A selected list

NOTABLE
BOOKS
of 1959

Prepared by Notable Books Council
Adult Services Division
American Library Association
The Great Decision
Amrine, Michael. A history of the atomic bomb and the decision to use it. Putnam.

Nautilus 90 North

Spinster: A Novel

The House of Intellect

The Joy of Music
Bernstein, Leonard. The well-known conductor transmits his enthusiasm to the listening reader. Simon & Schuster.

Adventures of a Biographer
Bowen, Catherine D. Scholarship, humor, and a joy of living make research an adventure for this author. Little, Brown.

The Way Things Are
Bridgman, Percy W. The summing-up of a lifetime of unorthodox delving into the whole field of knowledge. Harvard University.

A History of Western Morals
Brinton, Crane. A discerning consideration of the moral problems of our society. Harcourt.

Image of America
Bruckberger, Raymond L. A French priest’s readable and sympathetic viewpoint. Viking.

Mainstreams of Modern Art: David to Picasso

The Angry Scar
Carter, Hodding. The social, political, and economic aspects of the Reconstruction era in the South. Doubleday.
This list for adult readers seeking an informal guide to books published in 1959 has been chosen by the Notable Books Council after careful reading and consideration. It is a selection of those titles published during the year which, in the judgment of the Council, made a contribution to literature and general knowledge. Thirty-five libraries from all sections of the United States assisted in the compilation of the list.

The Child, the Parent, and the State

The Rape of the Fair Country
Cordell, Alexander. Eloquent story of Welsh miners of the 1830's and their struggles for better working conditions. Doubleday.

To Appomattox
Davis, Burke. Vivid and authentic reconstruction of the last nine days of the Confederacy. Rinehart.

Advise and Consent
Drury, Allen. A fascinating and realistic novel of the members of the U.S. Senate, their friends, associates, and enemies. Doubleday.

Sight and Insight

Siege at Peking

The Warriors
Gray, Jesse G. Revealing findings on the mass behavior of men at war. Harcourt.

The Waist-High Culture
France: A Modern History
Guérard, Albert L. A smoothly written, comprehensive history from prehistoric times to the present. University of Michigan.

A Life in the Theatre

Act One: An Autobiography

Mankind in the Making: The Story of Human Evolution
Howells, William W. Evolution presented as a conquering of environment rather than an adjustment to it. Doubleday.

Elizabeth the Great

Portraits of Greatness
Karsh, Yousuf. Outstanding photographs with perceptive comments on the subjects. Nelson.

Natural History of New York City
Kieran, John. Based on fifty years of study and enjoyment of urban wildlife. Houghton.

Human Nature and the Human Condition

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage
Lansing, Alfred. The 1914-1917 Antarctic expedition as described in diaries and personal interviews. McGraw.

Men and Atoms

In the Days of McKinley
Leech, Margaret. Narrates an era of the American past which has implications for the present. Harper.
The Stones of Florence
McCarthy, Mary. The greatness of Florence in text and pictures. Harcourt.

The Watch That Ends the Night
MacLennan, Hugh. The maturing of three adults in Montreal of the 1930's is told by one of Canada's leading novelists. Scribner.

Last Essays
Mann, Thomas. Interpretive studies of Schiller, Goethe, Chekhov, and Nietzsche. Knopf.

Wildlife in America
Matthiessen, Peter. Beautifully illustrated history of birds and animals that are vanishing, with emphasis on the importance of conserving our native fauna. Viking.

The Armada
Malling, Garrett. Events that led to the defeat of the supposedly invincible fleet. Houghton.

The Little World of Laos

Hawaii

John Paul Jones: A Sailor's Biography
Morison, Samuel E. His story and his times by a scholar of naval history. Little, Brown.

The Marauders

My Russian Journey
Rama Rau, Santha. Everyday life in Russia as seen by the author, her husband, and young son. Harper.

A Concise History of Modern Painting
Read, Herbert. The art of a complex period discussed with authority. Praeger.
The Wisdom of the West

The Coming of the New Deal

Adventurous Alliance
Tharp, Louise H. The Agassiz family of Boston presented with skill and insight. Little, Brown.

The Harmless People
Thomas, Elizabeth M. The bushmen of the Kalahari Desert brought vividly to life. Knopf.

The Years with Ross
Thurber, James. The creator-editor of the New Yorker portrayed nostalgically by an associate and friend. Little, Brown.

Add a Dash of Pity
Ustinov, Peter. Short stories with a distinctive flair. Little, Brown.

Five Ideas That Change the World

The Devil's Advocate
West, Morris L. One man's growth in humanity plotted with great credibility. Morrow.

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