

Early Literature (1840-1900)

- Edgar Allan Poe: *The Tell-Tale Heart* (1843) – short story
- Nathaniel Hawthorne: *The Scarlet Letter* (1850) – novel
- Herman Melville: *Moby-Dick/The Whale* (1851) – novel
- Louisa May Alcott: *Little Women* (1868) - novel
- Henry James: *Daisy Miller* (1878) – novella
- Mark Twain: *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884) - novel
- Henry James: *The Turn of the Screw* (1898) – novella
- Mary Hunter Austin: *The Land of Little Rain* (1903) - novel

Poetry:

Selected poems by Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson and Edgar Allan Poe

The Postwar Novel (1950-1970)

- J. D. Salinger: *The Catcher in the Rye* (1951)
- Saul Bellow: *The Adventures of Augie March* (1953)
- Harper Lee: *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960)
- John Updike: *Rabbit, Run* (1960)
- Joseph Heller: *Catch-22* (1961)
- Sylvia Plath: *The Bell Jar* (1963)
- Kurt Vonnegut Jr.: *Slaughterhouse-Five* (1969)

Postmodernism: The Contemporary Novel (1970 - present)

- Toni Morrison: *The Bluest Eyes* (1970)
- Thomas Pynchon: *Gravity's Rainbow* (1973)
- Cormac McCarthy: *Suttree* (1979)
- Jeanette Winterson: *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* (1985)
- Bret Easton Ellis: *American Psycho* (1991)
- Don DeLillo: *Underworld* (1997)
- Denis Johnson: *Tree of Smoke* (2007)
- David Foster Wallace: *The Pale King* (2012)