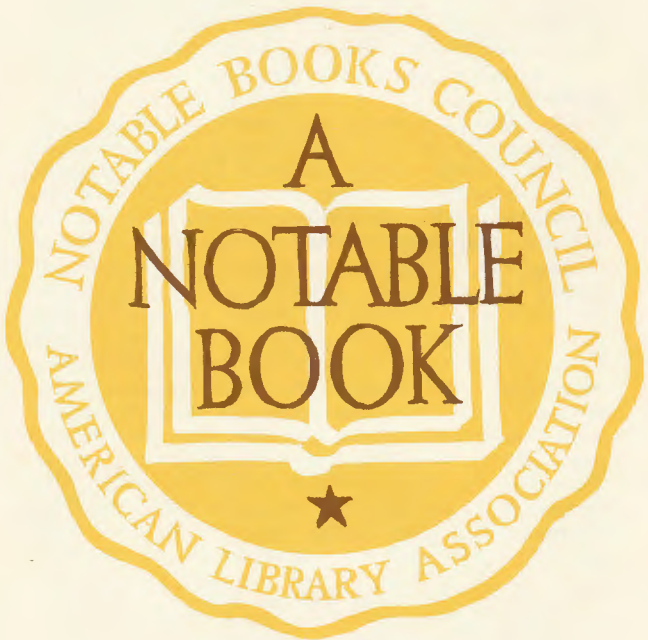


NOTABLE BOOKS 1973



Compiled by the
Notable Books Council
Reference and Adult Services Division
American Library Association

This list has been compiled for use by the general reader and by librarians who work with adult readers. The titles were selected for their significant contribution to the widening of man's knowledge or for the pleasure they can provide to adult readers. Criteria include wide general appeal and literary merit.

Council members are chosen for their experience in the critical evaluation of adult books and in service to adult readers. The Notable Books Council of 1973 included: Robert Oram, University of Illinois, chairman; John Herbst, Penn Valley Community College Library (Kansas City, Mo.); Clayton Kilpatrick, Anne Arundel County Library (Annapolis, Md.); Kate Kolish, University of Pittsburgh; Larry Earl Bone, Memphis Public Library and Information Center; Katherine Magraw, Naval Training Support Command (Pensacola, Fla.); Richard Tirotta, The New York Public Library; Helen Vaeth, Milwaukee Public Library; Robert Cayton, Dawes Memorial Library (Marietta, Ohio); Jerome Corrigan, Prince George's County Memorial Library (Oxon Hill, Md.); Robert Donahugh, Youngstown Public Library; Inalea Mullen, Tulsa City-County Library; and Dorothy Snowden, consultant, *The Booklist*.

The following participating libraries served in an advisory capacity: Helen M. Plum Memorial Library, Lombard, Ill.; The Honnold Library, Claremont College, Claremont, Calif.; Denver Public Library, Denver, Colo.; Miami Public Library, Miami, Fla.; Montgomery County Public Library, Bethesda, Md.; Oregon State University Library, Corvallis; Alaska State Library, Juneau; Dayton and Montgomery County Library, Dayton, Ohio; Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.; Framingham Public Library, Framingham Center, Mass.; Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, Indianapolis, Ind.; Menlo Park Public Library, Menlo Park, Calif.; Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass.; Fresno County Free Library, Fresno, Calif.; Knoxville-Knox County Public Library, Knoxville, Tenn.; New Mexico State Library, Santa Fe; Vail Memorial Library, Lincoln University, Pa.; Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Oklahoma County Libraries, Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Seattle Public Library, Seattle, Wash.

The Americans: The Democratic Experience by Daniel J. Boorstin. Random. Mosaic of events and personalities that shaped a people's lives from the Civil War to now.

The Arab Mind by Raphael Patai. Scribner. Dispassionate explication of a culture, a people, an outlook, a way of life.

The Archaeology of the Industrial Revolution by Brian Bracegirdle. Fairleigh Dickinson Univ. Pr. A full-color pictorial survey, with appropriate text, of the remains of Britain's Industrial Revolution.

Back to the Top of the World by Hans Ruesch. Scribner. The simple and stylized lives of polar Eskimos are effectively depicted in this novel of survival.

The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel and Sticks and Bones by David Rabe. Viking. Two powerful plays that examine the effects of the Vietnam War on the soldier in the field and on the returned veteran.

Bell: Alexander Graham Bell and the Conquest of Solitude by Robert V. Bruce. Little. The remarkable life of a giant of American technology—his inventions and his work with teaching the deaf.

Bird Lives! The High Life and Hard Times of Charlie (Yardbird) Parker by Ross Russell. Charterhouse. A vivid recreation of the notable jazz alto-saxophonist who led a major movement in American music.

The Black Prince by Iris Murdoch. Viking. A complex, multilevel novel of the varieties of love that hound the narrator, an unsuccessful novelist in his sixties.

Bright Book of Life by Alfred Kazin. Atlantic-Little. A vibrant critique of American novels and novelists since World War II.

Burr by Gore Vidal. Random. A witty, urbane novel that gives a fresh interpretation of the enigmatic Aaron Burr and his contemporaries.

Catholics by Brian Moore. Holt. A novel of conflict between faith and tradition within the church.

The Coming of Post-Industrial Society by Daniel Bell. Basic Books. A provocative description of the social structure's transformation to post-industrial society, with a forecast for the future.

Cromwell, the Lord Protector by Antonia Fraser. Knopf. A biography of epic scope that sheds new light on the personality of the English soldier-statesman.

Days of Sadness, Years of Triumph: The American People, 1939-1945 by Geoffrey Perrett. Coward. Changes wrought in the United States during World War II are characterized as a social revolution.

The Death and Life of Malcolm X by Peter Goldman. Harper. The black revolutionary leader's last years—the impact of his life and the evolution of his ideology.

FDR: The Beckoning of Destiny, 1882-1928 by Kenneth S. Davis. Putnam. Intertwining strands of patrician tradition and twentieth-century political, economic, and social forces that formed President Roosevelt's complex, mercurial character.

Field Guide by Robert Hass. Yale Univ. Pr. Anecdotal, earthy lyrics by a sensitive and informed young poet.

George C. Marshall: Organizer of Victory, 1943-1945 by Forrest C. Pogue. Viking. Two eventful years of momentous actions and decisions are recorded in this third volume of Marshall's biography.

Golden Shadows, Flying Hooves by George B. Schaller. Knopf. The fascinating report of three years of observing Tanzania's great predators in their individual and group behavior.

Good Old Modern: An Intimate Portrait of the Museum of Modern Art by Russell Lynes. Atheneum. How a tradition-shattering idea to give contemporary art a showplace affected the tastes of a generation and changed museums everywhere.

Gravity's Rainbow by Thomas Pynchon. Viking. A wildly inventive novel, continually exploding and scattering brilliant observations on the absurdities of our times.

Group Portrait with Lady by Heinrich Böll. McGraw-Hill. In this novel the fate of a young woman living in Nazi Germany is seen through sardonic vignettes of people around her.

H. G. Wells by Norman and Jeanne MacKenzie. Simon and Schuster. The life and times of the great early twentieth-century novelist, science-fiction writer, and science popularizer.

Harry S Truman by Margaret Truman. Morrow. A daughter's intimate, affectionate biography of her famous father.

Heartbreak Tango: A Serial by Manuel Puig. Dutton. The oppressive realities of Argentine small-town life revealed in a novelistic montage of film images and parodies of popular romantic writing.

Home to the Wilderness by Sally Carrighar. Houghton. A memoir of the tortured childhood of the esteemed naturalist and her struggle to heal its scars in later life.

The Hot I Baltimore by Lanford Wilson. Hill and Wang. A play of nostalgia and humor in which a hotel facing the bulldozer and its inhabitants facing eviction symbolize the lost values and disappearing hopes and dreams of American civilization.

Humboldt and the Cosmos by Douglas Botting. Harper. The life and work of the nineteenth-century German scientist and explorer in a format that is a credit to fine bookmaking.

The Imperial Presidency by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Houghton. A history of the gradual take-over by the Presidency of constitutional powers originally reserved for Congress.

Kind and Usual Punishment: The Prison Business by Jessica Mitford. Knopf. A sweeping indictment of the American prison system, analyzing its brutality and failure to rehabilitate.

The Legend of John Brown: A Biography and a History by Richard O. Boyer. Knopf. "The Ahab of our history, pursuing with single-minded passion . . . the great leviathan of slavery."

The Living Presidency by Emmet John Hughes. Coward. Keen scholarship and deft style characterize this timely analysis of leadership and of the ways in which the U.S. Presidency has been defined by the men who have filled the office.

Macaulay: The Shaping of the Historian by John Clive. Knopf. A meticulous biography providing insights into pre-Victorian social and political thought and action.

Mahler by Henri-Louis de La Grange. Doubleday. The monumental first volume of the life and world of the composer-conductor up to his marriage with Alma Schindler.

Merciful Disguises: Published and Unpublished Poems by Mona Van Duyn. Atheneum. Skillfully fashioned poems about the implications of loving people, places, and things, written with a lively sense of humor.

Ninety-two in the Shade by Thomas McGuane. Farrar. A novel, set in today's Key West, of the fierce competition between two men in a violent world.

No Neutral Ground by Joel Carlson. Crowell. After twenty years defending black clients against an unjust legal system, a white South African lawyer realizes his efforts helped maintain the status quo.

Nobody Ever Died of Old Age by Sharon R. Curtin. Atlantic-Little. A young writer's brash and angry report on the problems of aging in a youth-oriented society.

O'Neill, Son and Artist by Louis Sheaffer. Little. This second panel in a brilliant biographical study shows how the playwright transmuted private history and secret anguish into art.

Pentimento: A Book of Portraits by Lillian Hellman. Little. The past shows through in these sketches of people and events that illuminate the author's character.

The Poetry of Black America: An Anthology of the Twentieth Century edited by Arnold Adoff. Harper. A comprehensive collection of black poetry, strong on rhythm and rhetoric, that includes critical essays.

Portrait of a Marriage by Nigel Nicolson. Atheneum. A son's narrative of his famous parents' unusual yet successful marriage provides a framework for his mother's diary.

A Second Flowering: Works and Days of the Lost Generation by Malcolm Cowley. Viking. Perceptive recollections and evaluations of American literary greats the author has personally known.

Sleepers Joining Hands by Robert Bly. Harper. Strong, visionary poems exploring the contemporary American consciousness.

Stephen A. Douglas by Robert W. Johannsen. Oxford Univ. Pr. A full-scale biography of the nineteenth-century paradoxical politician.

Travelers by Ruth Praver Jhabvala. Harper. A sensitive novel in which the characters weave a tapestry of life in modern India.

Trolley to the Moon by Eric Hodgins. Simon and Schuster. Vitality and sorrow surge through the memories of a writer's early years.

William and Mary by Henri and Barbara Van Der Zee. Knopf. The lives and colorful background of the rulers who influenced both English and Dutch history.

Witness to History, 1929-1969 by Charles E. Bohlen. Norton. A penetrating and personal appraisal of an epic period in American history, by the late U.S. career diplomat.

A Woman Named Solitude by André Schwarz-Bart. Atheneum. A novel about the strange and melancholy mulatto slave who became the catalyst for the black insurrection on eighteenth-century Guadeloupe.

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