

Best of 2013

What was the best book you read and/or listened to in 2013? This is what you told us.

Adult

[The 100-year-old man who climbed out the window and disappeared: a novel \(audiobook\)](#)

by Jonasson, Jonas

LISTLIB DISC FICTION JONASSON

[Across the pond: an Englishman's view of America](#)

by Eagleton, Terry

306.0973 EAG

[The age of miracles: a novel](#)

by Walker, Karen Thompson

FICTION WAL

[All the little live things](#)

by Stegner, Wallace

FICTION STE

[Alone together: why we expect more from technology and less from each other](#)

by Turkle, Sherry

303.4833 TUR

[Americanah](#)

by Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi

FICTION ADI

[And the mountains echoed](#)

by Hosseini, Khaled

FICTION HOS

[Beautiful ruins: a novel](#)

by Walter, Jess

FICTION WAL

[Beautiful ruins: a novel \(audiobook\)](#)

by Walter, Jess

LISTLIB DISC FICTION WALTER

[Behind the scenes at the museum: a novel](#)

by Atkinson, Kate

FICTION ATK

[Bird by bird: instructions on writing and life](#)

by Lamott, Anne

808.02 LAM

[The bluest eye](#)

by Morrison, Toni

FIC MOR

[Born of silence](#)

by Kenyon, Sherrilyn

FICTION KEN

[The botany of desire: a plant's eye view of the world](#)

by Pollan, Michael

306.45 POL

[Brewster: a novel](#)

by Slouka, Mark

FICTION SLO

[Bring up the bodies: a novel](#)

by Mantel, Hilary

FICTION MAN

[Broken Harbor](#)

by French, Tana

LISTLIB DISC MYSTERY FRENCH

[Broken Harbor](#)

by French, Tana

MYSTERY FRE

[The cat's table](#)

by Ondaatje, Michael

FICTION OND

[Change your brain, change your body: use your brain to get and keep the body you have always wanted : boost your brain to improve your weight, skin, heart, energy, and focus](#)

by Amen, Daniel

613 AME

[The Circle \(audiobook\)](#)

by Eggers, Dave

LISTLIB DISC FICTION EGGERS

[The Circle: a novel](#)

by Eggers, Dave

FICTION EGG

[In cold blood: a true account of a multiple murder and its consequences](#)

by Capote, Truman

364.1523 CAP

[Cosmos](#)

by Gombrowicz, Witold

FICTION GOM

[The creature from Jekyll Island: a second look at the Federal Reserve](#)

by Griffin, G. Edward

332.1109 GRI

[The Cuckoo's Calling](#)

by Galbraith (J. K. Rowling), Robert

MYSTERY GAL

[Daring greatly: how the courage to be vulnerable transforms the way we live, love, parent, and lead](#)

by Brown, Brené

158 BRO

[Drive: the surprising truth about what motivates us](#)

by Pink, Daniel

153.1534 PIN

[East of Eden](#)

by Steinbeck, John

FICTION STE

An epic story of good vs evil taking place from coast to coast and over generations. Through rich description the characters come alive as does the landscape. Steinbeck's description of Salinas and the surrounding areas is breathtaking and I gain something new from every read.

[The eighty-dollar champion: Snowman, the horse that inspired a nation](#)

by Letts, Elizabeth

798.2507 LET

[El alquimista](#)

by Coelho, Paulo

460 COE

[The elegance of the hedgehog](#)

by Barberry, Muriel

FICTION BAR

[The Eye of Go](#)

by Rollins, James

FICTION ROL

[Facing the wave: a journey in the wake of the tsunami](#)

by Ehrlich, Gretel

363.3494 EHR

[Fifth life of the catwoman : a novel](#)

by Dexter, Kathleen

FICTION DEX

[Flight behavior: a novel](#)

by Kingsolver, Barbara

FICTION KIN

[A game of thrones](#)

Series Title: [Song of ice and fire](#)

by Martin, George R. R.

PBC SCIENCE FICTION MAR

[Garden spells](#)

by Allen, Sarah Addison

FICTION ALL

[The gifts of imperfection: let go of who you think you're supposed to be and embrace who you are](#)

by Brown, Brené

158 BRO

[Go the fuck to sleep](#)

by Mansbach, Adam

9781617750250

[God's hotel: a doctor, a hospital, and a pilgrimage to the heart of medicine](#)

by Sweet, Victoria

BIO SWEET

[Going clear: Scientology, Hollywood, and the prison of belief](#)

by Wright, Lawrence

299.936 WRI

[The goldfinch](#)

by Tartt, Donna

FICTION TAR

[The golem and the jinni: a novel](#)

by Wecker, Helene

FICTION WEC

[Gone girl: a novel](#)

by Flynn, Gillian

MYSTERY FLY

[Gone girl: a novel \(audiobook\)](#)

by Flynn, Gillian

LISTLIB DISC MYSTERY FLYNN

[Gone with the wind](#)

by Mitchell, Margaret

FICTION MIT

[The grapes of wrath](#)

by Steinbeck, John

FICTION STE

[Gulp: adventures on the alimentary canal](#)

by Roach, Mary

612.3 ROA

[The hare with amber eyes: a hidden inheritance](#)

by De Waal, Edmund

920 DEW

[Her: a memoir](#)

by Parravani, Christa

BIO PARRAVANI

[Hebrews, Greeks, and Romans: the foundations of Western Civilization \(audiobook\)](#)

by Shutt, Timothy Baker

LISTLIB DISC 909.0982 SHU

[The help](#)

by Stockett, Kathryn

FICTION STO

[Help, thanks, wow: the three essential prayers](#)

by Lamott, Anne

242.4 LAM

[In her shoes: a novel](#)

by Weiner, Jennifer

FICTION WEI

[High tide in Tucson: essays from now or never](#)

by Kingsolver, Barbara

814 KIN

[The Holy Quran: English translation for Muslims first book](#)

by Alkharraz (tr), Saad Mohammad

297.122 QUR

[The hot zone](#)

by Preston, Richard

614.57 P92

[Housekeeping](#)

by Robinson, Marilynne

PBC FICTION

[How to believe in God: whether you believe in religion or not](#)

by Strand, Clark

220.6 STR

[The husband's secret](#)

by Moriarty, Liane

FICTION MOR

[Inside scientology: the story of America's most secretive religion \(audiobook\)](#)

by Reitman, Janet

LISTLIB DISC 299.936 REI

[Jurassic Park: a novel](#)

by Crichton, Michael

FICTION CRI

[The kite runner](#)

by Hosseini, Khaled

FICTION HOS

[Kon-Tiki: across the Pacific by raft](#)

by Heyerdahl, Thor

910.9164 HEY

"Am going to cross Pacific on a wooden raft to support a theory that the South Sea islands were peopled from Peru. Will you come? ...Reply at once." That is how six brave and inquisitive men came to seek a dangerous path to test a scientific theory. On a primitive raft made of forty-foot balsa logs and named "Kon-Tiki" in honor of a legendary sun king, Heyerdahl and five companions deliberately risked their lives to show that the ancient Peruvians could have made the 4,300-mile voyage to the Polynesian islands on a similar craft. On every page of this true chronicle--from the actual building of the raft through all the dangerous and comic adventures on the sea, to the spectacular crash-landing and the native islanders' hula dances--each reader will find a wholesome and spellbinding escape from the twenty-first century.

[Kristin Lavransdatter](#)

by Undset, Sigrid

FICTION UND

[Kushiel's dart](#)

by Carey, Jacqueline

SCIENCE FICTION CAS

[The lacuna: a novel](#)

by Kingsolver, Barbara

FICTION KIN

[The language of emotions](#)

by McLaren, Karla

152.4 MCL

[The language of flowers: a novel](#)

by Diffenbaugh, Vanessa

FICTION DIF

[The last Chinese chef](#)

by Mones, Nicole

FICTION MON

[The last kiss goodbye: a novel](#)

by Robards, Karen

FICTION ROB

[The last lecture](#)

by Pausch, Randy

BIO PAUSCH

[Last rituals: an Icelandic novel of secret symbols, medieval witchcraft, and modern murder](#)

by Sigurdardóttir, Yrsa

MYSTERY YRS

[The last suppers](#)

by Davidson, Diane Mott

MYSTERY DAV

[The lemon tree: an Arab, a Jew, and the heart of the Middle East](#)

by Tolan, Sandy

956.9405 TOL

[Les misérables](#)

by Hugo, Victor

FICTION HUG

[In lieu of flowers: a conversation for the living](#)

by Cobb, Nancy

306.9 COB

[Life after life: a novel](#)

by Atkinson, Kate

FICTION ATK

[Life of Pi: a novel](#)

by Martel, Yann

FICTION MAR

[The light between oceans: a novel](#)

by Stedman, M. L.

FICTION STE

[Light of the world: a Dave Robicheaux novel](#)

by Burke, James Lee

MYSTERY BUR #20

[Lionel Asbo: state of England](#)

by Amis, Martin

FICTION AMI

[Little Bee](#)

by Cleave, Chris

FICTION CLE

[Longbourn](#)

by Baker, Jo

MYSTERY BAK

American Library Association "Listen List" choice

[Lost memory of skin](#)

by Banks, Russell

FICTION BAN

[The lowland: a novel](#)

by Lahiri, Jhumpa

FICTION LAH

[A madness of angels, or, The resurrection of Matthew Swift](#)

Series Title: [Matthew Swift](#)

by Griffin, Kate

SCIENCE FICTION GRI #1

[Madness, rack, and honey: collected lectures](#)

by Ruefle, Mary

809.1 RUE

[The magician king: a novel](#)

by Grossman, Lev

FICTION GRO

[The magicians: a novel](#)

by Grossman, Lev

FICTION GRO

[Man's search for meaning](#)

by Frankl, Viktor

150.195 FRA

[Me before you](#)

by Moyes, Jojo

FICTION MOY

Taking a job as an assistant to extreme sports enthusiast Will, who is wheelchair bound after a motorcycle accident, Louisa struggles with her employer's acerbic moods and learns of his shocking plans before demonstrating to him that life is still worth living.

[The memoirs of Sherlock Holmes](#)

by Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan

FICTION DOY

[Moby Dick, or, The white whale](#)

by Melville, Herman

FICTION MEL

[Montauk revisited: adventures in synchronicity](#)

Series Title: [Montauk](#)

by Nichols, Preston B.

133.8 NIC

[Mr. Penumbra's 24-hour bookstore](#)

by Sloan, Robin

FICTION SLO

[Mrs. Lincoln's dressmaker: a novel](#)

by Chiaverini, Jennifer

FICTION CHI

[Nature and the human soul: cultivating wholeness and community in a fragmented world](#)

by Plotkin, Bill

155 PLO

[The Neruda case](#)

by Ampuero, Roberto

MYSTERY AMP

[Never go back: a Jack Reacher novel](#)

by Child, Lee

FICTION CHI

[The night circus: a novel](#)

by Morgenstern, Erin

FICTION MOR

[Night film: a novel](#)

by Pessl, Marisha

FICTION PES

[Nineteen eighty-four: a novel](#)

by Orwell, George

FICTION ORW

[NOS4A: a novel](#)

by Hill, Joe

FICTION HIL

[The ocean at the end of the lane](#)

by Gaiman, Neil

SCIENCE FICTION GAI

[Olive Kitteridge](#)

by Strout, Elizabeth

FICTION STR

[One hundred years of solitude](#)

by García Márquez, Gabriel

FICTION GAR

[In one person: a novel](#)

by Irving, John

FICTION IRV

[Oryx and Crake: a novel](#)

by Atwood, Margaret

SCIENCE FICTION

[Outliers: the story of success](#)

by Gladwell, Malcolm

302 GLA

[Peace like a river](#)

by Enger, Leif

FICTION ENG

[The pillars of the earth](#)

by Follett, Ken

FICTION FOL

[Play it as it lays: a novel](#)

by Didion, Joan

FICTION DID

[The poisonwood bible: a novel](#)

by Kingsolver, Barbara

FICTION KIN

[The power of habit: why we do what we do in life and business](#)

by Duhigg, Charles

158.1 DUH

[Ready player one](#)

by Cline, Ernest

FICTION CLI

[The return of the king: being the third part of The lord of the rings](#)

by Tolkien, J.R.R.

FICTION TOL

[A romance on three legs: Glenn Gould's obsessive quest for the perfect piano](#)

by Hafner, Katie

786.2092 HAF

[S.](#)

by Dorst, Doug

FICTION DOR

[Saving CeeCee Honeycutt: a novel](#)

by Hoffman, Beth

FICTION HOF

[Saving fish from drowning](#)

by Tan, Amy

FICTION TAN

[Sea of poppies](#)

by Ghosh, Amitav

FICTION GHO

[The sense of an ending](#)

by Barnes, Julian

FICTION BAR

[The signature of all things](#)

by Gilbert, Elizabeth

FICTION GIL

[The storyteller: a novel](#)

by Picoult, Jodi

FICTION PIC

[Tattoos on the heart: the power of boundless compassion](#)

by Boyle, Gregory

277.9494 BOY

[Team of rivals: the political genius of Abraham Lincoln](#)

by Goodwin, Doris Kearns

BIO LINCOLN

[Tell the wolves I'm home: a novel](#)

by Brunt, Carol Rifka

FICTION BRU

[Turn of mind](#)

by LaPlante, Alice

FICTION LAP

[Unbroken: a World War II story of survival, resilience, and redemption](#)

by Hillenbrand, Laura

940.5472 HIL

[The Urantia book](#)

by Urantia Foundation,

299 URA

[Visiting Tom: a man, a highway, and the road to roughneck grace](#)

by Perry, Michael

BIO HARTWIG

[Waiting to be heard: a memoir](#)

by Knox, Amanda

BIO KNOX

[Watership Down](#)

by Adams, Richard

FICTION ADA

[Wave](#)

by Deraniyagala, Sonali

BIO DERANIYAGALA

[We are water: a novel](#)

by Lamb, Wally

FICTION LAM

[Web of debt: the shocking truth about our money system--the sleight of hand that has trapped us in debt and how we can break free](#)

by Brown, Ellen Hodgson

332.4 BRO

[When the killing's done](#)

by Boyle, T. Coraghessan

FICTION BOY

[Where'd you go, Bernadette: a novel](#)

by Semple, Maria

FICTION SEM

When her notorious, hilarious, volatile, talented, troubled, and agoraphobic mother goes missing, teenage Bee begins a trip that takes her to the ends of the earth to find her.

[Wild comfort: the solace of nature](#)

by Moore, Kathleen Dean

508 MOO

[Wild: from lost to found on the Pacific Crest Trail](#)

by Strayed, Cheryl

BIO STRAYED

In the summer of 1995, at age 26 and feeling at the end of her rope emotionally, Strayed resolved to hike solo the Pacific Crest Trail, a 2,663-mile wilderness route stretching from the Mexican border to the Canadian and traversing nine mountain ranges and three states. In this detailed, in-the-moment re-enactment, she delineates the travails and triumphs of those three grueling months. Living in Minneapolis, on the verge of divorcing her husband, Strayed was still reeling from the sudden death four years before of her mother from cancer; the ensuing years formed an erratic, confused time "like a crackling Fourth of July sparkler." Hiking the trail helped decide what direction her life would take, even though she had never seriously hiked or carried a pack before. Starting from Mojave, Calif., hauling a pack she called the Monster because it was so huge and heavy, she had to perform a dead lift to stand, and then could barely make a mile an hour. Eventually she began to experience "a kind of strange, abstract, retrospective fun," meeting the few other hikers along the way, all male; jettisoning some of the weight from her pack and burning books she had read; and encountering all manner of creature and acts of nature from rock slides to snow. Her account forms a charming, intrepid trial by fire, as she emerges from the ordeal bruised but not beaten, changed, a lone survivor. Agent: Janet Silver, Zachary Shuster Harmsworth Agency. (Mar.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved.

[The wild trees: a story of passion and daring](#)

by Preston, Richard

585.5097 PRE

[Wingshooters](#)

by Revoyr, Nina

FICTION REV

[Without lying down: Frances Marion and the powerful women of early Hollywood](#)

by Beauchamp, Cari

B MAR

[Woes of the true policeman](#)

by Bolaño, Roberto

FICTION BOL

[Written in red: a novel of the Others](#)

by Bishop, Anne

SCIENCE FICTION BIS

[The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali](#)

by Patañjali,

181.452 PAT

[Zorba the Greek](#)

by Kazantzakis, Nikos

FICTION KAZ

Teen

[The archived](#)

by Schwab, Victoria

YA FICTION SCH

[Axe Cop. 1](#)

by Nicolle, Malachai

YA GN FICTION NIC #1

[Between shades of gray](#)

by Sepetys, Ruta

YOUNG ADULT FICTION SEP

[The book thief](#)

by Zusak, Markus

YOUNG ADULT FICTION ZUS

[Cinder](#)

by Meyer, Marissa

YOUNG ADULT FICTION MEY #1

[Divergent](#)

Series Title: [Divergent](#)

by Roth, Veronica

[Fangirl](#)

by Rowell, Rainbow

YA FICTION ROW

[The graveyard book](#)

by Gaiman, Neil

YOUNG ADULT FICTION GAI

[The Hunger Games](#)

by Collins, Suzanne

YOUNG ADULT FICTION COL

Kids

[Abominables](#)

by Ibbotson, Eva

J FICTION IBB

[Avatar: the last airbender. \[Vol. 1\]](#)

by Montsalvo-Lagos, Tomas

J GN FICTION AVA

[Big machine](#)

by Wallace, Karen

J 624 WAL

[The clockwork three](#)

by Kirby, Matthew

J FICTION KIR

[Flora & Ulysses: the illuminated adventures](#)

by DiCamillo, Kate

J FICTION DIC

[Harry Potter and the deathly hallows](#)

by Rowling, J. K.

J FICTION ROW

[Harry Potter and the sorcerer's stone](#)

by Rowling, J. K.

J FICTION ROW

It's been widely challenged for violence, glorification of witchcraft, and for having a main character who breaks rules and is insubordinate to his elders. My favorite part about this being a "banned" book is that, if you read the book, it's really a story about the perseverance of love and friendship. Harry wouldn't be alive if it weren't for the love of his parents and he wouldn't have made it through the trials of the first book without the aid of his loyal friends (and a little rule-breaking.) People who try to ban Harry Potter have obviously never read it or else they would know that they're trying to deprive the world of such a wonderful and rich story.

[James and the giant peach: a children's story](#)

by Dahl, Roald

J FICTION DAH

[The jungle books](#)

by Kipling, Rudyard

J FICTION KIP

[Keeper of the lost cities](#)

by Messenger, Shannon

J FICTION MES

[My sister Sif](#)

by Park, Ruth

J FICTION

[Primate: the fearless science of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Biruté Galdikas](#)

by Ottaviani, Jim

J GN 599.8 OTT

[Ranger's apprentice: the royal ranger](#)

Series Title: [Ranger's Apprentice](#)

by Flanagan, John

J FICTION FLA

[Tallstar's revenge](#)

Series Title: [Warriors](#)

by Hunter, Erin

J FICTION HUN

[We are in a book!](#)

by Willems, Mo

JEASY WIL

[The Wednesday wars](#)

by Schmidt, Gary D.

J FICTION

[When you reach me](#)

by Stead, Rebecca

J FICTION STE