

Advanced Reading List

In no particular order, this list contains a variety of literature from different eras, at different levels, in different styles. These are merely personal favorites. I encourage you to Google titles that sound interesting or vaguely familiar and seek other texts by the same or related authors.

Short Stories (My personal favorite) - Many can be found online or in published collections

Harrison Bergeron, Welcome to the Monkey House - Kurt Vonnegut

One of Star Wars, One of Doom - Lee K. Abbott

There Will Come Soft Rains, A Sound of Thunder - Ray Bradbury

In the Penal Colony, The Hunger Artist - Franz Kafka

Incarnations of Burned Children, Good Old Neon - David Foster Wallace

The Man in the Black Suit - Stephen King

Sleepy, The Lady with the Dog - Anton Chekhov

Shooting an Elephant - George Orwell

Guts - Chuck Palahniuk *(Not for the faint of heart (or stomach), but hey, I warned you)

Fall of the House of Usher, Masque of the Red Death, Tell-Tale Heart - Edgar Allan Poe

The Garden of Forking Paths, The Aleph - Jorge Luis Borges

An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge, The Damned Thing - Ambrose Bierce

A Rose for Emily - William Faulkner

Girl - Jamaica Kincaid

Young Goodman Brown - Nathaniel Hawthorne

Butterflies, Homemade - Ian McEwan

In a Far Country, To Build a Fire - Jack London

The School - Donald Barthelme

Heat - Joyce Carol Oates

Children as Enemies - Ha Jin

Car Crash While Hitchhiking - Denis Johnson

Moving Pictures - Charles Johnson

The Open Boat - Stephen Crane

The Use of Force - William Carlos Williams

The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World - Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Nilda - Junot Diaz

Novels/Short Story Collections.

Fight Club, Survivor, Invisible Monsters, Haunted, Snuff - Chuck Palahniuk

Stranger in a Strange Land - Robert A. Heinlein

The Basketball Diaries - Jim Carroll

Go Ask Alice - Anonymous

Slaughterhouse Five, Sirens of Titan, Cat's Cradle - Kurt Vonnegut

Metamorphosis - Franz Kafka

Lolita - Vladimir Nabokov

Anna Karenina - Leo Tolstoy

Jesus' Son - Denis Johnson

Brief Interviews With Hideous Men - David Foster Wallace

Crash - J.G. Ballard

The Sense of an Ending - Julian Barnes

Don Quixote - Miguel de Cervantes

Persuasion - Jane Austen

Sherlock Holmes - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

The Count of Monte Cristo - Alexandre Dumas

Advanced Reading List

Normal People - Sally Rooney
Madame Bovary - Gustave Flaubert
The Great Gatsby - F. Scott Fitzgerald
Middlemarch - George Eliot
Moby Dick - Herman Melville
Heart of Darkness - Joseph Conrad
Suicide Blonde - Darcey Steinke
American Psycho - Bret Easton Ellis
Of Human Bondage - Somerset Maugham
Jane Eyre - Charlotte Bronte
Wuthering Heights - Emily Bronte
Frankenstein - Mary Shelley
David Copperfield - Charles Dickens
The House of Seven Gables - Nathaniel Hawthorne
Invisible Cities - Italo Calvino
The DaVinci Code, Angels and Demons - Dan Brown
The Stranger, The Plague - Albert Camus
Brave New World - Aldous Huxley
Lord of the Flies - William Golding
1984 - George Orwell
Life of Pi - Yann Martel
The Green Mile, The Long Walk - Stephen King
The Old Man and the Sea - Ernest Hemingway
A Clockwork Orange - Anthony Burgess
Trainspotting - Irvine Welsh
Blood Meridian, The Road - Cormac McCarthy
White Noise - Don DeLillo
Fortune Smiles - Adam Johnson
The Illustrated Man - Ray Bradbury
Black Sunday, Silence of the Lambs - Thomas Harris
Siddhartha, Steppenwolf - Herman Hesse
Sarah - J.T. Leroy
The Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath
Cider House Rules - John Irving
Never Let Me Go - Kazuo Ishiguro
The Aleph and Other Stories - Jorge Luis Borges
Private Citizens - Tony Tulathimutte
A Visit from the Goon Squad - Jennifer Egan
A Song of Fire and Ice - George R. R. Martin
Sum - David Eagleman
Maggie: A Girl of the Streets - Stephen Crane
The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Junot Diaz
Daisy Miller - Henry James
Sharp Objects - Gillian Flynn

Non-fiction

When Breath Becomes Air - Paul Kalanithi
Behind the Beautiful Forevers - Katherine Boo
Moonwalking with Einstein - Joshua Foer

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A People's History of the United States - Howard Zinn
Consider the Lobster - David Foster Wallace
Heart of the Sea: Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex - Nathaniel Philbrick
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass - Frederick Douglass
Sybil - Flora Rheta Schreiber
Walden - Henry David Thoreau
Down and Out in Paris and London - George Orwell
Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors, Cosmos, Pale Blue Dot- Carl Sagan
Man's Search for Meaning - Viktor Frankl
Tuesdays With Morrie - Mitch Albom
Incognito - David Eagleman
Empire of Illusion - Chris Hedges
God is Not Great - Christopher Hitchens
A Brief History of Everything - Bill Bryson
Freakonomics, Superfreakonomics, Think Like a Freak - Steven Dubner & Steven Levitt
A Child Called 'It' and The Lost Boy - Dave Pelzer
The Elephant Man - Sir Frederick Treves
The Future of the Mind - Michio Kaku
When Breath Becomes Air - Paul Kalanithi
The Tipping Point, Outliers, Blink - Malcolm Gladwell
On Tyranny - Timothy Snyder
Falter - Bill McKibben
Contagious - Jonah Berger
Better - Atul Gawande

Drama

Hamlet, The Tempest, Titus Andronicus - William Shakespeare
Death of a Salesman - Arthur Miller
Pantomime - Derek Walcott
Doctor Faustus - Christopher Marlowe

Poetry

Sonnets 3, 12, 15, 18, 24, 25, 27, 29, 38, 43, 116, 128, 130, 132, 138, 147 - Shakespeare
Daddy, Lady Lazarus - Sylvia Plath
Ode on a Grecian Urn, When I Have Fears, La Belle Dame sans Merci: A Ballad - John Keats
A Dream Within a Dream, The Conqueror Worm, Sonnet to Science, Annabel Lee - Poe
Leaves of Grass (1855); Oh, Me! Oh, Life! - Walt Whitman
As I Walked Out One Evening - W.H. Auden
Four Quartets, Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock - T.S. Eliot
Since Feeling is First - E.E. Cummings
Much Madness is Divinest Sense, Because I Could Not Stop for Death, I Felt a Funeral in my Mind - Emily Dickinson
Songs of Innocence and Experience - William Blake
Howl, America - Alan Ginsberg
How Soon Hath Time, On His Blindness - John Milton
Holy Sonnet 10: Death, Be Not Proud, The Flea - John Donne
Ozymandias - Percy Shelley
If - Kipling
Where the Sidewalk Ends - Shel Silverstein

Advanced Reading List

Paterson - William Carlos Williams
Anthem for Doomed Youth - Wilfred Owen

Graphic Novels

The Sandman - Neil Gaiman
Fight Club 2 - Chuck Palahniuk
Alone - Chabute
Maus - Art Spiegelman
Batman: The Killing Joke, Watchmen, V for Vendetta, The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen,
Saga of the Swamp Thing - Alan Moore
The Smartest Kid on Earth - Jimmy Corrigan
Locke & Key - Joe Hill
Persepolis - Marjane Satrapi
Batman: The Dark Knight Returns - Frank Miller
Black Panther - Ta-Nehisi Coates

Magazines/Newspapers

Science: National Geographic, Scientific American, Scientific American Mind, Discovery,
Smithsonian, Science, Nature, Psychology Today

Culture & Politics: The New Yorker, The Atlantic, The Real News, TruthDig, Reason Magazine, Vox,
Time, Quartz, Rolling Stone, Paste, Open Culture, Slate

General News: The Guardian, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, NPR, Washington Post

Business/Tech: The Economist, Wired, Harvard Business Review, Bloomberg, MIT Tech Review