

## Fifty Great Short Stories Milton Crane

Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read It is no surprise that *Little Women*, the adored classic of four devoted sisters, was loosely based on Louisa May Alcott's own life. In fact, Alcott drew from her own personality to create a heroine unlike any seen before: Jo, willful, headstrong, and undoubtedly the backbone of the March family. Follow the sisters from innocent adolescence to sage adulthood, with all the joy and sorrow of life in between, and fall in love with them and this endearing story. Praised by Madeleine Stern as "a book on the American home, and hence universal in its appeal," *Little Women* has been an avidly read tale for generations.

In deze laatste, briljante thriller van de grootmeester van het genre stelt John Le Carré de vraag wat je je land nog verschuldigd bent als het geheel van je is vervreemd. *Silverview* is de laatste, intrigerende thriller van de hand van grootmeester John Le Carré. Het boek verschijnt postuum in de week dat Carré negentig zou zijn geworden. Julian Lawndesley heeft zijn goedbetaalde baan in de City van Londen de rug toegekeerd en is een boekhandel begonnen in een stadje aan de Engelse kust. Een paar maanden na de opening krijgt hij 's avonds bezoek van Edward, een Poolse immigrant die in 'Silverview' woont, een groot huis aan de rand van het stadje. Edward blijkt heel wat te weten over Julians achtergrond en heeft zelfs zijn vader nog gekend, beweert hij. Hij vraagt Julian de oren van het hoofd en komt al snel met grote toekomstplannen voor de bescheiden boekhandel. Als een kopstuk van de Geheime Dienst in Londen een brief over een gevaarlijk lek ontvangt, is het gedaan met de rust in Julians toevluchtsoord. *Silverview* is het fascinerende verhaal over een onwaarschijnlijke vriendschap en de confrontatie tussen onschuld en levenservaring, en tussen burgerplicht en persoonlijke waarden. 'Le Carré heeft het vermogen op meer fronten tegelijk te opereren: de uitwerking van de super ingenieuze plot, van zijn zeer levensechte dialogen en van het karakter van zijn personages.' *Volkskrant* magazine Zomer, 1991. Hannah Gavener is veertien jaar oud. In allerlei tijdschriften leest ze over sprookjesachtige bruiloften van filmsterren, terwijl het huwelijk van haar ouders op de klippen loopt. In de jaren die volgen ontdekt Hannah dat veel vragen over de liefde eerder moeilijker dan makkelijker te beantwoorden zijn naarmate je ouder wordt. Wanneer kun je bijvoorbeeld je tekortkomingen als volwassene niet meer afschuiven op een ongelukkige jeugd? En is het nu romantisch of juist naïef als je alles op het spel zet om een man te volgen die jou misschien helemaal niet ziet zitten? Na een lange reeks mislukte relaties besluit Hannah alle zekerheden in haar leven overboord te gooien en voor de eerste keer haar hart te volgen. De man van mijn dromen is een aanstekelijke en hartverwarmende roman die met een flinke dosis humor laat zien dat het de moeite waard is om risico's te nemen in je liefdesleven. Curtis Sittenfeld (1976) schrijft onder meer voor *The New York Times*. Haar debuutroman *Prep* was wereldwijd een groot succes. De man van mijn dromen is haar tweede roman. 'De man van mijn dromen is intelligent en ontroerend. Sittenfeld heeft een briljante schrijfstijl.' - *The Washington Post* 'De man van mijn dromen is zo eerlijk geschreven dat je voelt dat de auteur je niet om de tuin leidt, maar gewoon de rauwe waarheid over emoties en seks blootlegt. Dit is een dappere en verfrissende roman.' - Alice Munro 'De nieuwe roman van Sittenfeld is indrukwekkend, maar bovenal heerlijk om te lezen.' - *The Guardian*

Together in one book, the two most important documents in United States history form the enduring legacy of America's Founding Fathers including Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton. The Declaration of Independence was the promise of a representative government; the Constitution was the fulfillment of that promise. On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress issued a unanimous declaration: the thirteen North American colonies would be the thirteen United States of America, free and independent of Great Britain. Drafted by Thomas Jefferson, the Declaration set forth the terms of a new form of government with the following words: "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." Framed in 1787 and in effect since March 1789, the Constitution of the United States of America fulfilled the promise of the Declaration by establishing a republican form of government with separate executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The first ten amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, became part of the Constitution on December 15, 1791. Among the rights guaranteed by these amendments are freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, and the right to trial by jury. Written so that it could be adapted to endure for years to come, the Constitution has been amended only seventeen times since 1791 and has lasted longer than any other written form of government.

Wilkie Collins's classic thriller took the world by storm on its first appearance in 1859, with everything from dances to perfumes to dresses named in honor of the "woman in white." The novel's continuing fascination stems in part from a distinctive blend of melodrama, comedy, and realism; and in part from the power of its story. The catalyst for the mystery is Walter Hartright's encounter on a moonlit road with a mysterious woman dressed head to toe in white. She is in a state of confusion and distress, and when Hartright helps her find her way back to London she warns him against an unnamed "man of rank and title." Hartright soon learns that she may have escaped from an asylum and finds to his amazement that her story may be connected to that of the woman he secretly loves. Collins brilliantly uses the device of multiple narrators to weave a story in which no one can be trusted, and he also famously creates, in the figure of Count Fosco, the prototype of the suave, sophisticated evil genius. *The Woman in White* is still passed as a masterpiece of narrative drive and excruciating suspense. Introduction by Nicholas Rance

To read a story by Henry James is to enter a fully realized world unlike any other—a rich, perfectly crafted domain of vivid language and splendid, complex characters. Devious children, sparring lovers, capricious American girls, obtuse bachelors, sibylline spinsters, and charming Europeans populate these five fascinating nouvelles, which represent the author in both his early and late phases. From the apparitions of evil that haunt the governess in "The Turn of the Screw" to the startling self-scrutiny of an egotistical man in "The Beast in the Jungle," the mysterious turnings of human behavior are coolly and masterfully observed—proving Henry James to be a master of psychological insight as well as one of the finest prose stylists of modern English literature.

Introduction by Edward J. Larson ?Perhaps the most readable and accessible of the great works of scientific inquiry, *The Origin of Species* sold out its first printing on the very day it was published in 1859. Theologians quickly labeled Charles Darwin the most dangerous man in England and, as the *Saturday Review* noted, the uproar over the book quickly "passed beyond the bounds of the study and lecture-room into the drawing-room and the public street." Based largely on Darwin's experience as a naturalist while on a five-year voyage aboard H. M. S. *Beagle*, *The Origin of Species* set forth a theory of evolution and natural selection that challenged contemporary beliefs about divine providence and the immutability of species. This Modern Library edition includes a Foreword by the Pulitzer Prize-winning science historian Edward J. Larson, an introductory historical sketch, and a glossary Darwin later added to the original text.

Het paradijs verloren Singel Uitgeverijen

Love it or hate it, the five-paragraph essay is perhaps the most frequently taught form of writing in classrooms of yesterday and today. But have you ever actually seen five-paragraph essays outside of school walls? Kimberly Hill Campbell and Kristi Latimer reviewed the research on the effectiveness of the form as a teaching tool and discovered that the research does not support the five-paragraph formula. --from publisher description.

This authoritative Bantam Classic edition presents readers with a wide-ranging selection of Benjamin Franklin's most important writings, illuminating the complex and appealing character of this quintessential American who rose to fame as a publisher, inventor, educator, bon vivant, and statesman. Here are selections from Franklin's newspaper articles, from the sage wisdom of *Poor Richard's Almanac*, from his

entertaining letters, from his scientific essays, from his political and revolutionary writings, plus a generous sampling of his famous aphorisms, poems, and humor. And, most important, here is a newly edited text of one of the most vital and important works of American literature, the Autobiography. As fascinating and as relevant as ever, this timeless collection of writings reveals an extraordinary man whose mind was always curious, always questioning, and who forever remained dedicated to the principles of truth and liberty.

In a sleepy little New England village stands a dark, weather-beaten, many-gabled house. This brooding mansion is haunted by a centuries-old curse that casts the shadow of ancestral sin upon the last four members of the distinctive Pyncheon family. Mysterious deaths threaten the living. Musty documents nestle behind hidden panels carrying the secret of the family's salvation—or its downfall. Hawthorne called *The House of the Seven Gables* “a Romance,” and freely bestowed upon it many fascinating gothic touches. A brilliant intertwining of the popular, the symbolic, and the historical, the novel is a powerful exploration of personal and national guilt, a work that Henry James declared “the closest approach we are likely to have to the Great American Novel.”

“For many days we had been tempest-tossed...the raging storm increased in fury until on the seventh day all hope was lost.” From these dire opening lines, a timeless story of adventure begins. One family will emerge alive from this terrible storm: the Robinsons—a Swiss pastor, his wife, and four sons, plus two dogs and a shipload of livestock. Inspired by Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, this heartwarming tale portrays a family's struggle to create a new life on a strange and fantastic tropical island. There each boy must learn to utilize his own unique nature as their adventures lead to difficult challenges and amazing discoveries, including a puzzling message tied to an albatross's leg. But it is in the ingenuity and authenticity of the family itself, and the natural wonders of this exotic land that have made *The Swiss Family Robinson*, first published at the beginning of the nineteenth century, one of the most enduring and imitated stories of shipwreck and survival.

Als Indiana Jones econoom zou zijn, zou hij Steven Levitt heten. Freakonomics leest als een detective. Wall Street Journal Wat is gevaarlijker: een pistool of een zwembad? Wat hebben sumoworstelaars en schoolmeesters gemeen? En waarom wonen drugsdealers bij hun moeder? Het zijn vragen die je niet gauw van een econoom zou verwachten. Maar Steven Levitt is geen typische econoom. In *Freakonomics* onderzoekt hij met co-auteur Stephen Dubner de verborgen kant van de dingen om ons heen. De geheimen van de Klu Klux Klan, bijvoorbeeld. Of de waarheid over vastgoedmakelaars. En, stelt hij, heeft het dalen van de misdaadcijfers in plaats van met een goed draaiende economie niet eigenlijk alles te maken met de legalisering van abortus? *Freakonomics* is het leukste en verhelderendste boek over economie dat je je kunt voorstellen. Een mix van essentiële feiten en een meeslepende vertelling, die onze blik op de moderne wereld voorgoed verandert en verscherpt. Een fascinerend en belangrijk boek, leesbaar, compact en barstensvol informatie over de wereld om ons heen. Wie dit boek over de raadsels van het alledaagse leven heeft gelezen moet wel concluderen: economie is belangrijk, interessant en erg leuk. de Volkskrant `Levitt stelt ongewone vragen en geeft provocatieve antwoorden. Slim, precies en tot in detail. New York Times

in de tweede helft van de 20e eeuw zijn de Verenigde Staten en de Sovjet-Unie in een verwoede militaire strijd verwickeld om de eerste lancering van een raket. Die strijd wordt echter bruut verstoord als enorme ruimteschepen zich boven de belangrijkste wereldsteden positioneren, bestuurd door de militair superieure Overlords. In eerste instantie lijken hun eisen goedbedoeld: oorlog en armoede elimineren, de wereldbevolking verenigen en het uitsterven van de mensheid voorkomen. Maar welke prijs moet daarvoor betaald worden? Betekent hun gestage overname van de aarde het einde van de mensheid... of juist het begin? Het einde van het begin wordt sinds de publicatie in 1953 niet alleen als een sciencefictionklassieker gezien, maar ook als een literaire roman van het hoogste niveau. Geen wonder dat de jaarlijkse prijs voor de beste literaire sciencefictionroman de Arthur C. Clarke Award heet.

Seventeen-year-old David Balfour's villainous uncle has him kidnapped in order to steal his inheritance. David escapes only to fall into the dangerous company of rebels who are resisting British redcoats in the Scottish highlands.

Written almost a century before the daring flights of the astronauts, Jules Verne's prophetic novel of man's race to the stars is a classic adventure tale enlivened by broad satire and scientific acumen. When the members of the elite Baltimore Gun Club find themselves lacking any urgent assignments at the close of the Civil War, their president, Impey Barbicane, proposes that they build a gun big enough to launch a rocket to the moon. But when Barbicane's adversary places a huge wager that the project will fail and a daring volunteer elevates the mission to a “manned” flight, one man's dream turns into an international space race. A story of rip-roaring action, humor, and wild imagination, *From the Earth to the Moon* is as uncanny in its accuracy and as filled with authentic detail and startling immediacy as Verne's timeless masterpieces *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* and *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

These two essays by John Stuart Mill, England's greatest nineteenth-century philosopher, are the fruit of six hundred years of progressive thought about individual rights and the responsibilities of society. Together they provide the moral and theoretical justification for liberal democracy as we know it, and their incalculable influence on modern history testifies not only to the force of their arguments, but also to the power ideas can have over human affairs.

Upon its first appearance in 1895, Thomas Hardy's *Jude the Obscure* shocked Victorian critics and readers with a frank depiction of sexuality and an unbridled indictment of the institutions of marriage, education, and religion, reportedly causing one Angli-can bishop to order the book publicly burned. The experience so exhausted Hardy that he never wrote a work of fiction again. Rich in symbolism, *Jude the Obscure* is the story of Jude Fawley and his struggle to rise from his station as a poor Wessex stonemason to that of a scholar at Christminster. It is also the story of Jude's ill-fated relationship with his cousin Sue Bridehead, and the ultimate tragedy that causes Jude's undoing and Sue's transformation. *Jude the Obscure* explores man's essential loneliness and remains one of Hardy's most widely read novels.

The first and most successful in the Baroness's series of books that feature Percy Blakeney, who leads a double life as an English fop and a swashbuckling rescuer of aristocrats, *The Scarlet Pimpernel* was the blueprint for what became known as the masked-avenger genre. As Anne Perry writes in her Introduction, the novel “has almost reached its first centenary, and it is as vivid and appealing as ever because the plotting is perfect. It is a classic example of how to construct, pace, and conclude a plot. . . . To rise on the crest of laughter without capsizing, to survive being written, rewritten, and reinterpreted by each generation, is the mark of a plot that is timeless and universal, even though it happens to be set in England and France of 1792.”

Jane Austen's first novel, *Northanger Abbey*—published posthumously in 1818—tells the story of Catherine Morland and her dangerously sweet nature, innocence, and sometime self-delusion. Though Austen's fallible heroine is repeatedly drawn into scrapes while vacationing at Bath and during her subsequent visit to Northanger Abbey, Catherine eventually triumphs, blossoming into a discerning woman who learns truths about love, life, and the heady power of literature. The satirical *Northanger Abbey* pokes fun at the gothic novel while earnestly emphasizing caution to the female sex. This Modern Library Paperback Classic is set from the first edition of 1818.

Displaying the bold vision and growing skill of a young playwright, these are Shakespeare's first three history plays, covering some sixty tumultuous years of English history. Their pageantry, violence, and stirring speeches excite audiences with action as well as character, and midway through the final play in this trilogy, a shocking, clever, inimitably evil new voice is heard—that of Richard of Gloucester, destined to become England's most fearsome and hated ruler of all time, Richard III.

This essential one-volume collection brings together some of the most influential and significant works by African-American writers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Included herein are such classics as Frederick Douglass's *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave* (1845) and excerpts from W.E.B. DuBois's *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903), Harriet A. Jacobs's *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl: Written by Herself* (1861), Booker T. Washington's *Up from Slavery* (1901), and James Weldon Johnson's *The Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man* (1912). Whether read as records of African-American history, autobiography, or literature, these invaluable texts stand as timeless monuments to the courage, intellect, and dignity of those for whom writing itself was an act of rebellion—and whose voices and experiences would have otherwise been silenced forever. Edited and with an introduction by Anthony Appiah, who explains the distinctive American literary and cultural context of the time, this edition of *Early African-American Classics* remains the standard by which all similar collections will inevitably be compared.

Patrick Gamble is een gewone, verlegen jongen tot hij als enige een terroristische aanslag overleeft. Vanaf dat moment is hij held en inspirator tegen wil en dank. Claire Forrester ontdekt pas hoe bijzonder zij is als haar ouders voor haar ogen worden neergeschoten en ze moet vluchten voor haar leven. Altijd meende ze een normaal leven te kunnen leiden, maar als weerwolven door het hele land in opstand komen wordt ze ongewild betrokken bij de zaak. Terwijl om hen heen de wereld onherkenbaar verandert en de kwade machten steeds sterker worden, zullen de levens van deze twee jonge mensen voor altijd met elkaar verbonden zijn.

Paradise Lost is het grootste, beste en beroemdste gedicht van John Milton. Toen hij dit in 'blank verse' (rijmloze verzen) geschreven epos maakte, was hij al enige tijd blind; hij dicteerde het aan zijn dochter. Een deel van de in de hele wereldliteratuur onovertroffen klankschoonheid van het epos is misschien daaraan toe te schrijven. In het negende boek van *Het paradijs verloren* schrijft Milton: Mijn aard neigt er niet toe verslag te doen Van oorlog, tot dusver het enige thema Voor heldendichten: 't meesterstuk was om Taai, slepend moordbedrijf van fabuleuze Ridder te tonen in verdichte strijd. Milton wilde niet dichten over aardse strijd van helden en ridders, maar over opstand in de hemel, oorlog tussen God en Satan, elk met zijn legioen engelen, over het neerbliksemen van de gevallen engelen naar de hel en hun duivelse wraak op de nieuw geschapen mens in het paradijs: de verleiding van Adam en Eva en hun zondeval. Als de heidense godenwereld van Homerus en Vergilius al dichters had geïnspireerd tot werk van eeuwige roem, wat was er dan niet mogelijk met de grootse scheppingsmythe en de sublieme stof uit het Oude Testament? Miltons *Paradise Lost* verscheen in 1667 en werd op slag herkend als een meesterwerk. De laatste Nederlandse vertaling van dit epos dateert van honderddertig jaar geleden. Deze nieuwe vertaling van Peter Verstegen is de eerste die getrouw is aan inhoud én vorm. Een uitgebreid maar bondig commentaar biedt wetenswaardige achtergrondinformatie. Met alle prenten van Gustave Doré.

Best known for the novels *Little Women* and *Little Men*, Louisa May Alcott brought the story of her feisty protagonist Jo and the adventures and misadventures of the March family to an entertaining, surprising, and bittersweet conclusion in *Jo's Boys*. Beginning ten years after *Little Men*, *Jo's Boys* revisits Plumfield, the New England school still presided over by Jo and her husband, Professor Bhaer. Jo remains at the center of the tale, surrounded by her boys—including rebellious Dan, sailor Emil, and promising musician Nat—as they experience shipwreck and storm, disappointment and even murder. Popular for over a century, Alcott's series still holds universal appeal with its powerful and affectionate depiction of family—the haven where the prodigal can always return, adversity is shared, and our dreams of being cherished, despite our flaws, come true. In this edition of *Jo's Boys*, readers once again experience a treasured classic by one of America's best-loved writers.

Affordable, compact, and authoritative, this one-volume edition of *The Annotated Milton* encompasses the monumental sweep of John Milton's poetry. Here are Milton's early works, including his first great poem, "On the Morning of Christ's Nativity," the light and lyrical "L'Allegro" and "Il Penseroso," the masque *Comus*, and the lushly beautiful pastoral elegy "Lycidas." Here, too, included in their entirety, are the three epic poems considered to be among the finest works in the English language: *Paradise Lost*, *Paradise Regained*, and *Samson Agonistes*. Fully annotated by Burton Raffel, this distinguished edition clarifies the complex allusions of Milton's verse and references the personal, religious, historical, and mythical influences that inspired the great blind poet of England, who ranks among the undisputed giants of world literature.

Fashioned from the same experiences that would inspire the masterpiece *Huckleberry Finn*, *Life on the Mississippi* is Mark Twain's most brilliant and most personal nonfiction work. It is at once an affectionate evocation of the vital river life in the steamboat era and a melancholy reminiscence of its passing after the Civil War, a priceless collection of humorous anecdotes and folktales, and a unique glimpse into Twain's life before he began to write. Written in a prose style that has been hailed as among the greatest in English literature, *Life on the Mississippi* established Twain as not only the most popular humorist of his time but also America's most profound chronicler of the human comedy.

Unique and beautiful, *Beowulf* brings to life a society of violence and honor, fierce warriors and bloody battles, deadly monsters and famous swords. Written by an unknown poet in about the eighth century, this masterpiece of Anglo-Saxon literature transforms legends, myth, history, and ancient songs into the richly colored tale of the hero Beowulf, the loathsome man-eater Grendel, his vengeful water-hag mother, and a treasure-hoarding dragon. The earliest surviving epic poem in any modern European language. *Beowulf* is a stirring portrait of a heroic world—somber, vast, and magnificent.

Set during the French and Indian Wars, *The Deerslayer* vividly captures the essence of both the murderous humanity and the natural beauty that distinguished America's founding. The last of Cooper's famous *Leatherstocking Tales*, it is first chronologically in the frontier adventures of the backwoods scout Natty Bumppo. Amid a terrain largely inspired by Cooper's own boyhood, Natty's initiation in the moral codes of wilderness society is examined in what is, according to D. H. Lawrence, "the loveliest and best" of the *Leatherstocking* series. This Modern Library Paperback Classic is set from the definitive text established by James Franklin Beard and James P. Elliott, which is the Approved Text of the Center for Scholarly Editions of the Modern Language Association.

A new, wide-ranging selection of Ralph Waldo Emerson's most influential writings, this edition captures the essence of American Transcendentalism and illustrates the breadth of one of America's greatest philosophers and poets. The writings featured here show Emerson as a protester against social conformity, a lover of nature, an activist for the rights of women and slaves, and a poet of great sensitivity. As explored in this volume, Emersonian thought is a unique blend of belief in individual freedom and in humility before the power of nature. "I become a transparent eyeball," Emerson wrote in *Nature*, "I am nothing; I see all; the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God." Written over a century ago, this passage is a striking example of the passion and originality of Emerson's ideas, which continue to serve as a spiritual center and an ideological base for modern thought.

"The Secret Garden should be on every child's bookshelf."—Amanda Craig, *The Time* An enchanting story of transformation and compassion, Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden* is widely considered to be one of the most important works of children's literature. After her parents die of cholera, Mary Lennox, a difficult and sickly little girl, is brought from India to her mysterious uncle's sprawling estate on the Yorkshire moors. Mary continues in her self-absorbed ways until one day she discovers a hidden and neglected garden adjoining her uncle's mansion. When she meets Ben Weatherstaff, a curt but gentle gardener, and discovers her hidden-away invalid cousin, Colin Craven, the three come together to tend the garden, and Mary's

life—as well as the lives of those around her—begins to change in unforeseen ways. This Modern Library Paperback Classic is set from the text of the first American edition published in 1911. Praise for *The Secret Garden* “It is only the exceptional author who can write a book about children with sufficient skill, charm, simplicity, and significance to make it acceptable to both young and old. Mrs. Burnett is one of the few thus gifted.”—*The New York Times*

*The Eternal Husband and Other Stories* brings together five of Dostoevsky’s short masterpieces rendered into English by two of the most celebrated Dostoevsky translators of our time. Filled with many of the themes and concerns central to his great novels, these short works display the full range of Dostoevsky’s genius. The centerpiece of this collection, the short novel *The Eternal Husband*, describes the almost surreal meeting of a cuckolded widower and his dead wife’s lover. Dostoevsky’s dark brilliance and satiric vision infuse the other four tales with all-too-human characters, including a government official who shows up uninvited at an underling’s wedding to prove his humanity; a self-deceiving narrator who struggles futilely to understand his wife’s suicide; and a hack writer who attends a funeral and ends up talking with the dead. *The Eternal Husband and Other Stories* is sterling Dostoevsky—a collection of emotional power and uncompromising insight into the human condition.

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