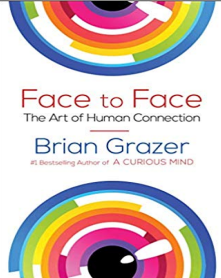
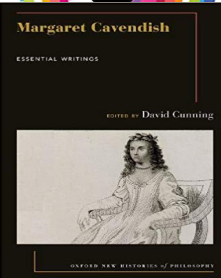

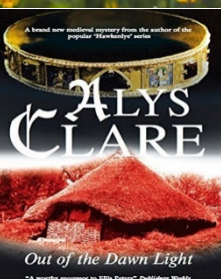
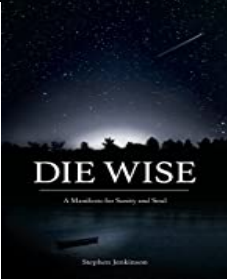
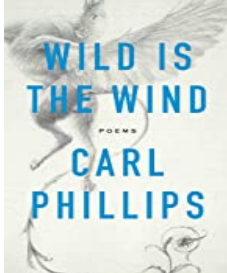

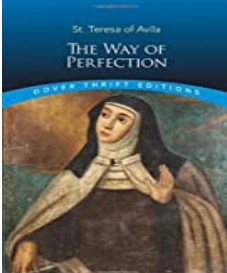
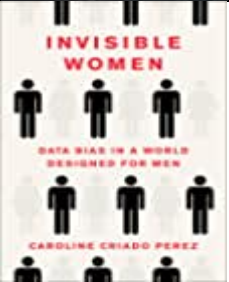
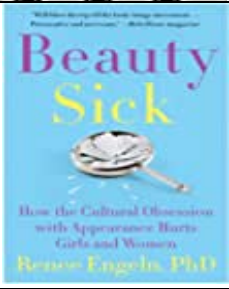
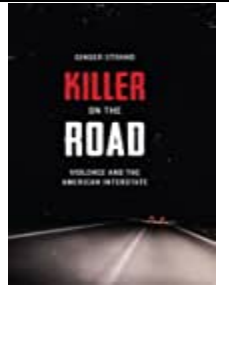



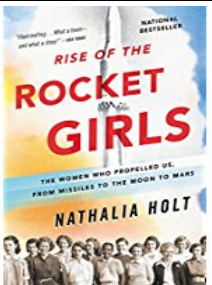
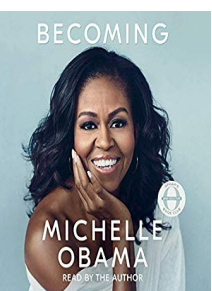

## Best and Worst Books Read in 2019

### Category: Thought provoking

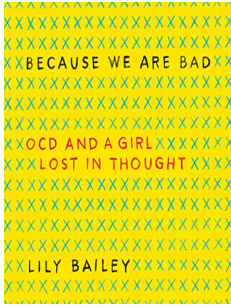
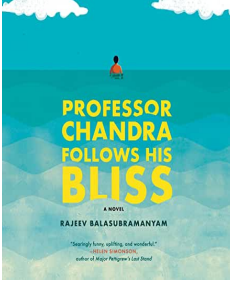
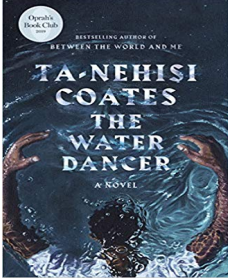
Cover	Citation	Recommended By	Comments
 <p>Face to Face The Art of Human Connection Brian Grazer #1 Bestselling Author of A CURIOUS MIND</p>	<p>Grazer B. <i>Face to Face: The Art of Human Connection</i>. New York, NY: Simon &amp; Schuster; 2019.</p>	<p>Raishelle Day</p>	<p>“Quick read and a MUST especially for the younger generations, if we could get them to read a book”</p>
 <p>Margaret Cavendish ESSENTIAL WRITINGS edited by David Canning</p>	<p>Cavendish M. <i>Essential Writings</i>. New York, NY: Oxford University Press; 2019.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“17th-century British woman philosopher who is much more modern in her outlook than most of the guys writing at that time”</p>
 <p>PEMA CHÖDRÖN START WHERE YOU ARE A Guide to Compassionate Living</p>	<p>Chodron P. <i>Start Where You Are: A Guide to Compassionate Living</i>. Boulder, CO; Shambhala; 2018.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“Would take to that deserted island”</p>
 <p>Alys CLARE Out of the Dawn Light</p>	<p>Clare A. <i>The Aelf Fen</i> series. London, UK: Severn House.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“Current author who lives in the UK and Brittany and writes about an 11-century healer-girl who is also (you guessed it) an amateur detective”</p>

	<p>Jenkinson S. <i>Die Wise</i>. Berkeley, CA: North Atlantic Books; 2015.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“Would take to that deserted island”</p>
	<p>Phillips C. <i>Wild is the Wind: Poems</i>. New York, NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux; 2019.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“Of Wash U”</p>
	<p>Pinkney J. <i>Aesop's Fables</i>. New York, NY: Seastar Books; 2000.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“Beautiful picture book to give to your child or grandchild at the appropriate age”</p>
	<p>St Teresa of Avila. <i>The Way of Perfection</i>. Many editions and publishers.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“How to live monastically by the great Spanish philosopher and mystic”</p>



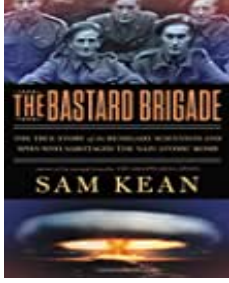
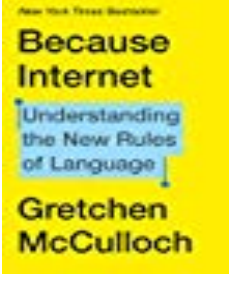
	<p>Spinoza B. <i>Ethics</i>. Many editions and publishers.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“Would take to that deserted island”</p>
	<p>Criado Perez C. <i>Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men</i>. New York, NY: Harry N. Abrams; 2019.</p>	<p>Kim Faulhaber</p>	<p>“Infuriating and very relevant to the work we do as medical writers and editors”</p>
	<p>Engeln R. <i>Beauty Sick: How the Cultural Obsession With Appearance Hurts Girls and Women</i>. New York, NY: Harper; 2017.</p>	<p>Kim Faulhaber</p>	<p>“Life-changing thoughts on how the quest for beauty can distract and control us”</p>
	<p>Strand G. <i>Killer on the Road: Violence and the American Interstate</i>. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press; 2012.</p>	<p>Kim Faulhaber</p>	<p>“The development of highways has changed American life in so many ways. Also, stay away from truck stops!”</p>

	<p>Ward O. <i>Look Again: How to Experience the Old Masters</i>. London, UK: Thames &amp; Hudson; 2019.</p>	<p>Kim Faulhaber</p>	<p>“Fascinating read – great to consult before your next museum visit!”</p>
	<p>Holt N. <i>Rise of the Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled Us, From Missiles to the Moon to Mars</i>. New York, NY: Little, Brown and Co; 2016.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Meet the women who did most of the calculations (by hand) for the early U.S. space program at the Jet Propulsion Lab in California”</p>
	<p>Obama M. <i>Becoming</i>. New York, NY: Crown Publishing; 2018.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews, Susan Sunderman</p>	<p>JM: “Fascinating behind-the-scenes look at Michelle’s life and what it’s like when your spouse decides to run for president of the United States”  SS: “This book was a gift from someone who knows I like biographies, and although it wasn’t high on my list, I really enjoyed it. She has lived an incredible life so far.”</p>
	<p>Rosling H, Rosling Ronnlund A, Rosling A. <i>Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World and Why Things Are Better Than You Think</i>. Stuttgart, Germany: Flatiron Books; 2018.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	

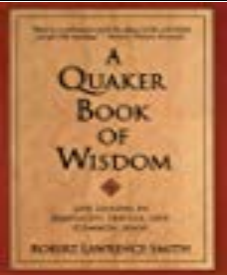
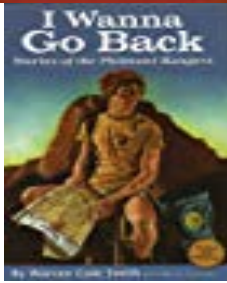
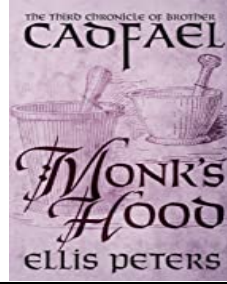

	<p>Sinek S. <i>Start With Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action.</i> New York, NY: Portfolio; 2009.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Let’s put an end to boring, ineffective meetings”</p>
	<p>Jacob M. <i>Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations.</i> New York, NY: One World; 2019.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Graphic novel about growing up as a person of color in the U.S.”</p>
	<p>Chatzky J. <i>Women With Money.</i> New York, NY: Hachette Book Group; 2019.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“Useful advice in an easy-to-read format”</p>
	<p>Butler K. <i>The Art of Dying Well: A Practical Guide to a Good End of Life.</i> New York, NY: Scribner; 2019.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“A compelling case for NOT doing everything possible at the end of life”</p>

	<p>Bailey L. <i>Because We Are Bad: OCD and a Girl Lost in Thought</i>. New York, NY: HarperCollins; 2018.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“A true story of growing up with OCD”</p>
	<p>Balasubramanyam R. <i>Professor Chandra Follows His Bliss</i>. New York, NY: The Dial Press; 2019.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“A 70-year-old professor ponders his life goals”</p>
	<p>Coates TN. <i>The Water Dancer</i>. New York, NY: One World; 2019.</p>	<p>Pranali Pathare</p>	
	<p>Blow CM. <i>Fire Shut Up in My Bones: A Memoir</i>. New York, NY: Mariner Books; 2014.</p>	<p>Susan Sunderman</p>	<p>“Charles Blow, the American journalist, commentator, and op-ed columnist for <i>The New York Times</i>, has written an honest and absorbing autobiography. The book was subsequently transformed into an opera by the trumpeter and composer Terence Blanchard and given its world premiere last summer by Opera Theatre of St. Louis and Jazz St. Louis, which I was fortunate enough to attend.”</p>

## Category: Recommended

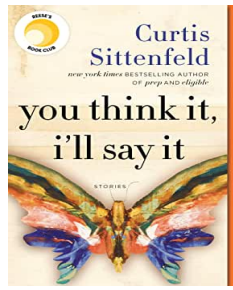
Cover	Citation	Recommended By	Comments
	<p>Harvard Business Review. <i>HBR Guide for Women at Work</i>. Boston, MA: Harvard Business Review Press; 2018.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	
	<p>Hollings C. <i>Ada Lovelace: The Making of a Computer Scientist</i>. Oxford, UK: Bodleian Library; 2018.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	
	<p>Kean S. <i>The Bastard Brigade: The True Story of the Renegade Scientists and Spies Who Sabotaged the Nazi Atomic Bomb</i>. Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Co; 2019.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	
	<p>McCulloch G. <i>Because Internet: Understanding the New Rules of Language</i>. New York, NY: Riverhead Books; 2019.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	

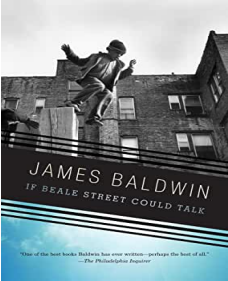
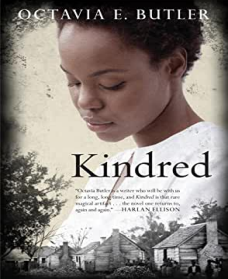
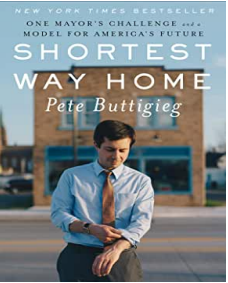
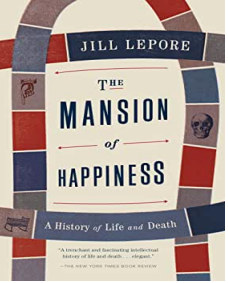
	<p>Moore K. <i>The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women</i>. Naperville, IL: Sourcebooks; 2017.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	
	<p>Munroe R. <i>How To: Absurd Scientific Advice for Common Real-World Problems</i>. New York, NY: Riverhead Books; 2019.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	
	<p>Page JT. <i>New Mexico Space Trail</i>. Mount Pleasant, SC: Arcadia Publishing; 2013.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	
<p>No image available</p>	<p>Royal Society of Chemistry. <i>Elements of Popular Science: A Selection of Chapters</i>. Cambridge, UK: Royal Society of Chemistry; 2018.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	

	<p>Smith RL. <i>A Quaker Book of Wisdom: Life Lessons in Simplicity, Service, and Common Sense.</i></p>	<p>Lisa Balbes</p>	
	<p>Smith WC. <i>I Wanna Go Back: Stories of the Philmont Rangers.</i> Cimarron, NM: 2011.</p>	<p>Lisa Balbes (More from Lisa on the last page)</p>	
	<p>Peters E. <i>The Brother Cadfael series.</i> New York, NY: Mysterious Press.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“British monk of the Middle Ages who is (of course!) an amateur detective”</p>
	<p>Spark M. <i>The Mandelbaum Gate.</i> London, UK: Virago Press Ltd; 2013.</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“Books by Muriel Spark and Hillary Mantel...they are wickedly amusing and never politically correct”</p>

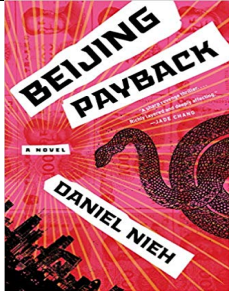
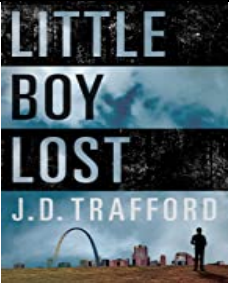
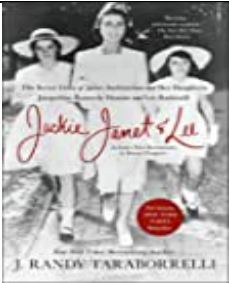
	<p>deWitt P. <i>French Exit</i>. New York, NY: Ecco; 2018.</p>	<p>Kim Faulhaber</p>	<p>“A great witty escape! Destined to be a Wes Anderson movie”</p>
	<p>Owens D. <i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i>. New York, NY: G.P. Putnam’s Sons; 2019.</p>	<p>Betsy Frick</p>	<p>“I expected another ‘poor girl in the South,’ but it was so much better than that!”</p>
	<p>Doyle AE. <i>100 Things to Do in St. Louis Before You Die</i>. 2nd ed. St. Louis, MO: Reedy Press; 2017.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Good fodder for a St. Louis bucket list”</p>
	<p>Guisewite C. <i>Fifty Things That Aren't My Fault</i>. New York, NY: G.P. Putnam’s Sons; 2019.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Former comic strip creator on life in middle age”</p>

	<p>Hoffman M. <i>Batch Cocktails: Make-Ahead Pitcher Drinks for Every Occasion</i>. New York, NY: Ten Speed Press; 2019.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Party at Joanne’s house!”</p>
	<p>Ng C. <i>Little Fires Everywhere</i>. New York, NY: Penguin Books; 2017.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews, Bob Saigh</p>	<p>JM: “Fiction; a great read!”</p>
	<p>Wohlleben P. <i>The Hidden Life of Trees</i>. Illustrated edition. Vancouver, BC: Greystone Books; 2018.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Written by a German forester; the text and photos are very calming”</p>
	<p>Ahern C. <i>Roar</i>. New York, NY: Grand Central Publishers; 2019.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“Short stories about contemporary culture and politics; my favorites were ‘The Woman Who Was Swallowed Up By the Floor and Met Lots of Other Women Down There, Too’ and ‘The Woman Who Unraveled’”</p>

 <p>ANN HOOD Notes on Life, Love, and Food Kitchen Yarns</p>	<p>Hood A. <i>Kitchen Yarns: Notes on Life, Love, and Food</i>. New York, NY: W.W. Norton &amp; Co; 2019.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“Life, love, food, and loss: what else is there??”</p>
 <p>Save Me the Plums My Gourmet Memoir Ruth Reichl</p>	<p>Reichl R. <i>Save Me the Plums</i>. New York, NY: Random House; 2019.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“Fascinating memoir from the last editor-in-chief of <i>Gourmet</i>”</p>
 <p>Curtis Sittenfeld New York Times Bestselling Author of Prep and Prodigy you think it, i'll say it STORIES</p>	<p>Sittenfeld C. <i>You Think It, I'll Say It</i>. New York, NY: Random House; 2018.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“Short stories about contemporary relationships, often with an unexpected twist”</p>
 <p>NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER “Anne Tyler is one of this country's great writers.” — USA Today CLOCK DANCE ANNE TYLER Pulitzer Prize-winning author of A Spoken Prayer</p>	<p>Tyler A. <i>Clock Dance</i>. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf; 2018.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“After retiring, a woman finally finds her place in life”</p>

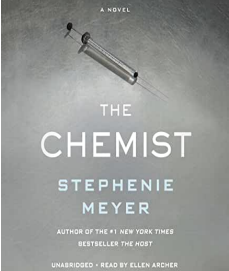

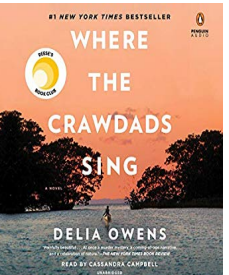
	<p>Baldwin J. <i>If Beale Street Could Talk</i>. New York, NY: The Dial Press; 1974.</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	
	<p>Butler O. <i>Kindred</i>. Boston, MA: Beacon Press; 2009</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	
	<p>Buttigieg P. <i>Shortest Way Home: One Mayor's Challenge and a Model for America's Future</i>. New York, NY: Liveright; 2019.</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	
	<p>Lepore J. <i>Mansion of Happiness: A History of Life and Death</i>. New York, NY: Knopf; 2013.</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	

	<p>Lepore J. <i>These Truths: A History of the United States</i>. New York, NY: W.W. Norton &amp; Co; 2018.</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	
	<p>Henry K. <i>Heretics Anonymous</i>. New York, NY: Penguin Press; 2017.</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	
	<p>Port IS. <i>The Birth of Loud: Leo Fender, Les Paul, and the Guitar-Pioneering Rivalry That Shaped Rock 'n' Roll</i>. New York, NY: Scribner; 2019.</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	
	<p>Safran Foer J. <i>Extremely Loud &amp; Incredibly Close</i>. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt; 2005.</p>	<p>Bob Saigh</p>	

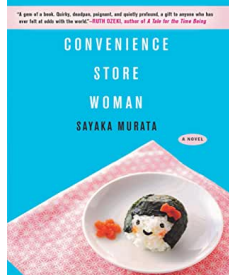
	<p>Nieh D. <i>Beijing Payback</i>. New York, NY: Ecco; 2019.</p>	<p>Jo Seltzer</p>	<p>“A thriller about a Chinese-American and why he takes a trip to Beijing. (Not giving away anything here.)”</p>
	<p>Trafford JD. <i>Little Boy Lost</i>. Seattle, WA: Thomas &amp; Mercer; 2017.</p>	<p>Jo Seltzer</p>	<p>“J.D. Trafford spoke at the University City Library last winter. He was terrific, and so are his topical legal thrillers—<i>Little Boy Lost</i>, <i>Good Intentions</i>, and <i>Without Precedent</i>.”</p>
	<p>Taraborrelli JR. <i>Jackie, Janet &amp; Lee: The Secret Lives of Janet Auchincloss and Her Daughters, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and Lee Radziwill</i>. New York, NY: St Martin’s Press; 2018.</p>	<p>Susan Sunderman</p>	<p>“For anyone interested in these women, this biography from the same year [2018] is well received.”</p>

**Category: Annoying or Disappointing**

Cover	Citation	NOT Recommended By	Comments
	<p>“Every single nonfiction book I read”</p>	<p>Dana Delibovi</p>	<p>“300 pages on how messed up we are, 10 pages on ‘solutions’ that seem woefully inadequate to our predicament (which is probably not fixable in many cases)”</p>

	<p>Meyer S. <i>The Chemist</i>. New York, NY: Little, Brown and Co; 2016.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“About 500 pages too long; not as good as her Twilight books”</p>
	<p>Shearer C. <i>The Home Edit: A Guide to Organizing and Realizing Your House Goals</i>. New York, NY: Clarkson Potter; 2019.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Disappointing—who wants to clutter their home with hundreds of plastic bins?”</p>
	<p>Owens D. <i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i>. New York, NY: G.P. Putnam’s Sons; 2019.</p>	<p>Jo Seltzer</p>	<p>“Somewhat overrated”</p>

**Category: Not Necessarily Literature to Stand the Test of Time But Fun Reads Nonetheless**

Cover	Citation	Recommended By	Comments
	<p>Murata S. <i>Convenience Store Woman</i>. New York, NY: Grove Press; 2018.</p>	<p>Joanne McAndrews</p>	<p>“Translated from the Japanese; mindless fun”</p>

	<p>Piazza J. <i>Charlotte Walsh Likes to Win</i>. New York, NY: Simon &amp; Schuster; 2018.</p>	<p>Leslie Neistadt</p>	<p>“Absorbing story of a Silicon Valley exec who moves back to her rural Pennsylvania hometown to run for the Senate”</p>
---	---	------------------------	---

More recommendations from Lisa Balbes:

Abbott EA. *Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions*. Lawrence, KS: Digireads; 2017.

American Chemical Society. *Communicating Chemistry Through Social Media*. New York, NY: Oxford Press; 2018.

Blum D. *The Poison Squad: One Chemist's Single-Minded Crusade for Food Safety at the Turn of the Twentieth Century*. London, UK: Penguin; 2018.

Bodewits K. *You Must Be Very Intelligent: The PhD Delusion*. New York, NY: Springre; 2017.

Chiaverini J. *Enchantress of Numbers*. New York, NY: Dutton; 2017.

Childress H. *The Adjunct Underclass: How America's Colleges Betrayed Their Faculty, Their Students, and Their Mission*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press; 2019.

Davis KP. *A History of the Wood Badge in the United States*. Irving, TX: Boy Scouts of America; 1988.

Fowler TA. *A Well-Behaved Woman: A Novel of the Vanderbilts*. New York, NY: St Martin's Press; 2018.

Goldsmith B. *Obsessive Genius: The Inner World of Marie Curie*. New York, NY: WW Norton and Co; 2011.

Griffin M. *The Other Side of the Road: The Story of the Philmont Training Center*. Cimarron, NM: Philmont Staff Association; 2009.

Haynie R. *First, You Explore: The Story of the Young Charles Townes*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press; 2014.

Jemisin NK. *The Fifth Season*. London, UK: Orbit; 2015.

Johnson J. *WorkParty: How to Create & Cultivate the Career of Your Dreams*. New York, NY: Gallery Books; 2018.

Kean S. *The Disappearing Spoon: And Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of the Elements*. Boston, MA: Little, Brown & Co; 2010.

Knack KJ. *Forest Park*. Mount Pleasant, SC: Arcadia Publishing; 2011

Kwan K. *Crazy Rich Asians*. New York, NY: Anchor; 2013.

Massey S. *The Widows of Malabar Hill*. New York, NY: Soho Crime; 2018.

Melvin L. *Chasing Space: An Astronaut's Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances*. New York, NY: Amistad; 2017.

- Morrissey H. *A Good Time To Be A Girl: Don't Lean In, Change the System*. New York, NY: William Collins; 2018.
- Orange T. *There There*. New York, NY: Vintage; 2018.
- Perez LB. *The Boys on the Island: A Brownsea Adventure*. (Unable to locate city): Coleccion Paleles Escutlas; (unable to locate year).
- Picoult J. *Small Great Things*. New York, NY: Ballantine Books; 2016.
- Pike JZ. *Orconomics: A Satire*. (Unable to locate city): Gnomish Press; 2014.
- Pike JZ. *Son of a Liche*. (Unable to locate city): Gnomish Press; 2018.
- Rand A. *Atlas Shrugged*. London, UK: Penguin; 1957.
- Reshma S. *Brace, Not Perfect: Fear Less, Fail More, and Live Bolder*. New York, NY: Currency; 2019.
- Saunders G. *Lincoln in the Bardo*. New York, NY: Random House; 2017.
- Setterfield D. *Once Upon A River*. New York, NY: Atria/Emily Bestler Books; 2018.
- Sherr L. *Sally Ride: America's First Woman in Space*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster; 2014.
- Stack MK. *Women's Work: A Reckoning With Work and Home*. New York, NY: Doubleday; 2019.
- Wood M. *The One-In-A-Million Boy*. New York, NY: Mariner Books; 2016.