

Abolitionism in the United States was the movement before and during the American Civil War to end slavery in the United States. John Brown, Frederick W. Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Tubman were well-known abolitionists.

From 1839 to 1858, a group of female abolitionists from Boston, Massachusetts, edited and published *The Liberty Bell*, a giftbook containing anti-slavery literature. Slavery was abolished in America in 1865. Elizabeth Barrett Browning's transatlantic abolitionist poem 'The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim's Point' was written for *The Liberty Bell*. It appeared in the edition dated 1848, but which went on sale in December 1847. After this first successful publication, in 1857 Barrett Browning submitted a second poem to the same annual, titled 'A Curse for a Nation'.

Abolitionist literature, art, and poetry depicted the life of the slave and became a political tool which the moral suasionists used effectively to sway sentiment toward their position. Nationally, men like John Greenleaf Whittier, who became the poet of the abolitionist movement, and Ezekiel Bigelow, a satirist, used their literary skill to bring the slavery issue to national attention. Perhaps the single most widely read work of literary protest, however, was Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which was published in March, 1852.

Transcendentalism was an idealistic literary and philosophical movement of the mid-19th century. Beginning in New England in 1836, various visionaries, intellectuals, scholars, and writers would come together regularly to discuss spiritual ideas. The Boston newspapers, which advertised their meetings, called the group the **Transcendentalists**.

The Transcendentalists were radical thinkers. They were **nonconformists** - people who do not conform to a generally accepted pattern of thought or action. They rejected common ideas and practices, particularly organized religion. They thought that every individual has a universal soul, referred to as '**The Eternal One**.'

Ralph Waldo Emerson, the idea of the universal soul by stating that '**within man is the soul of the whole; the wise silence; the universal beauty; to which every part and particle is equally related; the eternal ONE.**' (In intro to *American Scholar*) Basically, Emerson is saying that all of the world, its knowledge and splendor, lives within us.

Transcendentalists believed in **intuitive thought**, which is the ability to know something through instinctive feeling rather than conscious reasoning. They valued **self-reliance**, and trust in one's own heart and thoughts. They valued openness, openness to the beauty of the world. Transcendentalists were forceful critics of slavery and gender inequality.

Transcendentalists also placed significant emphasis on **imagination**. Imagination allows the mind to be resourceful, to form new ideas that are not present to the senses. As the writer or reader imagines, he transcends himself. This allows him to move beyond his personal experience, his mind and body, to consider something anew. The ability to imagine can effect change. The Transcendentalists wanted their work to have an altering effect on individuals and on society as a whole. For the Transcendentalists, man needed to live in the world, participate in it, look at it closely, and take action.

Transcendentalism has been directly influenced by Indian religions.

Major figures in the transcendentalist movement were Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Margaret Fuller, and Amos Bronson Alcott. Other prominent transcendentalists included Louisa May Alcott, Charles Timothy Brooks, Orestes Brownson, William Ellery Channing, William Henry Channing, James Freeman Clarke, Christopher Pearse Cranch, John Sullivan Dwight, Convers Francis, William Henry Furness, Frederic Henry Hedge, Sylvester Judd, Theodore Parker, Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, George Ripley, Thomas Treadwell Stone, Jones Very, and Walt Whitman.

EG : Elizabeth Gilbert's bestselling memoir *Eat, Pray, Love*.

Critics:

Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote a novel, *The Blithedale Romance* (1852), satirizing the movement, and based it on his experiences at Brook Farm, a short-lived utopian community founded on transcendental principles.

Edgar Allan Poe wrote a story, "Never Bet the Devil Your Head" (1841), in which he embedded elements of deep dislike for transcendentalism, calling its followers "Frogpondians" after the pond on Boston Common.

Major events in American history

1492 - Discovery of America

1520 - _____

1732 – The First Great Awakeningthe **Evangelical Revival** was a series of [Christian revivals](#) that swept [Britain](#) and its [Thirteen Colonies](#) between the 1730s and 1740s.

1792 - The **first** inauguration of **George Washington** as the **first President** of the United States was held on Thursday, April 30, 1789 on the balcony of Federal Hall in New York City, New York. The inauguration marked the commencement of the **first** four-year term of **George Washington** as **President**.

1808 Slave trade ended

Native writers of – J Hector, Thomas Hethward, Henna Webstor , Sussanna Rose..

Famous writers ☺

Washington Irving

1. "**Rip Van Winkle**" is a short story by American author Washington Irving published in 1819. It follows a Dutch-American villager in colonial America named Rip Van Winkle who falls asleep in the Catskill Mountains and wakes up 20 years later, having missed the American Revolution. Irving wrote it while living in Birmingham, England as part of the collection *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.* The story is set in New York's Catskill Mountains, but Irving later admitted, "When I wrote the story, I had never been on the Catskills."
2. "**The Legend of Sleepy Hollow**" is a horror story by American author Washington Irving, contained in his collection of 34 essays and short stories entitled *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.*. Written while Irving was living abroad in Birmingham, England, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" was first published in 1820. "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" is among the earliest examples of American fiction with enduring popularity, especially during Halloween because of a character known as the Headless Horseman believed to be a Hessian soldier who lost his head to a cannonball in battle.
3. Slamargundy Essay collection
4. History of NewYork

James Fenimore Cooper

1. **Precaution** (1820) is the first novel written by American author James Fenimore Cooper. It was written in imitation of contemporary English domestic novels like those of Jane Austen and Amelia Opie, and it did not meet with contemporary success.
2. ***The Spy: a Tale of the Neutral Ground** was James Fenimore Cooper's second novel, published in 1821 by Wiley & Halsted. This was the earliest United States novel to win wide and permanent fame and may be said to have begun the type of romance which dominated U.S. fiction for 30 years.
3. **The Pioneers, or The Sources of the Susquehanna; a Descriptive Tale** is a historical novel by American writer James Fenimore Cooper. It was the first of five novels published which became known as the *Leatherstocking Tales*. Published in 1823, *The Pioneers* is the fourth novel in terms of the chronology of the novels' plots.

4. ** The ***Leatherstocking Tales*** is a series of five novels by American writer James Fenimore Cooper, set in the eighteenth century era of development in the primarily former Iroquois areas in central New York. Each novel features Natty Bumppo, a frontiersman known to European-American settlers as "Leatherstocking", "The Pathfinder", and "the trapper". Native Americans call him "Deerslayer", "*La Longue Carabine*" ("Long Rifle" in French), and "Hawkeye". The novels recount significant events in Natty Bumppo's life from 1740-1806.^{[3][4]}
5. ********The Last of the Mohicans: A Narrative of 1757*** (1826) is a historical novel by James Fenimore Cooper. It is the second book of the *Leatherstocking Tales* pentalogy and the best known to contemporary audiences.^[1] *The Pathfinder*, published 14 years later in 1840, is its sequel.^[2] *The Last of the Mohicans* is set in 1757, during the French and Indian War (the Seven Years' War), when France and Great Britain battled for control of North America. During this war, both the French and the British used Native American allies, but the French were particularly dependent, as they were outnumbered in the Northeast frontier areas by the more numerous British colonists. The novel is set primarily in the upper New York wilderness, detailing the transport of the two daughters of Colonel Munro, Alice and Cora, to a safe destination at Fort William Henry. Among the caravan guarding the women are the frontiersman Natty Bumppo, Major Duncan Heyward, and the Indians Chingachgook and Uncas, the latter of whom is the novel's title character. These characters are sometimes seen as a microcosm of the budding American society, particularly with regard to their racial composition.^[3]

William Curant Bryant

1. "**Thanatopsis**"----- Meaning 'a consideration of death', the word is derived from the Greek 'thanatos' (death) and 'opsis' (view, sight).^[1] To him who in the love of Nature holds
Communion with her visible forms, she speaks
A various language; for his gayer hours
She has a voice of gladness, and a smile
And eloquence of beauty, and she glides
Into his darker musings, with a mild
And healing sympathy, that steals away
Their sharpness, ere he is aware.
2. "**June**" ---Contemporary critic [Edgar Allan Poe](#) and RW Emerson, on the other hand, praised Bryant and specifically the poem "June" in his essay "[The Poetic Principle](#)":

Edgar Allen Poe

1. "**The Raven**" is a [narrative poem](#) by [American writer Edgar Allan Poe](#). First published in January 1845, the poem is often noted for its musicality, stylized language, and [supernatural](#) atmosphere. The lover, often identified as being a student,^{[1][2]} is lamenting the loss of his love, Lenore. Sitting on a bust of [Pallas](#), the raven seems to further instigate his distress with its constant repetition of the word "Nevermore". The poem makes use of [folk](#), mythological, religious, and [classical](#) references. Poe claimed to have written the poem logically and methodically, intending to create a poem that would appeal to both critical and popular tastes, as he explained in his 1846 follow-up essay, "[The Philosophy of Composition](#)". Poe borrows the complex rhythm and [meter](#) of [Elizabeth Barrett's](#) poem "Lady Geraldine's Courtship", and makes use of [internal rhyme](#) as well as [alliteration](#) throughout. **Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore—
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.
"Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door—
Only this and nothing more."**—*Edgar Allan Poe*
2. "**Al Aaraaf**" is an early poem by American writer [Edgar Allan Poe](#), first published in 1829. It is based on stories from the [Qur'an](#), and tells of the afterlife in a place called [Al Aaraaf](#). At 422 lines, it is Poe's longest poem.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (May 25, 1803 – April 27, 1882)

1. BRAHMA (translation of Bhagavatgita Chapter 2 Slog 19) is one of the poems composed by Ralph Waldo Emerson, an American transcendentalist of the nineteenth century. The form, therefore, is the first of its kind to include Oriental poetical material in the Western verse framework. The central speaker of the poem is Brahma Himself, who according to Hindu philosophers of India, is Omnipotent, Omniscient and Omnipresent. The study of the Vedantic philosophy, the Gita, and the Katha Upanishad is impressed upon the poem very forcefully. Body is for some certain period of time but within the body of man there is soul that is the divine spark, eternal, everlasting and never-ending. It is a part of the Over-Soul Who is the supreme God, the Super Power of the Universe.
2. A Representative Man (1850)
3. **"The American Scholar"** was a speech given by [Ralph Waldo Emerson](#) on August 31, 1837, to the [Phi Beta Kappa Society](#) of [Harvard College](#) at the [First Parish in Cambridge](#) in [Cambridge, Massachusetts](#).
 - We are all fragments, "as the hand is divided into fingers", of a greater creature, which is mankind itself, "a doctrine ever new and sublime."
 - An individual may live in either of two states. In one, the busy, "divided" or "degenerate" state, he does not "possess himself" but identifies with his occupation or a monotonous action; in the other, "right" state, he is elevated to "Man", at one with all mankind.
 - To achieve this higher state of mind, the modern American scholar must reject old ideas and think for him or herself, to become "*Man Thinking*" rather than "a mere thinker, or still worse, the parrot of other men's thinking", "the victim of society", "the sluggish intellect of this continent".
 - "The American Scholar" has an obligation, as "Man Thinking", within this "One Man" concept, to see the world clearly, not severely influenced by traditional/historical views, and to broaden his understanding of the world from fresh eyes, to "defer never to the popular cry."
 - The scholar's education consists of three influences:
 - I. Nature as the most important influence on the mind
 - II. The Past manifest in books
 - III. Action and its relation to experience
 - The last, unnumbered part of the text is devoted to Emerson's view on the "Duties" of the American Scholar who has become the "Man Thinking."

Henry David Thoreau (July 12, 1817 – May 6, 1862) was an American essayist, poet, philosopher, abolitionist, naturalist, tax resister, development critic, surveyor, and historian. A leading transcendentalist,^[2] Thoreau is best known for his book *Walden*, a reflection upon simple living in natural surroundings, and his essay "Civil Disobedience" (originally published as "Resistance to Civil Government"), an argument for disobedience to an unjust state.

1. ***Walden*** (first published as ***Walden; or, Life in the Woods***) (18 parts or chapters)_is a book by noted [transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau](#). The text is a reflection upon simple living in natural surroundings.^[2] The work is part personal declaration of independence, [social experiment](#), voyage of spiritual discovery, [satire](#), and—to some degree—a manual for self-reliance. By immersing himself in nature, Thoreau hoped to gain a more objective understanding of society through personal introspection. [Simple living](#) and [self-sufficiency](#) were Thoreau's other goals, and the whole project was inspired by transcendentalist philosophy, a central theme of the [American Romantic Period](#).

“When I wrote the following pages, or rather the bulk of them, I lived alone, in the woods, a mile from any neighbor, in a house which I had built myself, on the shore of Walden Pond, in Concord, Massachusetts, and earned my living by the labor of my hands only. “

2. ***Resistance to Civil Government (Civil Disobedience)*** is an essay by American [transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau](#) that was first published in 1849. In it, Thoreau argues that individuals should not permit [governments](#) to overrule or atrophy their [consciences](#), and that they have a [duty](#) to avoid allowing such [acquiescence](#) to enable the government to make them the agents of [injustice](#). Thoreau was motivated in part by his disgust with [slavery](#) and the [Mexican–American War](#) (1846–1848).

Nathaniel Hawthorne (July 4, 1804 – May 19, 1864)

1. ***The Scarlet Letter: A Romance***, an 1850 novel, is a work of [historical fiction](#) written by American author [Nathaniel Hawthorne](#).^[1] It is considered his "masterwork".^[2] Set in 17th-century [Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony](#), during the years 1642 to 1649, it tells the story of [Hester Prynne](#), who conceives a daughter through an affair and struggles to create a new life of [repentance](#) and [dignity](#). Throughout the book, Hawthorne explores themes of [legalism](#), [sin](#), and [guilt](#).

In June 1638, in a Puritan Boston, Massachusetts, a crowd gathers to witness the punishment of Hester Prynne, a young woman who has given birth to a baby of unknown parentage. She is required to wear a scarlet "A" on her dress when she is in front of the townspeople to shame her. The letter "A" stands for adulteress, although this is never said explicitly in the novel. Her "punishment" (because adultery was illegal at the time) is to stand on the scaffold for three hours, exposed to public humiliation, and to wear the scarlet "A" for the rest of her life. As Hester approaches the [scaffold](#), many of the women in the crowd are angered by her beauty and quiet dignity. When demanded and cajoled to name the father of her child, Hester refuses. As Hester looks out over the crowd, she notices a small, misshapen man and recognizes him as her long-lost husband, who has been presumed lost at sea. When the husband sees Hester's shame, he asks a man in the crowd about her and is told the story of his wife's adultery. He angrily exclaims that the child's father, the partner in the adulterous act, should also be punished and vows to find the man. He chooses a new name, Roger Chillingworth, to aid him in his plan.

The Reverend John Wilson and the minister of Hester's church, Arthur Dimmesdale, question the woman, but she refuses to name her lover. After she returns to her prison cell, the jailer brings in Roger Chillingworth, a physician, to calm Hester and her child with his roots and herbs. He and Hester have an open conversation regarding their marriage and the fact that they were both in the wrong. Her lover, however, is another matter and he demands to know who it is; Hester refuses to divulge such information. He accepts this, stating that he will find out anyway, and forces her to hide that he is her husband. If she ever reveals him, he warns her, he will destroy the child's father. Hester agrees to Chillingworth's terms although she suspects she will regret it.

Following her release from prison, Hester settles in a cottage at the edge of town and earns a meager living with her needlework, which is of extraordinary quality. She lives a quiet, somber life with her daughter, Pearl, and performs acts of charity for the poor. She is troubled by her daughter's unusual fascination with Hester's scarlet "A". The shunning of Hester also extends to Pearl, who has no playmates or friends except her mother. As she grows older, Pearl becomes capricious and unruly. Her conduct starts rumours, and, not surprisingly, the church members suggest Pearl be taken away from Hester.

Hester, hearing rumors that she may lose Pearl, goes to speak to Governor Bellingham. With him are ministers Wilson and Dimmesdale. Hester appeals to Dimmesdale in desperation, and the minister persuades the governor to let Pearl remain in Hester's care.

Because Dimmesdale's health has begun to fail, the townspeople are happy to have Chillingworth, a newly arrived physician, take up lodgings with their beloved minister. Being in such close contact with Dimmesdale, Chillingworth begins to suspect that the minister's illness is the result of some unconfessed guilt. He applies psychological pressure to the minister because he suspects Dimmesdale is Pearl's father. One evening, pulling the sleeping Dimmesdale's vestment aside, Chillingworth sees a symbol that represents his shame on the minister's pale chest.

Tormented by his guilty conscience, Dimmesdale goes to the square where Hester was punished years earlier. Climbing the scaffold, he admits his guilt but cannot find the courage to do so publicly. Hester, shocked by Dimmesdale's deterioration, decides to obtain a release from her vow of silence to her husband.

Several days later, Hester meets Dimmesdale in the forest and tells him of her husband and his desire for revenge. She convinces Dimmesdale to leave Boston in secret on a ship to Europe where they can start life anew. Renewed by this plan, the minister seems to gain new energy. On Election Day, Dimmesdale gives what is called one of his most inspired sermons. But as the procession leaves the church, Dimmesdale climbs upon the scaffold and confesses his sin, dying in Hester's arms. Later, most witnesses swear that they saw a stigma in the form of a scarlet "A" upon his chest, although some deny this statement. Chillingworth, losing his will for revenge, dies shortly thereafter and leaves Pearl a substantial inheritance.

After several years, Hester returns to her cottage and resumes wearing the scarlet letter. When she dies, she is buried near the grave of Dimmesdale, and they share a simple slate tombstone engraved with an escutcheon described as: "On a field, sable, the letter A, gules" ("On a field, black, the letter A, red").

2. ***The Blithedale Romance*** (1852) is Nathaniel Hawthorne's third major romance. In *Hawthorne* (1879), Henry James called it "the lightest, the brightest, the liveliest" of Hawthorne's "unhumorous fictions."
3. ***The House of the Seven Gables*** is a Gothic novel written beginning in mid-1850 by American author Nathaniel Hawthorne and published in April 1851 by Ticknor and Fields of Boston. The novel follows a New England family and their ancestral home. In the book, Hawthorne explores themes of guilt, retribution, and atonement and colors the tale with suggestions of the supernatural and witchcraft.

Herman Melville (August 1, 1819 – September 28, 1891) was an American novelist, short story writer, and poet of the American Renaissance period. His best known works include *Typee* (1846), a romantic account of his experiences in Polynesian life, and his whaling novel *Moby-Dick* (1851). His work was almost forgotten during his last 30 years.

1. **"Bartleby, the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street"** is a short story by the American writer Herman Melville, first serialized anonymously in two parts in the November and December 1853 issues of *Putnam's Magazine*, and reprinted with minor textual alterations in his *The Piazza Tales* in 1856. In the story, a Wall Street lawyer hires a new clerk who, after an initial bout of hard work, refuses to make copy or do any other task required of him, with the words "I would prefer not to". The lawyer cannot bring himself to remove Bartleby from his premises, and decides instead to move his office, but the new proprietor removes Bartleby to prison, where he perishes.

The narrator, an elderly, unnamed Manhattan lawyer with a comfortable business, already employs two scriveners, Nippers and Turkey, to copy legal documents by hand. An increase in business leads him to advertise for a third, and he hires the forlorn-looking Bartleby in the hope that his calmness will soothe the irascible temperaments of the other two.

2. ***Moby-Dick; or, The Whale*** is an 1851 novel by American writer Herman Melville. The book is sailor Ishmael's narrative of the obsessive quest of Ahab, captain of the whaling ship *Pequod*, for revenge on Moby Dick, the white whale that on the ship's previous voyage bit off Ahab's leg at the knee. A contribution to the literature of the American Renaissance, the work's genre classifications range from late Romantic to early Symbolist. William Faulkner confessed he wished he had written the book himself,^[1] and D. H. Lawrence called it "one of the strangest and most wonderful books in the world" and "the greatest book of the sea ever written".^[2] Its opening sentence, "Call me Ishmael", is among world literature's most famous.

Robert Lee Frost (March 26, 1874 – January 29, 1963)

Poetry collections

- *A Boy's Will*
- *North of Boston*
 - "After Apple-Picking"
 - "The Death of the Hired Man"
 - "Mending Wall"
- *Mountain Interval* (Holt, 1916)
 - "Birches"
 - "Out, Out"
 - "The Oven Bird"
 - "The Road Not Taken"
- *New Hampshire* (Holt, 1923; Grant Richards, 1924)
 - "Fire and Ice"
 - "Nothing Gold Can Stay"
 - "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening"
- **"The Road Not Taken"** is a poem by Robert Frost, published in 1916 as the first poem in the collection *Mountain Interval*. "The Road Not Taken" is a narrative poem. It reads naturally or conversationally, and begins as a kind of photographic depiction of a quiet moment in woods. It consists of four stanzas of 5 lines each. The first line rhymes with the third and fourth, and the second line rhymes with the fifth (a b a b). The meter is basically iambic tetrameter, with each line having four two-syllable feet.

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

- **Apple Picking** was written and published in 1914 in *North of Boston*. It is one of the remarkable nature-poems of Frost written in 42 lines. It is written in the first person and rich in symbolism.

Summary

After a long day's work, the speaker is tired of apple picking. He has felt drowsy and dreamy since the morning when he looked through a sheet of ice lifted from the surface of a water trough. Now he feels tired, feels sleep coming on, but wonders whether it is a normal, end-of-the-day sleep or something deeper.

- **Mending Wall** is a true Robert Frost poem which analyses the nature of human relationship. It opens Frost's second collection of poetry, [North of Boston](#),^[1] published in 1914 by [David Nutt](#), and it has become "one of the most anthologized and analyzed poems in modern literature".^[2] **"Good fences make good neighbours."**
- **Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening** By [Robert Frost](#)

Whose woods these are I think I know.
 His house is in the village though;
 He will not see me stopping here
 To watch his woods fill up with snow.
 My little horse must think it queer
 To stop without a farmhouse near
 Between the woods and frozen lake
 The darkest evening of the year.
 He gives his harness bells a shake
 To ask if there is some mistake.
 The only other sound's the sweep
 Of easy wind and downy flake.
 The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
 But I have promises to keep,
 And miles to go before I sleep,
 And miles to go before I sleep.

Walt Whitman

Democratic poet

- ***Leaves of Grass*** is a poetry collection by the American poet Walt Whitman (1819–1892). With one exception, the poems do not rhyme or follow standard rules for meter and line length. Among the poems in the collection are "[Song of Myself](#)", "[I Sing the Body Electric](#)", and "[Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking](#)". Later editions included Whitman's elegy to the assassinated President Abraham Lincoln, "[When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd](#)".

I celebrate myself, and sing myself,
 And what I assume you shall assume,
 For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.----- [Song of Myself](#)

- ***Passage to India*** –poem. **About the**

Emily Elizabeth Dickinson

- Success is counted sweetest
By those who ne'er succeed.
To comprehend a nectar
Requires sorest need.
- Because I could not stop for Death –
He kindly stopped for me –
The Carriage held but just Ourselves –
And Immortality.

Ernest Miller Hemingway

- The **Lost Generation** was the generation that came of age during World War I. Demographers William Strauss and Neil Howe outlined their Strauss–Howe generational theory using 1883–1900 as birth years for this generation. The term was coined by Gertrude Stein and popularized by Ernest Hemingway, who used it as one of two contrasting epigraphs for his novel *The Sun Also Rises*. Hemingway credits the phrase to Gertrude Stein, who was then his mentor and patron.
- Both Hemingway and Fitzgerald touch on this theme throughout the novels *The Sun Also Rises* and *The Great Gatsby*. Another theme that is common for these authors was the death of the American dream, which is exhibited throughout many of their novels. It is most prominent in *The Great Gatsby*, in which the character Nick Carraway comes to realize the corruption that surrounds him.
- Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954.
- 1. His debut novel, *The Sun Also Rises*, was published in 1926.
- 2. He based *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1940) title taken from John Donne's Meditation XVII
- 3. ***The Old Man and the Sea*** (1952). the story of Santiago, an aging Cuban fisherman who struggles with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream off the coast of Cuba. In 1953, *The Old Man and the Sea* was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, and it was cited by the Nobel Committee as contributing to their awarding of the **Nobel Prize in Literature to Hemingway in 1954**.
 - ✓ "Every day is a new day. It is better to be lucky. But I would rather be exact. Then when luck comes you are ready."
 - ✓ "But man is not made for defeat," he said. "A man can be destroyed but not defeated."
- 4. ***A Farewell to Arms*** set during the Italian campaign of World War I. First published in 1929, it is a first-person account of an American, Frederic Henry, serving as a lieutenant ("tenente") in the ambulance corps of the Italian Army. The title is taken from a poem by the 16th-century English dramatist George Peele. Autobiographical love story.

Mark Twain

William Faulkner called him "the father of American literature".

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (or, in more recent editions, ***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn***) is a novel by Mark Twain, first published in the United Kingdom in December 1884 and in the United States in February 1885. Commonly named among the Great American Novels, the work is among the first in major American literature to be written throughout in vernacular English, characterized by local color regionalism. It is told in the first person by Huckleberry "Huck" Finn, the narrator of two other Twain novels (*Tom Sawyer Abroad* and *Tom Sawyer, Detective*) and a friend of Tom Sawyer. It is a direct sequel to *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

The book is noted for its colorful description of people and places along the Mississippi River. Set in a Southern antebellum society that had ceased to exist about 20 years before the work was published, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is an often scathing satire on entrenched attitudes, particularly racism.

Eugene O'Neill

- Won 4 Pulitzer Awards
 - The Nobel Prize in Literature 1936 was awarded to Eugene O'Neill *"for the power, honesty and deep-felt emotions of his dramatic works, which embody an original concept of tragedy"*.
1. ***The Emperor Jones* (*The Silver Bullet*)** is a 1920 play by American dramatist Eugene O'Neill that tells the tale of Brutus Jones, a resourceful, self-assured African American and a former Pullman porter, who kills another black man in a dice game, is jailed, and later escapes to a small, backward Caribbean island where he sets himself up as emperor.

Characters

Brutus Jones, Emperor

Smithers, a Cockney Trader

An Old Native Woman

Lem, a Native Chief

Soldiers, Adherents of Lem

The Little Formless Fears; Jeff; The Negro Convicts; The Prison Guard; The Planters; The Auctioneer; The Slaves; The Congo Witch-Doctor; The Crocodile God.

2. ***The Hairy Ape*** is a 1922 [expressionist](#) play by American playwright [Eugene O'Neill](#). It is about a brutish, unthinking laborer known as Yank, the protagonist of the play, as he searches for a sense of belonging in a world controlled by the rich. At first, Yank feels secure as he stokes the engines of an ocean liner, and is highly confident in his physical power over the ship's engines and his men.

William Faulkner

Nobel Prize in Literature, 1949

1. ***The Sound and the Fury***: narrative styles, including stream of consciousness. Published in 1929, Faulkner's fourth novel.
2. ***As I Lay Dying*** is a 1930 novel, in the genre of Southern Gothic,^[1] by American author William Faulkner. Faulkner said that he wrote the novel from midnight to 4:00 AM over the course of six weeks and that he did not change a word of it. The title derives from Book XI of Homer's *Odyssey*, wherein Agamemnon tells Odysseus: "As I lay dying, the woman with the dog's eyes would not close my eyes as I descended into Hades." The novel utilizes stream of consciousness writing technique, multiple narrators, and varying chapter lengths.
3. **"A Rose for Emily"** is a short story by American author William Faulkner, first published in the April 30, 1930, issue of *The Forum*.

Edward Albee

1. *The Zoo Story* is a one-act play. His first play, it was written in 1958 and completed in just three weeks. The play explores themes of isolation, loneliness, miscommunication as anathematization, social disparity and dehumanization in a materialistic world. Its prequel, "Homelife" written in 2004, however, can only be produced as a part of "Edward Albee's at Home at the Zoo".

Plot summary

This one-act play concerns two characters, Peter and Jerry, who meet on a park bench in New York City's Central Park. Peter is a wealthy publishing executive with a wife, two daughters, two cats, and two parakeets. Jerry is an isolated and disheartened man, desperate to have a meaningful conversation with another human being. He intrudes on Peter's peaceful state by interrogating him and forcing him to listen to stories about his life and the reason behind his visit to the zoo. The action is linear, unfolding in front of the audience in "real time". The elements of ironic humor and unrelenting dramatic suspense are brought to a climax when Jerry brings his victim down to his own savage level.

Eventually, Peter has had enough of his strange companion and tries to leave. Jerry begins pushing Peter off the bench and challenges him to fight for his territory. Unexpectedly, Jerry pulls a knife on Peter, and then drops it as initiative for Peter to grab. When Peter holds the knife defensively, Jerry charges him and impales himself on the knife. Bleeding on the park bench, Jerry finishes his *zoo story* by bringing it into the immediate present: "Could I have planned all this. No... no, I couldn't have. But I think I did." Horrified, Peter runs away from Jerry, whose dying words, "Oh...my...God", are a combination of scornful mimicry and supplication.

2. *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* is a full-length play written in 2000 which opened on Broadway in 2002.

Characters

- Stevie Gray — the wife of Martin who, until Sylvia, had been his one and only love
- Martin Gray — a 50-year-old award-winning architect who falls in love with a goat
- Billy Gray — Stevie and Martin's gay, emotionally sensitive, 17-year-old son
- Ross Tuttle — a family friend and host of a television program

Plot

Scene 1

The play opens with Martin and Stevie in their suburban living room on his 50th birthday. They prepare for a television interview by their friend Ross, but Martin is distracted and cannot remember anything. Stevie casually asks Martin about a woman's business card in his pocket and his odd scent. Martin denies having an affair with a woman, but confesses to falling in love with a goat named Sylvia. Stevie laughs it off, thinking it is a joke. Stevie leaves when Ross arrives. Attempting to celebrate Martin on his show for being the youngest architect to win the [Pritzker Prize](#) as well as being chosen to design a multi-billion dollar city, Ross gets frustrated at Martin's inability to concentrate on the interview. Martin confides to Ross that the source of his absent-mindedness is his affair with Sylvia, which began during his search for a country home. Amazed that Martin could fall in love with anyone but Stevie, Ross asks repeatedly, "Who is Sylvia?" When shown her photo, Ross screams that Sylvia is a goat.

Scene 2

Stevie confronts Martin about a letter Ross wrote regarding Martin's affair and Sylvia's identity. Billy is shocked, crying as he flees to his room. In this scene, he enters and exits sporadically. Stevie reads the letter

aloud and then recounts the normalcy of her life before she opened it. She realizes that Martin was telling the truth in Scene 1 and that she was right to worry about the business card and the odd scent. The card belongs to a member of a support group for bestiality. Martin discloses that members seek animal company as a coping mechanism. For him, Sylvia is not just an animal; she has a soul and reciprocates his love. During his explanations, Stevie breaks various objects and overturns furniture. Finally, she exits, vowing revenge.

Scene 3

Billy enters the ruined living room where Martin remains. Billy remarks that Martin and Stevie are good people and are better than most of his classmates' parents. However, he begins crying once he realizes that Martin's bestiality had torn his normal, happy family beyond repair. He then proclaims his love and kisses Martin. Ross comes in and witnesses Billy's kiss. Despite being initially outraged, Martin hugs Billy to comfort him. Martin defends the kiss to a contemptuous Ross, mentioning that a friend had gotten an erection from having his baby on his lap, heavily implying that the friend was Ross. When Ross becomes disgusted, Martin challenges his judgement and objects to his interference with his family. Ross justifies his letter, stating Martin's actions would have brought bad publicity. Stevie returns, dragging a dead goat. She has killed Sylvia because she could not stand the idea that Sylvia loved Martin as much as Stevie did. Ross freezes, Billy cries, and Martin breaks down.

3. ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*** is a play by Edward Albee first staged in 1962. It examines the complexities of the marriage of a middle-aged couple, Martha and George. Late one evening, after a university faculty party, they receive an unwitting younger couple, Nick and Honey, as guests, and draw them into their bitter and frustrated relationship.

The play is in three acts, normally taking a little less than three hours to perform, with two 10-minute intermissions. The title is a pun on the song "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" from Walt Disney's *Three Little Pigs* (1933), substituting for the name of the celebrated English author Virginia Woolf. Martha and George repeatedly sing this version of the song throughout the play.

Arthur Miller

Among his most popular plays are *All My Sons* (1947), *Death of a Salesman* (1949), *The Crucible* (1953) and *A View from the Bridge* (1955, revised 1956). He also wrote several screenplays and was most noted for his work on *The Misfits* (1961).

The drama *Death of a Salesman* has been numbered on the short list of finest American plays in the 20th century alongside Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night* and Tennessee Williams's *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

1. *Death of a Salesman* ----William "Willy" Loman (Achan) Linda Loman(Ma) Biff Loman and Harold "Happy" Loman. **Charley** kind and understanding neighbor. **Bernard**: Charley's son. **Uncle Ben**: Willy's older brother. **Howard Wagner**: Willy's boss. **Jenny**: Charley's secretary.

Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald (September 24, 1896 – December 21, 1940) was an American writer, whose works illustrate the Jazz Age.

Fitzgerald is considered a member of the "Lost Generation" of the 1920s. He finished four novels: *This Side of Paradise*, *The Beautiful and Damned*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *Tender Is the Night*. A fifth, unfinished novel, *The Last Tycoon*, was published posthumously. Novels

- *This Side of Paradise* (1920)
- *The Beautiful and Damned* (1922)
- *The Great Gatsby* (1925)
- *Tender Is the Night* (1934)
- *The Last Tycoon* (1941), reissued under the original title *The Love of The Last Tycoon* in 1993.

Novellas

- *The Diamond as Big as the Ritz* (1922) (in *Tales of the Jazz Age*)
- *May Day* (1922) (in *Tales of the Jazz Age*)
- *The Rich Boy* (1926) (in *All the Sad Young Men*)

Henry James

1. ***The Portrait of a Lady*** is a novel by Henry James. *The Portrait of a Lady* is the story of a spirited young American woman, Isabel Archer, who, in "confronting her destiny", finds it overwhelming. She inherits a large amount of money and subsequently becomes the victim of Machiavellian scheming by two American expatriates.

Plot summary

Isabel Archer, originally from Albany, New York, is invited by her maternal aunt, Lydia Touchett, to visit Lydia's rich husband, Daniel, at his estate near London, following the death of Isabel's father. There, Isabel meets her uncle, her friendly invalid cousin Ralph Touchett, and the Touchetts' robust neighbour, Lord Warburton.

Isabel later declines Warburton's sudden proposal of marriage. She also rejects the hand of Caspar Goodwood, the charismatic son and heir of a wealthy Boston mill owner. Although Isabel is drawn to Caspar, her commitment to her independence precludes such a marriage, which she feels would demand the sacrifice of her freedom.

The elder Touchett grows ill and, at the request of his son, leaves much of his estate to Isabel upon his death. With her large legacy, Isabel travels the Continent and meets an American expatriate, Gilbert Osmond, in Florence. Although Isabel had previously rejected both Warburton and Goodwood, she accepts Osmond's proposal of marriage, unaware that it has been actively promoted by the accomplished but untrustworthy Madame Merle, another American expatriate, whom Isabel had met at the Touchetts' estate.

Isabel and Osmond settle in Rome, but their marriage rapidly sours due to Osmond's overwhelming egotism and lack of genuine affection for his wife. Isabel grows fond of Pansy, Osmond's presumed daughter by his first marriage, and wants to grant her wish to marry Edward Rosier, a young art collector.

The snobbish Osmond would prefer that Pansy accept the proposal of Warburton, who had previously proposed to Isabel. Isabel suspects, however, that Warburton may just be feigning interest in Pansy to get close to Isabel again, and the conflict creates even more strain within the unhappy marriage.

Isabel then learns that Ralph is dying at his estate in England and prepares to go to him for his final hours, but Osmond selfishly opposes this plan. Meanwhile, Isabel learns from her sister-in-law that Pansy is actually the daughter of Madame Merle, who had had an adulterous relationship with Osmond for several years.

Isabel pays a final visit to Pansy, who desperately begs her to return someday, which Isabel reluctantly promises to do. She then leaves, without telling her spiteful husband, to comfort the dying Ralph in England, where she remains until his death.

Goodwood encounters her at Ralph's estate, and begs her to leave Osmond and come away with him. He passionately embraces and kisses her, but Isabel flees. Goodwood seeks her out the next day but is told she has set off again for Rome.

The ending is ambiguous, and the reader is left to imagine whether Isabel returned to Osmond to suffer out her marriage in noble tragedy (perhaps for Pansy's sake), or she is going to rescue Pansy and leave Osmond.

2. *The Wings of the Dove* is a 1902 novel by [Henry James](#). It tells the story of Milly Theale, an American [heiress](#) stricken with a serious disease, and her effect on the people around her. Some of these people befriend Milly with honourable [motives](#), while others are more [self-interested](#).

Kate Croy and Merton Densher are two betrothed Londoners who desperately want to marry but have very little money. Kate is constantly put upon by family troubles, and is now living with her domineering aunt, Maud Lowder. Into their world comes Milly Theale, an enormously rich young American woman who had previously met and fallen in love with Densher, although she has never revealed her feelings. Her travelling companion and confidante, Mrs. Stringham, is an old friend of Maud. Kate and Aunt Maud welcome Milly to London, and the American heiress enjoys great social success.

With Kate as a companion, Milly goes to see an eminent physician, Sir Luke Strett, because she worries that she is suffering from an incurable disease. The doctor is noncommittal but Milly fears the worst. Kate suspects that Milly is deathly ill. After the trip to America where he had met Milly, Densher returns to find the heiress in London. Kate wants Densher to pay as much attention as possible to Milly, though at first he doesn't quite know why. Kate has been careful to conceal from Milly (and everybody else) that she and Densher are engaged.

With the threat of serious illness hanging over her, Milly decides to travel to [Venice](#) with Mrs. Stringham. Aunt Maud, Kate and Densher follow her. At a party Milly gives in her Venice *palazzo* (the older [Palazzo Barbaro](#), called "Palazzo Leporelli" in the novel), Kate finally reveals her complete plan to Densher: he is to marry Milly so that, after her presumably soon-to-occur death, he will inherit the money they can marry on. Densher had suspected this was Kate's idea, and he demands that she consummate their affair before he will go along with her plan.

Aunt Maud and Kate return to London while Densher remains with Milly. Unfortunately, the dying girl learns from a former suitor of Kate's about the plot to get her money. She withdraws from Densher and her condition deteriorates. Densher sees her one last time before he leaves for London, where he eventually receives news of Milly's death. Milly does leave him a large amount of money despite everything. But Densher does not accept the money, and he will not marry Kate unless she also refuses the bequest. Conversely, if Kate chooses the money instead of him, Densher offers to make the bequest over to her in full. The lovers part on the novel's final page with a cryptic exclamation from Kate: "We shall never be again as we were!"

3. **"The Aspern Papers"** (1888) - Lies and secrets, Venice and treachery. An old woman guards a clutch of love letters from a long-dead poet; an editor wants them and will do almost anything to get them. James wrote many stories about writers and artists, and thought so hard about the relation of art and life that he burned many of his own letters and hoped that he would have no biographer. This story will make anybody who does write about him wonder about the claims of privacy and the inevitability of betrayal.
4. *What Maisie Knew* (1897) - One reviewer said this novel was fully as indecent as if it had been written in French. It's the first important novel in English to turn on a child custody case, and more timely now than ever. This family is blended in all the wrong ways, and little Maisie—whose age is never specified—has to puzzle it all out.

5. *The Ambassadors* (1903) - James' own favorite among his works, and a book consciously based upon a cliché, the old idea that as soon as an American arrives in Paris his whole set of moral beliefs and practices will immediately fall to pieces. Yet suppose it's all for the best? For with Puritanism in tatters, just think about the possibilities for growth and change...

John Updike

- Rabbit novels. *Rabbit, Run* (1960) *Rabbit Redux* (1971) *Rabbit Is Rich* (1981) *Rabbit at Rest* (1990)
- Rabbit Angstrom: *The Four Novels* (1995) *Rabbit Remembered* (a novella in the collection *Licks of Love*) (2001)

John Steinbeck

- Nobel Prize in Literature 1962
 - He is widely known for the comic novels *Tortilla Flat* (1935) and *Cannery Row* (1945), the multi-generation epic *East of Eden* (1952), and the novellas *Of Mice and Men* (1937) and *The Red Pony* (1937).
 - The Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939) is considered Steinbeck's masterpiece and part of the American literary canon. In the first 75 years after it was published, it sold 14 million copies.
1. *The Grapes of Wrath* - an American realist novel published in 1939. Set during the Great Depression, the novel focuses on the Joads, a poor family of tenant farmers driven from their Oklahoma home by drought, economic hardship, agricultural industry changes, and bank foreclosures forcing tenant farmers out of work. Due to their nearly hopeless situation, and in part because they are trapped in the Dust Bowl, the Joads set out for California. Along with thousands of other "Okies", they seek jobs, land, dignity, and a future.

Saul Bellow

Nobel Prize in Literature 1976

1. The Adventures of Augie March (1953)

This is the novel in which Bellow found his voice. Augie, its picaresque hero, declares himself “a Columbus of those near-at-hand”, by which he means a discoverer of new fictional territory, since he himself narrates his adventures. The “reality instructors” and “Machiavellis of small street and neighbourhood” that Augie delights in portraying, most of them Jewish, come from Bellow’s childhood and youth in immigrant Chicago. The freedom he seeks from their “get real” outlook is a freedom Bellow himself sought. “Look at me!” Augie cries in the final paragraph, “going everywhere”; by which he means, as Philip Roth puts it, “going where his pedigreed betters wouldn’t have believed he had any right to go”. It is not only those near-at-hand that Augie depicts. Bravura episodes are set in Mexico, in Paris, in Depression-era boxcars (“the jointed spine of the train racing and swerving, the steels, rusts, bloodlike paints extended space after space”). Chief among reality instructors is Augie’s brother Simon, a thinly fictionalised portrait of Bellow’s brother Maury, “the totally American brother,” the totally Chicago brother. “Maury overpowered me,” Bellow later confessed, “and in a sense he led me to write *The Adventures of Augie March*.”

2. Herzog (1964)

“Dear Doctor Professor, I should like to know what you mean by the expression ‘the fall into the quotidian’.

When did this fall occur? Where were we standing when it happened?” This urgent appeal, addressed to Martin Heidegger, comes from Moses Herzog, in the grip of mania. Like other letters Moses writes (to Nietzsche, Spinoza, Governor Stevenson, President Eisenhower, Freud, God, his doctor, his shrink) it is never sent. Moses is an intellectual historian, author of a book entitled *Romanticism and Christianity*, and his letters overflow with erudite allusion and reflection. Far from limiting the novel’s appeal, the letters helped to account for its commercial success, sparked by the approving attention they received from reviewers. *Herzog* spent 42 weeks on the bestseller lists and sold 142,000 in hardback. That Herzog’s learning does him no good may also help to account for the novel’s appeal. When put to the test – betrayed by wife and best friend – the lessons of high culture simply don’t apply. “That’s where the comedy comes from,” Bellow writes. “What do you propose to do now your wife has taken a lover?” Herzog asks. “Pull Spinoza from the shelf and look into what he says about adultery?” Where was Spinoza when Moses married a woman who really does “eat green salad and drink human blood”? Where was he when her lover smarmed his way into Herzog’s confidence? Moses comes to terms with the reality of his situation over the course of an artfully plotted recovery, both moving and funny. In addition, there are brilliant scenes from Herzog’s Montreal childhood, as memorable and autobiographical as anything Bellow ever wrote.

Tennessee Williams

- **The Glass Menagerie** (1944), ---Amanda Wingfield, Tom Wingfield, Laura Wingfield, Jim O'Connor, Mr. Wingfield.
- **A Streetcar Named Desire**(1947)----- After the loss of her family home, Belle Reve, to creditors, Blanche DuBois travels from the small town of Laurel, Mississippi, to the New Orleans French Quarter to live with her younger, married sister, Stella, and brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski. Blanche is in her thirties and, with no money, has nowhere else to go.

Harper Lee

To Kill a Mockingbird is a novel published in 1960. The story takes place during three years (1933–35) of the [Great Depression](#) in the fictional "tired old town" of Maycomb, Alabama, the seat of Maycomb County. It focuses on six-year-old Jean Louise Finch (nicknamed Scout), who lives with her older brother, Jeremy (nicknamed Jem), and their widowed father, Atticus, a middle-aged lawyer. Jem and Scout befriend a boy named Dill, who visits Maycomb to stay with his aunt each summer.

Truman Capote *In Cold Blood*

Joseph Heller

Catch-22 is a satirical novel by American author Joseph Heller. He began writing it in 1953; the novel was first published in 1961. Often cited as one of the most significant novels of the twentieth century,^[2] it uses a distinctive non-chronological third-person omniscient narration, describing events from the points of view of different characters. The separate storylines are out of sequence so the timeline develops along with the plot.

The novel is set during World War II, from 1942 to 1944. It mainly follows the life of Captain John Yossarian, a U.S. Army Air Forces B-25 bombardier. Most of the events in the book occur while the fictional 256th Squadron is based on the island of Pianosa, in the Mediterranean Sea, west of Italy. The novel looks into the

experiences of Yossarian and the other airmen in the camp, who attempt to maintain their sanity while fulfilling their service requirements so that they may return home.

Plot

The development of the novel can be split into segments. The first (chapters 1–11) broadly follows the story fragmented between characters, but in a single chronological time in 1944. The second (chapters 12–20) flashes back to focus primarily on the "Great Big Siege of Bologna" before once again jumping to the chronological 'present' of 1944 in the third part (chapter 21–25). The fourth (chapters 26–28) flashes back to the origins and growth of Milo's syndicate, with the fifth part (chapter 28–32) returning again to the narrative present but keeping to the same tone of the previous four. The sixth and final part (chapter 32 on) remains in the story's present, but takes a much darker turn and spends the remaining chapters focusing on the serious and brutal nature of war and life in general.^[3] Previously the reader had been cushioned from experiencing the full horror of events, but in the final section, the events are laid bare. The horror begins with the attack on the undefended Italian mountain village, with the following chapters involving despair (Doc Daneeka and the Chaplain), disappearance in combat (Orr and Clevinger), disappearance caused by the army (Dunbar) or death of most of Yossarian's friends (Nately, McWatt, Mudd, Kid Sampson, Dobbs, Chief White Halfoat and Hungry Joe), culminating in the unspeakable horrors of Chapter 39, in particular the rape and murder of Michaela, who represents pure innocence.^[3] In Chapter 41 the full details of the gruesome death of Snowden are finally revealed. Despite this, the novel ends on an upbeat note with Yossarian learning of Orr's miraculous escape to Sweden and Yossarian's pledge to follow him there.

Louisa Alcott

Louisa May Alcott (November 29, 1832 – March 6, 1888) was an American novelist and poet best known as the author of the novel *Little Women* (1868) and its sequels *Little Men* (1871) and *Jo's Boys* (1886).^[1] Raised by her transcendentalist parents, Abigail May and Amos Bronson Alcott in New England, she also grew up among many of the well-known intellectuals of the day such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry David Thoreau and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

- *Little Women*

Plot :Four teenaged sisters and their mother, Marmee, live in a new neighborhood (loosely based on Concord) in Massachusetts in genteel poverty. Having lost all his money, their father is acting as a pastor, miles from home, involved in the American Civil War. The women face their first Christmas without him. Meg and Jo March, the elder two, have to work in order to support the family: Meg teaches a nearby family of four children; Jo assists her aged great-aunt March, a wealthy widow living in a mansion, Plumfield. Beth, too timid for school is content to stay at home and help with housework; Amy is still at school. Meg is beautiful and traditional, Jo is a tomboy who writes; Beth is a peacemaker and a pianist; Amy is an artist who longs for elegance and fine society.

Jo is impulsive and quick to anger. One of her challenges is trying to control her anger, a challenge that her mother experiences. She advises Jo to speak with forethought before leaving to travel to Washington, where her husband has pneumonia.

Their neighbour, Mr Laurence, who is charmed by Beth, gives her a piano. Beth contracts scarlet fever after spending time with a poor family where three children die. Jo tends Beth in her illness. Beth recovers, but never fully. As a precaution, Amy is sent to live with Aunt March, replacing Jo after Beth recovers.

Jo has success earning money with her writing. Meg spends two weeks with friends, where there are parties for the girls to dance with boys and improve social skills. Theodore 'Laurie' Laurence, Mr. Laurence's grandson, is

invited to one of the dances, as her friends incorrectly think Meg is in love with him. Meg is more interested in John Brooke, Laurie's young tutor. Brooke goes to Washington to help Mr. March. While with the March parents, Brooke confesses his love for Meg. They are pleased but consider Meg too young to be married. Brooke agrees to wait but [enlists](#) and serves a year or so in the war. After he is wounded, he returns to find work so he can buy a house ready for when he marries Meg. Laurie goes off to college, having become smitten by Jo.

Three years later, Meg and John marry and learn how to live together. When they have twins, Meg is a devoted mother but John begins to feel left out. Laurie graduates from college, having put in effort to do well in his last year with Jo's prompting. He realises that he has fallen in love with Jo. Sensing his feelings, Jo confides in Marmee, telling her that she loves Laurie but as she would love a brother and that she could not love him romantically. Laurie proposes marriage to her and she turns him down.

Jo decides she needs a break, and spends six months with a friend of her mother in New York City, serving as governess for her two children. The family runs a boarding house. She takes German lessons with Professor Bhaer, who lives in the house. He has come to America from Berlin to care for the orphaned sons of his sister. For extra money, Jo writes stories without a moral, which disappoints Bhaer. Amy goes on a European tour with her aunt. Laurie and his grandfather also go to Europe. Beth's health has seriously deteriorated. Jo devotes her time to the care of her dying sister. Laurie encounters Amy in Europe. With the news of Beth's death, they meet for consolation and their romance grows. Amy's aunt will not allow Amy to return with just Laurie and his grandfather, so they marry before returning home from Europe.

Professor Bhaer arrives at the Marches' and stays for two weeks. On his last day, he proposes to Jo. Aunt March dies, leaving Plumfield to Jo. She and Bhaer turn the house into a school for boys. They have two sons of their own, and Amy and Laurie have a daughter. At apple-picking time, Marmee celebrates her 60th birthday at Plumfield, with her husband, her three surviving daughters, their husbands, and her five grandchildren.

Christopher Hitchens

- ***God Is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything*** is a 2007 book by Anglo-American author and journalist Christopher Hitchens, in which he makes a case against organized religion. It was published by Atlantic Books in the United Kingdom as ***God Is Not Great: The Case Against Religion***.

His commentary focuses mainly on the Abrahamic religions, although it also touches on other religions, such as Hinduism and Buddhism.

House Made of Dawn---*House Made of Dawn* is a 1968 novel by N. Scott Momaday, widely credited as leading the way for the breakthrough of Native American literature into the mainstream. It was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1969, and has also been noted for its significance in Native American Anthropology.

Plot summary

Part I: The Longhair

House Made of Dawn begins with the [protagonist](#), Abel, returning to his [reservation](#) in [New Mexico](#) after fighting in World War II. The war has left him emotionally devastated and he arrives too drunk to recognize his grandfather, Francisco. Now an old man with a lame leg, Francisco had earlier been a respected hunter and participant in the village's religious ceremonies. He raised Abel after the death of Abel's mother and older brother, Vidal. Francisco instilled in Abel a sense of native traditions and values, but the war and other events severed Abel's connections to that world of spiritual and physical wholeness and connectedness to the land and its people, a world known as a "house made of dawn."

After arriving in the village, Abel attains a job through Father Olguin chopping wood for Angela St. John, a rich white woman who is visiting the area to bathe in the mineral waters. Angela seduces Abel to distract herself from her own unhappiness, but also because she senses an animal-like quality in Abel. She promises to help him leave the reservation to find better means of employment. Possibly as a result of this affair, Abel realizes that his return to the reservation has been unsuccessful. He no longer feels at home and he is confused. His turmoil becomes clearer when he is beaten in a game of horsemanship by a local albino Indian named Juan Reyes, described as "the white man." Deciding Juan is a witch, Abel stabs him to death outside of a bar. Abel is then found guilty of murder and sent to jail.

Part II: The Priest of the Sun

Part II takes place in Los Angeles, California six and a half years later. Abel has been released from prison and unites with a local group of Indians. The leader of the group, Reverend John Big Bluff Tosamah, Priest of the Sun, teases Abel as a "longhair" who is unable to assimilate to the demands of the modern world. However, Abel befriends a man named Ben Benally from a reservation in New Mexico and develops an intimate relationship with Milly, a kind, blonde social worker. However, his overall situation has not improved and Abel ends up drunk on the beach with his hands, head, and upper body beaten and broken. Memories run through his mind of the reservation, the war, jail, and Milly. Abel eventually finds the strength to pick himself up and he stumbles across town to the apartment he shares with Ben.

Part III: The Night Chanter

Ben puts Abel on a train back to the reservation and narrates what has happened to Abel in Los Angeles. Life had not been easy for Abel in the city. First, he was ridiculed by Reverend Tosamah during a poker game with the Indian group. Abel is too drunk to fight back. He remains drunk for the next two days and misses work. When he returns to his job, the boss harasses him and Abel quits. A downward spiral begins and Abel continues to get drunk every day, borrow money from Ben and Milly, and laze around the apartment. Fed up with Abel's behavior, Ben throws him out of the apartment. Abel then seeks revenge on Martinez, a corrupt policeman who robbed Ben one night and hit Abel across the knuckles with his big stick. Abel finds Martinez and is almost beaten to death. While Abel is in the hospital recovering, Ben calls Angela who visits him and revives his spirit, just as he helped revive her spirit years ago, by reciting a story about a bear and a maiden which incidentally matches an old Navajo myth.

Part IV: The Dawn Runner

- Abel returns to the reservation in New Mexico to take care of his grandfather, who is dying. His grandfather tells him the stories from his youth and stresses the importance of staying connected to his people's traditions. When the time comes, Abel dresses his grandfather for burial and smears his own body with ashes. As the dawn breaks, Abel begins to run. He is participating in a ritual his grandfather told him about—the race of the dead. As he runs, Abel begins to sing for himself and Francisco. He is coming back to his people and his place in the world.

Nikki Giovanni

One of the world's most well-known African-American poets

The Nikki Giovanni Poetry Collection. Additionally, she has been named as one of Oprah Winfrey's 25 "Living Legends"

- **Black Feeling Black Talk**

Don DeLillo.

Underworld is a [novel](#) published in [1997](#) by [Don DeLillo](#). It was nominated for the [National Book Award](#), was a best-seller, and is one of DeLillo's better-known novels.

Cormac McCarthy's 'The Road'