

**International Institute of Municipal Clerks
Athenian Leadership Society Dialogue Approved Books**

This list is not intended to be exclusive. Books will be evaluated from time to time and may be added to the list.

AUTO-BIOGRAPHY

1. **[Annapurna: A Woman's Place](#)** by Arlene Blum
In August 1978, thirteen women left San Francisco for the Nepal Himalayas to make history as the first Americans – and first women – to scale the treacherous slopes of Annapurna. “Annapurna” tells the tales of the women’s achievements, their challenges and commitments in taking on the tenth highest peak in the world. (*Paperback: 272 pages*)

2. **[Born a Crime: Stories of a South African Childhood](#)** by Trevor Noah
The compelling, inspiring, and comically sublime New York Times bestseller about one man’s coming-of-age, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed. (*Hardcover 304 pages*)

3. **[Dog Company: A True Story of American Soldiers Abandoned by Their High Command](#)** by Lynn Vincent and Roger Hill
After creating an elite team known as Dog Company in the 101st Airborne, two leaders of the unit found themselves at odd with their high command. Facing an impossible choice: protect the men in their unit and break the rules, or follow the rules and send them to a certain death, the two leaders banded together to make the ultimate decision. (*Paperback: 448 pages*)

4. **[Haben: The Deafblind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law](#)** by Haben Girma
The incredible life story of Haben Girma, the first deafblind graduate of Harvard Law School, and her amazing journey from isolation to the world stage. (*Paperback: 265 pages*)

5. **[I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban](#)**
by Malala Yousafzai
When the Taliban took control of northern Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. At age 15, she almost paid the ultimate price for that education. Shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, she was not expected to survive. Instead, Malala’s miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from the Swat Valley in Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. (*Paperback: 320 pages*)

6. **[I Never Had it Made](#)** by Alfred Duckett and Jackie Robinson
Before Barry Bonds, before Reggie Jackson, before Hank Aaron, baseball's stars had one undeniable trait in common: they were all white. In 1947, Jackie Robinson broke that barrier, striking a crucial blow for racial equality and changing the world of sports forever. *I Never Had It Made* is Robinson's own candid, hard-hitting account of what it took to become the first black man in history to play in the major leagues. (*Paperback: 496 pages*)

7. **[It Worked for Me: In Life and Leadership](#)** by Colin Powell
Introducing and expanding on his principles for effective leadership, Colin Powell offers wise advice on succeeding in the workplace and beyond. A message of strength and endurance from a man who has dedicated his life to public service, *It Worked for Me* is a book with the

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power to show readers how to achieve a more fulfilling life and career. (*Paperback: 304 pages*)

8. [***King Peggy: An American Secretary, Her Royal Destiny, and the Inspiring Story of How She Changed an African Village***](#) by Peggilene Bartels & Eleanor Herman
"King Peggy" chronicles the astonishing journey of an American secretary who suddenly finds herself King to a town of 7,000 people on Ghana's central coast. Finding that her residents did not have running water, no doctor and no high school, Peggy finds her first two years of ruling an epic challenge, but one she is ready to tackle. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)
9. [***Kiyo's Story: A Japanese-American Family's Quest for the American Dream***](#)
by Kiyō Sato
Kiyo's father arrived in California determined to plant his roots after leaving Japan. Yet the outbreak of World War II shattered his dreams as his family was forced to live at Poston Internment Camp. "Kiyo's Story" tells the story of the family's struggles to survive and endure the harsh prison conditions. (*Paperback: 352 pages*)
10. [***Lift as I Climb***](#) by Jackie Glenn
Lift as I Climb: An Immigrant Girl's Journey Through Corporate America is an instructive biography about a woman who rose to the top through a winning combination of inclusion and purpose. As a new American, Jackie Glenn developed a powerful currency in a set of ten self-defined "gems"-foundations of character that she invested with impressive returns. Working her way from nanny to executive, she found that lifting others as she climbed the corporate ladder became a way of life. (*Paperback: 112 pages*)
11. [***Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela***](#) by Nelson Mandela
Nelson Mandela tells the extraordinary story of his life – an epic of struggle, setback, renewed hope and ultimate triumph. As president of the African National Congress and head of the South Africa's antiapartheid movement, he was instrumental in moving the nation toward a multiracial government and majority rule. (*Paperback: 656 pages*)
12. [***Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy***](#)
by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant
Even after the most devastating events, it is possible to grow by finding deeper meaning and gaining greater appreciation in our lives. "Option B" illuminates how to help others in crisis and how to develop compassion for ourselves. (*Hardcover: 240 pages*)
13. [***Shoot Like a Girl: One Woman's Dramatic Fight in Afghanistan and on the Home Front***](#)
by Mary Jennings Hegar
On June 29, 2009, Air National Guard Major Mary Jennings "MJ" Hegar was shot down while on a Medevac mission on her third tour in Afghanistan. Despite being badly wounded, she fought the enemy and saved the lives of her crew and their patients. But soon a new battle would begin: giving women who serve on the front lines the credit they rightfully deserve. (*Paperback: 304 pages*)

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14. [***Sully: My Search For What Really Matters***](#) by Captain Chelsey B. Sullenberger
Now a major motion picture from Clint Eastwood, starring Tom Hanks—the inspirational autobiography by one of the most captivating American heroes of our time, Capt. ‘Sully’ Sullenberger—the pilot who miraculously landed a crippled US Airways Flight 1549 in New York’s Hudson River, saving the lives of all 155 passengers and crew. (*Paperback: 320 pages*)

15. [***This is Me: Loving the Person You Are Today***](#) by Chrissy Metz
After starring in the wildly popular television show “This is Us”, Chrissy Metz shares the life lessons she has learned, from her setbacks and successes. A born entertainer, Chrissy finds light in even her darkest moments, and leaves the reader feeling as if they are spending time with a trusted friend. (*Paperback: 320 pages*)

16. [***Upstairs at the White House: My Life with the First Ladies***](#) by J.B. West
J.B. West, chief usher of the White House, directed the operations and maintenance of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue at the request of the President and his family. J.B. served six consecutive Presidents and First Ladies for over twenty-eight years, as well as their parents, children, grandchildren and guests, and his relationships with everyone is laid out in amusing detail in *Upstairs at the White House*. (*Paperback: 398 pages*)

17. [***Walking With the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement***](#) by John Lewis
The son of an Alabama sharecropper, and now a sixth-term United States Congressman, John Lewis has led an extraordinary life, one that found him at the epicenter of the civil rights movement in the late '50s and '60s. As Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Lewis was present at all the major battlefields of the movement. Arrested more than forty times and severely beaten on several occasions, he was one of the youngest yet most courageous leader.. (*Paperback: 496 pages*)

BIOGRAPHY

18. [***A Passion for Nature: The Life of John Muir***](#) by Donald Worster
In Donald Worster’s magisterial biography, John Muir’s “special self” is fully explored as is his extraordinary ability, then and now, to get others to see the sacred beauty of the natural world.
(*Paperback: 544 pages*)

19. [***Alice: Alice Roosevelt Longworth, From Whitehouse Princess to Washington Powerbroker***](#) by Stacy A. Codery
From the moment Teddy Roosevelt’s outrageous and charming teenage daughter strode into the White House, carrying a snake and smoking a cigarette, Alice began to put her imprint on the twentieth-century political scene. Based on personal papers and family archives, Alice’s story tells the tale of one of America’s most memorable First Daughters and one of the most influential women of American society and politics. (*Paperback: 640 pages*)

20. [***All the Great Prizes: The Life of John Hay from Lincoln to Roosevelt***](#) by John Taliaferro
If Henry James or Edith Wharton had written a novel describing the accomplished and glamorous life and times of John Hay, it would have been thought implausible – a novelist’s

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fancy. Nevertheless, John Taliaferro's brilliant biography captures the extraordinary life of John Hay and restores him to his rightful place in history. (*Paperback: 688 pages*)

21. [Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery](#)

by Eric Metaxas

William Wilberforce was a British abolitionist who led a remarkable life. Wilberforce spent 20 years fighting to abolish the British slave trade, abolish slavery itself throughout the British Colonies and was a pioneer in human rights activism. (*Paperback: 320 pages*)

22. [American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House](#) by Jon Meacham

Andrew Jackson, his intimate circle of friends, and his tumultuous times are at the heart of this remarkable book about the man who rose from nothing to create the modern presidency. Beloved and hated, venerated and reviled, Andrew Jackson was an orphan who fought his way to the pinnacle of power, bending the nation to his will in the cause of democracy. (*Paperback: 483 pages*)

23. [American Spartan: The Promise, the Mission, and the Betrayal of Special Forces Major Jim Gant](#) by Ann Scott Tyson

Army Special Forces Major Jim Gant changed the face of America's war effort in Afghanistan. A decorated Green Beret who spent years in Afghanistan and Iraq training indigenous fighters, Gant argued for embedding the autonomous units with tribes across the country to earn the Afghan's trust and transform them into a reliable ally. (*Paperback: 400 pages*)

24. [American Sphinx: The Character of Thomas Jefferson](#) by Joseph Ellis

Following his subject from the drafting of the Declaration of Independence to his retirement in Monticello, Joseph Ellis unravels the contradictions of the Jeffersonian character. (*Paperback: 440 pages*)

25. [An Illuminated Life: Bella da Costa Greene's Journey from Prejudice to Privilege](#)

by Heidi Ardizzone

When J.P. Morgan hired Bella da Costa Greene in 1905 to organize his rare book and manuscript collections, she had only her personality and a few years of experience to help her. Ten years later, she had shaped the famous Pierpont Morgan Library collection and was a proto-celebrity in New York and the art world, renowned for her self-made expertise, her acerbic wit and her flirtatious relationships. (*Hardcover: 514 pages*)

26. [Beautiful Jim Key: The Lost History of the World's Smartest Horse](#)

by Mim Eichler Rivas

Beautiful Jim Key was a famous performing horse around the turn of the twentieth century. But Jim Key wasn't just a horse – he was a horse who could read, write, make change with money and do minor arithmetic. Raised by a former slave and self-taught Veterinarian, Dr. William Key, who traveled around the country with Beautiful Jim Key to perform in front of awe-struck crowds, including President William McKinley, for nine years. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)

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27. [***Benjamin Franklin***](#) by Edmund S. Morgan
Benjamin Franklin is perhaps the most remarkable figure in American history. He was the greatest statesman of his age, he played a pivotal role in the formation of the American Republic and he was a pioneering scientist. (*Hardcover: 368 pages*)
28. [***Bobby Kennedy – The Making of a Liberal Icon***](#) by Larry Tye
History remembers Robert F. Kennedy as a racial healer, a tribune for the poor, and the last progressive knight. But Kennedy – nurtured on the rightist orthodoxies or his dynasty-building father – started his public life as counsel to the left-baiting, table-thumping Senator Joseph McCarthy. (*Paperback: 608 pages*)
29. [***Calamity Jane – The Life and Legend of Martha Jane Cannary***](#) by D.J. Herda
Young Martha Jane Cannary began life as a camp follower and street urchin. Parentless by the age of twelve, she morphed into the mother of two who just as often took employment as a waitress, laundress, or dance hall girl as she did an Indian scout or bullwhacker. Just as likely to wear a dress as she was buckskins, she was impossible to ignore no matter what she wore, particularly after she'd had a few drinks! And she shamelessly parlayed into a legend the aura of fame that Edward L. Wheeler's dime novels crafted around her. (*Paperback: 224 pages*)
30. [***Crazy Horse and Custer: The Parallel Lives of Two American Warriors***](#) by Stephen E. Ambrose
On the morning of June 25, 1876, 611 men of the United States 7th Cavalry rode towards the banks of the Little Bighorn in the Montana Territory, where 3,000 Native Americans stood waiting for battle. The lives of two great warriors would soon be forever linked throughout history: Crazy Horse, leader of the Oglala Sioux, and General George Armstrong Custer. (*Paperback: 560 pages*)
31. [***Cleopatra: A Life***](#) by Stacy Shiff
Her palace shimmered with onyx and gold, but was richer still in political and sexual intrigue. Above all else, Cleopatra was a shrewd strategist and an ingenious negotiator. She was married twice, each time to a brother. She waged a brutal civil war against the first husband, and she poisoned the next. She had children with Julius Caesar and Mark Anthony, two of the most prominent Romans of the day. Famous long before she was notorious, Cleopatra has gone down in history for all the wrong reasons. (*Paperback: 432 pages*)
32. [***Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President***](#)
by Candice Millard
Destiny of the Republic tells the story of James Garfield's rise from poverty to the American presidency, and the dramatic history of his assassination and his legacy. (*Paperback: 432 pages*)
33. [***East to the Dawn: The Life of Amelia Earhart***](#) by Susan Butler

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Amelia Earhart captured the hearts of America after becoming the first woman to fly across the Atlantic in 1928. Nine years later, her mysterious disappearance on an around-the-world flight brought her extraordinary life to an abrupt and mysterious end. (*Paperback: 520 pages*)

34. [Elizabeth I, CEO: Strategic Lessons from the Leader Who Built an Empire](#)

by Alan Axelrod

The life of Elizabeth has much to say to those beginning their climb up the corporate ladder as well as those who, having attained the top rung, do not want to slip from it. The Queen's long reign offers lessons on developing a leadership attitude and image, enhanced by personal dynamism; becoming an effective coach and mentor, skilled at nurturing creativity and manipulating others. (*Paperback: 288 pages*)

35. [Elon Musk: Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future](#) by Ashlee Vance

In the spirit of Steve Jobs and Moneyball, *Elon Musk* is both an illuminating and authorized look at the extraordinary life of one of Silicon Valley's most exciting, unpredictable, and ambitious entrepreneurs. (*Paperback: 416 pages*)

36. [Empires of Light: Edison, Tesla, Westinghouse, and the Race to Electrify the World](#)

by Jill Jonnes

In the final decades of the nineteenth century, three brilliant and visionary titans of America's Gilded Age—Thomas Edison, Nikola Tesla, and George Westinghouse—battled bitterly as each vied to create a vast and powerful electrical empire. In *Empires of Light*, historian Jill Jonnes portrays this extraordinary trio and their riveting and ruthless world of cutting-edge science, invention, intrigue, money, death, and hard-eyed Wall Street millionaires.

37. [Enjoying the Ride: Two Generations of Tragedy and Triumph](#)

By Mitch Sturgeon

Mitch was five when he learned his mother would be in a wheelchair for the rest of her life. If he hadn't grown up with such an inspirational mother, however, he wouldn't have been prepared for what would come. At 35, the same age as his mother when she had her accident, Mitch began experiencing symptoms of primary progressive multiple sclerosis, a particularly disabling form of MS, and his physical challenges grew to resemble his mother's. (*Paperback: 302 pages*)

38. [Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage](#) by Alfred Lansing

To tell the story of the astonishing saga of polar explorer Ernest Shackleton's survival for over a year on the ice-bound Antarctic seas, Alfred Lansing consulted with ten of the surviving members of the incredible voyage to give a definitive account of the *Endurance's* fateful trip.

(*Paperback: 357 pages*)

39. [Failure is Not an Option: Mission Control from Mercury to Apollo 13 and Beyond](#)

by Gene Kranz

Gene Kranz was present at the creation of America's manned space program and was a key player in it for three decades. As a flight director in NASA's Mission Control, Kranz

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participated in the space program from the early days of the Mercury program to the last Apollo mission, and beyond. (*Paperback: 416 pages*)

40. ***[First Family: Abigail and John Adams](#)*** by Joseph J. Ellis
John and Abigail Adams left an indelible and remarkably preserved portrait of their lives together in their personal correspondence: both of the Adams were prolific letter writers, and over the years they exchanged more than 1200 letters. Take a walk inside these letters that are both intimate and panoramic; part biography, part political history, and part love story. (*Paperback: 320 pages*)
41. ***[Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History](#)***
by Keith O'Brien
Between the world wars, no sport was more popular, or more dangerous, than airplane racing. The pilots were hailed as dashing heroes who stared death in the face. Female pilots were ridiculed for what was portrayed as silly efforts to take part in a manly event. *Fly Girls* recounts how a cadre of women banded together to break the glass ceiling: the entrenched prejudice that conspired to keep them out of the sky. (*Paperback: 384 pages*)
42. ***[Founding Mothers – The Women Who Raised Our Nation](#)*** by Cokie Roberts
While much has been written about the men who signed the Declaration of Independence, battled the British, and framed the Constitution, the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters they left behind has been little noticed by history. Drawing upon personal correspondences, private journals, and even favorite recipes, Cokie Roberts reveals the often surprising stories of these fascinating women, bringing to life the everyday trials and triumphs of individuals like Abigail Adams, Mercy Otis Warren, Deborah Read Franklin, Eliza Prickney and Martha Washington. (*Paperback: 384 pages*)
43. ***[The Gatekeeper: Missy LeHand, FDR, and the Untold Story of the Partnership That Defined a Presidency](#)*** by Kathryn Smith
Widely considered the first female Presidential Chief of Staff, Marguerite “Missy” LeHand was the right-hand woman to Franklin Delano Roosevelt – both personally and professionally – for more than 20 years. She was one of his most trusted advisors, affording her a unique perspective on the president that no one else could claim, and she was deeply admired and respected by Eleanor and the Roosevelt children. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)
44. ***[Henry V: From Playboy Prince to Warrior King](#)*** by Anne Curry
Henry V's invasion of France, in August 1415, represented a huge gamble. As heir to the throne, he had been a failure, cast into the political wilderness amid rumors that he planned to depose his father. Despite a complete change of character as king - founding monasteries, persecuting heretics, and enforcing the law to its extremes – little had gone right since. (*Paperback: 176 pages*)

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45. [**Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race**](#) by Margot Lee Shetterley
Before John Glenn orbited the Earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rulers, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets and astronauts into space. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)
46. [**Jack Kennedy – Elusive Hero**](#) by Chris Matthews
In this biography, we see this most beloved president in the company of friends. We see and feel him close-up, having fun and giving off that restlessness of his. We watch him navigate his life from privileged, rebellious youth to gutsy American president. We witness his bravery in war and selfless rescue of his PT boat crew. We watch JFK as a young politician learning to play hardball and watch him grow into the leader who averts a nuclear war.
(*Paperback: 496 pages*)
47. [**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 – “the colossus of independence,” as Thomas Jefferson called him – who spared nothing in his zeal for the American Revolution.
(*Paperback: 752 pages*)
48. [**John F. Kennedy on Leadership: The Lessons & Legacy of a President**](#)
by John A. Barnes
Today’s business leaders have much in common with President Kennedy. They face monumental decisions in unpredictable times; their actions have implications far beyond their own organizations; and they are judged mercilessly and incessantly by both their constituents and the media. (*Paperback: 240 pages*)
49. [**Juliette Gordon Low: The Remarkable Founder of the Girl Scouts**](#)
by Stacy A. Cordery
Born at the start of the Civil War, Juliette Gordon Low grew up in Georgia, where she struggled to reconcile being a good Southern Belle with her desire to run barefoot through the fields. Deafened by an accident, “Daisy” married a dashing British aristocrat and moved to England. But she was ultimately betrayed by her husband and dissatisfied by the aimlessness of privileged life. (*Paperback: 432 pages*)
50. [**Kennedy and Nixon: The Rivalry That Shaped Postwar America**](#)
by Christopher J. Matthews
John Kennedy and Richard Nixon shared a dream of being the great young leader of their age. But what drove history was the enmity between these two towering figures whose 1960 presidential contest would set the nation’s bitter course for years to come.
(*Paperback: 400 pages*)
51. [**Killing Patton: The Strange Death of World War II’s Most Audacious General**](#)
by Bill O’Reilly

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General George S. Patton, Jr. died under mysterious circumstances in the months following the end of World War II. For almost 70 years, there has been suspicion that his death was not an accident – and may very well have been an act of assassination. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)

52. [*Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way: Timeless Strategies From the First Lady of Courage*](#) by Robin Gerber

Eleanor Roosevelt's remarkable ability to confront and overcome hurdles made her one of the greatest leaders of the last century, if not all time. Examining the former First Lady's rise from a difficult childhood to her enormously productive and politically involved years in the White House, as a U.N. Delegate, an author, and beyond. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)

53. [*Lincoln on Leadership: Executive Strategies for Tough Times*](#) by Donald T. Phillips

Only ten days before Abraham Lincoln took the oath of office in 1861, the Confederate States of America seceded from the Union, taking all Federal agencies, forts, and arenas within their territory. To make matters worse, Lincoln, who was elected by a minority of the popular vote, was thought of by his own advisors as nothing more than a gawky second-rate country lawyer with no leadership experience. (*Paperback: 188 pages*)

54. [*Lion in the White House: A Life of Theodore Roosevelt*](#) by Aida Donald

New York State Assemblyman, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, New York City Police Commissioner, Governor of New York, Vice President, and at 42, the youngest President ever – in his own words. Theodore Roosevelt rose like a rocket. He was a cowboy, a soldier, an historian, an intrepid explorer, and an unsurpassed environmentalist. (*Paperback: 304 pages*)

55. [*Lost in Shangri-La: A True Story of Survival, Adventure, and the Most Incredible Rescue Mission of World War II*](#) by Mitchell Zuckoff

Mitchell Zuckoff unleashes the exhilarating, untold story of an extraordinary World War II rescue mission, where a plane crash in the South Pacific plunged a trio of U.S. Military personnel into a land that time forgot. (*Paperback: 432 pages*)

56. [*Mandela's Way: Lessons for an Uncertain Age*](#) by Richard Stengel

In *Mandela's Way*, Stengel recounts the moments in which “the grandfather of South Africa” was tested and shares the wisdom he learned: why courage is more than the absence of fear, why we should keep our rivals close, why the answer is not always either/or, but often “both,” how important it is for each of us to find something away from the world that gives us pleasure and satisfaction – our own garden. (*Paperback: 272 pages*)

57. [*Mission: Jimmy Stewart and the Fight for Europe*](#) by Robert Matzen

This book provides the first in-depth look at the military career of Hollywood legend, actor James. M. Stewart, beginning with his family mission, passed on from his grandfather (a Civil War hero), and his father (who served in World War I). Jim tailored his life to this eventual outcome, learning to be a pilot so he could serve as an aviator in the war. (*Hardcover: 400 pages*)

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58. ***Mistress Bradstreet: The Untold Life of America's First Poet*** by Charlotte Gordon
Though her work is a staple of anthologies of American poetry, Anne Bradstreet has never before been the subject of an accessible, full-scale biography for a general audience. Anne Bradstreet is known for her poem "To My Dear and Loving Husband", among others. With her first collection, "The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America", she became the first published poet, male or female of the New World. (*Hardcover: 352 pages*)
59. ***Mistress of the Elgin Marbles: A Biography of Mary Nisbet, Countess of Elgin***
by Susan Nagle
The remarkable Mary Nisbet was the Countess of Elgin in Romantic-era Scotland and the wife of the seventh Earl of Elgin. When Mary accompanied her husband to diplomatic duty in Turkey, she changed history. She helped bring the smallpox vaccine to the Middle East, struck a seemingly impossible deal with Napoleon, and arranged the removal of famous marbles from the Parthenon. (*Paperback: 336 pages*)
60. ***Nellie Taft: The Unconventional First Lady of the Ragtime Era***
by Carl Sferrazza Anthony
On the morning of William Howard Taft's inauguration, Nellie Taft publicly expressed that theirs would be a joint presidency by shattering precedent and demanding that she ride alongside her husband down Pennsylvania Avenue, a tradition previously held for the outgoing president. In an era before Eleanor Roosevelt, this progressive First Lady was an advocate for higher education and partial suffrage for women, and initiated legislation to improve working conditions for federal employees. (*Paperback: 560 pages*)
61. ***Nicholas Winton's Lottery of Life*** by Matej Minac
The story of Sir Nicholas Winton is a remarkable symbol of human solidarity, self-sacrifice and courage, which radiates the belief that even during moments of absolute hopelessness; it is still possible to do some good. The 669 children from Central Europe rescued from certain death are a living proof of "the power of good". Shortly before the outbreak of World War II, Nicholas Winton organized, under difficult conditions, transports of children from Prague to Britain, where they found safety and a second home. (*Paperback: 319 pages*)
62. ***No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II***
by Doris Kearns Goodwin
Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for History, *No Ordinary Time* weaves together a striking number of story lines – Eleanor and Franklin's marriage and remarkable partnership, Eleanor's life as First Lady and FDR's White House and its impact on America as well as on a world at war. (*Paperback: 768 pages*)
63. ***Notorious Victoria: The Life of Victoria Woodhull, Uncensored*** by Mary Gabriel
She was the first woman to address the U.S. Congress, the first to operate a brokerage firm on Wall Street, and the first to run for president. She's the woman Gloria Steinem called "the most controversial suffragist of them all." In this extensively researched biography, journalist Mary Gabriel has written a comprehensive account of one of American history's most unusual and fascinating women. (*Paperback: 336 pages*)

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64. [***Obsessive Genius: The Inner World of Marie Curie***](#) by Barbara Goldsmith
Through family interviews, diaries, letters and workbooks that had been sealed for over 60 years, Barbara Goldsmith reveals the Marie Curie behind the myth – an all-too human woman struggling to balance a spectacular scientific career, a demanding family, the prejudice of society, and her own passionate nature. (*Paperback: 272 pages*)
65. [***Passage of Power: The Years of Lyndon Johnson***](#) by Robert Caro
The Passage of Power follows Lyndon Johnson through both the most frustrating and most triumphant period of his career – 1958 to 1964. An unparalleled account of the battle between Johnson and John Kennedy for the 1960 presidential nomination, of the machinations behind Kennedy’s decision to offer Johnson the vice-presidency, and of Johnson’s powerlessness and humiliation in that role. (*Paperback: 768 pages*)
66. [***Passion and Principle: John and Jesse Fremont, the Couple Whose Power, Politics, and Love Shaped Nineteenth-Century America***](#) by Sally Denton
She was the daughter of powerful Missouri politician Thomas Hart Benton and was a savvy political operator who played a confidante and advisor to the inner circle of the highest political powers in the country. He was a key figure in western exploration and California’s first senator, and became the first presidential candidate for the Republican Party – and the first candidate to challenge slavery. (*Paperback: 496 pages*)
67. [***Polk: The Man Who Transformed the Presidency and America***](#)
by Walter R. Borneman
James J. Polk occupied the White House for only four years, from 1845 to 1849, but he plotted and attained a formidable agenda: He fought and won tariff reductions, reestablished an independent Treasury, and, most notably, brought Texas into the Union, bluffed Great Britain out of the lion’s share of Oregon, and wrested California and much of the Southwest from Mexico. (*Paperback: 464 pages*)
68. [***Profiles in Courage***](#) by John F. Kennedy
In this book Kennedy chose eight of his historical colleagues to profile for their acts of astounding integrity in the face of overwhelming opposition. These heroes, coming from different junctures in our nation’s history, include John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Thomas Hart Benton and Robert A. Taft. (*Paperback: 304 pages*)
69. [***Revolutionary Mothers: Women in the Struggle for America’s Independence***](#)
by Carol Berkin
The women of the Revolution were most active at home, organizing boycotts of British goods, raising funds for the fledgling nation, and managing the family business while struggling to maintain a modicum of normalcy as husbands, brothers and fathers died. This incisive and comprehensive history illuminates a fascinating and unknown side of the struggle for American Independence. (*Paperback: 224 pages*)
70. [***Robert Kennedy: His Life***](#) by Evan Thomas
He was “Good Bobby” who, as his brother Ted eulogized him, “saw wrong and tried to right it...saw suffering and tried to heal it.” And “Bad Bobby”, the ruthless and manipulative bully

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of countless conspiracy theories. Thomas's unvarnished but sympathetic and fair-minded portrayal is packed with new details about Kennedy's early life and his behind-the-scenes machinations, including new revelations about the 1960 and 1968 presidential campaign, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and his long struggles with J. Edgar Hoover and Lyndon Johnson. *(Paperback: 512 pages)*

71. [*Sam Houston*](#) by James L. Haley

In the decades preceding the Civil War, few figures in the United States were as influential or as controversial as Sam Houston. Drawn from personal papers never before made available as well as the papers of others in Houston's circle, this biography will delight anyone intrigued by Sam Houston, Texas history, Civil War history or America's tradition of rugged individualism. *(Paperback: 544 pages)*

72. [*Shackleton's Way: Leadership Lessons from the Great Antarctic Explorer*](#)

by Margot Morrell and Stephanie Capparell

Sir Ernest Shackleton has been called "the greatest leader that ever came on God's earth, bar none" for saving the lives of the twenty-seven men stranded with him in the Antarctic for almost two years. Because of his courageous actions, he remains to this day a model for great leadership and masterful crisis management. *(Paperback: 256 pages)*

73. [*Searching for Augusta: The Forgotten Angel of Bastogne*](#) by Martin King

Untold millions who saw and read *Band of Brothers* can finally know the whole story of what happened to American soldiers and civilians in Bastogne during that arduous winter of 1944/45. *Searching for Augusta* tells the tale of a town under siege, as well as an improbably love story between a white Army medic, Jack Prior and his black nurse, Augusta Chiwy, as they saved countless lives while under constant bombardment. *(Hardcover: 256 pages)*

74. [*Steve Jobs*](#) by Walter Isaacson

Based on more than forty interviews with Jobs conducted over two years – as well as interviews with more than a hundred family members, friends, adversaries, competitors, and colleagues, *Steve Jobs* is a riveting story of the roller-coaster life and searingly intense personality of a creative entrepreneur whose passion for perfection and ferocious drive revolutionized six industries: personal computers, animated movies, music, phones, tablet computing and digital publishing. *(Paperback: 656 pages)*

75. [*Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*](#) by Doris Kearns Goodwin

On May 18, 1860, William H. Seward, Salmon P. Chase, Edward Bates, and Abraham Lincoln waited in their hometown for the results from the Republican National Convention in Chicago. When Lincoln emerged as the victor, his rivals were dismayed and angry. Throughout the turbulent 1850's, each had energetically sought the presidency as the conflict over slavery was leading inexorably to secession and civil war. That Lincoln succeeded was the result of a character that had been forged by experiences that raised him above his more privileged and accomplished rivals. *(Paperback: 944 pages)*

76. [*The Essential Ronald Reagan: A Profile in Courage, Justice and Wisdom*](#)

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by Lee Edwards

The Essential Ronald Reagan recounts the extraordinary life and career of a great American president from his small-town Midwestern roots through his Hollywood film star days to his presidential role as redeemer of the American dream and victorious leader in the Cold War. In *The Essential Ronald Reagan*, the four essential qualities of leadership that enabled President Reagan to meet every challenge and crisis is identified, and each of these qualities helped to make him an American for the ages. (Paperback: 208 pages)

77. [*The Fox and the Whirlwind: General George Crook and Geronimo, a Paired Biography*](#)

by Peter Aleshire

Based from their own words, as well as newspaper accounts and the firsthand recollections of those who fought with-and against-them, *The Fox and the Whirlwind* tells the tale of two of America's most famous warriors, the legendary Apache Shaman, Geronimo, and the nation's most successful Indian fighter, General George Crook. (Paperback: 288 pages)

78. [*The Glass Castle: A Memoir*](#) by Jeannette Walls

A tender, moving tale of unconditional love in a family that, despite its profound flaws, gave the author the fiery determination to carve out a successful life on her own terms. (Paperback: 416 pages)

79. [*The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II*](#) by Denise Kiernan

At the height of the World War II, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, was home to 75,000 residents, consuming more electricity than New York City. But to most of the world, the town did not exist. Thousands of civilians – many of them young women from small towns across the South – were recruited to this secret city, enticed by solid wages and the promise of war-ending work.

(Paperback: 416 pages)

80. [*The Iron Lady: Margaret Thatcher, from Grocer's Daughter to Prime Minister*](#)

by John Cmpbell

Whether you love her or hate her, Margaret Thatcher's impact on twentieth-century history is undeniable. From her humble, small-town upbringing to her rise to power as the United Kingdom's first female Prime Minister, to her dramatic fall from grace after more than three decades of service, *The Iron Lady* delves into the story of this fascinating woman's life as no one has before. (Paperback: 576 pages)

81. [*The Journey of Crazy Horse: A Lakota History*](#) by Joseph M. Marshall III

Most of the world remembers Crazy Horse as a peerless warrior who brought the U.S. Army to its knees at the Battle of Little Bighorn. But to his fellow Lakota Indians, he was a dutiful son and humble fighting man who – with valor, spirit, respect, and unparalleled leadership – fought for his people's land, livelihood, and honor. (Paperback: 336 pages)

82. [*The Junction Boys: How Ten Days in Hell with Bear Bryant Forged a Championship Team*](#) by Jim Dent

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The legendary Paul “Bear” Bryant is recognized nationwide as one of the greatest coaches ever. So why did he always cite his 1-9 A&M team of 1954 as his favorite? This is the story of a remarkable team – and the beginning of the legend. (*Paperback: 312 pages*)

83. [*The Last Man on the Moon: Astronaut Eugene Cernan and America's Race in Space*](#)

by Eugene Cernan and Donald A. Davis

Eugene Cernan was a unique American who came of age as an astronaut during the most exciting and dangerous decade of spaceflight. His career spanned the entire Gemini and Apollo programs, from being the first person to spacewalk all the way around our world to the moment when he left man's last footprint on the Moon as commander of Apollo 17.

(*Paperback: 384 pages*)

84. [*The Petticoat Affair: Manners, Mutiny, and Sex in Andrew Jackson's White House*](#)

by John F. Marszalek

During Andrew Jackson's first term in office, Margaret Eaton, the wife of Secretary of State John Henry Eaton, was branded a “loose woman” for her unconventional public life. The brash, outgoing, and beautiful daughter of a Washington innkeeper, Margaret had socialized with her father's guests and married Eaton very soon after the death of her first husband, shocking genteel society. (*Paperback: 312 pages*)

85. [*The Real Elizabeth: An Intimate Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II*](#) by Andrew Marr

Elizabeth II, one of England's longest-reigning monarchs, is an enigma. In public, she confines herself to optimistic pieties and guarded smiles; in private, she is wry, funny and an excellent mimic. Now, for the first time, one of Britain's leading journalists and historians gets behind the mask and tells us the fascinating story of the real Elizabeth. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)

86. [*The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks*](#) by Jeanne Theoharris

The definitive political biography of Rosa Parks examines her six decades of activism, challenging perceptions of her as an accidental actor in the civil rights movement (*Paperback: 320 pages*)

87. [*The Sound of Wings: The Life of Amelia Earhart*](#) by Mary S. Lovell

When Amelia Earhart mysteriously disappeared in 1937 during her attempted flight around the world, she was already known as America's most famous female aviator. Her sense of daring and determination, rare for women of her time, brought her insurmountable fame from the day she became the first woman to cross the Atlantic in an airplane. (*Paperback: 464 pages*)

88. [*The Tycoons: How Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, Jay Gould and J.P. Morgan Invented the American Super-Economy*](#) by Charles Morris

The modern American economy was the creation of four men: Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, Jay Gould and J.P. Morgan. They were the giants of the Gilded Age, a moment of riotous growth that established America as the richest, most inventive, and most productive country on the planet. (*Paperback: 400 pages*)

89. [*The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance*](#) by Kirstin Downey

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One of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's closest friends and the first female secretary of labor, Perkins capitalized on the president's political savvy and popularity to enact most of the Depression-era programs that are today considered essential parts of the country's social safety network. (*Paperback: 496 pages*)

90. [Theodore Roosevelt Abroad: Nature, Empire, and the Journey of an American President](#) by J. Lee Thompson

In a life full of momentous episodes, Theodore Roosevelt's fifteen-month post-presidential odyssey to Africa and Europe has never been given its due place. In 1909 and 1910, fresh from the presidency, Roosevelt embarked on a grand expedition that fulfilled a long-held dream for the hunter-naturalist. (*Paperback: 218 pages*)

91. [Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief](#) by James M. McPherson

This study by preeminent bestselling Civil War historian James M. Patterson provides a rare, fresh take on one of the most enigmatic figures in American history. A revelatory (and timely) portrait of leadership during the greatest crisis our nation has ever endured. This is the story of how Lincoln, with almost no previous military experience before entering the White House, assumed the powers associated with the role of commander in chief, and through his strategic insight and will to fight changed the course of the war and saved the Union.

(*Paperback: 352 pages*)

92. [Twelve Mighty Orphans: The Inspiring True Story of the Mighty Mites who Ruled Texas Football](#) by Jim Dent

More than a century ago, a school was constructed in Fort Worth, Texas, for the purpose of housing and educating the orphans of Texas Freemasons. It was a humble project that for years existed quietly on a hillside east of town. Life at the Masonic Home was about to change, though, with the arrival of a lean, bespectacled coach by the name of Rusty Russell. Here was a man who, in virtually no time at all, brought the orphans' story into the homes of millions of Americans. (*Paperback: 304 pages*)

93. [Unwise Passions: A True Story of a Remarkable Woman – and the First Great Scandal of Eighteenth-Century America](#) by Alan Pell Crawford

In the spring of 1793, eighteen-year old Nancy Randolph, the fetching daughter of one of the greatest of the great Virginia tobacco planters, was accused, along with her brother-in-law, of killing her newborn son. Once one of the most sought-after young women in Virginia society, she was denounced as a ruined Jezebel, and the great orator Patrick Henry and future Supreme Court justice John Marshall were retained to defend her in a sensational trial.

(*Paperback: 336 pages*)

94. [Walt Disney: An American Original](#) by Bob Thomas

Walt Disney is an American hero – the creator of Mickey Mouse, and a man who changed the face of American culture. After years of research, with the full cooperation of the Disney family, and access to private papers and letters, Bob Thomas produced the definitive biography of the man behind the legend – the unschooled cartoonist from Kansas City who went bankrupt on his first movie venture but became the genius who produced unmatched works of animation. (*Paperback: 384 pages*)

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95. [***Washington: The Indispensable Man***](#) by James Flexner
Washington explores the Father of Our Country – sometimes an unpopular hero, a man of great contradictions, but always a towering historical figure, who remains “a fallible human being made of flesh and blood and spirit – not a statue of marble and wood...a great and good man.” (*Paperback: 448 pages*)
96. [***We Could Not Fail: The First African Americans in the Space Program***](#)
by Richard Paul and Steven Moss
The Space Age began just as the struggle for civil rights forced Americans to confront the long and bitter legacy of slavery, discrimination, and violence against African Americans. Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson utilized the space program as an agent for social change, using federal equal employment opportunity laws to open workplaces at NASA and contractors to African Americans while creating thousands of research and technology jobs in the Deep South to ameliorate poverty. (*Paperback: 312 pages*)
97. [***When Character was King: A Story of Ronald Reagan***](#) by Peggy Noonan
Filled with stories of Reagan from Presidents George W. Bush, and his father George H. W. Bush, his Secret Service men and the White House colleagues, his wife, his daughter Patti Davis, and his close friends, to reveal the true nature of a man even his opponents now view as a maker of big history. (*Paperback: 352 pages*)
98. [***Where Men Win Glory: The Odyssey of Pat Tillman***](#) by Jon Krakauer
Pat Tillman walked away from a multimillion-dollar NFL contract to join the Army and became an icon of post-9/11 patriotism. When he was killed in Afghanistan two years later, a legend was born. But the real Pat Tillman was much more remarkable, and considerably more complicated than the public knew. (*Paperback: 480 pages*)

FICTION

99. [***All the King's Men***](#) by Robert Penn Warren
Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, this classic book is generally regarded as the finest novel ever written on American politics. It describes the career of Willie Stark, a back-country lawyer whose idealism is overcome by his lust for power. (*Paperback: 656 pages*)
100. [***Jonathan Livingston Seagull: The Complete Edition***](#) by Richard Bach
This is the story for people who follow their hearts and make their own rules...people who get special pleasure out of doing something well, even if only for themselves...people who know there's more to this living than meets the eye: they'll be right there with Jonathan, flying higher and faster than they ever dreamed. (*Paperback: 127 pages*)
101. [***The Grapes of Wrath***](#) by John Steinbeck
Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning epic of the Great Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930's and tells the story of one Oklahoma farm family, the Joads – driven

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from their homestead and forced to travel west to the promised land of California. Out of their trials and their repeated collisions against the hard realities of an America divided into Haves and Have-Nots evolves a drama that is intensely human yet majestic in its scale and moral vision. (*Paperback: 464 pages*)

102. [*The Lord of the Flies*](#) by William Golding

At the dawn of the next world war, a plane crashes on an uncharted island, stranding a group of schoolboys. At first, with no adult supervision, their freedom is something to celebrate. This far from civilization they can do anything they want. Anything. But as order collapses, as strange howls echo in the night, as terror begins its reign, the hope of adventure seems as far removed from reality as the hope of being rescued. (*Paperback: 192 pages*)

103. [*To Kill a Mockingbird*](#) by Harper Lee

A Pulitzer Prize-winning masterpiece is a gripping, yet heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice. It views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father – a crusading local lawyer – risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.

(*Paperback: 336 pages*)

HISTORY

104. [*The Bielski Brothers: The True Story of Three Men Who Defied the Nazis, Built a Village in the Forest, and Saved 1,200 Jews*](#) by Peter Duffy

In 1941, three brothers witnessed their parents and two other siblings being led away to their eventual murders. It was a grim scene that would, of course, be repeated endlessly throughout the war. Instead of running or giving in to despair, these brothers -- Tuvia, Zus, and Asael Bielski – fought back, waging a guerrilla war of wits against the Nazis. (*Paperback: 302 pages*)

105. [*Century of Struggle: The Women's Rights Movement in the United States*](#)

by Eleanor Flexner

Century of Struggle tells the story of one of the great social movements in American history. The struggle for women's voting rights was one of the longest, most successful, and in some respects most radical challenges ever posed to the American system of electoral politics.

(*Paperback: 432 pages*)

106. [*Five Days at Memorial: Life and Death in a Storm-Ravaged Hospital*](#)

by Dr. Sheri Fink

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, *Five Days at Memorial* reconstructs 5 days at Memorial Medical Center in New Orleans, LA following Hurricane Katrina, and draws the reader into the lives of those who struggled mightily to survive and maintain life amid chaos. (*Paperback: 592 pages*)

107. [*Iron-Jawed Angels: The Suffrage Militancy of the National Woman's Party, 1912 - 1920*](#) by Linda G. Ford

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Iron-Jawed Angels is an in-depth analysis of how the National Woman's Party's militancy evolved during the period of early twentieth century feminism and American suffrage as a response to the intransigence of male-centered government. (*Paperback: 314 pages*)

108. [*Julius Caesar*](#) by William Shakespeare
Published in 1599, *Julius Caesar* portrays the conspiracy against the Roman dictator of the same name, his assassination and its aftermath. (*Paperback: 304 pages*)
109. [*Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker: A Novel*](#) by Jennifer Chiaverini
In a life that spanned nearly a century and witnessed some of the most momentous events in American history, Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley was born a slave. A gifted seamstress, she earned her freedom by the skill of her needle, and won the friendship of First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln by her devotion. (*Paperback: 384 pages*)
110. [*Opening the Doors: The Desegregation of the University of Alabama and the Fight for Civil Rights in Tuscaloosa*](#) by JB.J. Hollars
Opening the Doors is a wide-ranging account of the University of Alabama's 1956 and 1963 desegregation attempts, as well as the little-known story of Tuscaloosa, Alabama's, own civil rights movement. (*Hardcover: 304 pages*)
111. [*Paris Reborn: Napoleon III, Baron Haussmann and the Quest to Build a Modern City*](#) by Stephane Kirkland
Traditionally known as a dirty, congested, and dangerous city, 19th Century Paris, France was transformed in an extraordinary period from 1848 to 1870, when the government launched a huge campaign to build streets, squares, parks, churches, and public buildings. A very large part of what we see when we visit Paris today originates from this short span of twenty-two years. (*Paperback: 352 pages*)
112. [*Parlor Politics: In Which the Ladies of Washington Help Build a City and a Government*](#) by Catherine Allgor
When Thomas Jefferson moved his victorious Republican administration into the new capital city in 1801, one of his first acts was to abolish any formal receptions, except on New Year's Day and the Fourth of July. When the ladies of Washington City, determined to have their own salon, arrived en masse at the president's house, Jefferson met them in riding clothes surprised at their presence. In the days before organized political parties, the social machine built by these early federal women helped to ease the transition from a failed republican experiment to a burgeoning democracy. (*Paperback: 312 pages*)
113. [*The Battle of Salamis: The Naval Encounter that Saved Greece – and Western Civilization*](#) by Barry Strauss
On a late September day in 480 B.C., Greek warships faced an invading Persian armada in the narrow Salamis Straits in the most important naval battle of the ancient world. Overwhelmingly outnumbered by the enemy, the Greeks triumphed through a combination of strategy and deception. (*Paperback: 294 pages*)
114. [*The Cruellest Miles: The Heroic Story of Dogs and Men in a Race Against an Epidemic*](#) by Gay Salisbury and Laney Salisbury

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When a deadly diphtheria epidemic swept through Nome, Alaska in 1925, the local doctor knew that without a fresh batch of antitoxin, his patients would die. The lifesaving serum was a thousand miles away, the port was icebound, and planes couldn't fly in blizzard conditions – only the dogs could make it. The heroic dash of dog teams across the Alaskan wilderness to Nome inspired the annual Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race and immortalized Balto, the lead dog of the last team whose bronze statue still stands in New York City's Central Park.

(Paperback: 320 pages)

115. [*The Underground Railroad: A Novel*](#) by Colson Whitehead

Cora is a young slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. An outcast even among her fellow Africans, she is on the cusp of womanhood – where greater pain awaits. And so when Caesar, a slave who has recently arrived from Virginia, urges her to join him on the Underground Railroad, she seizes the opportunity and escapes with him. *(Paperback: 336 pages)*

116. [*The Wild Blue: The Men and Boys Who Flew the B-24s Over Germany 1944-45*](#)

by Stephen E. Ambrose

The crew of B-24s suffered through crowded, uncomfortable, and dangerous situations, and fought to the death through thick black smoke and deadly flak to reach their targets and destroy the German war machine. *(Paperback: 299 pages)*

117. [*The Wright Brothers*](#) by David McCullough

On a winter day in 1903, in the Outer Banks of North Carolina, two unknown brothers from Ohio changed history. But it would take the world some time to believe what had happened: the age of flight had begun, with the first heavier-than-air, powered machine carrying a pilot. *(Paperback: 336 pages)*

118. [*The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story*](#) by Diane Ackerman

After their zoo was bombed, Polish zookeepers Jan and Antonina Zabinski managed to save over three hundred people from the Nazis by hiding refugees in the empty animal cages. With animal names for these “guests”, and human names for the animals, it's no wonder that the zoo's code name became “The House Under a Crazy Star”. *(Paperback: 384 pages)*

119. [*Two Among the Righteous Few: A Story of Courage in the Holocaust*](#)

by Mary Brounstein

Nestled in the hills on the western side of Jerusalem is a museum called Yad Vashem. There, people from around the world visit daily to learn about the tragic period of history from 1933 to 1945 known as the Holocaust. A special section of the Yad Vashem is dedicated to those who carried out acts of courage to save the lives of Jews during the Holocaust. Remembered there is a couple from Dieden of the Netherlands, Frans and Mien Wijnakker, who together saved the lives of at least two dozen Jews in southern Holland during World War II.

(Paperback: 226 pages)

120. [*Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West*](#) by Stephen E. Ambrose

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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. (*Paperback: 521 pages*)

121.

122. [*We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese*](#) by Elizabeth M. Norman

In the fall of 1941, the Philippines was a gardenia-scented paradise for the American Army and Navy nurses stationed there. War was a distant rumor, life a routine of easy shifts and dinners under the stars. On December 8 all that changed, as Japanese bombs began raining down on American bases in Luzon, and this paradise became a fiery hell.

(*Paperback: 384 pages*)

LEADERSHIP

123. [*Seven Secrets of Inspired Leaders: How to Achieve the Extraordinary by the Leaders that Have Been There and Done It*](#) by Phil Dourado and Phil Blackburn

Extraordinary leaders share innovative ideas for achieving extraordinary results. In the face of dramatic change, traditional forms of leadership have become obsolete.

(*Paperback: 238 pages*)

124. [*Creating Magic: 10 Common Sense Leadership Strategies from a Life at Disney*](#)

by Lee Cockerell

The secret for creating “magic” in our careers, our organizations, and our lives is simple: outstanding leadership – the kind that inspires employees, delights customers, and achieves extraordinary business results. (*Paperback: 288 pages*)

125. [*Dare to Lead: Brave Work. Tough Conversations. Whole Hearts.*](#) by Brené Brown

Leadership is not about titles, status, and wielding power. A leader is anyone who takes responsibility for recognizing the potential in people and ideas, and has the courage to develop that potential. When we dare to lead, we don't pretend to have the right answers; we stay curious and ask the right questions. (*Hardcover: 320 pages*)

126. [*Discover Your True North*](#) by Bill George

Being a leader is about much more than title and management skills—it's fundamentally a question of who we are as human beings. *Discover Your True North* offers a concrete and comprehensive program for becoming an authentic leader and shows how to chart your path to leadership success.

Once you discover the purpose of your leadership, you'll find the true leader inside you. This book shows you how to use your natural leadership abilities to inspire and empower others to excellence in today's complex global world. *Discover Your True North* enables you to become the leader you were born to be and stay on track of your True North.

(*Hardcover: 320 pages*)

127. [*Encouraging the Heart: A Leader's Guide to Rewarding and Recognizing Others*](#)

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by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner

All too often, simple acts of human kindness are often overlooked and under-utilized by people in leadership roles. Advising mutual respect and recognition of accomplishments, encouraging the heart shows us how true leaders encourage and motivate those they work with, by helping them find their voice and making them feel like heroes. (*Paperback: 224 pages*)

128. [First In, Last Out: Leadership Lessons from the New York Fire Department](#)

by John Salka

What does it take to lead people into a burning building? How do the leaders of the New York City Fire Department develop so much loyalty, trust and grace under pressure that their subordinates will risk their very lives for them? (*Paperback: 240 pages*)

129. [George Washington on Leadership](#) by Richard Brookhiser

In 1799, at the end of George Washington's long life and illustrious career, the politician Henry Lee eulogized him as: "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." There are great lessons to be learned from our first president, first commander-in-chief, and founding CEO. (*Paperback: 288 pages*)

130. [Leadership](#) by Rudolph W. Giuliani

Opening with a gripping account of Giuliani's immediate reaction to the September 11 attacks, including a narrow escape from the original crisis command headquarters, *Leadership* closes with the efforts to address the aftermath during his remaining tenure. (*Paperback: 432 pages*)

131. [Leading with Emotional Courage: How to Have Hard Conversations, Create Accountability and Inspire Actions on Your Most Important Work](#) by Peter Bregman

What makes leadership hard isn't theoretical, it's practical. It's not about knowing what to say or do. It's about whether you're willing to experience the discomfort, risk, and uncertainty of saying or doing it. The most critical challenge of leadership is having emotional courage. (*Hardcover: 272 pages*)

132. [Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead](#) by Sheryl Sandberg

Sheryl Sandberg has reignited the conversation about women in the workplace. In *Lean In*, Sheryl encourages women to sit at the table, seek challenges, take risks and pursue their goals with gusto. She describes specific steps women can take to combine professional achievement with personal fulfillment, and she demonstrates how men can benefit by supporting women both in the workplace and at home. (*Hardcover: 240 pages*)

133. [Leaders Eat Last: Why Some Teams Pull Together and Others Don't](#)

by Simon Sinek

Imagine a world where almost everyone wakes up inspired to go to work, feels trusted and valued during the day, then returns home feeling fulfilled. This is not a crazy, idealized notion. Today, in many successful organizations, great leaders create environments in which people naturally work together to do remarkable things. (*Paperback: 368 pages*)

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- 134. [*Power Ambition Glory: The Stunning Parallels Between Great Leaders of the Ancient World and Today....and the Lessons You Can Learn*](#) by Steve Forbes**
Great leaders not only have vision, but know how to build structures to effect it. They know how to build consensus and motivate by doing what is right rather than what is in their self-interest. A great leader is one who challenges the conventional wisdom of the day and is able to think outside of the box to pull off amazing feats. (*Paperback: 320 pages*)
- 135. [*The Leadership Challenge: How to Make Extraordinary Things Happen in Organization*](#) by James M. Kouzes and Barry M. Posner**
Business is evolving at an increasingly rapid rate, and leaders must keep pace with the changes or risk stagnation. People work differently, are motivated differently, and have different expectations today – business as usual is quickly losing its effectiveness. A good leader gets things done; a great leader aspires, inspires, and achieves more. (*Hardcover: 400 pages*)
- 136. [*The Soul of Leadership: Unlocking Your Potential for Greatness*](#) by Deepak Chopra, M.D.**
The Soul of Leadership aims to fill the most critical void in contemporary life, the void of enlightened leaders. In this unique handbook you are shown how to listen to your inner guide, in words as practical as they are uplifting. The future is unfolding at this very minute, and the choice to lead it lies with each of us, here and now. (*Hardcover: 224 pages*)
- 137. [*The Radical Leap: A Personal Lesson in Extreme Leadership*](#) by Steve Farber**
Steve Farber explores an entirely new leadership model, one in which leaders aren't afraid to take risks, make mistakes in front of employees, or actively solicit employee feedback. Geared to people at any level who aspire to change things for the better, *The Radical Leap* is creating legions of Extreme Leaders in business, education, non-profits and beyond. (*Paperback: 192 pages*)
- 138. [*Throwing the Elephant: Zen and the Art of Managing Up*](#) by Stanley Bing**
Sit down. Breathe deep. This is the last business book you will ever need. For in these pages, Stanley Bing solves the ultimate problem of your working life: How to manage the boss. The technique is simple....as simple as throwing an elephant. All it takes is the proper state of mind, a step-by-step plan, and a great leap of faith. This humble guide provides all these and more. It is Zen that enables one to take an object of enormous weight and size, and mold it in one's grasp like a ball of Silly Putty. For senior management, in truth, is the silliest putty of them all. (*Paperback: 240 pages*)
- 139. [*Toto's Reflections: The Leadership Lessons from the Wizard of Oz*](#) by Kevin Fickenscher**
In *The Wizard of Oz*, Toto was clearly a dog of character. He knew when to sit still, when to bark, and when to make a fuss. He was simply a real dog with real observations about real situations. And the Oz experience reinforced what his parents taught him as a small pup:

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Care deeply. Bark only when necessary but then, forcefully. Be curious. Express yourself.
Embrace the world and have no fears. (*Paperback: 144 pages*)

MEMOIR

140. [*Becoming*](#) by Michelle Obama

In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As First Lady of the United States – the first African American to serve in that role – she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history, while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the U.S. and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives, and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. (*Paperback: 720 pages*)

141. [*Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life*](#) by Arlene Blum

A legendary trailblazer, Arlene Blum defied the climbing establishment of the 1970s by leading the first all-female teams on successful ascents of Mount McKinley and Annapurna and by being the first American woman to attempt Mount Everest. At the same time, her groundbreaking scientific work challenged gender stereotypes in the academic community and led to important legislation banning carcinogens in children's sleepwear. (*Paperback: 400 pages*)

142. [*Capital Gains: Smart Things I Learned Doing Stupid Stuff*](#) by Chip Gaines

The funny and talented Chip Gaines is well known to millions of people as a TV star, renovation expert, bestselling author, husband to Joanna, and father of five in Waco, Texas. But long before the world took notice, Chip was a serial entrepreneur who was always ready for the next challenge, even if it didn't quite work out as planned. Whether it was buying a neighborhood laundromat or talking a bank into a loan for some equipment to start a lawn-mowing service, Chip always knew that the most important thing was to take that first step. (*Paperback: 224 pages*)

143. [*Cupcakes and Courage*](#) by Jennifer Brunner

In 2006 Jennifer Brunner was elected Ohio's first and only woman Secretary of State, where no woman has yet been elected Governor or U.S. Senator. Brunner speaks to her experiences in public and private life – from death threats and 24-hour guards during the 2008 presidential election to receiving the prestigious John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for her work. (*Paperback: 572 pages*)

144. [*Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*](#) by Barack Obama

The son of a black African father and a white American mother searches for a workable meaning to his life as a black American. It begins in New York, where Barack Obama learns that his father – a figure he knows more as a myth than as a man – has been killed in a car accident. This sudden death inspires an emotional odyssey – first to a small town in Kansas, from which he retraces the migration of his mother's family to Hawaii, and then to Kenya,

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where he meets the African side of his family, confronts the bitter truth of his father's life, and at last reconciles his divided inheritance. (*Paperback: 464 pages*)

145. [*Eat Mor Chikin: Inspire More People: Doing Business the Chick-fil-A Way*](#)

by Truett Cathy

Truett Cathy is a real-life Horatio Alger story. He grew up in a boarding house his mother operated, where he learned the principles of hard work, fairness, honesty, loyalty, and respect. When he opened a small restaurant in 1946 with his brother Ben, he put those principles to work and immediately began to experience their rewards. (*Hardcover: 200 pages*)

146. [*Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India and Indonesia*](#) by Elizabeth Gilbert

In her early thirties, Elizabeth Gilbert had everything a modern American woman was supposed to want – husband, country home, successful career – but instead of feeling happy and fulfilled, she was consumed by panic and confusion. Then she left behind all these outward marks of success, and set out to explore three different aspects of her nature, against the backdrop of three different cultures: pleasure in Italy, devotion in India, and on the Indonesian island of Bali, a balance between worldly enjoyment and divine transcendence.

(*Paperback: 400 pages*)

147. [*The Art of Tough: Fearless Facing Politics and Life*](#) by Barbara Boxer

After serving in Congress for more than thirty years, as both a Congresswoman and a Senator, Senator Boxer has proven herself to be a passionate advocate for significant issues of our time, including the military, civil rights, universal health care, and the environment. With a who's who of politics of the past three decades, Boxer shows all of the machinations that it takes to make government work, much of it off the record. (*Paperback: 288 pages*)

148. [*Thirteen Days: A Memoir of the Cuban Missile Crisis*](#) by Robert F. Kennedy

During the thirteen days in October 1962, when the United States confronted the Soviet Union over its installation of missiles in Cuba, few people shared the behind-the-scenes story as it is told here by the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy. In this unique account, he describes each of the participants during the sometimes hour-to-hour negotiations, with particular attention to the actions and views of his brother, President John F. Kennedy. (*Paperback: 185 pages*)

149. [*Undaunted: Surviving Jonestown, Summoning Courage, and Fighting Back*](#)

by Jackie Speier

Jackie Speier was twenty-eight when she joined Congressman Leo Ryan's delegation to rescue defectors from cult leader Jim Jones's People's Temple in Jonestown, Guyana. Congressman Ryan was killed on the airstrip tarmac, and Jackie was shot five times at point-blank range. While recovering from what would become one of the most harrowing tragedies in recent history, Jackie had to choose: Would she become a victim, or a fighter? (*Paperback: 240 pages*)

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NON-FICTION

150. [13 Hours: The Inside Account of What Really Happened in Benghazi](#)

by Mitchell Zuckoff

For the first time ever, a true account is given of the events of September 11, 2012, when terrorists attacked the U.S. State Department Special Mission Compound and a nearby CIA station called “The Annex” in Benghazi, Libya. A team of six American security operators fought to repel the attackers and protect the Americans stationed there. Those men went beyond the call of duty, performing extraordinary acts of courage and heroism, to avert tragedy on a much larger scale. (*Paperback: 352 pages*)

151. [Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business](#)

by Neil Postman

Amusing Ourselves to Death is a prophetic look at what happens when politics, journalism, education, and even religion become subject to the demands of entertainment. It is also a blueprint for regaining control of our media, so that they can serve our highest goals. (*Paperback: 208 pages*)

152. [Dark Horse: Achieving Success Through the Pursuit of Fulfillment](#) by Todd Rose and Ogi Ogas

In the Dark Horse Project at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, bestselling author and acclaimed thought leader Todd Rose and neuroscientist Ogi Ogas studied women and men who achieved impressive success even though nobody saw them coming. Dark horses blaze their own trail to a life of happiness and prosperity. Yet what is so remarkable is that hidden inside their seemingly one-of-a-kind journeys are practical principles for achieving success that work for anyone, no matter who you are or what you hope to achieve. This mold-breaking approach doesn't depend on you SAT scores, who you know, or how much money you have. The secret is a mindset that can be expressed in plain English: Harness your individuality in the pursuit of fulfillment to achieve excellence.

(*Paperback: 304 pages*)

153. [Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster](#)

by John Krakauer

A bank of clouds was assembling on the not-so-distant horizon, but journalist-mountaineer John Krakauer, standing on the summit of Mount 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 – in guilt-ridden disarray, would also provide the impetus for this epic account of the May 1996 disaster. (*Paperback: 332 pages*)

154. [Nothing Like It In the World: The Men Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad 1863-1869](#) by Stephen E. Ambrose

This is the story of the men who built the transcontinental railroad – the investors who risked their businesses and money; the enlightened politicians who understood its importance; the engineers and surveyors who risked, and sometimes lost, their lives; and the Irish and

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Chinese immigrants, the defeated Confederate soldiers, and the other laborers who did the backbreaking and dangerous work on the tracks. (*Paperback: 432 pages*)

155. [*Radical Hope: Letters of Love and Dissent in Dangerous Times*](#)

by Carolina De Robertis

Radical Hope is a collection of letters – to ancestors, to children five generations from now, to strangers in grocery lines, to any and all who feel weary and discouraged – written by award-winning novelists, poets, political thinkers, and activists. (*Paperback: 272 pages*)

156. [*The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*](#) by Daniel James Brown

It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain, yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing for Adolf Hitler. (*Paperback: 404 pages*)

157. [*The Culture Code: The Secrets of Highly Successful Groups*](#) by Daniel Coyle

An essential book that unlocks the secrets of highly successful groups and provides readers with a toolkit for building a cohesive, innovative culture, from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Talent Code*. (*Hardcover: 304 pages*)

158. [*When Women Played Hardball*](#) by Susan E. Johnson

The years between 1943 and 1954 marked the magical era of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League – which proved beyond doubt that women can play hardball, in a skirt, no less. With skill and style, more than 500 women took to the baseball diamonds of the Midwest, dazzling fans and becoming a visible and supported part of our national pastime.

(*Paperback: 320 pages*)

PSYCHOLOGY

159. [*Man's Search for Meaning*](#) by Viktor E. Frankl

Between 1942 and 1945, Viktor Frankl labored in four different concentration camps, including Auschwitz, while his parents, brother, and pregnant wife perished. Based on his own experience and the experiences of others he treated later in his practice, Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose. (*Paperback: 184 pages*)

160. [*The Happiness Advantage: The Seven Principles of Positive Psychology That Fuels Success and Performance at Work*](#) by Shawn Achor

Our most commonly held formula for success is broken. Conventional wisdom holds that if we work hard we will be more successful, and if we are more successful, then we'll be happy. If we can just find that great job, win that next promotion, lose those five pounds, happiness will follow. Happiness fuels success, not the other way around. (*Paperback: 256 pages*)

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161. [*The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion*](#)

by Jonathan Haidt

Drawing on his twenty-five years of groundbreaking research on moral psychology, Haidt shows how moral judgments arise not from reason but from gut feelings. He shows why liberals, conservatives, and libertarians have such different intuitions about right and wrong, and he shows why each side actually right about many of its central concerns.

(Paperback: 528 pages)

162. [*The Submission: A Novel*](#) by Amy Waldman

A jury chooses a memorial for the victims of a devastating terrorist attack on Manhattan, only to learn that the anonymous designer is an American Muslim – an enigmatic architect named Mohammad Khan. His selection reverberates across a divided, traumatized country and, more intimately, through individual lives. Claire Burwell, the sole widow on the jury, becomes Khan's fiercest defender. But when the news of his selection becomes public, she comes under pressure from outraged family members and into collision with hungry journalists, opportunistic politicians, and even Khan himself. *(Paperback: 352 pages)*

163. [*Toxic Workplace: Managing Toxic Personalities and Their Systems of Power*](#)

by Mitchell Kusy

Toxic Workplace is the first book to tackle the underlying systems issues that enable a toxic person to create a path of destruction in an organization, pervading others' thoughts and energies, even undermining their very sense of well-being. *(Hardcover: 256 pages)*

SELF-HELP

164. [*Daring Greatly: How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent and Lead*](#) by Brené Brown

Every day we experience the uncertainty, risks, and emotional exposure that define what it means to be vulnerable or to dare greatly. Brown explains how vulnerability is both the core of difficult emotions like fear, grief and disappointment, *and* the birthplace of love, belonging, joy, empathy, innovation, and creativity. *(Paperback: 320 pages)*

165. [*Focus: The Hidden Driver of Excellence*](#) by Daniel Goleman

Attention works much like a muscle: use it poorly and it can wither; work it well and it grows. In an era of unstoppable distractions, Goleman persuasively argues that now more than ever we must learn to sharpen focus if we are to contend with, let alone thrive in, a complex world. *(Paperback: 320 pages)*

166. [*Follow the Yellow Brick Road: A Harvard Psychologist's Guide to Becoming a Superstar*](#) by Myra S. White

Hidden within each of us is a superstar waiting to come alive. Often we don't find that superstar because we give up too easily or think that superstars have special talents we lack. *Follow the Yellow Brick Road* shows us that we all have the potential to be superstars in what we love to do. *(Paperback: 256 pages)*

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167. [***Girl, Wash Your Face: Stop Believe the Lies about Who You Are So You Can Become Who You Were Meant to Be***](#) by Rachel Hollis
With painful honesty and fearless humor, Rachel unpacks and examines the falsehoods that once left her feeling overwhelmed and unworthy, and reveals the specific practical strategies that helped her move past them. In the process, she encourages, entertains, and even kicks a little butt, all to convince you to do whatever it takes to get real and become the joyous, confident woman you were meant to be. (*Hardcover: 240 pages*)
168. [***Mistakes I Made at Work: 25 Influential Women Reflect on What They Got Out of Getting It Wrong***](#) by Jessica Bacal
Jessica Bacal interviews twenty-five successful women about their toughest on-the-job moments. These innovators across a variety of fields – from the arts, to finance, to tech – reveal that they're more thoughtful, purposeful and assertive as leaders because they learned from their mistakes, not because they never made any. (*Paperback: 272 pages*)
169. [***Rising Strong: How the Ability to Reset Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent and Lead***](#) by Brené Brown
Walking into our stories of hurt can feel dangerous. But the process of regaining our footing in the midst of struggle is where our courage is tested and our values are forged. Our stories of struggle can be big ones, like the loss of a job or the end of a relationship, or smaller ones, like a conflict with a friend or colleague. (*Paperback: 352 pages*)
170. [***The Art of Possibility: Transforming Professional and Personal Life***](#)
by Rosamund Stone Zander and Benjamin Zander
Presenting twelve breakthrough practices for bringing creativity into all human endeavors, The Art of Possibility is the dynamic product of an extraordinary partnership. The Art of Possibility combines Benjamin Zander's experience as conductor of the Boston Philharmonic and his talent as a teacher and communicator with psychotherapist Rosamund Stone Zander's genius for designing innovative paradigms for personal and professional fulfillment. (*Paperback: 210 pages*)
171. [***The Confidence Code: The Science and Art of Self-Assurance – What Women Should Know***](#) by Katty Kay and Claire Shipman
Is confidence hardwired into the DNA of a lucky few, or can anyone learn it? Is it best expressed by bravado, or is there another way to show confidence? Which is more important: confidence or competence? Why do so many women, even the most successful, struggle with feelings of self-doubt? Is there a secret to channeling our inner confidence? (*Paperback: 272 pages*)
172. [***Year of Yes: How to Dance it Out, Stand in the Sun and Be Your Own Person***](#)
by Shonda Rhimes
With three children at home and three hit television shows, it was easy for Shonda to say she was simply too busy. But in truth, she was also afraid. And then, over Thanksgiving dinner, her sister muttered something that was both a wake up and a call to arms: You never say

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yes to anything. Shonda knew she had to embrace the challenge: for one year, she would say YES to everything that scared her. (*Paperback: 352 pages*)

- 173. [*Triggers: Creating Behavior That Lasts – Becoming the Person You Want to Be*](#)**
by Marshall Goldsmith

Our reactions don't occur in a vacuum. They are usually the result of unappreciated triggers in our environment—the people and situations that lure us into behaving in a manner diametrically opposed to the colleague, partner, parent, or friend we imagine ourselves to be. These triggers are constant and relentless and omnipresent. So often the environment seems to be outside our control. Even if that is true, as Goldsmith points out, we have a choice in how we respond. (*Hardcover: 272 pages*)

TECHNOLOGY

- 174. [*Technopoly: The Surrender of Culture to Technology*](#)** by Neil Postman

In this witty, often terrifying work of cultural criticism, the author of *Amusing Ourselves to Death* chronicles our transformation into a Technopoly: a society that no longer merely uses technology as a support system but instead is shaped by it—with radical consequences for the meanings of politics, art, education, intelligence, and truth. (*Paperback: 240 pages*)

WAR

- 175. [*Ashley's War: The Untold Story of a Team of Women Soldiers on the Special Ops Battlefield*](#)** by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon

In 2010, the Army created Cultural Support Teams, a secret pilot program to insert women alongside Special Operations soldiers battling in Afghanistan. The Army reasoned that women could play a unique role on Special Ops teams: accompanying their male colleagues on raids and, while those soldiers were searching for insurgents, questioning the mothers, sisters, daughters and wives living at the compound. Their presence had a calming effect on enemy households, but more importantly, the CSTs were able to search adult women for weapons and gather crucial intelligence. (*Paperback: 336 pages*)

- 176. [*For Whom the Bell Tolls*](#)** by Ernest Hemingway

The story of Robert Jordan, a young American in the International Brigades attached to an antifascist guerilla unit in the mountains of Spain, it tells of loyalty and courage, love and defeat, and the tragic death of an ideal. In his portrayal of Jordan's love for the beautiful Maria and his superb account of El Sordo's last stand, in his brilliant travesty of *La Pasionaria* and his unwillingness to believe in blind faith. (*Paperback: 480 pages*)

- 177. [*The Attack on the Liberty: The Untold Story of Israel's Deadly 1967 Assault on a U.S. Spy Ship*](#)** by James M. Scott

Notorious incident: In 1967 the spy ship USS Liberty was attacked by Israeli fighter jets and torpedo boats in international waters during the Six-Day War. Thirty-four sailors were killed and more than 170 wounded, many critically. Israel claimed mistaken identity, which a U.S. naval court of inquiry confirmed, but that explanation is contradicted by the facts of the case. (*Paperback: 384 pages*)

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178. [*The Blood of Heroes: The 13-Day Struggle for the Alamo – and the Sacrifice that Forged a Nation*](#) by James Donovan
On February 23, 1836, a large Mexican army led by dictator Santa Anna reached San Antonio and laid siege to about 175 Texas rebels holed up in the Alamo. The Texans refused to surrender for nearly two weeks until almost 2,000 Mexican troops unleashed a final assault. The defenders fought valiantly for their lives and for a free and independent Texas—but in the end, they were all slaughtered. Their ultimate sacrifice inspired the rallying cry "Remember the Alamo!" and eventual triumph. (*Paperback: 528 pages*)
179. [*The Candy Bombers: The Untold Story of the Berlin Airlift and America's Finest Hour*](#) by Andrei Cherny
On June 24, 1948, intent on furthering its domination of Europe, the Soviet Union cut off all access to West Berlin, prepared to starve the city into submission unless the Americans abandoned it. Soviet forces hugely outnumbered the Allies', and most of America's top officials considered the situation hopeless. But not all of them. (*Paperback: 656 pages*)
180. [*The Forgotten 500: The Untold Story of the Men Who Risked All for the Greatest Rescue Mission of World War II*](#) by Gregory A. Freeman
During a bombing campaign over Romanian oil fields, hundreds of American airmen were shot down in Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia. Local Serbian farmers and peasants risked their own lives to give refuge to the soldiers while they waited for rescue, and in 1944, Operation Halyard was born. The risks were incredible. The starving Americans in Yugoslavia had to construct a landing strip large enough for C-47 cargo planes—without tools, without alerting the Germans, and without endangering the villagers. And the cargo planes had to make it through enemy airspace and back—without getting shot down themselves. (*Paperback: 336 pages*)
181. [*The Originals: The Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron of World War II*](#)
by Sarah Byrn Rickman
This book tells the story of the WAFS, who they were, how they are different from the WASPs (Women Airforce Service Pilots), and how they ultimately became part of the WASPs. A must reference book for libraries in aviation communities, but it reads like a novel. (*Paperback: 418 pages*)
182. [*The Soul of Battle: From Ancient Times to the Present Day, How Three Great Liberators Vanquished Tyranny*](#) by Victor Davis Hanson
Theban general Epaminondas marched an army of farmers two hundred miles to defeat their Spartan overlords and forever change the complexion of Ancient Greece. William Tecumseh Sherman led his motley army across the South, ravaging the landscape and demoralizing the citizens in the defense of right. And George S. Patton commanded the recently formed Third Army against the German forces in the West, nearly completing the task before his superiors called a halt. (*Paperback: 496 pages*)
183. [*Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*](#)
by Laura Hillenbrand
In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was an incorrigible delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin

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Olympics. But when World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight on a May afternoon in 1943. When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, against all odds, Zamperini survived, adrift on a foundering life raft. Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. (*Paperback: 528 pages*)