The Experts Choose the 100 Best Novels

15. Woolf, Virginia. To the Lighthouse.
25. Forster, E. M. A Passage to India.
27. James, Henry. The Ambassadors.
32. James, Henry. The Golden Bowl.
35. Faulkner, William. As I Lay Dying.
36. Warren, Robert Penn. All the King’s Men.
37. Wilder, Thornton. The Bridge of San Luis Rey.
38. Forster, E. M. Howards End.
42. Dickey, James. Deliverance.
43. Powell, Anthony. A Dance to the Music of Time. (series)
44. Huxley, Aldous. Point Counter Point.
45. Hemingway, Ernest. The Sun Also Rises.
49. Lawrence, D. H. Women in Love.
50. Miller, Henry. Tropic of Cancer.
51. Mailer, Norman. The Naked and the Dead.
52. Roth, Philip. Portnoy’s Complaint.

RADCLIFFE STUDENTS CHOOSE THE 100 BEST

17. Orwell, George. Animal Farm.
18. Hemingway, Ernest. The Sun Also Rises.
26. Mitchell, Margaret. Gone with the Wind.
28. Kesey, Ken. One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest.
30. Hemingway, Ernest. For Whom the Bell Tolls.
34. Woolf, Virginia. To the Lighthouse.
38. Warren, Robert Penn. All the King’s Men.
42. Wharton, Edith. The Age of Innocence.
43. Rand, Ayn. The Fountainhead.
44. Joyce, James. Finnegans Wake.
47. Baum, L. Frank. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.
50. Chopin, Kate. The Awakening.
52. Forster, E. M. Howards End.
54. Salinger, J. D. Franny and Zooey.
58. Wharton, Edith. The Age of Innocence.
60. Percy, Walker. The Moviegoer.
61. Cather, Willa.

Death Comes for the Archbishop.

62. Jones, James. From Here to Eternity.
64. Salinger, J. D. The Catcher in the Rye.
68. Lewis, Sinclair. Main Street.
70. Durrell, Lawrence. The Alexandria Quartet.
72. Naipaul, V. S. A House for Mr. Biswas.
73. West, Nathanael. The Day of the Locust.
74. Hemingway, Ernest. A Farewell to Arms.
75. Waugh, Evelyn. Scoop.
76. Spark, Muriel. The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie.
77. Joyce, James. Finnegans Wake.
79. Forster, E. M. A Room with a View.
82. Stegner, Wallace. Angle of Repose.
83. Naipaul, V. S. A Bend in the River.
84. Bowen, Elizabeth. The Death of the Heart.
86. Doctorow, E. L. Ragtime.
87. Bennett, Arnold. The Old Wives’ Tale.
89. Green, Henry. Loving.
91. Caldwell, Erskine. Tobacco Road.
94. Rhys, Jean. Wide Sargasso Sea.
95. Murdoch, Iris. Under the Net.
98. Cain, James M.

The Postman Always Rings Twice.
100. Tarkington, Booth.

The Magnificent Ambersons.

This list of the 100 best novels published in the English language since 1900 were chosen by the Modern Library editorial board in 1998. The members of this board were: Christopher Cerf, Daniel J. Boorstin, A. S. Byatt, Shelby Foote, Vartan Gregorian, Edmund Morris, Joyce Carol Oates, John Richardson, Salman Rushdie, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., William Styron, and Gore Vidal.

After the “100 Best” story broke in The New York Times in July 1998, a reader’s poll was conducted, which lasted three months and garnered 217,520 votes. Ayn Rand’s Atlas Shrugged and The Fountainhead were ranked #1 and #2 by readers. The reader’s list also reflected enthusiasm for science fiction as well as the more standard classics.

View the reader’s list at:

www.modernlibrary.com/top-100/100-best-novels