

## **ADULT FICTION BOOK BAG TITLES**

Adnan, Etel. Sitt Marie Rose. Novel of a woman abducted by the militia during the Civil War in Lebanon.

Alvarez, Julia. How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents. Four sisters from the Dominican Republic adjust to life in the United States. Also appropriate for a young adult audience.

Alvarez, Julia. In the Time of the Butterflies. Fictionalized account of the Mirabel sisters who fought against the Trujillo dictatorship in the Dominican Republic.

Austen, Jane. Persuasion. The troubled romance of poor Captain Wentworth and upper class Anne Elliot.

Austen, Jane. Sense and Sensibility. Austen's first novel about two sisters romantically pursuing unsuitable men.

Baldwin, James. Go Tell it on the Mountain. A troubled African-American family in 1930's Harlem and the difficult relationship between teen-age John and his preacher stepfather.

Banks, Russell. Affliction. A dark novel about a New Hampshire small town policeman whose life is coming apart and devolving into violence.

Banks, Russell. Cloudsplitter. Novel about the abolitionist John Brown as narrated by his son Owen.

Banks, Russell. Sweet Hereafter. A school bus crash kills 14 children in a small upstate New York town. The aftereffects of the tragedy are told by several narrators.

Banks, Russell. Trailerpark. Related stories set in a New Hampshire trailer park.

Barker, Pat. Regeneration. Booker Prize nominee novel is the fictional account of the hospitalization of poet and soldier Siegfried Sassoon for condemning World War I.

Barnes, Linda. Flashpoint. Boston private detective Carlotta Carlyle investigates the murder of elderly Valentine Phipps.

Barrett, Andrea. Ship Fever and Other Stories. National Book Award-winning collection of stories.

Beattie, Ann. Park City: new and selected stories. 36 stories, mostly culled from earlier collections, of contemporary life.

Beckett, Samuel. Murphy. The first published novel by Beckett about a poor Irishman, Murphy, trying to make his fortune in London.

Begley, Louis. Wartime Lies. Nine-year-old Polish Jew Maciek and his aunt survive in World War II Poland by posing as Catholics.

Benet, Stephen Vincent. The Devil and Daniel Webster. Short story in which the famous lawyer and orator Webster takes on the Devil to save the soul of New Hampshire farmer Jabez Stone.

Benford, Gregory. The Martian Race. Science fiction novel of rival manned missions to Mars.

Black, Benjamin. Christine Falls: a novel. First book in a crime series by Booker Prize-winning author John Banville, under the pen name Black. The novel introduces pathologist Quirke who investigates the death of a young woman in 1950's Dublin.

Bohjalian, Chris. The Double Bind. A troubled young woman working at a homeless shelter obsessively investigates the background of a homeless man who recently died.

Bohjalian, Chris. Midwives. A rural midwife is accused of murder when a patient dies during a major storm.

Bohjalian, Chris. Water Witches. A former New York lawyer is involved in the dispute between a ski area seeking to expand and opponents (including his sister-in-law, a dowser).

Boyle, T. C. A Friend of the Earth. In 2025 global warming has devastated the world. Strident environmentalist Ty Tierwater reflects back on his attempts to save the earth in this darkly humorous novel.

Bradbury, Ray. Fahrenheit 451. In this futuristic novel, the government has ordered all books be destroyed. One "fireman" begins to question a way of life that despises literature.

Brooks, Geraldine. March. March, an idealistic abolitionist, leaves his New England home to join the Union army during the Civil War. A different look at the father in *Little Women* (loosely modeled on Louisa May Alcott's own father).

Brooks, Geraldine. Year of Wonders: a novel of the plague. The story of an English village infected by the Bubonic Plague in 1665 and their self-imposed quarantine, as told by a young widow in the village.

Brown, Rosellen. Before and After. A teenage boy is accused of killing his girlfriend in small-town New Hampshire, and his family is torn apart.

Cain, James M. Double Indemnity. A 1935 "noir" novel of a wife's attempt to kill her husband while making it appear to be an accident.

Canfield, Dorothy. The Home-Maker. An at-home wife and mother must work to support the family when her husband is injured. First published in 1924.

Cannon, LeGrand. Look to the Mountain. 1942 novel of a pioneer family in the New Hampshire wilderness near Mt. Chocorua.

Card, Orson Scott. Pastwatch: the redemption of Christopher Columbus. Future scientists on a doomed Earth try to change the past by altering Columbus' journey to the new world.

Carey, Peter. Theft: a love story. Former artist Michael Boone takes care of his brother Hugh and becomes involved with Marlene and an art heist.

Cather, Willa. Death Comes for the Archbishop. Two priests go to the New Mexico frontier in 1851 to spread Catholicism.

Cather, Willa. O Pioneers! The young daughter of Swedish immigrants takes over the family farm on the Nebraska frontier.

Chabon, Michael. The Yiddish Policemen's Union. In this alternative history/murder mystery policeman Meyer Landsman tries to find out who killed a chess prodigy in Sitka, Alaska, which became the home of displaced Jews after World War II.

Chevalier, Tracy. The Lady and the Unicorn. In 1490 a French nobleman commissions the creation of six tapestries, designed by the talented artist Nicholas and woven in Brussels by master weaver Georges.

Chopin, Kate. The Awakening. A Victorian wife and mother realizes there is more to life than her circumscribed circumstances allow.

Christie, Agatha. The Body in the Library. Miss Marple helps her friends Colonel and Mrs. Bantry solve the mystery of the corpse in their library.

Christie, Agatha. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd. Retired detective Hercule Poirot solves the murder of wealthy Ackroyd, who knew too much.

Clark, Mary Higgins. No Place Like Home. Ten-year-old Liza accidentally kills her mother. As an adult, the now re-named Celia returns to her childhood home and mysterious murders occur.

Conrad, Joseph. Heart of Darkness. Marlow takes his steamboat up the Congo river in search of Kurtz, cut off from the world at his remote trading post.

Coulehan, Jack. Chekhov's Doctors: a collection of Chekhov's medical tales. The great Russian author was also a physician. His experience flavored his physician characters in his literary works.

Craig, Philip R. and William G. Tapply. First Light. Two mystery authors combine forces, and detective characters, to solve a murder on Martha's Vineyard. Boston Lawyer Brady Coyne and retired cop J. W. Jackson work together to solve the mystery.

Dalby, Liza. The Tale of Murasaki. Fictional biography of Murasaki Shikibu, author of *The Tale of Genji*, in 11<sup>th</sup> century Japan.

Davies, Robertson. The Cunning Man. Jonathan Hullah, a holistic doctor, reflects on his life and career while pondering the mysterious death of a priest at the altar.

DeLillo, Don. White Noise. 1985 National Book Award winner. A Midwestern college professor and his family are exposed to a toxic cloud.

Doctorow, E. L. Loon Lake. During the Great Depression young runaway Joe ends up at the Adirondack estate of an industrialist.

Doerr, Harriet. Stones for Ibarra. An American couple moves to a small village in Mexico, where the husband Richard learns he has terminal cancer.

Dorris, Michael and Louise Erdrich. The Crown of Columbus. Two Dartmouth professors, and lovers, travel to the Caribbean to find Christopher Columbus' lost diary and a treasure he may have left.

Doyle, Arthur Conan. A Study in Scarlet. In this first story, detective Sherlock Holmes first meets Dr. Watson, who has just returned from war.

Doyle, Roddy. Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha. Booker Prize-winning novel about ten-year-old Padraic Clarke in a 1968 working class Irish town.

DuBois, Brendan. Primary Storm. Former Defense Department employee Lewis Cole, now a New Hampshire journalist, is a suspect in the attempted assassination of a presidential primary candidate.

Dubus, Andre. Selected Stories. Renowned short fiction writer lived in Haverhill, Massachusetts. Many of his stories chronicle blue collar life in this old manufacturing town north of Boston.

Erdrich, Louise. Love Medicine. The first book in Erdrich's series about Native American modern life. Interrelated stories about the Kashpaw and Lamartine families of North Dakota from the 1930s to the present.

### Family Album

Ferre, Rosario. Sweet Diamond Dust: and other stories. Stories about Puerto Rico and the De La Valle family.

Flaubert, Gustave. Madame Bovary. Romantic Emma is bored with her dull life and husband. Her search for passion has tragic consequences.

Foster, Hannah. The Coquette. First published in 1797, this is a fictionalized account of the life of poet Elizabeth Whitman, an unmarried woman who died in childbirth.

Francis, Dick. Reflex. Jockey Philip Nore discovers the death of a professional sports photographer was not an accident.

Frazier, Charles. Cold Mountain. National Book Award-winning first novel. Confederate soldier Inman deserts after being severely wounded and heads home, while the woman he loves struggles to maintain the family farm during wartime.

Freda, Joseph. Suburban Guerrillas. Suburban life in a typical New Hampshire town.

Freeman, Castle. Go With Me. Lillian decides to confront her stalker, with some assistance, in this small Vermont town.

Gardner, Erle Stanley. The Case of the Stuttering Bishop. Attorney Perry Mason solves the murder of a millionaire, which involves a mysterious bishop and possible long-lost daughter.

George, Elizabeth. A Great Deliverance. The first Inspector Lynley mystery, introducing Scotland Yard inspector Thomas Lynley, eighth Earl of Asherton, and his assistant, the stolidly middle class Sgt. Barbara Havers. They are called to the village of Keldale to solve a gruesome murder.

Gibbons, Stella. Nightingale Wood. Viola, an impoverished widow, must live with her husband's unpleasant family in the English countryside. She looks forward to the upcoming charity ball.

Gibson, William. Neuromancer. Award-winning science fiction novel that coined the term "cyberspace". Crippled computer whiz Case is hired to steal a computer security code.

Godwin, Gail. A Mother and Two Daughters. Leonard Strickland dies suddenly, leaving his wife and two adult daughters to adjust to his absence.

Graver, Elizabeth. Unravelling. Aimee Slater leaves her family's New Hampshire farm for a new life in the Lowell textile mills, only to return a year later.

Greene, Graham. The End of the Affair. A married woman ends her relationship with an author following a war time incident in World War II London.

Haldeman, Joe. The Forever War. Award-winning science fiction classic. William Mandella is a soldier in the long-lasting war with the alien Taurans. The larger problem is the effect of space travel on soldiers who don't age.

Hammett, Dashiell. The Glass Key. 1930's novel by a master of hardboiled detective novels. Gambler Ned Beaumont tries to find out who killed a senator's son.

Hammett, Dashiell. The Maltese Falcon. Detective Sam Spade's partner is murdered. Spade becomes involved with a mysterious woman and others seeking a valuable statue.

Hanh, Thich Nhat. The Stone Boy and Other Stories. Ten stories by a Vietnamese monk illustrating Vietnamese culture.

Hansen, Ron. Mariette in Ecstasy. A young woman enters a rural convent and inexplicably begins developing the wounds of Christ, throwing the community into an uproar.

Hardy, Thomas. Under the Greenwood Tree. The romance of Dick Dewy and teacher Fancy Day, who is chased by other, wealthier suitors.

Hawthorne, Nathaniel. The Scarlet Letter. Hawthorne's 1850 masterpiece about harsh Puritan New England. Hester Prynne is punished for bearing an illegitimate child and her newly returned husband is obsessed with finding the identity of the father.

Hawthorne, Nathaniel. Short Stories.

Hebert, Ernest. The Dogs of March. New Hampshire factory worker Howard Elman has job troubles, family issues, and a rich neighbor who wants to buy his property.

Hebert, Ernest. The Kinship. Two related novels by New Hampshire author Hebert. Contents include *A Little More Than Kin* and *The Passion of Estelle Jordan*, chronicling poor, illiterate families trying to survive.

Hebert, Ernest. The Old American. In a departure, New Hampshire novelist Hebert writes an historical novel about Native American Caucus-Meteor who kidnaps a settler during the French and Indian War and escapes with him to Canada.

Hemingway, Ernest. The Nick Adams Stories. Collected stories following Hemingway's Nick Adams character from childhood through war and beyond.

Hesse, Hermann. Siddhartha. A young man leaves his comfortable home in search of enlightenment.

Hillerman, Tony. Dance Hall of the Dead. Navajo tribal police Lt. Joe Leaphorn investigates the disappearance and possible deaths of two Native American boys in his New Mexico jurisdiction.

Hoeg, Peter. Smilla's Sense of Snow. Eskimo Smilla stubbornly investigates the death of her six-year-old neighbor in Copenhagen, uncovering a conspiracy.

Hogan, Linda. Mean Spirit. During the 1920's Oklahoma oil boom an Osage Indian matriarch is murdered and her family besieged by corrupt oil interests.

Hopkinson, Nalo. Midnight Robber. Young Tan-Tan is exiled to a wild and violent planet with her criminal father. She learns to survive as a Robin Hood type of renegade.

Houston, Pam (editor). Women on Hunting. Collected writings on the topic by acclaimed female authors such as Margaret Atwood, Anne Beattie, Joyce Carol Oates, and others.

Hurston, Zora Neale. Moses, Man of the Mountain. Acclaimed Harlem Renaissance writer's spin on the Old Testament story of Moses.

Hurston, Zora Neale. Their Eyes Were Watching God. Janie Crawford is a southern African American woman in the 1930's, outspoken and accused of killing one of her three husbands.

Hyde, Catherine Ryan. Pay It Forward. For a school assignment, Trevor McKinney's plan to "change the world" is to perform an act of kindness for three people who must in turn "pay it forward".

Ingalls, Rachel. Mrs. Caliban. Dorothy, an unhappy housewife, meets and falls in love with a sea monster named Larry.

Irving, John. The Cider House Rules. Dr. Wilbur Larch runs an orphanage in rural Maine, where the never-adopted Homer Wells also lives.

Irving, John. A Prayer for Owen Meany. In 1953 an eleven-year-old boy hits a baseball that kills his friend's mother. The boy, Owen Meany, believes he is an instrument of God.

James, Henry. Daisy Miller. Daisy is a careless and flirtatious young American woman visiting Europe in the mid-1800's.

James, P. D. Cover Her Face. The first Adam Dalgliesh mystery novel in which the brilliant Scotland Yard inspector investigates the murder of a young maid.

James, P. D. A Taste for Death. Scotland Yard detective Adam Dalgliesh investigates the vicious murders of a minister and a vagabond in a London church.

James, P. D. An Unsuitable Job for a Woman. Young private detective Cordelia Gray investigates the hanging (officially deemed a suicide) of a young Cambridge dropout.

Jen, Gish. Mona in the Promised Land. The Chinese-American Chang family moves to the affluent suburbs where teen-age daughter Mona assimilates by converting to Judaism.

Jen, Gish. Typical American. The Chinese immigrant Chang family comes to the United States in the 1940's and try to adapt, yet maintain their traditional Chinese values.

Jin, Ha. Waiting. Lin Kong, a doctor in the Chinese Army, is trapped in an arranged marriage, and cannot marry the nurse he loves.

Jones, Ben. The Rope Eater. Brendan Kane, a Civil War deserter, signs on to the crew of the *Narhex*, a ship heading to the Arctic for mysterious purposes.

Joyce, James. A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man. A young Irish man rebels against family and society to pursue a life in the arts.

Kawabata, Yasunari. Snow Country. Tragic love story of a city man and a poor geisha in a small mountain village by a Nobel Prize-winning Japanese author.

Keillor, Garrison. Lake Wobegon Days. Humorous stories of Keillor's fictional Midwestern town and its inhabitants.

Kelly, James Patrick. Burn. Nebula Award winning science fiction novella by New Hampshire author Kelly. A billionaire creates a Utopia called Walden on a far planet, but the original inhabitants resist.

Kerouac, Jack. On the Road. Beat Generation classic. Cross country journey of Sal Paradise, Kerouac's alter-ego.

King, Stephen. Different Seasons. Four novellas, three of which were inspirations for the movies *The Shawshank Redemption*, *Apt Pupil*, and *Stand by Me*.

Kinsella, W. P. Shoeless Joe. A baseball announcer's voice tells Ray to build a ball field and Shoeless Joe Jackson and the other disgraced 1919 White Sox players will come. Basis for the movie *Field of Dreams*.

Kress, Nancy. Beggars in Spain. A Hugo and Nebula Award-winning novel. Leisha has been genetically modified to never need sleep, and is considered an outcast in her future society.

Lahiri, Jhumpa. Interpreter of Maladies. Pulitzer Prize-winning stories of Indian families, both in the United States and India.

Lardner, Ring. The Golden Honeymoon. Short story about a couple celebrating their golden wedding anniversary, and running into the wife's old flame.

Lawrence, D. H. The Rainbow. The story of three generations of an English family in the mid to late 1800's. The book was considered obscene when published in 1915.

Lee, Harper. To Kill a Mockingbird. Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of racism and one Southern lawyer's fight to defend a wrongly accused African American man.

Le Guin, Ursula. The Left Hand of Darkness. An emissary from the League of All Worlds tries to convince the government of the planet of Winter (where citizens are neither male or female) to join the confederation. 1969 winner of Hugo and Nebula awards.

Lethem, Jonathan. Motherless Brooklyn. Lionel Essrog, a Brooklyn orphan with Tourette's Syndrome, tries to solve the murder of his mentor and boss Frank Minna. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award.

Lewis, Sinclair. Main Street. City girl Carol Milford marries Dr. Kennicott and moves to rural Gopher Prairie, Minnesota, where she tries to transform the town.

Lively, Penelope. Moon Tiger. Booker Prize Award. Former war correspondent Claudia Hampton is dying of cancer and reminiscing about her life, especially a tragic affair with a soldier.

London, Jack. The Call of the Wild. Classic brief novel about the dog Buck, transported to the Alaskan Gold Rush and transformed into a sled dog.

MacDonald, John D. The Deep Blue Good-By. The first Travis McGee detective novel. Travis, who lives on a houseboat and works only when necessary, must track down a hidden fortune.

Maclean, Norman. A River Runs Through It: and other stories. Maclean was a retired English professor who began writing fiction at age seventy. He writes of the rugged Montana woods of his youth.

Mahfouz, Naguib. Palace Walk. The first novel in a trilogy about three generations of an Egyptian family. The family of a prosperous but tyrannical merchant live in post-World War I Cairo.

Malamud, Bernard. The Natural. Malamud's first novel, about athlete Roy Hobbs who wants to become a professional baseball player.

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia. Chronicle of a Death Foretold. A bride is rejected by her new husband due to premarital infidelity and her brothers resolve to kill her lover. Yet the townspeople do nothing to stop the murder.

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia. Love in the Time of Cholera. Florentino falls in love with young Fermina, who rejects him for a wealthy doctor. Fifty years later, after the doctor's death, Florentino again proclaims his love.

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia. One Hundred Years of Solitude. The one hundred year history of the town of Macondo and its inhabitants, the Buendia family.

Martel, Yann. Life of Pi. Winner of the Man Booker Prize. Young Pi Patel is shipwrecked, finding himself on a lifeboat with a wild Bengal tiger.

Mason, Bobbie Ann. Shiloh & Other Stories. Winner of the PEN/Hemingway award. Stories set in western Kentucky.

Mayor, Archer. Bellows Falls. Lt. Joe Gunther is a Brattleboro, Vermont, police detective. He is brought to the nearby town of Bellows Falls to investigate a case of sexual harassment, which evolves into drug crimes and murder.

Mayor, Archer. St. Albans Fire. Vermont police detective Gunther investigates arson and murder from Vermont to New Jersey.

McCorkle, Jill. July 7<sup>th</sup>. Charles Husky, a Quik-Pik clerk in Marshboro, North Carolina, is found murdered near the Slurpee machine.

McEwan, Ian. Atonement. Nominated for the Booker Prize. Thirteen-year-old Briony makes a tragic assumption one day, ruining the lives of those close to her. Later, during World War II, she tries to make amends.

Mehta, Gita. A River Sutra. Stories of life along the holy Narmada River in India.

Metalious, Grace. Peyton Place. New Hampshire author's novel about small town life in rural New England became immensely popular and notorious following its publication in 1956.

Mieville, China. The City & The City. An interesting blend of science fiction and murder mystery. Detective Tyador Borlu solves the murder of a woman as he travels back and forth between two cities – occupying the same space.

Miller, Arthur. Death of a Salesman. Classic American play about the salesman Willy Loman, unsuccessful in work and life.

Minot, Susan. Monkeys. Stories about the Vincent family of New England as they mature and deal with family dynamics.

Mishima, Yukio. Spring Snow. Set in Tokyo in 1912, this is a tragic love story involving a young man descended from a noble Samurai family and his complicated relationship with a young woman chosen to marry a royal prince.

Moon Over Morocco. A ten hour audio play by M. Fulton about Jack Flanders and his journey to Morocco in search of magic.

Moon, Elizabeth. The Speed of Dark. In this near future scenario, disease no longer exists. An autistic man is faced with surgery that will “cure” his autism, but fears how this may change him.

Morrison, Toni. Beloved. Pulitzer Prize-winning novel about Sethe who was born a slave and escaped to Ohio. Years later she is still haunted by her dead baby, known only as Beloved.

Morrison, Toni. Jazz. In 1926 Harlem a middle-aged cosmetics salesman kills his young mistress and his wife attacks the corpse at the funeral.

Morrison, Toni. Paradise. The tiny town of Ruby was founded by former slaves. Current residents blame the residents of the “convent” for their problems and decide to take action.

Morrison, Toni. Song of Solomon. Macon “Milkman” Dead explores his family’s past as he matures to adulthood.

Morrison, Toni. Sula. Childhood friends Sula and Nel diverge in adulthood. Sula leaves their small town, then later returns, but does not fit in.

Mosher, Howard Frank. A Stranger in the Kingdom. Winner of the New England Book Award. In 1952 rural Vermont a new Presbyterian minister is accused of a brutal murder.

Mosher, Howard Frank. Where the Rivers Flow North. Several stories and the title novella (later made into a movie) about fictional Kingdom County, Vermont.

Naylor, Gloria. The Women of Brewster Place. National Book Award-winning novel about several African American women who inhabit a decaying city tenement on a dead-end street.

Neely, Barbara. Blanche Cleans Up. Blanche is a middle-aged African American domestic worker from Roxbury. In this mystery she solves a murder involving a prominent Boston political family.

Olsen, Tillie. Tell Me a Riddle. Four short stories featured in the Best American Short Stories series. The title story won the O. Henry Prize in 1961.

Opie, Iona and Peter. The Classic Fairy Tales. Twenty four well known fairy tales including Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Hansel and Gretel, and others in their original versions.

Otsuka, Julie. When the Emperor was Divine. A Japanese-American family is sent to an internment camp for three years during World War II.

Parker, Robert B. The Godwulf Manuscript. Parker’s popular Boston private detective Spenser investigates the theft of a medieval illuminated manuscript.

Parker, Robert B. Trouble in Paradise. Parker’s other popular fictional hero, Jesse Stone, police chief of Paradise, Massachusetts, must deal with a gang of thieves.

Peters, Ellis. The Potter’s Field. Brother Cadfael, a 12<sup>th</sup> century Benedictine monk, solves the murder of a young woman, whose body was found when plowing a field.

Phillips, Jayne Anne. Machine Dreams. The story of a West Virginia family trying to survive, from the Depression through the Vietnam War.

Poe, Edgar Allan. Selected Writings. Various works by the poet and fiction writer Poe, with critical essays included. The Norton Critical Edition edited by G. R. Thompson.

Potok, Chaim. The Chosen. National Book Award finalist. Two Jewish boys meet in 1940's Brooklyn. This is the story of their friendship and differences of faith (one is from a progressive Orthodox family, the other is Hasidic).

Proulx, E. Annie. Postcards. Winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction. Young Loyal Blood leaves his Vermont family farm following an accidental killing. He roams the country for decades suffering from guilt.

Pym, Barbara. Jane and Prudence. Longtime friends regularly get together for lunch and gossip, and attempts to find a husband for Prudence, in this quaint novel of middle class English life.

Pynchon, Thomas. Inherent Vice. 1960's pot-smoking private eye Doc Sportello investigates a kidnapping threat against his ex-girlfriend's new billionaire boyfriend.

Roth, Philip. American Pastoral. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. Swede Levov's comfortable life in New Jersey comes to a screeching halt in 1968 when his teenage daughter Merry becomes involved in a violent protest against the Vietnam War. First book in Roth's trilogy about American society.

Roth, Philip. The Human Stain. In 1998, Professor Coleman Silk is forced to retire from his college position due to a false charge of racism. Yet no one knows his 50-year-old secret. Third book in Roth's trilogy about American society.

Roth, Philip. I Married a Communist. Ira Ringold's life from his teenage years as a ditch digger in Newark during the Depression, through his success as a radio star in the '40's, to his downfall during the McCarthy era anti-Communist purges. Second book in Roth's trilogy.

Russo, Richard. Empire Falls. Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. Mild-mannered Miles Roby runs the local diner in blue collar Empire Falls, Maine.

Salzman, Mark. Lying Awake. Sister John experiences spiritual visions. But a doctor thinks there may be a medical reason for her visions and headaches.

Sarton, May. As We Are Now. A retired schoolteacher is placed in a nursing home as her health declines, where she is extremely unhappy. Sarton (poet, novelist) lived in Nelson, New Hampshire, for many years.

Sarton, May. Kinds of Love. A retired couple decides to spend the winter in their New England vacation home. Sarton (poet, novelist,) lived in Nelson, New Hampshire, for many years.

Sayers, Dorothy. Gaudy Night. Renowned detective novelist Sayers penned this third mystery novel featuring Harriet Vane and her beau Lord Peter Wimsey, as they solve a murder during Ms. Vane's Oxford reunion.

Selzer, Richard. The Doctor Stories. A collection of stories by the former surgeon about people dealing with medical crises.

Shaara, Michael. The Killer Angels. Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of the Civil War about the Battle of Gettysburg and the men on both sides who fought the battle.

Shaw, George Bernard. The Devil's Disciple. Shaw's play about Richard Dudgeon, a rebellious young man in a strict New England village during the Revolutionary War. He becomes a hero when arrested by the British soldiers in a case of mistaken identity.

Shaw, George Bernard. Pygmalion. The original play about Eliza Doolittle, the poor flower girl "transformed" into a society lady by Professor Higgins. Basis for the musical *My Fair Lady*.

Shelley, Mary. Frankenstein. Classic 19<sup>th</sup> century horror story about a monster created from dead bodies and brought to life.

Shreve, Anita. The Weight of Water. A woman researches a century-old murder on Smuttynose Island (the Isles of Shoals) and also comes to doubt her marriage and husband's faithfulness.

Silko, Leslie Marmon. Ceremony. A young Native American returns to his home after being a Japanese prisoner in World War II, and tries to deal with his PTSD. The author, like her character Tayo, is of mixed Native American and white ancestry.

Silko, Leslie Marmon. Gardens in the Dunes. Young Native American Indigo is taken from her family and placed in a government school in 1900. She later travels the world with a wealthy white family.

Silko, Leslie Marmon. Storyteller. A collection of short stories about modern Native American culture and issues, by an author of mixed Native American, white, and Mexican ancestry.

Sillitoe, Alan. The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner. Short stories about English working class youth trying to get ahead in mid-20<sup>th</sup> century England.

Stegner, Wallace. The Spectator Bird. National Book Award winner. Joe Allston is retired and just waiting to die. A postcard prompts him to reread his journal of a trip to Denmark and relive memories of that trip.

Steinbeck, John. The Grapes of Wrath. Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winning novel of the Great Depression, when the Joad family is forced from their Oklahoma farm and become migrant workers in California.

Tan, Amy. The Joy Luck Club. Four Chinese immigrant women begin meeting in 1949 to share their experiences and lives, later including their daughters.

Tey, Josephine. The Daughter of Time. The recuperating Inspector Alan Grant of Scotland Yard decides to uncover the true history of Richard III, reviled as a murderer.

Tanizaki, Junichiro. Some Prefer Nettles. Tanizaki was a renowned Japanese novelist of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The story of the troubled marriage of a Japanese couple in 1920's Tokyo and the clash between traditional Japanese ways and modern "Western" changes.

Thomas, D. M. The White Hotel. An opera singer patient of Sigmund Freud fantasizes about a love affair with Freud's son.

Twain, Mark. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. The classic American novel about Huck who escapes his abusive father on a raft trip down the Mississippi River with escaped slave Jim.

Twain, Mark. A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court. Hank Morgan journeys from modern day (19<sup>th</sup> century) Hartford to medieval England and the royal court of King Arthur.

Tyler, Anne. Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant. Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and PEN/Faulkner Award. A family, damaged by the desertion of the father/husband, comes together when the now elderly mother, Pearl, dies.

Tyler, Anne. Morgan's Passing. Morgan, a discontented father, husband, and hardware store manager, becomes obsessed with a young couple, Leon and Emily Meredith.

Unsworth, Barry. Morality Play. A troupe of actors in 14<sup>th</sup> century Europe performs a play based on a local murder, and subsequently solve the crime.

Unsworth, Barry. Stone Virgin. While restoring a 15<sup>th</sup> century sculpture of the Madonna, Simon Raikes becomes involved in an affair and a crime.

Updike, John. Rabbit Run. The first of the series of novels about Rabbit Angstrom, used car salesman and former high school star athlete who is unhappy with his marriage and life.

Van Gulik, Robert. The Chinese Bell Murders. Judge Dee, magistrate in the ancient Chinese city of Poo-Yang, solves three mysteries, including the murder of young Pure Jade.

Vickers, Salley. The Other Side of You. A psychiatrist's session with a patient, trying to find the reason for her suicide attempt, uncovers his own feelings of guilt and grief following a childhood tragedy.

Vreeland, Susan. Girl in Hyacinth Blue. Interconnected stories of the history of an unknown Vermeer painting, which eventually came into the possession of an American school teacher.

Walker, Alice. The Color Purple. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award. Celie is a young woman, abused first by her stepfather, then her husband. Much of the story is told in Celie's letters to her sister, a missionary in Africa.

Walker, Alice. Meridian. Meridian is a young African American woman in the 1960's South working in the Civil Rights movement.

Wallis, Velma. Two Old Women: an Alaska legend of betrayal, courage and survival. In the midst of winter during a famine, two elderly Athabascan women are abandoned by their tribe.

Walters, Minette. The Shape of Snakes. Mrs. Ranelagh is determined to solve the 20 year old mystery of the death of a neighborhood eccentric black woman, despite the costs.

Weldon, Fay. The Life and Loves of a She-Devil. A New York Times Notable Book of the Year. Long-suffering with Ruth, whose husband despises and cheats on her, finally reaches her limit, taking her revenge against her husband and his latest mistress.

Wells, H. G. The Island of Dr. Moreau. 19<sup>th</sup> century science fiction author (*The Time Machine, War of the Worlds*) writes about a tropical island where an insane doctor performs horrible experiments on animals.

Welty, Eudora. The Ponder Heart. Award-winning author's humorous novella about the Ponder family as told by Edna Earle Ponder, one of the last living descendants of this Mississippi family.

Wetherell, W. D. The Wisest Man in America. For almost 50 years New Hampshire native Ferris has correctly predicted the New Hampshire presidential primary winner. Renowned journalist Max has chronicled his picks over time, and they have forged a deep and complicated relationship.

Wharton, Edith. Summer. Small town librarian Charity Royall, an orphan, has a summer romance with visiting architect Lucius Harney.

White, Michael. A Brother's Blood. Towards the end of World War II, a German prisoner of war escapes from a Maine camp, to be found dead. 50 years later his brother visits this small town to solve the mystery of his death.

White, Randy Wayne. Sanibel Flats. First in a series of Doc Ford novels. A former NSA operative is living quietly on Sanibel Island until a friend asks for his help.

Wilder, Thornton. Our Town. Pulitzer Prize-winning play about life in fictional Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, exemplifying small town life in early 20<sup>th</sup> century America. Wilder spent time at the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough.

Wilson, Harriet E. Our Nig. Considered to be the first novel published by an African American woman in this country (1859). Story of a young mixed race woman who is an indentured servant in a Massachusetts household. Wilson herself, born in Milford, New Hampshire, became an indentured servant.

Winterson, Jeanette. The Passion. A soldier in Napoleon's army falls in love with Villanelle of Venice, in this fantastical romance.

Wister, Owen. The Virginian. Classic western novel (1902) of the mythical American cowboy who fights against evil.

Winters, Ben H. The Last Policeman. The planet is on the brink of extinction due to an advancing asteroid. Yet police detective Hank Palace is still on the job in Concord, NH, investigating a suspicious suicide.

Wu Ch'eng-en. Monkey: folk novel of China. Translated by Arthur Waley. Classic 16<sup>th</sup> century novel of Monkey and his many encounters with gods, ghosts, and monsters.

Youngblood, Shay. Black Girl in Paris. A young woman leaves the South for the literary life of expatriates in Paris in the 1980's.







