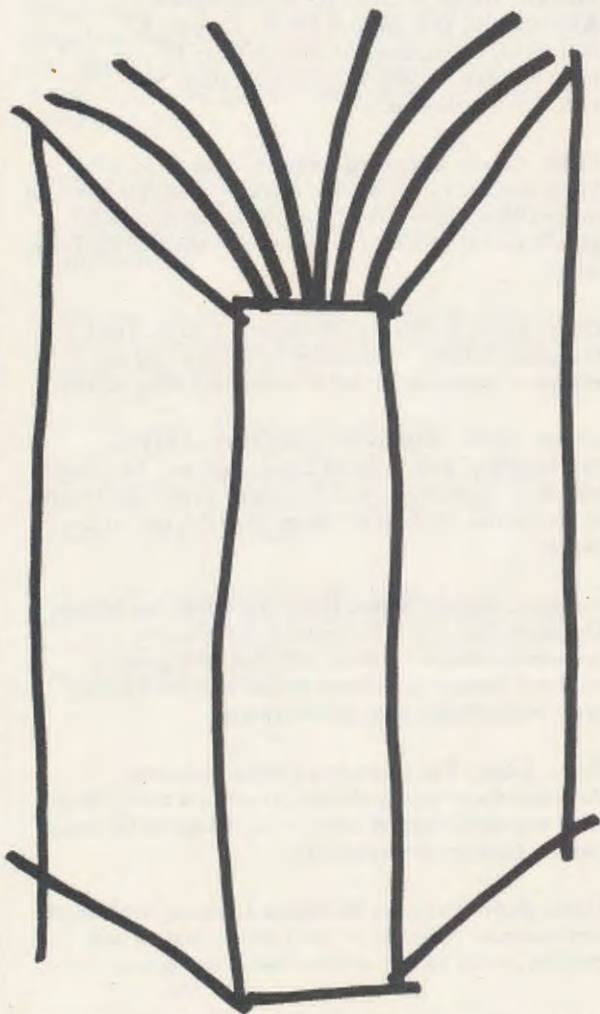


Notable
Books
1986



This list has been compiled by the Notable Books Council of the American Library Association Reference and Adult Services Division. Books were chosen for significant contributions to expansion of knowledge or for the pleasure they provide to readers.



Atwood, Margaret. **The Handmaid's Tale.** Houghton. In the futuristic world of Gilead, a feisty heroine chronicles her rebellion against a repressive, antiwoman society.

Baker, Will. **Mountain Blood.** Univ. of Georgia. Humorous and insightful recollections, yarns, and historical meditations about life in the mountainous mining and lumbering regions of the West in the early twentieth century.

Beschloss, Michael R. **MAYDAY: Eisenhower, Khrushchev, and the U-2 Affair.** Harper. A thoroughly documented account of Gary Powers' U-2 flight on May 1, 1960, and its implications for U.S.-Soviet relations.

Carillo, Charles. **Shepherd Avenue.** Atlantic Monthly Press; dist. by Little, Brown. A warm, nostalgic novel set in the 1960s relates a child's search for identity in his grandparents' Brooklyn neighborhood after his mother's death.

Carter, Angela. **Saints and Strangers.** Viking. Eight fast-paced fictional explorations with historical and mythic overtones never fail to engage the imagination.

Charyn, Jerome. **Metropolis: New York as Myth, Marketplace, and Magical Land.** Putnam. An urbane tribute by a gifted and knowledgeable writer who brings to life the raw qualities of this exciting city and its special people.

Critchfield, Richard. **Those Days: An American Album.** Doubleday/Anchor. This memoir of the author's midwestern family between 1880 and 1940 paints a resonant portrait of ordinary people who lived during great technological and cultural change.

Denby, Edwin. **The Complete Poems.** Random. Restrained and quietly elegant poems by a noted dance critic express his appreciation of the examined life and of the city solitudes that permit it.

Dubus, Andre. **The Last Worthless Evening.** Godine. An extraordinary collection of short fiction dealing with heroism, social hatred, and the loss of innocence.

Duras, Marguerite. The War: A Memoir. Tr. from the French by Barbara Bray. Pantheon. An account of Duras' agonizing wait for her prisoner-of-war husband is the major segment of these narratives set in Nazi-occupied France during World War II.



Erdrich, Louise. The Beet Queen. Holt. A bleak North Dakota landscape is the setting for a provocative novel about gutsy, underclass characters confronting poverty and abandonment.

Goldberg, Vicki. Margaret Bourke-White: A Biography. Harper. A candid portrayal of a photographer's ground-breaking accomplishments and a sensitive assessment of her eventful life.

Grooms, Red. Red Grooms: A Retrospective, 1956-1984. Abrams/Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. A colorful and exciting collection of works by a multimedia artist of enormous talent, originality, and humor.

Henley, Patricia. Friday Night at Silver Star: Stories. Graywolf. Survivors of the 1960s try to maintain a hippie life-style today.

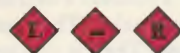
Hersh, Seymour M. "The Target Is Destroyed": What Really Happened to Flight 007 and What America Knew About It. Random. A painstaking examination of Russia's destruction of Flight 007 on September 1, 1983, with important lessons to be learned by both the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Hochschild, Adam. Half the Way Home: A Memoir of Father and Son. Viking. An honest exploration of the relationship between a stern, perfectionist father and his insecure young son set against the background of enormous wealth.

Hugo, Richard. The Real West Marginal Way: A Poet's Autobiography. Norton. A posthumous collection of 15 years of essays presenting the intellectual and emotional life and the sources of creativity of a distinguished American poet.

Ishiguro, Kazuo. An Artist of the Floating World. Putnam. The betrayal of the promise of youth is recalled as a dishonored artist struggles with changing values in war-wrecked Japan.

Jhabvala, Ruth Praver. Out of India. Morrow. Stories selected by the author from previous collections present the panorama of Indian life from a Western perspective.



Lopez, Barry. Arctic Dreams: Imagination and Desire in a Northern Landscape. Scribner. An Arctophile evokes a dazzling sense of place as he celebrates the region's landscape, wildlife, and people.

McFadden, Cyra. Rain or Shine: A Family Memoir. Knopf. A daughter's bittersweet account of growing up on the rodeo circuit and of her love-hate relationship with a father she could not please.

Malone, Michael. Handling Sin. Little, Brown. An odyssey that begins as a quest for a missing father and his money develops into a novel of love and reconciliation. A dazzling comedy of epic proportions.

Maslow, Jonathan Evan. Bird of Life, Bird of Death: A Naturalist's Journey Through a Land of Political Turmoil. Simon & Schuster. A lighthearted search for Guatemala's legendary quetzal unfolds against a backdrop of poverty, repression, and political instability.

Matthiessen, Peter. Men's Lives: The Surfmen and Baymen of the South Fork. Random. A striking oral and photographic montage reveals the determination of a fishing community threatened by encroaching society.

Mehta, Ved. Sound-shadows of the New World. Norton. A sensitive portrayal of growing up in an alien culture as a 15-year-old blind boy leaves India to attend school in Arkansas.

Parfit, Michael. South Light: A Journey to the Last Continent. Macmillan. The loneliness and the cold, the magnificence and the beauty—all are vividly captured in this record of a scientific expedition to Antarctica.

Pratt, Charles W. In the Orchard. Tidal Press. In this beautifully produced book, the poet creates a highly symbolized world where, Thoreau-like, he celebrates nature and a return to life's essential facts.

Price, Reynolds. Kate Vaiden. Atheneum. For almost 40 years, Kate ignored the son she abandoned as a baby; now, in an attempt to win his love, she tells her story.

Rivabella, Omar. Requiem for a Woman's Soul. Tr. from the Spanish by Paul Riviera and Omar Rivabella. Random. An Argentine writer's fictionalized account of a priest who pieces together from shreds of paper the harrowing diary of a young woman brutally abducted and tortured by military authorities.

Rosengarten, Theodore. Tombee: Portrait of a Cotton Planter; With the Journal of Thomas B. Chaplin (1822-1890). Morrow. The life of a typical plantation owner before and after the Civil War, described in his own journal and further reconstructed by an eminent historian.

Roszak, Theodore. The Cult of Information: The Folklore of Computers and the True Art of Thinking. Pantheon. Roszak warns of dangers that arise in education, politics, and the military when one loses the distinction between machines processing information and minds thinking.

Rush, Norman. Whites. Knopf. Witty and ironic stories about whites and blacks caught in a clash of cultures in Botswana.



Shipler, David K. Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land. Times Books. A history of Jewish-Arab relations in Jerusalem plus an in-depth study of popular misconceptions by both factions and of interacting stereotypes.

Sperber, A. M. Murrow: His Life and Times. Freundlich; dist. by Kampmann. The story of a shy, melancholic man who became the voice of history for many Americans.

Stone, Robert. Children of Light. Knopf. Moviemaking is the frame for an intense novel of a love affair mired in drugs, alcohol, and madness.

Szulc, Tad. Fidel: A Critical Portrait. Morrow. Through interviews with Castro, his friends, and colleagues, and with access to revolutionary archives, Szulc produces a politically and historically focused analysis of the Cuban leader.

Taylor, Peter. A Summons to Memphis. Knopf. Unresolved conflicts in a genteel southern family are unleashed when the elderly patriarch plans to marry a younger woman. A novel.

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