



## 2020 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List

The purpose of the Texas Topaz Reading List is to provide children and adults with recommended nonfiction titles that stimulate reading for pleasure and personal learning. It is intended for recreational reading and is not designed to support any particular curriculum.

Due to the diversity in age range and topics, Texas librarians should consider titles on this list in accordance with their own local collection development policies.

(\* ) denotes a unanimous vote by the committee.

\* *(Don't) Call Me Crazy: 33 Voices Start the Conversation about Mental Health* by Kelly Jensen, ed. (Algonquin, 2018)

\* *1919 the Year That Changed America* by Martin W. Sandler (Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2019)

*A Green Place to Be: The Creation of Central Park* by Ashley Benham Yazdani (Candlewick Press, 2019)

*A Place to Land: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Speech That Inspired a Nation* by Barry Wittenstein, illustrated Jerry Pinkney (Holiday House, 2019)

*A Ray of Light: A Book of Science and Wonder* by Walter Wick (Scholastic Press, 2019)

\* *All in a Drop: How Antony van Leeuwenhoek Discovered an Invisible World* by Lori Alexander, illustrated by Vivien Mildenerger (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

*An Inconvenient Alphabet: Ben Franklin & Noah Webster's Spelling Revolution* by Beth Anderson, illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley (Simon & Schuster Books, 2018)

\* *Anne Frank's Diary: The Graphic Adaptation* by Ari Folman, Anne Frank, illustrated by David Polonsky (Pantheon Books, 2018)

\* *Attucks! Oscar Robertson and the Basketball Team That Awakened a City* by Phillip M. Hoose (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2018)

\* *Becoming* by Michelle Obama (Crown, 2018)

*Captured: An American Prisoner of War in North Vietnam* by Alvin Townley (Scholastic Focus, 2019)

*Crisis in the Red Zone: The Story of the Deadliest Ebola Outbreak in History, and of the Outbreaks to Come* by Richard Preston (Random House, 2019)

\* *Cute as an Axolotl: Discovering the World's Most Adorable Animals* by Jess Keating, illustrated by David DeGrand (Alfred A. Knopf, 2018)

*Dear America: The Story of an Undocumented Citizen, Young Reader's Edition* by Jose Antonio Vargas (Harper Collins, 2019)

*Diamond Doris: The True Story of the World's Most Notorious Jewel Thief* by Doris Payne, Zelda Lockhart (Amistad, 2019)

*Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company That Addicted America* by Beth Macy (Little, Brown and Company, 2018)

\* *Dreamers* by Yuyi Morales (Neal Porter Books, 2018)

*Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic, A Young Adult Adaptation* by Sam Quinones (Bloomsbury Childrens Books, 2019)

*Engineered! Engineering Design at Work* by Shannon Hunt, illustrated by James Gulliver Hancock (Kids Can Press, 2017)

*Everything You Love Will Burn: Inside the Rebirth of White Nationalism in America* by Vegas Tenold (Nation Books, 2018)

*Failing up: How to Take Risks, Aim Higher, and Never Stop Learning* by Leslie Odom (Feiwel and Friends, 2018)

*Fighting for the Forest: How FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps Helped Save America* by P. O'Connell Pearson (Simon & Schuster, 2019)

*Fly with Me: A Celebration of Birds through Pictures, Poems, and Stories* by Jane Yolen, Heidi E. Y. Stemple, Adam Stemple, and Jason Stemple (National Geographic, 2018)

*Free as a Bird: The Story of Malala* by Lina Maslo (Balzer + Bray, 2018)

*Funny, You Don't Look Autistic: A Comedian's Guide to Life on the Spectrum* by Michael McCreary (Annick Press, 2019)

*Furious Hours: Murder, Fraud, and the Last Trial of Harper Lee* by Casey N. Cep (Alfred A. Knopf, 2019)

\* *Go Ahead in the Rain: Notes to A Tribe Called Quest* by Hanif Abdurraqib (University of Texas Press, 2019)

*Grand Theft Horse* by Greg Neri, illustrated by Corban Wilkin (Tu Books, 2018)

*Guitar Genius: How Les Paul Engineered the Solid Body Electric Guitar and Rocked the World* by Kim Tomsic, illustrated by Brett Helquist (Chronicle Books, 2019)

\* *Guts* by Raina Telgemeier (Graphix logo, 2019)

*Hunger: A Memoir Of (My) Body.* by Roxane Gay (Harper Collins, 2018)

*Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love* by Dani Shapiro (Alfred A. Knopf, 2019)

\* *Just like Rube Goldberg: The Incredible True Story of the Man behind the Machines* by Sarah Aronson, illustrated by Robert Neubecker (Beach Lane Books, 2019)

*Just Right: Searching for the Goldilocks Planet* by Curtis Manley, illustrated by Jessica Lanan (Roaring Brook Press, 2019)

*Karl's New Beak: 3-D Printing Builds a Bird a Better Life* by Lela Nargi (Capstone Editions, 2019)

\* *Killer Style: How Fashion Has Injured, Maimed, and Murdered through History* by Alison Matthews David (Owlkids Books, Inc, 2019)

*Ladysitting: My Year with Nana at the End of Her Century* by Lorene Cary (W.W. Norton & Company, 2019)

\* *Magic Ramen: The Story of Momofuku Ando* by Andrea Wang, illustrated by Kana Urbanowicz (Little Bee Books, 2019)

*Mama's Last Hug: Animal Emotions and What They Tell Us about Ourselves* by Frans de Waal (W.W. Norton & Company, 2019)

\* *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone: A Therapist, HER Therapist, and Our Lives Revealed* by Lori Gottlieb (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

*Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World's Greatest Nuclear Disaster* by Adam Higginbotham (Simon & Schuster, 2019)

*My Corner of the Ring: A Memoir from a Champ* by Jesselyn Silva (G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2019)

*No Visible Bruises: What We Don't Know about Domestic Violence Can Kill Us* by Rachel Louise Snyder (Bloomsbury Publishing Inc, 2019)

*Notes from a Young Black Chef: A Memoir* by Kwame Onwuachi and Joshua David Stein (Alfred A. Knopf, 2019)

\* *O Captain, My Captain: Walt Whitman, Abraham Lincoln, and the Civil War* by Robert Burleigh, illustrated by Sterling Hundley (Abrams Books, 2018)

*Parkland Speaks: Survivors from Marjory Stoneman Douglas Share Their Stories* by Sarah Lerner, ed. (Crown, 2019)

*Pass Go and Collect \$200: The Real Story of How Monopoly Was Invented* by Tanya Lee Stone, illustrated by Steven Salerno (Henry Holt and Company, 2018)

\* *Path to the Stars: My Journey from Girl Scout to Rocket Scientist* by Sylvia Acevedo (Clarion Books, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018)

\* *Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré* by Anika Denise, illustrated by Paola Escobar (Harper, 2019)

\* *Proud: Living My American Dream, A Young Reader's Edition* by Ibtihaj Muhammad (Little, Brown and Company, 2018)

*Rising out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist* by Eli Saslow (Doubleday, 2018)

*Save Me the Plums: My Gourmet Memoir* by Ruth Reichl (Random House, 2019)

*Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland* by Patrick Radden Keefe (Doubleday, 2019)

\* *Shout: A Poetry Memoir* by Laurie Halse Anderson (Viking, 2019)

*Skulls!* by Blair Thornburgh, illustrated by Scott Campbell (Atheneum Books, 2019)

*Soldier for Equality: José de La Luz Saéñz and the Great War* by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams Books, 2019)

*Something Rotten: A Fresh Look at Roadkill* by Heather L. Montgomery, illustrated by Kevin O'Malley (Bloomsbury, 2018)

*Spooked! How a Radio Broadcast and the War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America*  
by Gail Jarrow (Calkins Creek, 2018)

*Starstruck: The Cosmic Journey of Neil DeGrasse Tyson* by Kathleen Krull and Paul Brewer,  
illustrated by Frank Morrison (Crown Books, 2018)

\* *Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow* by Henry Louis Gates  
(Penguin Press, 2019)

\* *Texas Flood: The Inside Story of Stevie Ray Vaughan* by Alan Paul and Andy Aledort (St. Martin's  
Press, 2019)

*The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters* by Priya Parker (Riverhead Books, 2018)

\* *The Book Rescuer: How a Mensch from Massachusetts Saved Yiddish Literature for Generations to  
Come* by Sue Macy, illustrated by Stacy Innerst (Simon & Schuster, 2019)

\* *The Eye That Never Sleeps: How Detective Pinkerton Saved President Lincoln* by Marissa Moss,  
illustrated by Jeremy Holmes (Abrams, 2018)

*The Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century* by Kirk W.  
Johnson (Viking, 2018)

*The Greatest Treasure Hunt in History: The Story of the Monuments Men (Young Reader's Edition)*  
by Robert M. Edsel (Scholastic Focus, 2019)

\* *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present* by David Treuer  
(Riverhead Books, 2019)

*The Lady from the Black Lagoon: Hollywood Monsters and the Lost Legacy of Millicent Patrick* by  
Mallory O'Meara (Hanover Square Press, 2019)

\* *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean (Simon and Schuster, 2018)

*The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World* by Melinda Gates (Flatiron  
Books, 2019)

\* *The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11* by Garrett M. Graff (Avid Reader Press, 2019)

*The Queen: The Forgotten Life behind an American Myth* by Josh Levin (Little Brown and Company,  
2019)

*The Roots of Rap: 16 Bars on the 4 Pillars of Hip-Hop* by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Frank Morrison (Little Bee Books, 2018)

\* *The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations* by Toni Morrison (Alfred A. Knopf, 2019)

*The Stonewall Riots: Coming Out in the Streets* by Gayle E. Pitman (Abrams Books, 2019)

\* *The Superpower Field Guide* – the entire series which including Moles, Beavers and Ostriches by Rachel Poliquin, illustrated by Nicholas John Frith (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

*The Tornado Scientist: Seeing Inside Severe Storms* by Mary Kay Carson, photographed by Tom Uhlman (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

*They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei, Justin Eisinger, and Steven Scott, illustrated by Harmony Becker (Top Shelf Productions, 2019)

*Unpresidented: A Biography of Donald Trump* by Martha Brockenbrough (Feiwel and Friends, 2018)

*We Fed an Island: The True Story of Rebuilding Puerto Rico, One Meal at a Time* by José Andrés and Richard Wolffe (Ecco, 2018)

*When Angels Sing: The Story of Carlos Santana* by Michael James Mahin, illustrated by José Ramírez (Atheneum Books, 2018)

\* *Where the Lost Dogs Go: A Story of Love, Search, and the Power of Reunion* by Susannah Charleson (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

*Whitewash: The Story of a Weed Killer, Cancer, and the Corruption of Science* by Carey Gillam (Island Press, 2017)

*Why to Kill a Mockingbird Matters: What Harper Lee's Book and Iconic American Film Mean to Us Today* by Tom Santopietro (St. Martin's Press, 2018)

*Yogi: The Life, Loves, and Language of Baseball Legend Yogi Berra* by Barb Rosenstock, illustrated by Terry Widener (Calkins Creek, 2019)