

AND NOW, SOME BOOKS...

1. Ghost in the Shell 2: Innocence - After the Long Goodbye by Masaki Yamada, Yuji Oniki (Translator), Carl Gustav Horn (Translator)

Part man, but mostly machine, Batou is employed by a mysterious agency known as Section 9. When terrorists come to town, Batou straps on a battery of high-tech weaponry and goes to work. But even a hulking cyborg like Batou has a sensitive side. After all these years, he still mourns the loss of his partner, Maj. Motoko Kusanagi. And now his beloved basset hound Gabriel has mysteriously disappeared. To complicate matters even further, he's having reoccurring dreams about a son he never had. Combating violent insurgents is one thing; getting in touch with your feelings is totally different. Suddenly, Batou must grapple with the thing he understands the least: his own humanity

2. Reservation Blues by Sherman Alexie

In his new book Reservation Blues, Alexie spins the fictional tale of Johnson's adventure at a new crossroads, this one in a small town called Wellpinit, Wash. It is here that he comes to seek out Big Mom, a local medicine woman, and, in so doing, leaves his famous guitar in the hands of misfit storyteller Thomas Builds-the-Fire.

Builds-the-Fire, brought back from Alexie's last book, The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven, takes up Johnson's magical guitar and, along with Victor Joseph, Junior Polatkin and two Flathead Indian sisters named Chess and Checkers, goes on to build a reservation blues band that takes the Northwest by storm...

3. The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

The Alchemist is the magical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure as extravagant as any ever found. From his home in Spain he journeys to the markets of Tangiers and across the Egyptian desert to a fateful encounter with the alchemist.

4. A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

Propelled by the same superb instinct for storytelling that made The Kite Runner a beloved classic, A Thousand Splendid Suns is at once an incredible chronicle of thirty years of Afghan history and a deeply moving story of family, friendship, faith, and the salvation to be found in love.

5. The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

Four mothers, four daughters, four families whose histories shift with the four winds depending on who's "saying" the stories. In 1949 four Chinese women, recent immigrants to San Francisco, begin meeting to eat dim sum, play mahjong, and talk. United in shared unspeakable loss and hope, they call themselves the Joy Luck Club. Rather than sink into tragedy, they choose to gather to raise their spirits and money. "To despair was to wish back for something already lost. Or to prolong what was already unbearable." Forty years later the stories and history continue.

6. The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Markus Zusak's unforgettable story is about the ability of books to feed the soul. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her

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accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement.

7. The Namesake: A Novel by Jhumpa Lahiri

The Namesake takes the Ganguli family from their tradition-bound life in Calcutta through their fraught transformation into Americans. On the heels of their arranged wedding, Ashoke and Ashima Ganguli settle together in Cambridge, Massachusetts. An engineer by training, Ashoke adapts far less warily than his wife, who resists all things American and pines for her family.

8. Dreaming in Cuban by Cristina Garcia

Here is the dreamy and bittersweet story of a family divided by politics and geography by the Cuban revolution. It is the family story of Celia del Pino, and her husband, daughter and grandchildren, from the mid-1930s to 1980. Celia's story mirrors the magical realism of Cuba itself, a country of beauty and poverty, idealism and corruption. DREAMING IN CUBAN presents a unique vision and a haunting lamentation for a past that might have been.

9. Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay

Paris, July 1942: Sarah, a ten year-old girl, is brutally arrested with her family by the French police in the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup, but not before she locks her younger brother in a cupboard in the family's apartment, thinking that she will be back within a few hours.

Paris, May 2002: On Vel' d'Hiv's 60th anniversary, journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article about this black day in France's past. Through her contemporary investigation, she stumbles onto a trail of long-hidden family secrets that connect her to Sarah. Julia finds herself compelled to retrace the girl's ordeal, from that terrible term in the Vel d'Hiv', to the camps, and beyond. As she probes into Sarah's past, she begins to question her own place in France, and to reevaluate her marriage and her life.

10. All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot

Delve into the magical, unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world's most beloved veterinarian, and his menagerie of heartwarming, funny, and tragic animal patients.

11. One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

One Hundred Years of Solitude, the greatest of all Latin American novels is the magic and multi-layered epic of the Buendia family and the story of their jungle settlement, Macondo.

Like many other epics, this book has deeply-rooted connections with historical reality, i.e., the development of Colombia since its independence from Spain in the early 19th century. The story of the Buendia family is obviously a metaphor for Colombia in the neocolonial period as well as a narrative concerning the myths in Latin American history.

12. Old Town by Lin Zhe, George A. Fowler (Translator)

Lin Zhe, one of China's most prolific writers, paints an unforgettable picture of an ordinary family caught up in the maelstrom that was China's most recent century. Her narrative ranges across the entire length of China, to California and back again, to the battlefields of the Anti-Japanese War of Resistance and the brutal "struggle" sessions of the Cultural Revolution. But it always returns to this family's home in Old Town, that archetypical, old-fashioned, and vanishing place steeped in the traditions of South China.

13. The Cyberiad by Stanislaw Lem

Trurl and Klaupacius are constructor robots who try to out-invent each other. They travel to the far corners of the cosmos to take on freelance problem-solving jobs, with dire consequences for their employers. “The most completely successful of his books... here Lem comes closest to inventing a real universe” (Boston Globe).

14. Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

Things Fall Apart tells two intertwining stories, both centering on Okonkwo, a “strong man” of an Ibo village in Nigeria. The first, a powerful fable of the immemorial conflict between the individual and society, traces Okonkwo’s fall from grace with the tribal world. The second, as modern as the first is ancient, concerns the clash of cultures and the destruction of Okonkwo’s world with the arrival of aggressive European missionaries.

15. Burial Rights: A Novel by Hannah Kent

Set against Iceland’s stark landscape, Hannah Kent brings to vivid life the story of Agnes, who, charged with the brutal murder of her former master, is sent to an isolated farm to await execution.

Horrified at the prospect of housing a convicted murderer, the family at first avoids Agnes. Only Tóti, a priest Agnes has mysteriously chosen to be her spiritual guardian, seeks to understand her. But as Agnes’s death looms, the farmer’s wife and their daughters learn there is another side to the sensational story they’ve heard.

16. Minding Frankie by Maeve Binchy

When Noel learns that his terminally ill former flame is pregnant with his child, he reluctantly agrees to take care of the baby girl. Along with the help of a caring network of friends, family and neighbors—including Lisa, his broken-hearted classmate, and Emily, his American cousin—Noel adapts to his new responsibilities. But when a nosy social worker decides to get involved, she threatens to ruin their unconventional but special arrangement. It will be up to Noel to persuade her that everyone in the neighborhood has something to offer when it comes to minding Frankie.

17. The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle: A Novel by Haruki Murakami (Author), Jay Rubin (Translator)

Japan’s most highly regarded novelist now vaults into the first ranks of international fiction writers with this heroically imaginative novel, which is at once a detective story, an account of a disintegrating marriage, and an excavation of the buried secrets of World War II.

18. Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress: A Novel by Dai Sijie (Author), Ina Rilke (Translator)

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress is an enchanting tale that captures the magic of reading and the wonder of romantic awakening. An immediate international bestseller, it tells the story of two hapless city boys exiled to a remote mountain village for re-education during China’s infamous Cultural Revolution.

19. Fools Rush In — A True Story of Love, War, and Redemption by Bill Carter

Offering an in-depth personal account of the Bosnian and Herzegovinian war, this autobiography follows the author as he departed for conflict-ridden Eastern Europe in the early 1990s. Demonstrating how the protagonist discovered his own love of humanity, this narrative documents his career as an aid-worker, toiling amidst a motley crew of expatriate punk rockers and thrill junkies who dressed as clowns to deliver food to bombed-out orphanages. Touching on his later role as a dogged emissary, this chronicle also relates how the author convinced the rock group U2 to help bring the

siege of Sarajevo to the planet via satellite broadcasts beamed out during their PopMart world tour. A forthright and powerful memoir, this searing reconstruction depicts an innocent city under attack as well as indelible portraits of the people of Sarajevo, who continued to live their lives with hope, humor, and passion. This updated edition also includes an introduction by Charles Bowden, the author of *Down by the River*.

20. The Wilderness World of John Muir Edited by Edwin Way Teale

As a conservationist, John Muir traveled through most of the American wilderness alone and on foot, without a gun or a sleeping bag. In 1903, while on a three-day camping trip with President Theodore Roosevelt, he convinced the president of the importance of a national conservation program, and he is widely recognized for saving the Grand Canyon and Arizona's Petrified Forest. Muir's writing, based on journals he kept throughout his life, gives our generation a picture of an America still wild and unsettled only one hundred years ago.

21. The Ninemile Wolves by Rick Bass

One of Rick Bass's most widely respected works of natural history, *The Ninemile Wolves* follows the fate of a modern wolf pack, the first known group of wolves to attempt to settle in Montana outside protected national park territory. The wolf inspires hatred, affection, myth, fear, and pity; its return polarizes the whole of the West -- igniting the passions of cattle ranchers and environmentalists, wildlife biologists and hunters. One man's vigorous, emotional inquiry into the proper relationship between man and nature, *The Ninemile Wolves* eloquently advocates wolf reintroduction in the West. In a new preface, Bass discusses the enduring lessons of the Ninemile story.

22. The Custer Myth by W.A. Graham

This informative and historic book, *The Custer Myth: A source Book of Custeriana* by Colonel W.A. Graham is an eye opener. For over three-quarters of a century the battle of the Little Big Horn has furnished a richer field for controversy and speculation than any other single event in American history. In four parts, this volume with many new photographs, maps and other illustrations will intrigue Custer fans - the frontispiece and four color end paper.

23. Crow Dog *Four Generations of Sioux Medicine Men* by Leonard Crow Dog & Richard Erdoes

From the co-author of *Lakota Woman*, which has sold more than 150,000 paperback copies, comes a compelling account detailing the unique experiences and spiritual knowledge accumulated by four generations of powerful medicine men.

24. The Earth Shall Weep — A History of Native America by James Wilson

The Earth Shall Weep is a groundbreaking, critically acclaimed history of the Native American peoples. Combining traditional historical sources with new insights from ethnography, archaeology, Indian oral tradition, and years of his original research, James Wilson weaves a historical narrative that puts Native Americans at the center of their struggle for survival against the tide of invading European peoples and cultures. *The Earth Shall Weep* charts the collision course between Euro-Americans and the indigenous people of the continent, from the early interactions at English settlements on the Atlantic coast, through successive centuries of encroachment and outright warfare, to the new political force of the Native American activists of today.

25. John Adams by David McCullough

David McCullough unfolds the adventurous life journey of John Adams, the brilliant, fiercely independent, often irascible, always honest Yankee patriot who spared nothing in his zeal for the American Revolution; who rose to become the second president of the United States and saved the country from blundering into an unnecessary war; who was learned beyond all but a few and regarded

by some as “out of his senses”; and whose marriage to the wise and valiant Abigail Adams is one of the moving love stories in American history.

26. The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey by Candice Millard

The River of Doubt—it is a black, uncharted tributary of the Amazon that snakes through one of the most treacherous jungles in the world. Indians armed with poison-tipped arrows haunt its shadows; piranhas glide through its waters; boulder-strewn rapids turn the river into a roiling cauldron.

After his humiliating election defeat in 1912, Roosevelt set his sights on the most punishing physical challenge he could find, the first descent of an unmapped, rapids-choked tributary of the Amazon. Together with his son Kermit and Brazil's most famous explorer, Cândido Mariano da Silva Rondon, Roosevelt accomplished a feat so great that many at the time refused to believe it. In the process, he changed the map of the western hemisphere forever.

27. Where Bigfoot Walks: Crossing the Dark Divide by Robert Michael Pyle

Robert Michael Pyle trekked into the Dark Divide, where he discovered a giant fossil footprint; searched out Indians who told him of an outcast tribe that had not fully evolved into humans; and attended the convocation in British Columbia called Sasquatch Daze, where he realized that “these guys don't want to find Bigfoot—they want to be Bigfoot.” Ultimately Pyle discovers a few things about Bigfoot - and a lot about the human need for something to believe in and the need for wilderness in our lives.

28. The Last Stand: Custer, Sitting Bull, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn by Nathaniel Philbrick

With a fantastic body of work that includes *In the Heart of the Sea*, Pulitzer Prize finalist *Mayflower*, and the forthcoming *Valiant Ambition*, Nathaniel Philbrick has emerged as a historian with a unique ability to bring history to life. *The Last Stand* is Philbrick's monumental reappraisal of the epochal clash at the Little Bighorn in 1876 that gave birth to the legend of Custer's Last Stand. Bringing a wealth of new information to his subject, as well as his characteristic literary flair, Philbrick details the collision between two American icons- George Armstrong Custer and Sitting Bull—that both parties wished to avoid, and brilliantly explains how the battle that ensued has been shaped and reshaped by national myth.

29. A Brief History of Time By Stephen Hawking

A landmark volume in science writing by one of the great minds of our time, Stephen Hawking's book explores such profound questions as: How did the universe begin—and what made its start possible? Does time always flow forward? Is the universe unending—or are there boundaries? Are there other dimensions in space? What will happen when it all ends?

30. In The Shadow of Man by Jane Goodall

World-renowned primatologist, conservationist, and humanitarian Dr. Jane Goodall's account of her life among the wild chimpanzees of Gombe is one of the most enthralling stories of animal behavior ever written. Her adventure began when the famous anthropologist Dr. Louis Leakey suggested that a long-term study of chimpanzees in the wild might shed light on the behavior of our closest living relatives. Accompanied by only her mother and her African assistants, she set up camp in the remote Gombe Stream Chimpanzee Reserve in Tanzania. For months the project seemed hopeless; out in the forest from dawn until dark, she had but fleeting glimpses of frightened animals. But gradually she won their trust and was able to record previously unknown behavior, such as the use—and even the making—of tools, until then believed to be an exclusive skill of man. As she came to know the chimps as individuals, she began to understand their complicated social hierarchy and observed many extraordinary

behaviors, which have forever changed our understanding of the profound connection between humans and chimpanzees.

31. Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West by Stephen Ambrose

In 1803 President Thomas Jefferson selected his personal secretary, Captain Meriwether Lewis, to lead a voyage up the Missouri River to the Rockies, over the mountains, down the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean, and back. Lewis and his partner, Captain William Clark, made the first map of the trans-Mississippi West, provided invaluable scientific data on the flora and fauna of the Louisiana Purchase territory, and established the American claim to Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Ambrose has pieced together previously unknown information about weather, terrain, and medical knowledge at the time to provide a vivid backdrop for the expedition. Lewis is supported by a rich variety of colorful characters, first of all Jefferson himself, whose interest in exploring and acquiring the American West went back thirty years. Next comes Clark, a rugged frontiersman whose love for Lewis matched Jefferson's. There are numerous Indian chiefs, and Sacagawea, the Indian girl who accompanied the expedition, along with the French-Indian hunter Drouillard, the great naturalists of Philadelphia, the French and Spanish fur traders of St. Louis, John Quincy Adams, and many more leading political, scientific, and military figures of the turn of the century.

32. Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing

In August 1914, polar explorer Ernest Shackleton boarded the *Endurance* and set sail for Antarctica, where he planned to cross the last uncharted continent on foot. In January 1915, after battling its way through a thousand miles of pack ice and only a day's sail short of its destination, the *Endurance* became locked in an island of ice. Thus began the legendary ordeal of Shackleton and his crew of twenty-seven men.

33. In the Spirit of Crazy Horse by Peter Matthiessen

On a hot June morning in 1975, a desperate shoot-out between FBI agents and Native Americans near Wounded Knee, South Dakota, left an Indian and two federal agents dead. Four members of the American Indian Movement were indicted on murder charges, and one, Leonard Peltier, was convicted and is now serving consecutive life sentences in a federal penitentiary. Behind this violent chain of events lie issues of great complexity and profound historical resonance, brilliantly explicated by Peter Matthiessen in this controversial book. Kept off the shelves for eight years because of one of the most protracted and bitterly fought legal cases in publishing history, *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse* reveals the Lakota tribe's long struggle with the U.S. government, and makes clear why the traditional Indian concept of the earth is so important at a time when increasing populations are destroying the precious resources of our world.

34. A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson

Synopsis: *A Short History of Nearly Everything* is Bill Bryson's quest to find out everything that has happened from the Big Bang to the rise of civilization—how we got from there, being nothing at all, to here, being us.

35. Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies by Jared Diamond

Synopsis: *Guns, Germs, and Steel* is Jared Diamond's Pulitzer Prize winning explanation of the rise and fall of various human societies throughout world history. Diamond explains the dominance of Eurasian cultures and believes this is due to these societies' technologic and immunologic advantages, stemming from the early rise of agriculture after the last Ice Age.

36. Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking by Malcolm Gladwell

Synopsis: *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking* is the second book by Malcolm Gladwell. It presents in popular science format research from psychology and behavioral economics on the adaptive unconscious, mental processes that work rapidly and automatically from relatively little information. It considers both the strengths of the adaptive unconscious, for example in expert judgment, and its pitfalls, such as stereotypes.

37. Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don't by Jim Collins

Synopsis: *Good to Great* is a business management book that aims to describe how companies transition from being average companies to great companies and how companies can fail to make the transition. Its implications and applications reach far beyond the business world.

38. Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder by Richard Louv

Synopsis: *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder* is a 2005 book by author Richard Louv that documents decreased exposure of children to nature in American society and how this "nature-deficit disorder" harms children and society. The book examines research and concludes that direct exposure to nature is essential for healthy childhood development and for the physical and emotional health of children and adults. The author also suggests solutions to the problems he describes.

39. Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking by Susan Cain

Synopsis: Cain's 2012 book argues that modern Western culture misunderstands and undervalues the traits and capabilities of introverted people, to the detriment of individuals, schools, workplaces, and society.

40. Generation iY: Our Last Chance to Save Their Future by Tim Elmore

Synopsis: This landmark book paints a compelling and sobering picture of what could happen to our society if we don't change the way we relate to today's teens and young adults.

41. The Forever War by Dexter Filkins

Synopsis: *The Forever War* is a non-fiction book by American journalist Dexter Filkins about his observations on assignment in Afghanistan and Iraq during the 2001 War in Afghanistan and the Iraq War.

42. Where Men Win Glory by Jon Krakauer

Synopsis: *Where Men Win Glory*, a 2009 book written by Jon Krakauer, is a biography of Pat Tillman, an American football player who left his professional career in the NFL and enlisted in the United States Army after the 9/11 attacks.

43. Outliers: The Story of Success (Malcolm Gladwell)

Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing. Along the way he explains the secrets of software billionaires, what it takes to be a great soccer player, why Asians are good at math, and what made the Beatles the greatest rock band.

44. ***Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster*** (Jon Krakauer)
 A bank of clouds was assembling on the not-so-distant horizon, but journalist-mountaineer Jon Krakauer, standing on the summit of Mt. Everest, saw nothing that "suggested that a murderous storm was bearing down." He was wrong. The storm, which claimed five lives and left countless more—including Krakauer's—in guilt-ridden disarray, would also provide the impetus for *Into Thin Air*; Krakauer's epic account of the May 1996 disaster.
45. ***Where Bigfoot Walks: Crossing the Dark Divide*** (Robert Michael Pyle)
 Robert Michael Pyle trekked into the Dark Divide where he discovered a giant fossil footprint; he searched out Indians who told him of an outcast tribe that had not fully evolved into humans; and he attended the convocation in British Columbia called Sasquatch Daze. Ultimately, he discovers a few things about Bigfoot -- and a lot about the human need to believe in something and the universal need for wilderness in our lives.
46. ***The Translator: A Tribesman's Memoir of Darfur*** (Daoud Hari)
 "I am the translator who has taken journalists into dangerous Darfur. It is my intention now to take you there in this book, if you have the courage to come with me." The young life of Daoud Hari—his friends call him David—has been one of bravery and mesmerizing adventure. He is a living witness to the brutal genocide under way in Darfur.
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 Diamond details the rise and fall of various human societies throughout world history, explaining the dominance of Eurasian cultures due to their technological and immunologic advantages, stemming from the early rise of agriculture after the last Ice Age.
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 This 2005 book documents the increased exposure of children to nature in American society. He details how this disorder harms both children and society and suggests solutions to the problems he describes.
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51. ***The Bookseller of Kabul*** (Asna Seierstad; Translated by Ingrid Christopherson)
 In spring 2002, following the fall of the Taliban, Åsne Seierstad spent four months living with a bookseller and his family in Kabul. For more than twenty years Sultan Khan defied the authorities—be they communist or Taliban—to supply books to the people of Kabul. He was arrested, interrogated and imprisoned by the communists, and watched illiterate Taliban soldiers burn piles of his books in the street. He even resorted to hiding most of his stock—almost ten thousand books—in attics all over Kabul. But while Khan is passionate in his love of books and his hatred of censorship, he also has strict views on family life and the role of women.
52. ***This Is Your Brain On Music: The Science of a Human Obsession***
 Compelling account detailing the unique experiences and spiritual knowledge accumulated by four generations of powerful medicine men.
53. ***Falling Leaves: The Memoir of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter*** (Adeline Yen Mah)
 A compelling, painful, and ultimately triumphant memoir of a girl's journey into adulthood, Adeline's story is a true testament to the most basic of human needs: acceptance, love, and understanding.

54. **Crow Dog: Four Generations of Sioux Medicine Men** (Leonard Crow Dog and Richard Erdoes) A compelling account detailing the unique experiences and spiritual knowledge accumulated by four generations of powerful medicine men.

