

2023 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List



The purpose of the Texas Topaz Reading List is to provide children, teens, and adults with recommended nonfiction titles that stimulate reading for pleasure and personal learning. It is intended for recreational reading and is not designed to support any particular curriculum. Due to the diversity in age range and topics, Texas librarians should consider titles on this list in accordance with their own local collection development policies.

(*) Denotes a unanimous recommendation by the Texas Topaz Committee.

Titles Recommended for Adults

(^) Denotes an enthusiastic recommendation for the audiobook format by the Texas Topaz Adult Sub-Committee.

Asian American Histories of the United States by Catherine Ceniza Choy (Beacon Press, 2022)

**Being Seen: One Deafblind Woman's Fight to End Ableism* by Elsa Sjunneson (Tiller Press, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, Inc., 2021)

Bitch: On the Female of the Species by Lucy Cooke (Basic Books, an imprint of Perseus Books, 2022)

^*Broken Horses: A Memoir* by Brandi Carlile (Crown, an imprint of Random House, 2021)

**Corrections in Ink* by Keri Blakinger (St. Martin's Press, an imprint of St. Martin's Publishing Group, 2022)

Crying in the Bathroom: A Memoir by Erika L. Sánchez (Viking, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2022)

**Cultish: The Language of Fanaticism* by Amanda Montell (HarperWave, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2021)

**Deaf Utopia: A Memoir and a Love Letter to a Way of Life* by Nyle DiMarco with Robert Siebert (William Morrow, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2022)

Downton Shabby: One American's Ultimate DIY Adventure Restoring His Family's English Castle by Hopwood DePree (William Morrow, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2022)

Fly Girl: A Memoir by Ann Hood (W. W. Norton & Company, 2022)

Funny Farm: My Unexpected Life with 600 Rescue Animals by Laurie Zaleski (St. Martin's Press, an imprint of St. Martin's Publishing Group, 2021)

**Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law* by Mary Roach (W. W. Norton & Company, 2021)

Home Made: A Story of Grief, Groceries, Showing Up -- and What We Make When We Make Dinner by Liz Hauck (The Dial Press, an imprint of Random House, 2021)

**How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America* by Clint Smith (Little, Brown and Company, 2021)

**I'm Glad My Mom Died* by Janelle Monáe (Simon & Schuster, 2022)

**Paper Bullets: Two Women Who Risked Their Lives to Defy the Nazis* by Jeffrey H. Jackson (Algonquin Books, 2020)

**Sandy Hook: An American Tragedy and the Battle for Truth* by Elizabeth Williamson (Dutton, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2022)

Seek You: A Journey Through American Loneliness by Kristen Radtke (Pantheon Books, 2021)

^She Memes Well: Essays by Quinta Brunson (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2021)

Slaying the Dragon: A Secret History of Dungeons & Dragons by Ben Riggs (St. Martin's Press, an imprint of St. Martin's Publishing Group, 2022)

The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story by Nikole Hannah-Jones, creator and editor (One World, an imprint of Random House, 2021)

The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams with Gail Hudson (Celadon Books, 2021)

The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race by Walter Isaacson (Simon & Schuster, 2021)

**The Facemaker: A Visionary Surgeon's Battle to Mend the Disfigured Soldiers of World War I* by Lindsey Fitzharris (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2022)

**The Fishermen and the Dragon: Fear, Greed, and a Fight for Justice on the Gulf Coast* by Kirk Wallace Johnson (Viking, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2022)

The Joy of Sweat: The Strange Science of Perspiration by Sarah Everts (W. W. Norton & Company, 2021)

The Last Days of the Dinosaurs: An Asteroid, Extinction, and the Beginning of Our World by Riley Black (St. Martin's Press, an imprint of St. Martin's Publishing Group, 2022)

**The Other Dr. Gilmer: Two Men, a Murder, and an Unlikely Fight for Justice* by Benjamin Gilmer (Ballantine Books, an imprint of Random House, 2022)

The Puzzler: One Man's Quest to Solve the Most Baffling Puzzles Ever, from Crosswords to Jigsaws to the Meaning of Life by A. J. Jacobs (Crown, an imprint of Random House, 2022)

The Quiet Zone: Unraveling the Mystery of a Town Suspended in Silence by Stephen Kurczyk (Dey St., an imprint of William Morrow, 2021)

The Smallest Lights in the Universe: A Memoir by Sara Seager (Crown, an imprint of Random House, 2020)

*^ *The Speckled Beauty: A Dog and His People* by Rick Bragg (Alfred A. Knopf, 2021)

The Trayvon Generation by Elizabeth Alexander (Grand Central Publishing, 2022)

The Vanished Collection by Pauline Baer de Perignon, translation by Natasha Lehrer (New Vessel Press, 2022)

**Trailed: One Woman's Quest to Solve the Shenandoah Murders* by Kathryn Miles (Algonquin Books, 2022)

Trejo: My Life of Crime, Redemption, and Hollywood by Danny Trejo with Donal Logue (Atria Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, Inc., 2021)

*^ *You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey: Crazy Stories about Racism* by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar (Grand Central Publishing, 2021)