-to-day raising of children.

Me: A Memoir, Brenda Ueland, (1939). Autobiography/memoir of writer Ueland's experience in Minneapolis and New York during the '20s and '30s.

★ **Mean Spirit**, Linda Hogan, (1990). Native American poet Hogan's novel of the disintegration of the Osage Indian tribe as white men take back the Oklahoma land under which oil is discovered.

★ **The Mists of Avalon**, Marion Zimmer Bradley, (1982). The King Arthur tales told from the perspectives of the women of the time.

Monkey Beach, Eden Robinson, (2000). Narrator Lisa Hill waits to hear word of her missing brother and recalls her turbulent upbringing in a Haisla village in British Columbia. The author is half-Haisla herself, and this is her first novel.

★ **Moon Tiger**, Penelope Lively, (1982). As 76-year-old Claudia is dying, she decides to write "The History of the World as selected by Claudia... ." She recalls her brother and daughter, and her lover, killed in war in Egypt. A complex, intricately woven novel of life, love and loss. Booker Prize winner, 1987

Moonlight on the Avenue of Faith, Gina Nahai, (1999). Nahai writes of her novel, "My hope is that whoever reads the book will see something of themselves in it." The story begins in the Jewish ghetto of Tehran and goes through the whorehouses of Turkey and the city of exiles, Los Angeles. Does Roxanna throw herself off the balcony in Tehran, or does she fly away? A book of magical realism.

Moral Disorder, Margaret Atwood, (2006). Eleven interwoven tales comprise this darkly witty collection of classic Atwood.

The Mother's Songs: Images of God the Mother, Meinrad Craighead, (1986). Craighead's paintings, with comments by the artist.

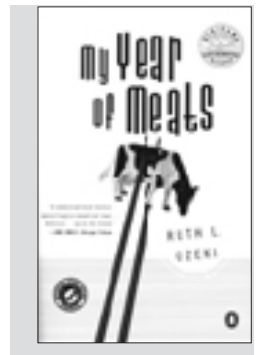
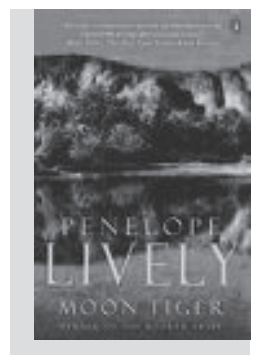
Mrs. Dalloway, Virginia Woolf, (1925). One day in the life of wealthy London hostess Clarissa Dalloway as she prepares for an evening party—an exploration of how the past shapes the present.

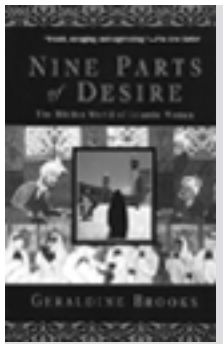
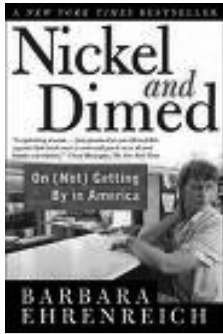
A Muriel Rukeyser Reader, Jan Heller Levi, ed., (1994). This collection gives a wide-ranging sampling of 45 years of Rukeyser's poetry, but as important are her far-seeing, informing connections between poetry and history, science, politics and ourselves.

My Antonia, Willa Cather, (1918). Literary masterpiece about an immigrant pioneer woman on the Nebraska plains.

★ **My Year of Meats**, by Ruth Ozeki, (1998). A Japanese-American film-maker is hired by a Japanese company to film American families happy to be eating beef. As she pursues the project she discovers that the realities of the meat industry become something different than she started out to film. Kiriya Pacific Rim Award, 1998.

Native Tongue, Suzette Elgin, (1984). Linguistics professor Elgin writes of a world where all of women's rights are denied, even their language.





The Namesake, Jhumpa Lahiri, (2003). A tradition-bound Indian couple moves from Calcutta to Boston, where they struggle with the complexities of the immigrant experience as well as the love they have for their American-born son.

Natives and Exotics, Jane Allison, (2005). In this tender, lyrical novel that explores the consequences of so-called "progress," generations of an Australian family are linked across time and space by their relationships to a changing world and a common search for a true home,

Nervous Conditions, Tsitsi Dangarembga, (1988). Zimbabwean author presents a coming-of-age story and shows the losses involved when one culture colonizes another.

★ **Nickel and Dime, On (Not) Getting By in America**, Barbara Ehrenreich, (2001). Reporter Ehrenreich joins the legions of working people who struggle to get by on poverty-level wages and gives us a working-eye view of what their lives are really like.

Night Watch, Frida Sigurdardottir, (1988). As a modern Icelandic journalist sits a death watch in her mother's hospital room, she reflects on the lives of her mother, aunt and their ancestors who lived harsh lives in rural Iceland. Nordic Council Literary Award, 1988.

★ **Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women**, Geraldine Brooks, (1995). As a news correspondent in the Middle East, Brooks set out to learn about and understand what life was like for the women of the region.

None to Accompany Me, Nadine Gordimer, (1994). South African Gordimer writes of protagonist Vera Stark, a white lawyer, who represents blacks in their struggle to reclaim South African land. Gordimer received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1991.

★ **North Spirit: Sojourns Among the Cree and Ojibway**, Paulette Jiles, (1995). Poet/journalist Jiles calls this work "creative nonfiction" in which "all the incidents are true." Jiles writes of her experience in northern Canada working on the only Ojibway-language newspaper in the world.

★ **Now in November**, Josephine Johnson, (1934). Johnson's first novel about a middle-class family driven into poverty by the Depression. Pulitzer Prize winner, 1935.

○ **Caledonia**, Elspeth Barker, (1991). Depicts Scottish life through the fated main character, young Janet, a girl who finds solace in reading, learning and nature.

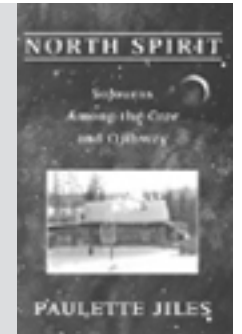
○ **Pioneers!**, Willa Cather, (1913). Cather's first novel about the immigrants who settled the Nebraska prairie.

Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in Twentieth-Century America, Lillian Faderman, (1991). A scholarly study of outsider women whose sexuality and politics have affected mainstream America. Lambda Award, 1991.

Old Books, Rare Friends: Two Literary Sleuths and Their Shared Passion, Leona Rostenberg & Madeleine Stern, (1997). For more than 60 years these two friends shared a love of literature, becoming experts in the rare book world, and writing and editing numerous books separately and together.

On Beauty, Zadie Smith, (2005). Two academic rivals, differing in outlook, beliefs and family dynamics, come together in an explosive situation. Orange Prize, 2006

★ **One True Thing**, Anna Quindlen, (1994). A successful professional woman returns to her hometown, against her wishes, to care for her dying mother.





★ **Out of Time**, Paula Martinac, (1990). A stolen scrapbook of women’s photographs from the 1920s leads to exploring the connections of four women who called themselves “The Gang.” Lambda Award 1990.

★ **Outercourse: The Be-Dazzling Voyage**, Mary Daly, (1992). “Containing recollections from my *Logbook of a Radical Feminist Philosopher* (Be-ing an account of my time/space travels and ideas—then, again, now and how).”

Overlay: Contemporary Art and the Art of Prehistory, Lucy Lippard, (1983). Feminist art historian Lippard connects contemporary art to prehistoric sites and symbols.

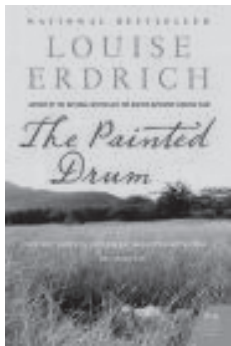
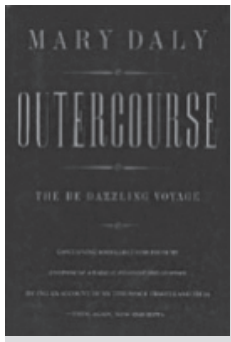
An Owl on Every Post, Sanora Babb, (1970). Memoir of a young girl’s hard, but magical, life on the Colorado frontier in pre-World War I America.

★ **The Painted Drum**, Louise Erdrich, (2005). A rare drum found in New Hampshire, having been taken from its North Dakota Ojibwe creator, connects those who hear its sound. A story of lost children and the memories they leave behind.

Papago Woman, Ruth M. Underhill, (1936). A classic and readable ethnographic work, this book presents the first published life history of a Southwestern Indian woman.

Parable of the Sower, Octavia Butler, (1993). In America in 2025, the gap continues to grow between the haves and have-nots. When violence alters one young woman’s protected life, annihilating her family and friends, she leads a small band of followers to the promise of a new life.

Paradise, Toni Morrison, (1997). An all-black utopia is created in small-town Ruby, Oklahoma. But what will be done about those women living in the convent outside of town?



★ **Paris Was a Woman: Portraits from the Left Bank**, Andrea Weiss, (1995). Filled with historic photos and discussion of women-owned bookstores and independent creative women on the Left Bank in Paris from 1920 to 1940, this was a documentary film before being put into book form.

Passionate Sisterhood: Women of the Wordsworth Circle, Kathleen Jones, (1997). An eye-opening group biography that reads almost like a novel.

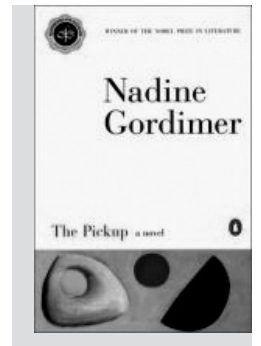
★ **Pavilion of Women**, Pearl S. Buck, (1946). On her 40th birthday, Madame Wu decides to retire from married life and find her husband a concubine. This begins her pursuit of a new way of being, enhanced by the free-thinking priest hired to teach her son English. A novel of contradictions, unorthodox Christianity, self-discipline and beauty. Buck received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1932.

★ **Paula**, Isabel Allende, (1994). In this memoir, written as her daughter lies unconscious and terminally ill, Allende writes of her family’s exile, her Chilean heritage and her love for her dying daughter.

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood, Marjane Satrapi (2004). A coming-of-age view of war illustrated in a black and white graphic novel. Based on Satrapi’s growing up under the Islamic Revolution in war-torn Iran.

★ **The Pickup**, Nadine Gordimer, (2001). A wealthy South African woman meets a young Arab mechanic when her car breaks down. The two seek meaning and direction in their lives. Set in the new South Africa and in an Arab village in the desert, the book illustrates a contrast between the Islamic and Western worlds. Gordimer received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1991.

★ **Pigs in Heaven**, Barbara Kingsolver, (1989). The story of “The Bean Trees” is continued and explores the complexity of love between mother and child across cultures.

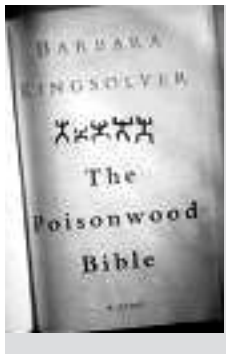




A Place of Execution, Val McDermid, (2000). This highly acclaimed psychological thriller by one of Britain's best-known crime writers is set in an isolated English village in the 1960s.

★ **A Place Where the Sea Remembers**, Sandra Benítez, (1993). A first novel of love and anger, hope and tragedy, in a Mexican seacoast village.

★ **The Poisonwood Bible**, Barbara Kingsolver, (1998). A Baptist missionary takes his wife and four daughters to the Belgian Congo in 1959, where war is brewing. The mother and daughters write of their lives and the different ways they are marked by the father's intractable mission and by Africa itself.



Pornography and Silence: Culture's Revolt Against Nature, Susan Griffin, (1981). Griffin argues that "pornography is an expression not of human erotic feeling and desire, and not of a love of the life of the body, but of a fear of bodily knowledge, and a desire to silence eros."

★ **Possessing the Secret of Joy**, Alice Walker, (1992). In this novel about female genital mutilation, the main character uses her anger to deduce meaning and understanding from the procedure she endured.

★ **Possession: A Romance**, A.S. Byatt, (1990). A novel of mystery and love as two young scholars research the lives of two Victorian poets. Booker Prize, 1990.



Potiki, Patricia Grace (1995). A Maori community in New Zealand tries to live the old ways and must stand up to developers who want its land. Award-winning novel by one of New Zealand's most decorated writers.

Prism of the Night: A Biography of Anne Rice, Katherine Ramsland, (1991). A companion work for the serious Anne Rice reader.

★ **Prodigal Summer**, Barbara Kingsolver (2000). Three intertwining stories tell of the need to protect and preserve nature and all living things.

Property, Valerie Martin, (2003). Taking place on a sugar plantation north of New Orleans in the 1830s, the story uses the plantation owner's wife's voice to reveal the clash of wills between herself, her husband and her personal slave. Orange Prize, 2003

★ **The Prowler**, Kristiana Gunnars, (2000). This lyrical post-modern novel explores the isolation and heartbreak of a girl growing up in Iceland in the post-war years, and her later experiences as an immigrant in North America.

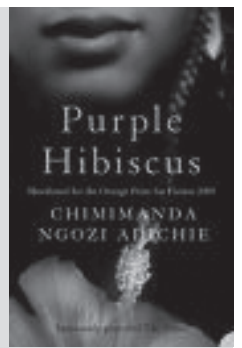
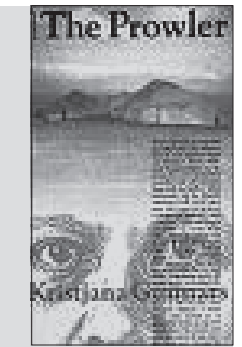
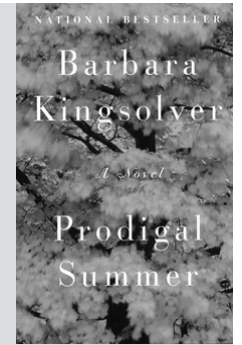
Pure Lust: Elemental Feminist Philosophy, Mary Daly, (1984). Feminist philosopher Daly explores and analyzes a double-sided meaning of lust.

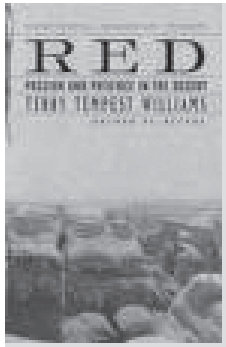
★ **Purple Hibiscus**, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, (2003). Nigerian Adichie's first novel explores the coming-of-age of Kambili, who struggles with questions of new and old religion and with love for her wealthy father who gives to the community while terrorizing his own family.

Push, Sapphire, (1996). At 16, Precious is illiterate, constantly abused, and pregnant with a second child. This story tells how she learns to write about her life and claim it for herself.

Rachel Calof's Story: Jewish Homesteader on the Northern Plains, Rachel Calof, (1995). Recently discovered memoir of a Russian Jewish immigrant's harsh life on the North Dakota prairie at the turn of the century.

Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature, Linda Lear, (1997). An almost 500-page biography, including 120 pages of notes, of writer/scientist Carson, who challenged how we care for the planet we live on.





Raising the Stones, Sheri Tepper, (1990). Tepper's novel looks into the future and predicts humanity will survive.

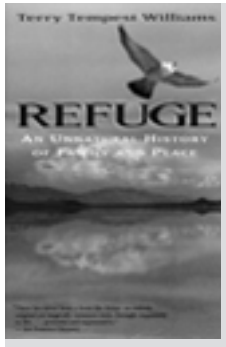
Raven's Exile: A Season on the Green River, Ellen Meloy, (2003). Meloy and her river-ranger husband raft Utah's Green River through the 84-mile gorge at Desolation Canyon.

The Real Minerva, Mary Sharratt, (2004). In *Minerva, Minn., 1923*, three women are forced to make choices as each struggles to pursue her dreams in a society where restraints outweigh liberties.



★ **Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert**, Terry Tempest Williams, (2001). Essays and poetry of the importance of protecting the wild. Williams' dedication is "For The Coyote Clan and America's Redrock Wilderness."

★ **Red Azalea**, Anchee Min, (1994). In this true-life tale of growing up in China during the Cultural Revolution, facing constant scrutiny, Min reveals how even the government cannot squelch love and life.



Red China Blues: My Long March from Mao to Now, Jan Wong, (1996). Journalist Wong, a Canadian of Chinese descent, who believed in Mao when she enrolled in Beijing University in 1972, writes of her understanding of the changes in China as well as herself during the past 30 years.

The Red Tent, Anita Diamant (1997). From one sentence in the Bible about Dinah, Diamant creates a story to show what might have happened, and how women lived in Old Testament times.

★ **Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place**, Terry Tempest Williams, (1991). Poet and naturalist Williams weaves reflections about the acts of nature and the dying of her mother.

Re-Inventing Eve: Modern Woman in Search of Herself, Kim Chernin, (1988). When Eve is seen as a heroine of "disobedience," her story becomes a transformative vision of woman's place in nature.

Revelations: Diaries of Women, Mary Jane Moffat and Charlotte Painter, eds., (1974). Selections from 32 women's diaries on love, work and power across the centuries.

Revolution From Within: A Book of Self-Esteem, Gloria Steinem, (1992). At the end of her fifth decade, Steinem writes, "It's never too late for a happy childhood."

Rift, Lisa Cody, (1988). Africa's Rift Valley was irresistible, but traveler Fay begins to realize she may never get out.

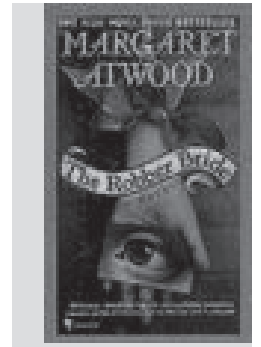
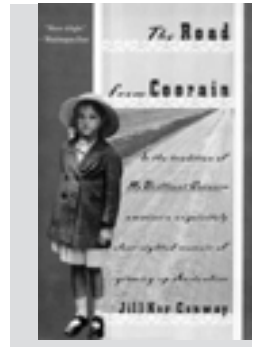
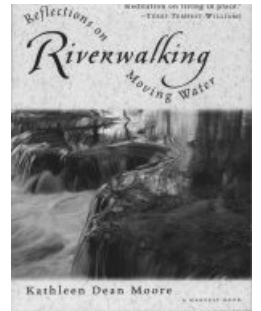
★ **Riverwalking: Reflections on Moving Water**, Kathleen Dean Moore (1995). In these essays, Moore describes her encounters with the world of rivers and in the process explores philosophical questions about motherhood, happiness, love and loss.

★ **The Road From Coorain**, Jill Ker Conway, (1989). The first female president of Smith College writes of her girlhood in the Australian outback.

★ **The Robber Bride**, Margaret Atwood, (1993). Three women, part of each others' lives since the 1960s, are traumatized when three decades later a fourth woman re-enters their lives.

A Romantic Education, Patricia Hampl, (1981). Author's coming of age in Minnesota and her journey to Prague as she explores her family's past.

A Room of One's Own, Virginia Woolf, (1929). Woolf's classic essay, which insists that a woman must have her own money and privacy.





Roseanne: My Life as a Woman, Roseanne Barr, (1989). Roseanne Barr's memoir, from growing up as a Jewish outsider in Salt Lake City through the creation of her TV series.

Sacred Pleasure, Riane Eisler, (1995). Eisler expands her partnership model to envision a society where pleasure, not pain, is the central theme of our lives.

★ **The Samurai's Garden**, Gail Tsukiyama, (1994). The Japanese invasion of China in 1930 is the backdrop for this gentle story of a young 20-year-old Chinese painter who is sent to his grandfather's house in Japan to regain his health.

The Scalpel and the Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing, Lori Alvord and Elizabeth Cohen Van Pelt, (1999). In this memoir, Alvord describes her education in culture, first as a Navajo medical student at Dartmouth and Stanford, then as a Western-trained surgeon treating Indian patients. She emerges with a holistic view of healing.

The Sea, The Sea, Iris Murdoch, (1978). An aging theater director searches for simplicity and solitude in a lonely house by the North Sea. Booker Prize, 1978.

The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe, Jane Wagner, (1986). A hit one-woman play written for Lily Tomlin focuses on the female experience in society.

The Secret Garden, Frances Hodgson Burnett, (1911). Orphaned Mary Lennox is sent to a desolate English mansion where she discovers friendship, love and a hidden garden.

Selected Poems: 1965-1975, Margaret Atwood, (1987). One of the many poetry books of Canadian author Margaret Atwood.

Shape of Red: Insider-Outsider Reflections, Ruth Hubbard and Margaret Randall, (1988). Correspondence between two politically and socially active women who offer radical insights with hopeful vision.

She Walks These Hills, Sharyn McCrumb (1994). Mystery writer and folklorist McCrumb combines the present and past with a 200-year-old ghost story in the Appalachian mountains.

★ **The Ship that Sailed into the Living Room: Sex and Intimacy Reconsidered**, Sonia Johnson, (1991). Johnson challenges the meaning of relationships.

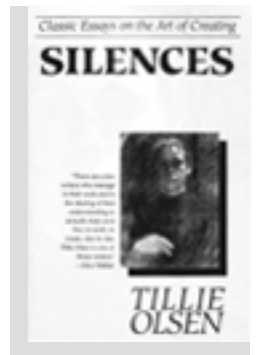
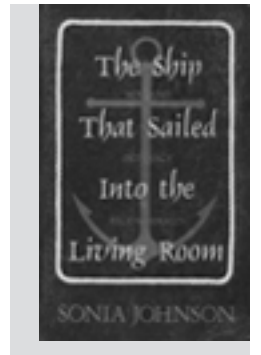
The Shipping News, E. Annie Proulx, (1993). Story of a third-rate newspaperman who retreats to his ancestral home on the Newfoundland coast. National Book Award, 1993; Pulitzer Prize, 1994.

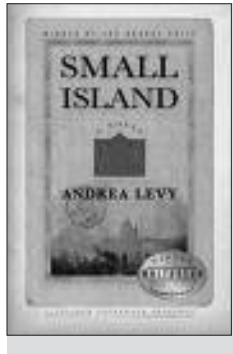
Shooting the Boh: A Woman's Voyage Down the Wildest River in Borneo, Tracy Johnston, (1992). On the way to the uncharted Boh River, the author's luggage gets lost, and her circumstances go downhill from there. An engaging travel memoir of one woman's journey through the tangles of rainforest and menopause.

The Short History of a Prince, Jane Hamilton, (1998). A family story set in Wisconsin centered around a young boy's desire to dance and the challenges he faces growing up as he realizes he is gay.

★ **Silences**, Tillie Olsen, (1965). Olsen explores the social forces that silence the voices of female artists.

Silent Spring, Rachel Carson, (1962). With this book Carson altered the course of history through her concern for the future of the planet.





The Silver DeSoto, Patty Lou Floyd, (1987). Coming-of-age story during the Dust Bowl years in Oklahoma.

Simone de Beauvoir: A Biography, Deirdre Bair, (1990). Based on five years of interviews with the French philosopher, essayist and novelist.

Singer From the Sea, Sheri Tepper (1999). Set in the future on a planet called Haven where the inhabitants all are female, the novel poses questions about technology, religion, treason and love.

Sister Light, Sister Dark, Jane Yolen, (1988). A coming-of-age story based on folklore but set in the future.

Sister Outsider: Essays & Speeches, Audre Lorde, (1984). From her black lesbian feminist perspective, Lorde expands and enriches our understanding of what feminism can be.

The Skeptical Feminist: Discovering the Virgin, Mother, Crone, Barbara Walker, (1987). Walker's spiritual autobiography follows her journey away from Christianity to the three aspects of the Goddess—Virgin, Mother and Crone.

Skywater, Melinda Worth Popham, (1990). For 39 years the Ryders have lived peacefully in the remote Sonora desert, sharing land with the coyotes. The groundwater becomes poisoned by mine tailings, forcing humans and animals to find new places.

★ **Small Island**, Andrea Levy, (2004). Set in London in 1948, the novel tells the stories of two families, one English and one recently arrived from Jamaica, whose lives intersect and are shaped by war. Orange Prize, 2004; Whitbread Award, 2005.

Small Wonder, Barbara Kingsolver, (2002). Essays that explore hope and peace, written in response to September 11.

★ **Snow Flower and the Secret Fan**, Lisa See, (2005). This novel describes footbinding in China while honoring ancient secret writing, *nu shu*, celebrating friendships between women.

★ **Solar Storms**, Linda Hogan, (1995). A troubled young woman returns to her roots in the Boundary Waters between Canada and Minnesota, to learn her history and heal herself.

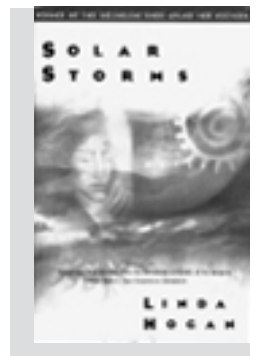
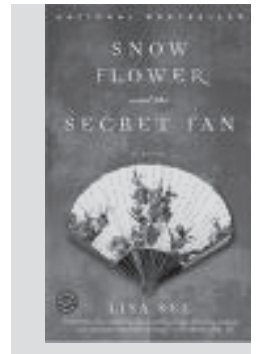
The Song and the Truth, Helga Ruebsamen, (1997). Lyrical and mysterious tale of a child's paradise lost, set in Java and the Netherlands as World War II encroaches.

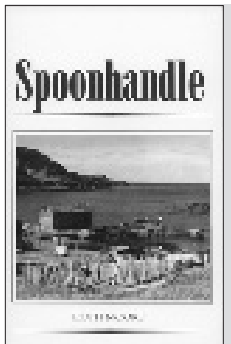
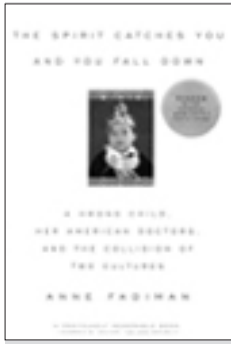
The Song of the Lark, Willa Cather, (1915). Considered Cather's most autobiographical novel, "Song" tells of Thea Kronborg's struggle to find her artistic place. As Thea becomes a famous opera singer, she learns that the expected social role for women and the reality of the artistic life are quite different.

Songs to an African Sunset: A Zimbabwean Story, Sekai Nzenza-Shand, (1997). Stories and reflections of the author's return to her home village in Zimbabwe.

★ **The Space Between Us**, Thrity Umrigar, (2007). In modern Bombay, the longtime connection, as well as class divide, between a wealthy woman and her housekeeper is a tale of tragedy and hope.

The Speed of Dark, Elizabeth Moon, (2003). Autism is well-rewarded in the 21st-century American business world, until someone decides it is a liability requiring a new procedure to "cure" the condition.





Spending: A Utopian Divertimento, Mary Gordon, (1998). As a woman artist turns 50, a whole new world opens for her when a man becomes her muse.

★ **The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down**, Anne Fadiman, (1997). True story of a Hmong child, her American doctors, and the collision of two cultures. National Book Critics Circle, 1997.

★ **Spoonhandle**, Ruth Moore, (1946). A bestseller when first published, this novel tells about the Stilwell family, inhabitants of a Maine island, in whom the struggle between love and meanness of spirit, between human dignity and greed is clearly drawn.

The Stone Angel, Margaret Laurence, (1964). Canadian Laurence's novel creates a proud, energetic woman who struggles to hold on to self.

The Stone Diaries, Carol Shields, (1993). Shields chronicles the life of a woman from her birth in 1905 to her death in the mid-'80s. A novel of a woman in search of herself. Pulitzer Prize 1995.

Stones From the River, Ursula Hegi, (1994). Story set in a small town in Germany between 1915 and 1949, told through the eyes of a woman who is a "zwerg"—a dwarf.

The Stories We Hold Secret: Tales of Women's Spiritual Development, Carol Bruchac, Linda Hogan and Judith McDaniels, eds., (1986). The sacred and hidden stories of 31 women attempting to name experiences with different words.

The Story of an African Farm, Olive Schreiner, (1883). This classic story from South Africa presents a forthright feminist character, noteworthy for the time.

Strength to Your Sword Arm: Selected Writings, Brenda Ueland, (1993). A collection of articles from the Minneapolis author's last four decades.

★ **Sula**, Toni Morrison, (1973). This novel traces the lives of two black women growing up together in Ohio, one choosing to stay and one escaping; both suffering as a result of their choices.

Suite Française, Irene Nemirovsky, (2007). Six decades after the author's death at Auschwitz, this first two of a planned five-novel cycle was discovered and published, depicting the lives of people in France in 1940-41 during German occupation.

Summer People, Marge Piercy, (1989). A 10-year ménage à trois changes one summer because of the presence of the "summer people."

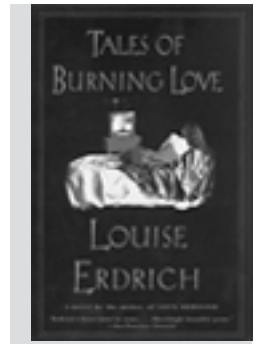
Surfacing, Margaret Atwood, (1972). A talented artist, with three companions, journeys to the island where she grew up. While there, the unnamed narrator finds an inner strength to go on with her life.

Surpassing the Love of Men: Romantic Friendship and Love Between Women From the Renaissance to the Present, Lillian Faderman, (1981). Scholarly exploration of the cultural history of women's passionate friendships.

Swimming in the Congo, Margaret Meyers, (1995). Seven-year-old Grace, daughter of missionaries, comes of age in an African landscape, surrounded by both indigenous and foreign people who populate it.

★ **Tales of Burning Love**, Louise Erdrich, (1996). Set in North Dakota, this story intertwines the lives of characters from Erdrich's earlier novels. Four of Jack Mauser's five wives are trapped in a car in a blizzard and recall what it was like to be a wife of Jack.

Tales of a Female Nomad: Living at Large in the World, Rita Golden Gelman, (2001). For 16 years Gelman has lived "on the road" around the world; this is the story of her nomadic life, the people she has met and the cultures she has sampled.

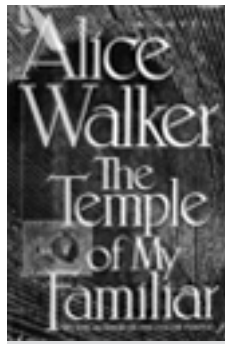




Talking to High Monks in the Snow: An Asian-American Odyssey, Lydia Minatoya, (1992). Minatoya's memoir of growing up bicultural and her search from her New England roots to her Japanese heritage.

Teaching a Stone To Talk: Expeditions and Encounters, Annie Dillard, (1982). A collection of meditations honoring the natural world.

★ **The Telling**, Ursula K. Le Guin, (2000). Humanist science fiction from one of the best, this is a tale of spiritual quest and the cost of destroying traditional cultures.



★ **The Temple of My Familiar**, Alice Walker, (1989). A tapestry of tales of dispossessed and displaced people.

Their Eyes Were Watching God, Zora Neale Hurston (1937). This second novel—reprinted in 1978 after heroic efforts by Alice Walker—is the most acclaimed book by folklorist, novelist and anthropologist Hurston. Protagonist Janie, whose love for Tea Cake changes her life, tells her friend Phoeby, “Two things everybody’s got to do fuh theyselves. They got tuh go tuh God, and they got tuh find out about livin’ fuh theyselves.”



★ **These Is My Words: The Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine 1881-1901, Arizona Territories: A Novel**, Nancy Turner, (1998). Turner's novel about a woman's life in southern Arizona in the late 1800s was based on bits of her own family background. Historically and geographically accurate, it celebrates the strength of women in settling the West.

★ **36 Views of Mount Fuji: On Finding Myself in Japan**, Cathy Davidson, (1993). American Davidson teaches at a women's university in Japan. Images of Japanese culture and identity.

Three Junes, Julia Glass, (2002). Love between a husband and wife, between lovers, between people and animals, between parents and children is told during three separate Junes in Scotland and Long Island.

Three Times Table, Sara Maitland, (1990). Three generations of women, the grandmother a paleontologist, the daughter a gardener and once-promising mathematician, the granddaughter just leaving childhood.

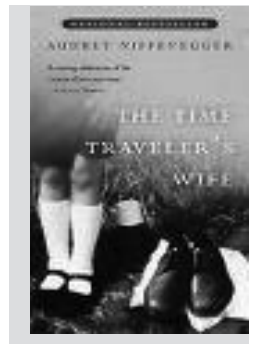
★ **A Thousand Acres**, Jane Smiley, (1991). Modern King Lear story, told through the eyes of three sisters, as a father gives up ownership of his thousand acres of Iowa farmland. Pulitzer Prize, 1992.

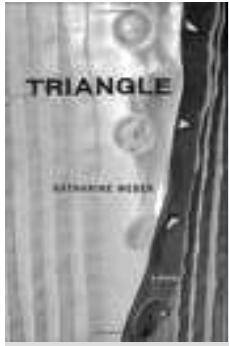
Through the Burning Steppe: A Memoir of Wartime Russia, 1942-1943, Elena Kohzina (2001). Lyrical and moving memoir of a family's escape from besieged Leningrad to life as city strangers in a Cossack village. A daughter's tribute to her mother.

★ **The Time Traveler's Wife**, Audrey Niffenegger, (2003). The novel combines genetically induced time travel with the love story of an artist and her librarian husband.

To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism, edited by Rebecca Walker, (1995). Anthology of essays by young feminists who explore different perspectives regarding the objectives and philosophy of contemporary (Third Wave) feminist theory.

Transforming a Rape Culture, Emilie Buchwald, Pamela Fletcher and Martha Roth, eds., (1993). Writings by women and men about a possible future without rape.





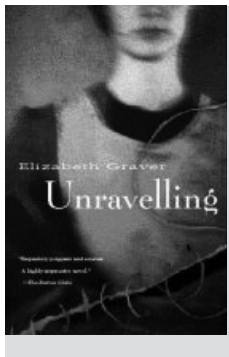
The Travelling Hornplayer, Barbara Trapido (2000). In a bleak twist of fate, the accidental death of a teenage schoolgirl brings together a group of people in London, Cambridge and Edinburgh whose lives intertwine with tragic results.

★ **Triangle**, Katharine Weber, (2004). The 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire killed 146 workers, most of them women, and spurred efforts to reform working conditions in sweatshops. In Esther Gottesfeld, the last remaining survivor of the Triangle fire, Weber creates a believable and memorable witness of that day.



Truth and Beauty, Ann Patchett, (2004). A tough, loving and heartbreaking tribute to Ann Patchett's friendship with poet and writer Lucy Grealy.

★ **Two Old Women: An Alaska Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival**, Velma Wallis, (1993), and **Bird Girl and the Man Who Followed the Sun: An Athabascan Legend from Alaska**, Velma Wallis, (1997). Two retellings of ancient legends by Native writer Wallis. Both feature female heroes who face great odds and must find ways to balance their hard-won sense of independence with the traditions of community.



Under the Beetle's Cellar, Mary Willis Walker (1995). Texas journalist Molly Cates is faced with the toughest of assignments as she covers a story of a missing school bus filled with young children.

Unholy Alliances: New Fiction by Women, Louise Rafkin, ed., (1988). Stories from the '80s about relationships just a bit off center.

An Unknown Woman: A Journey to Self Discovery, Alice Koller, (1982). Koller's solitary inward journey during a three-month retreat on Nantucket.

★ **Unravelling**, Elizabeth Graver, (1999). In 19th-century New England, a young headstrong woman goes off to work in the textile mills, leading to a decades-long rift between herself and her mother. A beautifully written tale of love and loss.

★ **Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power**, Audre Lorde, (1978). An affirmation of the importance of claiming one's sense of the erotic as the source of individual power.

Virginia Woolf, Hermione Lee, (1999). This 800-page biography chronicles Woolf's life and the time in which she lived.

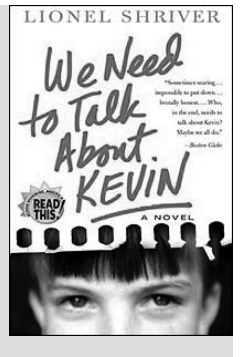
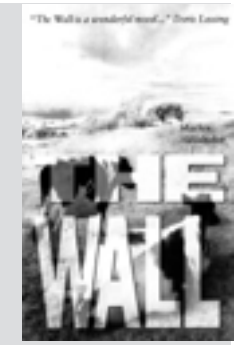
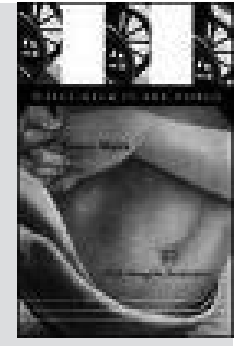
★ **Waist-High in the World: A Life Among the Nondisabled**, Nancy Mairs, (1996). Mairs' view of the world from her wheelchair, due to multiple sclerosis, challenges the negative perceptions often held by others. Both intellectual and spiritual, her memoir is told with a direct, honest and witty voice.

★ **The Wall**, Marlen Haushofer, translated by Shaun Whiteside, (1962). The day-by-day survival of a woman who seems to be the only survivor left on earth.

The Wave in the Mind: Talks and Essays on the Writer, the Reader, and the Imagination, Ursula K. Le Guin, (2004). A collection of essays grounded in the here and now.

★ **We Need to Talk About Kevin**, Lionel Shriver, (2003). Through a series of letters to her husband, Eva seek to understand their raising of this son who killed seven people in his high school. Orange Prize, 2003.

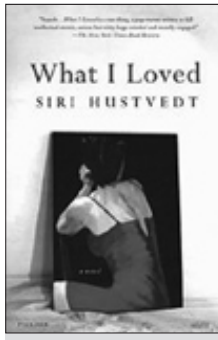
A Weave of Women, E.M. Broner, (1978). A poetic novel weaving together a community of women in the old city of Jerusalem.





Weaving the Visions: Patterns in Feminist Spirituality, Judith Plaskow and Carol Christ, eds., (1989). Contributors, including Asian American, Native American and African American women, present a wide range of views about feminist spirituality.

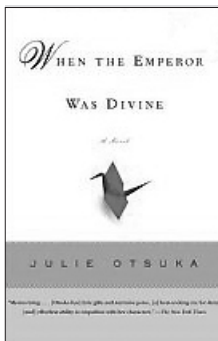
★ **The Wedding**, Dorothy West, (1995). West, active in the Harlem Renaissance, based her novel on the life she has lived on Martha's Vineyard. She writes of the pain and joy of five generations of a black upper-class American family.



The Well, Elizabeth Jolley, (1986). Set in the Australian farmlands, a novel of the connection between two women, one a lonely older woman, the other a young orphan.

West with the Night, Beryl Markham, (1942). Memoir of an adventurous, independent woman who was raised in colonial Africa in the early part of the century, and became a horse trainer and record-setting aviator.

★ **What I Loved**, Siri Hustvedt, (2003). A portrait of the friendship between two men in New York City; one an artist, the other an art critic. A novel of ideas rich with the complexity of life's ambiguities.



What Is Found There: Notebooks in Poetry and Politics, Adrienne Rich, (1993). Rich begins, "This book is about desire and daily life."

★ **When the Emperor Was Divine**, Julie Otsuka, (2002). Story of a Japanese-American family sent to internment camps in the United States during WWII. Written in spare, haunting language, this slim novel is a powerful reminder of how those who are seen as "other" are treated when a country lives in fear.

Where No Gods Came, Sheila O'Connor, (2003). Set in Minneapolis, this coming-of-age story explores family, love, loss and redemption.

White Oleander, Janet Fitch (1999). As a young 12-year-old girl grows up moving from foster home to foster home, she is haunted by the letters her mother writes from jail.

★ **White Teeth**, Zadie Smith, (2000). Smith's first novel tells the story of two families, from Bangladesh and Jamaica, who have become part of the melting pot in England. A funny book playing with ideas and language and the tragicomedy of life. Whitbread First Novel Award, 2000.

★ **Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China**, Jung Chang, (1991). The engrossing story of three generations of Chinese women whose lives spanned feudalism, revolution and cultural revolution (1909-1978).

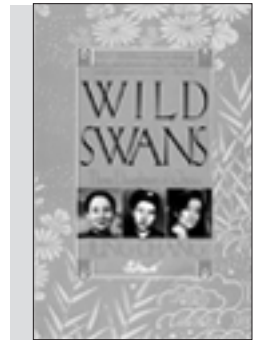
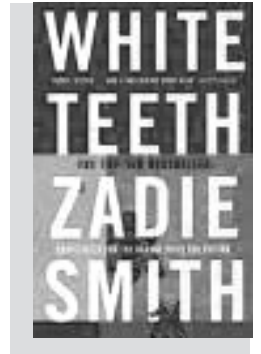
Wildfire: Igniting the She/Volution, Sonia Johnson, (1989). Johnson presents a feminist anarchy, a woman-created world.

Winter in Taos, Mabel Dodge Luhan, (1935). A simple telling of the daily activities of Mabel Dodge Luhan in her Big House, in the Pueblo and in the village of Taos, New Mexico.

Winter Roads, Summer Fields, Marjorie Dorner, (1992). A collection of stories of families in a Midwestern farm community.

Wisdom of the Heart: Working With Women's Dreams, Karen Signell, (1990). A journey into the world of the female unconscious, based on a feminist perspective.

The Wise Wound: Myths, Realities and Meanings of Menstruation, Penelope Shuttle and Peter Redgrove, (1990). A positive take on a common experience of being woman.





★ **Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her**, Susan Griffin, (1978). Through science, history and imagination, Griffin presents a positive connection between woman and nature.

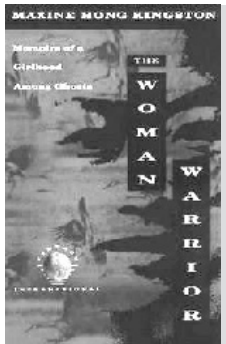
★ **Woman on the Edge of Time**, Marge Piercy, (1976). A Chicana woman unjustly committed to a mental institution is tuned into the future and heroically helps create a better world.

★ **Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts**, Maxine Hong Kingston, (1975). An account of growing up female and Chinese American in California.



The Woman Who Watches Over the World: A Native Memoir, Linda Hogan, (2001). Oklahoma Chickasaw poet and novelist writes of her personal journey of illness and healing, and of her tribal history. As an environmentalist, she honors the natural world as essential to her life.

Womanspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader in Religion, Carol Christ, (1979). Introduction to feminist interpretations of religion from 20 women writers.



Women and Wilderness, Anne LaBastille, (1980). Wildlife ecologist LaBastille provides a history of frontier women as well as 15 case studies of women who currently live in the wilderness.

Women of the Silk, Gail Tsukiyama, (1991). A coming-of-age story in China, set in the 1920s and '30s. Working in the silk factory with other women allows Pei to find strength and independence as the women strike for freedom.

Women, Passion and Celibacy, Sally Cline, (1993). British feminist writer Cline writes of women who have found, in their passion for celibacy, freedom and autonomy to redefine their sexuality.

★ **Women Who Run With the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype**, Clarissa Pinkola Estés, (1992). Jungian analyst and poet writes about old myths from a new perspective, based on her Latina and Hungarian tradition.

★ **Women's Reality: An Emerging Female System in the White Male Society**, Anne Wilson Schaef, (1981). A book that will let you know you're not sick, bad, crazy or stupid.

★ **Writing a Woman's Life**, Carolyn Heilbrun, (1988). Heilbrun urges women to write of their lives, to name the reality of being woman.

Written on the Body, Jeanette Winterson, (1992). In this novel, Winterson presents a narrator who has neither name nor gender. Lambda Award, 1993.

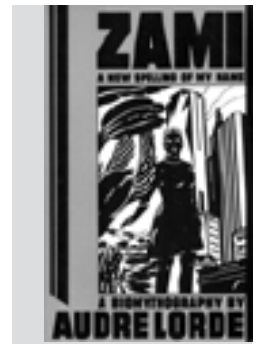
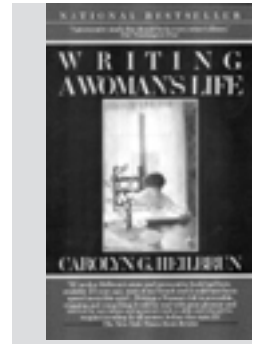
Year of Wonders, Geraldine Brooks, (2001). Based on an actual plague in 17th-century England, the novel recreates a year in the lives of the villagers who decide to seal themselves off in order to contain the disease.

The Yellow Wallpaper, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, (1892). A story of a mental breakdown, based on Gilman's own life.

Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit: Essays on Native American Life Today, Leslie Marmon Silko, (1996). From her Laguna Pueblo-Anglo heritage, Silko writes of Native American lore, religion, culture and history.

You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation, Deborah Tannen, (1990). Linguistics professor Tannen writes of the complexities of communication between men and women.

★ **Zami: A New Spelling of My Name**, Audre Lorde, (1982). Lorde's "biomythography" of her childhood in Harlem and coming of age in the late '50s.



By Author

The list of authors contains 315 different writers whose books have been designated “Great.”

Forty-two are represented by more than one title, with 10 having four or more books on the list: Margaret Atwood, Willa Cather, Louise Erdrich, Linda Hogan, Barbara Kingsolver, Ursula K. Le Guin, Toni Morrison, Marge Piercy, Sheri Tepper and Alice Walker.

Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. Purple Hibiscus
Albright, Madeleine. Madam Secretary
Allende, Isabel. Aphrodite: A Memoir of the Senses
Allende, Isabel. Paula
Allison, Dorothy. Bastard Out of Carolina
Allison, Jane. Natives and Exotics
Alvarez, Julia. In the Name of Salome
Alvarez, Julia. In the Time of the Butterflies
Alvord, Lori and Van Pelt, Elizabeth Cohen. The Scalpel and the Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing
Amatuzio, Janis. Forever Ours
Angelou, Maya. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
Arana, Marie. American Chica: Two Worlds, One Childhood
Arana, Marie. Cellophane
Arnold, Harriette. The Dollmaker
Arrien, Angeles. The Four-Fold Way: Walking the Paths of Warrior, Teacher, Healer and Visionary
Atwood, Margaret. Alias Grace
Atwood, Margaret. Cat’s Eye
Atwood, Margaret. The Handmaid’s Tale

Atwood, Margaret. Moral Disorder
Atwood, Margaret. Oryx & Crake
Atwood, Margaret. The Robber Bride
Atwood, Margaret. Selected Poems: 1965-1975
Atwood, Margaret. Surfacing
Austin, Mary. Cactus Thorn: A Novella
Austin, Mary. The Land of Little Rain

Babb, Sanora. An Owl on Every Post
Bair, Deirdre. Simone de Beauvoir: A Biography
Baldwin, Christina. Life’s Companion: Journal Writing as a Spiritual Quest
Barker, Elspeth. O Caledonia
Barr, Roseanne. Roseanne: My Life as a Woman
Barrington, Judith (ed). An Intimate Wilderness: Lesbian Writers on Sexuality
Benítez, Sandra. A Place Where the Sea Remembers
Benítez, Sandra. Bitter Grounds
Bernikow, Louise. Among Women
Blum, Arlene. Annapurna: A Woman’s Place
Bradley, Marion Zimmer. The Mists of Avalon
Brand, Christianna. Green for Danger
Brandeis, Gail. The Book of Dead Birds
Broner, E.M. A Weave of Women
Brontë, Charlotte. Jane Eyre
Brooks, Geraldine. Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden Life of Islamic Women
Brooks, Geraldine. Year of Wonders
Bruchac, Carol, Linda Hogan, and Judith McDaniel, (eds). The Stories We Hold Secret: Tales of Women’s Spiritual Development
Bryant, Dorothy. Confessions of Madame Psyche
Buchwald, Emilie, Pamela Fletcher, and Martha Roth, (eds). Transforming a Rape Culture
Buck, Pearl S. Pavilion of Women
Burnett, Frances Hodgson. The Secret Garden
Burns, Olive Ann. Cold Sassy Tree
Burton, Betsy. King’s English: Adventures of an Independent Bookseller
Butala, Sharon. Luna
Butler, Octavia. Kindred
Butler, Octavia. Parable of the Sower
Byatt, A.S. Possession: A Romance

Calof, Rachel. Rachel Calof's Story: Jewish Homesteader on the Northern Plains
Cameron, Anne. Daughters of Copper Woman
Cameron, Julia. The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity
Campbell, Alla Bozarth. Life is Goodbye, Life is Hello: Grieving Well Through All Kinds of Loss
Canfield, Dorothy. The Home-Maker
Carson, Rachel. The Edge of the Sea
Carson, Rachel. Silent Spring
Cather, Willa. Death Comes for the Archbishop
Cather, Willa. Lucy Gayheart
Cather, Willa. My Antonia
Cather, Willa. O Pioneers!
Cather, Willa. The Song of the Lark
Chang, Jung. Wild Swans: Three Daughters Of China
Cheng, Nien. Life and Death in Shanghai
Chernin, Kim. Re-Inventing Eve: Modern Woman in Search of Herself
Chevalier, Tracy. Girl with a Pearl Earring
Church, Peggy Pond. The House at Otowi Bridge: The Story of Edith Warner and Los Alamos
Christ, Carol. Laughter of Aphrodite: Reflections on a Journey to the Goddess
Christ, Carol. Womanspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader in Religion
Cisneros, Sandra. Caramelo
Cline, Sally. Women, Passion and Celibacy
Cody, Lisa. Rift
Conway, Jill Ker. The Road From Coorain
Cook, Blanche Wiesen. Eleanor Roosevelt, Volume One: 1884-1933
Cooley, Martha. The Archivist
Craighead, Meinrad. The Mother's Songs: Images of God the Mother
Crombie, Deborah. Dreaming of the Bones
Daly, Mary. Gyn-Ecology: The Metaethics of Radical Feminism
Daly, Mary. Outercourse: The Be-Dazzling Voyage
Daly, Mary. Pure Lust: Elemental Feminist Philosophy

Dangarembga, Tsitsi. Nervous Conditions
Danticat, Edwidge. The Farming of Bones
Davidson, Cathy. 36 Views of Mount Fuji
Day, Marele. Lambs of God
DeBlieu, Jan. Hatteras Journal
Delany, Sarah and A. Elizabeth, with Amy Hill Hearth. Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years
Desai, Kiran. The Inheritance of Loss
Diamant, Anita. The Red Tent
Dillard, Annie. Teaching a Stone to Talk: Experiences and Encounters
Dorner, Marjorie. Winter Roads, Summer Fields
Dressler, Mylene. The Deadwood Beetle
Duerk, Judith (ed). Circle of Stones: Woman's Journey to Herself
Dunn, Katherine. Geek Love
Ehrenreich, Barbara and English, Deirdre. For Her Own Good: 150 Years of the Experts' Advice to Women
Ehrenreich, Barbara. Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America
Eisler, Riane. The Chalice and The Blade: Our History, Our Future
Eisler, Riane. Sacred Pleasure
Elgin, Suzette. Native Tongue
Erdrich, Louise. Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country
Erdrich, Louise. Four Souls
Erdrich, Louise. The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse
Erdrich, Louise. Love Medicine
Erdrich, Louise. The Master Butchers Singing Club
Erdrich, Louise. The Painted Drum
Erdrich, Louise. Tales of Burning Love
Erdrich, Louise. The Blue Jay's Dance
Esquivel, Laura. Like Water For Chocolate
Estés, Clarissa Pinkola. Women Who Run With the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype

Faderman, Lillian. Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in Twentieth-Century America
Faderman, Lillian. Surpassing the Love of Men: Romantic Friendship and Love Between Women From the Renaissance to the Present
Fadiman, Anne. Ex Libris: Confessions of a Common Reader
Fadiman, Anne. The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down
Faludi, Susan. Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women
Ferré, Rosario. Eccentric Neighborhoods
Fink, Augusta. I-Mary: A Biography of Mary Austin
Fink, Ida. The Journey
Fitch, Janet. White Oleander
Flagg, Fannie. Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe
Floyd, Patty Lou. The Silver DeSoto
Fonseca, Isabel. Bury Me Standing: The Gypsies and Their Journey
Frame, Janet. Janet Frame: An Autobiography
Forbes, Edith. Alma Rose
Gág, Wanda. Growing Pains
Galford, Ellen. The Fires of Bride
Gawain, Shakti. Living in the Light: A Guide to Personal and Planetary Transformation
Gelman, Rita Golden. Tales of a Female Nomad: Living at Large in the World
Gershten, Donna. Kissing the Virgin's Mouth
Gilman, Charlotte Perkins. The Yellow Wallpaper
Gilligan, Carol. In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development
Glass, Julia. Three Junes
Godden, Rumer. Kingfishers Catch Fire
Godwin, Gail. The Finishing School
Goldberg, Myla. Bee Season
Gordimer, Nadine. July's People
Gordimer, Nadine. None to Accompany Me
Gordimer, Nadine. The Pickup
Gordon, Mary. Spending: A Utopian Divertimento

Grace, Patricia. Potiki
Graver, Elizabeth. Unraveling
Grealy, Lucy. Autobiography of a Face
Griffin, Susan. A Chorus Of Stones: The Private Life of War
Griffin, Susan. Pornography and Silence: Culture's Revolt Against Nature
Griffin, Susan. Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her
Grumbach, Doris. Chamber Music
Grumbach, Doris. Extra Innings: A Memoir
Grumbach, Doris. The Ladies
Gunnars, Kristiana. The Prowler

Hall, Sarah. Haweswater
Hampl, Patricia. A Romantic Education
Hamilton, Jane. A Map of the World
Hamilton, Jane. The Short History of a Prince
Hancock, Emily. The Girl Within: A Groundbreaking New Approach to Female Identity
Hanff, Helene. 84, Charing Cross Road
Harris, Joanne. Chocolat
Hathaway, Katharine Butler. The Little Locksmith: A Memoir
Haushofer, Marlen. The Wall
Hegi, Ursula. Stones From the River
Hegland, Jean. Into the Forest: A Novel
Heilbrun, Carolyn. The Last Gift of Time: Life Beyond Sixty
Heilbrun, Carolyn. Writing a Woman's Life
Helmericks, Constance. Down the Wild River North
Henley, Patricia. Hummingbird House
Herrera, Hayden. Frida: A Biography of Frida Kahlo
Hoffman, Eva. Lost in Translation: A Life in a New Language
Hogan, Linda. Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World
Hogan, Linda and Peterson, Brenda (eds.). Face to Face: Women Writers on Faith, Mysticism, and Awakening
Hogan, Linda. Mean Spirit
Hogan, Linda. Solar Storms

Hogan, Linda. *The Woman Who Watches Over the World*

Holdstock, Pauline. *Burial Ground*

Holleman, Marybeth. *Heart of the Sound*

Holman, Sheri. *The Dress Lodger*

Horvath, Polly. *Canning Season*

Hudson, Lois Phillips. *Bones of Plenty*

Hubbard, Ruth and Randall, Margaret. *Shape of Red: Insider-Outsider Reflections*

Hulme, Keri. *The Bone People*

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Hustvedt, Siri. *What I Loved*

Jiles, Paulette. *Enemy Women*

Jiles, Paulette. *North Spirit: Sojourns Among the Cree and Ojibway*

Joern, Pamela Carter. *The Floor of the Sky*

Johnson, Josephine. *Now in November*

Johnson, Sonia. *Going Out of Our Minds: The Metaphysics of Liberation*

Johnson, Sonia. *The Ship That Sailed into the Living Room: Sex and Intimacy Reconsidered*

Johnson, Sonia. *Wildfire: Igniting the She/Volution*

Johnston, Tracy. *Shooting the Boh: A Woman's Voyage Down the Wildest River in Borneo*

Jolley, Elizabeth. *The Well*

Jones, Ann. *Looking for Lovedu: A Woman's Journey Across Africa*

Jones, Kathleen. *A Passionate Sisterhood: Women of the Wordsworth Circle*

Joseph, Lynn. *The Color of My Words*

Kidd, Sue Monk. *Dance of the Dissident Daughter: A Woman's Journey from Christian Tradition to the Sacred Feminine.*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *Animal Dreams*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *The Bean Trees*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *High Tide in Tucson: Essays from Now or Never*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *Holding the Line: Women in the Great Arizona Mine Strike of 1983*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *Pigs in Heaven*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *The Poisonwood Bible*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *Prodigal Summer*

Kingsolver, Barbara. *Small Wonder*

Kingston, Maxine Hong. *Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts*

Kohl, Edith Eudora. *Land of the Burnt Thigh*

Kohzina, Elena. *Through the Burning Steppe: A Memoir of Wartime Russia, 1942-1943*

Koller, Alice. *An Unknown Woman: A Journey to Self Discovery*

Konecky, Edith. *Allegra Maud Goldman*

Krauss, Nicole. *The History of Love*

LaBastille, Anne. *Women and Wilderness*

Lahiri, Jhumpa. *The Namesake*

Lamott, Anne. *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life.*

Landsman, Anne. *The Devil's Chimney*

Langton, Jane. *Dark Nantucket Noon*

Laurence, Margaret. *The Stone Angel*

Lear, Linda. *Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature*

Lee, Hermione. *Virginia Woolf*

Leffland, Ella. *Breath and Shadows*

Le Guin, Ursula K. *Always Coming Home*

Le Guin, Ursula K. *Lao Tzu Tao Te Ching: A Book About the Way and the Power of the Way*

Le Guin, Ursula K. *The Telling*

Le Guin, Ursula K. *The Wave in the Mind: Talks and Essays on the Writer, the Reader, and the Imagination*

Lerner, Gerda. *The Creation of Patriarchy*

Levi, Jan Heller (ed). *A Muriel Rukeyser Reader*

Levy, Andrea. *Small Island*

Lindbergh, Anne Morrow. *Gift From the Sea*

Lippard, Lucy. *Overlay: Contemporary Art and the Art of Prehistory*

Lively, Penelope. *Moon Tiger*

Lorde, Audre. *Sister Outsider: Essays & Speeches*

Lorde, Audre. *Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power*

Lorde, Audre. *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*

Lowry, Lois. *Gathering Blue*

Lowry, Lois. *The Giver*

Luhan, Mabel Dodge. *Winter in Taos*

Lyden, Jacki. *Daughter of the Queen of Sheba*

MacDonald, Anne-Marie. *Fall on Your Knees*

Mairs, Nancy. *Waist-High in the World: A Life Among the Nondisabled*

Maitland, Sara. *Ancestral Truths*

Maitland, Sara. *Three Times Table*

Markham, Beryl. *West With the Night*

Marriott, Alice. *Maria: The Potter of San Ildefonso*

Martin, Valerie. *Property*

Martinac, Paula. *Out of Time*

McCrum, Sharyn. *She Walks These Hills*

McCullers, Carson. *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*

McDermid, Val. *Place of Execution*

Meigs, Mary. *In the Company of Strangers*

Meloy, Ellen. *Raven's Exile: A Season on the Green River*

Meyers, Margaret. *Swimming in the Congo*

Michaels, Anne. *Fugitive Pieces*

Millett, Kate. *The Loony-Bin Trip*

Min, Anchee. *Red Azalea*

Minatoya, Lydia. *Talking to High Monks in the Snow: An Asian-American Odyssey*

Moffat, Mary Jane and Painter, Charlotte (eds). *Revelations: Diaries of Women*

Moon, Elizabeth, *The Speed of Dark*

Moore, Kathleen Dean. *Riverwalking: Reflections on Moving Water*

Moore, Ruth. *Spoonhandle*

Morehouse, Lyda. *Archangel Protocol*

Moriarty, Laura. *The Center of Everything*

Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*

Morrison, Toni. *The Bluest Eye*

Morrison, Toni. *Paradise*

Morrison, Toni. *Sula*

Murdoch, Iris. *The Sea, The Sea*

Murphy, Dervla. *Full Tilt: Ireland to India with a Bicycle*

Namu, Yang Erche. *Leaving Mother Lake: A Girlhood at the Edge of the World*

Nahai, Gina. *Moonlight on the Avenue of Faith*

Naslund, Sena Jeter. *Ahab's Wife*

Naylor, Gloria. *Bailey's Cafe*

Naylor, Gloria. *Mama Day*

Neely, Barbara. *Blanche on the Lam*

Nemirovsky, Irene. *Suite Française*

Niffenegger, Audrey. *The Time Traveler's Wife*

Niven, Jennifer. *Ada Blackjack: A True Story of Survival in the Arctic*

Norris, Kathleen. *Dakota: A Spiritual Geography*

Nzenza-Shand, Sekai. *Songs to an African Sunset: A Zimbabwean Story.*

O'Connor, Sheila. *Where No Gods Came*

Olsen, Tillie. *Silences*

Otsuka, Julie. *When the Emperor Was Divine*

Ozeki, Ruth. *All Over Creation*

Ozeki, Ruth. *My Year of Meats*

Ozick, Cynthia. *Heir to the Glimmering World*

Padgett, Abigail. *Child of Silence*

Paley, Grace and Williams, Vera. *Long Walks, Intimate Talks*

Paretsky, Sara. *Bitter Medicine*

Paretsky, Sara. *Blood Shot*

Paretsky, Sara. *Guardian Angel*

Patchett, Ann. *Bel Canto*

Patchett, Ann. *The Magician's Assistant*

Patchett, Ann. *Truth and Beauty*

Piercy, Marge. *Gone to Soldiers*

Piercy, Marge. *He, She and It*

Piercy, Marge. *The Longings of Women*

Piercy, Marge. *Summer People*

Piercy, Marge. *Woman on the Edge of Time*

Plant, Judith (ed). *Healing the Wounds: The Promise of Ecofeminism*

Plaskow, Judith and Christ, Carol (eds). *Weaving the Visions: Patterns in Feminist Spirituality*

Plath, Sylvia. *The Bell Jar*
Popham, Melinda Worth. *Skywater*
Proulx, E. Annie. *Accordion Crimes*
Proulx, E. Annie. *The Shipping News*

Quindlen, Anna. *One True Thing*

Raffkin, Louise (ed). *Different Daughters: A Book by Mothers of Lesbians*

Raffkin, Louise (ed). *Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk About Their Lives*

Raffkin, Louise (ed). *Unholy Alliances: New Fiction by Women*

Ramsland, Katherine. *Prism of the Night: A Biography of Anne Rice*

Rich, Adrienne. *What Is Found There: Notebooks in Poetry and Politics*

Robinson, Eden. *Monkey Beach*

Robinson, Marilynne. *Housekeeping*

Rostenberg, Leona and Stern, Madeleine. *Old Books, Rare Friends: Two Literary Sleuths and Their Shared Passion*

Rowling, J. K. *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

Roy, Arundhati. *The God of Small Things*

Ruebsamen, Helga. *The Song and the Truth*

Ruddick, Sara. *Maternal Thinking: Toward a Politics of Peace*

Russell, Mary Doria. *Children of God*

Sacher, Louis. *Holes*

Sackville-West, Vita. *All Passion Spent*

Sapphire. *Push*

Sarton, Eleanor Mabel. *Letters to May*

Sarton, May. *Crucial Conversations*

Sarton, May. *The Education of Harriet Hatfield*

Sarton, May. *Journal of a Solitude*

Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of Childhood*

Savage, Georgia. *The House Tibet*

Sayers, Dorothy. *Gaudy Night*

Schaeff, Anne Wilson. *Women's Reality: An Emerging Female System in the White Male Society*

Schreiner, Olive. *The Story of an African Farm*

See, Lisa. *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*

Seierstad, Asne. *The Bookseller of Kabul*

Sebold, Alice. *The Lovely Bones*

Sharratt, Mary. *The Real Minerva*

Sharp, Paula. *I Loved You All*

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*

Shields, Carol. *The Stone Diaries*

Shin, Nan. *Diary of a Zen Nun: Everyday Living*

Shulman, Alix Kates. *Drinking the Rain*

Shuttle, Penelope and Peter Redgrove. *The Wise Wound: Myths, Realities and Meanings of Menstruation*

Shriver, Lionell. *We Need to Talk About Kevin*

Signell, Karen. *Wisdom of the Heart: Working With Women's Dreams*

Sigurdardottir, Frida. *Night Watch*

Silko, Leslie Marmon. *Almanac of the Dead*

Silko, Leslie Marmon. *Ceremony*

Silko, Leslie Marmon. *Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit: Essays on Native American Life Today*

Sinclair, Jo. *The Changelings*

Sjoo, Monica and Mor, Barbara. *The Great Cosmic Mother: Rediscovering the Religion of the Earth*

Slonczewski, Joan. *Brain Plauge*

Slonczewski, Joan. *Daughter of Elysium*

Smedley, Agnes. *Daughter of Earth*

Smiley, Jane. *A Thousand Acres*

Smith, Diane. *Letters from Yellowstone*

Smith, Zadie. *On Beauty*

Smith, Zadie. *White Teeth*

Soucif, Ahdaf. *Map of Love*

Souhami, Diana. *Gertrude and Alice*

Spark, Muriel. *The Driver's Seat.*

Stabenow, Dana. *A Cold Day for Murder*

Starhawk. *Dreaming the Dark: Magic, Sex and Politics*

Stein, Diane (ed). *The Goddess Celebrates: An Anthology of Women's Rituals*

Steinem, Gloria. *Revolution From Within: A Book of Self-Esteem*

Stern, Madeleine & Rostenberg, Leona. *Old Books, Rare Friends: Two Literary Sleuths and Their Shared Passion*

Straight, Susan. *Highwire Moon*

Straight, Susan. *I Been in Sorrow's Kitchen and Licked Out All the Pots*

Sullivan, Faith. *The Cape Ann*

Sullivan, Faith. *The Empress of One*

Tan, Amy. *The Hundred Secret Senses*

Tannen, Deborah. *You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation*

Taylor, Katherine Kressmann. *Address Unknown*

Tepper, Sheri. *Companions*

Tepper, Sheri. *The Family Tree*

Tepper, Sheri. *The Fresco*

Tepper, Sheri. *Gate to Women's Country*

Tepper, Sheri. *Gibbon's Decline and Fall*

Tepper, Sheri. *Raising the Stones*

Tepper, Sheri. *Singer from the Sea*

Tey, Josephine. *Daughter of Time*

Thomson, Amy. *Color of Distance*

Trapido, Barbara. *The Travelling Hornplayer*

Truong, Monique. *The Book of Salt*

Tsukiyama, Gail. *The Samurai's Garden*

Tsukiyama, Gail. *Women of the Silk*

Turner, Nancy. *These Is My Words: The Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine, 1881-1901 Arizona Territories*

Ueland, Brenda. *Me: A Memoir*

Ueland, Brenda. *Strength to Your Sword Arm: Selected Writings*

Umrigar, Thrity. *The Space Between Us*

Underhill, Ruth M. *Papago Woman*

Von Herzen, Lane. *Copper Crown*

Vowell, Sarah. *Assassination Vacation*

Vreeland, Susan. *The Forest Lover*

Wagner, Jane. *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*

Walker, Alice. *Anything We Love Can Be Saved: A Writer's Activism*

Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple*

Walker, Alice. *In Search of Our Mother's Gardens: Womanist Prose*

Walker, Alice. *Possessing the Secret of Joy*

Walker, Alice. *The Temple of My Familiar*

Walker, Barbara. *The Crone: Woman of Age, Wisdom and Power*

Walker, Barbara. *The Skeptical Feminist: Discovering the Virgin, Mother, Crone*

Walker, Mary Willis. *Under the Beetle's Cellar*

Walker, Rebecca. *To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism*

Wallis, Velma. *Bird Girl and the Man Who Followed the Sun: An Athabaskan Legend from Alaska*

Wallis, Velma. *Two Old Women: An Alaska Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival*

Walls, Jeanette. *The Glass Castle*

Waters, Sara. *Affinity*

Waters, Sara. *Fingersmith*

Weber, Katharine. *Triangle*

Weiss, Andrea. *Paris Was a Woman: Portraits from the Left Bank*

West, Dorothy. *The Wedding*

Wharton, Edith. *Ethan Frome*

Wiggins, Marianne. *Evidence of Things Unseen*

Williams, Terry Tempest. *Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert*

Williams, Terry Tempest. *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*

Winterson, Jeannette. *Written on the Body*

Wong, Jan. *Red China Blues: My Long March from Mao to Now*

Woolf, Virginia. *A Room of One's Own*

Woolf, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway*

Yolen, Jane. *Sister Light, Sister Dark*

Zusak, Markus. *The Book Thief*

By Genre

You'll see that—in the spirit with which we have redefined the term "Great Books"—we've created different genres for classifying the books, ones that better reflect the experiences and reactions of the many readers who chose them. Some books may appear in more than one genre.

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Adding a thrill to life.

Annapurna: A Woman's Place, Arlene Blum

Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country,

Louise Erdrich

Down the Wild River North, Constance Helmericks

Full Tilt: Ireland to India with a Bicycle,

Dervla Murphy

Looking for Lovedu: A Woman's Journey Across

Africa, Ann Jones

Shooting the Boh: A Woman's Voyage Down the

Wildest River in Borneo, Tracy Johnston

Tales of a Female Nomad: Living at Large in the

World, Rita Golden Gelman

Talking to High Monks in the Snow: An Asian-

American Odyssey, Lydia Minatoya

Woman and Wilderness, Anne LaBastille

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Capturing the essence, providing provocative moments.

Anything We Love Can Be Saved: A Writer's Activism, Alice Walker

Bird Girl and the Man Who Followed the Sun: An Athabascan Legend from Alaska, Velma Wallis

Cactus Thorn: A Novella, Austin, Mary

Dakota: A Spiritual Geography, Kathleen Norris

Different Daughters: A Book by Mothers of Lesbians, Louise Rafkin, ed.

Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk About Their Lives, Louise Rafkin, ed.

The Driver's Seat, Muriel Spark

Ex Libris: Confessions of a Common Reader, Anne Fadiman

Gift from the Sea, Anne Morrow Lindberg

The Goddess Celebrates: An Anthology of Women's Rituals, Diane Stein, ed.

Healing the Wounds: The Promise of Ecofeminism, Judith Plant, ed.

High Tide in Tucson: Essays from Now or Never, Barbara Kingsolver

In Search of Our Mother's Gardens: Womanist Prose, Alice Walker

An Intimate Wilderness: Lesbian Writers on Sexuality, Judith Barrington, ed.

Lao Tzu Tao Te Ching: A Book About the Way and the Power of the Way, Ursula K. Le Guin

Long Walks, Intimate Talks, Grace Paley and Vera Williams

Moral Disorder, Margaret Atwood

A Muriel Rukeyser Reader, Jan Heller Levi, ed.

Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert, Terry Tempest Williams

A Room of One's Own, Virginia Woolf

Selected Poems: 1965-1975, Margaret Atwood

Silences, Tillie Olsen

Sister Outsider: Essays & Speeches, Audre Lorde

Small Wonder, Barbara Kingsolver

The Stories We Hold Secret: Tales of Women's Spiritual Development, Carol Bruchac, Linda Hogan, Judith McDaniels, eds.

Teaching a Stone to Talk: Expeditions and Encounters, Annie Dillard

Two Old Women: An Alaska Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival, Velma Wallis

Unholy Alliances: New Fiction by Women, Louise Rafkin, ed.

Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power, Audre Lorde

The Wave in the Mind: Talks and Essays on the Writer, the Reader, and the Imagination, Ursula K. Le Guin

Weaving the Visions: Patterns in Feminist Spirituality, Judith Plaskow and Carol Christ, eds.

What Is Found There: Notebooks in Poetry and Politics, Adrienne Rich

Winter in Taos, Mabel Dodge Luhan

Winter Roads, Summer Fields, Marjorie Dorner

Women Who Run With the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype, Clarissa Pinkola Estés

The Yellow Wallpaper, Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit: Essays on Native American Life Today, Leslie Marmon Silko

THE ARTS

For beauty in our lives.

Bel Canto, Ann Patchett

The Color of My Words, Lynn Joseph

The Forest Lover, Susan Vreeland

Frida: A Biography of Frida Kahlo, Hayden Herrera

Girl with a Pearl Earring, Tracy Chevalier

In the Company of Strangers, Mary Meigs

The Mother's Songs, Images of God the Mother, Meinrad Craighead

Overlay: Contemporary Art and the Art of Prehistory, Lucy Lippard

Paris Was a Woman: Portraits from the Left Bank, Andrea Weiss

The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe, Jane Wagner

The Song of the Lark, Willa Cather

BIOGRAPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY, MEMOIR, DIARY & LETTERS

History takes on a different appearance when learned through the reading of women's lives.

Ada Blackjack: A True Story of Survival in the Arctic, Jennifer Niven

American Chica: Two Worlds, One Childhood, Marie Arana

Among Women, Louise Bernikow

Aphrodite: A Memoir of the Senses, Isabel Allende

Assassination Vacation, Sarah Vowell

Autobiography of a Face, Lucy Grealy

Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life, Anne Lamott

The Blue Jay's Dance, Louise Erdrich

Bones of Plenty, Lois Phillips Hudson

Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country, Louise Erdrich

The Bookseller of Kabul, Asne Seierstad

Bury Me Standing: The Gypsies and Their Journey, Isabel Fonseca

Daughter of the Queen of Sheba, Jacki Lyden

Diary of a Zen Nun: Everyday Living, Nan Shin

Drinking the Rain, Alix Kates Shulman

84, Charing Cross Road, Helene Hanff

Eleanor Roosevelt, Volume One: 1884-1933, Blanche Wiesen Cook

Extra Innings: A Memoir, Doris Grumbach

Face to Face: Women Writers on Faith, Mysticism and Awakening, eds. Linda Hogan and Brenda Peterson, eds.

Frida: A Biography of Frida Kahlo, Hayden Herrera

The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls

Gertrude and Alice, Diana Souhami

Growing Pains, Wanda Gág

Hatteras Journal, Jan DeBlieu

Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years, Sarah and A. Elizabeth Delany, with Amy Hill Hearth

The Heart of the Sound, Marybeth Holleman
Holding the Line: Women in the Great Arizona Mine Strike of 1983, Barbara Kingsolver
The House at Otowi Bridge: The Story of Edith Warner and Los Alamos, Peggy Pond Church
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou
I-Mary: A Biography of Mary Austin, Augusta Fink
Janet Frame: An Autobiography, Janet Frame
Journal of a Solitude, May Sarton
Land of the Burnt Thigh, Edith Eudora Kohl
The Last Gift of Time: Life Beyond Sixty, Carolyn Heilbrun
Leaving Mother Lake: A Girlhood at the Edge of the World, Yang Erche Namu
Letters to May, Eleanor Mabel Sarton
Life and Death in Shanghai, Nien Cheng
The Little Locksmith: A Memoir, Katharine Butler Hathaway
Looking for Lovedu: A Woman's Journey Across Africa, Ann Jones
The Loony-Bin Trip, Kate Millet
Lost in Translation: A Life in a New Language, Eva Hoffman
Madam Secretary, Madeleine Albright
Maria: The Potter of San Ildefonso, Alice Marriott
Me: A Memoir, Brenda Ueland
North Spirit: Sojourns Among the Cree and Ojibway, Paulette Jiles
Old Books, Rare Friends: Two Literary Sleuths and Their Shared Passion, Leona Rostenberg & Madeleine Stern
An Owl on Every Post, Sanora Babb
Papago Woman, Ruth M. Underhill
Paris Was a Woman: Portraits from the Left Bank, Andrea Weiss
A Passionate Sisterhood: Women of the Wordsworth Circle, Kathleen Jones
Paula, Isabel Allende
Persepolis: The Story of Childhood, Marjane Satrapi
Prism of the Night: A Biography of Anne Rice, Katherine Ramsland

Rachel Calof's Story: Jewish Homesteader on the Northern Plains, Rachel Calof
Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature, Linda Lear
Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert, Terry Tempest Williams
Red Azalea, Anchee Min
Red China Blues: My Long March from Mao to Now, Jan Wong
Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place, Terry Tempest Williams
Revelations: Diaries of Women, Mary Jane Moffat and Charlotte Painter, eds.
Revolution From Within: A Book of Self-Esteem, Gloria Steinem
Riverwalking: Reflections on Moving Water, Kathleen Dean Moore
The Road From Coorain, Jill Ker Conway
A Romantic Education, Patricia Hampel
Roseanne: My Life as a Woman, Roseanne Barr
The Scalpel and the Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing, Lori Alvord and Elizabeth Cohen Van Pelt
Shooting the Boh: A Woman's Voyage Down the Wildest River in Borneo, Tracy Johnston
Simone de Beauvoir: A Biography, Deirdre Bair
Songs to an African Sunset: A Zimbabwean Story, Sekai Nzenza-Shand
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, Anne Fadiman
Strength to Your Sword Arm: Selected Writings, Brenda Ueland
Tales of a Female Nomad: Living at Large in the World, Rita Golden Gelman
Talking to High Monks in the Snow: An Asian-American Odyssey, Lydia Minatoya
36 Views of Mount Fuji, Cathy Davidson
Through the Burning Steppe: A Memoir of Wartime Russia, 1942-1943, Elena Kohzina
To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism, Rebecca Walker, ed.
Truth and Beauty, Ann Patchett

An Unknown Woman: A Journey to Self Discovery, Alice Koller
Virginia Woolf, Hermione Lee
Waist-High in the World: A Life Among the Nondisabled, Nancy Mairs
West with the Night, Beryl Markham
Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China, Jung Chang
Winter in Taos, Mabel Dodge Luhan
Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts, Maxine Hong Kingston
The Woman Who Watches Over the World: A Native Memoir, Linda Hogan
Writing A Woman's Life, Carolyn Heilbrun
Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit: Essays on Native American Life Today, Leslie Marmon Silko
Zami: A New Spelling of My Name, Audre Lorde

CULTURE CRITIQUE

These books challenge the status quo.

Almanac of the Dead, Leslie Marmon Silko
Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women, Susan Faludi
Bury Me Standing: The Gypsies and Their Journey, Isabel Fonseca
A Chorus of Stones: The Private Life of War, Susan Griffin
The Creation of Patriarchy, Gerda Lerner
For Her Own Good: 150 Years of the Experts' Advice to Women, Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English
Forever Ours, Janis Amatuzio
The Girl Within: A Groundbreaking New Approach to Female Identity, Emily Hancock
Going Out of Our Minds: The Metaphysics of Liberation, Sonia Johnson
Gyn-Ecology: The Metaethics of Radical Feminism, Mary Daly
Hatteras Journal, Jan DeBlieu
Holding the Line: Women in the Great Arizona Mine Strike of 1983, Barbara Kingsolver

In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development, Carol Gilligan
Maternal Thinking: Toward a Politics of Peace, Sara Ruddick
Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America, Barbara Ehrenreich
Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women, Geraldine Brooks
Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in Twentieth-Century America, Lillian Faderman
Outercourse: The Be-Dazzling Voyage, Mary Daly
Pornography and Silence: Culture's Revolt Against Nature, Susan Griffin
Pure Lust: Elemental Feminist Philosophy, Mary Daly
A Room of One's Own, Virginia Woolf
The Scalpel and the Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing, Lori Alvord and Elizabeth Cohen Van Pelt
Shape of Red: Insider-Outsider Reflections, Ruth Hubbard and Margaret Randall
The Ship that Sailed into the Living Room: Sex and Intimacy Reconsidered, Sonia Johnson
Silences, Tillie Olsen
Silent Spring, Rachel Carson
Sister Outsider: Essays & Speeches, Audre Lorde
Surpassing the Love of Men: Romantic Friendship and Love Between Women from the Renaissance to the Present, Lillian Faderman
To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism, Rebecca Walker, ed.
Transforming a Rape Culture, Emile Buchwald, Pamela Fletcher, and Martha Roth, eds.
Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power, Audre Lorde
Wildfire: Igniting the She/Volution, Sonia Johnson
The Wise Wound: Myths, Realities and Meanings of Menstruation, Penelope Shuttle and Peter Redgrove
Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her, Susan Griffin

Women, Passion and Celibacy, Sally Cline
Women's Reality: An Emerging Female System in the White Male Society, Anne Wilson Schaefer
You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation, Deborah Tannen

MYSTERIES

For a quick escape, try mysteries.

Bitter Medicine, Sara Paretsky
Blanche on the Lam, Barbara Neely
Blood Shot, Sara Paretsky
Child of Silence, Abigail Padgett
A Cold Day for Murder, Dana Stabenow
Dark Nantucket Noon, Jane Langton
The Daughter of Time, Josephine Tey
Dreaming of the Bones, Deborah Crombie
Gaudy Night, Dorothy Sayers
Green for Danger, Christianna Brand
Guardian Angel, Sara Paretsky
Place of Execution, Val McDermid
Rift, Lisa Cody
She Walks These Hills, Sharyn McCrumb
Under the Beetle's Cellar, Mary Willis Walker

NATURE

Honoring this earth on which we live.

Annapurna: A Woman's Place, Arlene Blum
Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country, Louise Erdrich
Cactus Thorn: A Novella, Mary Austin
Down the Wild River North, Constance Helmericks
Drinking the Rain, Alix Kates Shulman
Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World, Linda Hogan
The Edge of the Sea, Rachel Carson
Gift from the Sea, Anne Morrow Lindberg
The Heart of the Sound, Marybeth Holleman
Healing the Wounds: The Promise of Ecofeminism, Judith Plant, ed.
The Land of Little Rain, Mary Austin

Letters from Yellowstone, Diane Smith
Natives and Exotics, Jane Allison
An Owl on Every Post, Sanora Babb
Pornography and Silence: Culture's Revolt Against Nature, Susan Griffin
Prodigal Summer, Barbara Kingsolver
Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature, Linda Lear
Raven's Exile: A Season on the Green River, Ellen Meloy
Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert, Terry Tempest Williams
Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place, Terry Tempest Williams
Riverwalking: Reflections on Moving Water, Kathleen Dean Moore
Silences, Tillie Olsen
Silent Spring, Rachel Carson
Skywater, Melinda Worth Popham
The Song and the Truth, Helga Ruebsamen
Teaching a Stone to Talk, Annie Dillard
Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her, Susan Griffin
The Woman Who Watches Over the World: A Native Memoir, Linda Hogan
Women and Wilderness: Expeditions and Encounters, Anne LaBastille

NOVELS

Women read novels more than any other genre. How about you?

Accordion Crimes, E. Annie Proulx
Address Unknown, Kathrine Kressmann Taylor
Affinity, Sara Waters
Ahab's Wife, Sena Jeter Naslund
Alias Grace, Margaret Atwood
All Over Creation, Ruth Ozeki
All Passion Spent, Vita Sackville-West
Allegra Maud Goldman, Edith Konecky
Alma Rose, Edith Forbes
Almanac of the Dead, Leslie Marmon Silko
Ancestral Truths, Sara Maitland
Animal Dreams, Barbara Kingsolver

The Archivist, Martha Cooley
Bailey's Cafe, Gloria Naylor
Bastard Out of Carolina, Dorothy Allison
The Bean Trees, Barbara Kingsolver
Bee Season, Myla Goldberg
Bel Canto, Ann Patchett
The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath
Beloved, Toni Morrison
Bitter Grounds, Sandra Benitez
The Bluest Eye, Toni Morrison
The Bone People, Keri Hulme
The Book of Dead Birds, Gayle Brandeis
The Book of Salt, Monique Truong
The Book Thief, Markus Zusak
Breath and Shadows, Ella Leffland
Burial Ground, Pauline Holdstock
The Cactus Thorn, Mary Austin
The Canning Season, Polly Horvath
The Cape Ann, Faith Sullivan
Caramelo, Sandra Cisneros
Cat's Eye, Margaret Atwood
Cellophane, Marie Arana
The Center of Everything, Laura Moriarty
Ceremony, Leslie Marmon Silko
Chamber Music, Doris Grumbach
The Changelings, Jo Sinclair
Chocolat, Joanne Harris
Cold Sassy Tree, Olive Ann Burns
The Color of My Words, Lynn Joseph
The Color Purple, Alice Walker
Confessions of Madame Psyche, Dorothy Bryant
Copper Crown, Lane Von Herzen
Crucial Conversations, May Sarton
Daughter of Earth, Agnes Smedley
The Deadwood Beetle, Mylene Dressler
Death Comes for the Archbishop, Willa Cather
The Devil's Chimney, Anne Landsman
The Dollmaker, Harriette Arnow
The Dress Lodger, Sheri Holman
The Driver's Seat, Muriel Spark
Eccentric Neighborhoods, Rosario Ferré
The Education of Harriet Hatfield, May Sarton
Ella Minnow Pea, Mark Dunn

The Empress of One, Faith Sullivan
Enemy Women, Paulette Giles
Ethan Frome, Edith Wharton
Evidence of Things Unseen, Marianne Wiggins
Fall on Your Knees, Anne-Marie MacDonald
The Farming of Bones, Edwidge Danticat
Fingersmith, Sarah Waters
The Finishing School, Gail Godwin
The Fires of Bride, Ellen Galford
The Floor of the Sky, Pamela Carta Joern
The Forest Lover, Susan Vreeland
Four Souls, Louise Erdrich
Frankenstein, Mary Shelley
Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe, Fannie Flag
Fugitive Pieces, Anne Michaels
Geek Love, Katherine Dunn
Girl with a Pearl Earring, Tracy Chevalier
The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy
Gone to Soldiers, Marge Piercy
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, J.K. Rowling
Haweswater, Sarah Hall
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter, Carson McCullers
Heir to the Glimmering World, Cynthia Ozick
Highwire Moon, Susan Straight
The History of Love, Nicole Krauss
The Home-Maker, Dorothy Canfield
Holes, Louis Sacher
The House Tibet, Georgia Savage
Housekeeping, Marilynne Robinson
Hummingbird House, Patricia Henley
The Hundred Secret Senses, Amy Tan
I Been in Sorrow's Kitchen and Licked Out All the Pots, Susan Straight
I Loved You All, Paula Sharp
In the Name of Salomé, Julia Alvarez
In the Time of the Butterflies, Julia Alvarez
The Inheritance of Loss, Anita Desai
Into the Forest: A Novel, Jean Hegland
Jane Eyre, Charlotte Brontë
The Journey, Ida Fink
July's People, Nadine Gordimer

Kingfishers Catch Fire, Rumer Godden
Kissing the Virgin's Mouth, Donna Gershten
The Ladies, Doris Grumbach
Lambs of God, Marele Day
The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse, Louise Erdrich
Letters from Yellowstone, Diane Smith
Like Water for Chocolate, Laura Esquivel
The Longings of Women, Marge Piercy
Love Medicine, Louise Erdrich
The Lovely Bones, Alice Sebold
Lucy Gayheart, Willa Cather
Luna, Sharon Butala
The Magician's Assistant, Ann Patchett
Mama Day, Gloria Naylor
Map of Love, Ahdaf Soueif
A Map of the World, Jane Hamilton
The Master Butchers Singing Club, Louise Erdrich
Mean Spirit, Linda Hogan
The Mists of Avalon, Marion Zimmer Bradley
Monkey Beach, Eden Robinson
Moon Tiger, Penelope Lively
Moonlight on the Avenue of Faith, Gina Nahai
Mrs. Dalloway, Virginia Woolf
My Antonia, Willa Cather
My Year of Meats, Ruth Ozeki
The Namesake, Jhumpa Lahiri
Natives and Exotics, Jane Allison
Nervous Conditions, Tsitsi Dangarembga
Night Watch, Frida Sigurdardottir
None to Accompany Me, Nadine Gordimer
Now in November, Josephine Johnson
O Caledonia, Elspeth Barker
O Pioneers!, Willa Cather
One True Thing, Anna Quindlen
Oryx & Crake, Margaret Atwood
Out of Time, Paula Martinac
The Painted Drum, Louise Erdrich
Paradise, Toni Morrison
Pavilion of Women, Pearl S. Buck
The Pickup, Nadine Gordimer
Pigs in Heaven, Barbara Kingsolver

A Place Where the Sea Remembers, Sandra Benitez
The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver
Possessing the Secret of Joy, Alice Walker
Possession: A Romance, A.S. Byatt
Potiki, Patricia Grace
Prodigal Summer, Barbara Kingsolver
Property, Valerie Martin
The Prowler, Kristiana Gunnars
Purple Hibiscus, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Push, Sapphire
The Real Minerva, Mary Sharratt
The Red Tent, Anita Diamant
The Robber Bride, Margaret Atwood
The Samurai's Garden, Gail Tsukiyama
The Sea, The Sea, Iris Murdoch
The Secret Garden, Frances Hodgson Burnett
The Shipping News, E. Annie Proulx
The Short History of a Prince, Jane Hamilton
The Silver DeSoto, Patty Lou Floyd
Skywater, Melinda Worth Popham
Small Island, Andrea Levy
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan, Lisa See
Solar Storms, Linda Hogan
The Song and the Truth, Helga Ruebsamen
The Song of the Lark, Willa Cather
The Space Between Us, Thrity Umrigar
Spending: A Utopian Divertimento, Mary Gordon
Spoonhandle, Ruth Moore
The Stone Angel, Margaret Laurence
The Stone Diaries, Carol Shields
Stones From the River, Ursula Hegi
The Story of an African Farm, Olive Schreiner
Suite Française, Irene Nemirovsky
Sula, Toni Morrison
Summer People, Marge Piercy
Surfacing, Margaret Atwood
Swimming in the Congo, Margaret Meyers
Tales of Burning Love, Louise Erdrich
The Temple of My Familiar, Alice Walker
Their Eyes Were Watching God, Zora Neale Hurston

These Is My Words: the Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine 1881-1901, Arizona Territories: A Novel, Nancy Turner
Three Junes, Julia Glass
Three Times Table, Sara Maitland
A Thousand Acres, Jane Smiley
The Time Traveler's Wife, Audrey Niffenegger
The Travelling Hornplayer, Barbara Trapido
Triangle, Katharine Weber
Unraveling, Elizabeth Graver
The Wall, Marlen Haushofer
A Weave of Women, E.M. Broner
The Wedding, Dorothy West
We Need to Talk About Kevin, Lionel Shriver
The Well, Elizabeth Jolley
What I Loved, Siri Hustvedt
When the Emperor Was Divine, Julie Otsuka
Where No Gods Came, Sheila O'Connor
White Oleander, Janet Fitch
White Teeth, Zadie Smith
Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts, Maxine Hong Kingston
Women of the Silk, Gail Tsukiyama
Written on the Body, Jeanette Winterson
Year of Wonders, Geraldine Brooks

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

This is not about spaceships but about possibilities.

Always Coming Home, Ursula K. LeGuin
Archangel Protocol, Lyda Morehouse
Brain Plague, Joan Slonczewski
Children of God, Mary Doria Russell
Color of Distance, Amy Thomson
Companions, Sheri Tepper
Daughter of Elysium, Joan Slonczewski
The Family Tree, Sheri Tepper
The Fresco, Sheri Tepper
Gate to Women's Country, Sheri Tepper
Gathering Blue, Lois Lowry
Gibbon's Decline and Fall, Sheri Tepper
The Giver, Lois Lowry

The Handmaid's Tale, Margaret Atwood
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, J. K. Rowling
He, She and It, Marge Piercy
Kindred, Octavia Butler
Native Tongue, Suzette Elgin
Oryx and Crake, Margaret Atwood
Parable of the Sower, Octavia Butler
Raising the Stones, Sheri Tepper
Sister Light, Sister Dark, Jane Yolen
The Speed of Dark, Elizabeth Moon
The Telling, Ursula K. Le Guin
Woman on the Edge of Time, Marge Piercy

SPIRITUALITY

The journey to one's center follows many paths as one honors being woman.

The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity, Julia Cameron
The Chalice and the Blade: Our History, Our Future, Riane Eisler
Circle of Stones: Woman's Journey to Herself, Judith Duerk, ed.
The Crone: Woman of Age, Wisdom and Power, Barbara Walker
Dakota: A Spiritual Geography, Kathleen Norris
Dance of the Dissident Daughter: A Woman's Journey from Christian Tradition to the Sacred Feminine, Sue Monk Kidd
Daughters of Copper Woman, Anne Cameron
Diary of a Zen Nun: Everyday Living, Nan Shin
Dreaming the Dark: Magic, Sex and Politics, Starhawk
Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World, Linda Hogan
Face to Face: Women Writers on Faith, Mysticism, and Awakening, Linda Hogan and Brenda Peterson, eds.
The Four-Fold Way: Walking the Paths of Warrior, Teacher, Healer and Visionary, Angeles Arrien
The Goddess Celebrates: an Anthology of Women's Rituals, Diane Stein, ed.

The Great Cosmic Mother: Rediscovering the Religion of the Earth, Monica Sjoo and Barbara Mor

Healing the Wounds: The Promise of Ecofeminism, Judith Plant, ed.

Lao Tzu Tao Te Ching: A Book About the Way and the Power of the Way, Ursula K. Le Guin

Laughter of Aphrodite: Reflections on a Journey to the Goddess, Carol Christ

Life is Goodbye, Life is Hello: Grieving Well Through all Kinds of Loss, Alla Bozarth Campbell

Life's Companion: Journal Writing as a Spiritual Quest, Christina Baldwin

Living in the Light: A Guide to Personal and Planetary Transformation, Shakti Gawain

The Mists of Avalon, Marion Zimmer Bradley

The Mother's Songs: Images of God the Mother, Meinrad Craighead

Re-Inventing Eve: Modern Woman in Search of Herself, Kim Chernin

Sacred Pleasure, Riane Eisler

The Skeptical Feminist: Discovering the Virgin, Mother, Crone, Barbara Walker

The Stories We Hold Secret: Tales of Women's Spiritual Development, Carol Bruchac, Linda Hogan, Judith McDaniels, eds.

Teaching a Stone to Talk: Expeditions and Encounters, Annie Dillard

Weaving the Visions: Patterns in Feminist Spirituality, Judith Plaskow & Carol Christ, eds.

Wisdom of the Heart: Working With Women's Dreams, Karen Signell

Womanspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader in Religion, Carol Christ

Women Who Run With the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype, Clarissa Pinkola Estés

Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit: Essays on Native American Life Today, Leslie Marmon Silko