

# AP US HISTORY SUMMER WORK

As a student in AP US History you will often be called upon to use your background knowledge to draw logical conclusions about events in US History. So much of what we know and assume has come from years of reading fiction. That being said, the purpose of Summer Work is two-fold. First, it is my hope that by choosing a novel from the following list you will be able to come to class in the Fall with insights into a particular time period of US History. Second, it is my hope that you begin class with a writing sample so that we can begin our work in developing your writing abilities.

## **Your assignment:**

Choose one novel from the following list. (Sorry, one person per novel, first come, first served). Read it and write a paper. You may need to do additional research if necessary and the library resources included here are excellent. Requirements of the paper are as follows.

*Housekeeping: the format*

- 3 - 4 pages, 12 point font, 1 inch margins, your last name and novel title typed in the Header
- This is a formal paper and should be complete with an introduction which includes a thesis statement and a conclusion that actually draws a conclusion about the time period.

*The essence of your paper: THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT*

- Analyze the impact of the historical events that take place in your novel. Address the consequences of those events on the individual.
- Respond to the national/international political ramifications of the events that take place in your novel.
- Interpret the economic implications of the events that take place in your novel. I understand that this may be a challenge, but consider that national events often influence the way people/nations/legislators view money, supply/demand, trade and/or standards of economic equity.
- Draw conclusions about how the events in your novel will spur major social trends in American History.

*Keep in mind you are writing for a **HISTORY** class not a Language Arts class. I am more interested in the time period and events and realistic nature of the responses of characters than I am in the actual character.*

## **Your assessment:**

Attached you will find the rubric that I will use in grading your assignment.

**DUE DATE: AUGUST 12**

**You will need to turn you work into the main office.**

**Be sure your work is clearly marked with your name and my name: Ms. Conley.**

**NEXT YOU WILL NEED TO COME TO ROOM 2204 to SIGN UP FOR YOUR BOOK**

Please see me for sign ups by May 29.

This assignment is required for credit in the class.

As of June 3, 2009, the following books have been chosen by other students. You may NOT choose the following.

Panther in the Sky

Zorro

I, Tituba: Black Witch of Salem

Rise to Rebellion

The Bondswoman's Narrative by Hannah Craft

The Color of Lightning

A Creek Called Wounded Knee

The Devil in the White City

Beloved

The Dante Club

The Poe Shadow

Gone for Soldiers

Cold Mountain

Widow of the South

Gods and Generals

Carter Beats the Devil

Cathedral

The Charm School

Word of Honor

Invisible Man

A Time to Kill

The Company: A Novel of the CIA

The Color Purple

Behind the Lines

Catch-22

The Right Kind of War

The Dirty Dozen

White Flag Down

Dragon Fire

Flight of the Intruder

The Berets

The Green Berets

The Things They Carried

City of Refuge

## Preface to Reading List

The library's web page is available 24/7 365, so you can use it this summer for any research that you need to do. I am listing below the databases that I think will help you for your history project.

The library's address is: <http://www.mcsoh.org/mhs/media/media.htm>

To aid in the selection of a book for your project, I am suggesting that you use Novelist on the library's Web Page. Areas in Novelist that will help you are:

- Annotations of books
- Book reviews
- Discussion guides for some of the books
- Book talks for some of the books
- Author information
- Links to author's web pages
- Genre outlines
- Articles about genres
- Recommended reads, when you do not know quite what you want
- Award winning books and authors
- Similar books
- Similar authors
- First chapters for some books

**Novelist: Username: medina; Password: book**

CQ Press has current topics, such as hate groups, and has unbiased information. Articles are quite lengthy and are called reports.

CQ Press: Username: medina20; Password: cqel

Gale Group has online special encyclopedias (ones about one topic), periodical info, newspaper info, primary documents and some media.

Gale Group: Username and Password: medi13824 (just like this)

Nettrekker has only web sites that have been collected from the Internet. Each one has been previewed for accuracy and safety for students. In addition to the web sites, Nettrekker has links to institutions, timelines, famous people index, and reference sources.

As of this writing, just the U. S. History section had 16508 web sites in its database. Nettrekker eliminates the need to go to search engines and having to wade through a lot of stuff you do not need.

Nettrekker: Username: medinahs; Password: green

Infohio has several databases about a variety of subjects for all Ohio students and their teachers.

Infohio: Username: think; Password: infohio

The databases that would be helpful for this project are:

- American Memory has a multitude of photographs that would be useful for history projects. These will pass muster with the school network.
- Ebscohost is strictly a magazine/periodical database with about 6000 titles. You can search by topic or magazine.
- NewsBank Newspapers has local, state and national newspapers. It is updated everyday at 8:00 am. In addition to the newspapers, it has about 27 news magazines, such as Time, Newsweek and People, available for readers. The current one will be there, but will not be indexed. The table of contents will be listed instead.
- World Book Advanced has the online encyclopedia, magazine articles, maps, primary documents and recommended web sites. Just using the encyclopedia part is a good place to start for it will give you an overall view of your topic and will have names, events and dates that are related to your topic. Remember the Library School advice, "When all else fails, go to World Book."

## SUMMER WORK RUBRIC

	Advanced (A)	Accelerated (B)	Proficient (C)	Basic (D)	REVISION REQUIRED Limited
<p><b>Essential understandings of content</b></p> <p><b>WEIGHT: 60%</b></p>	<p>Clearly demonstrates essential understanding(s) of the main idea.</p> <p>Accurately uses appropriate vocabulary related to historical context.</p> <p>Provides credible support of the topic and provides details that <b><u>go beyond the obvious and predictable.</u></b></p> <p>Maintains consistent focus on the <b>task</b> assigned while using details.</p>	<p>Demonstrates essential understanding(s) of the main idea:</p> <p>Accurately uses appropriate vocabulary related to historical context.</p> <p>Supporting details and ideas may at times be too general or out of balance with the main idea.</p> <p>Maintains a mostly consistent point of view.</p>	<p>An attempt was made to address the main idea, but the essential understandings(s) are not clear.</p> <p>Correctly uses little vocabulary.</p> <p>Attempts are made to support ideas, but may be irrelevant.</p> <p>Inconsistent point of view.</p>	<p>Ideas lack a central link to essential understanding(s) of main idea.</p> <p>Incorrectly uses vocabulary and/or concepts.</p>	<p><b>TEACHER COMMENTS:</b></p>
<p><b>Organization</b></p> <p><b>WEIGHT: 20%</b></p>	<p>Uses an organizational structure that fits the purpose of the writing task.</p> <p>Constructs inviting introductions and satisfying conclusions.</p> <p>Selects effective transitions and employs purposeful pacing.</p> <p>MLA Bibliography is correctly formatted.</p>	<p>Uses an organizational structure that fits the purpose of the writing task.</p> <p>Creates clear introductions and conclusions.</p> <p>Transitions are adequate, but pacing may be inconsistent.</p> <p>Minor errors in MLA bibliography are noted.</p>	<p>Uses an organizational structure that addresses only parts of the writing tasks.</p> <p>Contains identifiable introduction, body and conclusions.</p> <p>Has undeveloped beginnings and/or conclusions and weak or overused transitions.</p> <p>Errors in MLA bibliography are obvious.</p>	<p>Uses an organizational structure that may be haphazard and disjointed.</p> <p>Lacking component parts introduction, body and conclusions.</p> <p>Lacking transitions.</p> <p>Errors in MLA bibliography impede the purpose of the bibliography.</p>	<p><b>TEACHER COMMENTS</b></p>
<p><b>Grammar, Structure and Conventions</b> (Conventions of the English language refer to grammar, punctuation, spelling, capitalization and usage.)</p> <p><b>FIRST PERSON USAGE IS BANNED: <u>NO I, you, me, we, us, our, etc...</u></b></p> <p><b>WEIGHT: 20%</b> NOTEWELL: This essay will be typed and should contain no mistakes that a spell and grammar check should catch. Any egregious errors of this nature will result in a 0/20.</p>	<p>1 - 2 errors in punctuation do not interfere with readability. (<b><u>*take home assignments are allowed zero errors</u></b>)</p> <p>Uses correct grammar and usage to enhance communication and contribute to clarity and style.</p> <p>Correctly uses paragraph breaks that reinforce organization and meaning.</p>	<p>3 - 4 errors in capitalization, punctuation and spelling do not interfere with readability.</p> <p>Grammar and usage guide the reader throughout the text.</p> <p>Employs paragraph breaks that reinforce organization and meaning.</p>	<p>Makes 5 - 6 errors in capitalization, punctuation, and/or spelling errors that distract the reader.</p> <p>Errors in grammar and usage interfere with readability and meaning.</p> <p>Paragraph breaks may not effectively contribute to organization and meaning.</p>	<p>Makes 7 - 8 errors in capitalization, punctuation and spelling that distract the reader..</p> <p>Errors in grammar and usage block the meaning of the writing, making it difficult to focus on the message.</p> <p>Shows little control of standard writing conventions</p>	<p><b>TEACHER COMMENTS</b></p>

\*If your work falls below a 63% you will be asked to revise.

## FICTIONAL HISTORICAL BIOGRAPHY

### **Brown, Rita Mae Dolley: a Novel of Dolley Madison in Love and War**

Dolley Madison reveals her true self through her diary along with the events of the day. The author lets the reader see the devoted relationship of the President and his wife.

### **Byrd, Max Grant**

Byrd focuses upon the last five years of Grant's life from the time of his consideration as a presidential candidate to his death of throat cancer. The story not only concentrates upon Grant and his presidency, but includes the events of the Washington political scene of the 1880's.

### **Byrd, Max Jackson**

A young writer is employed to write a biography of Andrew Jackson during the presidential campaign of 1828. In researching Jackson's life he uncovers information that could destroy the chance of a nomination for Jackson. He is confronted with the decision of what he must do.

### **Feldman, Ellen Lucy: a Novel**

After being hired as Eleanor Roosevelt's social secretary, Lucy Mercer has an affair with Franklin. On the advice of his advisors, Franklin and Lucy stop their relationship because a divorce could hamper Franklin's chances for the presidency. During the years of World War II, Franklin turns to Lucy for companionship to relieve the stress of dealing with World War II.

### **Hambly, Barbara The Emancipator's Wife**

Mary Todd married Abraham Lincoln against the wishes of her family. She had emotional and physical problems which she self-medicated with opium-based cordials. Aside from the mental issues, Mary battled, she brought an independent mind, an awareness of the political issues of the day, social skills and social standing to her marriage.

### **Hambly, Barbara Patriot Hearts: a Novel of the Founding Mothers**

The author covers the time of the first four presidential administrations. She tells of their struggles to overcome obstacles to make a comfortable life for the men they loved.

### **Harr, John Dark Eagle: a Novel of Benedict Arnold and the American Revolution**

Respected by the Indians and a hero to his soldiers, Benedict Arnold's star rose only to fall in disgrace with his plan to betray Washington and deliver West Point to the British.

### **Martin, William Citizen Washington**

A reporter is sent to interview people who knew George Washington hoping to find scandal. Instead, he finds a man whose luck and ambition was greater than his military abilities whose stature grew as the nation grew.

### **Pollard, Eve Jack's Widow: When His Life Ended, Hers Began**

Jacqueline Kennedy spent many years as glamorous shadow to her husband, but upon his death she became a celebrity. A well-recognized personality who kept her air of mystique and fascinated the world.

### **Robson, Lucia St. Clair Fearless: a Novel of Sarah Bowman**

Sarah Bowman participated in Florida in the fight against the Seminoles. After the winning of that area, she became part of General Zachary Taylor's to win Texas from Mexico.

### **Safire, William Scandalmonger**

Alexander Hamilton is forced by an investigation to admit to sexual misconduct and the confession is buried. The newspaper editor, James Thomson Callendar, who exposed the scandal is encouraged by Jefferson and his followers. Years later, when Jefferson comes to power, Callendar's expectations are not met. He, then, turns on Jefferson to expose secrets that the president would prefer not to come to light.

**Stone, Irving    *An Adversary in the House: a Biographical Novel of Eugene Debs***

Stone presents Debs as a fearless leader who supports what seems to be losing causes, mainly labor, that costs him his marriage, family and personal freedom. He sought his goals through peaceful means, but always had an adversary in his house, his wife.

**Stone, Irving    *Immortal Wife: the Biographical Novel of Jessie Benton Fremont***

John C. Fremont always had the love and support of his wife Jessie. Jessie came from a well-known political family, but chose to marry John, a nobody, just starting his military career. She always stood by his campaign of westward exploration and his political aspirations. This relationship lasted for fifty stormy, loving, supportive and faithful years.

**Stone, Irving    *Love Is Eternal: a Novel of Mary Todd and Abraham Lincoln***

Stone tells the story of Lincoln's marriage and their sincere devotion to each other. A couple committed to each other, their relationship was wracked with physical and emotional difficulties. The title has significant meaning for the Lincoln you will have to read the book to find out what it is.

**Stone, Irving    *The President's Lady: a Novel About Rachel and Andrew Jackson***

Andrew Jackson had a fiery personality and would fight for what he believed whether it was his country's freedom or the reputation of his wife, Rachel. Through scandal and military service their marriage survived for many years.

**Stone, Irving    *Those Who Love: a Biographical Novel of Abigail and John Adams***

Abigail Smith married John Adams and faced the country's struggle for independence with him. While John helped to mold the thirteen colonies into a nation, Abigail supported him in his endeavors, made a home for him and raised the children.

**Thom, James Alexander    *Panther in the Sky***

Tecumseh, the great Shawnee chief, spent his life defending the Indian territory of the West from white settlers. His plan was to form a confederacy of the tribes in Kentucky and the Ohio Valley to keep them out of that area.

**Thom, James Alexander    *Warrior Woman: the Exceptional Life Story of Nonhelema, Shawnee Indian Woman Chief***

Nonhelema, Shawnee Indian Chief, worked with her brother to find peace between the Shawnee and the Virginians. When the tribe voted to go to war, Nonhelema acted as an interpreter, but was used by the white generals to provide information about tribal movements and battle capabilities.

**Vidal, Gore    *Burr***

The political career of Jefferson's vice president, Aaron Burr, is the focus of this book. It tells of his vice presidency, his duel with Alexander Hamilton, and his involvement in a scheme to settle a kingdom in Mexico. Viewed through Burr's story the politics and social circumstances of the time are told.

**Vidal, Gore    *Lincoln***

The events of Lincoln's presidency is the focus of this book. Vidal discusses his relationship with his cabinet and the management of the Civil War.

**AMERICAN HISTORY TO 1800**

**Allende, Isabel    *Zorro***

Diego de la Vega returns to California from school in Spain. He comes home with a deep belief and commitment to find justice for the weak and helpless.

**Anderson, M. T. The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation: Volume I The Pox Party**  
Octavian, a young black boy, dwells in a household of scientists and philosophers and has been highly educated by them. When financial straits cause changes in Octavian's life, he realizes that he was just part of an experiment to find if Africans are a separate and distinct species. Octavian is forced to make his way in a world where he has no part.

**Anderson, M. T. The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation: Volume II The Kingdom of the Waves**

After escaping his master, Octavian and his tutor go to Boston where Octavian finds work playing the violin in a military band. Lord Dunsmore promises to free the slaves if they will serve in the British army, so Octavian joins the Royal Ethiopian Regiment.

**Conde, Mayse I, Tituba: Black Witch of Salem**

Barbados-born Tituba is accused of witchcraft by the Puritans of Salem after she heals her owner's wife and daughter.

**Hebert, Ernest The Old American: a Novel**

Nathan Blake, abducted from his New Hampshire home, becomes a slave to Caucus-Meteor, Chief of the Algonkian Indians. Elderly and grieving, Caucus-Meteor is seeing his tribe being decimated by disease. The chief and his captive grow close and work together to secure the future of the tribe.

**Fleming, Thomas Remember the Morning**

Two young girls are kidnapped by the Seneca Indians and are trained to be Indian maidens. Several years later the girls are returned to their white relatives in a prisoner exchange. They each become business women and love the same man.

**Gunning, Sally    The Widow's War: a Novel**

When Lyddie Berry's husband, a fisherman, is killed in an accident, she is left with a widow's share, one-third of their property, not ownership of it. Lyddie becomes dependent upon her tight-fisted son-in-law, Nathan Clark. When he violates the terms of the will, Lyddie challenges Nathan in the court with the aid of her husband's lawyer.

**Price, David    Love & Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas and the Heart of a New Nation**

John Smith works to make a success of the colony of Virginia and is able to do so for many years, but he must return to England to recuperate from an injury. After he leaves, the colony begins to fail.

**Pynchon, Thomas    Mason & Dixon**

This is the story of Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon who surveyed the line between Pennsylvania and Maryland. Not only does the author reveal the story of creating the famous line, but the reader sees the pre-Revolutionary frontier of America.

**Rushing, Jane Gilman    Covenant of Grace**

Anne Hutchinson is an intelligent, shrewd woman whose family came to Massachusetts to follow the teachings of Rev. John Cotton. When Cotton's teachings change, Anne does not follow the "Covenant of Works" philosophy. She believes in a "Covenant of Grace", salvation of the consciousness of the Deity within. She speaks her beliefs and gains followers. The officials, fearing disruption, exile Anne for her defiance.

## FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

**Coyle, Harold    Savage Wilderness**

British troops and colonial militiamen fight the French and Native Americans to win access to the western frontier of America.

**Kilian, Michael    Major Washington**

The author tells of the early life of George Washington before he became the revered hero of the American Revolution. Washington goes into the Allegheny wilderness he battles with the French and Indians. The tactics used changed the way that war is fought.

**Thom, James Alexander    Long Knife**

The exploits of George Rogers Clark are related as he fights in the French and Indian and the American Revolutionary Wars.

*The next books are a series of books written by Allan W. Eckert who is an Ohio author. His specialty is the time period between the French and Indian War and the 1830's. The following are his Winning of America Series in order of publication.*

**Eckert, Allan W. The Frontiersmen**

This first volume details the frontiersmen and the Indians fight for the control of the area from Kentucky, Ohio Valley and the Great Northwest. It has events that happened in the French and Indian War, American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Notables included in the story are Simon Kenton, Tecumseh, Chief Logan, Daniel Boone, Little Turtle, Benjamin Logan and William Henry Harrison.

**Eckert, Allan W. Wilderness Empire**

This is a narrative history of the French and Indian War, the area of the Mohawk Valley, regions of New York and Pennsylvania and the St. Lawrence Valley. It tells of the continued conflicts between the Indians and the white settlers. Sir William Johnson acts as a liaison between the Indians and the white frontiersmen.

**Eckert, Allan W. The Conquerors**

After the British ousted the French from the Northwest Territory, they built a series of forts in the area. At first the relations between the British and the Indians were cordial. Sir Jeffrey Amherst, the British commander, expressed his hatred of the Indians through harsh unfair treatment. The Indians joined together and simultaneously attacked and captured all the forts except Detroit. Chief Pontiac and his warriors laid siege to Ft. Detroit.

**Eckert, Allan W. The Wilderness War**

An expedition was ordered by General Washington in 1779 to destroy the Iriquois Indians. Major General John Sullivan was appointed leader and took his troops into New York and Pennsylvania to wage this first war declared by the new nation, The United States. Research for this novel included official reports, letters and diaries of the members of the expedition.

**Eckert, Allan W. Gateway to Empire**

The conflicts between Indians and white settlers as the Indians are forced out of their homelands. As the land in the Illinois area is taken a city is planned at the head of Lake Michigan. When this happens, the Indians attack Ft. Dearborn and the settlers are massacred.

**Eckert, Allan W. Twilight of Empire**

This is the story of Black Hawk's War to hold the lands of Illinois and Wisconsin. After rallying several tribes, Black Hawk and the warriors are driven across the Mississippi. When the Indians return to their territory, there is an invasion by the U. S. Military under the leadership of General Edward Atkinson. Black Hawk retreats and the armies meet in the Battle of Bad Axe.

**Eckert, Allan W. Dark and Bloody River**

This novel is about the settling of the Ohio River Valley from 1765-1795. Settlers and the Indians battle for the control of the land and for power over the area.

**AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR**

**Carter, Jimmy The Hornet's Nest**

The newlywed Platts move from Philadelphia to Georgia with plans to create a farm and raise a family, but they are caught in the melee of the American Revolution.

**Fast, Howard**    **April Morning**

Fifteen-year-old Adam Cooper attains manhood through his participation in the Battle of Lexington and Concord.

**Fender, J. E.**    **Audacity: Privateer Out of Plymouth: ...**

Geoffrey Frost is a ship's navigator during the American Revolution. This book tells of his deeds and adventures against the British Navy.

**Fender, J. E.**    **The Private Revolution of Geoffrey Frost: ...**

From escorting cannons to capturing a British man-of-war to freeing American prisoners of war, Geoffrey Frost is on his way to becoming a Revolutionary War hero.

**Fleming, Thomas J.**    **Dreams of Glory**

Spies, betrayals, bleak winter conditions, soldiers deserting daily, and a war within a war are some of the problems facing George Washington while camping a Valley Forge.

**Humphreys, C. C.**    **Jack Absolute**

Capt. Absolute, an Englishman of many talents, is sent to America to encourage the Indians to fight on the side of the British. He finds during his travels, a secret organization which is manipulating both sides for its own purpose. Absolute realizes that he must search for the leader of the organization.

**Shaara, Jeff**    **The Glorious Cause**

Shaara describes the military and diplomatic events that brought freedom to the American colonies from Great Britain. He includes both American and British historical personages.

**Shaara, Jeff**    **Rise to Rebellion**

Shaara describes the events in Boston leading up to the American Revolution. He includes many prominent historical Bostonians in this book.

19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY

**Banks, Russell**    **Cloudsplitter**

The goals and acts of terrorism practiced by John Brown are told by Owen Brown, his last surviving son.

**Behr, Howard    The Year of Jubilo: a Novel of the Civil War**

A Civil War soldier, Gawaine Harper, makes his way home after the war to find that his hometown has been taken over by a man determined to impose his own form of justice over the inhabitants. Harper, having been shamed into serving in the war, is trying to put his life together in a world that has changed forever.

**Berger, Thomas    Little Big Man**

Jack Crabb, a 111-year-old survivor of Custer's Last Stand tells his life story. He tells of being taken captive and raised by the Cheyenne. As an adult he tries living with the whites, but does not trust them. He, then, goes back to live with the Cheyenne and ends up participating at the Battle of Little Big Horn.

**Cooper, J. California    Wake of the Wind**

After Emancipation, Lilee and Mordecai travel across a devastated South to find a place to make a home. They find work at a ruined plantation in Georgia and the owner secretly sells the property to them. They and their friends prosper, but they leave when lynching become more frequent.

**Gates, Henry Louis, Jr.    The Bondswoman's Narrative by Hannah Craft**

A slave woman, Hannah Crafts, records her memory of the hard times she spent as a slave. She tells of trying to pass as white and the consequences of it. She tells of the abuse suffered by slave women. Hannah says that work as a slave was physically demanding, but to be emotionally imprisoned was worse.

**Gurganus, Allen    The Oldest Civil War Widow Tells All**

Lucille Marsden, confined to a nursing home, remembers her life with Captain Marsden, a survivor of the siege of Petersburg during the Civil War. She was 15 when she married the 45 year of veteran and they raised a family. She includes in her story their relationship, his war experiences, life in the South after the war and her friendship with a former slave, Calista.

**Henry, Will    I, Tom Horn**

Did Tom Horn, cavalry scout, kill Willie Kickell or was he framed? Tom's story is told amid the events of the last Apache campaign.

**Jiles, Paulette    The Color of Lightning**

Britt Johnson, a freed slave, goes west to make a new life for himself and his family. Those dreams are shattered when his family is seized in an Indian raid.

**Jones, Douglas C.    A Creek Called Wounded Knee**

As the Ghost Dance belief spreads westward, tensions, fired up by the yellow journalism of the day, heightens. Soldiers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Calvary arrive in the area of Wounded Knee and engage in a small skirmish that sets of a bloodbath as the soldiers and Indians battle each other.

**Jones, Douglas C. Remember Santiago**

At the end of the nineteenth century, Eban Pay and Joe Mountain decide to avoid home problems by joining the army. They are sent to Cuba to help the American troops to free the government of Spanish domination.

**Larson, Erik The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic And Madness at the Fair That Changed America**

Larson tells the story of the obstacles and triumphs of the building of the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. While this work is being done, an evil ribbon of death by a serial killer is being woven through the planning of the fair.

**McCaig, Donald Canaan: a Novel of Post Civil War America**

The time frame of this novel is from Lee's surrender to the Battle of Little Big Horn. Life in the South during this time is one of struggles just to survive while carpetbaggers and railroad owners offer easy money. Edward Ratcliff, a black soldier, who served in the Union army, goes West to build a new life. Rejected by the whites, Edward joins the Lakota Indians because they more readily accept him. As time passes, the living circumstances for his family do not improve. Edward, then, joins General Custer as an army scout.

**Morrison, Toni Beloved**

Sethe, a slave on a Kentucky plantation, decides to escape an abusive master. She sends her older children away. When the slave hunters come to recapture her, she kills her infant, Beloved, so that she will never be a slave.

**Mosher, Howard The True Account: Concerning a Vermont Gentleman's Race to the Pacific ...**

Ticonderoga Kinneson and his Uncle True set off to beat Lewis and Clark to the west coast of the United States. Along the way, they have many adventures.

**Nevin, David Eagle's Cry**

This story covers the early beginning of the United States and the machinations of Spain, England and France to bring down the fledgling nation. President Jefferson, with the aid of James Madison, faces the many problems of his administration. While Jefferson is busy with these events, Aaron Burr, the Vice President, is scheming to create a Federalist empire in the area of New York and the New England states.

**Nevin, David Treason**

After killing Alexander Hamilton in a duel, Aaron Burr's reputation is ruined. After this happens, he joins General James Wilkinson in a scheme to steal the Louisiana Territory from the United States

**O'Connor, Joseph    Redemption Falls**

Eliza Mooney, after the Civil War, begins to walk across the devastated South searching for her brother, a drummer boy in the war. Her journey takes her west to Redemption Falls where her brother is living with the acting governor of the territory.

**Pearl, Matthew    The Dante Club**

After several murders occur reflecting the deaths described in Dante's *Inferno*, The Dante Club, Longfellow, Lowell, Holmes and Fields, of Harvard decides to give the police force a helping hand.

**Pearl, Matthew    The Poe Shadow**

After Poe's death everyone thought that he was a second-rate writer who died a shameful death. Quentin Clark, a Baltimore lawyer, does not agree and thinks the death was murder. He believes in this idea so much that he puts his reputation on the line to prove it correct.

**Pesci, David    Amistad**

The Amistad, a slave ship, was taken over by the slaves off the eastern coast of the United States. They are unsuccessful in their attempt to return to Africa when the ship is captured and towed to Connecticut. The slaves are put on trial to determine if they are slaves or freemen. John Quincy Adams served as their court advocate.

**Robinson, Marilynne    Gilead**

An elderly minister, John Ames, records the life legacy of his abolitionist grandfather.

**Shaara, Jeff    Gone for Soldiers**

Shaara tells of the United States' invasion of Vera Cruz to seek victory in the Mexican-American War. He tells of the military deeds of the men who would become prominent in the Civil War, particularly Capt. Robert E. Lee. Having observed the military tactics of Gen. Winfield Scott, Lee wins the battle.

**Sheehan, Jacqueline    Truth**

Sojourner Truth suffered great cruelty as a slave and was sold to a succession of masters. Her husband died and she was separated from her children. After obtaining her freedom, she worked for slave reparations and women's rights.

**Smiley, Jane    The All-True Travels and Adventures of Liddie Newton: a Novel**

Liddie does not agree with the limitations placed upon women during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. When a New England abolitionist, Thomas Newton, travels through her Illinois hometown, Liddie agrees to his proposal of marriage. They settle in the Kansas territory where life is violent and rough, but Liddie is useful because of her skills with horses and guns. Kansas territory is a dangerous place for an abolitionist and Thomas is murdered. In her grief, Liddie disguises herself as a man and sets out to mete out justice for Thomas.

**Tademy, Lalita    Cane River**

Based upon the author's family history, four generations of black women survive slavery and social injustice in Louisiana to maintain strong family ties.

**Thom, James Alexander    From Sea to Shining Sea**

The author relates the story of the Clark brothers, George and William, who helped to settle the Kentucky frontier and explore the territory westward to the Pacific.

**Walker, Margaret    Jubilee**

Vvry, a slave, will not let being a slave or Reconstruction destroy her determination to have peace in her family of education for her children.

**Wharton, Edith    The House of Mirth**

Lily Bart has everything to make her a social success except one thing—her own money. This novel is a good picture of the manners and morals of early 20<sup>th</sup> century American society.

*The next books are books of the West that have been very well recognized for their characters and their stories. They are the Lonesome Dove Saga of Larry McMurtry.*

**McMurtry, Larry    Deadman's Walk**

Woodrow Call and Gus McCrae are novice Texas Rangers who are moving west to the new frontier. The group with which they are traveling receive word that Santa Fe is to be captured. Along the dangerous trail, they are terrorized by a vicious Comanche chief, Buffalo Hump.

**McMurtry, Larry    Comanche Moon**

This is a prequel to *Lonesome Dove*. As the Civil War looms on the horizon, Texas Rangers, Woodrow Call and Gus McCrae, recall the consequences to human life as cattle are driven from Texas to Montana. The rangers' main responsibility is to subdue the Comanche Indians lead by Buffalo Hump's son, Blue Duck.

**McMurtry, Larry    Lonesome Dove**

Former Texas Rangers, Woodrow Call and Gus McCrea have a cattle company near the Mexican border. When they hear that the Montana territory is open, they close up shop. Their goal is to be the first cattlemen in Montana. Along the way they run into disaster after disaster each one peopled with unforgettable characters.

**McMurtry, Larry    Streets of Laredo**

Mexican bandit, Joey Garza, has been raiding the railroads gaining riches and a reputation. In turn, the railroads hire Capt. Woodrow Call find this outlaw. Call begins to assemble a posse to help in the search for Garza. John Wesley Hardin and Judge Roy Bean are among the memorable characters.

## WAR OF 1812

### **Crimmins, Jerry** Fort Dearborn

Two boys, one white and one Indian, tell the story of life at Fort Dearborn. They tell the events from the time the fort was built until the massacre of the fort in an attack lead by Chief Tecumseh who was a ally of the British.

### **Nevin, David** 1812

War with England, disruption of New England trade, trouble with the Indians, lack of trust from states rights faction, military leaders learning to defend their country are some of the problems facing President Madison in 1812.

### **Swerling, Beverly** City of Glory

In August, 1814, the city of New York is under a British blockade and there is talk of secession. Joyful Patrick Turner has returned to save his family's shipping business, but the talk of secession troubles him. To allay his concern, Joyful Patrick begins to find the group responsible for the secessionist talk.

## CIVIL WAR

### **Baker, Kevin** Paradise Alley

One of the results of Lincoln's announcement of draft men into the Union army was riots in New York City. Looting and burning lasted for five days. Against this background, the author concentrates upon three Irish women and how this event effected them and their loved ones.

### **Brooks, Geraldine** March

Brooks creates the war-time experiences of the absent father, John March, in Louisa Mae Alcott's *Little Women*.

### **Doctorow, E. L.** The March

Doctorow describes General Sherman's march through Georgia and the Carolinas touching upon the lives of people who are swept along with the troops.

### **Foote, Shelby** Shiloh: a Novel

The stories of the participants, North and South, in the two day battle of Shiloh are told by a noted Civil War scholar -a classic. You might want to read Michael Shaara's *The Killer Angels* with this title and do a contrast paper.

### **Frazier, Charles** Cold Mountain

Inman, a wounded Confederate soldier, escapes the army hospital and heads for the mountains. There, he seeks Ada whose father has died and left her to wring a living from the neglected land.

**Gibbons, Kaye    On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon**

Emma Garnet Tate Lowell, on her very last day, journeys back in her mind to the Civil War days when she and her doctor husband worked to save the lives of soldiers. Emma loved the South but hated slavery.

**Herlong-Bodman, Ann    Voices Over Water**

In the guise of a teacher for children of newly emancipated slaves, Sarah Eddings spies for the Confederacy. As she becomes involved with the children and a Union officer, she begins to question her loyalty to the South.

**Hicks, Robert    Widow of the South**

Carrie McGavock witnessed the Battle of Franklin, fell in love with a soldier and dedicated her home as a burial site for fallen soldiers. This book is based upon the real experiences of Carrie McGavock, a Civil War heroine.

**Horn, Dara    All Other Nights**

Jacob Rappaport, a Jewish soldier in the Union army, is sent to New Orleans to kill his uncle, a loyalist southerner with a plan to assassinate President Lincoln. The second part of his assignment is to entrap a suspected Confederate spy, but this part backfires as he falls in love with her.

**Jiles, Paulette    Enemy Women**

After being wrongly accused of collaboration with the Confederate side by the Union militia, Adair Colley and her young sister make a dangerous journey into the Ozark mountains to find their father and brother.

**Kantor, MacKinley    Andersonville**

The tale of the infamous Confederate prison in Georgia is told focusing upon the facility, its inmates, the staff and the connected ones outside the prison.

**Poyer, David    The Anvil of Our Souls**

Against the background of the planning and construction of the Monitor and Merrimac, the reader views the social structure and tensions within the North and South as told by the historical and fictional characters of this story.

**Shaara, Jeff    Gods and Generals**

Civil War events are related as seen through the eyes of Generals Lee, Jackson, Hancock and Chamberlain from the beginning of the war to the Gettysburg campaign.

**Shaara, Jeff    The Last Full Measure**

The last two years of the Civil War are depicted in this novel as Lee plays a cat and mouse game with the better-supplied troops of Grant.

**Shaara, Michael    The Killer Angels**

The four days of the Battle of Gettysburg is the focus of this novel. The events unfold through the generals involved with this battle. (It made me cry.)

20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

**Baker, Kevin    Dreamland**

New York City at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was a place of organized crime, immigrant workers and corrupt politics. An Eastern European stowaway arrives in New York City during this time. He becomes part of the underworld and witnesses the beginnings of the labor movement. The background of all of this is the building of Coney Island Amusement Park. This is the first volume of a trilogy.

**Belfer, Lauren    City of Light**

Using the preparation for the Pan-American Exposition and the development of Niagara Falls as an electrical power source Louisa Barrett's story is told. Louisa is the head mistress of a girls' school in Buffalo. Her friend's husband is the businessman who is spearheading the electrical project. While visiting at her friend's house, Louisa overhears a conversation between the husband and another man. This conversation makes her suspicious when a murder occurs at the powerhouse site.

**Bromell, Henry    Little America: a Novel**

Terry Hooper is researching what happened in a small Middle East country under the guise of writing a book. He really is trying to find out his father's role in the 1958 assassination of the king while his parent was serving with the CIA.

**Brown, Carrie    The Hatbox Baby**

A father leaves his prematurely born son at the 1933 Century of Progress Exhibit. He hopes that Dr. Leo Hoffman, a specialist for premature babies, can save his son. Later, the father is murdered and the mother is too afraid to find out about her son. So, the baby is left with Hoffman and enthralls everyone who comes in contact with him.

**Cantor, Jay    Great Neck: a Novel**

A group of friends who were in sixth grade together grow up amid the chaotic times of the 1960's and the 1970's. They participate in the marches for civil rights and the protests against the Vietnam War.

**Davis, Patti    Home Front: a Novel**

The daughter of Ronald and Nancy Reagan tells of growing up in the public eye in the 1960's and the 1970's.

**Gold, Glen David**    **Carter Beats the Devil**

Charles Carter, an illusionist, performs the trick of making President Harding disappear. When Harding dies a few hours later, Carter comes under the suspicion of a federal agent. He thinks Harding told Carter a dangerous secret.

**Chabon, Michael**    **The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay**

A Jewish immigrant, escaping Hitler, and his cousin are on the margin of society, but together they helped to bring vaudeville, delicatessens and comic books to American pop culture.

**Chopin, Kate**    **The Awakening**

Edna lives the conventional life of a woman of her generation. While at a vacation resort, Edna has conversations with a female musician and a sympathetic doctor that convinces her that she does not want to continue living as she does. She prefers not to be a possession, but to have creative and independent life.

*The following books form a trilogy.*

**DeMille, Nelson**    **Cathedral**

Irish terrorists choose St. Patrick's Day to capture and hold hostage St. Patrick's Cathedral. Their demand is for the freedom of some prisoners in Long Kesh prison in Northern Ireland. As the siege progresses New York police intelligence officer, F.B.I., and British Secret Service work to free the hostages. The worst discovery is that an old psychotic terrorist has wired the cathedral with plastique.

**DeMille, Nelson**    **The Charm School**

The Charm School is a place outside of Moscow where Soviet agents are "Americanized". The KGB agents are then integrated into American society and into positions where they can do harm. The role models for these spies are U. S. MIAs and the plan works until an American tourist accidentally learns of the plot.

**DeMille, Nelson**    **Word of Honor**

When an account of a massacre on a French hospital in Vietnam is revealed in a book, the army decides to try Ben Tyson, the lieutenant leader of the unit responsible for the deaths. Each government agency connected with the scandal tries to cover itself. In the meantime, Tyson has to be tough to survive and his lawyer must be very clever.

**Doctorow, E. L.**    **Ragtime**

Doctorow weaves events of the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through the destinies of three families from different social levels. He includes historical characters with the fictional ones.

**Ellison, Ralph**    **Invisible Man**

The journey of a man from the South to New York's Harlem is recorded as he encounters race politics and racial prejudice.

**Gaines, Ernest, Jr. The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman**

The history of the United States one hundred years after the Civil War is told by a former slave through recorded interviews.

**Gaines, Ernest, Jr. A Gathering of Old Men**

When a white farmer is killed in a small Louisiana town, Candy Marshall and a group of old black men claim that they shot him. They do this to protect Mathu who has issues with the murdered man and does not have an alibi. Since this is a book that is not very long, you might team it with *A Lesson Before Dying* and compare the two time periods.

**Ferber, Edna Giant**

A multigenerational story of the Benedicts and how they gained riches and power in the Texas oil fields.

**Gaines, Ernest, Jr. A Lesson Before Dying**

A young African-American man witnesses a robbery in which a white man dies. Because he is the one left at the scene, he is tried and convicted of the murder. He retreats into silence and acts in an undignified manner. His godmother asks a young teacher to show him how to be a man and to die with dignity.

*The following two books are in order of story line not the alphabet.*

**Giardina, Denise Storming Heaven**

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century West Virginia and Kentucky the inhabitants of these states were forced from their lands by the coal companies. As living conditions became bleak, the mine workers began to be organized by the unions. Naturally, this did not sit well with the coal operators and bloody reprisals are the consequences. As tensions rise, the culmination occurs when 10,000 miners fight police and federal troops at the Battle of Blair Mountain in West Virginia.

**Giardina, Denise Blackberry Creek**

This is the sequel to the above title. Blackberry Creek, a coal mining town in West Virginia, is slated by the coal companies and the federal government for “union-busting.” The union organizers work with the people of the community to keep their hard-earned jobs and benefits. Many times they are frustrated with threats of violence, poverty and disease. The time frame for this story is 1930’s to the present.

**Grisham, John A Time to Kill**

When Carl Lee Hailey, a black man, shoots two white hoodlums who raped his young daughter, an extremist group moves into town to mete out their own sense of justice.

**Guterson, David**    **Snow Falling on Cedars**

A murder trial forms the framework for the story of life in a small fishing village off the coast of Washington. A Japanese man is tried for the murder of his neighbor because of the bad blood between the two of them over land. The roots of the land problem goes back to the internment of the Japanese during World War II and the loss of their property and citizen rights.

**Haulsey, Kuwana**    **Angel of Harlem**

This novel is based upon the life of Dr. May Chinn who overcame racial prejudice and social conditions that inhibited her desire to become a musician. Turning to the study of medicine, she is eventually successful. May's story is enriched by the culture of Harlem with its well-know artists, writers and entertainers.

**Hillerman, Tony**    **Skinwalkers**

After Officer Jim Cree has an attempt made on his life, he and Lt. Joe Leaphorn, of the Navajo police force, work to solve this crime and three other related homicides. Their investigation lead them to think that the crimes may have connections to skinwalkers, those Navajo who have turned to witchcraft.

**Just, Ward**    **Echo House**

For three generations the Behl family has worked the Washington political scene making their way to political power.

The author shows the reader how government, business and society work together

**Lehan, David**    **The Given Day**

Amid political, civil and labor unrest, the Boston Police Force strikes in 1919. Danny Coughlin, an Irish cop, and his friend, Luther Lawrence help to unionize their co-workers.

**Lehrman, Robert**    **Defectors: a Novel**

Mark Morris is a champion runner in the 1958 Olympics. While at the games, he helps his Soviet rival, Vladya Petrovich, to defect. They become close friends until Vladya is caught by the vice squad in a gay bar.

**Littel, David**    **The Company: a Novel of the CIA**

The missions of four government agents, CIA and Soviet, are the topic of this books covering time from the end of World War II to the fall of the Soviet Union. Some of their missions are successful and some are fiascos. Littel includes in the telling of this story the social, political and psychological aspects of espionage.

**Lisle, Janet Taylor**    **Black Duck**

When Ruben discovers a dead body on the Newport, Rhode Island beach, there are questions about the identity of the corpse. To find the answers, Ruben becomes involved in the war against the illegal liquor coming into Newport and the infamous rum-running ship, the Black Duck.

**Martin, Lee**    **Quakertown**

Quakertown, a neighborhood in Denton, Texas, existed peacefully since the end of the Civil War. When the Klan arrives it stirs up racial tensions. "Little" Washington tries to calm the circumstances, but cannot. When the banker, a seemingly fair man, asks "Little" to divide the town into black and white, he agrees even knowing this will create segregation.

**McCarry, Charles Shelley's Heart**

President-elect Lockwood finds a secret society, the Shelleyans, may have manipulated his with by computer tampering. The loser of the election, Franklin Mallory, charges fraud and creates a constitutional crisis.

**Morris, Willie Taps**

Growing up in a small Mississippi Delta town, Swayze Barksdale sees the young men march off to serve in the Korean War. Some he sees return to their families, some he sees come back to their final resting place. It is with these young men that he has connections for Swayze performs taps at their funerals. It is not just funerals observes, but life, companionship and love from the people of his hometown.

**Naslund, Sena Jeter Four Spirits: a Novel**

The events in early 1960's Birmingham awake Stella, a sheltered white student, to become part of the freedom movement. With the bombing deaths of four girls in a black church, Stella witnesses the racial attitudes of her city and becomes involved to help change things.

**Mullen, Thomas The Last Town on Earth**

A utopian town, Commonwealth, is created by a logging company to escape brutal strikebreaking tactics. The thriving town is quarantined to keep out the flu pandemic of 1918. The posted guards reluctantly kill a soldier from a nearby fort. Despite the precautions, the pandemic strikes the town creating more havoc amongst the residents.

**Parrish, Richard Defending the Truth**

Attorney, Joshua Rabb, has a new client recently arrived from Moscow. Just this fact places the client on Sen. Joe McCarthy's list. As the senator whips up hysteria with his accusations against suspected communists, the new client included, Rabb's daughter is arrested with friends protesting the Korean War.

**Shamp, Dawn On Account of Conspicuous Women**

Four women living in Roxboro, North Carolina share a commitment to women's suffrage and step out of the confining role to be independent working women of 1920.

**Sinclair, Upton The Jungle**

Sinclair reveals the conditions in the meat packing industry which resulted in a government investigation. This inquiry brought about federal regulations that changed the way American businesses did business.

**Turner, Frederick 1929**

The fictionalized life of Bix Beiderbecke , a famous jazz coronet player is told by his road manager. Bix lead a colorful life of performing in gangster controlled casinos, on the road dates and tries for movie success. The author gives a rich picture of the crazy times of the 1920's.

**Vidal, Gore The Golden Age**

Using the voice of Caroline Stafford, a newspaper publisher, Vidal exposes the Washington political scene between 1939 and 1954. The novel includes historical personalities along with the fictional characters.

**Vidal, Gore Hollywood: a Novel of America in the 1920's**

This novel tells of the social and political changes to American life after World War I and the birth of the motion picture industry. Vidal includes historical and fictional characters. This book has characters who appear in the above title.

**Walker, Alice    *The Color Purple***

Celie and her sister, Nettie, are separated as young girls. Nettie is given to missionaries and Celie is given in marriage that becomes a life of abuse and poverty. Survival for Celie is letters to God and to her sister.

**Walker, Persia    *Harlem Redux***

David McKay, a young black attorney, from a respected Harlem family tries to find out why his level-headed sister would commit suicide. He haunts the places she had been and quizzes her friends to find answers. In his search, the reader views the arts and nightlife of 1920's Harlem.

**Warren, Robert Penn    *All the King's Men***

Louisiana politics is the focus of this book as Warren spins the tale of Willie Stark's political career. Willie started as a sincere candidate to help the people, but is sucked into the greed of graft and political power.

**Williams, Heath    *The Children Bob Moses Led***

In the summer of 1964, Tom Morton goes to Mississippi to help register black citizens to vote. As the summer progresses, the campaign becomes laden down with racism, the beatings of black citizens and the police state of 1960's Mississippi.

**Wilson, Sloan    *The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit***

After Tom Rath returns from World War II, he enters the business world. Years later, he realizes that he is living a very unsatisfactory life and must decide how he will continue.

**Wright, Richard    *Native Son***

Wright tells of the fall of a young African-American man as he lives with the consequences of killing a white woman.

## WORLD WAR I

**Fleming, Thomas J.    *Over There***

A Wellesley graduate with a degree in French, Polly Warden chooses to go to France in 1917. She is sent to the front to work in a French hospital. There is a plot to surrender France to the Germans and Polly works as a counterspy for the French government.

**Hemingway, Ernest    *A Farewell to Arms***

Against the backdrop of the depressingly brutal circumstances of Italy during World War I, Lt. Henry, an American ambulance driver, and an English nurse fall in love before the German attack on Caporetto.

**Mitchell, Emily    *The Last Summer of the World***

Edward Steichen was a very famous and successful photographer during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1918, he left the glamorous world of fashion and portrait photography to use his talents of photograph the horrors of World War I. It is against this background Steichen sees his marriage fall apart. If you are interested in seeing Steichen's pictures, books of his work are available.

**Shaara, Jeff To the Last Man**

The author describes the United States role in World War I, the soldiers and the airmen. Ordinary soldiers and famous people such as “Black Jack” Pershing and Manfred von Richthofen, Germany’s Red Baron are in the book.

**Wharton, Edith Son at the Front**

Because George Campton was born in France of American parents, he was conscripted into the French army during World War I. When his parents and stepfather try to keep him at a desk job, he transfers to an infantry unit.

## WORLD WAR II

**Bausch, Richard Peace**

During 1944, three American soldiers make their way up a mountain in Italy. They are led by an old man they do not trust, winter weather is setting in and a stalker is shadowing them. To add to their troubles, one of the soldiers is a racist and needles the Jewish member of the mission.

**Beach, Edward Run Silent, Run Deep**

Rich Richardson takes his submarine, Walrus, deep into the Pacific Ocean to avoid enemy depth charges.

**Boyne, Walter J. Eagles at War**

Henry Caldwell has been working to build an air corps for the United States, but is sidetracked by an air industry executive. In the meantime, his old enemy, Bruno Hafner hopes to build jet planes for his country.

**Brady, James Warning of War: a Novel of North China Marines**

After President Roosevelt issues a “warning of war” to the Marines stationed in China, Capt. Billy Post is ordered to lead his men to northern China to rescue an isolated unit. His one time tennis partner, a Japanese officer, is pursuing him across the Gobi Desert.

**Bruchac, Joseph Code Talker: a Novel About the Navajo Indians of World War II**

Ned Begay has been taught in the white boarding school that the Navajo language was useless. When he enlists into the Marines, he is trained to send messages in the Navajo language which is being used as a secret code.

**Fleming, Thomas J. Time and Tide**

The USS Jefferson City’s crew left the Battle of Savo Island under suspicious circumstances. Arthur McKay is sent to relieve the captain of his command. McKay finds many problems, but the worst one to overcome is that the ship ran from the enemy.

**Griffin, W. E. B. Behind the Lines**

Lt. Ken McCoy who speaks fluent Japanese and Chinese is sent behind the lines with a group of men to find a self-appointed guerilla leader whose mission is to harass the Japanese on Mindonao Island in the Philippines.

**Heller, Joseph Catch-22**

The men of the 256<sup>th</sup> bombing squadron live through World War II on a small Mediterranean Island. The men have a maniacal commander who assigns them impossible missions. The soldiers contrive outlandish antics to relieve the pressures of their missions.

**Mailer, Norman    The Naked and the Dead**

An army platoon of foot soldiers fight the Japanese for the control of a Pacific island.

**McCormick, John    The Right Kind of War**

The author begins the story with the training that the Marine Raiders received before going into World War II battles. He tells of their combat against the Japanese across several islands of the Pacific. Between battles, they are fighting disease, fear and boredom.

**Morsi, Pamela    Last Dance at Jitterbug Lounge**

Jack and Claire Crabtree leave San Antonio for Oklahoma after receiving word that Jack's grandfather, Bud, has suffered a stroke. As the family waits, each generation remembers its family history going back to before Bud's service in World War II.

**Nathanson, E. M.    The Dirty Dozen**

A group of criminals have their sentences commuted so that they can participate in Project Amnesty. Their assignment is that they will be disguised as Germans. They will go behind enemy lines and create havoc and weaken German defenses.

**Robbins, Donald L. Liberation Road: a Novel of World War II and the Red Ball Express**

After D-Day, the U.S. troops sweep through France to drive the Germans back to their homeland. The much needed supplies are brought to the soldiers via battalion trucks know as the Red Ball Express. One group has a chaplain looking for his missing son, a downed pilot, a truck driver involved with a French woman, and a B-17 pilot dealing in the black market. The group presses on towards Paris where they are seeking answers to their inquiries.

**Ross, Jack N. White Flag Down**

Lt. Grant's plane is shot down over enemy territory, but he and his crew photograph a new type plane before they crash. Grant feels that he needs to go to the crash site and retrieve the camera. He is dependent upon a Swiss journalist and a Russian major to complete the mission,

**Shaara, Jeff The Rising Tide: a Novel of World War II**

This is the first book planned in a trilogy about World War II. The campaign begins with U.S. troops fighting Rommel in North Africa. After gaining ground there, the next step is to move into Sicily with plans to invade Italy. Shaara includes well known personages of World War II along with the common soldiers.

**Shaara, Jeff The Steel Wave**

In this book Shaara concentrates upon the European Theater of World War II, particularly Omaha Beach and D-Day. The war experiences of the soldiers and their well-known leaders are told. This is the sequel of *The Rising Tide*.

**Wouk, Herman The Caine Mutiny: a Novel of World War II**

Command of the *Caine*, a minesweeper, is given to Capt. Queeg. Queeg proves to be a tyrant and subjects the crew to incompetent and sadistic treatment. In retaliation, the crew, under the leadership of Lt. Willie Keith, revolts against Queeg.

**Wouk, Herman Winds of War**

Commander Victor "Pug" Henry begins to prepare himself and his family for war. After seeing the world situation in various European cities, he knows another war will occur.

## KOREAN WAR

**Brady, James The Marine: a Novel from Guadalcanal to Korea**

Col. James Cromwell, a military attaché to the U.S. ambassador to Korea becomes embroiled in the first 100 days of the Korean War. Cromwell joins MacArthur in the invasion of Inchon.

**Condon, Richard The Manchurian Candidate**

Raymond Shaw was captured by the Chinese during the Korean War. During the four days of his capture, he is brainwashed to assassinate a presidential candidate. His friend, Ben Marco, suspects what has happened to him when he has nightmares similar to other men in his unit.

**Griffin, W. E. B. Under Fire**

A Marine captain reports that there is a possibility that North Korea will cross the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel, but the report is buried. In a short time, North Korea does just this. President Truman recalls the captain, now employed by the CIA.

**Michner, James The Bridges at Toko-Ri**

The task is to destroy the bridges at the Toko-ri so that supplies to the North Korean army can be stopped. Because of the location and terrain, it will be a delicate operation for very skilled airmen. As you can see, this novel is not lengthy. You might want to pair it with another book and do something creative. It's a Harris determined classic.

**Simmons, Edwin H. Dog Company Six**

Capt. George Bayard is recalled to service in the up and coming Korean War. During the bitter winter of 1950-1951, he and his men make their way to Inchon.

## VIETNAM WAR

**Cohen, William Dragon Fire**

When the Secretary of Defense is assassinated, former senator and Vietnam POW, Michael Patrick Santini, is asked to fill the vacancy. Michael discovers that there is a sinister force working to undermine the U.S. in what could be a global war.

**Coonts, Stephen Flight of the Intruder**

Jake Grafton is a pilot flying missions over Vietnam. While on the missions he and his crew are dodging enemy fire, SAM missilies, and landing the plane on a aircraft carrier at night. The author describes the actual fighting of the battles and the emotions experienced by the airmen.

**Emerson, Ellen White The Road Home**

Rebecca Phillips, a recent nursing school graduate, elects to go to Vietnam where she helps to treat the wounded. This daily influx of soldiers and death has its toll on Rebecca. Near the end of her tour of duty, she meets and falls in love with Michael a confident young man. After being wounded, he becomes an angry and embittered young man who returns to the States. After returning home, Rebecca decides to resolve things with him.

**Griffin, W. E. B. The Berets**

An exclusive group of soldiers are sent to Vietnam in a campaign that will test their skills in a land that America does not know.

**Griffin, W. E. B. The Majors**

While fighting guerilla forces along the Ho Chi Minh Trail, a group of soldiers find themselves in the heart of the secret war in Indochina.

**Moore, Robin    The Green Berets**

Moore gives a fictional account of the role American Special Forces played in the Vietnam War. This was a best seller in the 1960s.

**O'Brien, Tim    The Things They Carried**

This is a collection of stories about a platoon of soldiers going into war that reveals their personalities, exploits and pain.

**POST VIETNAM ERA**

**DeFelice, Jim    Larry Bond's First Team: Angels of Wrath**

The team, a small group of military operatives, is tracking down missing radioactive material. Time and again, the search brings them back to the Seven Angels whose leader is searching for a way to set off a religious war.

**Gandt, Robert    With Hostile Intent**

When Sam DeLancey, a hot shot self-centered naval pilot, shoots down an Iraqi plane over the "no fly" area between Iran and Saudi Arabia, it creates an international incident. Harassment and chain-of-command issues are examined before the matter of the plane is resolved.

**Hackworth, David H.    The Price of Honor**

Capt. Sandy Caine has always wondered about the incident in Vietnam that branded his father a coward and another man a hero. The hero, a promising presidential candidate, is threatened by Sandy's investigation.

**Hillerman, Tony    Finding Moon**

In 1975, Malcolm "Moon" Mathias receives a phone call that his mother has suffered a heart attack at the Los Angeles airport. Mom was on her way to the Philippines. Moon thinks that the purpose of the trip must have something to do with his brother who had recently died in Vietnam. Moon finds a paper in his mother's purse that his brother telling of a Vietnamese baby who was fathered by his brother. Moon decides that he must complete the trip.

**Iverson, Marc    Persian Horse**

During a foggy sand storm the USS Bulkeley is captured by Iranian forces. Their plot is to use the Bulkeley as a Persian Horse against the U.S. flagship in the gulf. Most of the men have been locked in their quarters, while the commander and a few enlisted men try to find a way thwart the Iranian plot.

**Kent, Gordon    Rules of Engagement**    When his father is killed during a night strike shortly before the start of the Gulf War, Alan Craik is not satisfied with the Navy's explanation and searches for answers to his questions.

**Mason, Bobbie Ann    In Country**

Sam, a teenage girl, is angry because of the public dismissal of the Vietnam War because that war robbed her of her father. No one can answer her questions about him. Her anger has a second reason because her Uncle Emmett has been acting strangely and she suspects he was exposed to Agent Orange.

**Morton, Paul    Track of the Dragon**

Specialist Peter Moore arrives in Vietnam and is assigned to Delta 19, a top secret military operation. Corruption is exposed and the relationship between the CIA and the unit is compromised. Lastly a team member is killed.

**Nichols, John Treadwell    The Milargo Beanfield War**

Chicano activist and hippies work together to win a controversy against a huge water project.

**Paine, Tom,    the Pearl of Kuwait**

While doing some pearl diving two marines, Cody Carmichael and Tommy Franz, rescue and honest - to-God Arabian princess. As the military actions turn into war, they continue having “adventures” that end with their being AWOL behind enemy lines to rescue the princess.

**Webb, James    Lost Soldier**    Brandon Condley, after serving in Vietnam is sent back to be a liaison between the U.S and Vietnam governments in an attempt to recover and identify MIAs. The recovery of one body sets Condley into action to find the deserter who ambushed his company during the war.

**Piazza, Tom    City of Refuge**

Two men who live in New Orleans dearly love the city and are able to keep their lives on an even keel. They have contented lives until Hurricane Katrina destroys everything.

*Written by Jan Harris    May, 2009*

