

Non-Fiction Reading List: This is a list of bestsellers and recommended non-fiction books. It is by no means exhaustive. There are some incredible authors and really captivating stories out there. Follow your interests!

Hot, flat, and crowded: why we need a green revolution-- and how it can renew America by Thomas Friedman. Argues that the United States needs to adopt an environmentally friendly national strategy to be healthier, wealthier, and more secure, innovative, and productive.

True Green: 100 Everyday Ways You Can Contribute to a Healthier Planet by Kim McKay. Describes one hundred ways in which individuals can make a positive difference in the environment through simple lifestyle changes in the home, in the garden, at work, while shopping and traveling, and in the community.

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Middle East Conflict. A straightforward guide to the Middle East conflict that explains the conflict's origins, and discusses the political, social, and economic effects; and describes the religious basis and the obstacles to peace; and also covers Saddam Hussein's political legacy, the political position of Palestine, and other related topics.

Are We Rome?: the fall of an empire and the fate of America. Magazine editor and author Cullen Murphy discusses similarities between the U.S. and the Roman Empire, arguing that the U.S. most resembles Rome in two areas in which change is possible: governmental corruption and "arrogant ignorance" of the outside world.

An Ordinary Man: an autobiography by Paul Rusesabagina. Paul Rusesabagina recounts the story of his life, describing what it was like to grow up on a small farm in Rwanda, how he became the first Rwandan general manager of a Belgian-owned hotel, and how he helped his fellow countrymen during the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

War is--- : Soldiers, Survivors, and Storytellers Talk About War. A collection of essays, memoirs, letters, and fiction that present opposing viewpoints on the nature of war by such contributors as Mark Twain, Bob Dylan, and Ernie Pyle.

The Audacity of Hope : Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream by Barack Obama. Barak Obama addresses twenty-first century politics in the United States, commenting on economic insecurities of citizens, race, religion, terrorism, threat of a pandemic, and other related issues.

The House at Sugar Beach : in search of a lost African childhood by Helene Cooper. The author describes the story of her Liberian childhood, her family's escape from the violence in 1980, and her return to her homeland in search of the foster sister they were forced to leave behind.

Michelle : a biography by Liza Mundy. Details the life of Michelle Obama, a Harvard Law School graduate and wife to United States senator Barack Obama, and describes her marriage to Barack, her career achievements, her role as a

mother, and other related topics.

Dreams from My Father : a story of race and inheritance by Barack Obama.
Barack Obama tells the story of his life as the son of a black African father and a white American mother, searching for a workable meaning to his life as an African American.

Boom! : Voices of the Sixties : personal reflections of the '60s and today
(audiobook on CD) by Tom Brokaw. The author of the bestselling The Greatest Generation takes us on a tour of the turbulent 1960s, blending his personal reflections with firsthand accounts from the people that lived through it.

Zookeeper's Wife , Diane Ackerman
The true story of how the keepers of the Warsaw Zoo saved hundreds of people from Nazi hands.

How Starbucks saved my life: a son of privilege learns to live like everyone else
Gill, Michael Gates. When Michael Gates Gill lost his job that provided him with a six-figure salary, he lost his house and his family. He took a job at Starbuck's and learned that the job wasn't as easy as it looks.

Her last death: a memoir Sonnenberg, Susanna.*Sonnenberg's memoir illuminates her resolve to forge her independence, to become a woman capable of trust and to be a good mother to her own children after being raised by a mother who was a compulsive liar and a drug user.*

Always Looking Up: The Adventures of an Incurable Optimist Michael J. Fox
Always Looking Up is a memoir of this last decade, told through the critical themes of Michael's life: work, politics, faith, and family. The book is a journey of self-discovery and reinvention, and a testament to the consolations that protect him from the ravages of Parkinson's.

House of Cards: A Tale of Hubris and Wretched Excess on Wall Street William D. Cohan
House of Cards is a chilling cautionary tale about greed, arrogance, and stupidity in the financial world, and the consequences for all of us.

Amazon Top 35 Non-Fiction List of 2009

- 1** ***LIBERTY AND TYRANNY***, by Mark R. Levin. (Threshold Editions, \$25.) A conservative manifesto from a talk-show host and president of Landmark Legal Foundation.
- 2** ***OUTLIERS***, by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$27.99.) Why some people succeed, from the author of "Blink." ***First Chapter***
- 3** ***HOUSE OF CARDS***, by William D. Cohan. (Doubleday, \$27.95.) The fall of Bear Stearns and the beginning of the Wall Street collapse.
- 4** ***A LION CALLED CHRISTIAN***, by Anthony Bourke and John Rendall. (Broadway, \$21.95.) Two men buy a pet lion cub in London and bring him to

- Africa when he is grown.
- 5 [THE YANKEE YEARS](#), by Joe Torre and Tom Verducci. (Doubleday, \$26.95.)
The former Yankee manager (1996-2007) on his years with the team.
- 6 [THE LOST CITY OF Z](#), by David Grann. (Doubleday, \$27.50.) A New Yorker
writer searches for a British explorer who disappeared 80 years ago in the
Amazon.
- 7 [A BOLD FRESH PIECE OF HUMANITY](#), by Bill O'Reilly. (Broadway, \$26.) The
Fox News commentator on his upbringing and career.
- 8 *HAPPENS EVERY DAY*, by Isabel Gillies. (Scribner, \$25.) A woman's husband
leaves her without warning
- 9* [DEWEY](#), by Vicki Myron with Bret Witter. (Grand Central, \$19.99.) The kitten left
freezing in the returned-book slot of an Iowa public library and his rise to fame.
- 10 [MY BOOKY WOOK](#), by Russell Brand. (Collins, \$25.99.) A memoir of sex, drugs
and stand-up from a British comedian.
- 11 [JESUS, INTERRUPTED](#), by Bart D. Ehrman. (HarperOne, \$25.99.) Scholars'
discoveries about the New Testament.
- 12 [HOW WE DECIDE](#), by Jonah Lehrer. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$25.) Learning
more about how we think can help us make better decisions. [First Chapter](#)
- 13* *ARE YOU THERE, VODKA? IT'S ME, CHELSEA*, by Chelsea Handler. (Simon
Spotlight Entertainment, \$24.95.) Humorous personal essays from the stand-
up comedian.
- 14 *INSIDE THE REVOLUTION*, by Joel C. Rosenberg. (Tyndale, \$24.99.) The power
of three groups in the Middle East: Islamic radicals, moderate reformers and
Muslims who are becoming Christians. (†)
- 15 [JOKER ONE](#), by Donovan Campbell. (Random House, \$26.) A Marine lieutenant
and his platoon in Ramadi during the most violent days of the insurgency in
2004. [First Chapter](#)
- 16 *IT SUCKED AND THEN I CRIED*, by Heather Armstrong (Simon Spotlight
Entertainment)
- 17 *NO ANGEL*, by Jay Dobyns and Nils Johnson-Shelton (Crown)
- 18 *OUT OF CAPTIVITY*, by Marc Gonsalves, Keith Stansell, Tom Howes and Gary
Brozek (William Morrow)
- 19 [HOT, FLAT, AND CROWDED](#), by Thomas L. Friedman (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)
[First Chapter](#)
- 20 *WHEN MARCH WENT MAD*, by Seth Davis (Times)
- 21 *A SLOBBERING LOVE AFFAIR*, by Bernard Goldberg (Regnery)
- 22 *THE NEXT 100 YEARS*, by George Friedman (Doubleday)

- 23 **MELTDOWN**, by Thomas E. Woods Jr (Regnery)
- 24 **THE UNFORGIVING MINUTE**, by Craig M. Mullaney (Penguin Press)
- 25 **THE BLACK SWAN**, by Nassim Nicholas Taleb (Random House) **First Chapter**
- 26 **WHY WE SUCK**, by Denis Leary (Viking)
- 27 **THE ASCENT OF MONEY**, by Niall Ferguson (Penguin Press)
- 28 **IMAGINING INDIA**, by Nandan Nilekani (Penguin Press)
- 29 **DEAD AID**, by Dambisa Moyo (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)
- 30 **THE THIRD REICH AT WAR**, by Richard J. Evans (Penguin Press)
- 31 **THE MIRROR EFFECT**, by Drew Pinsky and S. Mark Young (Harper)
- 32 **THE RETURN OF DEPRESSION ECONOMICS AND THE CRISIS OF 2008**, by Paul Krugman (Norton)
- 33 **THE GAMBLE**, by Thomas E. Ricks (Penguin Press) **First Chapter**
- 34 **OBAMA**, with an introduction by Bill Keller and biographical text by Jill Abramson (Callaway)
- 35 **AS THEY SEE 'EM**, by Bruce Weber