

MEGAN D. GARRETT

BIBLIOGRAPHY LIST

[15 random memories included]



How to Balance a Book on Your Head

1. Ellison, Ralph, *Invisible Man*. Vintage International Edition 1990

A novel arguing that we rely on the visual aspects of humanity as a means of learning who we are and convincingly points this out as a dangerous habit.

2. Rampersad, Arnold *Ralph Ellison: A Biography*. First Vintage Books 2008

A biography of the renowned author and his struggles as a writer, a man, and an intellectual.

3. Greenfield, Eloise. *Honey, I Love and other love poems*, HarperTrophy/HarperCollins 1978, Pictures by Diane and Leo Dillon.

An intended children's book of short poems expressing all emotions, from growing up to going to bed, touching the hearts of the young and old.

4. Carver, Raymond. *Where I'm Calling From: New and Selected Stories*. First Vintage Contemporaries Edition, June 1989

A collection of 37 stories that map out Carver's territory, a particular area of America and of the texture of the people Carver writes about their difficult attempt at survival in a world where happiness does not arrive wrapped up in neat packages but comes in far more odd boxes.

5. Alighieri, Dante (Author), Ciardi, John (Translator). *The Inferno*. Modern Library/Random House 1996

Memory: *This book is among my mother's must reads. There is more than one version of The Inferno. But this is our most appreciated version. My copy has a brown paper bag cover, homemade by my mother with the title neatly and boldly written. It's more than literally a paperback copy on my bookshelf.*

6. Daniel Tatum, Beverly. *"Why are all the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?"* BasicBooks/Perseus Books Group, 1997 First Edition.

A psychologist discusses and explains the development of race.

7. McCord, Richard. *The Chain Gang: One Newspaper Versus the Gannett Empire*, University of Missouri Press 1996, First Edition

Memory: *An editor for Gannett during her journalism career, this book is among my mother's list of **must reads** and became an important resource in my book collection.*

8. Fumilayo, Iyara. *Lions Never look Back: Selected Poems*, Political Butterfly Press, 1999. Chapbook. Copyright by Michelle Webster

Memory: *This beautiful collection of poems includes me almost literally. The author is from my hometown of Flint and some of the people and associations in her poetry are very real and special to me.*

9. Anderson, Jon lee. *Che Guevara: A Revolutionary Life*. Grove Press 1997

The tale of the asthmatic son of a well to do Argentine family turned socialist revolutionary.

10.Haskins, Ethelbert. *The Crisis in Afro-American Leadership*, Prometheus Books 1988

This book discusses African American leadership and the possibilities of new African American leaders and goals.

11.Cisneros, Sandra. *The House on Mango Street*. Alfred A. Knopf, 1994. Borzoi Book. Copyright by Sandra Cisneros in 1984.

Memory: *My sister called once when she knew I was really really busy and feeling a little overwhelmed. She read Darius in the Clouds from this book and left it on my voicemail to hear. I listened to this short gem from "Mango Street." It made me smile and cry and then the day seemed so much easier.*

12.Abernathy, Ralph David. *And The Walls Came Tumbling Down: An Autobiography*, Harper Row 1989. First Edition.

Memory: *This book from my shelf is essential for anyone truly wanting to understand and read an authentic story on how the civil rights movement unfolded. It's at the top of my mom's must read list. And it makes one feel as though they were right there. The heavy weight and size of this book is really good for balancing too!*

13.Bell, Derrick, *Ethical Ambition: Living a Life of Meaning and Worth*. Bloomsbury, New York and London, 2002

This book discusses self worth and compassion.

14. Iacocca, Lee and Novak, William. *Iacocca: An Autobiography*, Bantam Books 1984

The autobiography of American business man Lee Iacocca and his revival of Chrysler.

15.Steel, Dawn. *They Can Kill You... But They Can't Eat You: Lessons From the Front* Pocket Books/Simon & Schuster 1993.

The story of discrimination and sexism, and what it ultimately took to become the head of Columbia pictures.

16. Smith, Patricia. *Close to Death: Poems*. Zoland Books, First Edition 1998

A collection of poems about inner city Chicago strife and survival.

17. McPherson, James Alan. *Elbow Room*. Little, Brown and Company 1977.

Twelve random short stories about Black Americans.

18. Nelson, Jill. *Volunteer Slavery: My Authentic Negro Experience*, Penguin 1994.

A memoir of the first black female writer at The Washington Post Sunday magazine.

19. Butler, Octavia E. *Mind of My Mind*, Grand Central Publishing 1994

A young ghetto telepath launches a psychic struggle against the four-thousand-year-old immortal who has been her father, lover, and master in an attempt for freedom.

20. Butler, Octavia E. *Wild Seed*, Aspect 1999

A science fiction novel of unimaginable destiny and history in disguise.

21. Morrison, Toni. *Song of Solomon*, Everyman's Library 1995, Cloth Edition

A novel that shares, "When you know your name, you should hang on to it, for unless it is noted down and remembered, it will die when you die" and encourages realistically.

22. Didion, Joan. *The White Album*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux 1990

A book of lively modern essays on the past, the future and the present.

23. Rand, Ayan. *Atlas Shrugged*, Plume 1999

A novel, within a statement of philosophy.

24. Dubois, W.E.B. *The Souls of Black Folk*, Dover Publications 1994

A well researched and reasoned discussion of African American life and trials.

25. Baldwin, James. *Notes of a Native Son*, Beacon Press 1990

A book of essays on life in Harlem, the protest of *Native Son*, movies, and Americans abroad.

26. Wright, Richard. *Native Son*, Harper and Brothers Publishers 1940
First Edition

Memory: *This book is a first edition and the first official book of my collection to wear one of my mothers handmade paper bag covers complete with her handwritten title. My mother gave me this book on my twelfth birthday with a special card inside and told me to add it to my big girl books.*

27. Neruda, Pablo, (author) Tapscott, Stephen (translator) *100 Love Sonnets: Cien sonetos de amor*, University of Texas Press 1986

A book of the most creative and lucid ways to love or be loved.

28. Milne, A.A. *Winnie-The-Pooh*, Puffin 1992

The adventures of a short stuffed little bear that any child can play with.

29. Holmes, Barbara A. *A Private Woman in Public Spaces: Barbara Jordan's Speeches on Ethics, Public Religion, and Law*, Trinity Press Intl 2000

A thought provoking book of speeches on ethics, social construction, and life.

30. Morrison, Toni. *The Bluest Eye*, Knopf 1993

A poetic novel about one black girl's world.

31. Bach, Richard. *Jonathan Livingston Seagull: A Story*, Scribner 2006

Memory: *This is the first book aside from Call of the Wild, that made me feel like I was someone or I guess I should say something else. I reread this when I feel like I want to fly.*

32.Obama, Barack. *Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*, Three Rivers Press 2004

The story of race and inheritance from outside the box.

33.Hooks, Bell. *Bone Black: Memories of Girlhood*, Holt 1997

This book is the childhood memoirs of an African American feminist.

34.Silverstein, Shel. *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, HarperCollins 2000

An anthology of silly poetry and illustrations that take you back to childhood, or takes children where they want to be.

35.Frame, Janet. *An Angel At My Table*, Womens Press Classic 2001

This is the second volume of Janet Frame's autobiography traces her development as a writer, a educator, and a woman.

36.Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Penguin Books 1998

Latin American literature, a story who women who struggle to stay grounded as while they watch their men build dreams in the sky while never reaching for them.

37.Lamb, Wally. *I Know This Much Is True*, Harper June 1998, First Edition

Memory: *Once a year, the Flint Public Library would have the Dollar bag sale; which was all the books you could fit in a large paper bag for \$1.00. I don't know if this book would have found its way to my shelf if it weren't for this great yearly sale, but I'm so glad it did. At over 900 pages, it's big in size and story and worth far more than every "cent" paid.*

38.Wilson, August. *Two Trains Running*, Plume 1993

A tale of bold confrontation with the external struggle of racism and internal struggles of being human.

39.X, Malcolm. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Ballantine Books 1987

The autobiography of one of America's most well known African American Civil rights leaders.

40.Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath*, Penguin 2002

A novel that questions, justice, government, ownership, and capitalist society.

41. Kalman, Maira. *Max Deluxe 3 Spectacular Adventures Starring Max Stravinsky, Poet, Dreamer, Dog*, Viking Juvenile 1996

Memory: My mother was great at expressing the characters and emotions of a book when reading aloud. Max Deluxe, really put her to the test and no matter how many times she would read it. It could always make you laugh.

42.Brown, Claude. *Manchild in the Promised Land*, Macmillan, 1965, First Edition.

An autobiography written in clear, lucid prose without an ounce of self-pity, self-justification, or moralizing.

43. London, Jack. *Call of the Wild*, Viking Juvenile May 1996

The story of Buck, who is stolen from his comfortable family home and forced into the harsh life of an Alaskan sled dog. Passed from master to master, Buck embarks on an extraordinary journey and becomes a legend.

44.Kimbrow, Dennis, and Hill, Napoleon. *Think and Grow Rich: A Black Choice*, Hill Fawcett 1992

An African American adaption of Napoleon Hills' classic *Think and Grow Rich*.

45. Neale Hurston, Zora. *There Eyes Were Watching God*, Harper Perennial Modern Classics 1998

Memory: *This book is one of my mother's must reads. It challenges the distance between the generations in our language patterns at times when reading the words that evolved in the south compared to the language patterns of those of us born in the north. This story about love and growth is timeless and so beautiful that it makes you strive to understand just what is meant by every word and piece of jargon from the time of one's mother to their great grand mother.*

46. Neale Hurston, Zora *Spunk*, Turtle Island Foundation, Netzahaulcoyotl His 1985

Memory: *We always loved these stories; my mother sisters and me. On any given day she might read one aloud for you. Once, my mother called my sister in California to read one of her favorites of the stories, which was from a library copy of the book. This was when long distance cost a lot more. But when it came to books and stories it didn't seem to matter. After that, my sister went out and bought each of us new copies.*

47. Souljah, Sister. *The Coldest Winter Ever*, Atria 1999

Memory: *Once while reading this novel, which was one I shared with her; my mother, looked over at me with an intense look and said, "I think Winter may be an honestly disturbing version of a true sociopath." And I definitely agree.*

48. Covey, Stephen R. *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, The Business Library 1996

A motivational book on living life to the fullest, while being good to yourself and others.

49. Cireen, Bette. *Phillip Hall Likes Me, I Reckon Maybe*, H Hamilton 1976

Memory: *This book about young love and life came from my big sister's book collection from when she was a little girl. Once when home to visit, she tried to swipe it back for her own collection, but my little sister charm won her over and I got to keep it for mine!*

50. Pough, Gwendolyn. *Check it While I Wreck It*, Northeastern University Press 2004

This book investigates black womanhood, feminism, sexism and hip hop culture.

51. Battistella, Edwin. *Are Some Words Better than Others*, Oxford Press 2005

This book looks at language from a less than usual point of view and evaluates what words may really mean.

52. Smitherman, Geneva. *Black Talk: Words and Phrases from the Hood to the Amen Corner*, Mariner 2000

An ethnography focusing on African American dialogue and its role in America and education and religion.

53. Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*, Simon & Schuster 1992

A classic novel of life and patterns in search of the American dream.

54. Lamb, Wally. *She's Come Undone*, Pocket Books 1992

A journey through love, pain and mental illness in a coming of age story littered with real life and one last chance.

55. Tolstoy, Leo. *The Death of Ivan Illyich*, Bantam 1981

A masterpiece novel on death and dying.

56. Wells, H.G. *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, Dover Publications 1996

A novel about science vs. nature and the human struggle to control.

57. Camus, Albert. *The Stranger*, Vintage Random House 1988

A novel that investigates “the nakedness of man faced with the absurd.”

58. Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*, Norton and Company 1996

The classic science fiction novel that raises questions while answering them at once.

59. Cleaver, Eldridge. *Soul on Ice*, Dell Publishing 1968

An intellectual and spiritual autobiography from a California state prison.

60. Bolt, Robert. *A Man for All Seasons*, Vintage 1988

A play about a historic confrontation, courage and dignity.

61. Wilson, August. *Fences*, Penguin Group 1986

A play on boundaries and yielding.

62. McBride, James. *The Color of Water*, Riverhead Books 1996

A young man's tale of projects and good looks, learning to be just a human being.

63. Sewall, Richard. *Short Stories for Study*, Henry Holt and Company 1956

An anthology of short stories with a range of topics from a dill pickle to the pupil, all very relevant to life.

64. Martel, Yann. *Life of Pi*, Harcourt, Inc 2001

A story of thinking outside the box for everyday survival.

65. Levitt & Dubner. *Freakonomics*, William Morrow 2005

A book written by an economist that explores the hidden side of everything.

66. Bach, Richard. *Illusions*, Dell Publishing 1977

This book investigates the usual and unusual of each day.

67. Sophocles. *Antigone*, Oxford University Press 1973

A play written about love and loss.

68. Hosseini, Khaled. *The Kite Runner*, Riverhead Books 2003

This book shares a tale of cruelty and love, within a revolutionary coming of age story.

69. Tan, Amy. *The Joy Luck Club*, Ivy Books 1989

Memory: *This book was given to me by my mother for my bookshelf. I would come home from school and tell her about the movie we watched whenever we had a substitute teacher and the next day when I came home, if the movie was book worthy, the book would be on the edge of my bed with a note, this one too.*

70. Bourgois, Philippe. *In Search of Respect*, Cambridge University Press 2002

Ethnography that investigates drug sales in urban areas, the welfare system, and masculinity.

71. Senna, Danzy. *Caucasia*, Riverhead Trade 1999

This book chronicles the fictional life of an interracial child trying to grow up on the right side, finding out later that no side is the right side.

72. Bowen, Elenore. *Return to Laughter*. Anchor 1964, First Edition

This book in a fictional ethnography, filled with irony outside of the type of book that it is classified as.

73. Angelou, Maya. *Letter to My Daughter*. Random House 2008

This book shares the stories of Angelou's life and earns its right to guide the daughters who will read it.

74. Murphey & Carson. *Gifted Hands*, Zondervan Publishing Company 1992

This book chronicles the life of Dr. Ben Carson M.D. It is inspirational.

75. Hodge, Merle. *For the Life of Laetitia*, Aerial Fiction 1993

Memory: *This book taught me of friendship, hope, and determination. I ordered this book from my elementary school and fell in love with it. It became my favorite childhood book and continued into high school .I read it; I had my older sister read it to me and even my mommy from across the country once. I read it so many times that the cover fell off and the pages began to shed and when the book finally broke into seven pieces and the tape would hold no more, I cried to my mother. Days later she told me the book was out of print. Weeks later I received a package in the mail containing two new copies, and a day later, two more copies. Both my older sister and mother had spent countless hours searching for this book for me. I laid all fives copies on my bed that evening and my mother came into my bedroom and said, “Now you have enough copies for you, a friend, your children and theirs.” She kissed me on my forehead telling me not to stay up too late.*

