

N O T A B L E



B O O K S



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This list has been compiled for use by the general reader and by librarians who work with adult readers. The titles have been 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.



*Adams, Ansel and Alinder, Mary Street.* **Ansel Adams: An Autobiography.** Little, Brown/New York Graphic Society, \$50. One of the most well known and admired American photographers recounts a lifelong concern for his art and the preservation of the environment.

*Allende, Isabel.* **The House of the Spirits.** Tr. from the Spanish by Mayda Bogin. Knopf, \$17.95. Three magnificent women in successive generations use wisdom and guile to hold together the household of Esteban Trueba in this magical/mystical, larger-than-life epic of a South American family.

*Banks, Russell.* **Continental Drift.** Harper, \$17.95. The paths of a North American blue-collar worker and a Haitian refugee, each desperately seeking a new life in Florida, converge in the tragic clash of cultures. A novel.

*Caufield, Catherine.* **In the Rainforest.** Knopf, \$16.95. An absorbing examination of the continuing destruction in the name of progress of the world's rain forests, together with the consequences of this action.

*Chute, Carolyn.* **The Beans of Egypt, Maine.** Ticknor & Fields, \$15.95; paper, \$7.95. A striking and provocative first novel about a host of down-and-out souls trying to survive in rural New England.

*Costantini, Humberto.* **The Long Night of Francisco Sanctis.** Tr. from the Spanish by Norman Thomas di Giovanni. Harper, \$14.95. With humor and irony, Costantini portrays an ordinary middle-class man in Argentina who, during a period of political repression, is caught between his need for security and the demands of his conscience.

*DeLillo, Don.* **White Noise.** Viking/Elisabeth Sifton, \$16.95. DeLillo's warmest novel brilliantly examines one extended family's fear of death and the ways in which it copes with the apprehension and indifference of today's nuclear age.

*Doctorow, E. L.* **World's Fair.** Random, \$17.95. A child's vivid description of his boyhood in New York in the 1930s is coupled with his adult reflections on the same time and events.

*Duras, Marguerite. The Lover.* Tr. from the French by Barbara Bray. Pantheon, \$11.95. A finely etched glimpse of a young French woman in 1930s Saigon who escapes her impoverished and unbearable family by entering into a scandalous affair with a mysterious Chinese gentleman.

*Gordon, Mary. Men and Angels.* Random, \$16.95. A contemporary novel about love, especially maternal love, and its limits, told in the alternating voices of a "perfect" mother and an unstable mother's helper.

*Heaney, Seamus. Station Island.* Farrar, \$11.95. An Irish setting provides the background for this major poet's best writing, which focuses on the basic themes of self-reproach and moral choice.

*Hewat, Alan. Lady's Time.* Harper, \$15.95. Turn-of-the-century ragtime and the blues set the tempo for this sinister story of a mother and son, race and music, mystery and voodoo.

*Jones, G. C. Growing Up Hard in Harlan County.* Univ. Press of Kentucky, \$19. In this account of life in Kentucky between 1920 and 1950, the colorful, matter-of-fact Jones chronicles the area's changes from farming community to mining center.

*Kapuściński, Ryszard. Shah of Shahs.* Tr. from the Polish by William R. Brand and Katarzyna Mroczkowska-Brand. HBJ/Helen and Kurt Wolff, \$12.95; Random/Vintage, paper, \$6.95. A noted Polish journalist gives us impressions of Iran, a nation migrating in time "to a past that seems a lost paradise."

*Kidder, Tracy. House.* Houghton, \$17.95. From idea to moving day, the complexities of building a house and the relationships of those involved.

*Kincaid, Jamaica. Annie John.* Farrar, \$11.95. A poetic, largely autobiographical novel portrays a young woman's idyllic girlhood in Antigua, her rebellious passage into adolescence, and her search for self-identity.

*Lapierre, Dominique. The City of Joy.* Tr. from the French by Kathryn Spink. Doubleday, \$17.95. A compelling epic of love, patience, hope, and generosity in a Calcutta slum infested with suffering, sorrow, cruelty, and despair amid India's multilayered society.

*Lelyveld, Joseph. Move Your Shadow: South Africa, Black and White.* Times Books, \$17.95. Exposes the lies and manipulations that have propped up and promoted apartheid, an evil that seems to defy solution.

*Lester, Julius. Do Lord Remember Me: A Novel.* Holt, \$13.95. The indignities, prejudices, hopes, and promises of a lifetime are recalled as an elderly black preacher writes his own obituary.

*Lucie-Smith, Edward. Art of the 1930's: The Age of Anxiety.* Rizzoli, \$35. Beautiful reproductions and brilliant textual analysis show how the art of the 1930s was influenced and molded by the historical and political forces of the period.

*Lukas, J. Anthony. Common Ground: A Turbulent Decade in the Lives of Three American Families.* Knopf, \$19.95. Centering on Boston's school integration crisis of the 1970s, Lukas presents with sympathy and understanding a comprehensive picture of racial and social conflict.

*McMurtry, Larry. Lonesome Dove: A Novel.* Simon & Schuster, \$18.95. A nineteenth-century cattle drive forms the backdrop for the assemblage of unforgettable characters and mythic traditions that come to symbolize the entire western American experience.

*Maharidge, Dale. Journey to Nowhere: The Saga of the New Underclass.* Photos. by Michael Williamson. Doubleday/Dial, \$24.95; paper, \$15.95. A visual and verbal testament to human suffering in American society offers a compassionate look at people who, having lost jobs and homes, take to the road in final desperation.

*Mo, Timothy. Sour Sweet.* (Aventura: Vintage Library of Contemporary World Literature) Random/Vintage, paper, \$8.95. A tragicomic novel in which a Chinese immigrant family in London, harassed by both government and a secret society, accommodates to a new way of life.

*Physician Task Force on Hunger in America. Hunger in America: The Growing Epidemic.* Wesleyan Univ. Pr., \$16.95; paper, \$8.95. A study sponsored by the Harvard School of Public Health demonstrates that, as a consequence of federal policy, there are more hungry people in America today than 10 years ago.

*Reid, T. R. The Chip: How Two Americans Invented the Microchip and Launched a Revolution.* Simon & Schuster, \$15.95. In an analysis of the development of the semiconductor chip, Reid follows two inventors who, working simultaneously, achieved the same results.

*Robinson, David. Chaplin: His Life and Art.* McGraw-Hill, \$24.95. Chaplin's contributions to filmmaking are comprehensively examined in relation to significant events in his personal life in this major biography by the film critic for the *Times* of London.

*Schell, Orville. To Get Rich Is Glorious: China in the Eighties.* Pantheon, \$15.95. Schell's recent trips to the People's Republic revealed startling Westernization—dismantled communes, private businesses, and the profit system—and led him to raise questions about the future course of China.

*Seagrave, Sterling. The Soong Dynasty.* Harper, \$23.95. The lasting contributions and sinister activities of the legendary Soong clan—which included the formidable Mmes. Sun Yat-Sen and Chiang Kai-shek—and the family's at-times tortuous struggle for control of modern China.

*Theroux, Paul. Sunrise with Seamonsters: Travels and Discoveries, 1964–1984.* Houghton, \$18.95. Fifty essays fill in autobiographical gaps and document Theroux's development as a masterful travel writer and teacher.

*Tyler, Anne. The Accidental Tourist.* Knopf, \$16.95. Abandoned by his exasperated wife, a passive, habit-ridden loner turns to his brothers and sister, a new love, and an incorrigible dog and cat to relearn friendship and laughter.

*Warren, Robert Penn. New and Selected Poems, 1923–1985.* Random, \$19.95; paper, \$9.95. Poems spanning 60 years of efforts to transmute stern American realities into a hard-earned classic lyricism.

*Whelan, Richard. Robert Capa: A Biography.* Knopf, \$19.95. A panoramic view of the legendary photographer who captured for all time the grim realities of war.

*Wilson, Roberta and Wilson, James Q. Watching Fishes: Life and Behavior on Coral-Reefs.* Harper, \$22.95. Enhanced by photos and line drawings, a fascinating, vivid account of the mysterious and exotic life/behavior of coral-reef fishes and invertebrates.

**Notable Books 1985** is compiled by the Notable Books Council, Reference and Adult Services Division of the American Library Association. Council members are chosen for their experience in the critical evaluation of adult books and service to adult readers. The members of the Notable Books Council of 1985 were: Dorothy Nyren, chair, Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library; Jeri Cole Baker, Dallas Public Library; Anne K. Halderman, San Francisco Public Library; Jane K. Hirsch, Montgomery County Public Libraries, Rockville, Md.; Donald Jacobsen, New City (N.Y.) Library; Diane Gordon Kadanoff, Norwell (Mass.) Public Library; Margie A. Knoedel, Hennepin County Library, Minnetonka, Minn.; Teresa M. Portilla, College Library, University of California, Los Angeles; Marcia Lane Purcell, New York Public Library; Dorothy Rasmussen, Skokie (Ill.) Public Library; Robert Wagenknecht, Chesterfield County (Va.) Public Library; Donald E. Wright, Evanston (Ill.) Public Library; and Bill Ott, consultant, *Booklist*.

The Notable Books Council gratefully acknowledges the support of the Carnegie Reading List Fund.

Many of the books on this list are available in braille, talking books, or large type. Consult your Regional Library for the Blind.

This reading list is also available as printer-ready sheets. Two photo-reproducible sheets for \$10 (0-8389-5686-6).

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