

### ***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn***

by Mark Twain .....F/Twain  
Huckleberry Finn is the main character, and through his eyes, the reader sees and judges the south, its faults, and its redeeming qualities. Huck's companion Jim, a runaway slave, provides friendship and protection while the two journey along the Mississippi on their raft.

### ***Age of Innocence***

by Edith Wharton..... F/Wharton  
Wealthy New Yorkers in the 1870s have difficulties breaking from social codes they hate.

### ***Anna Karenina***

by Leo Tolstoy.....F/Tolstoy  
Tolstoy's classic tale of love and adultery is set against the backdrop of high society in Moscow and St. Petersburg. A rich and complex masterpiece, the novel charts the disastrous course of a love affair between Anna, a beautiful married woman, and Count Vronsky, a wealthy army officer.

### ***Anne of Green Gables***

by L. M. Montgomery ..... F/Montgomery  
When Marilla Cuthbert's brother Matthew returns home to Green Gables with a chatty, redheaded orphan girl, Marilla exclaims, "But we asked for a boy. We have no use for a girl." It's not long before the Cuthberts can't imagine how they could ever do without Anne of Green Gables.

### ***The Awakening***

by Kate Chopin.....F/Chopin  
The plot centers around Edna Pontellier and her struggle to reconcile her increasingly unorthodox views on femininity and motherhood with the prevailing social attitudes of the turn-of-the-century south. It is considered the first novel on feminism.

### ***Brideshead Revisited***

by Evelyn Waugh.....F/Waugh  
*Brideshead Revisited* tells the story of the difficult loves of insular Englishman Charles Ryder and his peculiarly intense relationship with the wealthy but dysfunctional family that inhabited Brideshead in the years after World War II.

### ***The Call of the Wild***

by Jack London ..... F/London  
This story is told through the voice of a domesticated dog named Buck, whose primordial instincts return after a series of events leads to his serving as a sled dog in the Yukon during the 19th-century gold rush.

### ***The Color Purple***

by Alice Walker..... F/Walker  
Published in 1982, the story concerns Celie, a young black woman in the south who writes letters to God, in which she describes her life of toil and her roles as wife, mother, friend. She was torn from her beloved sister, who goes to Africa and becomes a missionary.

### ***The Count of Monte Cristo***

by Alexandre Dumas .....F/Dumas  
This is an adventure story set in France and Italy during the historic period of 1815-1838 that concerns themes of hope, justice and vengeance. Edmond Dantes, a young merchant sailor is granted his own command by his dying captain. He is charged with two duties and soon finds himself charged as a traitor.

### ***David Copperfield***

by Charles Dickens .....F/Dickens  
Originally published in serial form from May 1849 through November 1850, *David Copperfield* is the first Dickens novel written entirely in first person. Converting his autobiographical impulse into fiction allowed Dickens to explore uncomfortable truths about his life.

### ***East of Eden***

by John Steinbeck ..... F/Steinbeck  
Set in the rich farmland of the Salina Valley, California, this often brutal novel follows the intertwined destinies of two families, the Trasks and the Hamiltons, whose generations hopelessly re-enact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.

### ***Fahrenheit 451***

by Ray Bradbury..... F/Bradbury  
Guy Montag, a futuristic fireman who burns books rather than fight fires, encounters a young innocent girl who opens his eyes to nature and love. His growing interest and love in books and all they have to offer strikes a resonant feeling.

### ***The Good Earth***

by Pearl S. Buck ..... F/Buck  
The novel, about peasant life in China in the 1920s, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1932. *The Good Earth* follows the life of Wang Lung from his beginnings as an impoverished peasant to his eventual position as a prosperous landowner.

### ***The Great Gatsby***

by F. Scott Fitzgerald..... F/Fitzgerald  
A portrait of the Jazz Age in all of its decadence and excess, *Gatsby* captured the spirit of the author's generation and earned itself a permanent place in American mythology.

### ***Heart of Darkness***

by Joseph Conrad.....F/Conrad  
Marlow recalls his experiences as the captain of a steamboat in the Congo, far from the safety of civilization. There, at a station on the edge of the jungle, he hears rumors of a Mr. Kurtz, a remarkable, admired white man who operates a trading post located deep in the wilderness.

### ***Jane Eyre***

by Charlotte Brontë..... F/Brontë  
Presenting a heroine with neither great beauty nor entrancing charm was an unprecedented maneuver, but Brontë's instincts proved correct, for readers of her era and ever after have taken *Jane Eyre* into their hearts.

### ***Lady Chatterley's Lover***

by D. H. Lawrence..... F/Lawrence  
Constance Chatterley, married to an aristocrat and mine owner whose war wounds have left him paralyzed and impotent, has an affair with Mellors, a gamekeeper, becomes pregnant, and considers abandoning her husband. One of the seminal class novels of the century, it was considered flagrantly pornographic when first published in 1928.

***The Last of the Mohicans***

by James Fenimore Cooper ..... F/Cooper  
This is a classic tale of a disillusioned man who exiles himself from a society whose values he abhors. Despite his exile, he agrees to take two sisters through hostile Indian country with the help of a Mohican scout.

***Little Women***

by Louisa May Alcott ..... F/Alcott  
Written and set in Alcott's home, Orchard House in Concord, Massachusetts, it follows the story of the four March sisters, Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy. Their father, a once well-to-do scholar, has left for the Civil War as chaplain and the family stays behind and struggles to survive and continue.

***The Lord of the Rings* (trilogy)**

by J. R. R. Tolkien ..... F/Tolkien  
This epic fantasy written by linguist and philosopher Tolkien follows Frodo Baggins and his fellow travelers in the hopes of finding the one ring before Sauron can rule and destroy Middle Earth. Filled with wonderful characters, this adventure story is a stirring tale of good versus evil.

***My Antonia***

by Willa Cather ..... F/Cather  
First published in 1918 and set in Nebraska in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, this tale of the spirited daughter of a Bohemian immigrant family planning to farm on the untamed land comes to us through the romantic eyes of Jim Burden.

***The Pillars of the Earth***

by Ken Follett ..... F/Follett  
A historical novel set in the middle 12<sup>th</sup> century features the building of a cathedral in Kingsbridge, England. The ambitions of three men collide over 40 years with the changes in political and religious beliefs.

***Pride and Prejudice***

by Jane Austen ..... F/Austen  
Jane Austen's witty comedy of manners, one of the most popular novels of all time, features splendidly civilized sparring between the proud Mr. Darcy and the prejudiced Elizabeth Bennett as they play

out their spirited courtship in a series of 18th century drawing-room intrigues.

***To Kill a Mockingbird***

by Harper Lee ..... F/Lee  
Set in the southern town of Maycomb, Alabama, during the Depression, *To Kill a Mockingbird* follows three years in the life of 8-year-old Scout Finch, her brother Jem, and their father Atticus, three years punctuated by the arrest and trial of a young black man accused of raping a white woman.

***The Sun Also Rises***

by Ernest Hemingway ..... F/Hemingway  
A story of expatriate Americans and British living in Paris after the First World War, it is still as fresh as when it was written in 1926.

***Wuthering Heights***

by Emily Brontë ..... F/Brontë  
This classic novel of consuming passions, played out against the lonely moors of northern England, recounts the turbulent and tempestuous story of Cathy and Heathcliff. A masterpiece of imaginative fiction, the story remains as poignant and compelling today as it was when first published in 1847.



Warren-Newport Public Library District  
224 N. O'Plaine Road  
Gurnee, IL 60031  
(847) 244-5150  
www.wnpl.info

9/10 DH

# Classics TO REDISCOVER

