

ETHNOLITERATURE: WVC at OMAK LIBRARY

AFRICAN

Achebe, Chinua. Things Fall Apart (FICTION ACHEBE)

Okonkwo witnesses the destruction of his Ibo culture in Nigeria

Courtenay, Bryce. The Power of One (FICTION COURTEN)

A tale of superstition and modern prejudice in South Africa in the 1930s

Dinesen, Isak. Out of Africa (BIOG DINESEN)

The life of a woman operating a coffee plantation in Kenya in the early 1900s

Eggers, Dave. What is the What: The Autobiography of Valentino Achak Deng: A Novel

(FICTION EGGER) The story of one of the Lost Boys of Sudan. A refugee of the Sudanese civil war.

Hirsi Ali, Ayaan. Infidel. (BIOG HIRSI ALI)

Memoir from her Muslim childhood to political activism in the Netherlands

Kingsolver, Barbara. The Poisonwood Bible (FICTION KINGSOL)

A Baptist minister takes his family to the Belgian Congo in 1959

Maathai, Wangari. Unbowed: A Memoir

2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner relates her life and her involvement in the Green Belt Movement in Kenya

Paton, Alan. Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful (FICTION PATON)

Life in South Africa between 1952 and 1958

Paton, Alan. Cry, The Beloved Country (FICTION PATON)

A story of apartheid set in South Africa in the 1940s

Soyinka, Wole. Aké: The Years of Childhood (BIOG SOYINKA)

Childhood memories of growing up in Nigeria

AFGHANISTAN

Ansary, Tamim. West of Kabul, East of New York: An Afghan American Story (BIOG

ANSARY) An Afghan American writes about "dislocation, heritage, home, family, and religion...."

Hosseini, Khaled. The Kite Runner (FICTION HOSSEIN)

A story of two boys growing up in Kabul from the monarchy to the present

Hosseini, Khaled. A Thousand Splendid Suns (FICTION HOSSEIN)

Intense story of two women living through the Soviet invasion, civil war, and Taliban regime

Khadra, Yasmina. The Swallows of Kabul: A Novel (FICTION KHADRA)

Life in Afghanistan under Taliban rule

AMERICAN

Rosenberg, Robert. This is Not Civilization: A Novel (FICTION ROSENBE)

An antic tale of a Peace Core volunteer moving from Arizona to Kyrgyzstan to Istanbul

AMERICAN AMISH

Picoult, Jodi. Plain Truth (FICTION PICOULT)
A murder mystery within the Amish community

AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINE

Morgan, Marlo. Mutant Message Down Under (FICTION MORGAN)
An American woman's adventure with the Aboriginal people of Australia

BLACK AMERICAN

Angelou, Maya. The Heart of a Woman (BIOG ANGELOU)
Life when she was in her 30s for this remarkable poet/activist

Ellison, Ralph. Invisible Man (FICTION ELLISON)
A nameless young black man moves through levels of American intolerance and cultural blindness in the 1950s

Hurston, Zora Neale. Their Eyes Were Watching God (FICTION HURSTON)
Black life in a black town in Florida as seen through the eyes of a black woman

Morrison, Toni. The Bluest Eye (FICTION MORRISO)
The sad story of an 11-year-old black girl who yearns for her life to be different

Morrison, Toni. Beloved (FICTION MORRISO)
The ghost of a murdered child haunts the home of her mother

Walker, Alice. The Color Purple
Celie, living in misery in the American south, keeps in contact with her sister, a missionary in Africa, via letters to God. Shug Avery brings positive changes into Celie's life. (Fiction WALKER)

CHINESE

Clavell, James, Noble House (FICTION CLAVELL)
An action-packed story set in Hong Kong in 1963

Gao, Xingjian. Soul Mountain (FICTION GAO)
Gao flees a repressive Chinese culture

Hersey, John. A Single Pebble (FICTION HERSEY)
An American engineer travels up the Yangtze River in China

Jin, Ha. Waiting (FICTION JIN)
Chinese caught between modern and traditional cultures

Kingston, Maxine Hong. The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of Girlhood among Ghosts (BIOG KINGSTON)

An American Chinese woman grows up with the tales from her mother of life in China as part of her life

McCunn, Ruthanne Lum. God of Luck: A Novel (FICTION MCCUNN)
Ah Lung is kidnapped and sent as a slave to work in the Peru guano mines.

McCunn, Ruthanne Lum. The Moon Pearl (FICTION MCCUNN)
Three young women in China decide not to marry or join a nunnery but to live as independent women.

Tan, Amy. The Bonesetter's Daughter (FICTION TAN)
An American Chinese woman explores her Chinese roots

Tsukiyama, Gail. The Language of Threads: A Novel (FICTION TSUKIYA)
Sequel to Women of the Silk. When the Japanese invade China, two women working in the silk trade flee to Hong Kong

Tsukiyama, Gail. The Samurai's Garden (FICTION TSUKIYA)

At the beginning of the Second World War a young Chinese boy is sent to Japan to recuperate from tuberculosis

Tsukiyama, Gail. Street of a Thousand Blossoms (FICTION TSUKIYA)

Two orphaned brothers grow up in war-torn Tokyo. One becomes a famous sumo wrestler and the other a famous mask carver for the Noh theater.

Tsukiyama, Gail. Women of the Silk (FICTION TSUKIYA)

History of Pei, a girl given to the Sisterhood of the silk industry in China in 1926

DANISH

Hoeg, Peter. Smilla's Sense of Snow (FICTION HOEG)

A murder mystery set in Copenhagen

Thurman, Judith. Isak Dinesen: The Life of a Storyteller (BIOG DINESEN)

Her life in Africa and after she returned to Denmark

EAST INDIAN

Forster, E.M. A Passage to India (FICTION FORSTER)

A story of clashing cultures in British India after the turn of the century

Kamdar, Mira. Motiba's Tattoos (BIOG KAMDAR)

Kamdar travels back to India of WWII in search of family roots

Lahiri, Jhumpa. The Namesake (FICTION LAHIRI)

The immigrant experience of a couple from Calcutta

Mistry, Rohinton. A Fine Balance (FICTION MISTRY)

A tale set in troubled times in India

Suri, Manil. The Death of Vishnu (FICTION SURI)

Dying on the steps of a Bombay apartment, Vishnu remembers his life.

EGYPTIAN

Mahfouz, Naguib. Palace Walk (FICTION MAHFOUZ)

Story of a Muslim family in Cairo during the British occupation

EUROPEAN

Berger, John. To the Wedding: A Novel (FICTION BERGER)

A woman on the eve of her marriage reflects on her life

FRENCH

Colette. The Vagabond (FICTION COLETTE)

Renée, an early feminist, is an actress with love problems

GYPSIES—SEE SCOTTISH TRAVELLERS OR IRISH TRAVELLERS

ICELANDIC

Laxness, Haldór. Independent People (FICTION LAXNESS)

Iceland in the early 20th century

IRISH

McCourt, Frank. Angela's Ashes (BIOG MCCOURT)

Life's struggles for an Irish-American boy in this Pulitzer Prize-winning book

McCourt, Frank. 'Tis: A Memoir (BIOG MCCOURT)

A sequel to Angela's Ashes

Uris, Leon. Trinity (FICTION URIS)

The struggle for Ireland's independence

IRISH TRAVELLERS

Gmelch, Sharon. Nan: The Life of an Irish Travelling Woman (305.562 GMELCH 1991)

JAPANESE

Abe, Kobo. The Woman in the Dunes (FICTION ABE)

An amateur entomologist is held captive in the sandpit home of a woman forced to shovel back the sand dunes

Clavell, James. Shogun: A Novel of Japan (FICTION CLAVELL)

A saga set in seventeenth-century Japan

Enchi, Fumiko. The Waiting Years (FICTION ENCHI)

The story of a Japanese woman who spends her life denying herself for the sake of her family and what she perceives as a greater good

Guterson, David. Snow Falling on Cedars (FICTION GUTERSO)

Recent memories of World War II arise during the murder trial of a Japanese American fisherman. Set on an island in Puget Sound

Houston, Jeanne. Farewell to Manzanar (BIOG HOUSTON)

The story of a Japanese family held in an internment camp in California during World War II as seen through the eyes of a young girl

Kawabata, Yasunari. Snow Country (FICTION KAWABAT)

The sad tale of a geisha's ill-fated love for a man

Kirino, Natsuo. Out (FICTION KIRINO)

Award winning thriller set in the grimy underworld of Tokyo where 4 women befriend one another when one strangles her deadbeat husband

Kogawa, Joy. Obasan (FICTION KOGAWA)

Recollection of Japanese Canadian relocation during World War II

Okada, John. No-No Boy (FICTION OKADA)

Japanese American living in Seattle after WWII.

Sone, Monica. Nisei Daughter (BIOG SONE)

Japanese American raised in Seattle and imprisoned in a camp during WWII.

Tanizaki, Junichiro. The Makioka Sisters (FICTION TANIZAK)

The lives of four Japanese sisters and the changes brought about by changing times

Uchida, Yoshiko. A Jar of Dreams

Rinko, growing up in California during the Depression, learns the importance of her heritage from an Aunt visiting from Japan

JEWISH

Mier, Golda. My Life (BIOG MEIR)

The life story of Israel's first woman Prime Minister

Uris, Leon. Exodus (FICTION URIS)

A sweeping tale that culminates in the founding of Israel

KOREAN AMERICA

Lee, Don. Country of Origin (FICTION LEE)

A literary exploration of the meaning of identity and belonging set in Tokyo.

Na, An. A Step from Heaven (FICTION NA)

The difficult transition for the Korean family moving to Southern California.
Park, Linda. When My Name Was Keoko (FICTION PARK)

Sun-hee's experiences living under the Japanese occupation in 1940.

LATINOS

Allende, Isabel. The House of the Spirits (FICTION ALLENDE)

A family saga that takes place in Chile during turbulent times of the Pinochet regime

Allende, Isabel. Daughter of Fortune: A Novel (FICTION ALLENDE)

The adventures of a Chilean woman living in California during the gold rush

Alvarez, Julia. How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents (FICTION ALVAREZ)

Life in New York City in the 1960s for four sisters from the Dominican Republic

Anaya, Rudolfo A. Bless Me, Ultima (FICTION ANAYA)

The psychosocial maturation of a Chicano boy in New Mexico in the 1940s

Castillo, Ana. The Mixquiahuala Letters (FICTION CASTILL)

An examination of Mexican and Latina forms of love and female friendship

Cisneros, Sandra. Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories (FICTION CISNERO)

A collection of stories rich in Hispanic culture

Esquivel, Laura. Like Water for Chocolate (FICTION EXQUIVE)

A romantic tale of family life in turn-of-the-century Mexico

Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. Chronicle of a Death Foretold (FICTION GARCIA)

A tale of romance and murder in Colombia

Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. Love in the Time of Cholera (FICTION GARCIA)

A story of unrequited love

Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. One Hundred Years of Solitude (FICTION GARCIA)

A saga of the Buendia family in the mythical town of Macondo

Garcia, Cristina. Dreaming in Cuban: A Novel (FICTION GARCIA)

The story of a family divided by the Cuban revolution

Martinez, Demetria. Mother Tongue: A Novel (FICTION MARTINE)

A young woman falls in love with an El Salvadoran refugee she is hiding

Menchu, Rigoberta. I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala

The life of a peasant woman growing up in Guatemala.

Michener, James. Mexico (FICTION MICHENE)

A story combining the history of Mexico and bullfighting

Nichols, John. The Milagro Beanfield War

Joe Mondragon becomes a local hero when he steals water and irrigates his family's ancestral bean field. Told with humor, compassion, and honor.

Rodriguez, Richard. Days of Obligation: An Argument with My Mexican Father (BIOG RODRIGU)

A Mexican-American addresses some present day issues in America

Rodriguez, Richard. Brown: The Last Discovery of America (BIOG RODRIGU)

The author discusses "the meaning of Hispanics" to American life

Santiago, Esmeralda. When I was Puerto Rican (BIOG SANTIAG)

An account of a young girl's life in Puerto Rico and New York

Villasenor, Victor. Rain of Gold (BIOG VILLASE)

The immigration of a Mexican family to California after the Mexican Revolution

MAORI

Hulme, Keri. The Bone People (FICTION HULME)

Three people from different ethnic backgrounds—Maori and white New Zealander-- united in a tale set in New Zealand

NATIVE AMERICAN

Aleshire, Peter. Warrior Woman: The Story of Lozen, Apache Warrior and Shaman (BIOG LOZEN)

She fought along side Geronimo, Cochise, and Victorio during the Apache Wars

Alexie, Sherman. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian (FICTION ALEXIE)

Junior leaves the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white school

Alexie, Sherman. Reservation Blues (FICTION ALEXIE)

Set on the Spokane Indian Reservation in 1992

Ambrose, Stephen. Crazy Horse and Custer (BIOG CRAZY)

The lives of two great warriors linked in history

Banks, Dennis. Ojibwa Warrior: Dennis Banks and the Rise of the American Indian Movement (BIOG BANKS)

Banks, one of the founders, traces the beginnings of AIM, the American Indian Movement.

Berger, Thomas. Little Big Man (FICTION BERGER)

A complex adventure of an individual experiencing life during the time of the Little Big Horn

Canfield, Gae. Sarah Winnemucca of the Northern Paiutes (BIOG WINNEMU)

The story of a Native American woman, one of America's first women activists

Carter, Forrest. The Education of Little Tree (FICTION CARTER)

A touching story of a Cherokee boyhood during the 1930s. The author is controversial because he once belonged to the KKK and was a speech writer for Alabama governor George Wallace before returning to his Cherokee roots.

Craven, Margaret. I Heard the Owl Call My Name (FICTION CRAVEN)

Among the Northwest Indians, a man discovers ultimate life truths

Debo, Angie. Geronimo: The Man, His Time, His Place (BIOG GERONIM)

A detailed account of Geronimo's life

Erdrich, Louise. Love Medicine (FICTION ERDRICH)

Told from various points of view, the novel tells the multigenerational story of two extended families on a Chippewa reservation in North Dakota

Erdrich, Louise. The Plague of Doves (FICTION ERDRICH)

Multigenerational "tour de force of sin, redemption, murder, and vengeance"

Erdrich, Louise. Tracks (FICTION ERDRICH)

The story of a Chippewa woman told through two different narrators

Greer, Allan. Mohawk Saint: Catherine Tekakwitha and the Jesuits (BIOG TEKAKWI)

Describes the life of Tekakwitha and her religious role with the Jesuits

Hale, Janet. The Jailing of Cecelia Capture (FICTION HALE)

A Native American woman examines her life in painful detail

Hill, Ruth. Hanta Yo (FICTION HILL)

- A depiction of Lakota life, tradition and values in the early 1800s
- Hillerman, Tony. The Joe Leaphorn Mysteries (FICTION HILLERM)
An exciting series about Joe Leaphorn, a Navajo tribal policeman
- Hogan, Linda. Mean Spirit (FICTION HOGAN)
A Native American government official investigates some grave injustices done to Oklahoma Indians
- Hogan, Linda. Solar Storms (FICTION HOGAN)
A tale of five generations of Native American women and their relationship to the land
- Hogan, Linda. People of the Whale: A Novel (FICTION HOGAN)
Thomas Witka Just returns from Vietnam in need of spiritual rebirth and attempts to reconcile his two lives
- Hogan, Linda. Power (FICTION HOGAN)
A young girl is at a crossroads in her life and her decision will determine her place in the world
- Howard, Helen. Saga of Chief Joseph (BIOG JOSEPH)
The times of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce
- Jones, Stan. Shaman Pass (FICTION JONES)
Murder mystery involving Inupiat tradition in the Alaskan village of Chukchi
- Jones, Stan. White Sky, Black Ice (FICTION JONES)
Alaska State Trooper Nathan Active investigates the suicide deaths of two Chukchi villagers.
- Lame Deer, John. Lame Deer Seeker of Visions (BIOG LAME)
A Native American man lives in the white world and is a holy man in the Indian world
- Larson, Robert. Gall: Lakota War Chief (BIOG GALL)
Reveals the role Gall played as a leader in war and on the reservation
- Larson, Robert. Red Cloud: Warrior-Statesman of the Lakota Sioux (BIOG RED)
A fearless leader in the Lakota war with the United States and a steadfast intermediary for his people during the reservation period
- Lesley, Craig. Winterkill (FICTION LESLEY)
The struggles of a Native American man to raise his son
- Lesley, Craig. River Song (FICTION LESLEY)
A Native American father and son (first told in Winterkill) try to balance traditional ways with white culture
- Marshall, Joseph. Winter of the Holy Iron (FICTION MARSHAL)
Accommodation of Lakota to the coming of the white man and the gun
- Matheson, David. Red Thunder (FICTION MATHESO)
Coeur d'Alene (or Schitsu'umsh) author and tribal member David Matheson reconstructs the world of an Idaho Native American family in the early 1700s.
- Momaday, N. Scott. House Made of Dawn (FICTION MOMADAY)
Returning to San Ysidro from WW II, Abel has trouble adjusting to the reservation and the ways of the white man.
- Mourning Dove. Cogewea: The Half-Blood (FICTION MOURNIN)

- A half-blood girl is caught between the white world and the world of full-blood reservation Indians
- Pierre, George. Autumn's Bounty (FICTION PIERRE)
Colville Confederated Tribes during the time of termination discussions
- Power, Susan. The Grass Dancer (FICTION POWER)
Myths and realities weave a delightful story set on a Sioux reservation in North Dakota
- Ruby, Robert. Half-Sun on the Columbia: A Biography of Chief Moses (BIOG MOSES)
A look at Washington State history and the Indian wars in the Northwest
- Sarris, Greg. Watermelon Nights: A Novel (FICTION SARRIS)
Tale of a Pomo Indian group and family told from the narrative perspective of Johnny Severe, his grandmother, and his mother
- Silko, Leslie Marmon. Ceremony (FICTION SILKO)
An American Indian struggles with life after being a prisoner of the Japanese in World War II
- Steber, Rick. Buy the Chief a Cadillac: A Novel (FICTION STEBER)
Set on the Klamath Indian Reservation in 1961 during termination
- Storm, Hyemeyohsts. Seven Arrows (FICTION STORM)
Symbolic stories of the Sun Dance Way in the Native American culture
- Strong, Albertine. Deluge: A Novel (FICTION STRONG)
The story of an extended Ojibwe family in northern Minnesota
- Sweeney, Edwin R. Cochise: Chiricahua Apache Chief (BIOG COCHISE)
The definitive biography of Cochise and his decade-long war with the United States
- Townsend, Camilla. Pocahontas and the Powhatan Dilemma (BIOG POCAHON)
She and her father interacted with the English "with sophistication, diplomacy, and violence"
- Trask, Kerry. Black Hawk: The Battle for the Heart of America (BIOG BLACK)
Provides a Native American perspective to the Sauk uprising of 1832
- Welch, James. Fools Crow (FICTION WELCH)
The Blackfeet Indians' way of life comes to an end with the coming of the white man
- Welch, James. Winter in the Blood (FICTION WELCH)
A man on the Blackfoot Indian Reservation faces his heritage and searches for his dream
- Welch, James. The Indian Lawyer (FICTION WELCH)
The successful life a Native American has made for himself is threatened
- Welch, James. The Heartsong of Charging Elk (FICTION WELCH)
The conflicts of an Oglala Sioux who performs in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in Europe
- NORWEGIAN**
- Hamsun, Knut. Growth of the Soil (FICTION HAMSUN)
Isak builds a home and provides for his family in the wilderness of north Norway
- Rolvaag, O.E. Giants in the Earth (FICTION ROLVAAG)

Norwegian pioneers in the Dakota Territory
 Undset, Sigrid. Kristin Lavransdatter 3 vols. (FICTION UNDSSET)
 An epic saga of a medieval Norwegian heroine

RUSSIAN

Pasternak, Boris. Doctor Zhivago (FICTION PASTERNAK)
 A love story set amid the chaos of the Russian Revolution
 Solzhenitsyn, Alexander. One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich (FICTION SOLZHEN)
 The bleak account of life in a Siberian prison camp

Saudi Arabia

Alsanea, Rajaa. Girls of Riyadh (FICTION ALSANEA)
 Four young women from Saudi Arabia's upper class reveal their social and sexual tribulations

SCOTTISH TRAVELLERS/ROMA/GYPSIES

Smith, Jess. Jessie's Journey: Autobiography of a Traveller Girl (BIOG SMITH)
 A family of travellers (nomadic people, Roma, or Gypsies) roaming Scotland in the 1950s and 60s.
 Smith, Jess. Tales from the Tent: Jessie's Journey Continues (BIOG SMITH)
 Smith, Jess. Tears for a Tinker: Jessie's Journey Concludes (BIOG SMITH)
 The last in the trilogy of Jessie's journeys as a traveller.
 Whyte, Betsy. The Yellow on the Broom: The Early Days of a Traveller Woman (BIOG WHYTE)
 She belongs to a Perthshire-Angus travelling background.

YAQUI INDIAN

Fontes, Montserrat. Dreams of the Centaur: A Novel (FICTION FONTES)
 A complex tale of family and history involving Mexicans and Yaqui Indians