

Moore, Wes

The Work: the Search for a Life That Matters (2014)

Delinquent-turned-Oxford scholar, Moore picks up the story following the events of his best-seller, *The Other Wes Moore*. Mr. Moore traces his search for a meaningful life while in Afghanistan, on Wall Street and in the White House. He shares the powerful lessons about self-discovery, service, and risk-taking that led him to a new definition of success for our times. See also, *The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates* (2010). Available on audio.

Relin, David Oliver

Second Suns: Two Trailblazing Doctors and Their Quest to Cure Blindness, One Pair of Eyes at a Time (paperback version 2017)

An account of Doctors Sanduk Ruit and Geoffrey Tabin and their inspirational Himalayan Cataract Project. The doctors take the clinic on their backs to high remote mountainous areas of the world, such as Nepal, Ethiopia, Ghana, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, and Rwanda, where people have become victims of cataracts due to poor nutrition and proximity to the sun. Sanduk Ruit created the innovative, low-cost surgical technique which treats cataracts, the biggest cause of preventable blindness. Featured on *60 Minutes*. Available on audio.

Smiley, Tavis with David Ritz

What I Know for Sure: My Story of Growing Up in America (2006)

An engaging and compelling, "down-home tale" chronicling how one survives, learns, grows, and ultimately thrives in a discordant world. See also, *The Rich and the Rest of Us: a Poverty Manifesto* (2012).

Stevenson, Bryan

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption (2014)

A powerful lawyer tells of his experiences representing juveniles and adults on death row and in prison for life. Stevenson is founder and director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama – <https://eji.org>. Available on audio.

Vance, J.D.

Hillbilly Elegy (2016)

From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. A #1 *New York Times Bestseller*, this moving memoir is the story of how upward mobility really feels and is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of this country. Available on audio.

Wulf, Andrea

The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World (2015)

One of the most famous men of his time, rivers, lakes, mountains, towns and counties have been named in his honor. However, we have largely forgotten this scientific genius and adventurous explorer whose writings forever influenced the field of natural science, and inspired Darwin, Wordsworth, Goethe, Thoreau, and Muir. He counted Thomas Jefferson and Simon Bolivar among his friends. Wulf guides you through his eclectic life, the revolutionary times he lived in, and his ongoing legacy. Available on audio.



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FICTION

Beauregard, Mark

The Whale: A Love Story (2016)

Why did Herman Melville dedicate *Moby Dick* to Nathaniel Hawthorne? Read about the time they spent together in the Berkshires in the early 1850s and discover one perspective why in this intriguing story about the relationship between these two famous American authors. Available on audio.

Russo, Richard

Everybody's Fool (2016)

Small town legend Donald "Sully" Sullivan, the archetypal bad boy with a big heart, and friends return in Richard Russo's long-awaited follow-up to *Nobody's Fool* (1993). Pull up a barstool at The White Horse Tavern and get caught up with all the local gossip. Although a decade has passed, some things in North Bath will never change. Available on audio.

Saunders, George

Lincoln in the Bardo (2017)

Winner of the Man Booker Prize for Fiction, this is Saunders' first full length book. We hear the story of Abraham Lincoln after his son Willie died. The bulk of the story takes place at the cemetery in one night and involves the interactions with the ghosts that live there. The audiobook is voiced by George Saunders and some amazing actors and comedians: Nick Offerman, Megan Mullally, Julianne Moore, Don Cheadle, Rainn Wilson, Susan Sarandon, and David Sedaris, among others.

Towles, Amor

A Gentleman in Moscow (2016)

Meet Russian aristocrat and bon-vivant Count Alexander Rostov, who by order of the newly-created Bolshevik government, has been restricted to the confines of the luxurious Grand Hotel Metropol. He struggles to find meaning in his life within the restraints of both his environment and his contented, reserved personality. He soon finds purpose in his interactions with the hotels guests and staff. Although for over thirty years, his universe is only the size of the Metropol, he discovers friendship, romance, intrigue and love within its walls. Available on audio.

NONFICTION

Brown, Daniel James

The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics (2013)

When a group of boys from farming and logging families met as college freshman trying out for the crew team, none of them expected to make it all the way to the 1936 Olympics in Berlin only a few years later. Under the guidance of their tough coach who held high expectations for the team, and an eccentric boat builder who became a mentor to many of them, these boys learned to persevere through the trials of their sport in a way that gave hope to a nation that was deep into the years of the Great Depression. The book also highlights major events happening around the globe, especially Hitler's rise to power and how he used the 1936 Olympics to showcase the beginnings of his "new Germany." Available on audio.

Egan, Timothy

Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis (2012)

A fascinating account of Edward Curtis, a handsome, Indiana Jones-type who devoted his life at the risk of losing everything to immortalize the Native American Indians before they vanished.

Although he had the support of Theodore Roosevelt and J.P. Morgan his struggle was daunting, but the result was an incredible masterwork of 20 volumes. Available on audio.

Fainaru-Wada, Mark and Steve Fainaru

League of Denial: The NFL, Concussions, and the Battle for Truth (2013)

In 2002, Dr. Bennett Omalu, a Nigerian-born pathologist in Pittsburgh, began to see shocking damage to the brains of former NFL players, who were dying at young ages. He published his findings and called the disorder "chronic traumatic encephalopathy" (CTE). The NFL responded by a campaign of denial and attempts to smear the reputation of Dr Omalu, who persevered until the league admitted the role of the game in players' brain injuries. How this knowledge will affect the future of the game is still unknown. Basis of the movie "Concussion," starring Will Smith. Available on audio.

Jarvis, Tim

Chasing Shackleton : Re-creating the World's Greatest Journey of Survival (2013)

Using authentic period clothing and gear along with an exact boat replica, modern day adventurer Tim Jarvis set out to retrace Ernest Shackleton's legendary 1914 expedition. Shackleton and his crew were attempting to cross the Antarctic via the South Pole when their ship got trapped in ice. He and few of his crew set off in a 20ft. lifeboat and crossed hundreds miles of dangerous open ocean and land to find a rescue ship. Against all odds, every crew member was recovered and returned alive.

Kalanithi, Paul

When Breath Becomes Air (2016)

A doctor documents his journey through diagnosis and treatment of rapid onset metastatic lung cancer. He bravely shares his decision making in relation to the disease, working and writing throughout his fight. Available on audio.

Kluger, Jeffrey

Apollo 8 (2017)

After suffering one setback after another, NASA decided to try and win the space race to the moon. This is the story of that mission and the three astronauts: Frank Borman, Jim Lovell, and Bill Anders; who flew that first moon mission.

Melvin, Leland

Chasing Space: An Astronaut's Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances (2017)

The incredible true story of the only person in history to play in the National Football League and become an astronaut. Leland was a chemist, athlete, engineer and space traveler. This memoir of overcoming challenges will inspire the reader. Available on audio.