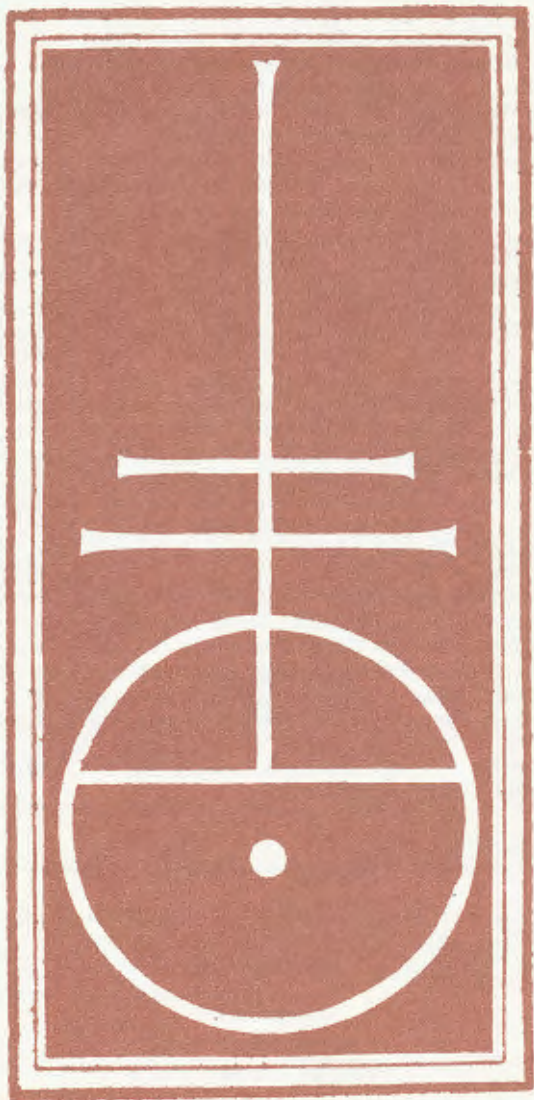


Notable Books

1970

A SELECTED LIST



Compiled by the
Notable Books Council,
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 1970 included: Walter Allen, University of Illinois, Chairman; Raymond Agler, Boston Public Library; Donald R. Briggs, College of DuPage Library (Glen Ellyn, Ill.); John D. Christenson, Stamford (Conn.) Public Library; Ervin Eatenson, Dallas Public Library; Mrs. Anona J. Falls, Clarksdale (Miss.) Public Library; Jeanne Gelinan, Stamford (Conn.) Public Library; Ronald Kanen, Miami Public Library; Kate Kolish, Pittsburgh Public Library; Eddis Martancik, Los Angeles Public Library; Mrs. June Moll, University of Texas; Frances Stalker, Indianapolis Public Library.

The following participating libraries served in an advisory role in the nominating and voting procedure: Arlington County Libraries, Arlington, Va.; Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio; Denver Public Library, Denver, Colo.; Des Moines Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa; Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.; Evanston Public Library, Evanston, Ill.; Free Library of Philadelphia, Pa.; Georgia State Department of Education, Atlanta, Ga.; Helen M. Plum Memorial Library, Lombard, Ill.; Honnold Library, Claremont Colleges, Claremont, Calif.; Mesa Public Library, Los Alamos, N. Mex.; Miami Public Library, Miami, Fla.; Michigan State Library, Lansing, Mich.; Montgomery County Public Library, Bethesda, Md.; Oakland Public Library, Oakland, Calif.; Oregon State University Library, Corvallis, Oreg.; Point Park College, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Seattle Public Library, Seattle, Wash.; Stamford Public Library, Stamford, Conn.; Trenton Public Library, Trenton, N.J.; Tucson Public Library, Tucson, Ariz.; Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa, Okla.; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.; Wichita Public Library, Wichita, Kans.

On the cover:
a late-15th-century
Venetian printer's device

A Beggar in Jerusalem by *Elie Wiesel*. Random House. Israel's Six-Day War provides the framework for a probing philosophical novel about the Jewish experience.

City Life by *Donald Barthelme*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. A striking collection of short stories in which the nature of art, literature, and modern life is considered with stylistic virtuosity.

Cocteau: A Biography by *Francis Steegmuller*. Atlantic-Little, Brown. A genius of the arts and a unique personality is brilliantly portrayed against a rich canvas of creative activity.

Crime in America: Observations on Its Nature, Causes, Prevention and Control by *Ramsey Clark*. Simon & Schuster. A former attorney general gives his personal view of one of America's most pressing problems and explores the conflict inherent in the current program of crime prevention and control.

Crisis in the Classroom: The Remaking of American Education by *Charles E. Silberman*. Random House. An exhaustive survey and condemnation of the state of American education, with concrete suggestions for reform.

Daddy Was a Number Runner by *Louise Meriwether*. Prentice-Hall. A talented black novelist portrays the vitality, poverty, and tenderness of a young girl's life in the mean streets of Harlem during the 1930s.

Deliverance by *James Dickey*. Houghton Mifflin. The character and endurance of four men are put to the test in a harrowing adventure; the first novel of a distinguished poet.

The Encounter by *Malachi Martin*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. Christianity, Judaism, and Islam: The forces that made these religions great and their changing roles in the world today.

Exiles by *Michael J. Arlen*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. A son's loving memoir of his mother and his author-father evokes the fabled era of the 1920s.

Family Portrait by *Catherine Drinker Bowen*. Atlantic-Little, Brown. An unusually candid view of a great biographer's own large and talented family, absorbing in the richness of its personalities.

Hard Times: An Oral History of the Great Depression by *Studs Terkel*. Pantheon. A mosaic of

reactions to the wounding experience of the grim 1930s.

Hope against Hope: A Memoir by *Nadezhda Mandelstam*. Atheneum. An authentic and moving account of Stalin's purge of Russian intellectuals, one of whom was the author's husband, the poet Osip Mandelstam.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by *Maya Angelou*. Random House. A courageous young black woman's candid memoir of a life of love and anguish.

. . . **In the Highlands since Time Immemorial** by *Joanna Ostrow*. Knopf. A memorable first novel which captures the mood and landscape of a harsh way of life soon to disappear.

In the Service of Their Country: War Resisters in Prison by *Willard Gaylin*. Viking. A disturbing and revealing study of the effect of imprisonment of Selective Service violators who chose jail rather than deferment or exile.

Inside the Third Reich: Memoirs by *Albert Speer*. Macmillan. This assessment of unlimited power allied with modern technology, written by Hitler's minister of war, has frightening implications for our society.

Losing Battles by *Eudora Welty*. Random House. The human foibles of three generations of a rural southern family are revealed in a rich and loving story of a birthday reunion.

Mr. Sammler's Planet by *Saul Bellow*. Viking. Aging Arthur Sammler, having survived the Nazis' efforts to exterminate him, drifts through New York's West Side, scrutinizing the rotten fabric of modern society.

My Lai 4: A Report of the Massacre and Its Aftermath by *Seymour M. Hersh*. Random House. Agonizing questions about responsibility and the brutalizing effects of war are raised by a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter in this shocking account of an alleged massacre by American troops in Vietnam.

Norman Rockwell, Artist and Illustrator by *Thomas S. Buechner*. Abrams. A comprehensive and lavish collection of the artist's work and a critical exposition of his developing style and portrayal of his view of American life.

One Hundred Years of Solitude by *Gabriel Garcia Marquez*. Harper & Row. A novel about a prolific family living in isolated splendor in a remote Colombian village, told in language as lush as its setting.

Ordeal of Ambition: Jefferson, Hamilton, Burr by *Jonathan Daniels*. Doubleday. The clash of three towering personalities shapes the destiny of a new nation.

Play It as It Lays by *Joan Didion*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. This dispassionate novel leanly etches the quiet desperation of a woman of our times.

Portrait of India by *Ved Mehta*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. The complexity of present-day India is interpreted against the background of the country's turbulent past.

Roosevelt: The Soldier of Freedom by *James MacGregor Burns*. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. An awesome body of political and military knowledge is marshalled into a provocative analysis of Roosevelt in World War II.

Sexual Politics by *Kate Millett*. Doubleday. A spirited dissection of the male-dominated literature of the classic and intellectual history of the power struggle between man and woman.

Soledad Brother: The Prison Letters of George Jackson. Coward-McCann. Impassioned and embittered letters testify to the condition of being black and in prison.

Will They Ever Finish Bruckner Boulevard? by *Ada Louise Huxtable*. Macmillan. A witty, often devastating look at urban blight and architectural change in our cities.

Words for a Deaf Daughter by *Paul West*. Harper & Row. A poet attempts to enter his daughter's silent world. A compassionate and joyful book.

Zelda: A Biography by *Nancy Milford*. Harper & Row. A romantic, painful study of Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald and their mad pursuit of the elusive American dream.

Published by the
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
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ISBN 0-8389-5261-5 (1971)
