

The American Experience

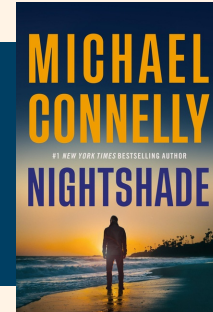
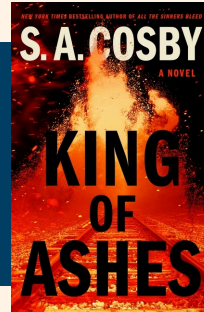
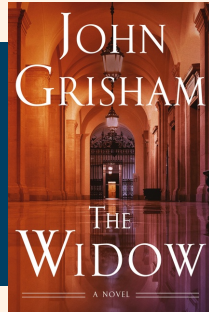
Read Widely 2026



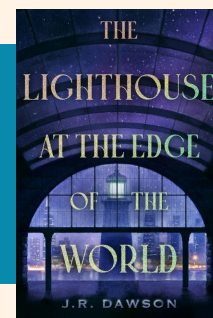
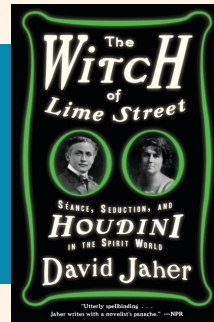
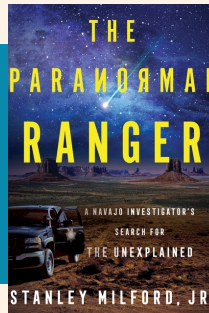
American Mysteries

Read a fiction or non-fiction work that focuses on American cryptids, folklore, ghost stories, mystery writers, paranormal, true crime, or UFOs.

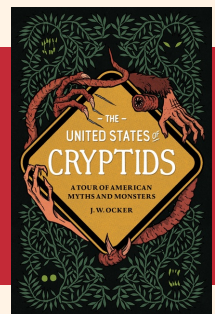
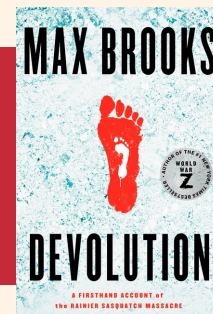
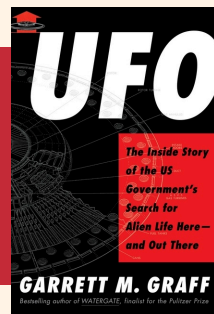
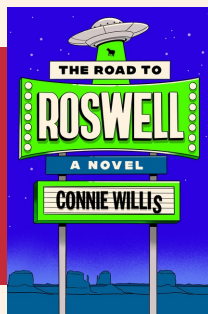
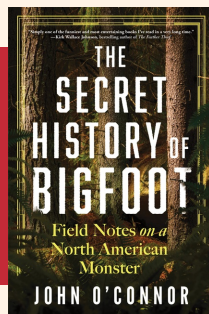
Mystery Writers



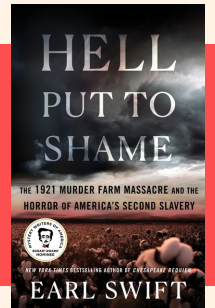
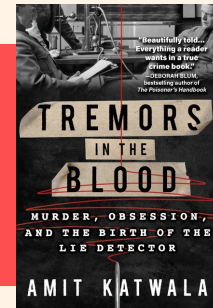
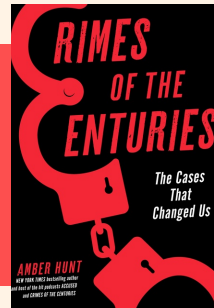
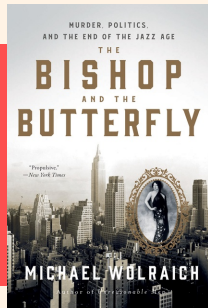
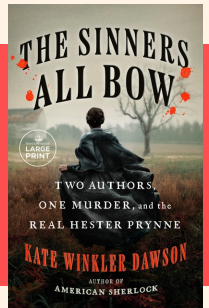
Ghost Stories & Paranormal



Folklore, UFOs & Cryptids



True Crime



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

American Mystery Writers

Jeff Abbott
Ellery Adams
Susan Wittig Albert
Laura Gail Black

Dan Brown
Rita Mae Brown

Mary Higgins Clark
Harlan Coben
Michael Connelly
Patricia Cornwall
S.A. Cosby
Jeffery Deaver
Janet Evanovich
Gillian Flynn
Tess Gerritsen
Sue Grafton
John Grisham
Dashiell Hammett
Lee Hollis
Edgar Allen Poe
Kathy Riechs
Karin Slaughter
P. J. Tracy
Scott Turow

Ghost Stories & Paranormal

The Paranormal Ranger: A Navajo Investigator's Search for the Unexplained by Stanley Milford Jr.
PARANORMAL/ GENERAL/ Milford

Junie by Erin Crosby Eckstine
FICTION Eckstine, E.

The Witch of Lime Street: Seance, Seduction, and Houdini in the Spirit World by David Jaher
US HISTORY/ 20TH/ CENTURY Jaher

The Lighthouse at the Edge of the World by J.R. Dawson
FICTION DAWSON, J.R.

The Bewitching by Silva Moreno-Garcia
FICTION MORENO-GARCIA, S.

The Witch's Orchard by Archer Sullivan
MYSTERY SULLIVAN, A.

Coffin Moon by Keith Rosson
FICTION ROSSON, K.

Listen to Your Sister by Neena Viel
FICTION VIEL, N.

Lincoln's Ghost: Houdini's War on Spiritualism and the Dark Conspiracy Against the American Presidency by Brad Ricca
US HISTORY/ 20TH CENTURY/ Ricca

Folklore, UFOs & Cryptids

The Secret History of Bigfoot: Field Notes on a North American Monster by John O'Connor
PARANORMAL/ CREATURES/ O'Connor

The Road to Roswell by Connie Willis
SCIENCE FICTION Willis, C.

UFO: The Inside Story of the US Government's Search for Alien Life Here—And Out There by Garrett M. Graff
US HISTORY/ 20TH CENTURY/ Graff

Devolution: A Firsthand Account of the Rainier Sasquatch Massacre by Max Brooks
FICTION BROOKS, M.

The United States of Cryptids: A Tour of American Myths and Monsters by J.W. Ocker
PARANORMAL/ GENERAL/ Ocker

The Ghost Lab: How Bigfoot Hunters, Mediums, and Alien Enthusiasts are Wrecking Science by Matthew Hongoltz-Hetling
SCIENCE GENERAL Hongoltz-Hetling

True Crime

The Sinners All Bow: Two Authors, One Murder, and the Real Hester Prynne by Kate Winkler Dawson
TRUE CRIME/ MURDER/ Dawson

The Bishop and the Butterfly: Murder, Politics, and the End of the Jazz Age by Michael Wolraich
TRUE CRIME/ MURDER/ Wolraich

Crimes of the Centuries: The Cases That Changed Us by Amber Hunt
TRUE CRIME/ GENERAL/ Hunt

Tremors in the Blood: Murder, Obsession, and the Birth of the Lie Detector by Amit Katwala
TRUE CRIME/ MURDER/ Katwala

Hell Put to Shame: The 1921 Murder Farm Massacre and the Horror of America's Second Slavery by Earl Swift
TRUE CRIME/ MURDER/ Swift

Hell's Half-Acre: The Untold Story of the Benders, a Serial Killer Family on the American Frontier by Susan Jonusas
TRUE CRIME/ SERIAL KILLERS/ Jonusas