

# the GREAT American READ



THE GREAT AMERICAN READ was an eight-part series that explored and celebrated the power of reading, told through the prism of America's 100 best-loved novels (as chosen in a national survey)\*. It investigated how and why writers create their fictional worlds, how we as readers are affected by these stories, and what these 100 different books have to say about our diverse nation and our shared human experience.

The television series featured entertaining and informative documentary segments, with compelling testimonials from celebrities, authors, notable Americans and book lovers across the country. It was comprised of a two-hour launch episode in which the list of 100 books was revealed, five one-hour theme episodes that examined concepts common to groups of books on the list, and a finale, in which the results were announced of a nationwide vote to choose America's best-loved book.

# TO KILL A *Mockingbird*

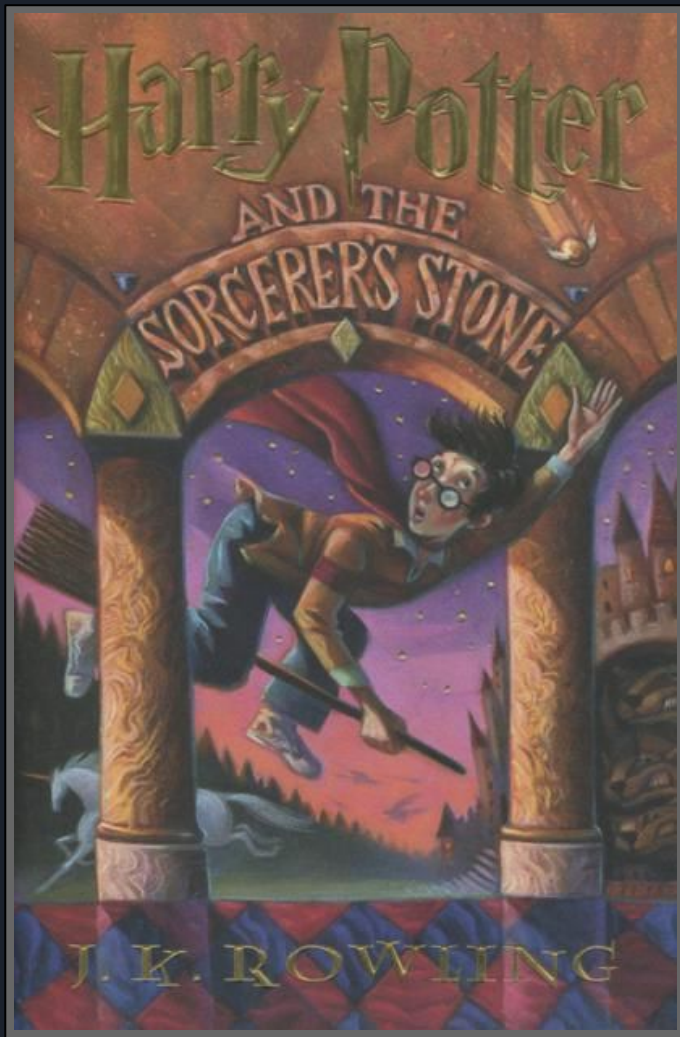
WINNER  
of the  
PULITZER  
PRIZE

A NOVEL BY  
**HARPER LEE**

HARPERPERENNIAL  OODENCLASSICS

## To Kill A Mockingbird Harper Lee

The story takes place in a small Alabama town in the 1930s and is told predominantly from the point of view of six-to-nine-year-old Jean Louise Finch. She is the daughter of Atticus Finch, a white lawyer hired to defend Tom Robinson, a black man falsely accused of raping a white woman. A coming-of-age story of an intelligent, unconventional girl, *To Kill a Mockingbird* portrays Jean's growing awareness of the hypocrisy and prejudice present in the adult world.



# Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone

J.K Rowling

Harry Potter has no idea how famous he is. That's because he's being raised by his miserable aunt and uncle who are terrified Harry will learn that he's really a wizard, just as his parents were. But everything changes when Harry is summoned to attend an infamous school for wizards, and he begins to discover some clues about his illustrious birthright. From the surprising way he is greeted by a lovable giant, to the unique curriculum and colorful faculty at his unusual school, Harry finds himself drawn deep inside a mystical world he never knew existed and closer to his own noble destiny.

*Jane Austen*

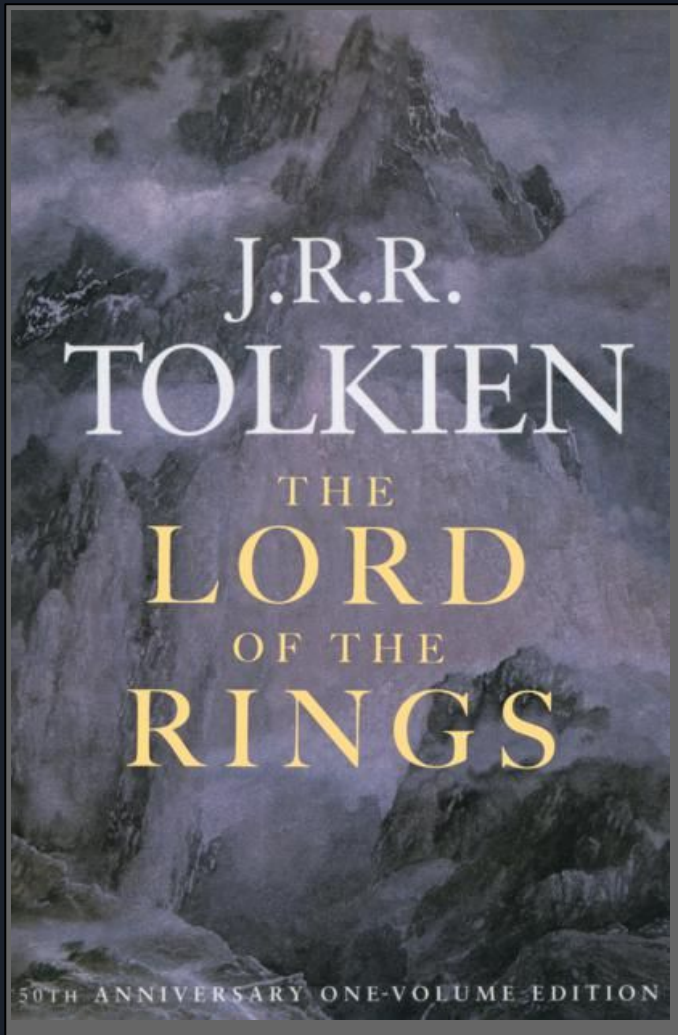
*PRIDE &  
PREJUDICE*



# Pride And Prejudice

Jane Austen

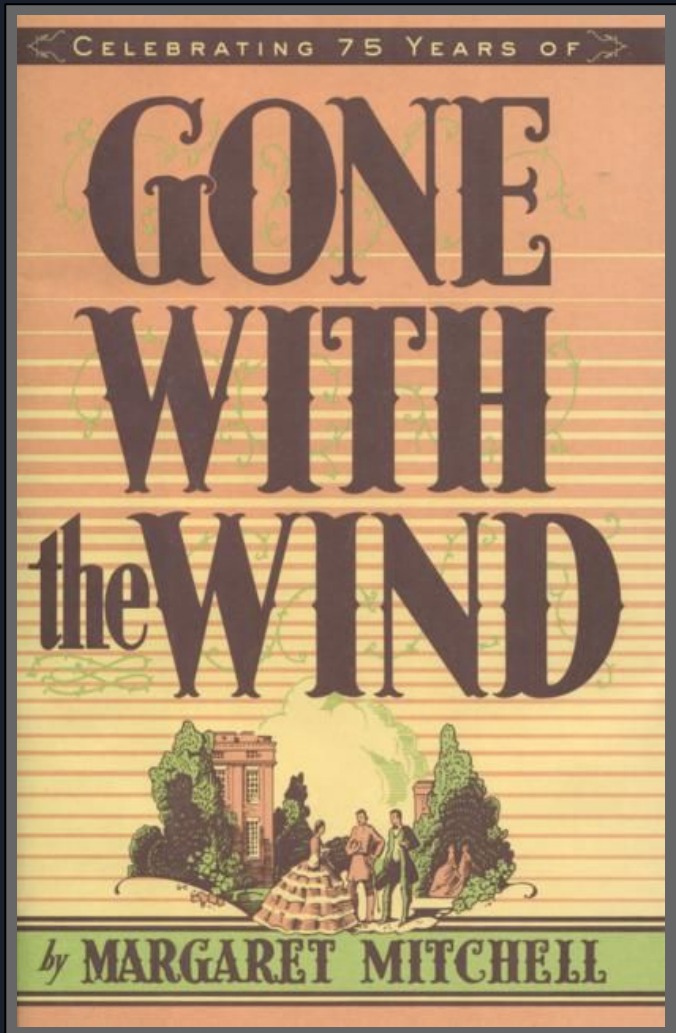
In one of the most universally loved and admired English novels, a country squire of no great means must marry off his five vivacious daughters. Jane Austen's art transformed this effervescent tale of rural romance into a witty, shrewdly observed satire of English country life. A selection of the Common Core State Standards Initiative.



# The Lord Of The Rings

J.R.R Tolkien

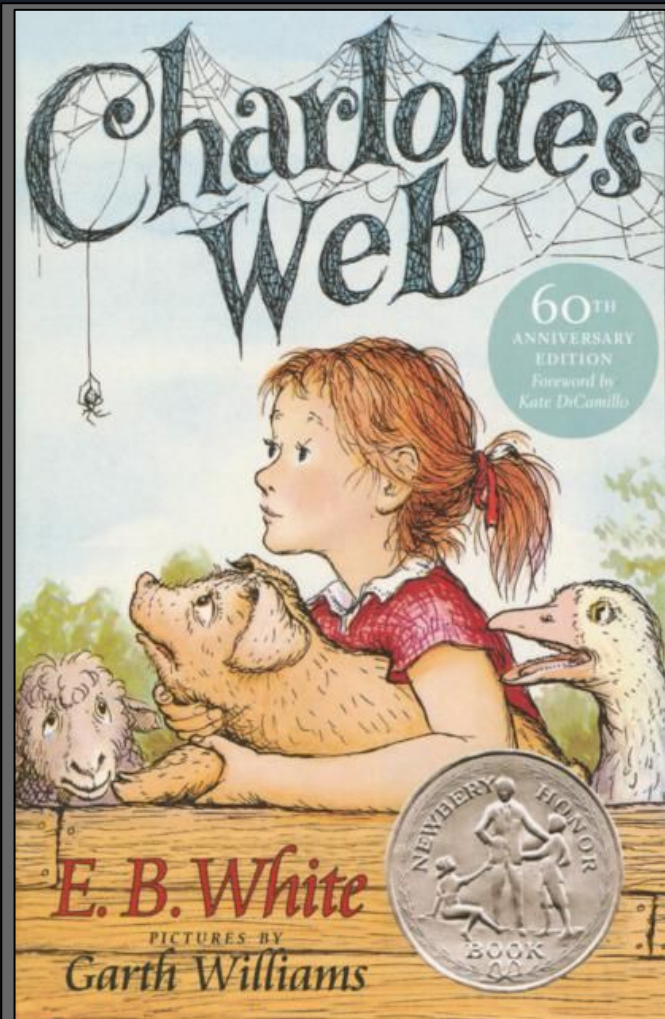
*The Lord of the Rings* tells of the great quest undertaken by the hobbit Frodo Baggins and the Fellowship of the Ring: to journey across Middle-earth, deep into the shadow of the Dark Lord Sauron, and destroy the One Ring by casting it into the Cracks of Doom.



# Gone with the wind

Margaret mitchell

the definitive story of love and war in the South, *Gone with the Wind* won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1937. Scarlett O'Hara, the spoiled, manipulative daughter of a wealthy plantation owner, arrives at young womanhood just in time to see the Civil War forever change her way of life. A sweeping story of tangled passion and courage, in the pages of *Gone with the Wind*, Margaret Mitchell explores the depth of human passions with an intensity as bold as its setting in the red hills of Georgia and brings to life unforgettable characters that have captured readers for more than eighty years.



# Charlotte's web

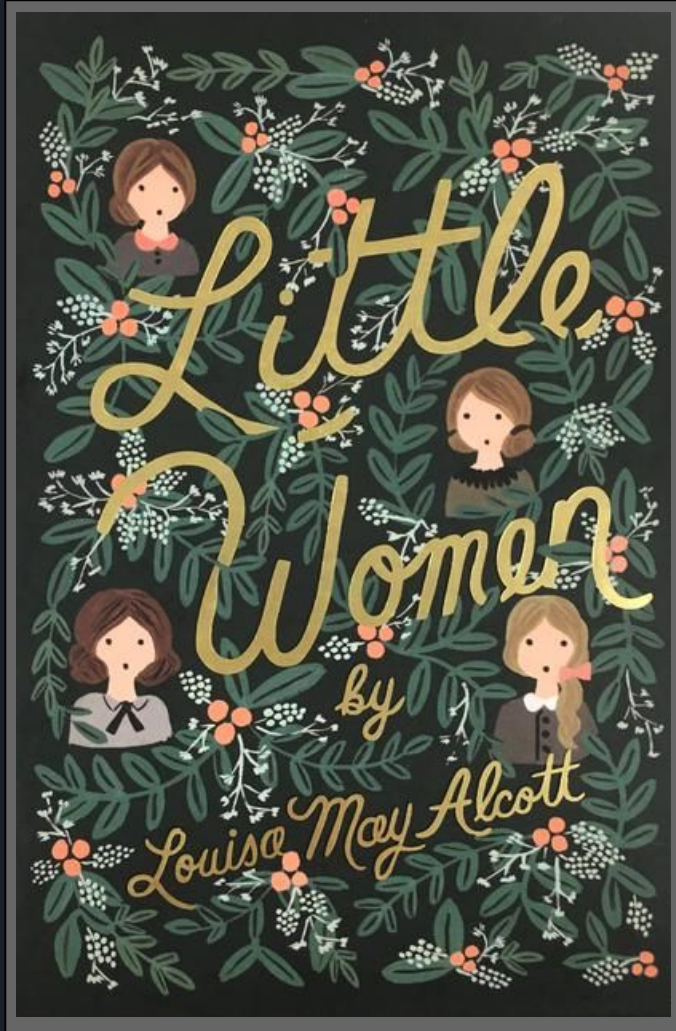
E.B. white

this beloved book is a classic of children's literature that is "just about perfect." Some Pig. Humble. Radiant. These are the words in Charlotte's Web, high up in Zuckerman's barn. Charlotte's spiderweb tells of her feelings for a little pig named Wilbur, who simply wants a friend. They also express the love of a girl named Fern, who saved Wilbur's life when he was born the runt of his litter. E. B. White's Newbery Honor Book is a tender novel of friendship, love, life, and death that will continue to be enjoyed by generations to come.

# Little women

Louisa May Alcott

*Little Women* follows the close-knit sisters Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy March as they grow from children into young women. Its author, Louisa May Alcott, loosely based the Marches on her own sisters, and Jo—a young writer who resists society's expectations for her behavior and passions—on herself. Living with their mother in Massachusetts, adjusting to their poorer circumstances while their father serves in the Civil War, the March girls grapple with first love, tremendous loss, and the gaps between who they are and who they would like to be. Set in New England during a time of great national crisis, it is a classic coming-of-age story beloved by generations.





*The Chronicles of*  
**NARNIA**

C. S. LEWIS



## The chronicles of Narnia

C.S Lewis

fantastic creatures, heroic deeds, epic battles in the war between good and evil, and unforgettable adventures come together in this world where magic meets reality, which has been enchanting readers of all ages for over sixty years. *The Chronicles of Narnia* has transcended the fantasy genre to become a part of the canon of classic literature.

*Charlotte Brontë*

# JANE EYRE

HARPERPERENNIAL CLASSICS

## Jane Eyre

Charlotte Brontë

*Jane Eyre* follows a timeless heroine's quest to find her place in the world. Orphaned as a child, Jane Eyre suffers cruelty and abuse at the hands of her aunt and cousins. Banished to the Lowood school, she forges a path for herself and thrives—in spite of loneliness, poverty, and hunger. When the opportunity for work as a governess sends her to Thornfield Hall, she meets its owner, Edward Rochester, the man who will forever alter the course of her young life. At home for the first time, she begins to fall deeply, irrevocably in love with Mr. Rochester, nurtured by his near-spiritual adoration. But the manor is rife with mysteries, and one, bound to the attic of Thornfield, will threaten Jane's hard-won happiness in ways she had never imagined.

*The Anne of Green Gables Novels #1*

**L. M. MONTGOMERY**

# *Anne of Green Gables*



*Special Collector's Edition*

## Anne of Green Gables

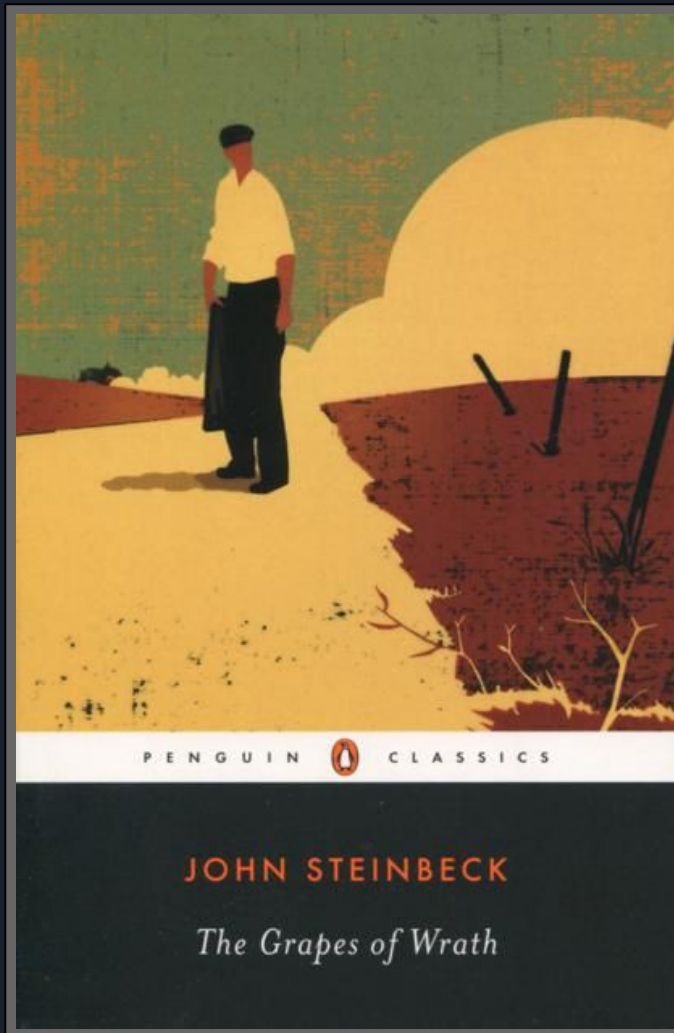
L.M. Montgomery

*Anne of Green Gables* is the beloved coming-of-age story about freckled 11-year-old orphan Anne Shirley, who is taken in by adult siblings Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert. Anne's relentless positivity and energy endear her to those around her, even as she struggles to adapt to the societal conventions of fictional Avonlea. Her vivid imagination and sentimentality get her in trouble, as she finds it hard to balance her fantasy life with the reality of Avonlea's expectations. As she grows up and encounters more adult decisions, Anne is gradually able to find comfort in the home that she has made for herself.

# The Grapes Of Wrath

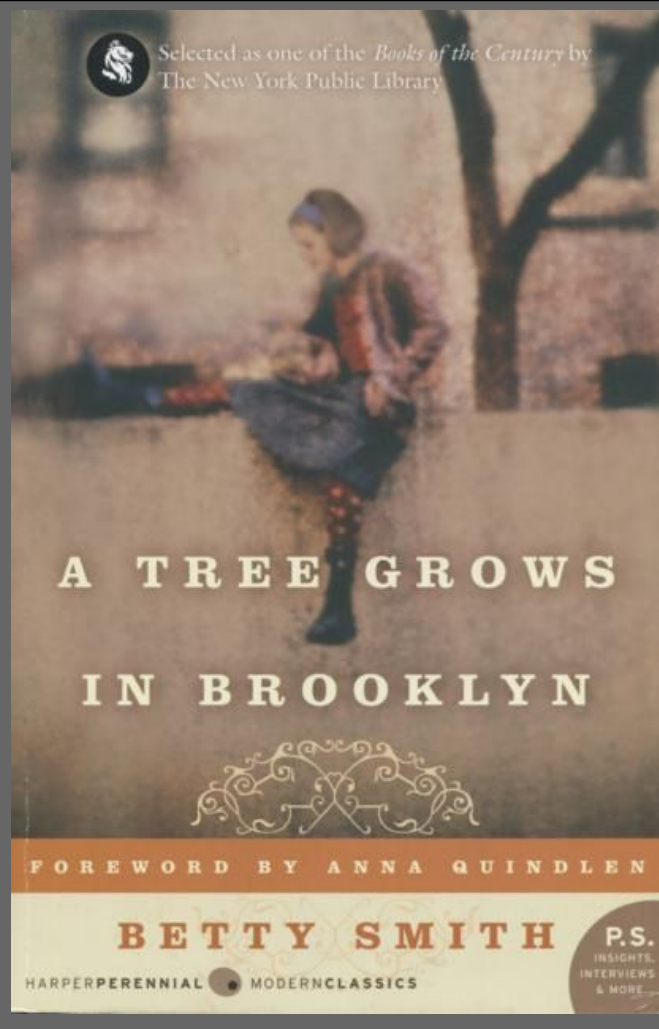
John Steinbeck

the greatest novel about the Dust Bowl, by one of the greatest writers the western hemisphere has ever produced. This social realist masterpiece follows the travails of the Joad family as they abandon their Oklahoma farmstead and head out for California during the economic and climate troubles of the 1930s. Their futile pursuit of a better life in the face of endless troubles can be seen as a metaphor for the American Dream—as well as an indictment of the systems which left so many real-life families like the Joads in such abject poverty. Ma Joad has to hold her family together as the arduous journey west takes its toll: Grampa and Granma Joad dying, two of her sons disappearing, a pregnant wife left behind. The source of the Joad family's problems is not so much the environment or the economy at all, but other people. The history of California, as Steinbeck tells it, is one of stolen land and broken bonds; in turn, the main source of hope in the book is also the kindness and trust of others, whether family or strangers. No matter the circumstances and the stresses, there is always a choice available—to trust each other, or to betray.





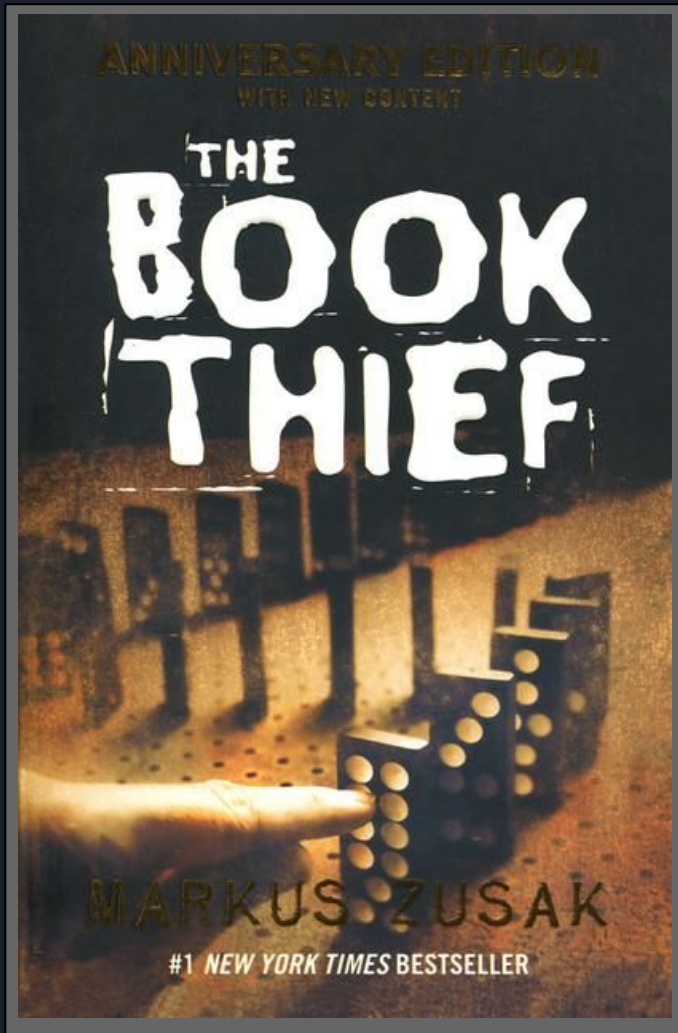
Selected as one of the *Books of the Century* by  
The New York Public Library



# A Tree Grows In Brooklyn

Betty Smith

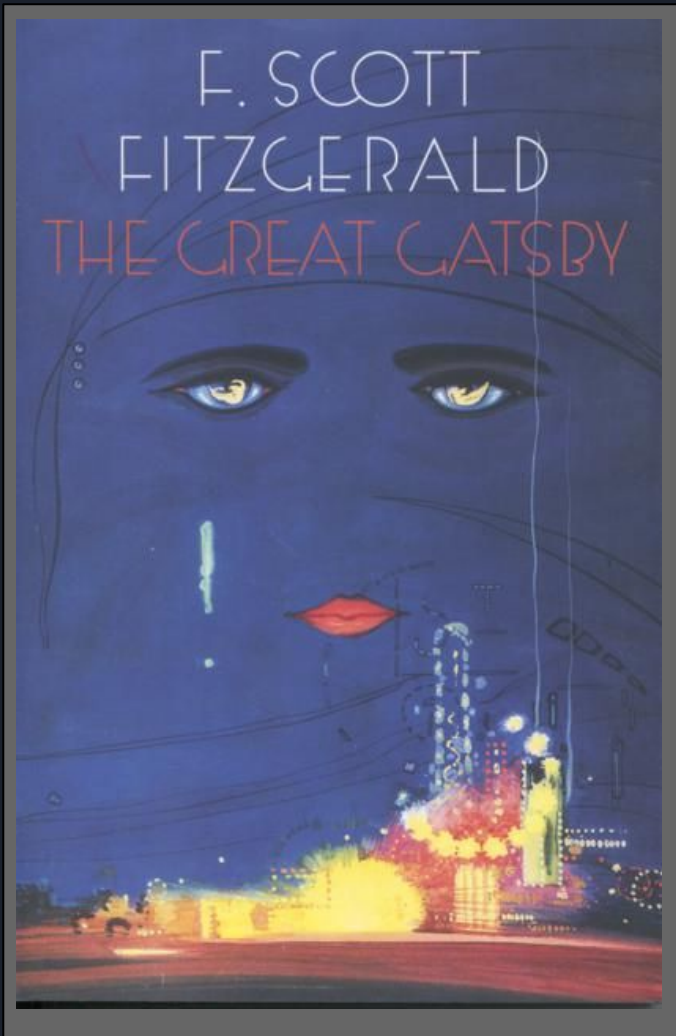
from the moment she entered the world, Francie needed to be made of stern stuff, for the often harsh life of Williamsburg demanded fortitude, precocity, and strength of spirit. Often scorned by neighbors for her family's erratic and eccentric behavior—such as her father Johnny's taste for alcohol and Aunt Sissy's habit of marrying serially without the formality of divorce—no one, least of all Francie, could say that the Nolans' life lacked drama. By turns overwhelming, sublime, heartbreaking, and uplifting, the Nolans' daily experiences are tenderly threaded with family connectedness and raw with honesty.



## The book thief

Markus Zusak

it is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist-books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak, author of *I Am the Messenger*, has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time.



# The Great Gatsby

F.Scott fitzgerald

f.Scott Fitzgerald's third book, *The Great Gatsby*, stands as the supreme achievement of his career. This exemplary novel of the Jazz Age has been acclaimed by generations of readers and is considered by many to be the great American novel. It is the story of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby, his love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, and lavish parties on Long Island at a time when, as *The New York Times* noted, "gin was the national drink and sex the national obsession."

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
OVER 11 MILLION COPIES SOLD

# The Help

*a novel*

"Wise, poignant . . . You'll catch yourself cheering out loud."  
—*People*



KATHRYN  
STOCKETT

## The Help

Kathryn Stockett

Aibileen is a black maid in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, who's always taken orders quietly, but lately she's unable to hold her bitterness back. Her friend Minny has never held her tongue but now must somehow keep secrets about her employer that leave her speechless. White socialite Skeeter just graduated college. She's full of ambition, but without a husband, she's considered a failure. Together, these seemingly different women join together to write a tell-all book about work as a black maid in the South, that could forever alter their destinies and the life of a small town...



# The Adventures Of Tom Sawyer

Mark Twain

## THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER MARK TWAIN



EDITED BY BEVERLY LYON CLARK

A NORTON CRITICAL EDITION

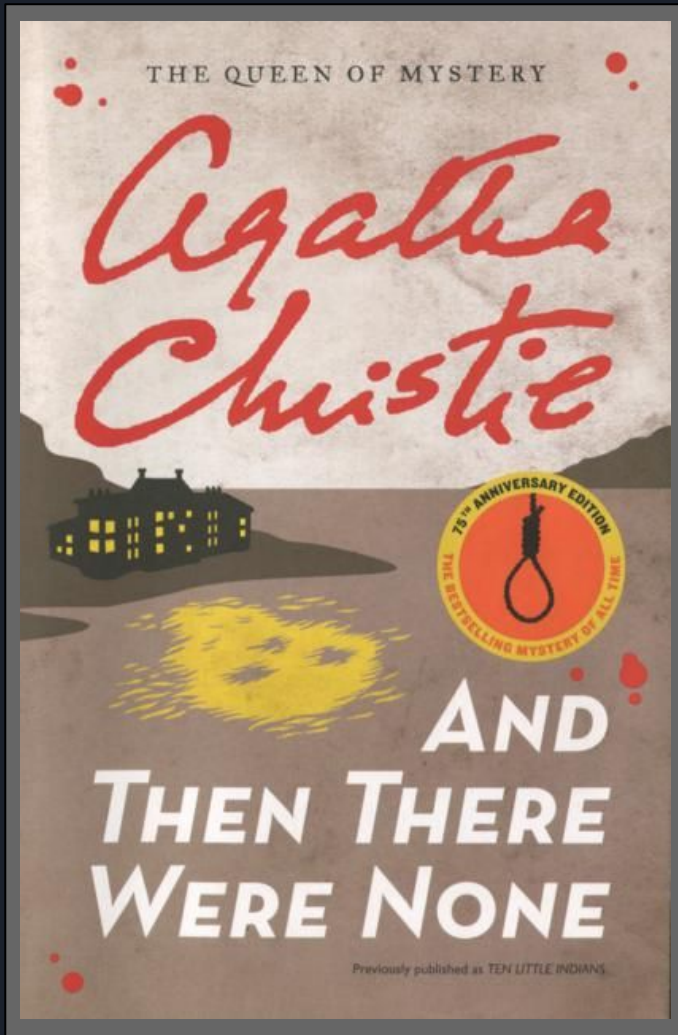
the Adventures of Tom Sawyer follows the exciting, mischievous, and often ill-advised exploits of the title character and his friend Huckleberry Finn. Their escapades include getting “engaged,” shirking their chores, running away to an island to become pirates, hunting for buried treasure, and getting dangerously lost in a cave. Through each of these adventures, Tom and Huck create a world for themselves that is more exciting than the town they live in along the Mississippi River, where the institutions that govern society in the Reconstruction-era American South are no match for impish and clever children.



# 1984

## George Orwell

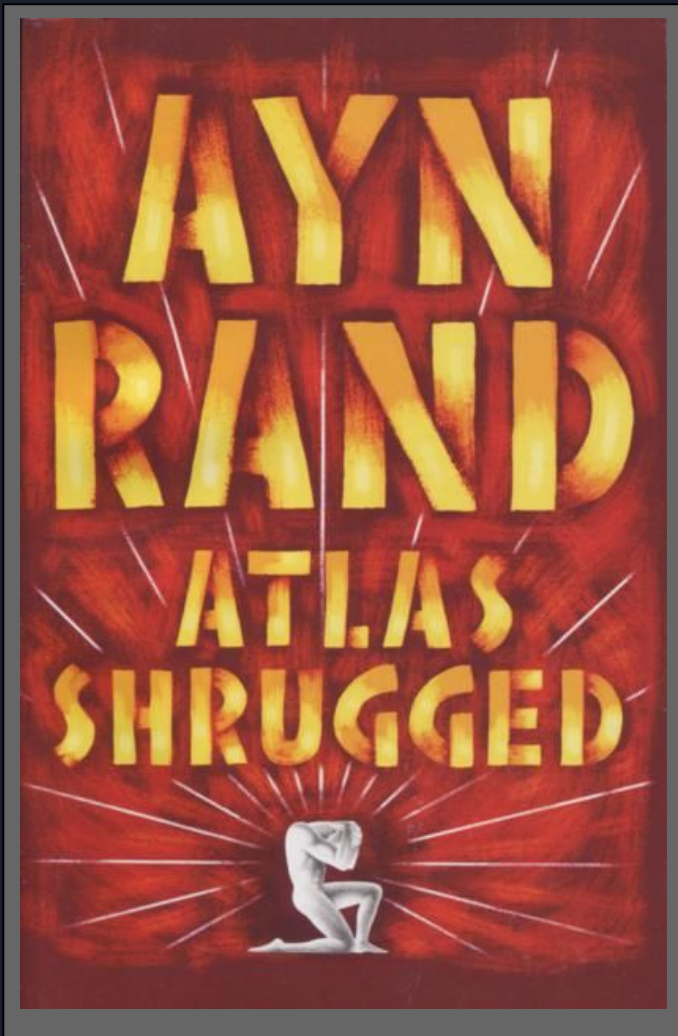
In 1984, London is a grim city in the totalitarian state of Oceania where Big Brother is always watching you and the Thought Police can practically read your mind. Winston Smith is a man in grave danger for the simple reason that his memory still functions. Drawn into a forbidden love affair, Winston finds the courage to join a secret revolutionary organization called The Brotherhood, dedicated to the destruction of the Party. Together with his beloved Julia, he hazards his life in a deadly match against the powers that be. Though the year 1984 now exists in the past, Orwell's novel remains an urgent call for the individual willing to speak truth to power.



# And Then There Were None

Agatha Christie

Ten people, each with something to hide and something to fear, are invited to an isolated mansion on Indian Island by a host who, surprisingly, fails to appear. On the island they are cut off from everything but each other and the inescapable shadows of their own past lives. One by one, the guests share the darkest secrets of their wicked pasts. And one by one, they die...



# Atlas Shrugged

Ayn Rand

peopled by larger-than-life heroes and villains, charged with towering questions of good and evil, *Atlas Shrugged* is Ayn Rand's magnum opus: a philosophical revolution told in the form of an action thriller.

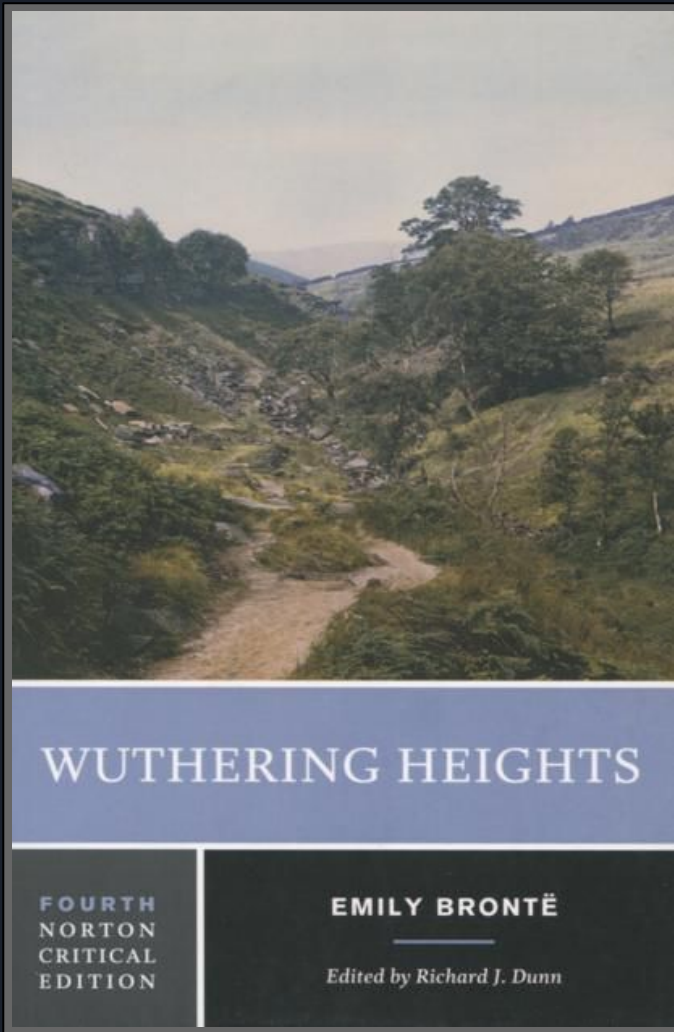
Who is John Galt? When he says that he will stop the motor of the world, is he a destroyer or a liberator? Why does he have to fight his battles not against his enemies but against those who need him most? Why does he fight his hardest battle against the woman he loves?

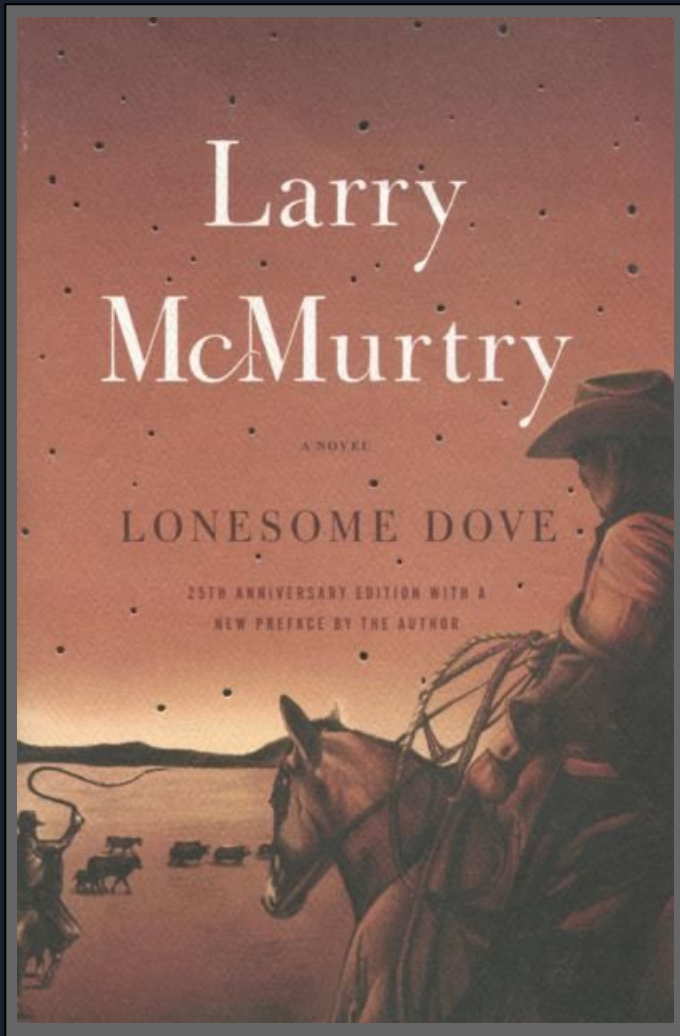
*Atlas Shrugged*, a modern classic and Rand's most extensive statement of Objectivism—her groundbreaking philosophy—offers the reader the spectacle of human greatness, depicted with all the poetry and power of one of the twentieth century's leading artists.

# Wuthering Heights

Emily Brontë

*wuthering Heights* (1847), Emily Brontë's only novel and one that has inspired many a dramatic adaptation, revolves around the orphan Heathcliff and his tempestuous relationship with the wealthy Catherine Earnshaw. Structured as frame narratives provided by several characters, the novel focuses on the class divide between the lovers, whose passion comes to have destructive consequences once Catherine marries into an upper-class family. Brontë's embrace of the Gothic tradition and incorporation of supernatural elements reveal the dark side of human emotion on the moors of Yorkshire, England.-

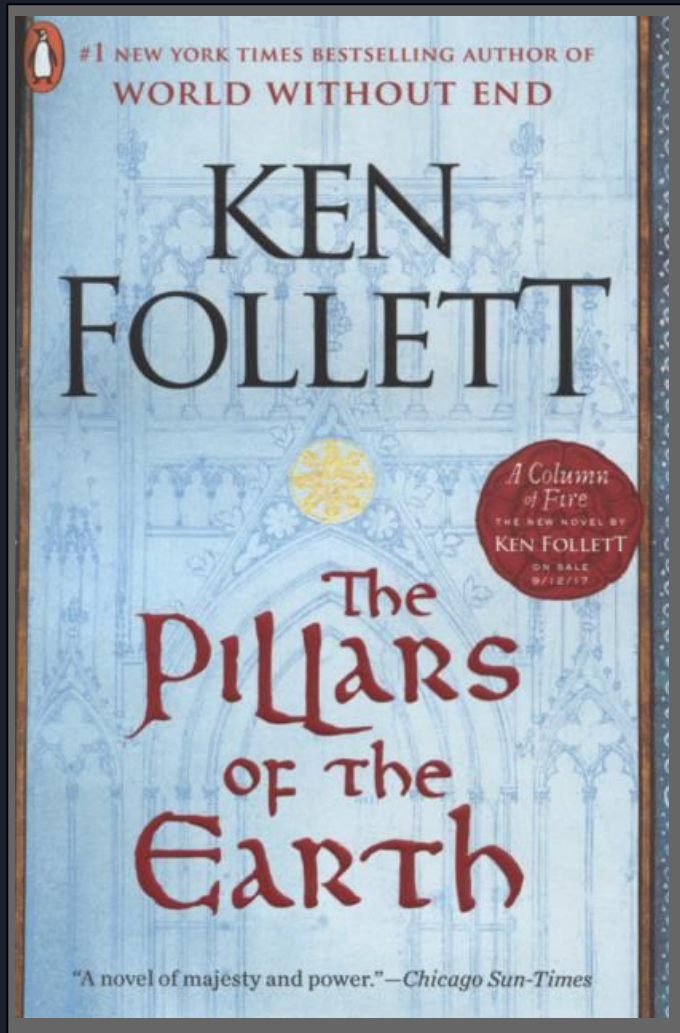




## Lonesome Dove

Larry McMurtry

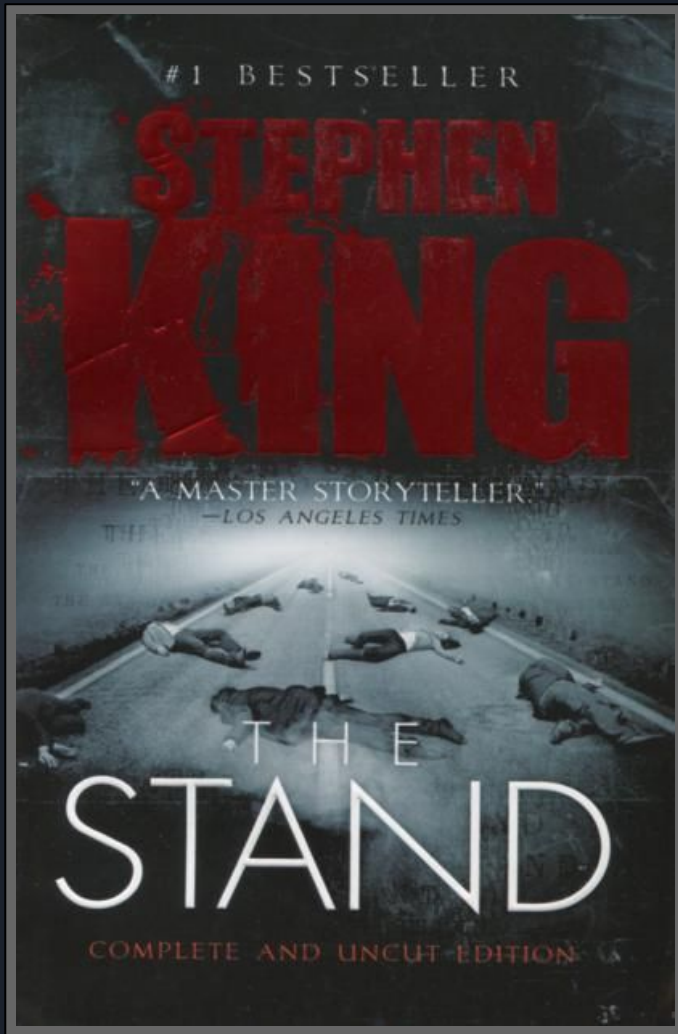
A love story, an adventure, and an epic of the frontier, Larry McMurtry's Pulitzer Prize-winning classic, *Lonesome Dove*, is the grandest novel ever written about the last defiant wilderness of America. Journey to the dusty little Texas town of Lonesome Dove and meet an unforgettable assortment of heroes and outlaws, whores and ladies, Indians and settlers. Richly authentic and beautifully written, *Lonesome Dove* is both a humorous and heartbreaking as it follows cattle drivers Gus and Call across the prairie.



# The Pillars Of The Earth

Ken Follett

"follett is a master," extolled the *Washington Post* on the release of *The Pillars of the Earth*. A departure for the bestselling thriller writer, the historical epic stunned readers and critics alike with its ambitious scope and gripping humanity. Today, it stands as a testament to Follett's unassailable command of the written word and to his universal appeal. *The Pillars of the Earth* tells the story of Philip, prior of Kingsbridge, a devout and resourceful monk driven to build the greatest Gothic cathedral the world has known ... of Tom, the mason who becomes his architect—a man divided in his soul ... of the beautiful, elusive Lady Aliena, haunted by a secret shame ... and of a struggle between good and evil that will turn church against state and brother against brother. A spellbinding epic tale of ambition, anarchy, and absolute power set against the sprawling medieval canvas of twelfth-century England, this is Ken Follett's historical masterpiece.

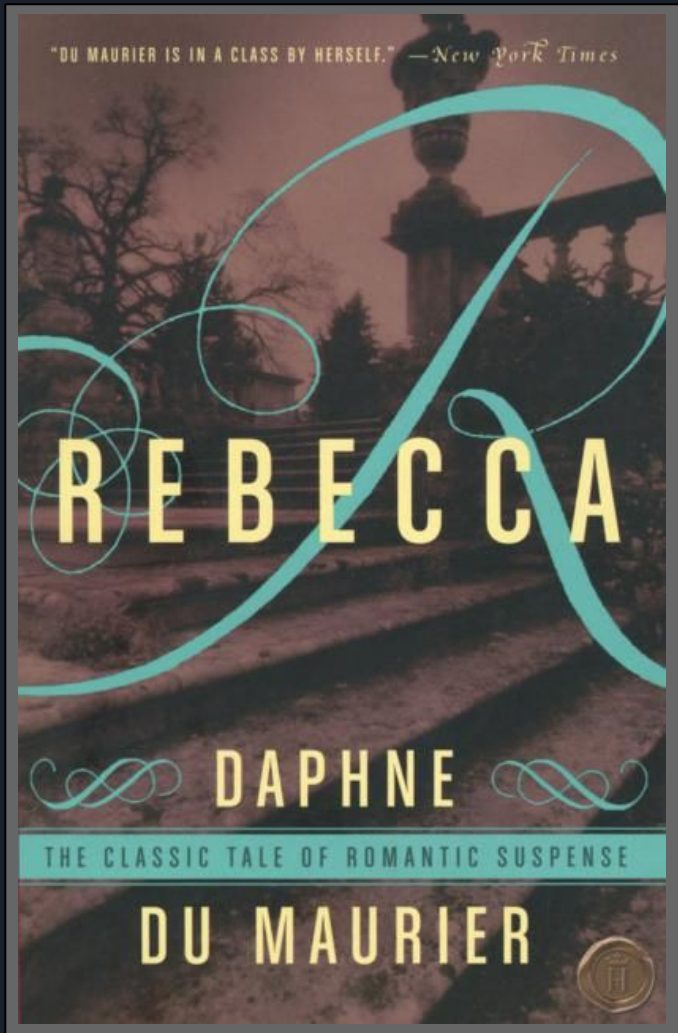


# The Stand

Stephen King

when a man escapes from a biological testing facility, he sets in motion a deadly domino effect, spreading a mutated strain of the flu that will wipe out 99 percent of humanity within a few weeks. The survivors who remain are scared, bewildered, and in need of a leader. Two emerge--Mother Abigail, the benevolent 108-year-old woman who urges them to build a community in Boulder, Colorado; and Randall Flagg, the nefarious "Dark Man" who delights in chaos and violence.

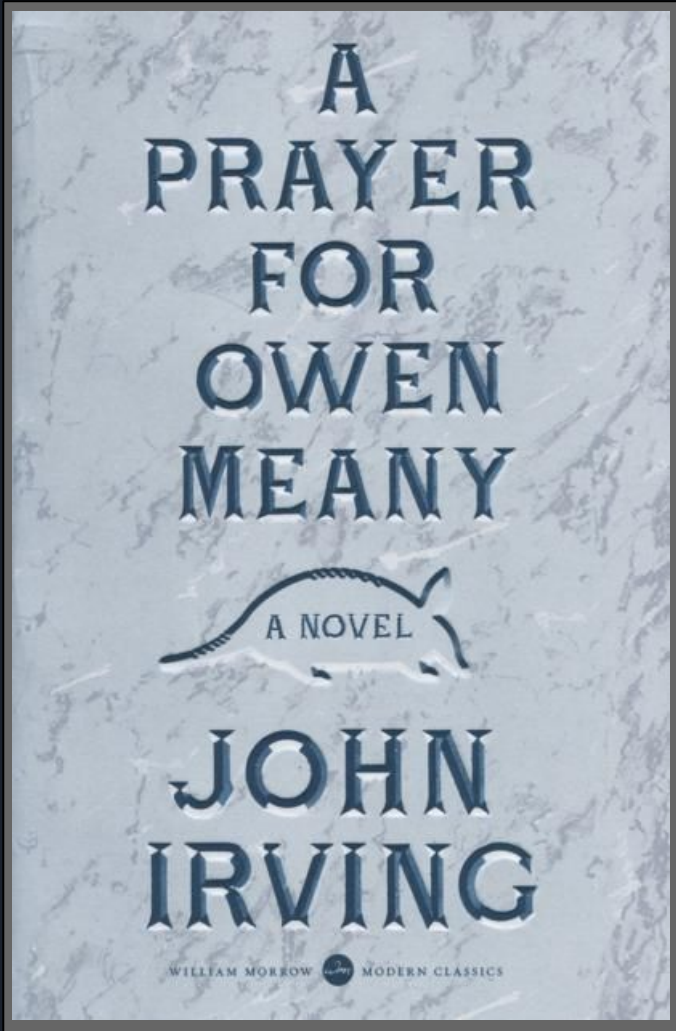




# Rebecca

Daphne Du Maurier

"last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again." With these words, the reader is ushered into an isolated gray stone mansion on the windswept Cornish coast, as the second Mrs. Maxim de Winter recalls the chilling events that transpired as she began her new life as the young bride of a husband she barely knew. For in every corner of every room were phantoms of a time dead but not forgotten—a past devotedly preserved by the sinister housekeeper, Mrs. Danvers: a suite immaculate and untouched, clothing laid out and ready to be worn, but not by any of the great house's current occupants. With an eerie presentiment of evil tightening her heart, the second Mrs. de Winter walked in the shadow of her mysterious predecessor, determined to uncover the darkest secrets and shattering truths about Maxim's first wife—the late and hauntingly beautiful Rebecca.



# A Prayer For Owen Meany

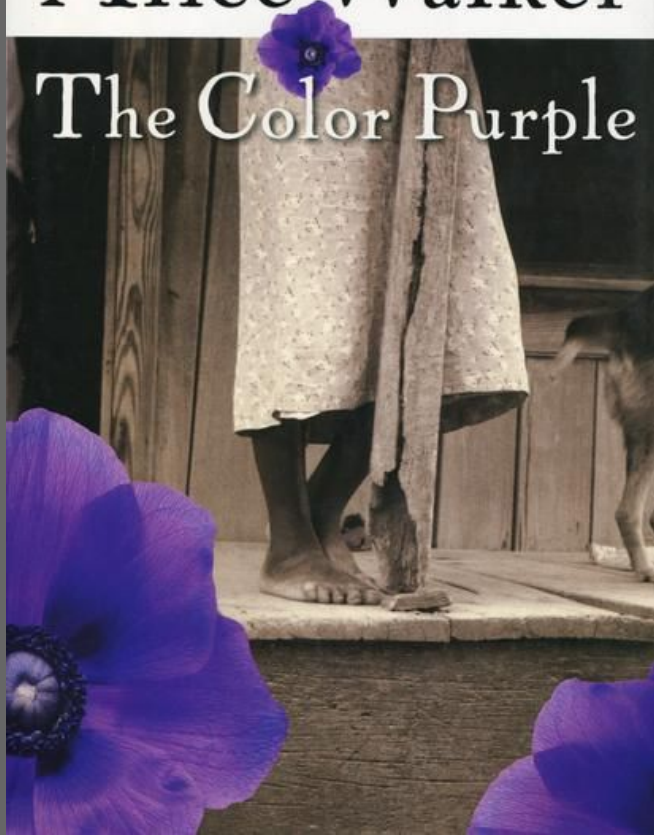
John Irving

in the summer of 1953, two eleven-year-old boys—best friends—are playing in a Little League baseball game in Gravesend, New Hampshire. One of the boys hits a foul ball that kills the other boy's mother. The boy who hits the ball doesn't believe in accidents; Owen Meany believes he is God's instrument. What happens to Owen after that 1953 foul ball is extraordinary.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award

Alice Walker

The Color Purple



## The Color Purple

Alice Walker

published to unprecedented acclaim, *The Color Purple* established Alice Walker as a major voice in modern fiction. This is the story of two sisters—one a missionary in Africa and the other a child wife living in the South—who sustain their loyalty to and trust in each other across time, distance, and silence.

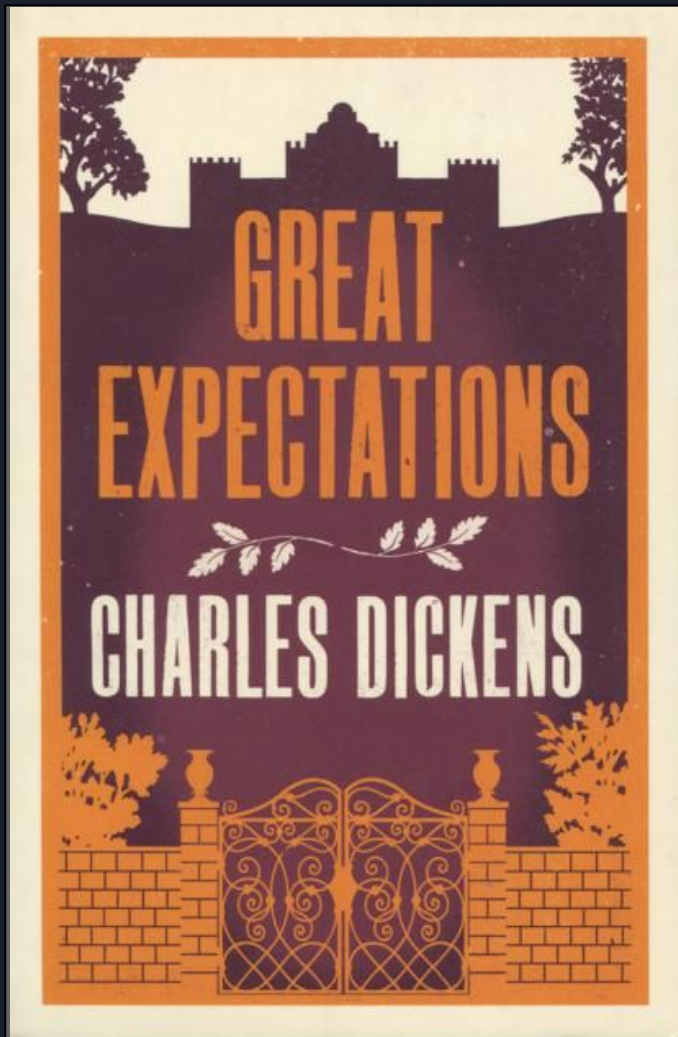
Beautifully imagined and deeply compassionate, this classic novel of American literature is rich with passion, pain, inspiration, and an indomitable love of life.



# Alice's Adventures In Wonderland

Lewis Carroll

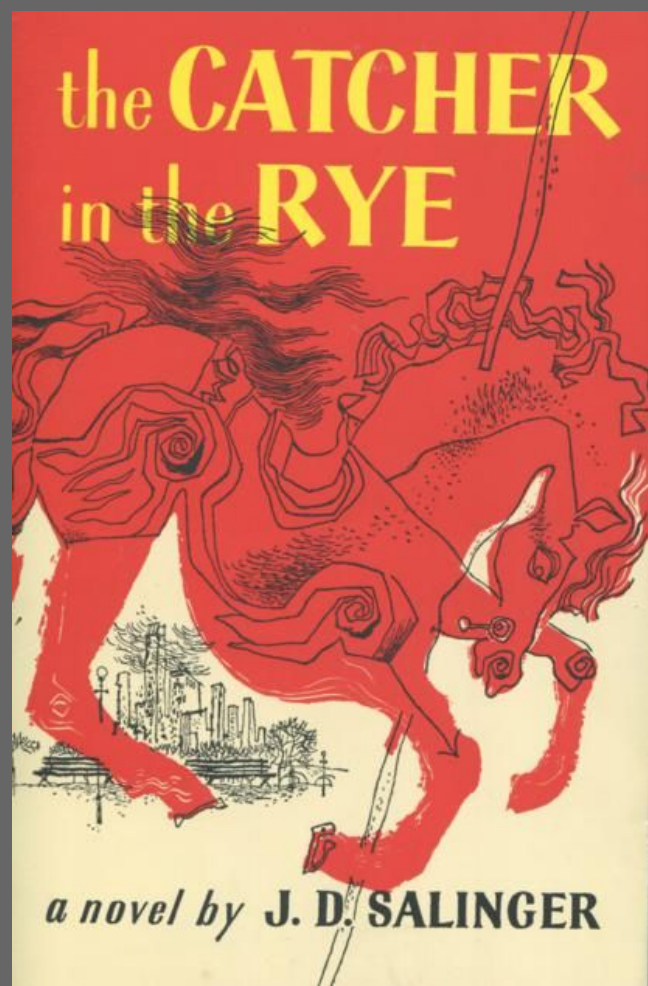
Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, a mathematics teacher at Christ Church, Oxford, often took three young daughters of his dean rowing down the Thames River, spinning fairy tales to pass the time. One afternoon in 1862, his story was especially well received by Alice Liddell, who entreated him to write it down for her. The story he'd told became *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, which Dodgson later published under the penname Lewis Carroll. It and its companion works trace the adventures of a young girl who dreams of a number of bizarre encounters inflected with logic puzzles while she meets such memorable characters as the Cheshire Cat, the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter, and the Queen of Hearts.



# Great Expectations

Charles Dickens

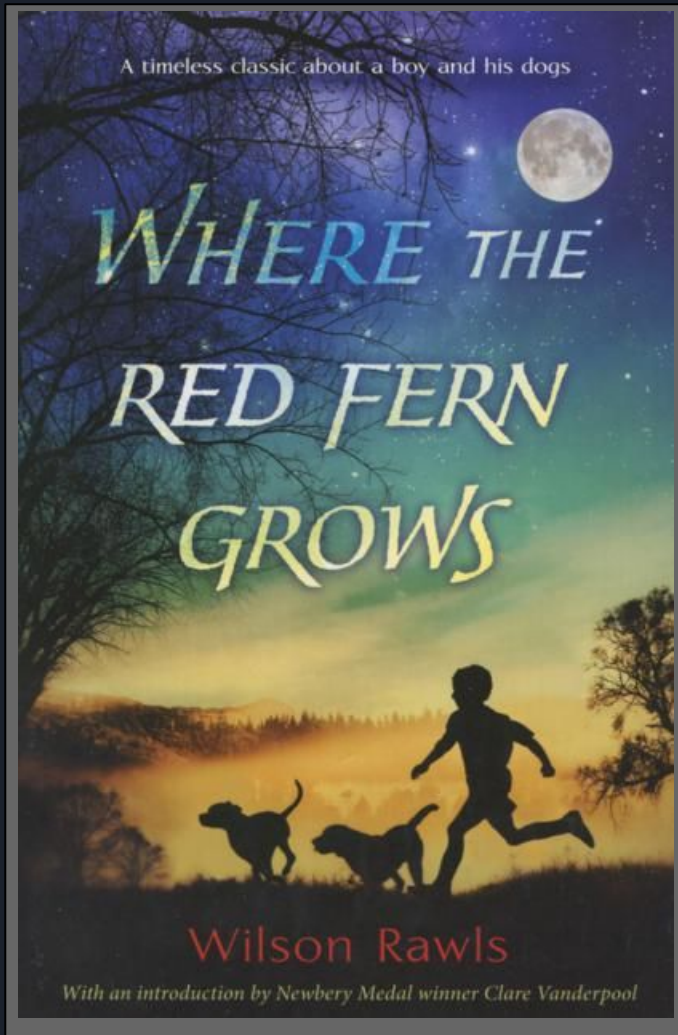
*great Expectations* is the rags-to-riches story of Pip, a young orphan. At first taken in by the Gargerys, he learns a lesson while helping an escaped convict. Later, as he is employed by the reclusive spinster Miss Havisham as a playmate for her adopted daughter Estella, he believes that he is being groomed to marry the beautiful girl—but soon finds that the situation is not what he imagined. In his shifting world, Pip learns he will come into a fortune from a mysterious source, which could further change his fate... Full of memorable characters both kind and villainous, Dickens's story, a classic of the Bildungsroman genre, proves the power of currency and the currency of power.



# The Catcher In The Rye

J.D.Salinger

Holden Caulfield, the disaffected 16-year-old narrator of *The Catcher in the Rye*, might be literature's most famous teenager—or at least one of literature's best examples of teen angst. Recently expelled from prep school, Holden takes a train to New York City, where, through a series of encounters with friends, acquaintances, and strangers up and down the island, he struggles with feelings of alienation, isolation, and grief. The novel well-known for its language, Holden's disdain for "phonies" chief among his memorable phrases: his candidness with its slang and profanity, lend the narration the very authenticity that Holden seeks.



# Where The Red Fern Grows

Wilson Rawls

*where the Red Fern Grows* is a beloved classic that captures the powerful bond between man and man's best friend.

Billy has long dreamt of owning not one, but two, dogs. So when he's finally able to save up enough money for two pups to call his own—Old Dan and Little Ann—he's ecstatic. It doesn't matter that times are tough; together they'll roam the hills of the Ozarks.

Soon Billy and his hounds become the finest hunting team in the valley. Stories of their great achievements spread throughout the region, and the combination of Old Dan's brawn, Little Ann's brains, and Billy's sheer will seems unbeatable. But tragedy awaits these determined hunters—now friends—and Billy learns that hope can grow out of despair, and that the seeds of the future can come from the scars of the past.

# THE OUTSIDERS

50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION



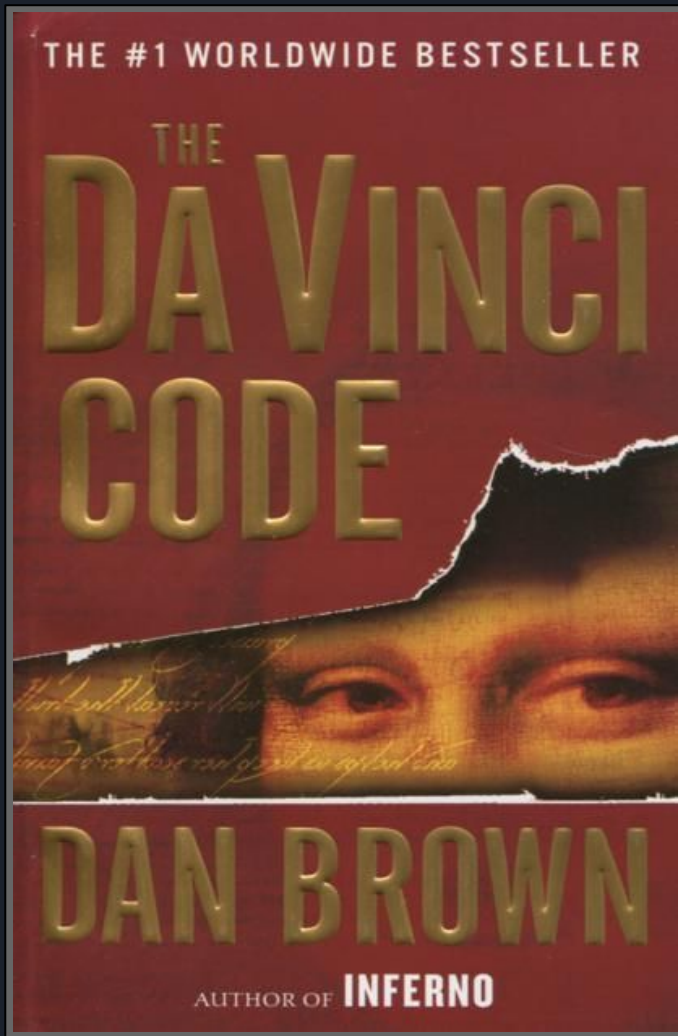
S.E. HINTON

## The Outsiders

S.E.Hinton

set in 1965 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, *The Outsiders* follows the first-person narration of 14-year-old Ponyboy Curtis over a two-week period. Ponyboy is a member of the Greasers, a gang made up "outsiders," kids from the poorer east side of town. Their rival gang, the Socs (short for "Socials") are wealthy students from the west side. During an altercation between the two gangs, Ponyboy's friend and fellow Greaser, Johnny, stabs and kills a Soc. Ponyboy and Johnny go into hiding, though Johnny emerges to turn himself in as tensions rise between the rival gangs—though not before a final confrontation. The novel confronts themes that have resonated throughout YA literature over the past half-century, including racism, homophobia, economic inequality, alienation, violence, and suicide.





# The Da Vinci Code

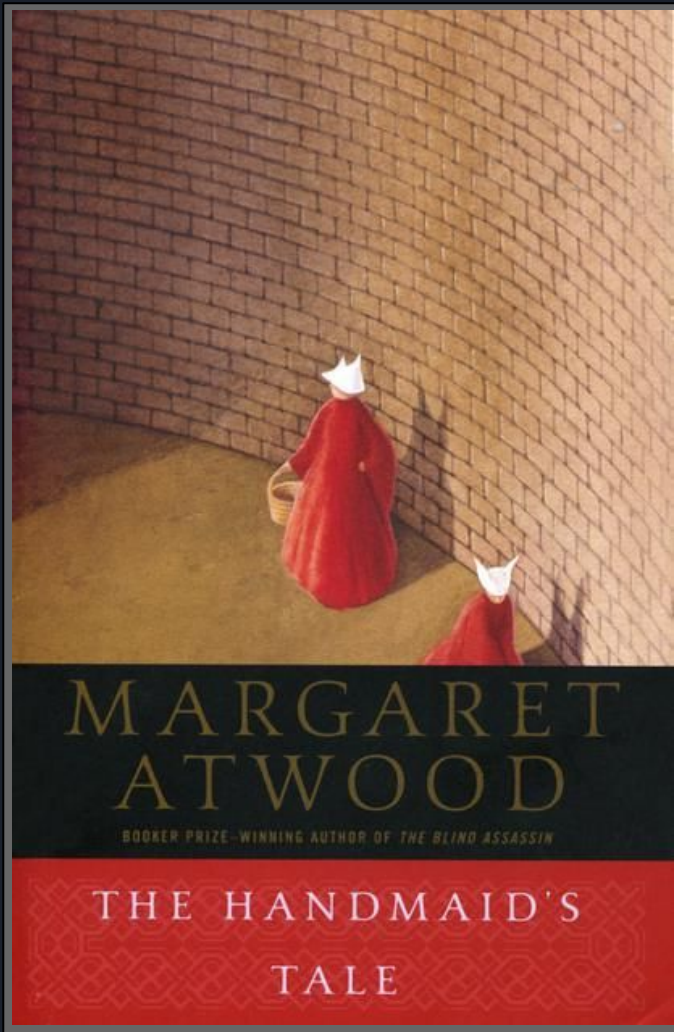
Dan Brown

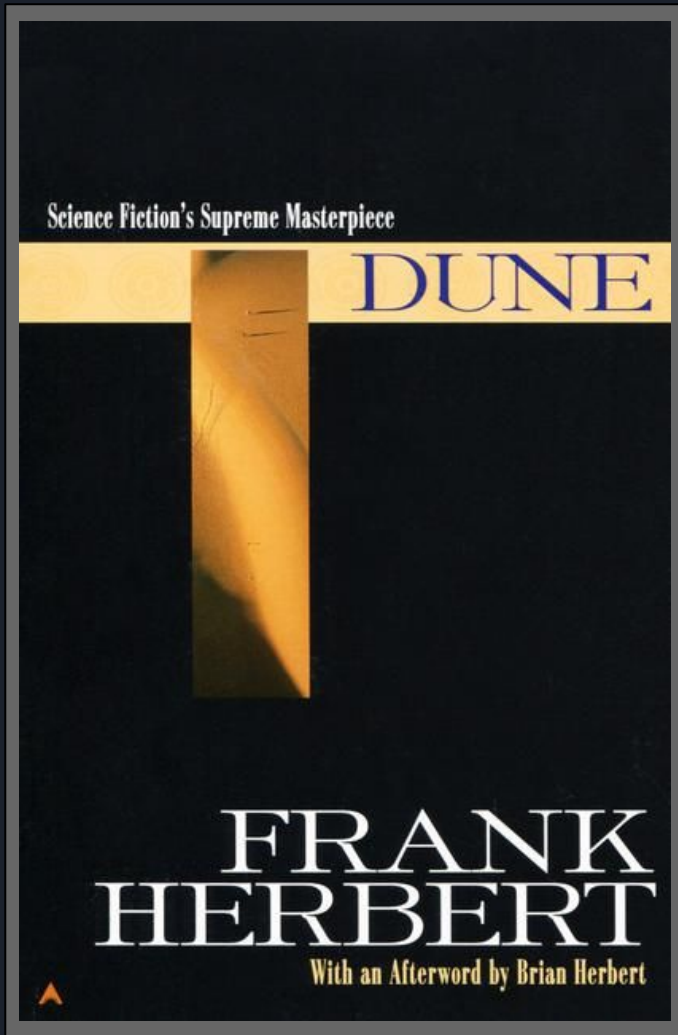
as millions of readers around the globe have already discovered, *The Da Vinci Code* is a reading experience unlike any other. Simultaneously lightning-paced, intelligent, and intricately layered with remarkable research and detail, Dan Brown's novel is a thrilling masterpiece—from its opening pages to its stunning conclusion.

# The Handmaid's Tale

Margaret Atwood

*the Handmaid's Tale* is a novel of such power that the reader will be unable to forget its image and its forecast. Set in the near future, it describes life in what was once the United States and is now called the Republic of Gilead, a monotheocracy that has reacted to social unrest and a sharply declining birthrate by reverting to, and going beyond, the repressive intolerance of the original Puritans. *The Handmaid's Tale* is funny, unexpected, horrifying, and altogether convincing. It is at once scathing satire, dire warning, and a tour de force.

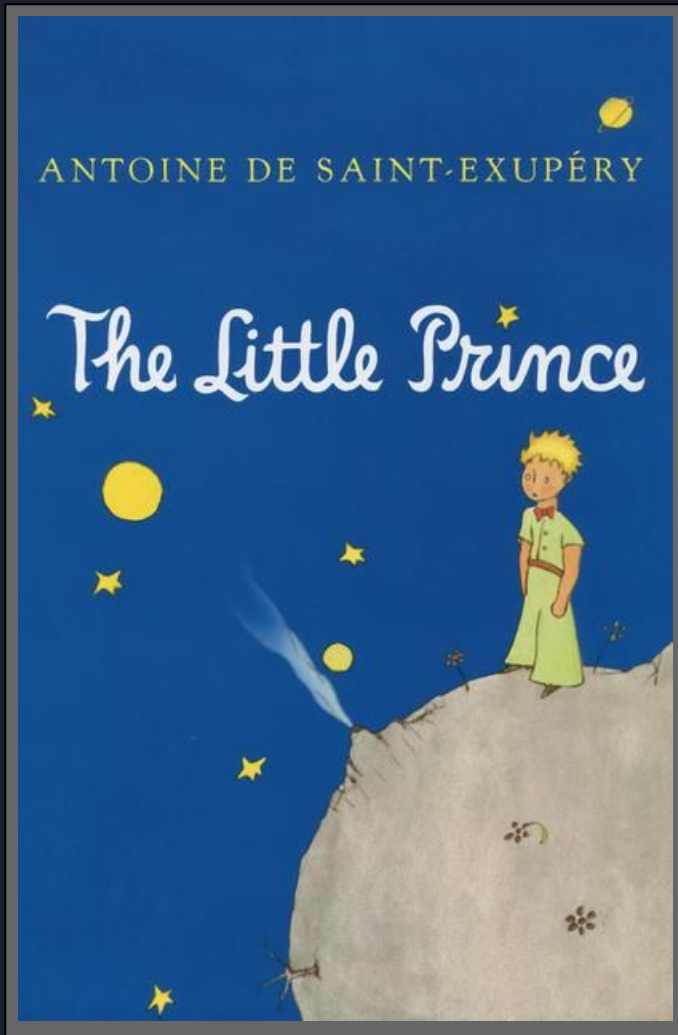




## Dune

Frank Herbert

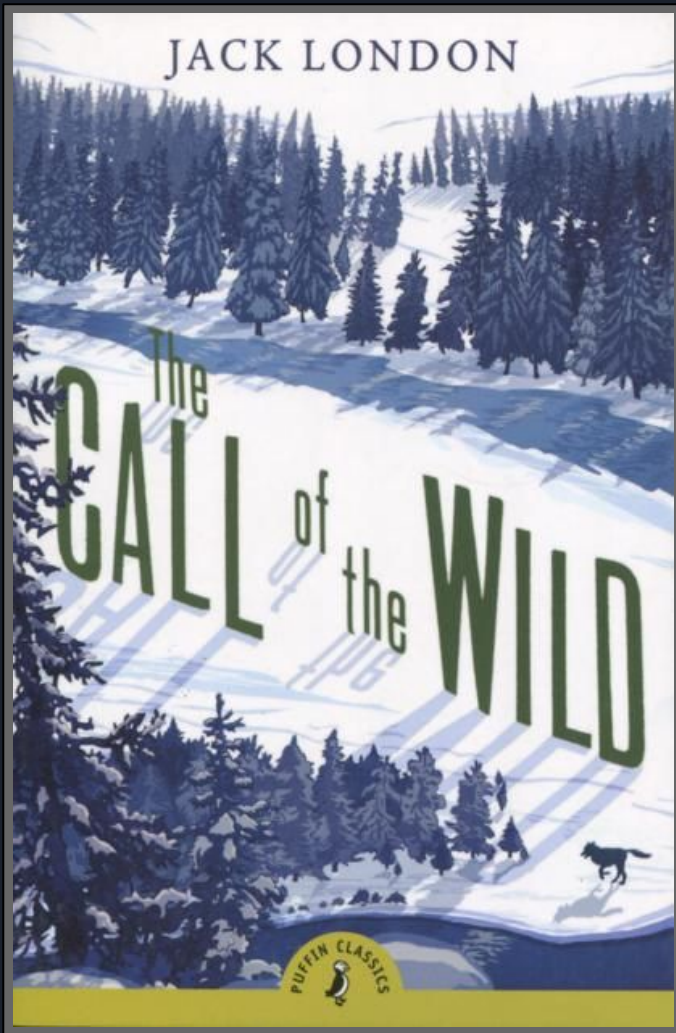
set on the desert planet Arrakis, *Dune* is the story of the boy Paul Atreides—who would become known as Muad'Dib—and of a great family's ambition to bring to fruition humankind's most ancient and unattainable dream. A stunning blend of adventure and mysticism, environmentalism and politics, *Dune* won the first Nebula Award, shared the Hugo Award, and formed the basis of what is undoubtedly the grandest epic in science fiction.



# The Little Prince

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

the story of a stranded pilot, an extraordinary little boy, and their remarkable friendship, *The Little Prince* has become a cherished fable for generations of readers. As enchanting as it is wise, this beloved classic captures the mysteries of the heart and opens us to the meaning of life and the magic of love.



# The Call Of The Wild

Jack London

set in the Klondike Gold Rush of the 1890s, the protagonist of this short adventure novel is Buck, who is part sheepdog, part Saint Bernard. Kidnapped from a ranch in the Santa Clara Valley, Buck is sold to dog traders and sent to Yukon, Canada, to become a sled dog. Buck is taken aback by the harshness of life in the Klondike, which stands in stark contrast to his life in California. He soon begins to embrace that harshness to survive: "the law of club and fang." When he's confronted by a pack of wolves, he eventually answers "the call of the wild" and becomes their leader. Written at the turn of the 20th century, the novel reflects the anxieties of the end of a century of rapid industrialization and urbanization; like characters like Rip van Winkle and Huck Finn, Buck represents American pastoralism, in which a hero returns to nature.

#1 BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
*THE LAND OF PAINTED CAVES*

JEAN M.  
AUDEL

*The beloved first novel in the acclaimed Earth's Children® series*



*One of the best-loved sagas of our time*

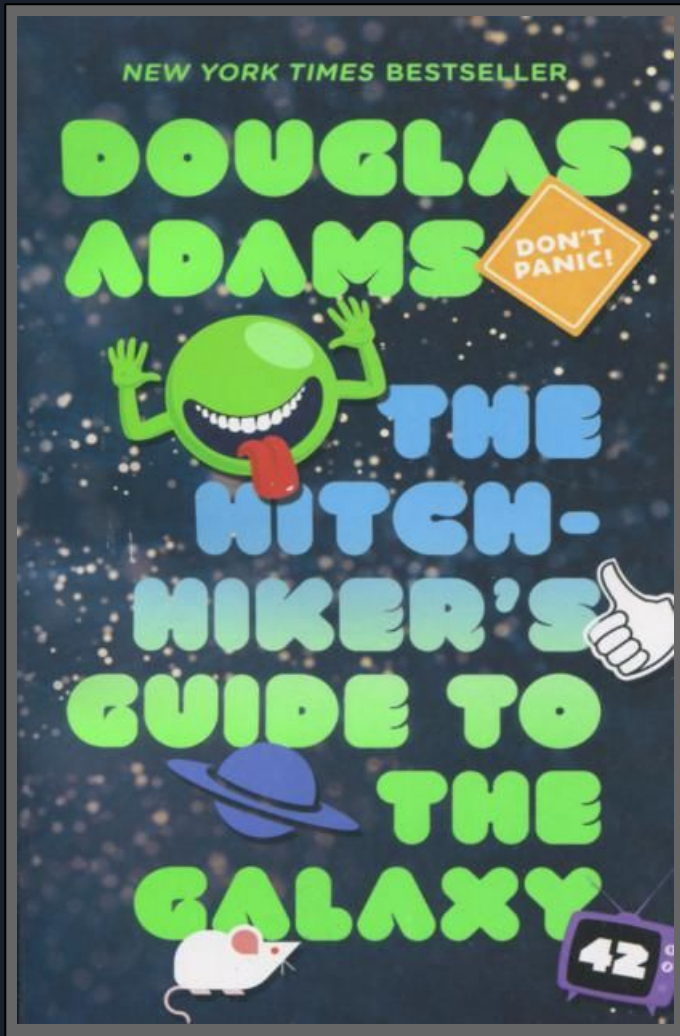
THE CLAN  
OF THE  
CAVE BEAR

# The Clan Of The Cave Bear

Jean M. Auel

this novel of awesome beauty and power is a moving saga about people, relationships, and the boundaries of love. Through Jean M. Auel's magnificent storytelling we are taken back to the dawn of modern humans, and with a girl named Ayla we are swept up in the harsh and beautiful Ice Age world they shared with the ones who called themselves *The Clan of the Cave Bear*.

A natural disaster leaves the young girl wandering alone in an unfamiliar and dangerous land until she is found by a woman of the Clan, people very different from her own kind. To them, blond, blue-eyed Ayla looks peculiar and ugly--she is one of the Others, those who have moved into their ancient homeland; but Iza cannot leave the girl to die and takes her with them. Iza and Creb, the old Mog-ur, grow to love her, and as Ayla learns the ways of the Clan and Iza's way of healing, most come to accept her. But the brutal and proud youth who is destined to become their next leader sees her differences as a threat to his authority. He develops a deep and abiding hatred for the strange girl of the Others who lives in their midst, and is determined to get his revenge.



# The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy

Douglas Adams

seconds before the Earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher for the revised edition of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy who, for the last fifteen years, has been posing as an out-of-work actor.

Together this dynamic pair begin a journey through space aided by quotes from The Hitchhiker's Guide ("A towel is about the most massively useful thing an interstellar hitchhiker can have") and a galaxy-full of fellow travelers: Zaphod Beeblebrox—the two-headed, three-armed ex-hippie and totally out-to-lunch president of the galaxy; Trillian, Zaphod's girlfriend (formally Tricia McMillan), whom Arthur tried to pick up at a cocktail party once upon a time zone; Marvin, a paranoid, brilliant, and chronically depressed robot; Veet Voojagig, a former graduate student who is obsessed with the disappearance of all the ballpoint pens he bought over the years.

Where are these pens? Why are we born? Why do we die? Why do we spend so much time between wearing digital watches? For all the answers stick your thumb to the stars. And don't forget to bring a towel!

# THE HUNGER GAMES



*New York Times Bestselling Author*

**SUZANNE  
COLLINS**

## The Hunger Games

Suzanne Collins

A generation of teenagers have grown up now with Katniss Everdeen as a model of principled rebellion against unjust authority. Suzanne Collins' trilogy of novels about a dystopian world where citizens are made to fight to the death-to distract from their poverty and lack of freedom-is a modern young adult phenomenon. Their themes and lessons are timeless.

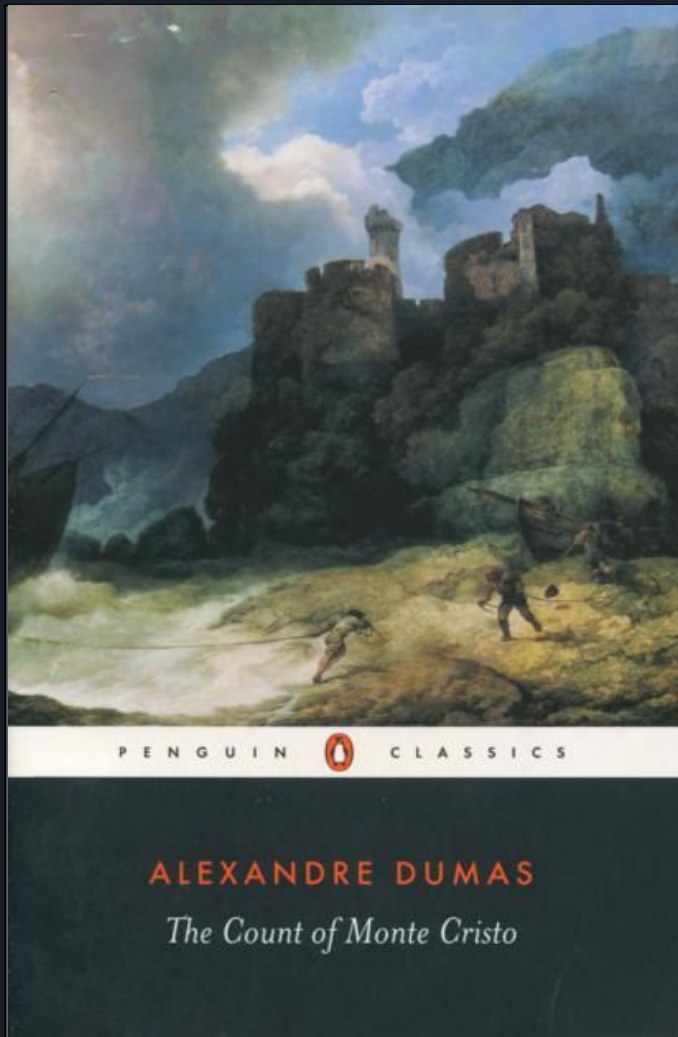
Each year, two people are randomly chosen from each of the 12 districts of Panem to take part in the eponymous 'Hunger Games', where only one winner is left alive at the end. Reality TV is satirized, too, with contestants playing up to stereotypes, knowing that wealthy residents of the Capitol can support their favorite 'contestants' with extra weapons or food. Collins' view of mass media as creating conflict and division between people is obvious. Her trilogy of books leaves us with a clear idea of how we, as a society, should look to overcome the ways in which those above us try to divide and conquer, and instead rise in resistance.

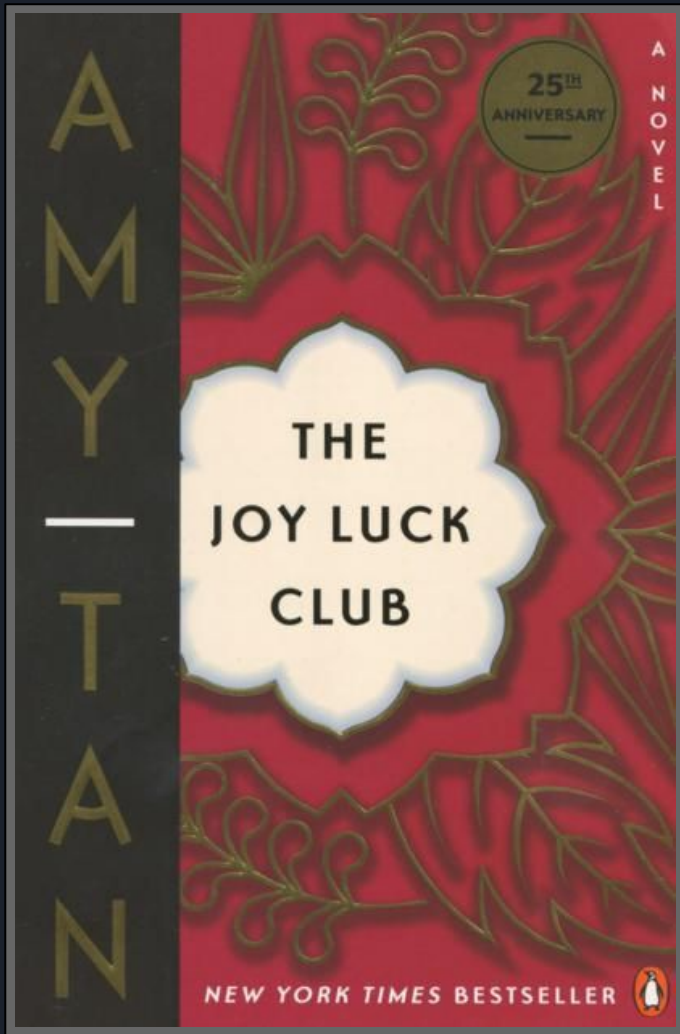


# The Count Of Monte Cristo

Alexandre Dumas

As much the work of Auguste Maquet—the ghostwriter who was responsible for much of the actual text of the novel—as Dumas himself, *The Count of Monte Cristo* has become the archetypal revenge story for all works that have followed. Set in 19th-century France, from the Bourbon Restoration through the reign of Louis-Philippe, this adventure story follows the single-minded Edmund Dantès, falsely imprisoned after being set up by friends who envied his fortune. Dantès is likely based on the real story of Pierre Picaud, a shoemaker falsely accused of treason who, once released from prison, embarked on a course of vengeance that spun wildly out of hand. Like his real counterpart, the fictional Dantès works to exact revenge on all those who have wronged him. The novel evokes key questions about the nature of justice—and whether humans are meant to seek their own vengeance when wronged.

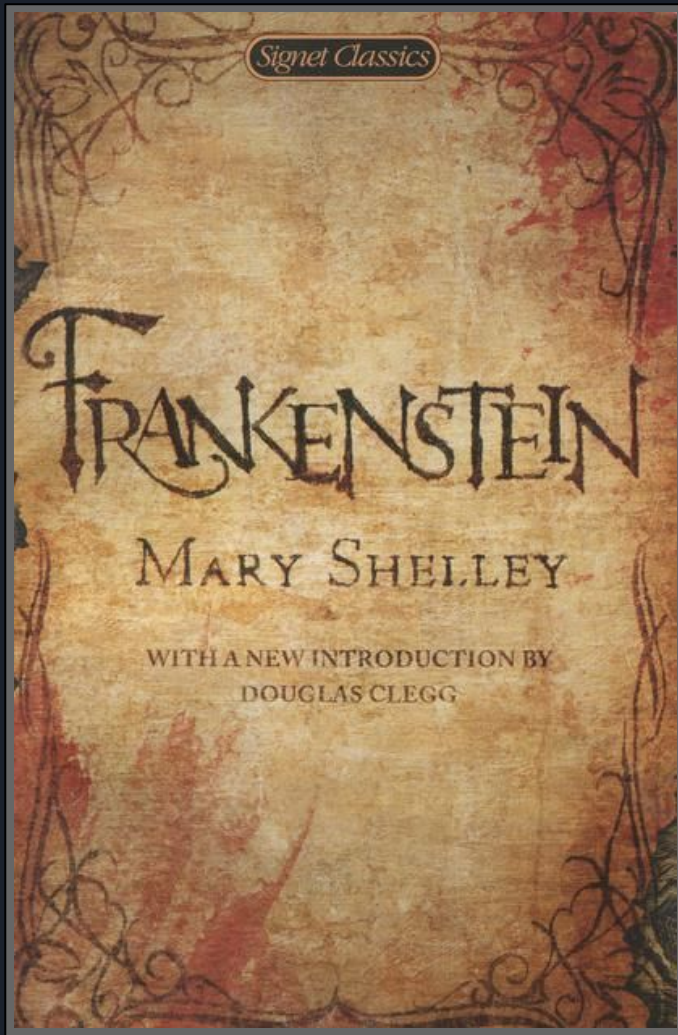




# The Joy Luck Club

Amy Tan

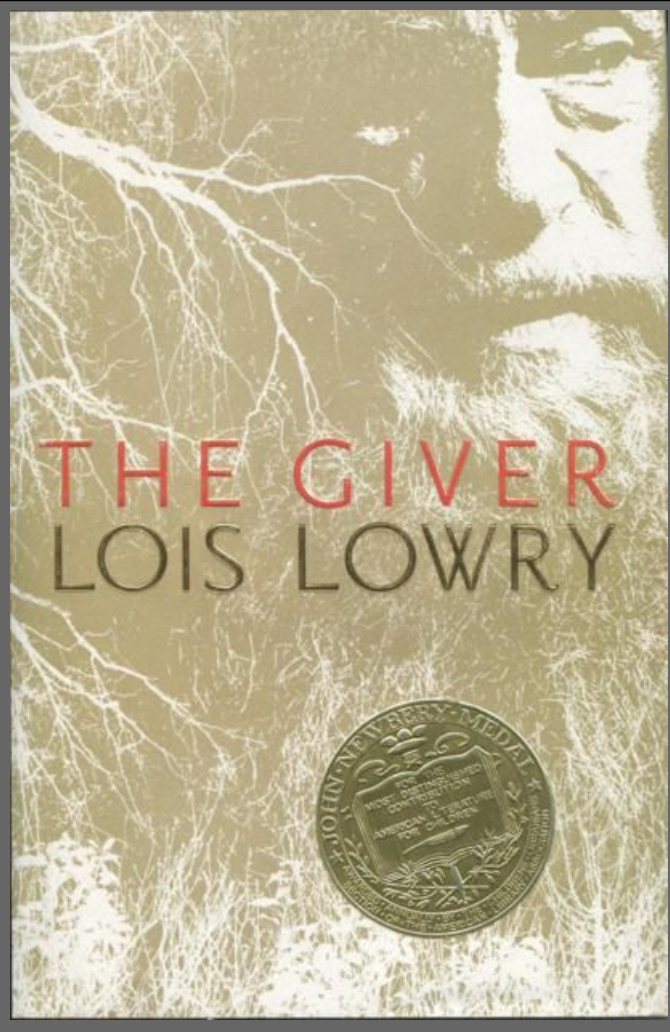
four mothers, four daughters, four families whose histories shift with the four winds depending on who's "saying" the stories. In 1949 four Chinese women, recent immigrants to San Francisco, begin meeting to eat dim sum, play mahjong, and talk. United in shared unspeakable loss and hope, they call themselves the Joy Luck Club. Rather than sink into tragedy, they choose to gather to raise their spirits and money. "To despair was to wish back for something already lost. Or to prolong what was already unbearable." Forty years later the stories and history continue. With wit and sensitivity, Amy Tan examines the sometimes painful, often tender, and always deep connection between mothers and daughters. As each woman reveals her secrets, trying to unravel the truth about her life, the strings become more tangled, more entwined. Mothers boast or despair over daughters, and daughters roll their eyes even as they feel the inextricable tightening of their matriarchal ties. Tan is an astute storyteller, enticing readers to immerse themselves into these lives of complexity and mystery.



# Frankenstein

Mary Shelley

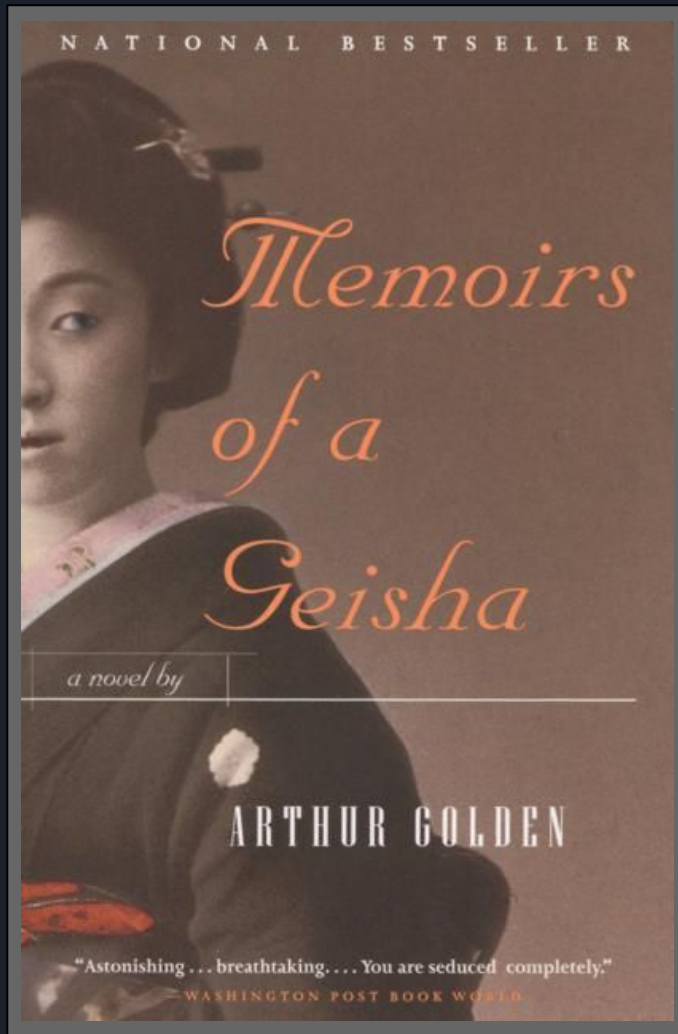
Frankenstein (1818) is Mary Shelley's Gothic masterpiece about a young and ambitious student, Victor Frankenstein, who creates a colossal and hideous monster by re-animating a corpse. After his initial spark of creative frenzy, Frankenstein is dissatisfied with and disgusted by his creature, and he abandons it as soon as it awakens. Forced to face an unforgiving world on its own, the creature sets out on in search of understanding and revenge. Told in letters by an arctic explorer documenting his encounter with the doctor who is in search of his runaway, Frankenstein is a multi-layered story of what makes us human—and what makes us monstrous.



# The Giver

Lois Lowry

the *Giver*, the 1994 Newbery Medal winner, has become one of the most influential novels of our time. The haunting story centers on twelve-year-old Jonas, who lives in a seemingly ideal, if colorless, world of conformity and contentment. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community.



# Memoirs of a Geisha

Arthur Golden

aliterary sensation and runaway bestseller, this brilliant debut novel tells with seamless authenticity and exquisite lyricism the true confessions of one of Japan's most celebrated geisha.

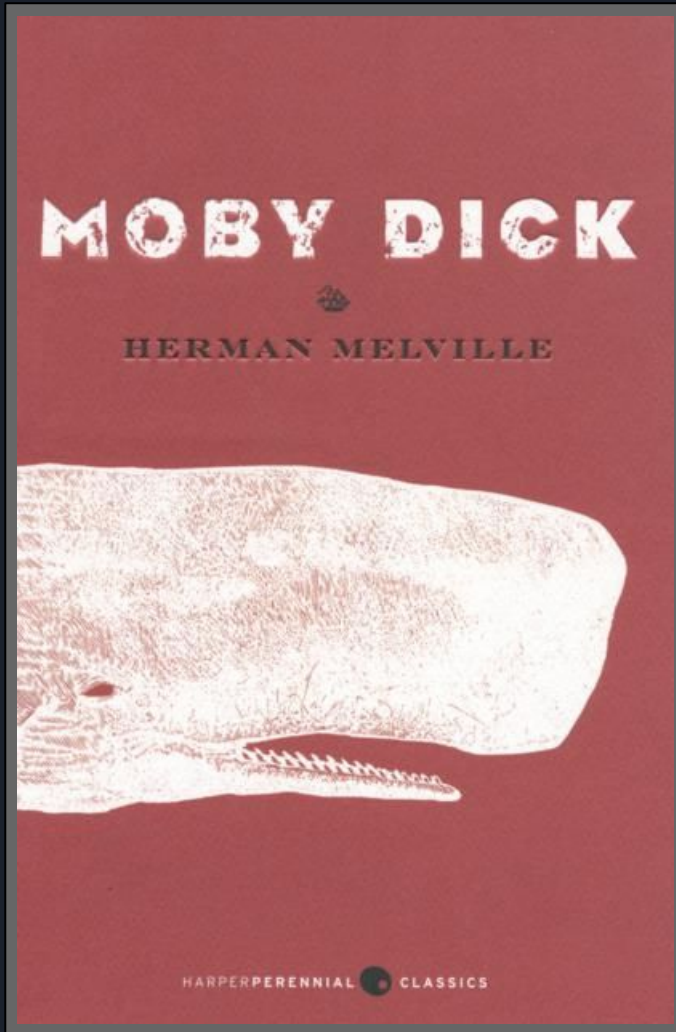
Speaking to us with the wisdom of age and in a voice at once haunting and startlingly immediate, Nitta Sayuri tells the story of her life as a geisha. It begins in a poor fishing village in 1929, when, as a nine-year-old girl with unusual blue-gray eyes, she is taken from her home and sold into slavery to a renowned geisha house. We witness her transformation as she learns the rigorous arts of the geisha: dance and music; wearing kimono, elaborate makeup, and hair; pouring sake to reveal just a touch of inner wrist; competing with a jealous rival for men's solicitude and the money that goes with it.

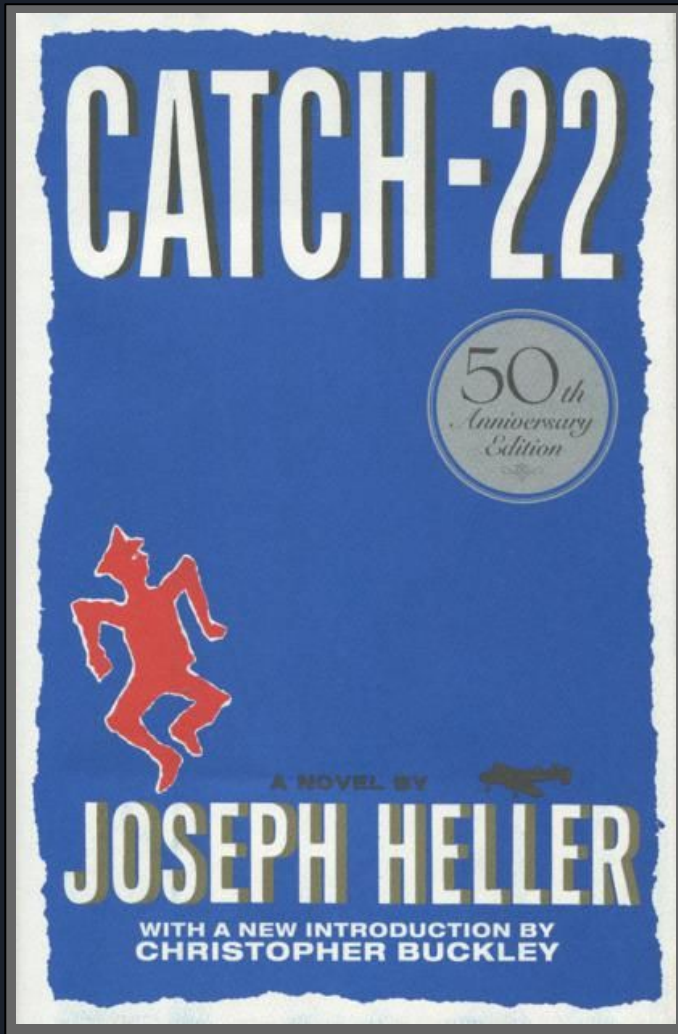
In *Memoirs of a Geisha*, we enter a world where appearances are paramount; where a girl's virginity is auctioned to the highest bidder; where women are trained to beguile the most powerful men; and where love is scorned as illusion. It is a unique and triumphant work of fiction—at once romantic, erotic, suspenseful—and completely unforgettable.

# Moby Dick

Herman Melville

"call me Ishmael." And so begins one the most famous journeys in literature—the voyage of the whaling ship Pequod, with its scarred Captain Ahab and a universe of compelling crewmen, including the islander Queequeg, the harpooneer Fedallah, the mate Elijah, and Ishmael himself. Ishmael quickly learns that the Pequod's maniacal captain sails for revenge against the elusive Moby Dick, a sperm whale with a snow-white hump and mottled skin who scuttled Ahab's former vessel and left him crippled during his last whaling voyage. As the Pequod sails deeper through the nights and into the sea, the divisions between man and nature begin to blur—as do the lines between good and evil, as the fates of the ship's crewmen become increasingly unclear...

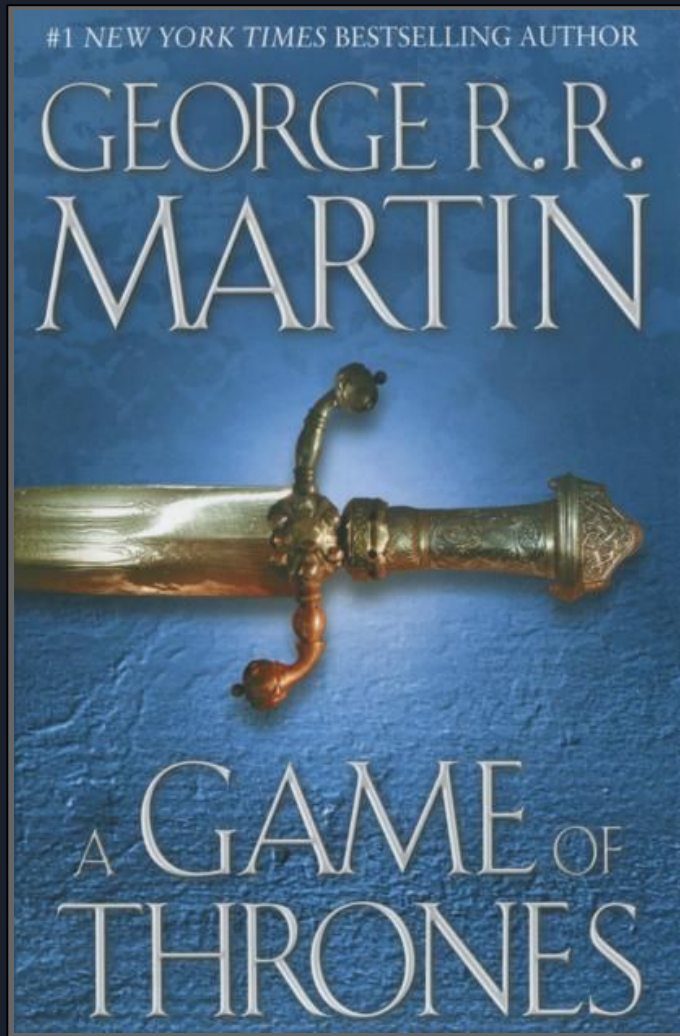




## Catch-22

Joseph Heller

arguably the best novel to come out of World War II, in which Heller strips away the veneer of martial glory to expose its insanity, and gives our language a new paradoxical phrase to describe mankind at the mercy of its own institutions.

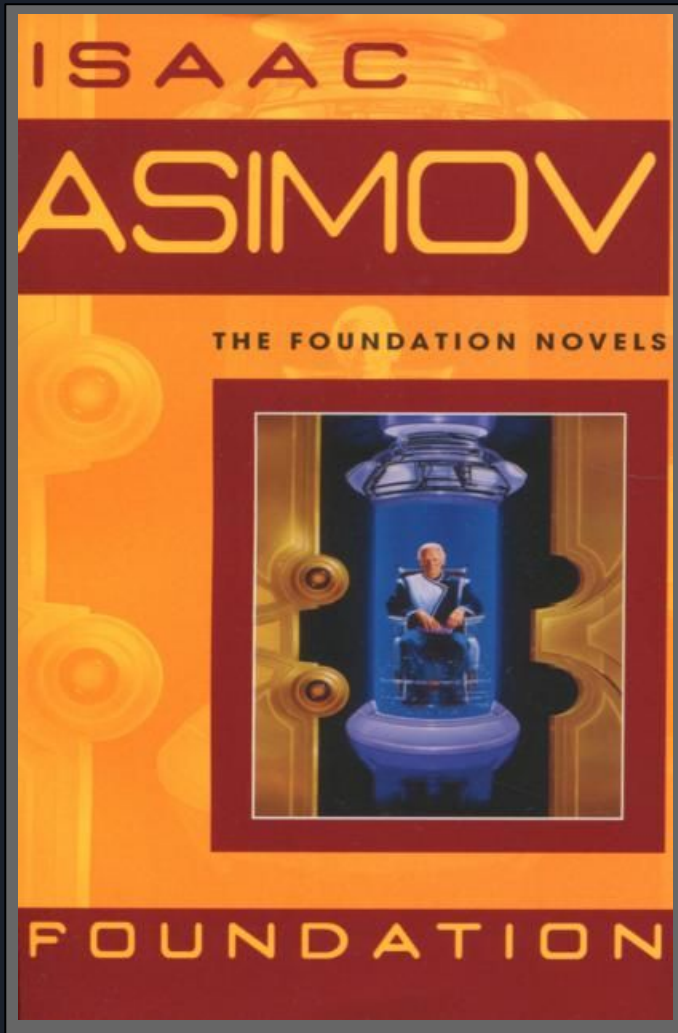


# A Game Of Thrones

George R.R. Martin

sweeping from a harsh land of cold to a summertime kingdom of epicurean plenty, *A Game of Thrones* tells a tale of lords and ladies, soldiers and sorcerers, assassins and bastards, who come together in a time of grim omens. Here an enigmatic band of warriors bear swords of no human metal; a tribe of fierce wildlings carry men off into madness; a cruel young dragon prince barter his sister to win back his throne; a child is lost in the twilight between life and death; and a determined woman undertakes a treacherous journey to protect all she holds dear. Amid plots and counter-plots, tragedy and betrayal, victory and terror, allies and enemies, the fate of the Starks hangs perilously in the balance, as each side endeavors to win that deadliest of conflicts: the game of thrones.



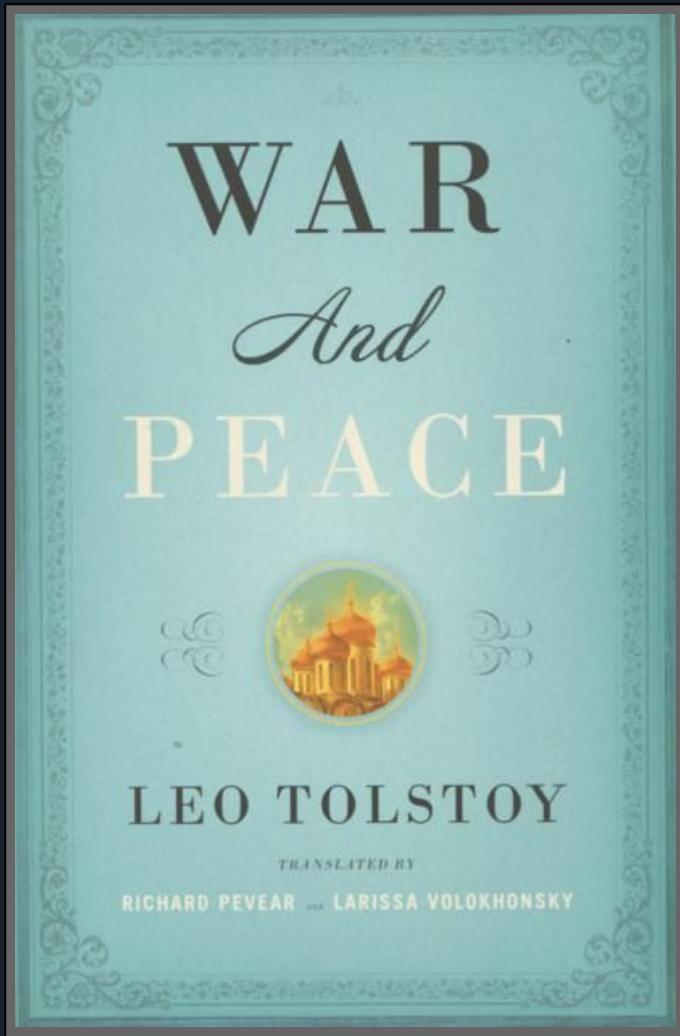


# The Foundation Series

Isaac Asimov

for twelve thousand years the *Galactic Empire* has ruled supreme. Now it is dying. But only Hari Sheldon, creator of the revolutionary science of psychohistory, can see into the future--to a dark age of ignorance, barbarism, and warfare that will last thirty thousand years. To preserve knowledge and save mankind, Seldon gathers the best minds in the Empire--both scientists and scholars--and brings them to a bleak planet at the edge of the *Galaxy* to serve as a beacon of hope for a future generations. He calls his sanctuary the *Foundation*.

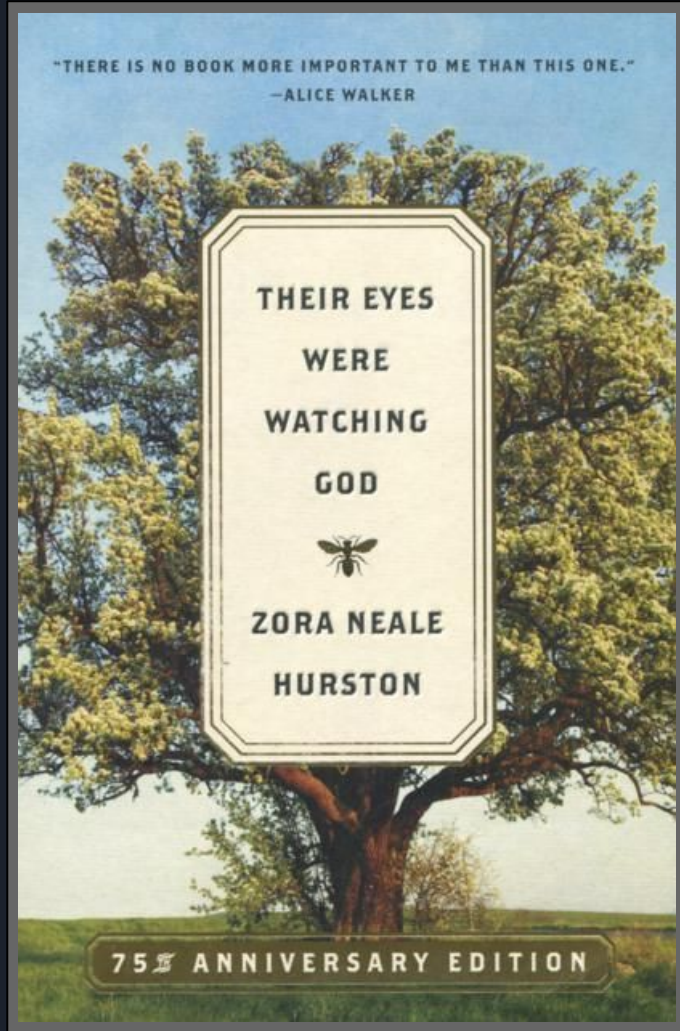
But soon the fledgling *Foundation* finds itself at the mercy of corrupt warlords rising in the wake of the receding Empire. Mankind's last best hope is faced with an agonizing choice: submit to the barbarians and be overrun--or fight them and be destroyed.



# War And Peace

Leo Tolstoy

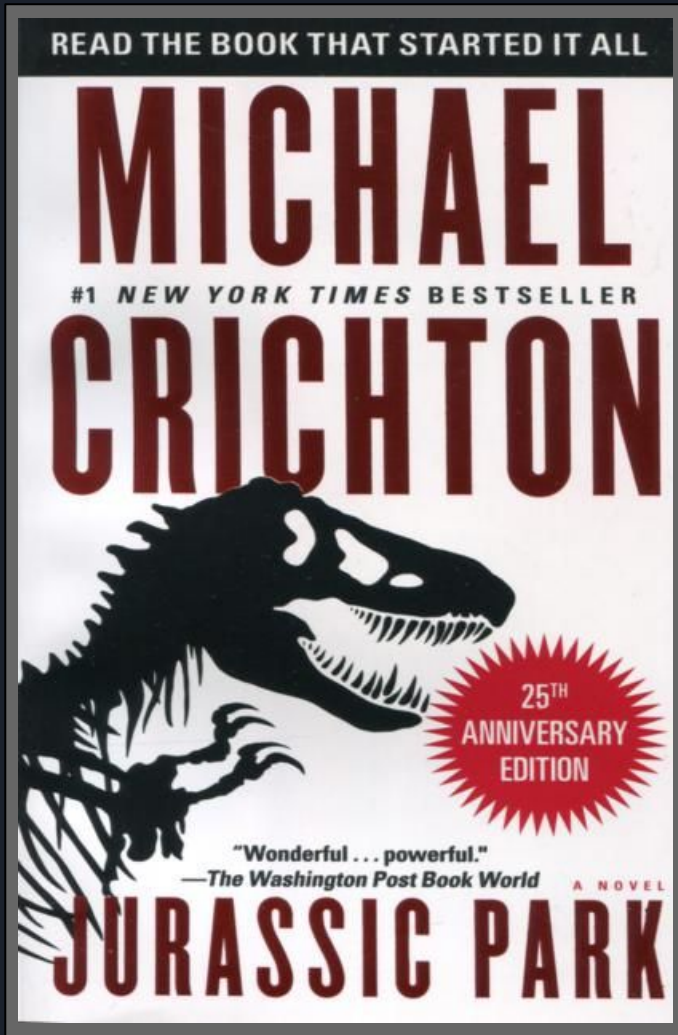
war and Peace (1869) is one of Leo Tolstoy's masterpieces of literary realism, detailing how Tsarist Russia must face the rise of the French emperor Napoléon, and how both halves of the title can complicate romantic love. The lives of five aristocratic Russian families intertwine as French invasion looms and society in St. Petersburg struggles to continue despite the threat. Combining real wartime events, multiple love triangles, and themes of existentialism and betrayal, Tolstoy's epic novel speaks to the endurance of these families and their continuation of the Russian lifestyle under siege.



# Their Eyes Were Watching God

Zora Neale Hurston

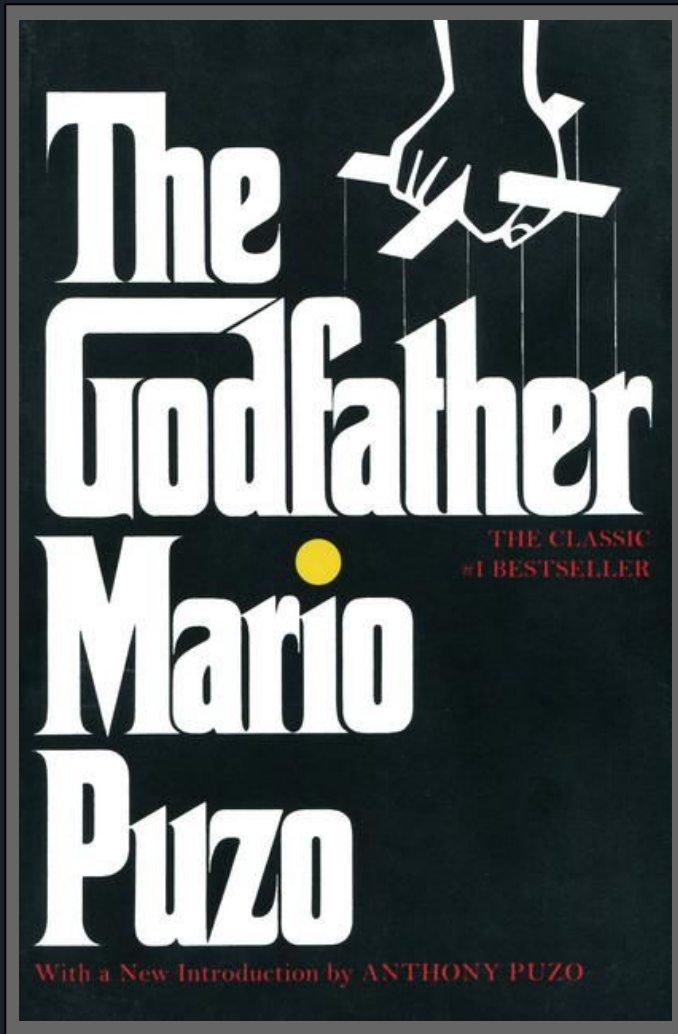
one of the most important and enduring books of the twentieth century, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences' rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston's classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.



# Jurassic Park

Michael Crichton

an astonishing technique for recovering and cloning dinosaur DNA has been discovered. Now humankind's most thrilling fantasies have come true. Creatures extinct for eons roam Jurassic Park with their awesome presence and profound mystery, and all the world can visit them—for a price. Until something goes wrong... In Jurassic Park, Michael Crichton taps all his mesmerizing talent and scientific brilliance to create his most electrifying technothriller.



# The Godfather

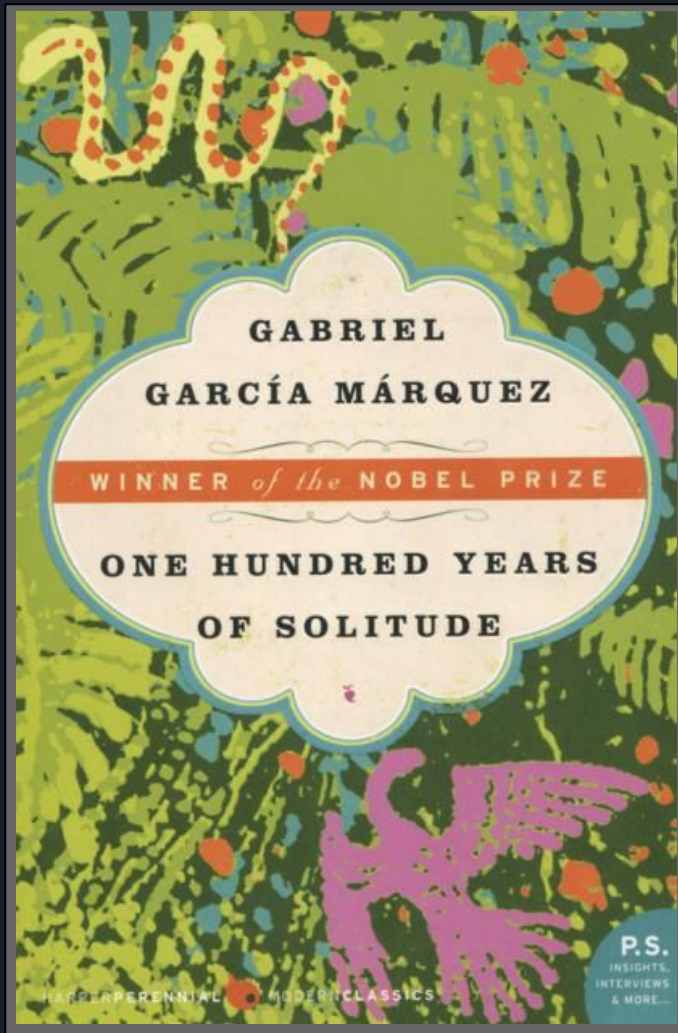
Mario Puzo

with its brilliant and brutal portrayal of the Corleone family, *The Godfather* burned its way into our national consciousness. This unforgettable saga of crime and corruption, passion and loyalty continues to stand the test of time, as the definitive novel of the Mafia underworld. A #1 New York Times bestseller in 1969, Mario Puzo's epic was turned into the incomparable film of the same name, directed by Francis Ford Coppola, which won the Academy Award for Best Picture. It is the original classic that has been often imitated, but never matched. A tale of family and society, law and order, obedience and rebellion, it reveals the dark passions of human nature played out against a backdrop of the American dream.

# One Hundred Years Of Solitude

Gabriel Garcia Marquez

*one Hundred Years of Solitude* tells the story of the rise and fall, birth and death of the mythical town of Macondo through the history of the Buendia family. Inventive, amusing, magnetic, sad, and alive with unforgettable men and women—brimming with truth, compassion, and a lyrical magic that strikes the soul—this novel is a masterpiece in the art of fiction.



# The Picture Of Dorian Gray

Oscar Wilde

*the Picture of Dorian Gray* (published in two versions, in 1890 and 1891) is Oscar Wilde's Gothic novel about the price of vanity and selfishness. At the beginning of the novel, a young artist named Basil has just finished his masterpiece: a portrait of his young and beautiful friend Dorian Gray. After wishing that he could remain attractively youthful while the painting ages in his stead, Dorian finds that this wish has come true: he remains free to live a hedonistic and venal lifestyle while only the painting bears the marks of his cruelty and age. Twenty years later, Dorian's crimes finally begin to catch up with him.



## THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY

SECOND  
NORTON  
CRITICAL  
EDITION

OSCAR WILDE

Edited by Michael Patrick Gillespie

# THE NOTEBOOK

Nicholas Sparks

A NOVEL

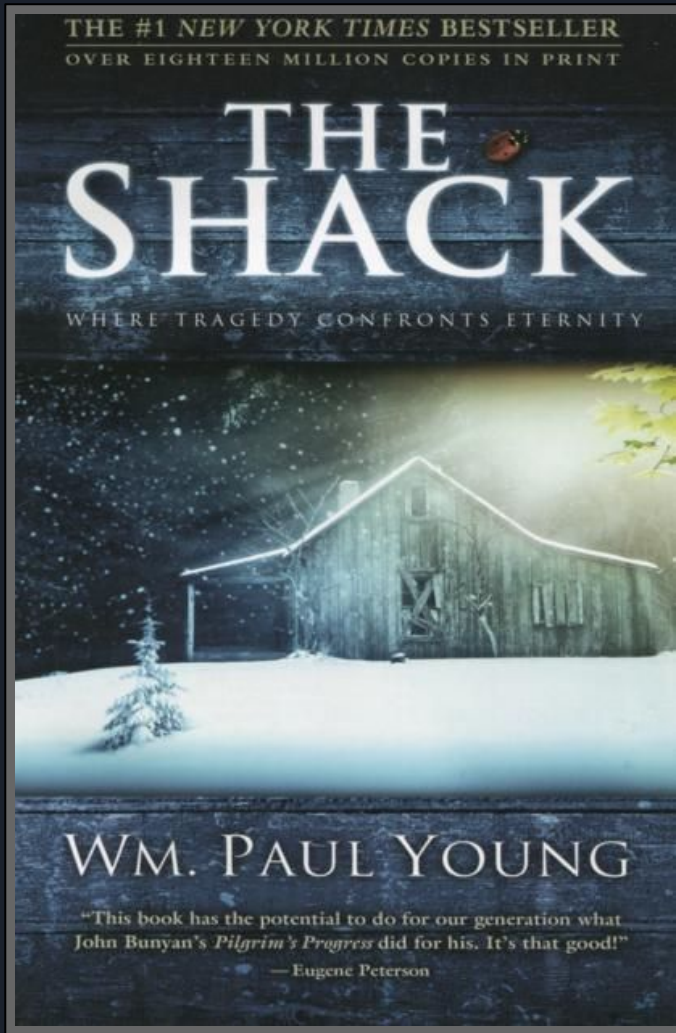


## The Notebook

Nicholas Sparks

*the Notebook* is a story-within-a-story: we first meet a nameless elderly man reading a story from a notebook to an elderly woman suffering from Alzheimer's. The notebook tells the story of Allie and Noah, who meet in Noah's hometown while Allie and her family are vacationing there. Their whirlwind romance is cut short by her return home, and though Noah writes her a letter every day for a year, none of them are answered. Fourteen years later, Noah returns from World War II and is reunited with Allie, who is now engaged to Lon. As the novel progresses, Allie is revealed as the elderly woman of the framing story—but the elderly man's identity remains a mystery: the reader doesn't know if Allie stayed with Lon or returned to Noah. The romance struck a chord with readers and viewers alike; the novel made the bestseller list the first week of its release, and was later made into a popular film starring Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams.





# The Shack

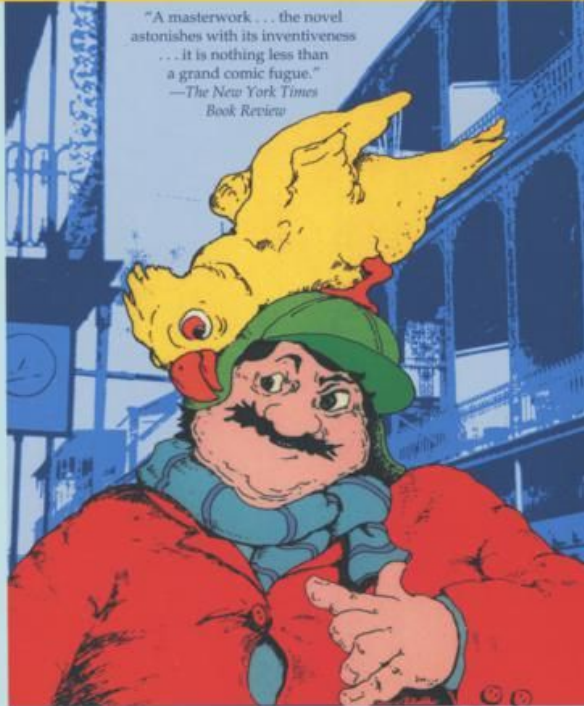
Wm. Paul Young

Mackenzie Allen Phillips's youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation. Evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later, in the midst of his great sadness, Mack receives a suspicious note--apparently from God--inviting him back to that shack for a weekend. Against his better judgment, he arrives at the shack on a wintry afternoon and walks back into his darkest nightmare. What he finds there will change his life forever.

# A Confederacy of DUNCES

WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE

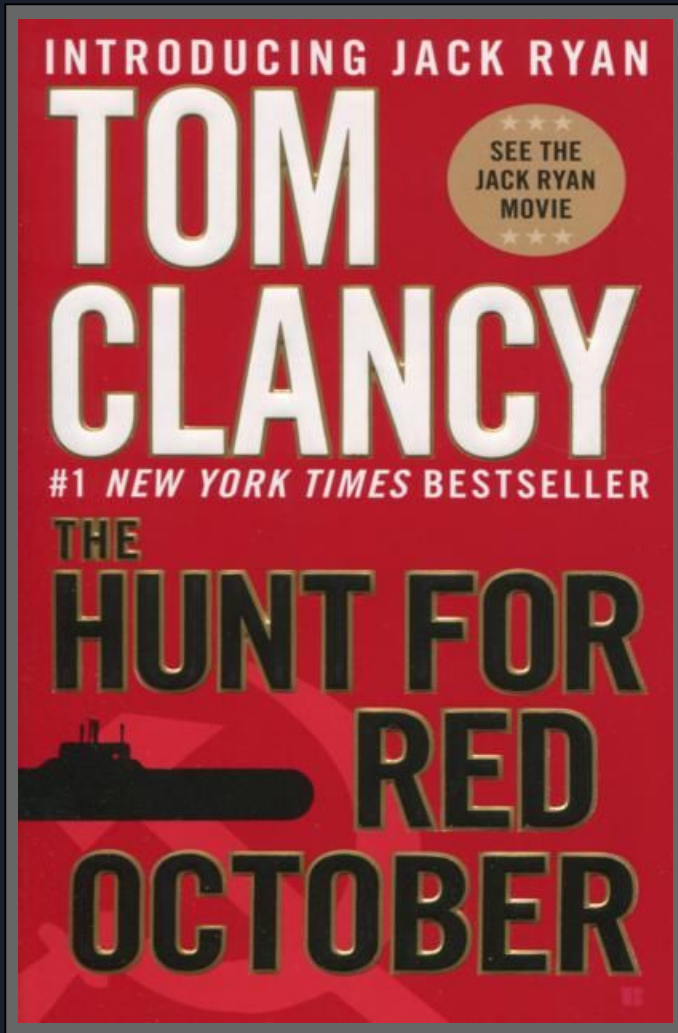
JOHN KENNEDY TOOLE



## A Confederacy Of Dunces

John Kennedy Toole

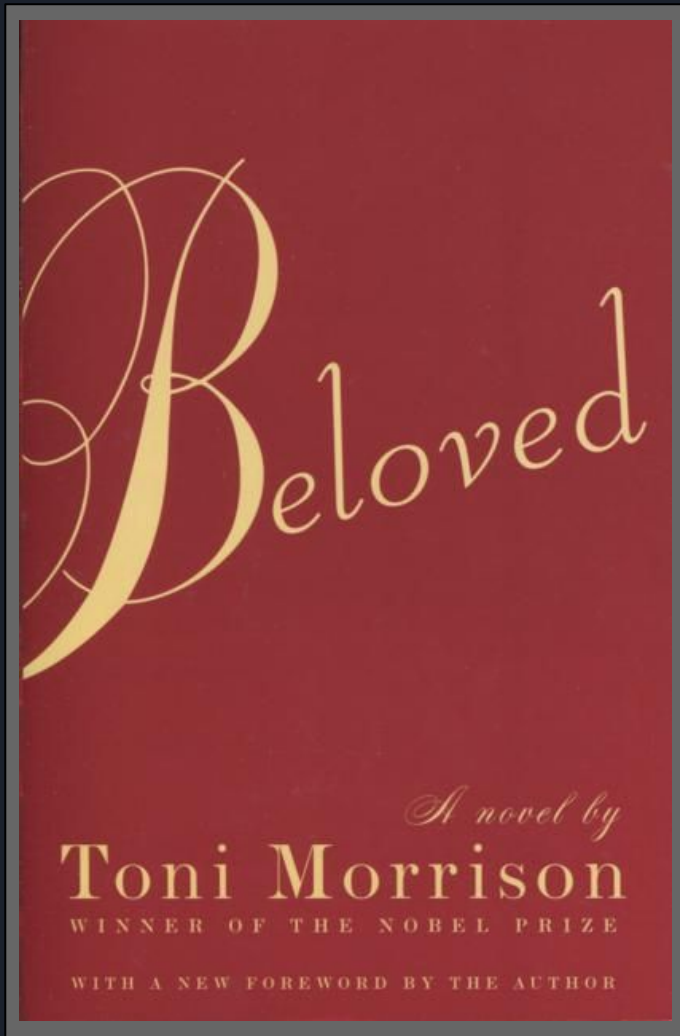
the book's title comes from Jonathan Swift's essay *Thoughts on Various Subjects, Moral and Diverting*: When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him. *A Confederacy of Dunces'* protagonist, Ignatius Jacques Reilly, is described in Walker Percy's foreword as a slob extraordinary, a mad Oliver Hardy, a fat Don Quixote, a perverse Thomas Aquinas rolled into one. Reilly hates modernity and pop culture, preferring medieval philosophy, especially *The Consolation of Philosophy*, a work by the sixth-century Roman philosopher Boethius. The novel focuses on Reilly's relationships with two women: Myrna Minko, a Jewish college student in New York, and Irene Reilly, Ignatius's alcoholic mother. Reilly's adventures and observations of New Orleans paint a rich portrait of the diversity of the city, including its various dialects; today on Canal Street, a bronze statue of the character recreates the novel's opening scene, as Reilly waits for his mother outside the D.H. Holmes department store.-



# The Hunt For Red October

Tom Clancy

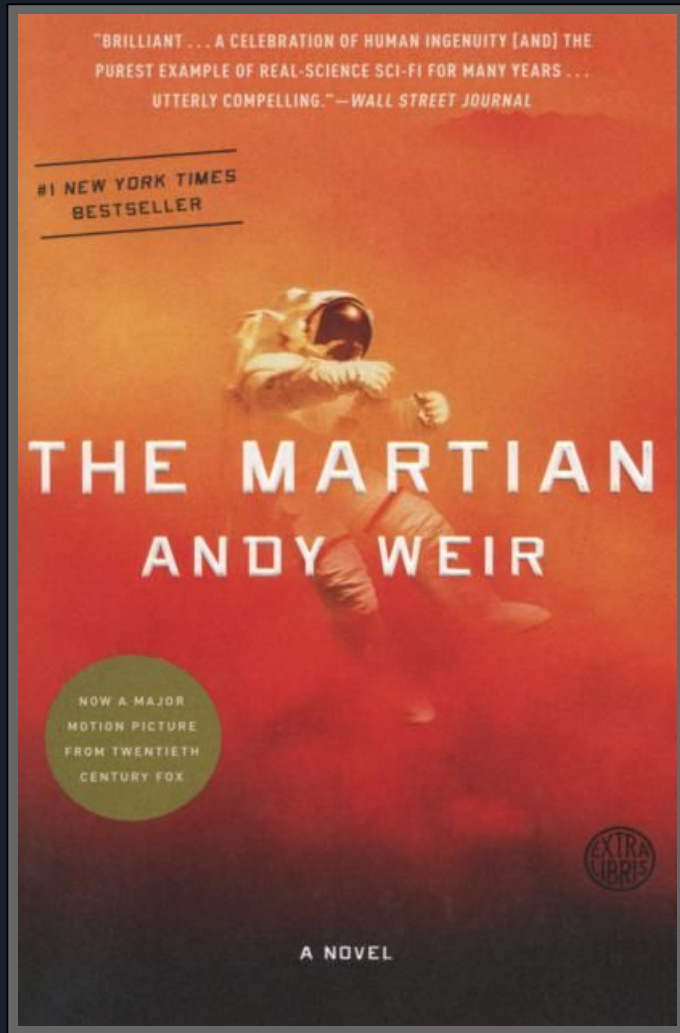
somewhere under the freezing Atlantic, a Soviet sub commander has just made a fateful decision. The Red October is heading west. The Americans want her. The Russians want her back. The chase for the highly advanced nuclear submarine is on—and there's only one man who can find her... Brilliant CIA analyst Jack Ryan has little interest in fieldwork, but when covert photographs of Red October land on his desk, Ryan soon finds himself in the middle of a high-stakes game of hide-and-seek played by two world powers—a game that could end in all-out war.



# Beloved

Toni Morrison

staring unflinchingly into the abyss of slavery, this spellbinding novel transforms history into a story as powerful as Exodus and as intimate as a lullaby. Sethe, its protagonist, was born a slave and escaped to Ohio, but eighteen years later she is still not free. She has too many memories of Sweet Home, the beautiful farm where so many hideous things happened. And Sethe's new home is haunted by the ghost of her baby, who died nameless and whose tombstone is engraved with a single word: Beloved. Filled with bitter poetry and suspense as taut as a rope, *Beloved* is a towering achievement.



# The Martian

Andy Weir

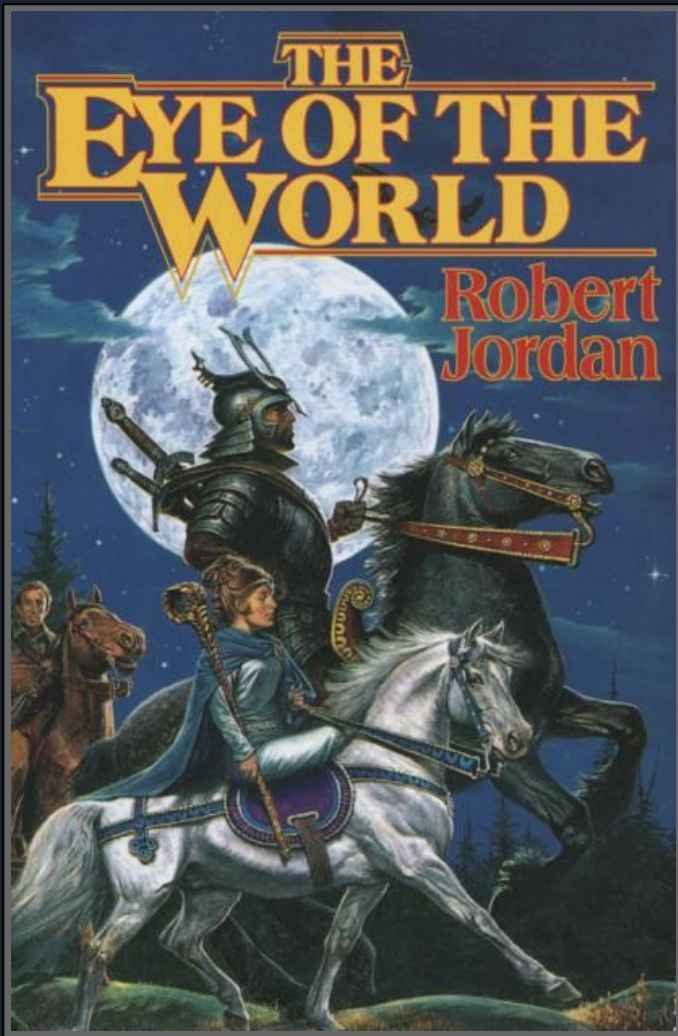
six days ago, astronaut Mark Watney became one of the first people to walk on Mars.

Now, he's sure he'll be the first person to die there.

After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive—and even if he could get word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive.

Chances are, though, he won't have time to starve to death. The damaged machinery, unforgiving environment, or plain-old "human error" are much more likely to kill him first.

But Mark isn't ready to give up yet. Drawing on his ingenuity, his engineering skills—and a relentless, dogged refusal to quit—he steadfastly confronts one seemingly insurmountable obstacle after the next. Will his resourcefulness be enough to overcome the impossible odds against him?



## The Wheel Of Time (series)

Robert Jordan

*the Wheel of Time* is a series of fantasy novels set in an unnamed imaginary world. The plot takes place about 3,000 years after a cataclysm that ended the Age of Legends - a time of great enlightenment. It covers the battle between The Creator, who built the cosmos, and the Dark One, his archenemy, through a group of young people with extraordinary abilities. The titular wheel refers to the cyclical nature of time, with the opening lines of the first novel noting that "There are neither beginnings nor endings to the turning of the Wheel of Time." The series draws on elements of European and Asian mythology, including concepts taken from Buddhism, Hinduism, Daoism, Christianity and Islam. The series was originally planned to include six books, but ended up as fourteen -the final three completed after creator Robert Jordan's death by fantasy writer Brandon Sanderson.

HIS MOST FAMOUS NOVEL

# SIDDHARTHA

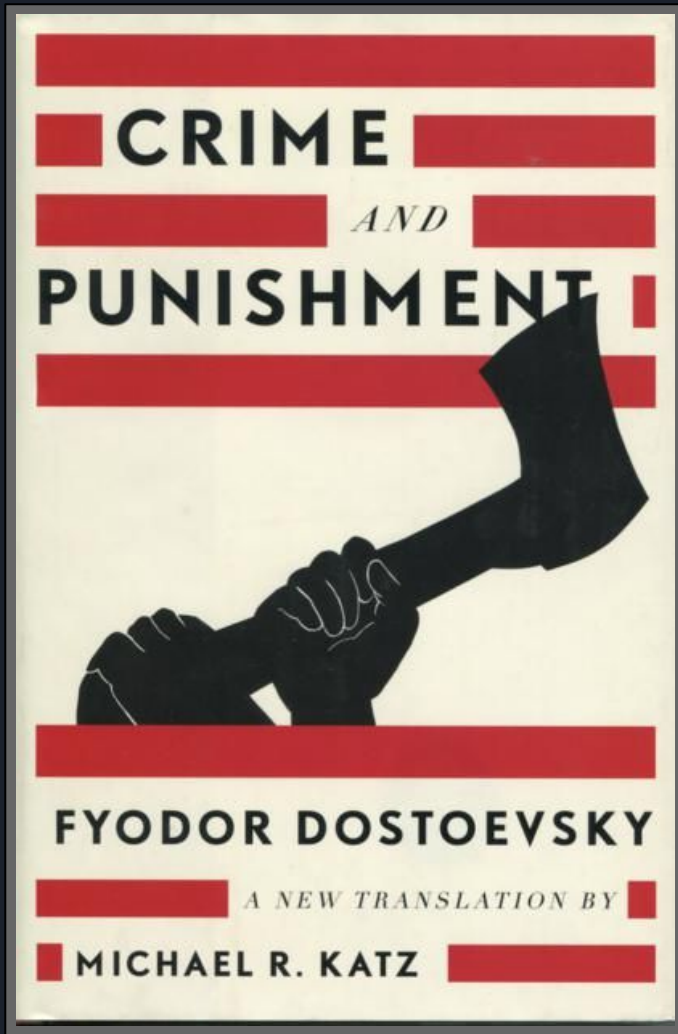
## HERMANN HESSE



## Siddhartha

Hermann Hesse

in the novel *Siddhartha*, a young man, leaves his family for a contemplative life, then, restless, discards it for one of the flesh. He conceives a son, but bored and sickened by lust and greed, moves on again. Near despair, Siddhartha comes to a river where he hears a unique sound. This sound signals the true beginning of his life--the beginning of suffering, rejection, peace, and, finally, wisdom.



# Crime And Punishment

Fyodor Dostoevsky

published to great acclaim and fierce controversy in 1866, Fyodor Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment* is still known worldwide as the quintessential Russian novel. This tale of passion and redemption follows Rodion Raskolnikov, a former student living in Saint Petersburg. Short of money, convinced he is above the law, and certain that the ends of his actions justify the means, Raskolnikov hatches a plan to murder an elderly, ill-liked pawnbroker. So begins a drama of good and evil, morality and guilt, that has provided generations of readers inspiration to debate the topics of the title.



# THE SUN ALSO RISES

THE HEMINGWAY LIBRARY EDITION



SUPPLEMENTED WITH EARLY DRAFTS AND DELETED CHAPTERS

**ERNEST HEMINGWAY**

WITH A PERSONAL FOREWORD BY PATRICK HEMINGWAY  
AND A NEW INTRODUCTION BY SEÁN HEMINGWAY

## The Sun Also Rises

Ernest Hemingway

*the Sun Also Rises* is a classic example of Ernest Hemingway's spare but powerful writing style in his depiction of the Lost Generation. A poignant look at the disillusionment and angst of the post-World War I generation, the story follows the flamboyant Brett and the hapless Jake as they journey from the wild nightlife of 1920s Paris to the brutal bullfighting rings of Spain with a motley group of expatriates in an age of moral bankruptcy, spiritual dissolution, unrealized love, and vanishing illusions.

national bestseller

the curious incident  
of the dog  
in the night-time



a novel by

mark haddon

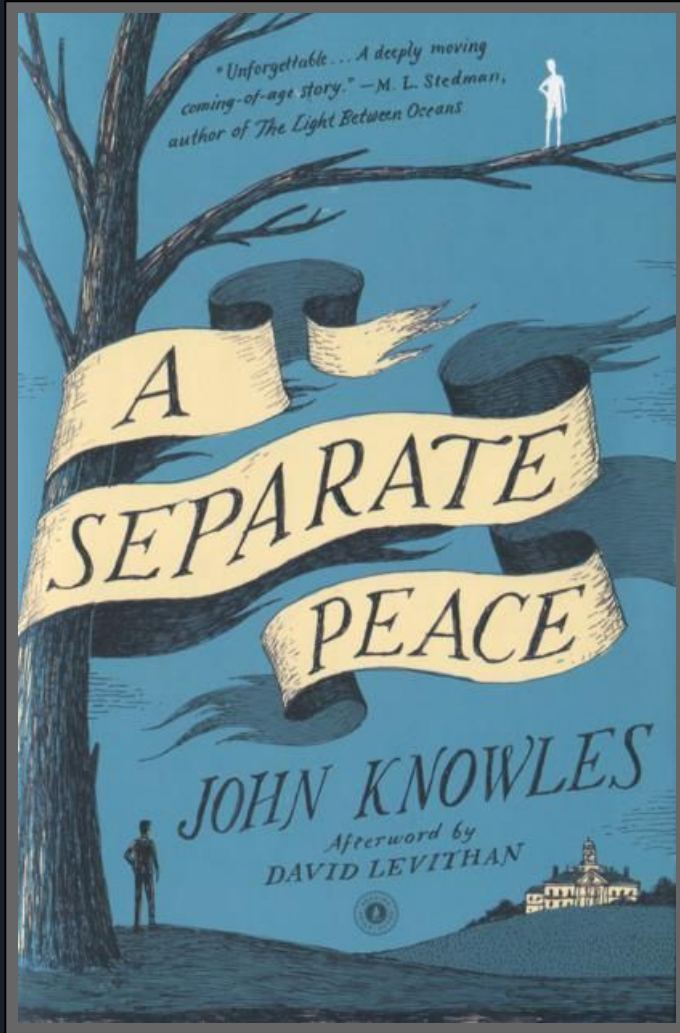
"Gloriously eccentric and wonderfully intelligent."

— *The Boston Globe*

## The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-time

Mark Haddon

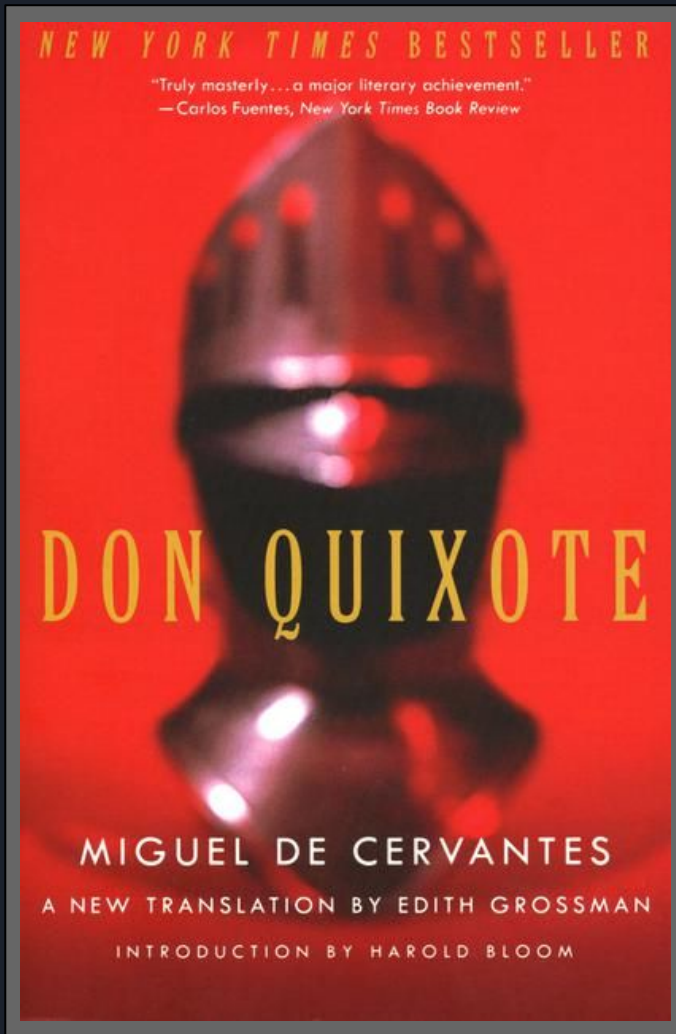
christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. This improbable story of Christopher's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years.



# A Separate Peace

John Knowles

an American classic and great bestseller for decades, *A Separate Peace* is timeless in its description of adolescence during a period when the entire country was losing its innocence to World War II. Set at a boys' boarding school in New England during the early years of the war, *A Separate Peace* is the story of Gene, a lonely, introverted intellectual, and Phineas, a handsome, taunting, daredevil athlete. What happens between the two friends one summer, like the war itself, banishes the innocence of these boys and their world.



# Don Quixote

Miguel De Cervantes

*the Ingenious Nobleman Sir Quixote of La Mancha* (published in two volumes, 1605 and 1615) is the story of the imaginative Alonso Quixano's adventures as Don Quixote de la Mancha, a chivalrous knight who defeats dragons and frees damsels. Perhaps because he has read too many chivalric tales of old, Alonso truly believes he is Don Quixote, and along with his farmer friend Sancho Panza, who becomes his squire, he seeks various quests to prove his knightly worth. While he travels on these quests, his friends and family attempt to bring him home by posing as various characters in his delusion. Hugely influential, the novel is perhaps more self-aware than its hero is.

#1 NATIONAL BESTSELLER



THE  
LOVELY  
BONES

ALICE SEBOLD

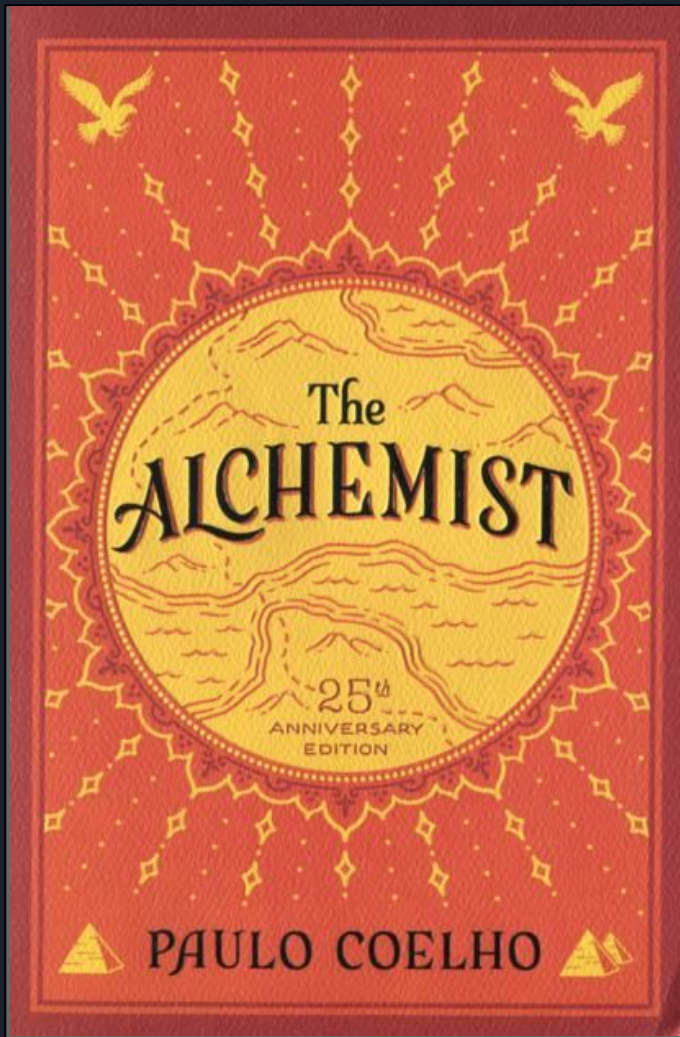
"Mesmerizing. . . *The Lovely Bones* takes the stuff of neighborhood tragedy and turns it into literature." —*New York Times Book Review*

GUIDE  
READERS' PICK  
INSIDE

# The Lovely Bones

Alice Sebold

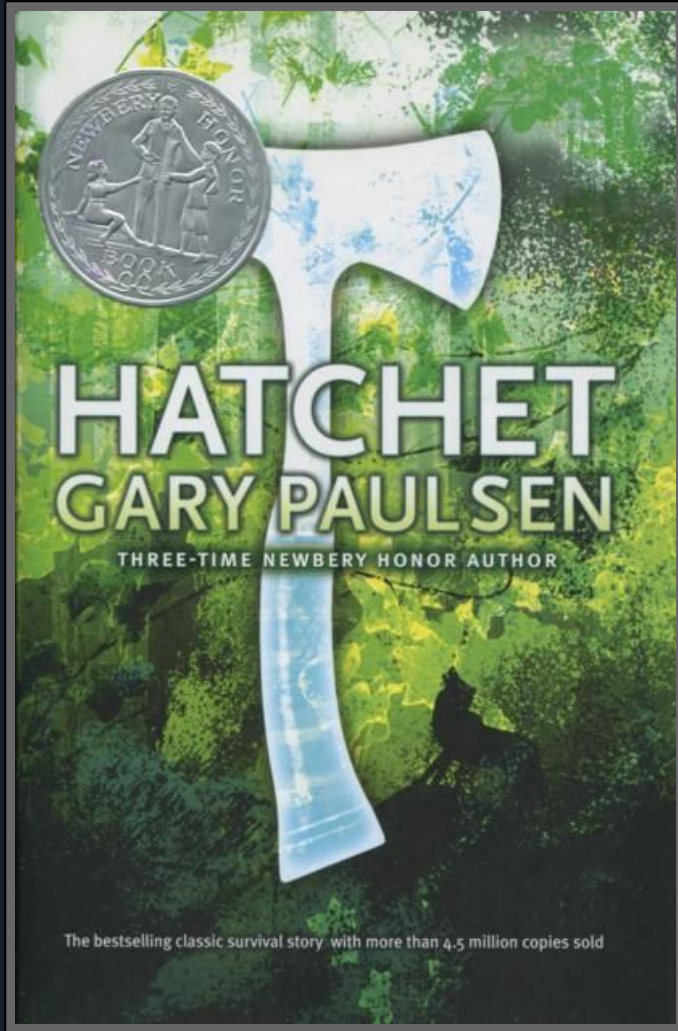
when we first meet 14-year-old Susie Salmon, she is already in heaven. This was before milk carton photos and public service announcements, she tells us: back in 1973, when Susie mysteriously disappeared, people still believed these things didn't happen. In the sweet, untroubled voice of a precocious teenage girl, Susie relates the awful events of her death and her own adjustment to the strange new place she finds herself. It looks a lot like her school playground, with the good kind of swing sets. With love, longing, and a growing understanding, Susie watches her family as they cope with their grief, her father embarks on a search for the killer, her sister undertakes a feat of amazing daring, her little brother builds a fort in her honor and begin the difficult process of healing. In the hands of a brilliant novelist, this story of seemingly unbearable tragedy is transformed into a suspenseful and touching story about family, memory, love, heaven, and living.



# The Alchemist

Paulo Coelho

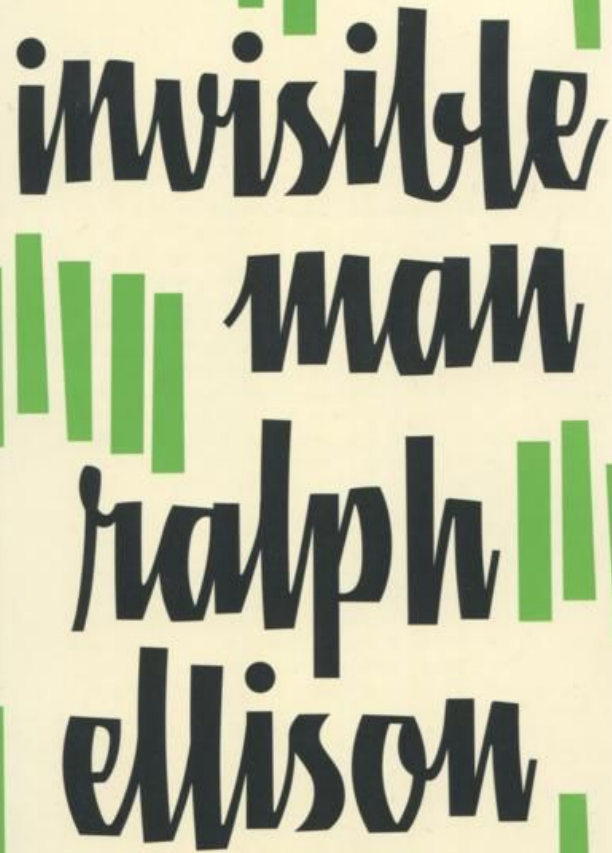
*the Alchemist* has become a modern classic, selling millions of copies around the world and transforming the lives of countless readers across generations. Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far different—and far more satisfying—than he ever imagined. Santiago's journey teaches us about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts, of recognizing opportunity and learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, most importantly, to follow our dreams.



# Hatchet

Gary Paulsen

this award-winning contemporary classic is a page-turning, heart-stopping adventure and recipient of the Newbery Honor. Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson, haunted by his secret knowledge of his mother's infidelity, is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father for the first time since the divorce. When the plane crashes, Brian is the sole survivor. Alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother gave him as a present, it takes all his know-how and determination, and more courage than he knew he possessed, to survive.



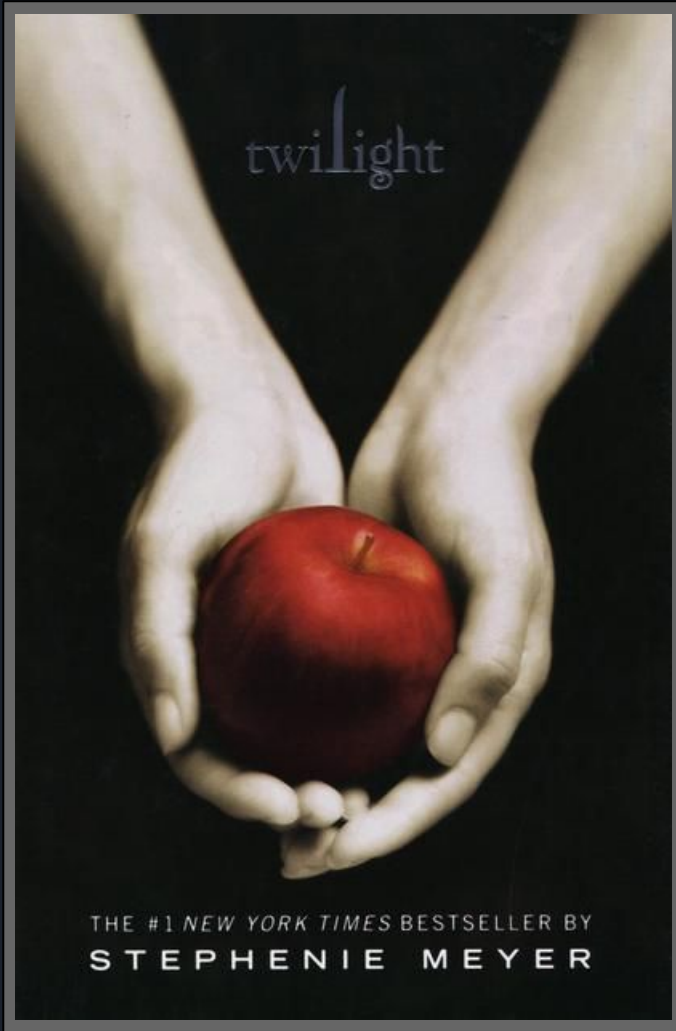
invisible  
man  
ralph  
ellison

## Invisible Man

Ralph Ellison

*invisible Man* is a milestone in American literature, a book that has continued to engage readers since its appearance in 1952. A first novel by an unknown writer, it remained on the bestseller list for sixteen weeks, won the National Book Award for fiction, and established Ralph Ellison as one of the key writers of the century. The nameless narrator of the novel describes growing up in a black community in the South, attending a Negro college from which he is expelled, moving to New York and becoming the chief spokesman of the Harlem branch of "the Brotherhood", and retreating amid violence and confusion to the basement lair of the Invisible Man he imagines himself to be. The book is a passionate and witty tour de force of style, strongly influenced by T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*, Joyce, and Dostoevsky.





# twilight

Stephenie Meyer

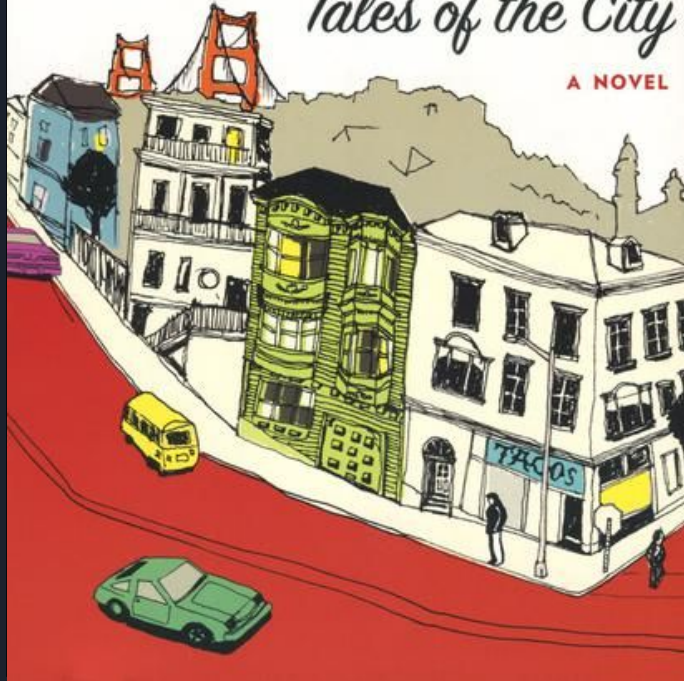
one of the most popular young adult fiction series of all time, selling over 100 million books in 37 languages, *Twilight* charts the romance between Bella Swan, a small town girl and social outcast, and Edward Cullen, a 104-year-old vampire with a gift for reading minds. The quartet of novels - *Twilight*, *New Moon*, *Eclipse* and *Breaking Dawn* - explore forbidden love, adversity, choice, morality, judgement and isolation, and developed an unprecedented fan following worldwide.

"An extended love letter to a magical San Francisco." —*New York Times Book Review*

# ARMISTEAD MAUPIN

*Tales of the City*

A NOVEL



## Tales Of The City

Armistead Maupin

the first of seven novels about the denizens of the mythic apartment house at 28 Barbary Lane, *Tales* is both a wry comedy of manners and a deeply involving portrait of a vanished era.

# Gulliver's Travels

Jonathan Swift

*travels into Several Remote Nations of the World, In Four Parts, By Lemuel Gulliver (1726)* is meant to be a travelogue, wherein a voyaging English surgeon recounts how he is repeatedly washed ashore on new lands inhabited by strange people (the Houyhnhnms, the Yahoos, Liliputians, and the Brobdingnagians among them). Each experience—some more dangerous than others—teaches Gulliver something about the nature of humanity and politics, and he returns to England each time with new understanding. Read more closely, though, *Gulliver's Travels* is Jonathan Swift's satirical representation of British Enlightenment thought and government via Gulliver's various encounters with "utopian" societies.



## GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

NORTON  
CRITICAL  
EDITIONS

JONATHAN SWIFT

*Edited by Albert J. Rivero*

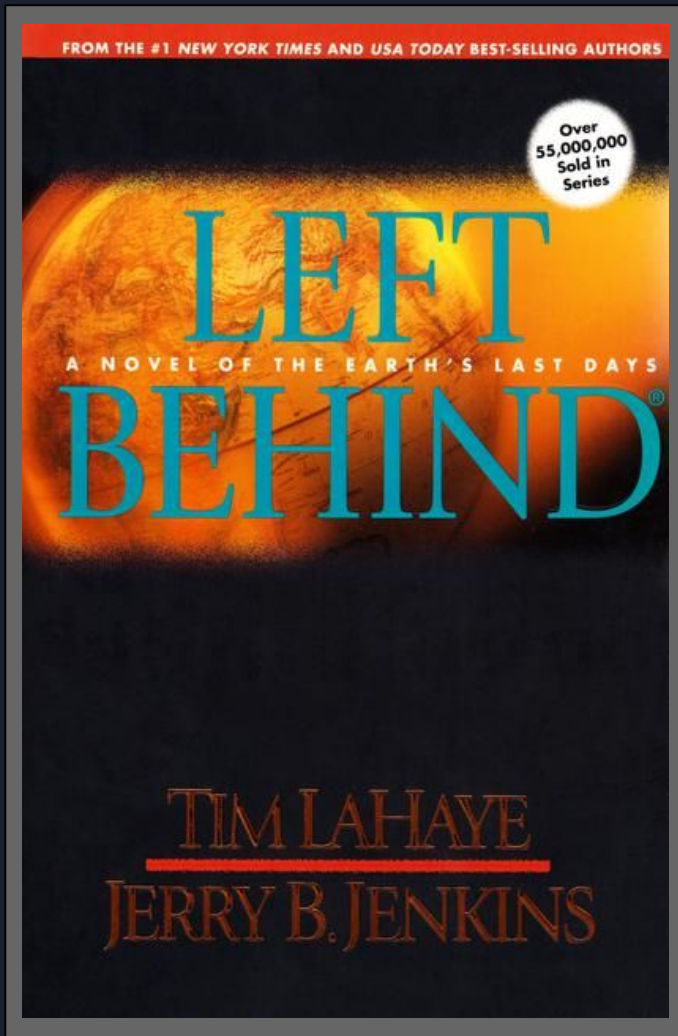


# Ready Player One

the worldwide bestseller—now a major motion picture directed by Steven Spielberg.

In the year 2045, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS. Wade's devoted his life to studying the puzzles hidden within this world's digital confines—puzzles that are based on their creator's obsession with the pop culture of decades past and that promise massive power and fortune to whoever can unlock them.

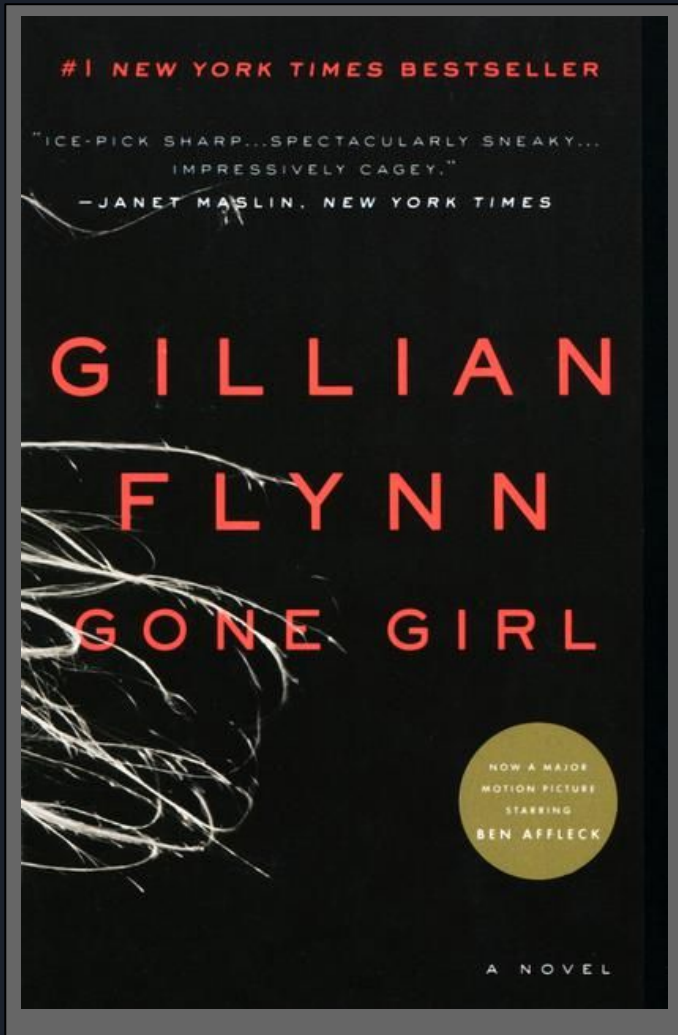
But when Wade stumbles upon the first clue, he finds himself beset by players willing to kill to take this ultimate prize. The race is on, and if Wade's going to survive, he'll have to win—and confront the real world he's always been so desperate to escape.



# Left Behind

Tim LaHaye

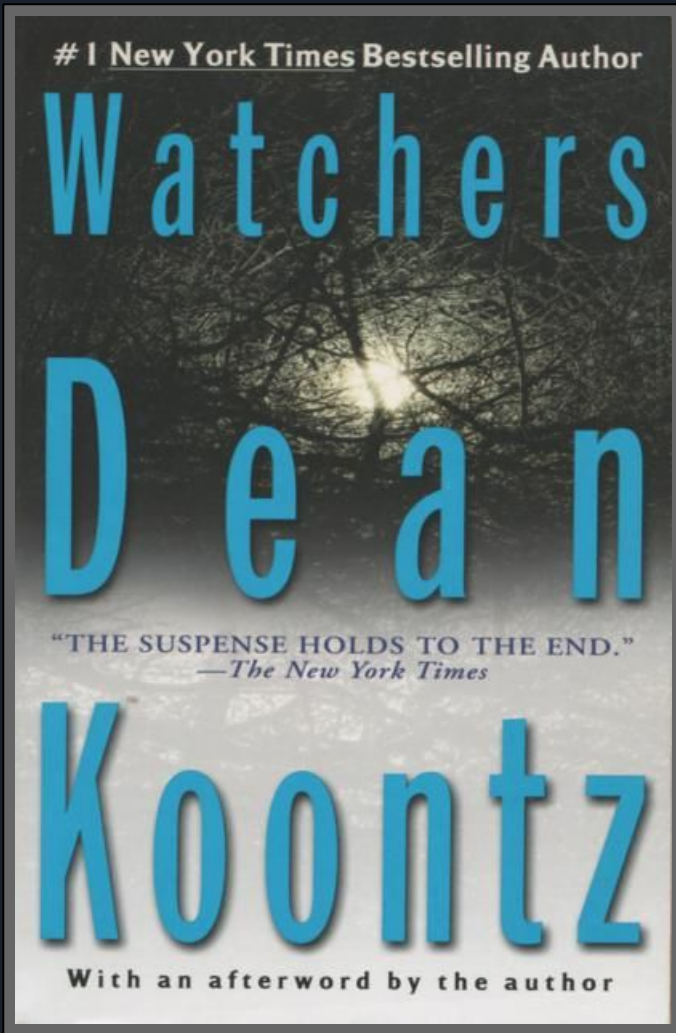
based on a Dispensationalist reading of Old and New Testament scripture, the *Left Behind* series centers on those “left behind” after the Rapture transports true believers to Heaven. The Tribulation, the period between the Rapture and the Second Coming of Jesus, is marked by great pain, but it offers those left behind a chance at redemption. Over the course of 16 books, the *Left Behind* series tracks a group of Americans who join together to form the Tribulation Force, which battles the Global Community, an Illuminati-esque organization led by a man later revealed to be the Antichrist. Critics characterize the series as “a revenge fantasy, in which right-wing Christians win out over the rational, scientific, modern, post-Enlightenment world,” but the series has sold more than 80 million copies worldwide.



# Gone Girl

Gillian Flynn

On a warm summer morning in North Carthage, Missouri, it is Nick and Amy Dunne's fifth wedding anniversary. Presents are being wrapped and reservations are being made when Nick's clever and beautiful wife disappears. Husband-of-the-Year Nick isn't doing himself any favors with cringe-worthy daydreams about the slope and shape of his wife's head, but passages from Amy's diary reveal the alpha-girl perfectionist could have put anyone dangerously on edge. Under mounting pressure from the police and the media—as well as Amy's fiercely doting parents—the town golden boy parades an endless series of lies, deceptions, and inappropriate behavior. Nick is oddly evasive, and he's definitely bitter—but is he really a killer?



## Watchers

Dean Koontz

A "superior thriller" (Oakland Press) about a man, a dog, and a terrifying threat that could only have come from the imagination of #1 New York Times bestselling author Dean Koontz.

On his thirty-sixth birthday, Travis Cornell hikes into the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains. But his path is soon blocked by a bedraggled Golden Retriever who will let him go no further into the dark woods.

That morning, Travis had been desperate to find some happiness in his lonely, seemingly cursed life. What he finds is a dog of alarming intelligence that soon leads him into a relentless storm of mankind's darkest creation...

# The Pilgrim's Progress

John Bunyan

*the Pilgrim's Progress* is John Bunyan's allegory for Puritan morals and teachings, set in contrast to the growing Anglicanism of his day. It follows the pilgrimage of a man named Christian (and later his wife Christiana) who has been called to the Celestial City, or heaven, and meets several characters along the way (like Evangelist, Mr. Worldly Wiseman, Goodwill, and Beelzebub) that either help or hinder him. Christian's steadfastness when confronted with obstacles is meant to convey the pure soul of a Puritan. With its plain style, anthropomorphized virtues and vices, and simple narrative structure, it was immensely popular in its day and was quickly translated into other languages.

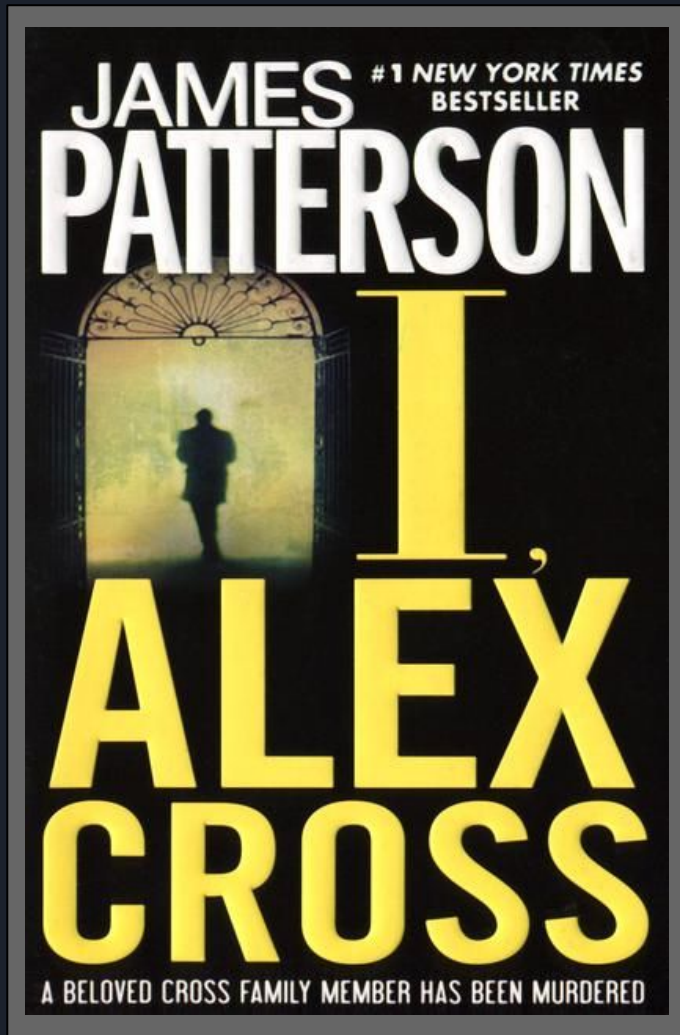
## THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS JOHN BUNYAN



EDITED BY CYNTHIA WALL

A NORTON CRITICAL EDITION



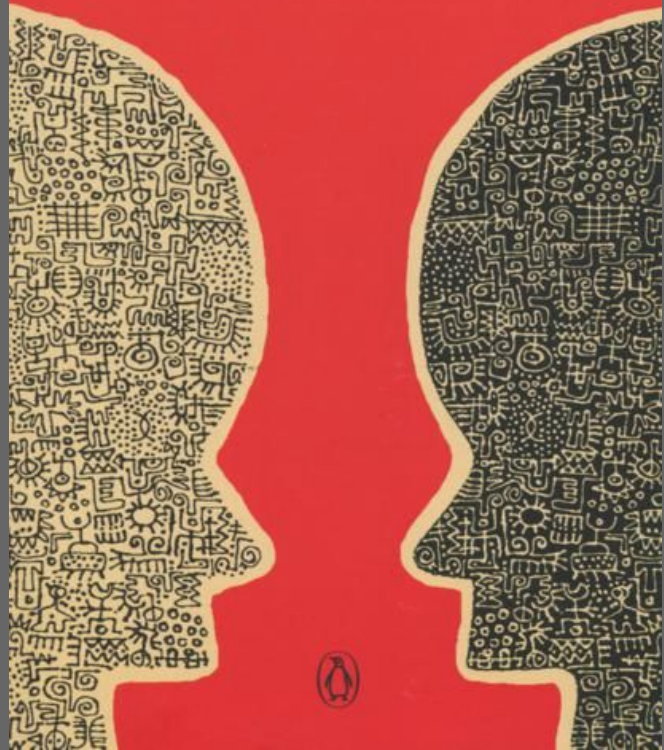


## Alex Cross Mysteries (series)

James Patterson

A missing little girl named Maggie Rose. The thrill-killing of a beautiful elementary school teacher. A psychopathic serial murderer who calls himself the Son of Lindbergh, Gary Soneji. He is so terrifying that the FBI, the Secret Service, and the police cannot outsmart him—even after he's been captured. Who will be his next victim?

Chinua Achebe  
**THINGS FALL APART**



# Things Fall Apart

Chinua Achebe

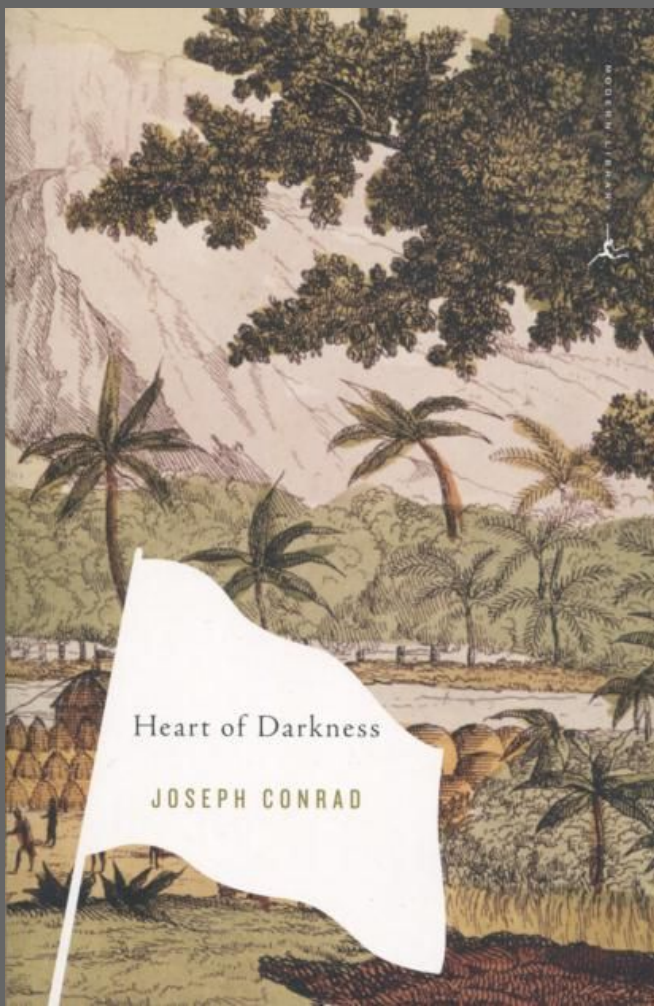
*Things Fall Apart* is the first of three novels in Chinua Achebe's critically acclaimed African Trilogy. It is a classic narrative about Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it establishes a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, *Things Fall Apart* explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order.

With more than 20 million copies sold and translated into fifty-seven languages, *Things Fall Apart* provides one of the most illuminating and permanent monuments to African experience. Achebe does not only capture life in a pre-colonial African village, he conveys the tragedy of the loss of that world while broadening our understanding of our contemporary realities.

# Heart Of Darkness

Joseph Conrad

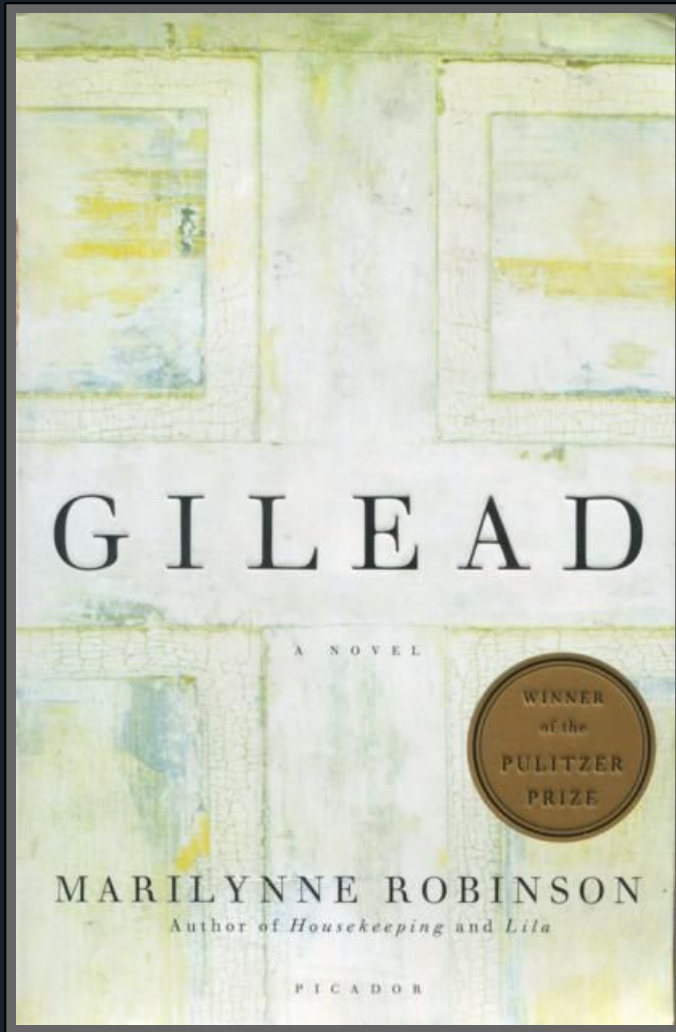
Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* (1899) reveals the monstrous truth of European control and influence in the Congo region of Africa during the height of colonialism. The book's protagonist, a sailor named Charles Marlow, pilots a boat on the Congo River for a Belgian ivory-trading firm known simply as the Company. In the African interior, he sees what the European traders have done to local inhabitants, enslaving and butchering them without cause. Marlow's final encounter with Mr. Kurtz, the mysterious, sinister head of an important trading post, serves as the linchpin to this much-studied tale about the capacity of one nation to brutalize another for wealth and sport.

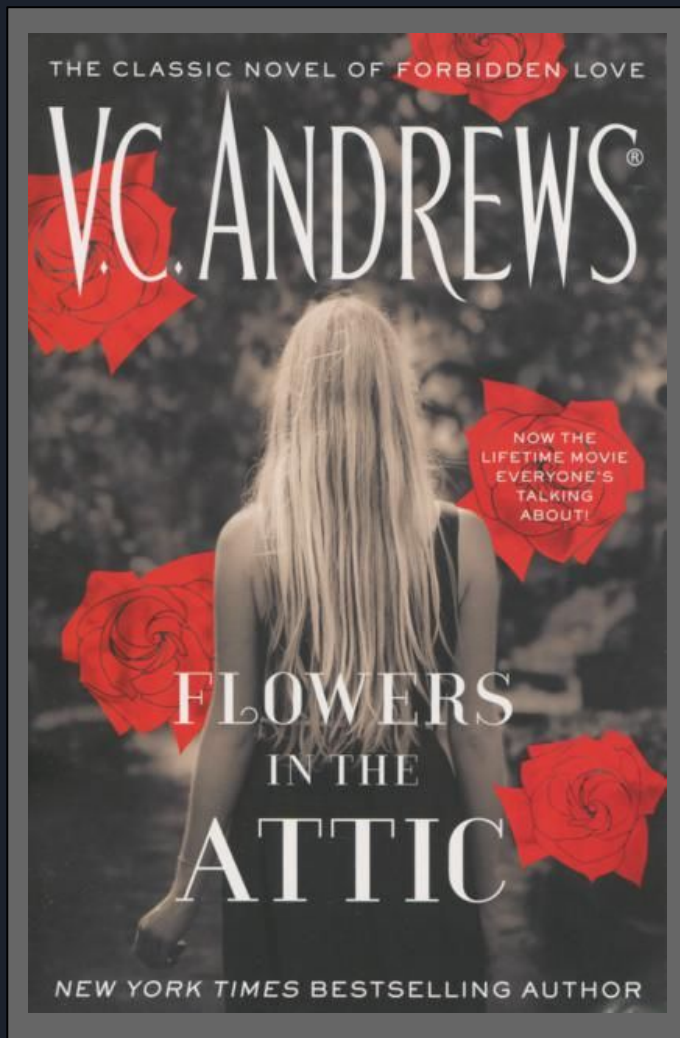


# Gilead

Marilynne Robinson

*gilead* is an epistolary novel: a single, episodic letter from the Reverend John Ames to his seven-year-old son. Ames, a Congregationalist minister in tiny Gilead, Iowa, is dying of a heart condition, and he is documenting his life for the son he will not see to reach adulthood. He talks about his own childhood in Gilead: his father, a Christian pacifist, and his grandfather, a radical abolitionist who "preached his people into the war." He writes of the death of his first wife, who died giving birth to their child, and of Lila, an uneducated woman with whom he falls in love. *Gilead* draws from Robinson's beliefs and the value she places in Calvinist texts—and correcting misconceptions about the work of John Calvin. In her lecture "The Freedom of a Christian," she writes, "One of the reasons these texts are important to me is because they have everything to do with my own theology certainly, with my aesthetic perhaps, and in so far as I can say I have an intention in writing, they have everything to do with my intention"





# Flowers In The Attic

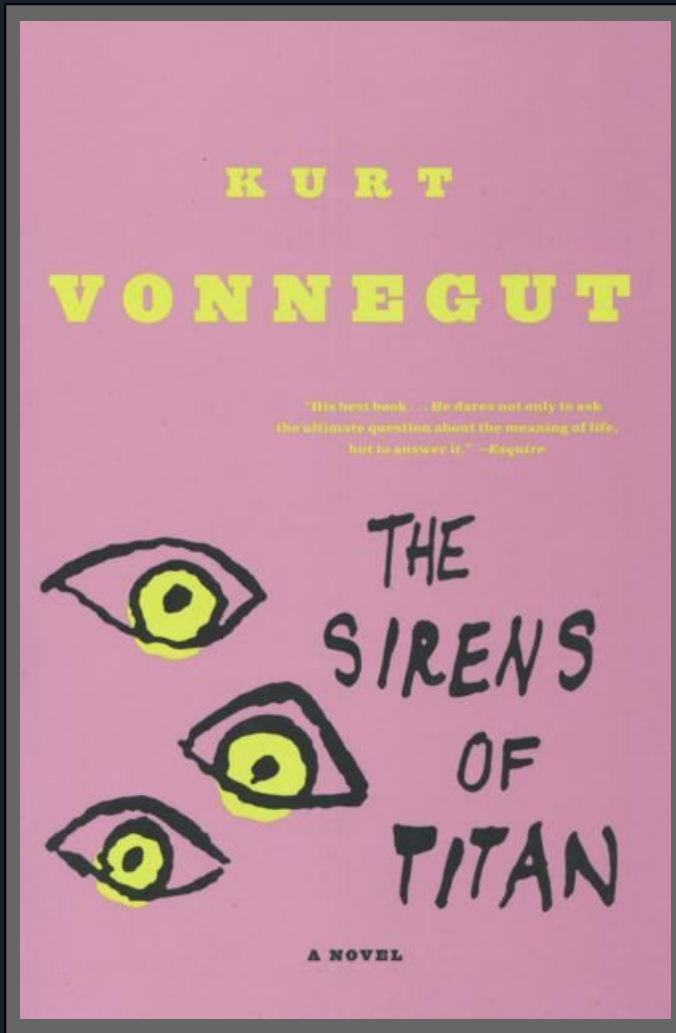
V.C. Andrews

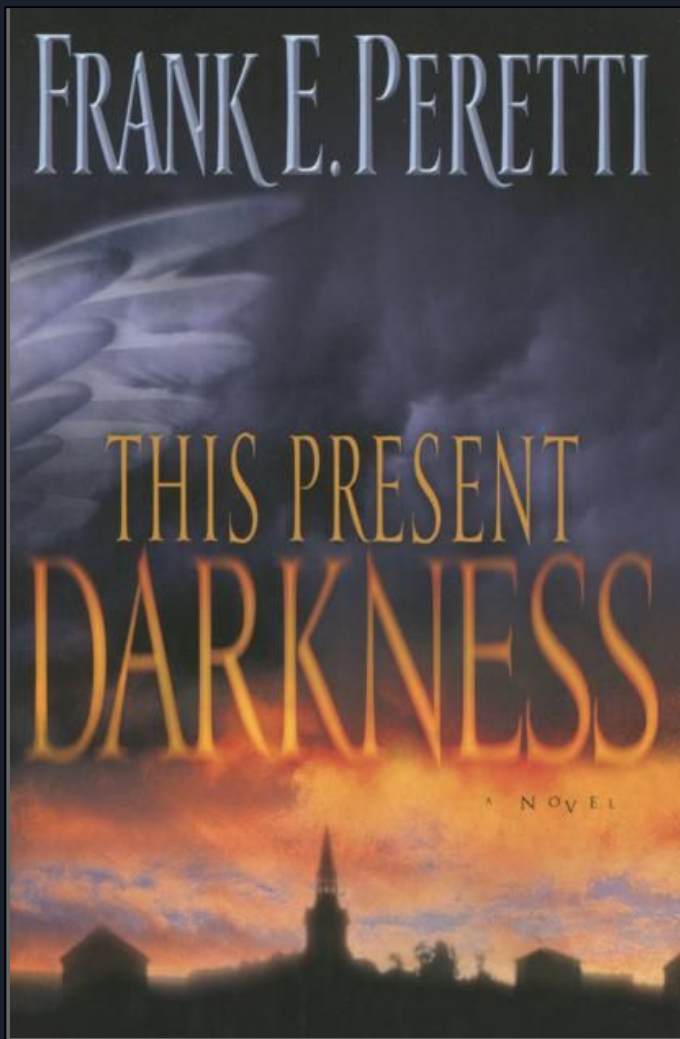
this classic story of forbidden love captured the world's imagination and earned V.C. Andrews a fiercely devoted fan base. The Dollangangers were a perfect family, golden and carefree—until a heartbreaking tragedy shattered their happiness. Now, for the sake of an inheritance that will ensure their future, the children must be hidden away. Kept on the top floor of their grandmother's vast mansion, their mother assures them it will be just for a little while. But as brutal days swell into agonizing months and years, Cathy, Chris, and twins Cory and Carrie, realize their survival is at the mercy of their cruel and superstitious grandmother and this cramped and helpless world may be the only one they ever know.

# The Siren Of Titan

Kurt Vonnegut

*the Sirens of Titan* is an outrageous romp through space, time, and morality. The richest, most deprived man on Earth, Malachi Constant, is offered a chance to take a space journey to distant worlds with a beautiful woman at his side. Of course there's a catch to the invitation—and a prophetic vision about the purpose of human life that only Vonnegut has the courage to tell.





## This Present Darkness

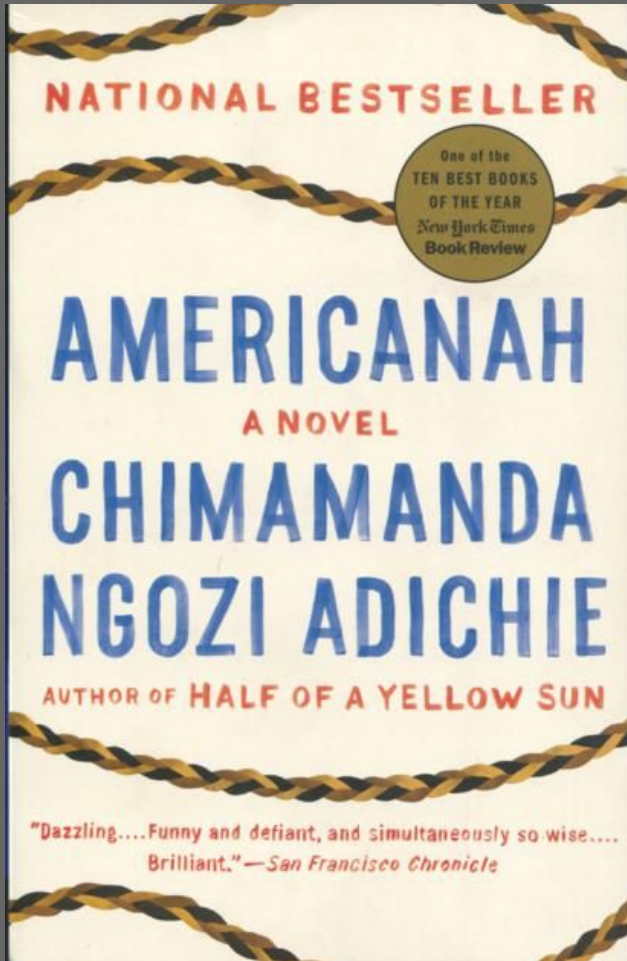
Frank E. Peretti

*this Present Darkness* is a Christian thriller, depicting a battle for the souls of humanity between angels and demons. It begins in the small town of Ashton, where a newspaper editor is investigating why one of his reporters has been arrested. The chief of police insists it was a mistake, but after further investigation the editor discovers a New Age plot to take over the town and is arrested. In prison he meets a born-again pastor, who has also noticed strange things happening in the town and has been arrested for asking too many questions. Together, the pair come up with a plan to address the threat head on, and in the process join a celestial battle that's bigger than anything they've experienced before.

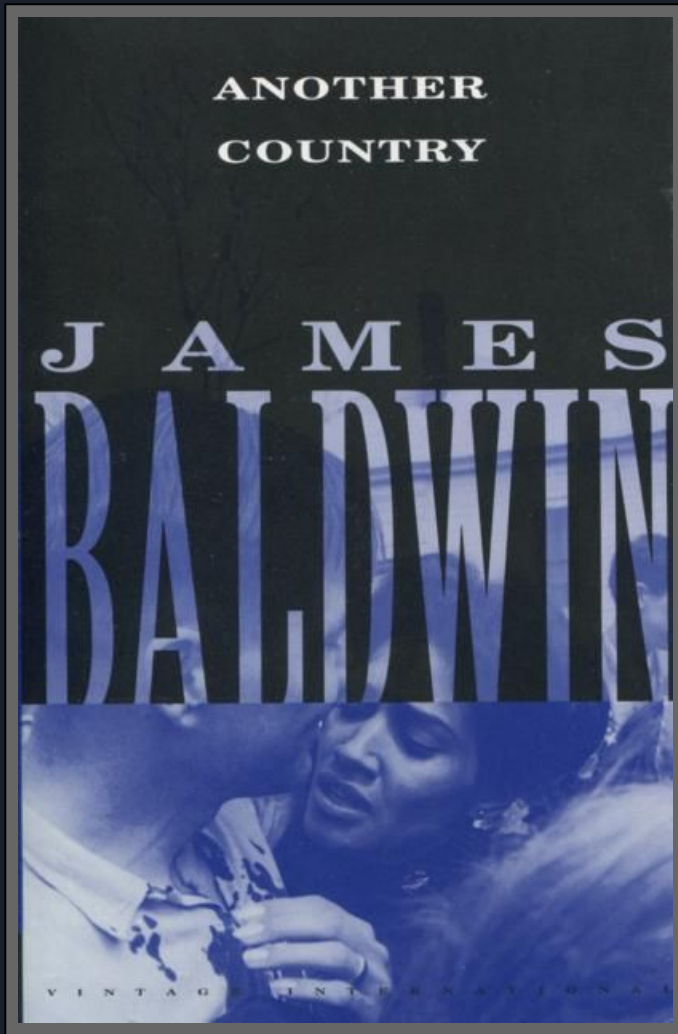
# Americanah

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

the bestselling novel—a love story of race and identity—from the award-winning author of *We Should All Be Feminists* and *Dear Ijeawele*. Ifemelu and Obinze are young and in love when they depart military-ruled Nigeria for the West. Beautiful, self-assured Ifemelu heads for America, where despite her academic success, she is forced to grapple with what it means to be black for the first time. Quiet, thoughtful Obinze had hoped to join her, but with post-9/11 America closed to him, he instead plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London. Fifteen years later, they reunite in a newly democratic Nigeria, and reignite their passion—for each other and for their homeland.







# Another Country

James Baldwin

set in Greenwich Village, Harlem, and France, among other locales, *Another Country* is a novel of passions—sexual, racial, political, artistic—that is stunning for its emotional intensity and haunting sensuality, depicting men and women, blacks and whites, stripped of their masks of gender and race by love and hatred at the most elemental and sublime. In a small set of friends, Baldwin imbues the best and worst intentions of liberal America in the early 1970s.

# BLESS ME, ULTIMA

The Classic Novel

RUDOLFO ANAYA



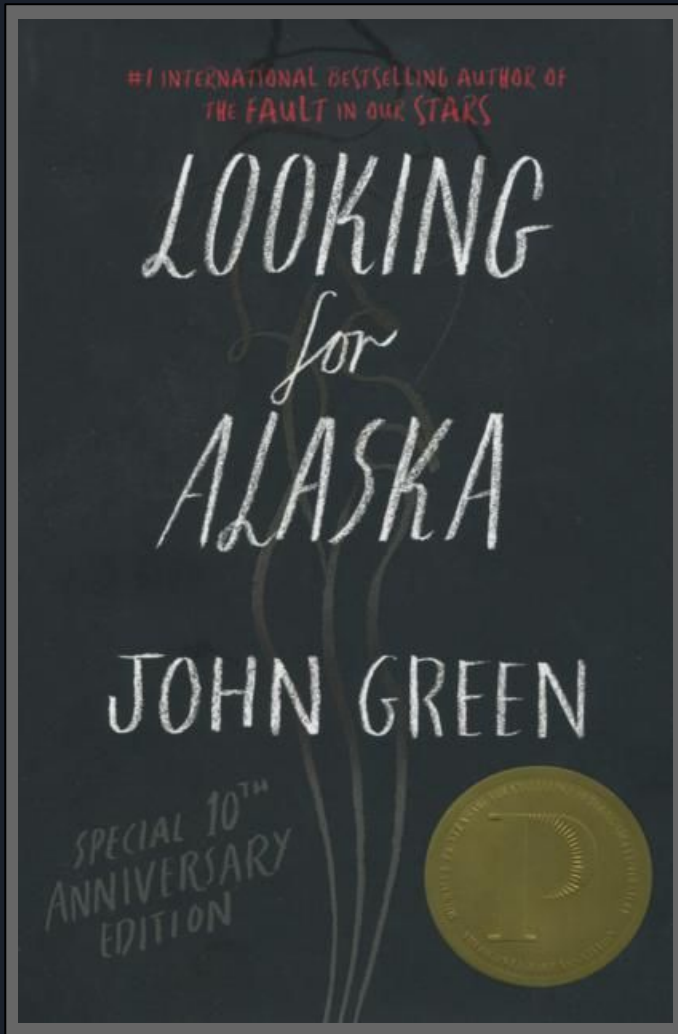
WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY THE AUTHOR

"Probably the best-known and most-respected contemporary Chicano fiction." —*New York Times*

## Bless Me, Ultima

Rudolfo Anaya

with exquisite prose and wondrous storytelling, this coming of age classic follows a young boy as he questions his faith and beliefs in family, religion, and other aspects of his Chicano culture. Antonio Marez is six years old when Ultima comes to stay with his family in New Mexico. She is a curandera, one who cures with herbs and magic. Under her wise wing, Tony will probe the family ties that bind and rend him, and he will discover himself in the magical secrets of the pagan past—a mythic legacy as palpable as the Catholicism of Latin America. And at each life turn there is Ultima, who delivered Tony into the world...and will nurture the birth of his soul.



# Looking For Alaska

John Green

Miles Halter is fascinated by famous last words—and tired of his safe life at home. He leaves for boarding school to seek what the dying poet Francois Rabelais called “The Great Perhaps.” Much awaits Miles at Culver Creek, including Alaska Young, who will pull Miles into her labyrinth and catapult him into the *Great Perhaps*. *Looking for Alaska* brilliantly chronicles the indelible impact one life can have on another. A modern classic, this stunning debut marked #1 bestselling author John Green's arrival as a groundbreaking new voice in contemporary fiction.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

# The Brief Wondrous Life of a novel Oscar Wao

"An extraordinarily vibrant book that's fueled by adrenaline-powered prose...[Junot Díaz has] written a book that decisively establishes him as one of contemporary fiction's most distinctive and irresistible new voices."

—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

WINNER  
OF THE  
PULITZER  
PRIZE

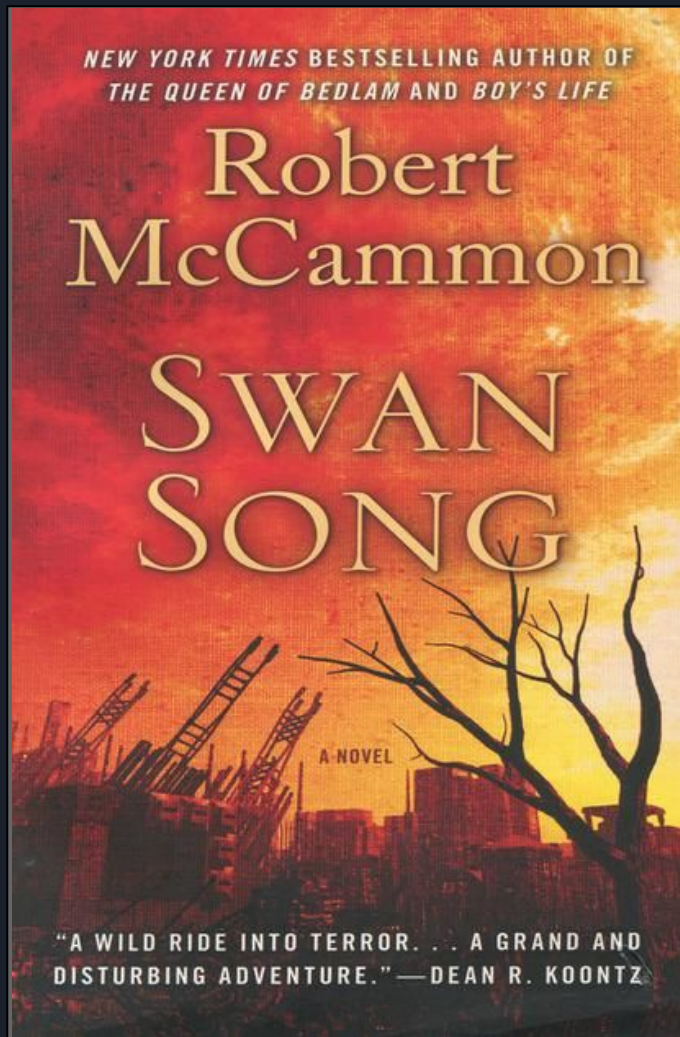
# Junot Díaz

author of *Drown* and *This Is How You Lose Her*

## The Brief, Wondrous Life Of Oscar Wao

Junot Díaz

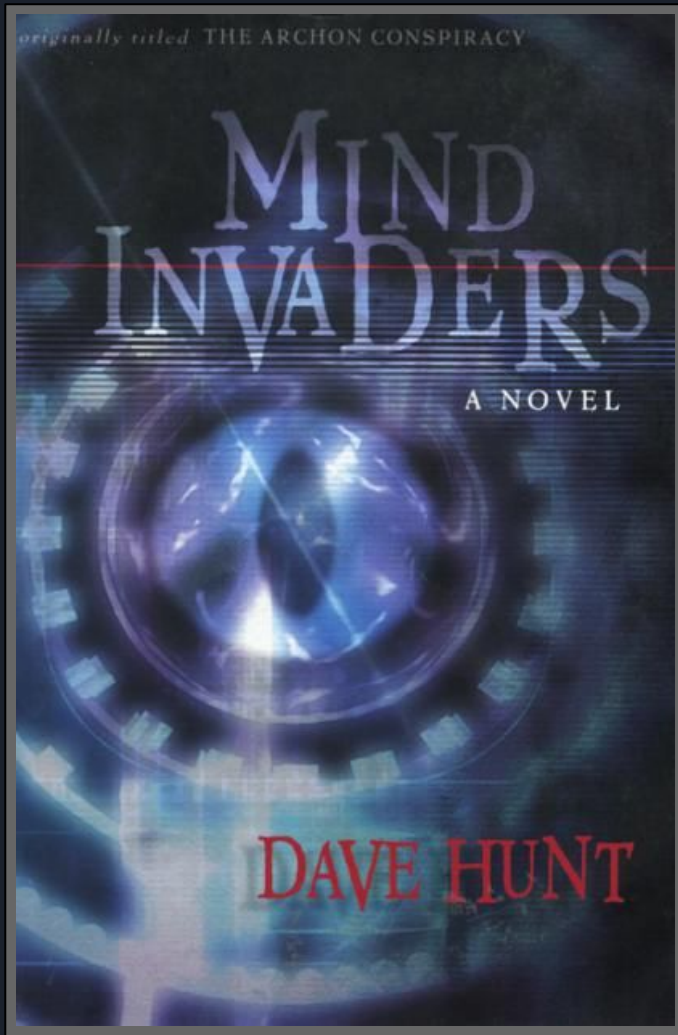
oscar is a sweet but disastrously overweight ghetto nerd who—from the New Jersey home he shares with his old world mother and rebellious sister—dreams of becoming the Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien and, most of all, finding love. But Oscar may never get what he wants. Blame the fukú—a curse that has haunted Oscar's family for generations, following them on their epic journey from Santo Domingo to the USA. Encapsulating Dominican-American history, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* opens our eyes to an astonishing vision of the contemporary American experience and explores the endless human capacity to persevere—and risk it all—in the name of love.



## Swan Song

Robert McCammon

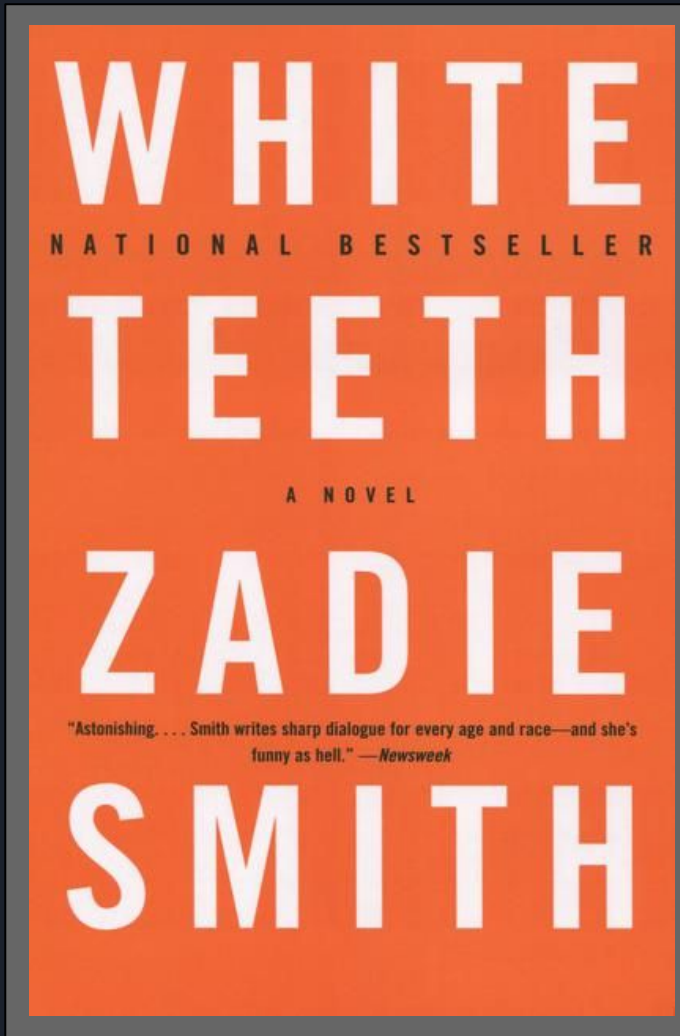
in a wasteland populated by monstrous creatures and marauding armies, Earth's last survivors have been drawn into a final battle between good and evil. There's Sister, who discovers a strange and transformative glass artifact in the destroyed Manhattan streets, Joshua Hutchins, the pro wrestler who takes refuge from the nuclear fallout at a Nebraska gas station, and Swan, a young girl possessing special powers, who travels alongside Josh to a Missouri town to aid healing and recovery. But the ancient force behind Earth's devastation is looking for recruits for its relentless army, and Swan may be its first target.



# Mind Invaders

Dave Hunt

originally entitled *The Archon Conspiracy*, *Mind Invaders* is a Cold War thriller in which both sides are fighting to get their hands on psychic power. Computer genius Ken Inman makes contact with the Archons, aliens who offer him psychic powers in the hopes of promoting harmony; journalist Carla Bertelli is working to expose the Cold War plot and understand the Archons, all the while grappling with her dislike of Ken's fundamentalist Christianity. They struggle with a fundamental disagreement: are the Archons benevolent or malevolent? Ideas about faith, belief, and doubt underscore this clash as they search for the truth.



# White Teeth

Zadie Smith

Zadie Smith's dazzling debut caught critics grasping for comparisons and deciding on everyone from Charles Dickens to Salman Rushdie to John Irving and Martin Amis. But the truth is that Zadie Smith's voice is remarkably, fluently, and altogether wonderfully her own.

At the center of this invigorating novel are two unlikely friends, Archie Jones and Samad Iqbal. Hapless veterans of World War II, Archie and Samad and their families become agents of England's irrevocable transformation. A second marriage to Clara Bowden, a beautiful, albeit tooth-challenged, Jamaican half his age, quite literally gives Archie a second lease on life, and produces Irie, a knowing child whose personality doesn't quite match her name (Jamaican for "no problem"). Samad's late-in-life arranged marriage (he had to wait for his bride to be born), produces twin sons whose separate paths confound Iqbal's every effort to direct them, and a renewed, if selective, submission to his Islamic faith. Set against London's racial and cultural tapestry, venturing across the former empire and into the past as it barrels toward the future, *White Teeth* revels in the ecstatic hodgepodge of modern life, flirting with disaster, confounding expectations, and embracing the comedy of daily existence.

jasonreynolds



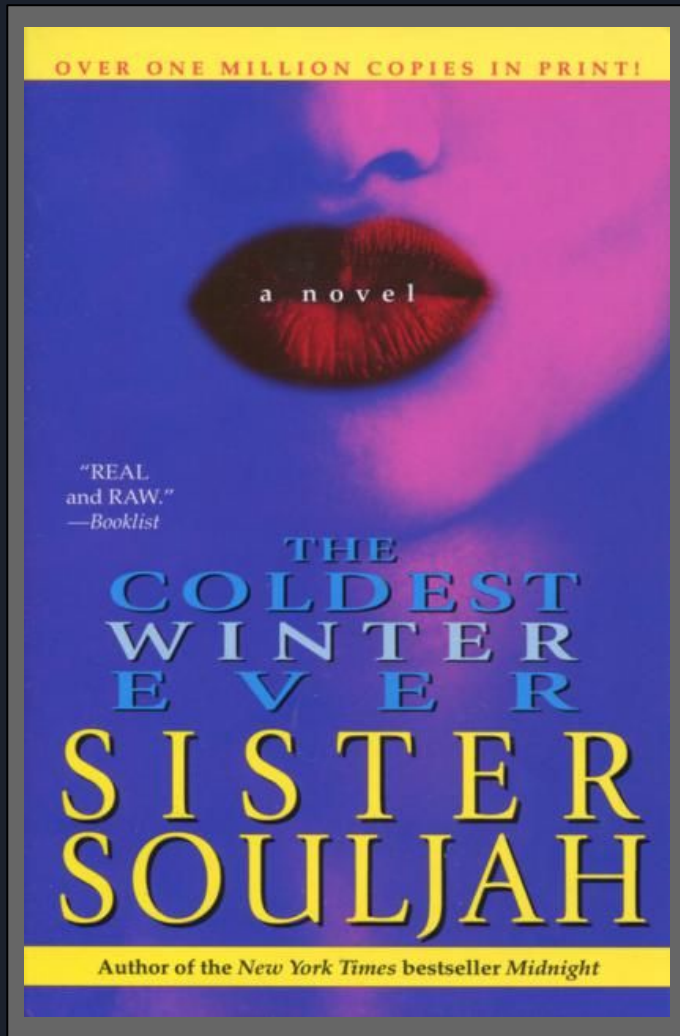
RUNNING FOR HIS LIFE, OR FROM IT?

# Ghost

## Jason Reynolds

Jason Reynolds's powerful novel *Ghost* was a National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature. Running is all Ghost has ever known. But Ghost has been running for the wrong reasons—it all started with running away from his father, who, when Ghost was a very little boy, chased him and his mother with a loaded gun, aiming to kill. Since then, Ghost has been the one causing problems—and running away from them—until he meets Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who sees something in Ghost: crazy natural talent. If Ghost can stay on track, literally and figuratively, he could be the best sprinter in the city, but he'll need to overcome his past to get there.





# The Coldest Winter Ever

Sister Souljah

renowned hip-hop artist, political activist, and bestselling author Sister Souljah brings the streets of New York to life in this powerful and utterly unforgettable novel, *The Coldest Winter Ever*. Ghetto-born, Winter is the young, wealthy daughter of a prominent Brooklyn drug-dealing family. Quick-witted, sexy, and business-minded, she knows and loves the streets, but when a cold winter wind blows her life in an unexpected direction, her street smarts and seductive skills are put to the test. Unwilling to lose, she will do anything to stay on top.

"The freshest racial allegory since Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*  
and Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*." —*Time*

# COLSON WHITEHEAD

PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR OF  
**THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD**

## THE INTUITIONIST

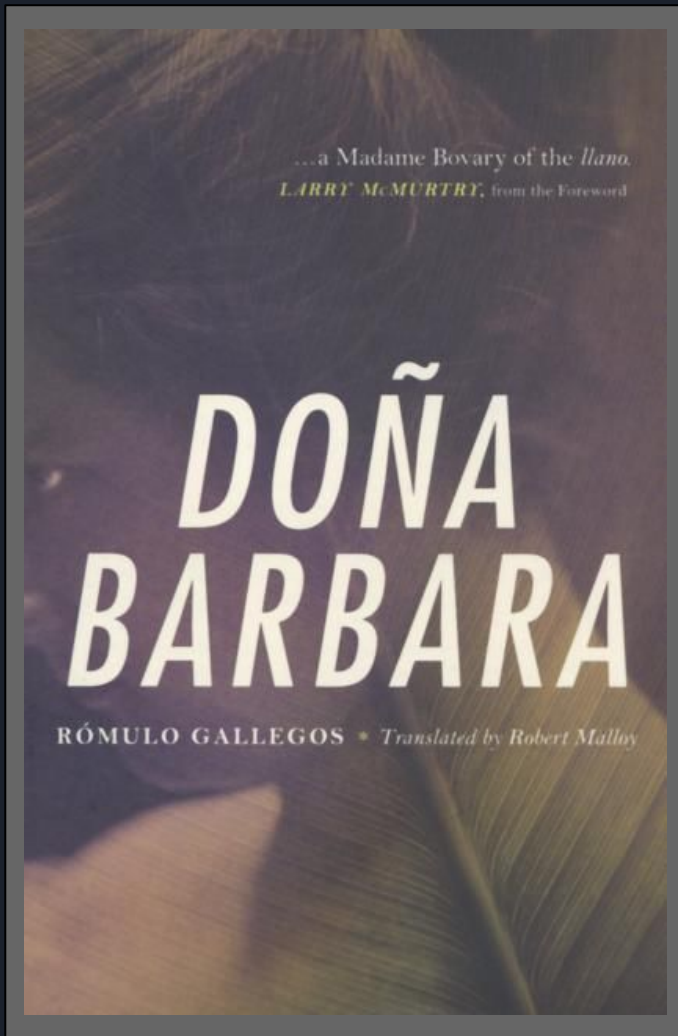
A NOVEL

FINALIST FOR THE PEN/HEMINGWAY AWARD

## The Intuitionist

Colson Whitehead

It is a time of calamity in a major metropolitan city's Department of Elevator Inspectors, and Lila Mae Watson, the first black female elevator inspector in the history of the department, is at the center of it. There are two warring factions within the department: the Empiricists, who work by the book and dutifully check for striations on the winch cable and such; and the Intuitionists, who are simply able to enter the elevator cab in question, meditate, and intuit any defects. Lila Mae is an Intuitionist and, it just so happens, has the highest accuracy rate in the entire department. But when an elevator in a new city building goes into total freefall on Lila Mae's watch, chaos ensues. It's an election year in the Elevator Guild, and the good-old-boy Empiricists would love nothing more than to assign the blame to an Intuitionist. But Lila Mae is never wrong. The sudden appearance of excerpts from the lost notebooks of Intuitionism's founder, James Fulton, has also caused quite a stir. The notebooks describe Fulton's work on the "black box," a perfect elevator that could reinvent the city as radically as the first passenger elevator did when patented by Elisha Otis in the nineteenth century. When Lila Mae goes underground to investigate the crash, she becomes involved in the search for the portions of the notebooks that are still missing and uncovers a secret that will change her life forever.



# Doña Barbara

Rómulo Gallegos

after graduating as a lawyer from the Central University of Venezuela, Santos Luzardo returns to his family's land in the rural state of Apure, intending to sell it. Instead, he finds Doña Bárbara, rumored to be a witch and known as a devourer of men, using her sexuality to gain power. While Doña Bárbara falls in love with Luzardo, struggling to reform her ways, Luzardo falls in love with her neglected daughter, Marisela. Gallegos wrote the novel at a time of great political upheaval in Venezuela: in the 1920s, brutal and corrupt dictator Juan Vicente Gómez used the country's recently-discovered oil wealth to modernize its infrastructure. Venezuelan readers at the time saw Doña Bárbara as a parable: the eponymous character representing the country's untamed past, and Luzardo representing a "civilized" alternative—one that rejected Gómez's rule. As a result of the novel's clear subtext, Gallegos was forced to flee the country, only returning when Gómez had died.