



Biographies | LIBRARIAN'S CHOICE

*Personalities and pasts of intriguing individuals
in a variety of stylings*

A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius

by David Eggers

A respected magazine editor and founder, a onetime spokesman for Generation X, offers a satiric, eloquent, and thoroughly tradition-shattering memoir.

Nim Chimpsky: The Chimp Who Would Be Human

by Elizabeth Hess

A chronicle of a young chimpanzee brought up with a large human family and taught to use sign language proficiently, until the funding for the study ended and he spent the next two decades exiled from his "family" and shuttled in and out of various facilities.

Madness: A Bipolar Life by Marya Hornbacher

A journalist describes the painful impact on her life of bipolar disease, from the initial diagnosis of the ailment, to her efforts to control violently careening mood swings, to her continuing struggle to cope with the ailment in every aspect of her life.

The Open Road: The Global Journey

Of The Fourteenth Dalai Lama by Pico Iyer

An illuminating account of the Dalai Lama explores his diverse roles as a politician, scientist, philosopher and religious leader.

Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits On An Iowa Farm During the Great Depression

by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

An evocative memoir of growing up in the heart of the Midwest during the Great Depression describes life on an Iowa farm, a time of endless work, resourcefulness, no tolerance for idleness or waste, family and kinship.

Animal, Vegetable Miracle: A Year Of Food Life

by Barbara Kingsolver

Follows the author's family's efforts to live on locally and home-grown foods, an endeavor through which they learned lighthearted truths about food production and the connection between health and diet.

Such A Pretty Fat : One Narcissist's Quest To Discover If Her Life Makes Her Ass Look Big, Or Why Pie Is Not The Answer by Jen Lancaster

A hilarious, refreshingly honest new memoir by the author of *Bitter Is the New Black* and *Bright Lights, Big Ass* sheds new light on the subject of surly neighbors, marriage, urban life, beauty, the fitness craze, and other idiosyncrasies of the modern world.

The other Side Of Israel: My Journey Across the Jewish-arab Divide by Susan Nathan

A British-born Jewish woman captures the harsh realities of life for Israel's frequently oppressed and neglected indigenous Arab population, exploring the historical factors and modern-day political and cultural currents that have created the situation.

Monsoon Diary: A Memoir With Recipes

by Shoba Narayan

Interweaves personal reminiscences with delicious Indian recipes and reflections about Indian and American culture, culinary traditions, and her own eccentric family.

Stealing Buddha's Dinner: A Memoir

by Bich Minh Nguyen

A coming-of-age memoir by a Vietnamese American recounts her struggles for an American identity in the pre-politically correct climate of the Midwest and her passion for American food in the face of her family's Buddhist lifestyle.

The Woman Who Can't Forget: The Extraordinary Story of Living With The Most Remarkable Memory Known to Science by Jill Price

A first-person account of the author's experiences with her extraordinary photographic memory describes her efforts to come to terms with abilities that cause her to remember events and details with complete recall.

Jesus Land: A Memoir by Julia Scheeres

The story of a white girl who was sent from the Midwest to a Christian reform school in the Dominican Republic after she and her black adopted brother fought back against the racism and bullying that was directed toward them.

Twenty Chickens For A Saddle:

The Story of an African Childhood by Robyn Scott

The author's documentary on growing up in Botswana with her eccentric family, an upbringing marked by her doctor father's yearnings to be a vet, her holistic and home-schooling mother, and the apartheid mind-set embraced by their white neighbors.

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