



USA's 250th Birthday Book List

by Summer M. Smith

The United States

- To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (Alabama)
- The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey (Alaska)
- Brighty of the Grand Canyon* by Marguerite Henry (Arizona)
- I know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou (Arkansas)
- The Lonesome Gods* by Louis L'Amour (California)
- Little Britches* series by Ralph Moody (Colorado)
- My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier (Connecticut)
- World War II and the Delaware Coast* by Michael Morgan (Delaware)
- A Land Remembered* by Patrick Smith (Florida)
- Gone with the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell (Georgia)
- Moloka'i* by Alan Brennet (Hawaii)
- Angel of Repose* by Wallace Steagner (Idaho)
- The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America* by Erik Larson (Illinois)
- The Bears of Blue River* by Charles Major (Indiana)
- Gilead* by Marilyn Robinson (Iowa)
- The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum (Kansas)
- Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe (Kentucky/Louisiana)
- A Street Car Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams (Louisiana)
- Stories from the Old Squire Farm* by C. A. Stephens (Maine)
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot (Maryland)
- Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott (Massachusetts)
- Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley (Michigan)
- Giants in the Earth* by O.E. Rølvaag (Minnesota)
- The Help* by Kathryn Sockett (Mississippi)
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain (Missouri)
- Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson (Montana)
- My Antonia* by Willa Cather (Nebraska)
- 30 Years Behind Bars: Trials of a Prison Doctor* by Karen Gedney (Nevada)
- A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal 1830-32* by Joan W. Blos (New Hampshire)
- The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women* by Kate Moore (New Jersey)
- Fire Season: Field Notes from a Wilderness Lookout* by Philip Connors (New Mexico)
- A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith (New York)
- Outlander* series (books 4-9) by Diana Gabaldon (North Carolina)
- Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger (North Dakota)

- Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance (Ohio)
- Everything Sad is Untrue* by Daniel Nayeri (Oklahoma)
- Shoe Dog* by Phil Knight (Oregon)
- Two Girls of Gettysburg* by Lisa M. Klein (Pennsylvania)
- Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham (Rhode Island)
- Celia Garth* by Gwen Bristow (South Carolina)
- Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West* by Dee Brown (South Dakota)
- Christy* by Catherine Marshall (Tennessee)
- Friday Night Lights* by H.G. Bissinger (Texas)
- News of the World* by Paulette Jiles (Utah)
- Understood Betsy* by Dorothy Canfield Fisher (Vermont)
- America's First Daughter* by Stephanie Dray (Virginia)
- Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford (Washington)
- Jack Zulu and the Waylander's Key* by S. D. Smith (West Virginia)
- A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There* by Aldo Leopold (Wisconsin)
- A Woman's Work: the Storied Life of Esther Morris, the World's First Justice of the Peace*
by Marian Betancourt (Wyoming)

Presidents & First Ladies

- His Excellency: George Washington* by Joseph J. Ellis
- John Adams* by David McCullough
- Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution* by Natalie S. Bober
- The Boys' Life of Thomas Jefferson* by Helen Nicolay
- James Madison* by Garry Wills
- The Last Founding Father: James Monroe and a Nation's Call to Greatness* by Harlow Giles Unger
- John Quincy Adams: A Public Life, A Private Life* by Paul C. Nagel
- American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House* by Jon Meghan
- Martin van Buren and the Emergence of American Popular Politics* by Joel H. Silbey
- Mr. Jefferson's Hammer: William Henry Harrison and the Origins of American Indian Policy*
by Robert M. Owens
- John Tyler, the Accidental President* by Edward P. Crapol
- Polk: The Man Who Transformed the Presidency and America* by Walter R. Borneman
- Lady First: The World of First Lady Sarah Polk* by Amy S. Greenberg
- Old Rough and Ready: The Life and Times of Zachery Taylor* by Silas Bent McKinley
- The Remarkable Millard Fillmore: The Unbelievable Life of a Forgotten President* by George Pendle
- The Life of Franklin Pierce* by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- James Buchanan* by Jean Baker
- Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin
- The Failed Promise: Reconstruction, Frederick Douglass, and the Impeachment of Andrew Johnson*
by Robert S. Levine
- Grant* by Ron Chernow

- The Complete Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant* by Ulysses S. Grant
- The Personal Memoirs of Julia Dent Grant* by Julia Dent Grant
- Rutherford B. Hayes: Warrior and President* by Ari Hoogenboom
- Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President (Garfield)* by Candice Millard
- The Unexpected President: The Life and Times of Chester A. Arthur* by Scott S. Greenberger
- The President Is a Sick Man: Wherein the Supposedly Virtuous Grover Cleveland Survives a Secret Surgery as Sea and Vilifies the Courageous Newspaperman Who Dared Expose the Truth* by Matthew Algeo
- Benjamin Harrison* by Charles W. Calhoun
- President McKinley: Architect of the American Century* by Robert W. Merry
- Mornings on Horseback* by David McCullough
- Theodore Roosevelt's Letters to His Children* by Theodore Roosevelt
- The Rough Riders* by Theodore Roosevelt
- The Loves of Theodore Roosevelt: The Women Who Created a President* by Edward F. O'Keefe
- The Bully Pulpit Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft and the Golden Age of Journalism* by Doris Kearns Goodwin
- Nellie Taft* by Carl Sferrazza Antony
- Woodrow Wilson* by Louis Auchincloss
- The Jazz Age President: Defending Warren G. Harding* by Ryan S. Walters
- Florence Harding: The First Lady, the Jazz Age, and the Death of America's Most Scandalous President* by Carl Sferrazza Anthony
- Silent Cal's Almanack: The Homespun Wit and Wisdom of Vermont's Calvin Coolidge* by David Pietrusza
- The Memoirs of Herbert Hoover: the Cabinet and the Presidency 1920-1933* by Herbert Hoover
- FDR* by Jean Edward Smith
- No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt* by Doris Kearns Goodwin
- The Autobiography of Eleanor Roosevelt* by Eleanor Roosevelt
- Truman* by David McCullough
- Ike: An American Hero* by Michael Korda
- Profiles in Courage* by John F. Kennedy
- Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis: The Untold Story* by Barbara Learning
- The Triumph & Tragedy of Lyndon-Johnson: The White House Years* by Joseph A. Califano Jr.
- Lady Bird Johnson: Hiding in Plain Sight* by Julia Sweig
- The Nixon Conspiracy* by Geoff Shepherd
- The Mysterious Mrs. Nixon: The Life and Times of Washington's Most Private First Lady* by Heath Hardage Lee
- Gerald R. Ford: An Honorable Man* by James M. Cannon
- Betty Ford: First Lady, Women's Advocate, Survivor, Trailblazer* by Lisa Mr Cubbin Hill
- His Very Best: Jimmy Carter, A Life* by Jonathan Alter
- Ronald Reagan: An American Life* by Raymond Maxwell
- The Triumph of Nancy Reagan* by Karen Tumulty
- 41: A Portrait of My Father* by George W. Bush
- Reflections: Life After the White House* by Barbara Bush

- My Life: Bill Clinton* by Bill Clinton
- Living History* by Hillary Rodham Clinton
- Decision Points* by George W. Bush
- Spoken from the Heart* by Laura Bush
- Rising Star: The Making of Barack Obama - The Definitive Biography of the Formative Years and Forces Behind the 44th President* by David J. Garrow
- Becoming* by Michelle Obama
- Trump: The Art of the Deal* by Donald Trump
- Original Sin: President Biden's Decline, Its Cover-Up, and His Disastrous Choice to Run Again* by Jack Tapper
- Butler: The Untold Story of the Near Assassination of Donald Trump and the Fight for America's Heartland* by Salena Zito
- Melania* by Melania Trump
- Accidental Presidents: Eight Men Who Changed America* by Jared Cohen
- First Ladies of the Republic: Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Dolley Madison and the Creation of an Iconic American Role* by Jeanne E. Abrams

American Non-Fiction, Biographies & Letters

- Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow
- A Revolution in Color: The World of John Singleton Copley* by Jane Kamensky
- Still the Best Hope* by Dennis Prager
- Travels with Charley* by John Steinbeck
- Dear Bob and Sue: One Couple's Journey Through the National Parks* by Matt and Karen Smith
- The Book of Stillmeadow* by Glayds Tabor
- The Habit of Being* by Flannery O'Connor
- 1776* by David McCullough
- Improbable Patriot: The Secret History of Monsieur de Beaumarchais, the French Playwright Who Saved the American Revolution* by Harlow Giles Unger
- Friends of Liberty: A Tale of Three Patriots, Two Revolutions, and the Betrayal that Divided a Nation: Thomas Jefferson, Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Agrippa Hull* by Gary B. Nash
- Signing Their Lives Away: The Fame and Misfortune of the Men Who Signed the Declaration of Independence* by Denise Kiernan
- American Eden: David Hosack, Botany, and Medicine in the Garden or the Early Republic* by Victoria Johnson
- Land of Hope: An Invitation to the Great American Story* by Wilfred M. McClay
- The Education of a Wandering Man* by Louis L'Amour
- The Autobiography of Red Cloud* by Red Cloud
- Bill Peet: An Autobiography* by Bill Peet
- A Personal Odyssey* by Thomas Sowell
- Moneyball* by Michael Lewis
- Amistad* by Alexs D. Pate
- Intellectuals and Race* by Thomas Sowell

- The Residence: Inside the Private World of the White House* by Kate Andersen Brower
- A Reasoned Patriotism* by Dawn Duran
- George Washington's Secret Six: The Spy Ring That Saved the American Revolution* by Brian Kilmeade
- Stitching Love and Loss: A Gee Bend's Quilt* by Lisa Gail Collins
- The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl* by Timothy Egan
- Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann (Oklahoma)
- Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod* by Gary Paulsen (Alaska)
- The Pioneers* by David McCullough(Ohio)
- Of Courage Undaunted: Across the Continent with Lewis & Clark* by James Daugherty
- Dandelion Wine* by Ray Bradbury
- The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11* by Garrett M. Graff
- Schomberg: The Man Who Built a Library* by Carole Boston Weatherford
- The Age of Jackson* by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.
- The Edge of April: A Biography of John Burroughs* by Hilegarde-Hoyt Swift
- Geronimo, His Own Story: The Autobiography of a Great Patriot Warrior* by Geronimo
- The True Adventures of Grizzly Adams: A Biography* by Robert M. McClung
- John Billinton: Friend of Squanto* by Clyde Robert Bulla
- Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War* by Nathaniel Philbrick
- The Silverado Squatters* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- Autumn Across America* by Edwin Way Teale
- The Roots of American Order* by Russell Kirk
- Under the Banner of Heaven: A Story of Violent Faith* by Jon Krakauer (Utah)
- The Oregon Trail: A New American History* by Rinker Buck
- The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown (Washington)
- A Lady's Life of the Rocky Mountains* by Isabella Lucy Bird (Colorado)
- John Hancock: Merchant King and American Patriot* by Harlow Giles Unger
- Upstairs at the White House: My Life with the First Ladies* by J. B. West
- Letters from America* by Alistar Cooke
- The Wild Muir: Twenty-Two of John Muir's Adventures* by John Muir
- The Jazz Men: How Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and Count Basie Transformed America* by Larry Tye
- American Dreaming: How Youth Changed America in the 60s* by Laban Carrick Hill
- The Forgotten Man: A New History of the Great Depression* by Amity Shlaes
- Grandma Gatewood's Walk* by Ben Montgomery
- The Grand Canyon Expedition: The Exploration of the Colorado River and Its Canyons* by John Wesley Powell
- Triumph: The Untold Story of Jesse Owen's and Hitler's Olympics* by Jeremy Schaap
- Great American Adventure Stories: Lyon Press* by Tom McCarthy
- Nothing Like It In The World: The Men Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad* by Stephen E. Ambrose
- Hip to the Trip: A Cultural History of Route 66* by Peter B. Dedeck

- Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Hattley
- American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race* by Douglas Brinkley
- Jonathan Edwards: A Life* by George M. Marsden
- 500 Nations An Illustrated History of North American Indians* by Alvin M. Josephy Jr.
- The Sacred Pipe: Black Elk's Account of the Seven Rites of Oglala Sioux* by Black Elk
- The Story of the Constitution* by Sol Bloom
- The Americanization of Edward Bok* by Edward William Bok
- The Gateway Arch: A Biography* by Tracey Campbell
- The Statue of Liberty: A Transatlantic Story* by Edward Berenson
- Our Hero: Superman on Earth* by Tom De Haven
- Code-Talker: The First and Only Memoir by One of the Original Navajo Code Talkers of WWII* by Chester Nez
- Grant and Twain: The Story of an American Friendship* by Mark Perry
- The Right Stuff* by Tom Wolfe
- American Passage: The History of Ellis Island* by Vincent J. Cannato
- The Pueblo Revolt: The Secret Rebellion that Drove the Spaniards Out of the Southwest* by David Roberts
- Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock Central High* by Melba Pattillo Beals
- A Clearing in the Distance: Frederick Law Olmsted and America in the 19th Century* by Witold Rybczynski

American Literature & Fiction

- The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
- The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway
- Little House* series by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- The Saturdays* series by (New York)
- The Keeper of the Bees* by Gene Stratton-Porter
- The Traitor's Wife* by Allison Pataki
- Moby-Dick* by Herman Melville
- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain
- Cranberry Thanksgiving* by Wende Devlin
- Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- Moccasin Trail* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw
- The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton (New York)
- The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (New York)
- Daughter of Fortune* by Isabel Allende (California)
- Hannah Coulter* by Wendell Berry
- American Tall Tales* by Mary Pope Osborne
- Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
- The Runaway Jury* by John Grisham
- The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson
- Executive Orders* by Tom Clancy

- Captains Courageous* by Rudyard Kipling
- Finding Langston* by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- JFK 11.22.63* by Stephen King
- Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
- Meet the Malones* by Lenora Mattingly Weber (Colorado)
- Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo
- Rootabaga Stories* by Carl Sandburg
- The Light in the Forest* by Conrad Richter
- Gentle Ben* by Walt Morey (Alaska)
- Bright April* by Marguerite de Angeli
- Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
- The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton (Oklahoma)
- The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- Lonesome Dove* by Larry McMurtry
- The Chosen* by Chaim Potok
- The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry
- Cheaper by the Dozen* by Frank B. Gilbreth Jr.
- The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving
- A Lantern in Her Hand* by Bess Streeter Aldrich
- Across Five Aprils* by Irene Hunt
- Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler (California)
- Justin Morgan Had A Horse* by Marguerite Henry
- Nancy Drew: The Secret of the Old Clock* by Carolyn Keene
- On the Horizon* by Lois Lowry
- Calico Palace* by Gwen Bristow
- Parnassus on Wheels* by Christopher Morley
- The Godfather* by Mario Puzo
- East of Eden* by John Steinbeck
- Hawaii* by James A. Michener
- Clara and Mr. Tiffany* by Susan Vreeland
- The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenmore Cooper
- Ramona* by Helen Hunt Jackson (California)
- The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green

American Poetry

- Paul Revere's Ride* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- The Raven* by Edgar Allan Poe
- Devotions* by Mary Oliver
- Emily Dickinson Complete Poems* by Emily Dickinson