

The RCS Library List of Recommended Nonfiction for Adults

1. 1491 – Mann
2. All Creatures Great and Small – Herriot
3. The Analects of Confucius
4. Animal Liberation – Singer
5. The Art of War – Sunzi
6. The Autobiography of Malcolm X
7. The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin
8. Battle Cry of Freedom – McPherson
9. The Beauty Myth – Wolf
10. The Best and the Brightest – Halberstam
11. Between the World and Me – Coates
12. Black Like Me – Griffin
13. The Boys of Summer – Kahn
14. A Brief History of Time – Hawking
15. Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee – Brown
16. Capitalism and Freedom – Friedman
17. The City of God – Augustine
18. Civilization and Its Discontents – Freud
19. Common Sense – Paine
20. The Communist Manifesto – Marx and Engels
21. Confessions – Saint Augustine
22. The Conscience of a Conservative
– Goldwater
23. The Constitution of the United States
24. Contempt and Pity – Scott
25. The Death and Life of Great Cities – Jacobs
26. Democracy in America – Tocqueville
27. Diet for a Small Planet – Lappe
28. The Double Helix – Watson
29. The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test – Wolfe
30. The Elements of Style – Strunk and White
31. Empires of Light – Jonnes
32. An Essay on the Principle of Population and
Other Writings – Malthus
33. The Essential Chomsky – Chomsky
34. The Face of Battle – Keegan
35. The Federalist Papers
– Hamilton, Madison and Jay
36. The Feminine Mystique – Friedan
37. The Frontier in American History – Turner
38. The General Theory of Employment, Interest,
and Money – Keynes
39. The Golden Bough – Frazer
40. Guns, Germs, and Steel – Diamond
41. The Guns of August – Tuchman
42. The Hero with a Thousand Faces – Campbell
43. Hiroshima – Hersey
44. The Histories – Herodotus
45. The History of the Peloponnesian War
– Thucydides
46. The Holy Bible
47. The Imitation of Christ – Thomas
48. In Cold Blood – Capote
49. Inside the Hotel Rwanda – Kayihura
50. Kon-Tiki – Heyerdahl
51. The Lessons of History – Durant
52. Let Us Now Praise Famous Men
– Agee and Evans
53. The Life of Samuel Johnson – Boswell
54. Lives of the Saints – Butler
55. Man’s Search for Meaning – Frankl
56. Meditations – Marcus Aurelius
57. Memoirs of the Second World War
– Churchill
58. Mere Christianity – Lewis
59. The Naked Ape – Morris
60. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass
– Douglass
61. The Nichomachean Ethics – Aristotle
62. Night – Wiesel
63. A Night to Remember – Lord
64. No god but God – Aslan
65. Notes of a Native Son – Baldwin
66. On Liberty – Mill
67. Orientalism – Said
68. The Origin of Species – Darwin
69. Original Meanings – Rakove
70. The Origins of Totalitarianism – Arendt
71. The Other America – Harrington
72. A People’s History of the United States – Zinn
73. Personal Memoirs – Grant
74. The Phenomenon of Man
– Teilhard de Chardin
75. Pilgrim at Tinker Creek – Dillard
76. The Pilgrim’s Progress – John Bunyan
77. Plutarch’s Lives Vols. 1 & 2 – Plutarch
78. The Politics – Aristotle
79. The Portable Thomas Jefferson
80. The Power Broker – Caro
81. The Prince –Machiavelli
82. Profiles in Courage –Kennedy
83. The Qur’an –Haleem
84. The Republic – Plato
85. The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich – Shirer

86. The Road to Serfdom – Hayek
87. The Second Amendment – Waldman
88. The Screwtape Letters – Lewis
89. Second Treatise of Government – Locke
90. The Selfish Gene – Dawkins
91. Self-Reliance and Other Essays – Emerson
92. The Seven Pillars of Wisdom – Lawrence
93. The Seven Storey Mountain – Merton
94. Silent Spring – Carson
95. The Social Contract – Rousseau
96. The Souls of Black Folk – DuBois
97. The Story of English – McCrum et al.
98. The Story of My Life – Keller
99. The Story of Philosophy – Durant
100. A Summa of the Summa – Aquinas and Kreeft
101. Surely, You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!
– Feynman
102. The Teachings of Don Juan – Castaneda
103. The Travels of Marco Polo – Polo
104. Thus Spoke Zarathustra – Nietzsche
105. Undaunted Courage – Ambrose
106. Understanding Media – McLuhan
107. Unsafe at Any Speed – Nader
108. Up from Slavery – Washington
109. Utopia – More
110. The Vietnam War – Ward and Burns
111. Walden – Thoreau
112. The Wealth of Nations – Smith
113. Wilderness Essays – Muir
114. Wonderful Life – Gould
115. Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance
– Pirsig