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 expansion of 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 1978 included: Kay Ann Cassell, Bethlehem Public Library (Delmar, N.Y.); Elizabeth Egan (Lombard, Ill.); Jeanne Gelinas, Hennepin County Library (Edina, Minn.); Douglas Hindmarsh, Utah State Library Commission (Salt Lake City, Utah); Joan Hoagland, Cleveland Public Library (Cleveland, Ohio); Jean Jacocks, Enoch Pratt Free Library (Baltimore, Md.); Mark Leggett, Knoxville-Knox County Public Library (Knoxville, Tenn.); Patricia Norris, Wilmette Public Library District (Wilmette, Ill.); Jane Selvar, White Plains Public Library (White Plains, N.Y.); Robert Silver, Cuyahoga County Public Library (Cleveland, Ohio); Suzanne Sutton, Bloomfield Township Public Library (Bloomfield Hills, Mich.); Wendell Wray, University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, Penn.); John Brosnahan, consultant, Booklist.

The Notable Books Council gratefully acknowledges the help of the Council’s participating libraries.
García Márquez, Gabriel. *Innocent Erédinda and Other Stories*. Harper. Our half-conscious emotions are explored through luscious and fantastic imagery in this collection of intriguingly bizarre tales.


Jones, James. *Whistle*. Delacorte. This posthumous novel completes the author's World War II trilogy and depicts the deleterious effects of army life on American G.I.'s in peace and war.

Kazin, Alfred. *New York Jew*. Knopf. New York City ambience and the peccadilloes of many significant U.S. writers are spliced within this critic's memoir.


Murdoch, Iris. *The Sea, the Sea.* Viking. Women, both incidental and central to his past, intrude upon a meddlesome egotist writing his memoirs in a secluded house by the sea.


Salisbury, Harrison E. *Black Night, White Snow: Russia’s Revolutions, 1905–1917.* Doubleday. A fast-moving narrative describing the series of events which toppled the Tsarist regime and ultimately brought the Bolsheviks to power.


Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr. *Robert Kennedy and His Times.* Houghton. Written by a longtime friend and associate, this is an extensive, partisan account of the man, his background, and his accomplishments.


Shaw, Irwin. *Short Stories: Five Decades.* Delacorte. The collected tales of a popular storyteller reflect changes in our lives and outlooks over the past fifty years.


Sontag, Susan. *Illness as Metaphor.* Farrar. A brilliant essay on how we wrongly conceptualize illness and the resultant harrowing effects on both patient and society.

Swenson, May. *New and Selected Things Taking Place.* Atlantic/Little. A unique, humorous, and thoughtful collection of poems which are accessible on many levels.


Tuchman, Barbara W. *A Distant Mirror: The Calamitous Fourteenth Century.* Knopf. A picture of society in the Middle Ages which makes clear the gulf that separates the modern and medieval world and those striking similarities which make that age a mirror of our own.


Wilhelm, Kate. *Somerset Dreams and Other Fictions.* Harper. Those uncomfortable areas that hover between the real and unreal are explored in this finely crafted collection of speculative fiction.

Will, George F. *The Pursuit of Happiness, and Other Sobering Thoughts.* Harper. Writing about everything from *Playboy* magazine to raising children, Will, an articulate conservative, always makes us think.


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