

Non-Fiction:

Biographies:

B ABRAHAM *Abraham: The First Historical Biography* by David Rosenberg

With the help of hundreds of thousands of cuneiform tablets deciphered since the 1920's as well as close analysis to Biblical texts, Rosenberg fleshes out Abraham the Patriarch to Abraham the man. He views Abraham as bearer as well as founder of culture, very much a Sumerian as well as the first Jew.

B CARPENTER *Getting Better All the Time* by Liz Carpenter

It's about living alone after leaving Washington – Just ok reading.

B CHURCHILL *Jennie: The Life of Lady Randolph Churchill* by Ralph G. Martin

Good book. I first read it in the 1970's. Jennie, the mother of Winston Churchill was quite a person.

B CLAIBORNE *The Irresistible Revolution* by Shane Claiborne

This is a personal non-fiction account of a young man who practices "radical" Christianity, within his community of like-minded believers. He also takes his ideas to "the streets" by demonstrating for social justice: a fascinating "compare and contrast" with the practice of conventional Christianity.

B CRYSTAL *700 Sundays* by Billy Crystal

This was an emotional book about real life. It was well written and helped you relate to the life-changing experiences in your own life.

B DOUGLAS *My Stroke of Luck* by Kirk Douglas

Inspirational, humorous, down-to-earth. A very quick read. (I read it twice!)

B FIRLIK *Another Day in the Frontal Lobe: A Brain Surgeon Exposes Life on the Inside* by Katrina Firlik

Interesting read. Confirms my belief that neurosurgeons must have large egos to do what they do and lots of talent, also.

B FREY *A Million Little Pieces* by James Frey

The compelling story about drug addiction, re-hab, family trying to help Mr. Frey. It was a great novel. The inspiration of the book was he finally got clean and is still clean.

B HAMILTON *Emma Hamilton* by Norah Lofts

A balanced biography of Lord Nelson's famous mistress, objectively viewing her life, her positive attributes and her shortcomings in a way that neither vilifies or worships her.

B HAMILTON *Landing It: My Life On & Off the Ice* by Scott Hamilton
Not as interesting as I had hoped. It was a chance to look back at all the skating stars we've seen on TV.

B JONES *Heart of Oak* by Tristan Jones

Hard to understand because of the British sailor slang but there is a glossary that saves the day. Gives a good & interesting perspective of the life of a Royal Navy sailor during WWII on several ships.

B MATHABANE *Kaffir Boy in America: An encounter with Apartheid* by Mark Mathabane

This continuation of the true story of a black youth is just as enlightening as the first book about this younger days. The account of his adjustment to the American life and to the separation from his family leads the reader to think about issues beyond everyday life.

B MATHABANE *Kaffir Boy: the true story of a Black youth's coming of age in Apartheid South Africa* by Mark Mathabane

This book is hard to put down. The everyday struggle of this youth to survive in the ghetto filled with violence, starvation, and cultural clashes are inspiring. His family's troubles and his will to overcome the difficulties result in a determination that is rare. Enlightening and disturbing.

B MAYES *A Year in the World* by Frances Mayes

For those readers who may never visit Europe, this book offers a vivid, insightful narrative of each country's history, culture and culinary specialties. A must read for world travelers.

B MCCOURT *Angela's Ashes (audio cassette)* by Frank McCourt

What a Tale of survival and family. The vivid descriptions of the principal characters as well as the unbelievable living conditions painted an accurate picture of life in Ireland.

B MCCOURT *Teacher Man* by Frank McCourt

It is said: Everyone has one great book in him – *Angela's Ashes* was Frank McCourt's. He is now resting on his laurels. His storytelling to keep his class quiet was an honest admission, but does no justice to the many teacher's who tried to teach these children. His last years in a school of outstanding scholars brought out his best teaching methods, his creativity & *Angela's Ashes*. Too bad he didn't start there.

B OPPENHEIMER *American Prometheus: The Triumphs and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird & Martin T. Sherwin

- Great book! Well written. The life of Oppenheimer was portrayed in an interesting, thorough and even-handed manner.
- A lot of research went into this book. Lots of records during the McCarthyism era & Commie scare times show how politicians break laws and make you realize laws are being broken today by our so called leaders. I learned to especially hate a Mr. Lewis Strauss.

B REAGAN *Ronnie and Nancy* by Bill Adler

A sweet love story for years. Enjoyed reading about all the duties of a president and wife.

B RUSSELL *Jane Russell: My Path & My Detours* by Jane Russell

Was well written. Being an actress is hard work and long hours.

B SELLERS *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers* by Roger Lewis
A comic genius, but a troubled man. Multiple marriages, drugs and an unsettled life did not make for a happy life. I was shocked to learn he was only 54 when he died.

B TOLSTOY *Tolstoy* by Henri Troyat
I have always been a fan of biographies. Reading this account of Leo Tolstoy, I felt that I was an intimate observer of his life and times. The authors descriptions are compelling and insightful.

B VICTORIA *An Uncommon Woman* by Hannah Pakula
This biography of Queen Victoria's daughter is fascinating as well as informative. Against the historical background of the times, the author brings you into the Palace as daughter Vicky grows into adulthood.

920 C *Letters of a Portuguese Nun: A Historical Mystery* by Myriam Cyr
A very interesting account of the origins and subsequent history of 5 letters written by a Portuguese nun to her love, a French military man, who abandoned her in 1667 after a two-year affair. English translations of the letters are included.

Other Non-Fiction:

The #64 Tomato by William Alexander 635.097 A

Oh, the trials & tribulations of gardening. Why is nothing as cheap/easy as it looks? I could definitely relate to this – a humorous look at the heartaches of gardening.

Where to Find it In the Bible by Ken Anderson 220.3 A

This book is good. It tells you right where to go when you're having trouble finding it. It is a big help. Check it out.

Best of Country Breads collections from Taste of Home, Quick

Cooking & Country Woman 641.815 B

Quick & simple recipes! I love this book.

Drawing Archaeological Finds by Arthur Charles Conant Brodrigg

930.102 B

A practical guide to drawing artifacts from archaeological digs.

Fenian Fire by Christopher Campbell 941.081 C

A nonfiction account of the Irish attempt to assassinate Queen Victoria, aided and abetted by the British government. I had never heard of this plot despite an interest in Irish history.

The Five Love Languages of Children by Gary Chapman 649 C

I learned a lot about children in this book: how to raise them, how to love them, how to love myself and how others can love me better. It was a good book, very inspiring.

The Lost Fortune of the Tsars by William Clarke 947.08 C

A really interesting book if you are a fan of the Romanov mystery.

Conquer the New SAT University of Southern California video

378.1664 C

Visual amenities to prepare one to a comfort level of knowledge base for the test.

Class Matters by Correspondents of the NY Times 305.5 C
It was easy to get into this book. From the beginning it challenged your perspective on how the rest of America lives.

Educating Esme by Esme Codell 372.11 C
A personal look into the experiences of a 1st year teacher in inner city Chicago. You couldn't pay me enough.

Nature-Friendly Garden: Creating a Backyard Haven for Plants, Wildlife and People by Marlene A. Condon 639.9 C
Wonderful pictures and some good ideas if not for the preachy, "I know better," tone. No matter what the recommendation, Malene knows better. Too much use of ()!!! Couldn't find a page without!

7 Habits of Effective People (audio book) by Stephen Covey 158 C
Laughed as I listened to this book on disc as I needed to listen again many times to understand his concept of how to use this in everyday life. I wish I had read it 40 years ago.

The Last True Story I'll Ever Tell by John Crawford 956.7044C

- Disturbing account of what war does to people.
- A first-hand account of a National Guard soldier's story in Iraq. "It will simply make people aware, if only for one glimmering moment, of what war is really like." (quote by author) And how the sights, smells, situations, brutality and cruelty encountered by our young men and women fighting today are experienced and lead to their transformation into something very different than the healthy Americans they were before the war began.

Chicken Soup for Golfer's Soul by Jack Canfield 796.352 C
Some good stories, ideas & anecdotes for golfers of all ages.

The Essential Cook by Charles Delman 641.5 D
This book offers step by step methods of cooking meat, poultry, fish and vegetables. A good primer for anyone learning the basics of cooking.

Triangle: the Fire that Changed America by David Von Drehle 974.7 V

- Do you know why doors on public buildings open outwards? Long before 9/11, New York City experienced the devastating Triangle Shirtwaist factory Fire (March 26,1911) in which 146 immigrant teenage girls were crushed, burned or jumped to their deaths. The villains included the indifferent owners, the powerful Tammany Hall political machine, the corrupt NYPD, and the absence of sensible fire laws. This climactic event led to the rise of the ILGWU and many fire-laws that we take for granted today. Former New Yorkers will enjoy the parts played by the young Al Smith and Robert Wagner. By the way, a waist is a lady's blouse. A riveting read.
- This is an account of the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist fire with the social events leading up to the March, 1911, date of the fire and the consequences afterwards. This account is interesting for the parallels with the World Trade Center disaster almost a century later.

Amazing Gracie: A Dog's Tale by Dan Dye 636.73 D

A library tech suggested I try this book while waiting for *Marley & Me* and it was an excellent use of time. My favorite point is that while the author espouses the ides "Do what you love and the money will follow," he also shows that perseverance, patience and hard work is also necessary for success.

The World Atlas of Cheese by Nancy Eekhof-Stork 641.3 E

Very informative! Loved the way the book looked at the cheeses from all areas! Also include which wines are best suited to which cheeses.

Truth and Fiction in the Da Vinci Code by Bart D. Ehrman 813 E

I recommend this book to anyone who read the *Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown. I am going to read additional books by this author.

Serpent on the Rock by Kurt Eichenwald 364.1 E

This is a fascinating account of the financial disaster and fraud at Prudential-Bache in the 1980's.

In this Small Place: Amazing Tales of the 1st 300 years of Havelock by Edward Barnes Ellis, Jr. NC 975.6192 E

A great read even for non-history people like myself! Very informative & entertaining. Good to know when you're new to the area like many of us military members at Cherry Point.

Asperger's...what does it mean to me by Catherine Faherty 616.898 F
A useful workbook for helping a child with autism. The author writes from a standpoint of respect and compassion for the children.

A Short Course in Kindness by Margot Silk Forrest 177F
This seemingly simple test actually opens the heart and mind to the difference between being nice and being kind. Of great importance are the suggestions of how to be kind to ourselves so that we can share kindness with others.

Blink (Audio book) by Malcolm Gladwell 153.4 G
A must read to understand what makes the world function. I enjoyed listening to the disc as I worked around the house. A good read.

The Tipping Point (Audio book) by Malcolm Gladwell 302 G
As recommended by US Today as most read book on how business functions. The style of writing is very easy to follow and most interesting read.

Homeschool Your Child for Free by LauraMaery Gold 371.04 G
Very informative, helpful guide. Lots of website references (many may be out-of-date, but I believe the authors maintain a website for updates)

Crazy Busy by Edward M. Hallowell, MD 158 H
People who could use the advice in this book won't take the time to read it! Few readers, if any will take the trouble to fill out the table on page 155. Just the general gist of the book would be a help to some people with frantic lives.

Captivating Cats by Fiona and Marc Henrie 636.8 H
They are hams in front of a camera.

Journey Through Britain (audio cassette) by John Hillaby 914.2 H
Having traveled through England years ago and being a Anglophile, I could really appreciate the observations and anecdotes that the author reveals in this narration.

The Natural Cat by Helga Hofmann 636.8 H
I love how cats are in their own world – play, eat, sleep.

So You Call Yourself A Man? By T.D. Jakes 242 J
Best book ever. He is very straightforward.

Cat Love by Pam Johnson 636.8
Cats are finicky creatures.

Who Moved My Cheese? by Spencer Johnson 155.2 J
Short and compelling. I have already shared this story with a number of people. I'm off to look for my cheese!

Diabetes by Francine R. Kaufman, MD 362.196 K
A great background with prevention and guidelines to help anyone who has or is concerned about getting diabetes. It is such a wake-up call (as our younger people need.)

Stick Up For Yourself by Gershen Kaufman Ph.D. 158 K
I learned a lot from this book about how to feel better about myself and how to have a high self-esteem. I learned about personal being different than role power.

America: Back on Track by Senator Edward M. (Ted) Kennedy 320.60973 K
If you keep up with the news, there isn't much in this small book to surprise you. What I did like about this is the simple and direct way Kennedy has compiled and correlated events of the past several years and his constant assertion that we have everything we need already to make the future a better place for all Americans.

Yoga, An Illustrated Guide by Howard Kent 613.7 K
Enjoyed using this as a guide and found the information comprehensive of the whole body.

Treasury of Miracles for Friends by Karen Kingsbury 242 K

- I think it was very insightful for the fact that it showed that if you have faith in God, any friendship can last.
- Quick read. Very inspirational. Reminds us that miracles still do happen to ordinary people.

Overcoming Regret : Lessons from the Roads Not Taken

by Carole Klein 158.1 K

If you are a person that regrets anything or that has had regrets, this book is a must read.

Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt 330 L

Freakonomics is not full of decimals & dollar signs; in fact, it reads rather more like sociology than "econ". Surprising and entertaining, this book reveals who we are and what we value without a shred of romanticism...just real data that maps our collective psyche.

Cure for the Common Life by Max Lucado 248.4 L

Good in theory, very difficult for practical application.

Animals As Teachers & Healers by Susan Chernak McElroy 155.9 M

A wonderful book, especially for those of us who love animals. After reading it, I bought it for a friend.

Cruel Doubt by Joe McGinniss NC 364.1 M

Interesting but sad.

The All Color World of Cats by Peter McHoy 636.8 M

Cats can dream in color. Cats pick their owners, we don't pick them.

Fooled Again by Mark Crispin Miller 973.931 M

A well documented treatise about politics in the last two elections & the reasons for them, raising some doubt about the direction of this country. I'd like to see some rebuttal.

The Comic Mark Twain edited by Charles Neider 818.09 T
A selection of lighter pieces by Mark Twain. Not to be read at one sitting – 486 pages. Some very funny bits. I especially liked the parts from the *Innocents Abroad*.

The Tao of Nutrition by Maoshing Ni 613.2 N
I found this book enlightening and I tried some of the remedies. It seems to make a lot of practical sense.

The Tarot: History, Symbolism and Divination by Robert M. Place
133.3 P
Must read. Tells you what you need to know about everything.

The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan 394.1 P
"A natural history of four meals." Did you know that there is only 1/16 chicken in a Chicken McNugget? A must read for every foodie – chock full of information.

Nutrition for Women by Elizabeth Somer 613.2 S
A great reference book to have.

The Beatles: the Biography by Bob Spitz 782.421 S
Very interesting look back into the Beatles. A long book however.

The Social Security benefits Handbook by Stanley A. Tomkiel III
368.4 T
Simple terminology to the information you need to begin the search to a claim.

Talk to the Hand by Lynne Truss 395 T
Truss moves away from the decline of grammar and takes on social rudeness. Nothing escapes her eye: automated telephone menus that frustrate, indifferent sales and wait persons, the displacement of "please" and "thank you" with stronger more defensive words, the complications of the political correctness of merely opening a door or offering a seat. Hilarious, brilliantly written, right on the money.

A Man Without a Country Kurt Vonnegut 813 V

Very different often blasphemous and obscene. Meandering and extremely outrageous.

The Mechanism of Catastrophe by Speros Vryonis, Jr. 949.61 V

A very dry book. It is mostly a statistical analysis of a Muslim program in Turkey in 1955.

All the Best Potatoes by Joie Warner 641.6 W

A wonderful variety of recipes!

The Women at the Washington Zoo: Writings on Politics, Family & Fate by Marjorie Williams 975.3 W

A collection of insightful profiles, essays and a final memoir about living for 3 years on BT (borrowed time) after receiving a diagnosis of final stage cancer. Not to be missed: profiles of Barbara and Jeb Bush and the nasty break-up of the Clinton-Gore political marriage: the essay, "The Alchemist" about the author's mother; and the final moving memoir of a young woman in her 40's facing imminent death.

Murder at Golgotha by Ian Wilson 232.96 W

A modern day investigation of the cold case crime scene of Christ's crucifixion that endorses the results.