



The Great American Read: The Book of Books

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A blockbuster illustrated book that captures what Americans love to read, *The Great American Read: The Book of Books* is the gorgeously-produced companion book to PBS's ambitious summer 2018 series.

What are America's best-loved novels? PBS will launch *The Great American Read* series with a 2-hour special in May 2018 revealing America's 100 best-loved novels, determined by a rigorous national survey. Subsequent episodes will air in September and October. Celebrities and everyday Americans will champion their favorite novel and in the finale in late October, America's #1 best-loved novel will be revealed.

The Great American Read: The Book of Books will present all 100 novels with fascinating information about each book, author profiles, a snapshot of the novel's social relevance, film or television adaptations, other books and writings by the author, and little-known facts. Also included are themed articles about banned books, the most influential book illustrators, reading recommendations, the best first-lines in literature, and more.

Beautifully designed with rare images of the original manuscripts, first-edition covers, rejection letters, and other ephemera, *The Great American Read: The Book of Books* is a must-have book for all booklovers.

The Great American Read: The Book of Books Details

Date : Published August 21st 2018 by Black Dog & Leventhal

ISBN :

Author : PBS

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Genre : Nonfiction, Writing, Books About Books, Reference, Adult



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Sunshine says

For those of us who have been following since May, this book has been long awaited. This book is not really a cover to cover read, but it is a great coffee table book! Lots of great nuggets to chew on such as literary terms, factoids on the 100 greatest novels, suggested reading lists, author bios and much more. Love the pics from the movie that were made and old illustrations.

Michelle says

This is a great accompaniment to PBS's Great American read, especially if you have read or are intending to read any of the top 100 books they have chosen. The little insights are great. I am taking off one star though, because I did find a few errors in this first edition. It states the movie version of *Gone with the Wind* was in 1929 - wrong. There is also a photograph of Charles Dickens which says it is from 1967. That one made me laugh, because my first thought was "Good Lord, he was still alive then???" Lol.

?Eryn says

I thought this was a wonderful collection of "America's best-loved novels." You can really see the effort that was put into making this appealing. However, I'm giving it 4-stars purely because I didn't agree with all the books that were chosen. Especially *Fifty Shades of Grey*, since I hear more complaints about that book than praises.

Michael Shayne says

I am kind of excited to review the Top 100 Novels. Curious as to how many I have read and inspired to tackle those I haven't.

Any of my fellow bookworms looking forward to this?

• * ° *• Gwendolyn•°***★°***★ says

5 Stars! Wow! I didn't expect all this goodness!

I love the insight given to each great books. To included books I have already read and ones I now want to read soon. I also loved reading the best first liners of a book(s).

“ Call me Ishmael”

“ I’m an invisible man”.

This wealth of information of why this book did well was awesome. This book is pretty enough to be a table book. But, the pure awesome of this, makes it a book lovers treasure. And this book makes my book lover heart happy.?

Molly says

This is a nice coffee table companion book to flip through if you're a fan of the series. Can't wait for the fall to see the show come back to PBS!

Kathy McC says

The Book of Books had fabulous, in-depth information about the 100 books on the Great American Read list. Interspersed between the novel information pages are short sections about literary analysis. I read with interest the section on the best first lines in literature, as well as the most compelling characters. *“Scarlett O’Hara is quite possibly the most famous female character in American history.”* AGREED!! There is also a great chart in the middle of the book that analyzes what genre categories you should read based on your favorites novels.

I have found this PBS project to be a wonderful testament to the power of books of all genres.

“So can black marks on a white page. We weep with sorrow, or joy. Our cares disappear, as do our surroundings and we are transported, as if by some supernatural sleight of hand, into other times, minds, and places-- all by reading.”

“Despite all that, Scarlett persists as a precursor to strong female protagonists of our own era.”

“Steinbeck demonstrates how acts of kindness, both big and small, have an uplifting effect, which in turn furthers more acts of kindness. Man may pass inhumanity on to man, but he is equally capable of passing on benevolence and selflessness. There is a choice.”

“Books save Liesel, books cement her relationships with other people, and books give her a lifeline in a drowning world. We need to keep writing and reading, Zusak tells us, so that we can keep living.”

Bookworm says

In the summer of 2018 PBS is running a big special about the best loved novels in the US. It's major campaign and slick production with various personalities talking about their favorite books to social media posts to publishers giving shout-outs if their author appears on the segment, etc. it's a book heaven.

This book explores those 100 books. If you love reading there's a good chance you're familiar with most, if

not all of the titles although I did come across a few I had never heard of. Everything from 'The Lord of the Rings' to 'The Color Purple' there's a good chance you've read at least a few of these books if only in school.

In between the profiles of each book (1 page dedicated to the image of the cover and particular illustrations to the opposite page talking about the book) you can read things from famous opening lines to recommendations of what you might like to read based on your interests, etc. There is also a discussion about film/movie adaptations, discussions of the library, etc.

It's a nice compliment to what I've seen so far of the series PBS is running, although the books are fairly "standard" and it's not extremely diverse. But it is what it is and I'm not surprised at most of the selections or why they're included as selections of a "best-loved" collection.

I enjoyed the book but wouldn't buy it unless you're a seriously bibliophile and would like this very nice coffee table-type book for your personal library. Otherwise it's a good library borrow and that was best for me.

Julie says

Beautiful coffee table book of the books in the Great American Read. Facts behind each of the 100 books in the PBS series.

Marylou says

Great resource

This is a great resource for learning about reader's favorite books as well as a great place to find new reads for yourself.
