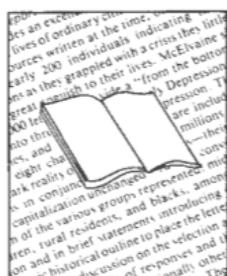


ard Lowitt
Hickok Reports on the
me provides an excellent intro
on the lives of ordinary citizens thro
primary sources written at the time, one by a cra
by nearly 200 individuals indicating thei
d emotions as they grappled with a crisis they li
brought great anguish to their lives. McElvaine
ely 15,000 letters to provide a "from the botto
vides into three sections: The Early Depression
Thirties, and Reactions to the Depression. Th
ed into eight chapters, six of which are includ
g the stark reality of life experienced by millions
trations in conjunction with the letters—their
g, and capitalization unchanged—further conve
ynicism of the various groups represented: mid
children, rural residents, and blacks, among
duction and in brief statements introducing ea
vides a basic historical outline to place the letters
e, plus an incisive discussion of responses and the
e delineates various types of responses and the p
leanor Roosevelt, and occasionally other pr
of the New Deal, and in
ms. agencies

NOTABLE
BOOKS
1983

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.



Bradford, Sarah. Disraeli. Stein & Day. A neatly sculptured portrait of the nineteenth-century British statesman, achieving an admirable balance between the personal and the political life of a remarkable man.

Bricktop, with James Haskins. Bricktop. Atheneum. Spunky memoirs of a black jazz singer who scrabbled her way up from Chicago saloons to her own nightclub in Paris and insouciant hobnobbing with celebrities.

Carver, Raymond. Cathedral: Stories. Knopf. Surface simplicity belies the inner complexity of these stories which reveal the vague menace and moral collapse of ordinary lives.

Chase, Joan. During the Reign of the Queen of Persia: A Novel. Harper. Three generations of midwestern women survive and continue to grow through sheer feminine endurance and determination.

Chatwin, Bruce. On the Black Hill. Viking. Twin brothers living on a Welsh farm share everything in an eighty-year coexistence. A novel rich in the oddities, wonders, and tragedies of the human experience.

Clampitt, Amy. The Kingfisher: Poems. Knopf. "The design might be thought of as an illuminated manuscript in which all the handwork happens to be verbal. . . ."

Didion, Joan. Salvador. Simon & Schuster. Report from a country where terror, fear, and repression have become the way of everyday life.

Down & Out in the Great Depression: Letters from the "Forgotten Man." Edited by Robert S. McElvaine. Univ. of North Carolina Pr. Authentic, heartbreaking voices of the poor evoke the mood of the 1930s, when desperation mingled with hope and trust in FDR and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Drew, Elizabeth. Politics and Money: The New Road to Corruption. Macmillan. How the methods used to raise the vast sums of money needed to win political office are perverting the American political process.

Dubus, Andre. **The Times Are Never So Bad: A Novella & Eight Short Stories.** Godine. Unblinking realism characterizes a collection that examines unexpected disturbances of domestic life.

Egerton, John. **Generations: An American Family.** Univ. Pr. of Kentucky. An extraordinary picture of 250 years of American history revealed through the lives and words of an ordinary family: a Kentucky couple married seventy-four years, their ancestors and descendants.

Fossey, Dian. **Gorillas in the Mist.** Houghton. Thirteen years of gorilla research in a remote mountainous area of Africa recounted by a sensitive woman primatologist.

Gage, Nicholas. **Eleni.** Random. Haunted by memories of his mother, executed during the Greek Civil War of the 1940s, the author, seeking vengeance, returns to his village and reconstructs her last days.

García Márquez, Gabriel. **Chronicle of a Death Foretold.** Translated from the Spanish by Gregory Rabassa. Knopf. The tyranny of traditional moral codes is revealed in testimony of witnesses to the murder of a small-town dandy. A metaphysical detective novel by the Nobel Prize winner.

Heat Moon, William Least. **Blue Highways: A Journey into America.** Atlantic/Little. Traveling the back roads in search of inner peace and his native American roots, the author discovers much about himself and the people of the "unsung side of America."

Helprin, Mark. **Winter's Tale.** Harcourt. A magical novel set in the future and the past dealing with the eternal quest for a truly just city.

Hersh, Seymour M. **The Price of Power: Kissinger in the Nixon White House.** Summit. A masterful diplomat and the president he served revealed as a Machiavellian force in American foreign policy between 1968 and 1973.

Hilts, Philip J. **Scientific Temperaments: Three Lives in Contemporary Science.** Simon & Schuster. An arresting account of the dazzling achievements of the trail-breakers: particle-physicist Robert Wilson, geneticist Mark Ptashne, and computer-language specialist John McCarthy.

Isaacs, Arnold R. **Without Honor: Defeat in Vietnam and Cambodia.** John Hopkins Univ. Pr. Firsthand account of the fall of South Vietnam told with great emotional impact by a journalist using previously classified materials.

Jensen, Robert, and Patricia Conway. **Ornamentation: The New Decorativeness in Architecture & Design.** Potter. New ways of shaping and seeing our postmodern, man-made environments, set forth in sumptuous photographs and lucid text.

Kennedy, William. **Ironweed: A Novel.** Viking. A touching portrayal of the wanderings of Francis Phelan, an ex-con and drifter, in Albany, N.Y., during the Depression.

Lamb, David. **The Africans.** Random. A litany of the weaknesses and strengths, the failures and successes of the nations of Africa, together with prescriptions for the future.

LeVot, André. **F. Scott Fitzgerald: A Biography.** Translated from the French by William Byron. Doubleday. A French critic takes a fresh and penetrating look at the troubled life of the quintessential American novelist of the 1920s.

Liang Heng and Judith Shapiro. **Son of the Revolution.** Knopf. Autobiography of a young man who grew up in China during and after the Great Cultural Revolution and survived the turmoil and tragedies by strength of will, intelligence, and accident.

Loewinsohn, Ron. **Magnetic Field(s): A Novel.** Knopf. In this unusual debut, a robber, a composer, and a fantasy are intricately linked through emotions, spaces, and physical sensations.

MacLaverty, Bernard. **Cal.** Braziller. The consequences of violence intensify for Cal McCrystal when he becomes involved with the widow of an IRA victim. A novel that takes a hard look at the life of urban poor in Northern Ireland.

Malamud, Bernard. **The Stories of Bernard Malamud.** Farrar. Twenty-five stories celebrate seemingly ordinary lives with compassion and humor.

Murdoch, Iris. **The Philosopher's Pupil.** Viking. A simple story about the relationship between teacher and pupil is developed into a richly layered extravaganza as an unlikely cast of characters percolate in the hot springs of an English spa.

Page, Joseph A. **Perón: A Biography.** Random. The first full-length English-language study of the charismatic Argentinian dictator who changed his native land for good and ill.

Pancake, Breece D'J. **The Stories of Breece D'J Pancake.** Atlantic/Little. A hauntingly powerful and perceptive collection depicting the lives of desperate people struggling for identity and survival in the mountain hollows of West Virginia.

Parry, Linda. **William Morris Textiles.** Viking/Studio. Exquisitely illustrated survey of Morris's contributions to textile design and manufacture.

Petrosky, Anthony. **Jurgis Petraskas: Poems.** Louisiana State Univ. Pr. Strong and passionate poems memorializing four generations of the poet's Lithuanian-American family and their blue-collar world.

Porter, Eliot. **All under Heaven: The Chinese World.** Text by Jonathan Porter. Pantheon. Master photographs of the natural and human landscape of China combine with an informed text to reveal unity in the diversity of the Chinese world.

Radosh, Ronald, and Joyce Milton. The Rosenberg File: A Search for the Truth. Holt. Were Julius and Ethel Rosenberg guilty of treason? An exhaustive analysis of interviews and newly available government material provides thought-provoking answers.

Rockwell, John. All American Music: Composition in the Late Twentieth Century. Knopf. Musical forms, from classical through salsa, are analyzed in twenty essays focusing on representative American composers.

Rushdie, Salman. Shame. Knopf. A chimerical tale set in a country that may or may not be modern Pakistan, where everything is seen at a slight angle to reality.

Silverman, Jonathan. For the World to See: The Life of Margaret Bourke-White. Viking/Studio. A photobiography of the photojournalist who recorded important social and historical events of the recent past in her magnificent pictures and poignant prose.

Song, Cathy. Picture Bride. Yale Univ. Pr. Colorful and luminous poems gracefully and quietly etch memories of childhood and the lives of people journeying into the world.

Theroux, Paul. The London Embassy. Houghton. In eighteen short stories, the narrator, an American diplomat, observes the humorous eccentricities of both American and British colleagues at his new post.

Updike, John. Hugging the Shore: Essays and Criticism. Knopf. A collection of brilliantly conceived reviews and essays from the noted American writer.

Warner, William W. Distant Water: The Fate of the North Atlantic Fisherman. Atlantic/Little. The plight of the beleaguered fishermen of five nations, who toil heroically under adverse conditions, and an indictment of the factory-ship system.

Wideman, John Edgar. Sent for You Yesterday. Avon. A richly allusive novel of conflict between individualism and family connectedness as experienced growing up black in Pittsburgh.

Wilcox, Fred A. Waiting for an Army to Die: The Tragedy of Agent Orange. Random. Against the indifference of government bureaucrats and chemical manufacturers, Vietnam veterans battle for recompense for the physical and emotional damage to them and their children.

Wright, Stephen. Meditations in Green. Scribner. A gut-wrenching, drug-drenched Vietnam War novel, juxtaposing the horror and banality of military life with the unique pain of adjustment back in "the world."

Notable Books 1983 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 1983 were: Kenneth L. Ferstl, chair, School of Library and Information Sciences, North Texas State University (Denton, Tex.); Jean Adelman, The University Museum, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pa.); Jeri Cole Baker, Dallas Public Library (Dallas, Tex.); Lillian H. Barker, Prince George's County Memorial Library System (Laurel, Md.); Katherine A. Golomb, Westport Library (Westport, Conn.); Anne K. Halderman, San Francisco Public Library (San Francisco, Calif.); Jane K. Hirsch, Montgomery County Public Libraries (Rockville, Md.); Margie Knoedel, Hennepin County Library (Minnetonka, Minn.); Dorothy Nyren, Brooklyn Public Library (Brooklyn, N.Y.); Dem Polachek, Stark County District Library (Canton, Ohio); Marcia Lane Purcell, New York Public Library (New York, N.Y.); and Bill Ott, consultant, *Booklist*.

The Notable Books Council gratefully acknowledges the help of the Council's participating libraries and 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.

©1984 by the American Library Association

ISBN: 0-8389-5661-0

Published by the
American Library Association
50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

Single copies 25¢
Available in quantity from ALA Order Dept.,
50 E. Huron St., Chicago, Ill. 60611
at the following discounts:
25-50 copies, 10%; 51-250, 20%; 251-1000, 30%;
1001-5000, 40%; 5000+, 50%