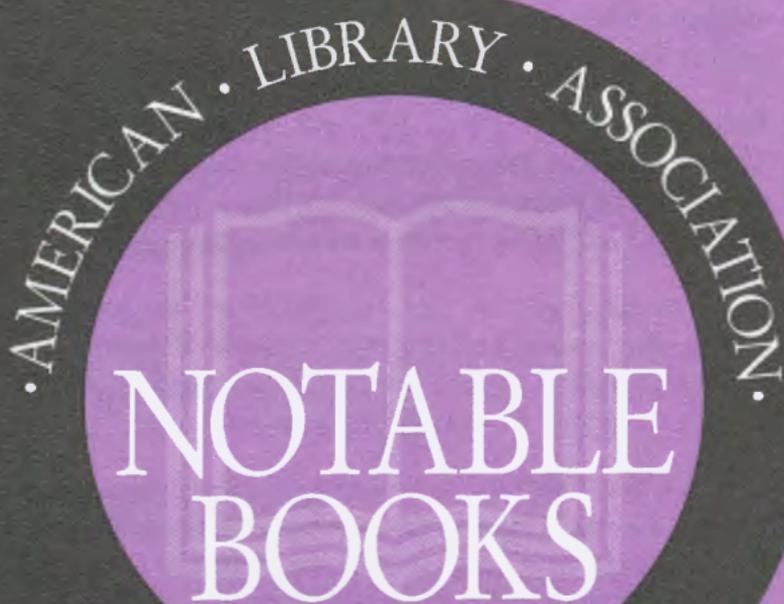


Notable

Books



**American
Library
Association**

1995

Notable Books

The Notable Books Council and ALA Reference and Adult Services Division have compiled this list for the general reader. These titles have been selected for their significant contribution to the expansion of knowledge or for the pleasure they can provide to adult readers.

FICTION BOOKS

Alvarez, Julia. *In the Time of the Butterflies*. Algonquin. This powerful novel, based on the lives of three sisters from the Dominican Republic murdered by dictator Trujillo's men, captures the humanity of the women's lives and the terror that political repression engenders.

Bainbridge, Beryl. *The Birthday Boys*. Carroll & Graf. The beauty and danger of Antarctica are described in the words of Robert Scott and his four companions as their 1910 expedition comes to a disastrous end.

Betts, Doris. *Souls Raised from the Dead*. Knopf. In this wise and affecting novel, a child's illness compels a father to face the fact that, despite his love for his daughter, he is unable to save her.

Drury, Tom. *The End of Vandalism*. Houghton. Louise, her ex-husband (a thief), and her new husband (a county sheriff) make a far-from-ordinary triangle in this tender, funny first novel set in rural Iowa.

Ignatieff, Michael. *Scar Tissue*. Farrar. This beautifully crafted novel details the tragedy of a woman's descent into Alzheimer's disease and its paralyzing effect on her philosopher son.

Maitland, Sara. *Ancestral Truths*. Holt. The question of whether Clare Kerslake murdered her lover is framed within an exploration of family ties, religious faith, and the mysteries of disability and loss.

Munro, Alice. *Open Secrets*. Knopf. Eight complex, fully developed stories explore elements of secrecy in the lives of women.

Norman, Howard. *The Bird Artist*. Farrar. Fabian Vas, a bird artist and murderer, tells eccentric tales of mystery and morality in Witless Bay, Newfoundland, in the early 1900s.

O'Brien, Tim. *In the Lake of the Woods*. Houghton. The Vietnam War is brought home in this richly textured novel about a politician whose past participation in wartime atrocities is suddenly revealed.

Paley, Grace. *The Collected Stories*. Farrar. This treasury, brimming with city life and quirky women, brings together all of the stories of a master of the form.

Power, Susan. *The Grass Dancer*. Putnam. The resilience of the North Dakota Sioux is skillfully depicted in a magical first novel that moves backward through layers of history and time.

Schulman, Audrey. *The Cage*. Algonquin. Lost in the Arctic, members of a photographic expedition confront two enemies—the fierce, intense cold and the polar bears.

POETRY BOOKS

Bierds, Linda. *The Ghost Trio*. Holt. The ghosts of Bierds' poems are historical personages captured in moments of imaginative activity and realized in rich and nuanced language.

Clampitt, Amy. *A Silence Opens*. Knopf. What lies hidden and silent in the world around us is given voice in these elegant poems.

NONFICTION BOOKS

Beals, Melba Pattillo. *Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High*. Pocket Books. Beals dramatically recounts how she and eight other students courageously faced mob violence when they became the first African Americans to attend Central High School in 1957.

Chaikin, Andrew. *A Man on the Moon: The Voyages of the Apollo Astronauts*. Viking. Based on in-depth interviews, this insightful account reveals the intense personal dedication, professional competitiveness, and remarkable teamwork of the Apollo astronauts.

Cohen, Leah Hager. *Train Go Sorry: Inside a Deaf World*. Houghton. Having grown up at the Lexington School for the Deaf, a hearing woman sensitively describes issues central to the deaf community.

Gates, Henry Louis. *Colored People: A Memoir*. Knopf. Warm memories of extended family and close community infuse this account of growing up "colored" in a West Virginia town during the early days of the civil rights movement.

Gilmore, Mikal. *Shot in the Heart*. Doubleday. Painful and honest, this haunting record of a family devastated by abuse and violence shows that life is most difficult for the survivors.

Goodwin, Doris Kearns. *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Homefront in World War II*. Simon & Schuster. This engaging narrative combines biography and social history in a compelling vision of what the nation was then and what we are now.

Martin, Russell. *Out of Silence: A Journey into Language*. Holt. Martin's account of his family's heartbreaking efforts to communicate with his autistic nephew explores the nature of language and the resilience of parental hope.

Nuland, Sherwin B. *How We Die: Reflections on Life's Final Chapter*. Knopf. Nuland's compassionate, wry look at the treatment of death in modern America is medically informative and oddly reassuring.

Price, Reynolds. *A Whole New Life*. Atheneum. Price's candid memoir portrays his valiant struggle to overcome the effects of spinal cancer and to return to a productive life.

Weiner, Jonathan. *The Beak of the Finch: A Story of Evolution in Our Time*. Knopf. Weiner's absorbing account of scientific dedication, observation, and measurement makes Darwin's theory of natural selection relevant to contemporary readers.

Winerip, Michael. *9 Highland Road*. Pantheon. Journalist Winerip chronicles the personal and political struggles and triumphs in a group home for the mentally ill.

Wolff, Tobias. *In Pharaoh's Army: Memoirs of the Lost War*. Knopf. Written in spare, understated language, Wolff's depiction of his tour of duty in Vietnam is, startlingly, more humdrum than horrible.

Notable Books 1995

Item no. 5308-0295

100 pamphlets, \$24

Also available as camera-ready sheets (5308-0395), \$10 per set.



ALA Graphics
American Library Association
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
1-800-545-2433, press 7

©1995 American Library Association

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