

Fantastic Non-Fiction*



Aronson, Marc. **Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners from 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert** - (134 p.) Describes the rescue of thirty-three miners trapped in a copper-gold mine in San Jose, Chile and how experts from around the world, from drillers, to astronauts, to submarine specialists, came together to make their remarkable rescue possible.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. **Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow** - (176 p.) The story of a generation of German young people who devoted all their energy to the Hitler Youth and the propaganda that brought gave Hitler his power, and the youths that resisted the Nazi movement.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. **They Called Themselves the KKK: The Birth of an American Terrorist Group** - (168 p.) Uses personal accounts unearthed from oral histories, congressional documents, and diaries, to unveil the creation of the Ku Klux Klan in Pulaski, Tennessee, and its spread across the American South.

Beah, Ishmael. **A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier** - (229 p.) A human rights activist offers a firsthand account of war from the perspective of a former child soldier, detailing the violent civil war that wracked his native Sierra Leone and the government forces that transformed a gentle young boy into a killer as a member of the army.

Benanav, Michael. **Men of Salt: Crossing the Sahara on the Caravan of White Gold** - Provides a narrative of the Islamic culture's centuries-old trek between Timbuktu and the notorious salt mines of Taoudenni, describing how camel drivers march for eighteen hours per day in sandstorms and searing heat.

Berendt, John. **Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil** (388 p.) - An account of a 1981 landmark murder case in Savannah, Georgia.

Bernall, M **She Said Yes: the Unlikely Martyrdom of Cassie Bernall** - The mother of a student killed at Columbine High School chronicles her daughter's life, from childhood through her difficult teen years to her tragic death in the high school massacre.

Bissinger, H. G. **Friday Night Lights** - (364 p.) Chronicles a football season in Odessa, Texas, a depressed all-American town that lives and dies with the fortunes of its high school football team.

Blumenthal, Karen. **Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different** (310 p.) - Chronicles the life and accomplishments of Apple mogul Steve Jobs, discussing his ideas, and describing how he has influenced life in the twenty-first century.

Conway, Jill Kerr. **The Road From Coorain** - (238 p.) One woman's journey from a childhood in

Australia's outback to adulthood as a successful American career woman.

Crowe, Chris. **Getting Away With Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case** - (121 p.) Presents a true account of the murder of fourteen-year-old, Emmett Till, in Mississippi, in 1955.

Dau, John Bul. **Lost Boy, Lost Girl: Escaping Civil War in Sudan** - (158 p.) Chronicles the experiences of a husband and wife who as children fled the poverty and violence of southern Sudan, describing the devastating impact of famine and war on the region while sharing memories of their efforts to adapt to American life.

Dendy, Leslie and Mel Boring. **Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine** - (213 p.) Stories of ten men and women, from the 1770s to the present, who devoted their lives, and sometimes risked them, to answer some of the big questions in science and medicine.

D'Orso, Michael. **Eagle Blue: A Team, A Tribe, and a high School Basketball Team in Arctic Alaska** - (323 p.) A portrait of the basketball culture of Fort Yukon, Alaska, describes the community's devotion to their championship high-school basketball team and follows the lives of the fourteen team members, their families, and their coach.

Fleischman, Sid. **The Trouble Begins at 8: A Life of Mark Twain in the Wild, Wild West** - A biography of the celebrated steamboat pilot, journalist, gold prospector, and novelist focuses on Mark Twain's early days, from his childhood in Missouri to his adventures as a young man in the Wild West.

Goodall, Jane. **In the Shadow of Man** - A personal account of the author's life among wild chimpanzees in Africa offers insight into animal behavior and draws parallels between chimpanzee and human relationships.

Goodwin, Doris Kearns. **Wait Till Next Year: A Memoir** - (270 p.) The author explores her childhood in Rockville Centre, Long Island and how baseball, especially the play of the Brooklyn Dodgers, was important in her relationships with family, friends, and neighbors.

Grandin, Greg. **Fordlandia: The Rise and Fall of Henry Ford's Forgotten Jungle City** (372 p.) - Chronicles Henry Ford's attempts to create an American settlement in the Brazilian Amazon in the late 1920s, discussing the purpose of Ford's settlement, its impact on the region's ecosystem, his efforts to apply a system of regimented mass production to the area, and other related topics.

Heiligman, Deborah. **Charles and Emma: Darwin's Leap of Faith** - (268 p.) Charles Darwin and his wife, Emma, were deeply in love and very supportive of each other, but their opinions often clashed. Emma was extremely religious, and Charles questioned God's very existence.

Hillenbrand, Laura. **Unbroken: a WWII Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption** - (473 p.) Relates the story of a U.S. airman who survived when his bomber crashed into the sea during World War II, spent forty-seven days adrift in the ocean before being rescued by the Japanese Navy, and was held as a prisoner until

Hoose, Phillip. **Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95** - (135 p.) Documents the survival tale of an intrepid shorebird who has endured annual migrations between Argentina and the Canadian Arctic throughout the course of a long lifetime while his species continues to decline.

Kaysen, Susanna. **Girl, Interrupted** - (168 p.) The author offers a compelling memoir of her two years as a teenager in a psychiatric hospital, sharing vivid portraits of her fellow patients, their keepers, and her experiences

Krakauer, Jon. **Into the Wild** - (207 p.) In April 1992, a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhikes to Alaska and walks alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. Four months later, his decomposed body is found by a moose hunter. How Chris McCandless came to die is the unforgettable story of "Into the Wild."

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster - (332 p.)

Where Men Win Glory: The Odyssey of Pat Tillman - (383 p.) Tillman walked away from his \$3.6 million NFL contract in May 2002 to enlist in the United States Army. Deeply troubled by 9/11, he felt a strong moral obligation to join the fight against al-Qaeda and the Taliban. Two years later, he died on a desolate

Kuklin, Susan. **No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row** - (212 p.) In their own voices--raw and uncensored--inmates sentenced to death as teenagers talk about their lives in prison, and share their thoughts and feelings about how they ended up there. Susan Kuklin also gets inside the system, exploring capital punishment itself and the intricacies and inequities of criminal justice in the United States.

Lengyel, Olga. **5 Chimneys: A Woman Survivor's True Story of Auschwitz** - (213 p.)

Lewis, Michael. **Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game** - (286 p.) Explains how Billy Beene, the general manager of the Oakland Athletics, is using a new kind of thinking to build a successful and winning baseball team without spending enormous sums of money.

McDougall, Christopher. **Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen** - (282 p.) Recounts the author's experiences with the reclusive Tarahumara Indians, whose techniques allow them to run long distances with ease, and describes his training for a fifty-mile race with the tribe and a number of ultramarathoners.

Mealer, Bryan. **Muck City: Winning and Losing in Football's Forgotten Town** - (317 p.) Looks at three people in Belle Glade, Florida, high school football player Mario Rowley of the Glades Central Raiders, who wants to win in the name of his dead parents, team coach Jessie Hester, who is more interested in coaching for the players than winning, and Jonteria Williams, a cheerleader who wants to become a doctor, and how they are affected by the poverty and social conditions of the town.

Moody, Anne. **Coming of Age in Mississippi** - (384 p.) Presents the personal story of a young African-American woman growing up in 1940s and 1950s Mississippi.

Mortenson, Greg. **Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time** - (349 p.) Traces how the author, having been rescued and resuscitated by Himalayan villagers after a failed attempt to climb K2, worked to build schools that would benefit the young girls who were forbidden an education by Taliban restrictions.

Murphy, Jim. **An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793** (165 p.) - Provides an account of the yellow fever epidemic that swept through Philadelphia in 1793, discussing the chaos that erupted when people began evacuating in droves, leaving the city without government, goods, or services, and examining efforts by physicians, the Free African Society, and others to cure and care for the sick.

Noyes, Deborah. **One Kingdom: Our Lives with Animals** - (128 p.) Examines the strong relationship between man and animal in various cultures around the world throughout time, such as the revered cow in India and the worshipping of cats in Egypt.

Pollan, Michael. **The Omnivore's Dilemma** - (298 p.) Follows the three major food chains that feed humans--industrial, organic, and hunter-gatherer--from the earth to four meals, exploring the ethical and political effects of one's food choices.

Piot, Peter. **No Time to Lose: A Life in Pursuit of Deadly Viruses** - (376 p.) A microbiologist describes his adventure-filled career, discussing his time spent in Central Africa in the 1970s identifying the Ebola virus and his work there again in the 1980s as part of the area's first international AIDS efforts.

Polly, Matthew. **American Shaolin: Flying Kicks, Buddhist Monks, and the legend of Iron Crotch** - Describes the childhood dream that led the author to study martial arts at China's famed Shaolin Temple, his initial disenchantment that turned into respect for the instructors, and the training that eventually led him to represent the Temple in international competitions.

Puleo, Stephen. **Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919** - (263 p.) Chronicles the January 15, 1919 Boston Molasses Flood that killed twenty-one people when over two million gallons of molasses poured out of the steel tank that stored it and traveled through the city's North End.

Rodriguez, Gaby. **The Pregnancy Project: a Memoir** - (218 p.) Details how Gaby was able to fake her own pregnancy--hiding the truth from even her siblings and boyfriend's parents--and what it was like to become an accidental overnight media sensation.

Sheinkin Steve. **Bomb: The Race to Build - and Steal - the World's Most Dangerous Weapon** (265 p.) - Recounts the scientific discoveries that enabled atom splitting, the military intelligence operations that occurred in rival countries, and the work of brilliant scientists hidden at Los Alamos.

Shields, Charles J. **I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee** - (246 p.) This biography tells the story of how Harper Lee struggled to become an author and created one of the most popular novels of the 20th century.

Smithson, Ryan. **Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-year Old GI** - (321 p.) Ryan Smithson recounts the experiences he had serving his first tour of duty as an Army engineer in Iraq when he was only

Swanson, James L. **Chasing Lincoln's Killer** - (194 p.) Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, this fast-paced thriller that tells the story of the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth and gives a day-by-day account of the wild chase to find this killer and his accomplices.

Thimmesh, Catherine. **Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon** - (80 p.) Culled from direct quotes from the people behind the scenes, NASA transcripts, national archives and NASA photos, the whole story of Apollo 11 and the first moon landing emerges.

Walls, Jeanette. **The Glass Castle** - (288 p.) The child of an alcoholic father and an eccentric artist mother discusses her family's nomadic upbringing, during which she and her siblings fended for themselves while their parents outmaneuvered bill

Half Broke Horses - (272 p.) Presents a novel based on the life of the author's grandmother, Lily Casey Smith, who learned to break horses in childhood, journeyed five hundred miles as a teen to become a teacher, and ran a vast ranch in Arizona with her husband while raising two children.

Xinran. **Message from an Unknown Chinese Mother: Stories of Loss and Love** - (239 p.) Presents stories told by the mothers of China--from various social classes, occupations, and provinces--who were forced to abandon (or even kill) their daughters under the one-child policy, giving voice to the pain, tears, and grief of these

Zuckoff, Mitchell. **Lost in Shangri-La: A True Story of Survival, Adventure, and the Most Incredible Rescue Mission of WWII** - (384 p.) Describes the 1945 odyssey of three plane crash survivors in New Guinea who endured a harrowing journey through the jungle to seek help, their encounter with a primitive tribe who had never seen white people, and their eventual rescue by a band of paratroopers.

Frozen in Time: An Epic Story of Survival and a Modern Quest for Lost Heroes of World War II (391 p.) - In November 1942, a U.S. cargo plane crashed into the Greenland ice cap, the B-17 sent on the search-and-rescue mission got caught in a storm and also crashed, miraculously all nine men aboard survived. A second rescue operation was launched, but the plane, the Grumman Duck, flew into a storm and vanished. The survivors of the B-17 spent 148 days fighting to stay alive while waiting for rescue by famed explorer Bernt Balchen. Then in 2012 the U.S. Coast Guard and North South Polar mount an expedition to solve the mystery of the vanished plane and recover the remains of the lost plane's crew.

*Summary descriptions from the NHS Desinty Library Catalog or ocln.org online catalog.

Prepared by Mrs. Pratt, Norwell High School Library/Media Center, January 2013