

The American Experience

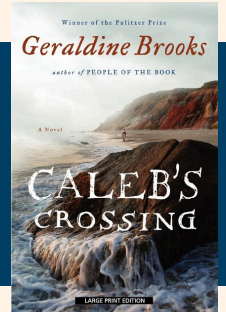
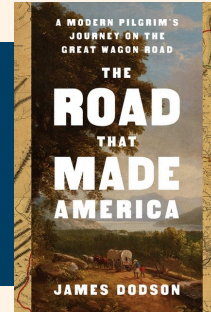
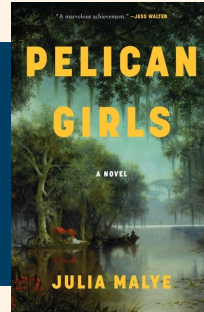
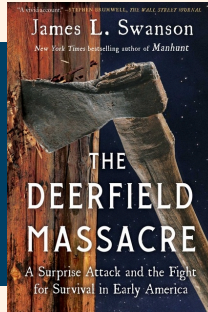
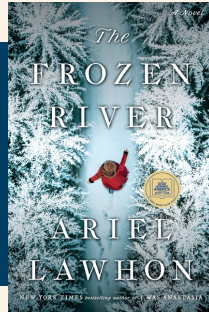
Read
Widely
2026



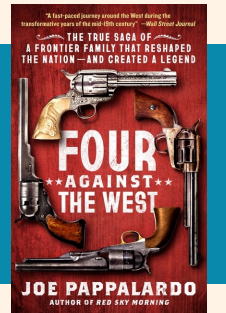
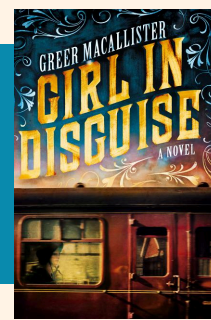
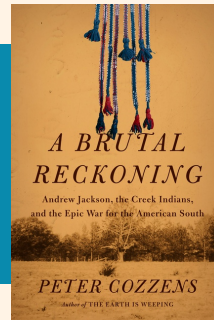
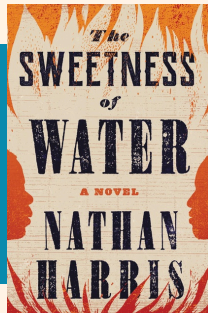
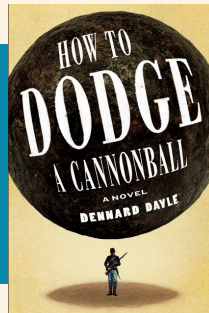
American History

Read a fiction or non-fiction work that focuses on a key event, person or time period in America's past.

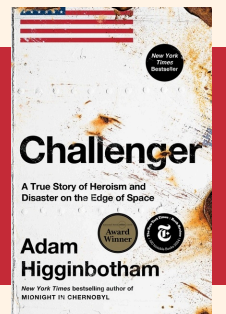
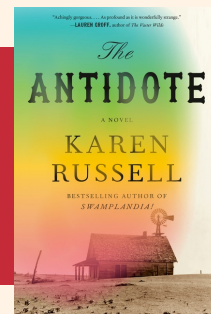
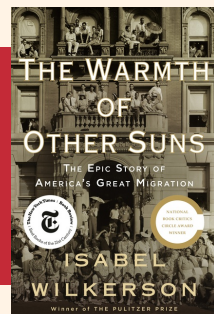
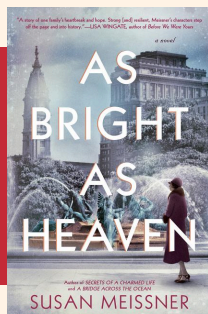
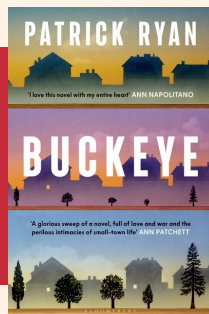
17th & 18th Century



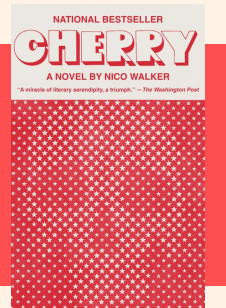
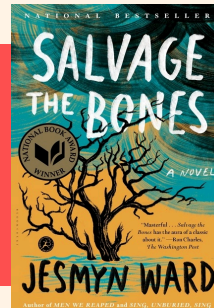
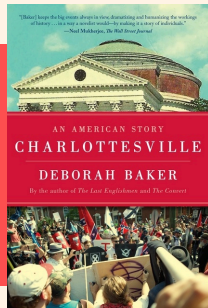
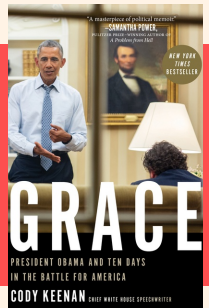
19th Century



20th Century



21st Century



Suggested titles only. You are welcome to read any book that meets the requirements of the badge.

17th & 18th Century

The Frozen River
by Ariel Lawhon
FICTION LAWHON, A.

The Deerfield Massacre: A Surprise Attack, a Forced March, and the Fight for Survival in Early America
by James L. Swanson
US HISTORY/ 18TH CENTURY/ Swanson

Pelican Girls
by Julia Malye
FICTION MALYE, J.

The Road that Made America: A Pilgrim's Journey on the Great Wagon Road
by James Dodson
US HISTORY/ 18TH CENTURY/ Dodson

Caleb's Crossing
by Geraldine Brooks
FICTION BROOKS, G.

The Ride: Paul Revere and the Night That Saved America
by Kostya Kennedy
US HISTORY/ REVOLUTIONARY/ Kennedy

Taking Manhattan: The Extraordinary Events That Created New York and Shaped America
by Russell Shorto
US HISTORY/ COLONIAL/ Shorto

Angelica: For Love and Country in a Time of Revolution
by Molly Beer
US HISTORY/ BIOGRAPHY/ CHURCH Beer

19th Century

How to Dodge a Cannonball
by Dayle Dennard
FICTION DENNARD, D.

The Sweetness of Water
by Nathan Harris
FICTION HARRIS, N.

A Brutal Reckoning: Andrew Jackson, The Creek Indians, and the Epic War for the American South
by Peter Cozzens
US HISTORY 19TH CENTURY Cozzens

Girl in Disguise
by Greer Macallister
FICTION MACALLISTER, G.

Four Against the West: The True Saga of a Frontier Family That Reshaped the Nation—And Created a Legend
by Joe Pappalardo
US HISTORY OLD WEST Pappalardo

From the River to the Sea: The Untold Story of the Railroad War that Made the West
by John Sedgwick
US HISTORY 19TH CENTURY Sedgwick

Ruthless Tide: The Heroes and Villains of the Johnstown Flood, America's Astonishing Gilded Age Disaster
by Al Roker
US HISTORY/ DISASTERS/ Roker

20th Century

Buckeye
by Patrick Ryan
FICTION RYAN, P.

As Bright as Heaven
by Susan Meissner
FICTION MEISSNER, S.

The Warmth of Other Suns
by Isabel Wilkerson
US HISTORY/ 20TH CENTURY/ Wilkerson

The Antidote
by Karen Russell
FICTION RUSSELL, K.

Challenger: a True Story of Heroism and Disaster on the Edge of Space
by Adam Higginbotham
US HISTORY/ DISASTERS/ Higginbotham

The Last House: Or The Age of Oil
by Jessica Shattuck
FICTION SHATTUCK, J.

The Mayor of Maxwell Street
by Avery Cunningham
FICTION CUNNINGHAM, A.

Kent State: Four Dead in Ohio
by Derf Backderf
GRAPHIC NOVELS Backderf

The Two Mrs. Carlyles
by Suzanne Rindell
FICTION RINDELL, S.

The Radar Girls
by Sara Ackerman
FICTION ACKERMAN, S.

21st Century

Grace: President Obama and Ten Days in the Battle for America
by Cody Keenan
US HISTORY/ PRESIDENTS/ OBAMA/ Keenan

Charlottesville: An American Story
by Deborah Baker
US HISTORY/ 21ST CENTURY/ Baker

Salvage the Bones
by Jesmyn Ward
FICTION WARD, J.

Fire on the Horizon: The Untold Story of the Gulf Oil Disaster
by John Konrad
US HISTORY/ DISASTERS/ Konrad

Cherry
by Nico Walker
FICTION WALKER, N.

The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11
by Garrett M. Graff
US HISTORY/ 9/11/ Graff

Pete and Alice in Maine
by Caitlin Shetterly
FICTION SHETTERLY, C.

Operation Pineapple Express: The Incredible Story of a Group of Americans Who Undertook One Last Mission and Honored a Promise in Afghanistan
by Scott Mann
WORLD HISTORY/ MILITARY/ SPECIAL FORCES/ Mann