


List compiled by Mindy Lewis, author of Dirt and Life Inside

SOME FAVORITE MEMOIRS, ESSAYS & NONFICTION

Moments of Being - Virginia Woolf
Pilgrim at Tinker's Creek, An American Childhood, Teaching a Stone to Talk - Annie Dillard
Kafka Was the Rage and Intoxicated by My Illness - Anatole Broyard
A Walker in the City - Alfred Kazin
Are You Somebody? and *Almost There* - Nuala O'Faolin
Stranger on a Train - Jenny Diski
Drinking the Rain, A Good Enough Daughter - Alix Kates Shulman
Fierce Attachments, Approaching Eye Level - Vivian Gornick
Autobiography of a Face and *As Seen on TV* - Lucy Grealy
The Leopard Hat - Valerie Steiker
Portrait of My Body, Against Joie de Vivre - Philip Lopate
A Lynne Sharon Schwartz Reader, Ruined by Reading - Lynn Sharon Schwartz
*A Feather on the Breath of God** - Sigrid Nunez
The Little Locksmith - Katharine Butler Hathaway
Grand Central Winter - Lee Stringer
True Notebooks, Iron and Silk - Mark Salzman
The Color of Water - James McBride
The Diving Bell and the Butterfly - J.P. Bauby
The Shadow Man - Mary Gordon
The Invention of Solitude - Paul Auster
This Boy's Life - Tobias Wolff
Stop-Time - Frank Conroy
Running in the Family - Michael Ondaatje
Slackjaw, Quitting the Nairobi Trio - Jim Knipfel
Dry, Running with Scissors, Magical Thinking - Augusten Burroughs
Welcome to My County, Lying: A Metaphorical Memoir - Lauren Slater
Slow Motion - Dani Shapiro
Expecting Adam - Martha Beck
The Liars' Club, Cherry - Mary Karr
City of One - Francine Cournos
Drinking: A Love Story, The Merry Recluse - Caroline Knapp
A Drinking Life, Downtown: My Manhattan - Pete Hamill
In the Shadow of the Sacred Grove - Carol Spindel
Mockingbird Years - Emily Gordon
The Loony-Bin Trip - Kate Millett
The Road from Coorain - Jill Kerr Conway
Tender at the Bone - Ruth Reichl
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings - Maya Angelou
*Breath, Eyes, Memory** - Edwidge Danticat
One Writer's Beginnings - Eudora Welty
*Annie John**, *Autobiography of My Father, My Brother*, and other writings by Jamaica Kincaid
Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch - Henry Miller (& other autobiographical writings)
Survival in Auschwitz, The Reawakening, and other writings by Primo Levi
Night and other writings by Elie Wiesel
Lost in Translation - Eva Hoffman
Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man - James Joyce*
Memories, Dreams, Reflections - C.G. Jung
*Down and Out in Paris and London** - George Orwell

*autobiographical fiction

 For a comprehensive list of memoir and nonfiction by subject: <http://www.english.uiowa.edu/nonfiction/readinglist.html>

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MORE MEMOIRS, ESSAYS & NONFICTION

- A Three Dog Life* - Abigail Thomas
Eat, Pray Love - Elizabeth Gilbert
Strange Piece of Paradise - Terri Jentz
Girls of Tender Age - Mary Ann Tirone-Smith
The Goldfish Went on Vacation - Patty Dann
Istanbul: Memories and the City - Orhan Pamuk
Another Bullshit Night in Suck City - Nick Flynn
The Glass Castle - Jeannette Walls
Black, White & Jewish - Rebecca Walker
Road Song - Natalie Kusz
Shot in the Heart - Mikal Gilmore
The Tennis Partner - Abraham Verghese
Angela's Ashes, Teacher Man - Frank McCourt
Sleeping Arrangements - Laura S. Cunningham
The Boys of My Youth - Jo Ann Beard
Food and Loathing - Betsy Lerner
Mommy Dressing - Lois Gould
At Home in the World - Joyce Maynard
Bone Black - Bell Hooks
The Tender Bar - J.R. Moehringer
Rough House, Tetched - Thaddeus Rutkowski
The Kiss, The Mother Knot - Kathryn Harrison
Truth and Beauty - Ann Patchett
Vertigo, Crazy in the Kitchen - Louise DeSalvo
Daybook: The Journal of an Artist - Ann Truitt
The Unabridged Journals of Sylvia Plath
I Knew A Woman - Courtney Davis
The Riddle Song - Rebecca McClanahan
What's Not to Love? - Jonathan Ames
A Fez of the Heart - Jeremy Seal
Black Lamb and Grey Falcon - Rebecca West
Slouching Towards Bethlehem - Joan Didion
The Long Winded Lady - Maeve Brennan
A Giacometti Portrait - James Lord
How Proust Can Change Your Life - Alain de Botton
At Large and At Small - Familiar Essays by Anne Fadiman
The Man Who Mistook His Wife For a Hat, An Anthropologist on Mars & other books by Oliver Sacks
On Kissing, Tickling and Being Bored - Adam Phillips

ANTHOLOGIES

- Best American Essays* (published annually)
New York Stories: The Best of the City Section of the New York Times
The Bitch in the House - Cathi Hanauer; *The Bastard on the Couch* - Daniel Jones
Only Child - Deborah Siegel and Daphne Uviller
Modern American Memoirs - Annie Dillard and Cort Conley
Survival Stories: Memoirs of Crisis - Kathryn Rhett
Unholy Ghost: Writers on Depression; An Uncertain Inheritance: Writers on Caring for Family - Nell Casey
Brooklyn Was Mine - Chris Knutsen, Valerie Steiker
About Face, Desire - anthologies by Seal Press (DIRT ed. ML, forthcoming Spring '09)