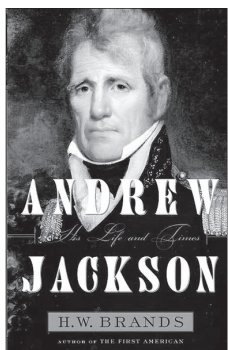


AUTUMN 2005



INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLER •
BOOK SENSE PICKS •
RECOMMENDATIONS

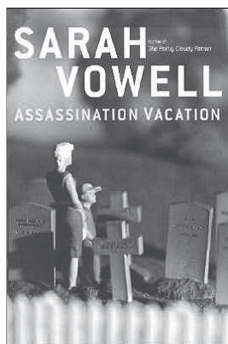
TOP TEN PICKS ABOUT LUMINARIES IN SCIENCE, ART, AND POLITICS



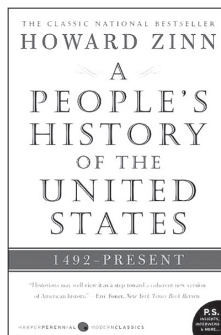
1. ANDREW JACKSON: *His Life and Times*, by H.W. Brands (Doubleday, \$35, 0385507380) “This is the first major treatment in years of this extremely important, but often overlooked, president. Brands vividly brings to life this complex, mercurial man, who created a democratic revolution and staunchly defended the Union.”—**Bill Cusumano, Nicola’s Books, Ann Arbor, MI**



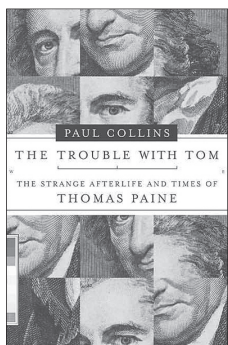
2. STARRY MESSENGER: *Galileo Galilei*, by Peter Sis (FSG, \$6.95 paper, 0374470278) “This beautiful picture book, which tells the story of Galileo’s life and work, is a timely message about censoring science.”—**Sara Carter, Children’s Bookshop, Kent, WA**



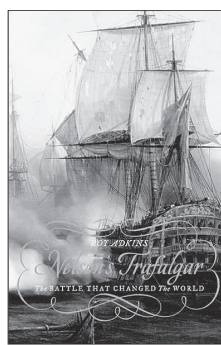
3. ASSASSINATION VACATION, by Sarah Vowell (Simon & Schuster, \$21, 0743260031) “Inspired by a Stephen Sondheim musical on the theme of presidential murder, Vowell is gripped by a fever for a subject that bends every personal orbit to a bizarre nucleus—that of assassination. She provides humor, wit, and insights as applicable to today as yesterday.”—**Anthony Finney, Inkwood Books, Tampa, FL**



4. A PEOPLE’S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES: *1492-Present*, by Howard Zinn (Perennial, \$18.95 paper, 0060838655) “Howard Zinn’s work exploring the birth and growth of the United States is both fascinating and disturbing, telling many of the familiar stories of our history from the point of view of those most affected by the events. Reading this insightful analysis has forever changed the way I will view our past and interpret the events shaping our future.”—**Patrice Beck Stein, Beck & Stein Books, Newport News, VA**

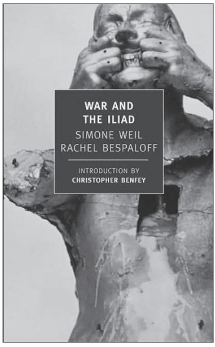


5. THE TROUBLE WITH TOM: *The Strange Afterlife and Times of Thomas Paine*, by Paul Collins (Bloomsbury, \$24.95, 1582345023) “Paul Collins steers down one of history’s strange, forgotten tributaries: the disappearance of Tom Paine’s remains. En route, he drums up phrenology, post-mortem autobiographies, 18th-century vending machines (which sold gin), and some great, lost hyperbolic eccentrics.”—**Dan Blask, Brookline Booksmith, Brookline, MA**

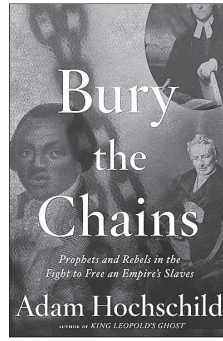


6. NELSON’S TRAFALGAR: *The Battle That Changed the World*, by Roy Adkins (Viking, \$27.95, 0670034487) “Quoting firsthand accounts of the battle’s survivors whenever possible and filled with informative diagrams, Adkins’ book is vivid and well-written, making you feel like you are living amidst the events it describes.”—**Carol Schneck, Schuler Books & Music, Okemos, MI**

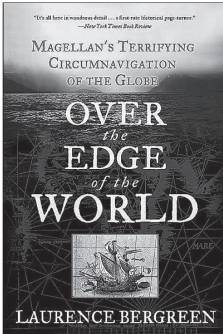
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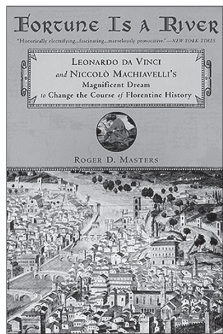
7. WAR AND THE ILIAD, by Simone Weil and Rachel Bespaloff (New York Review of Books, \$14.95 paper, 1590171454) “Simone Weil’s classic essay ‘The Iliad, or a Poem of Force’ is reprinted in this volume, analyzing the horrific effects of war on both those who bend their necks to the blade and those who wield it. A trenchant look at a brilliant work of the Western canon, which has more than passing relevance today.”—**Shawn Wathen, Chapter One Book Store, Hamilton, MT**



8. BURY THE CHAINS: Prophets and Rebels in the Fight to Free an Empire's Slaves, by Adam Hochschild (Houghton, \$26.95, 0618104690) “This is an excellent account of the birth of the antislavery movement in England, profiling in detail several of the key activists, some of whom met initially at a bookstore and printshop in London, thus proving once again the critical role bookstores play in their communities.” —**Kris Kleindienst, Left Bank Books, St. Louis, MO**



9. OVER THE EDGE OF THE WORLD: Magellan's Terrifying Circumnavigation of the Globe, by Laurence Bergreen (Perennial, \$15.95 paper, 006093638X) “Bergreen’s account of Magellan’s voyage, now available in paperback, is wonderful history and very readable, especially for adventure freaks.” —**Nancy Brown, R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison, CT**



10. FORTUNE IS A RIVER: Leonardo da Vinci and Niccolo Machiavelli's Magnificent Dream to Change the Course of Florentine History, by Roger D. Masters (Plume, \$12.95 paper, 0452280907) “A colossal failure by two of the most revered minds in European civilization provides the framework for this slender but richly informative book, which casts light on a lesser-known period in the lives of Machiavelli and da Vinci.”—**Nena Rowdah, St. Johns Booksellers, Portland, OR**

Da Vinci
THE CODE HE LIVED BY

Born in obscurity and illegitimate in a tiny Italian village in 1452, young Leonardo da Vinci seemed destined for a life of peasantry. But early mastery of art and a personal code for success that he developed catapulted him to the highest levels of Italian society and ultimately made him one of the most important figures of the Renaissance and one of the world's truly immortal minds. A fierce intellect made Leonardo the master of whatever he set his mind to, and his ability to see far beyond the limits and violence of his time continues to feed his popularity to this day.

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