American Tales



A 2026 Reading Challenge
From the Eldredge Public Library

In honor of America's 250th birthday, we'll be looking back at some of the defining moments in our nation's story.

From the sophisticated societies of Pre-Columbian America to the struggles of the Revolution, from the heartbreaks of the Civil War to the excesses of the Gilded Age, from the cracking of the atom to our journey to the stars—**American Tales** invites us to revisit eras we know well and explore those we've never investigated.

Each month offers a chance to dive into fiction and nonfiction from, about, or set in twelve distinct periods of American history. Pick up a map and reading suggestions at the Library or click the links on the reading list here.

Stop by each month to tell us what you read and have your map stamped, as you make your way across the country!



ELDREDGE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Reading List

November

Contemporary America (1991-present)

Contemporary American Fiction

- ***Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*** by Gabrielle Zevin
- ***Demon Copperhead*** by Barbara Kingsolver
- ***You Were Always Mine*** by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza
- ***There,** There* by Tommy Orange
- ***Hello Beautiful*** by Ann Napolitano
- ***The Altruists*** by Andrew Ridker

Contemporary American Nonfiction

- ***Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*** by Allison Bechdel
- ***Between the World and Me*** by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- ***Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American** City* by Matthew Desmond
- ***Nickel and Dimed: on (not) getting by in America*** by Barbara Ehrenreich
- ***American Rambler*** by Isaac Fitzgerald
- ***I'm Glad My Mom Died*** by Jennette McCurdy

Contemporary Cape Cod

- ***Still Alice*** by Lisa Genova
- ***In their footsteps: the interesting people, places, and events of Cape Cod history*** by Christopher Setterland
- ***The Big House: A Century in the Life of an American Summer Home*** by George Howe Colt