Victoria Fridley’s List of

Recommended Biographies/Autobiographies/Memoirs

For Foodies
- *Home Cooking*, Laurie Colwin (essays about adventures with food, with recipes)
- *More Home Cooking*, Laurie Colwin (further essays, often humorous)

Nature
- *Indian Creek Chronicles: A Winter Alone in the Wilderness*, Pete Fromm
- *Refuge*, Terry Tempest Williams
- *Riverwalking*, Kathleen Dean Moore
- *Holdfast: At Home in the Natural World*, Kathleen Dean Moore
- *The Pine Island Paradox*, Kathleen Dean Moore

By Women
- *Composing A Life*, Mary Catherine Bateson
- *Journal of a Solitude*, May Sarton
- *Truth and Beauty*, Ann Patchett
- *Autobiography of a Face*, Lucy Grealy
- *Gifts from the Sea*, Anne Morrow Lindbergh
- *The Crosswicks Journals: A Circle of Quiet; Summer of the Great Grandmother; The Irrational Season; and Two-Part Invention, The Story of a Marriage*, Madeline L’Engle

An Anthology of Memoir

Creativity
- *Uncommon Geniuses: Tracing the Creative Impulse with Forty Winners of the MacArthur Award*, Denise Shekerjian

On Writing and Creative Process (It’s true; not all of these books fit the category of autobiography/memoir, but I wanted to include this category for students. I had a difficult time narrowing my selections!)
- *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*, Annie Lamott
- *The Writer on Her Work, Volume One*, edited by Janet Sternburg
- *The Writer on Her Work, Volume Two*, edited by Janet Sternburg
- *Writing Brave and Free: Encouraging Words for People Who Want to Start Writing*, Ted Kooser and Steve Cox
- *Tell Me True: Memoir, History, and Writing a Life*, edited by Patricia Hampl et.al
- *The Writer’s Home Companion: An Anthology of the World’s Best Writing Advice, from Keats to Kunitz*, edited by Joan Bolker
- *Writing Past Dark*, Bonnie Friedman
- *The Gift: Imagination and the Erotic Life of Property*, Lewis Hyde
- *Sleeping with One Eye Open: Women Writers and the Art of Survival*, edited by Judith Ortiz Cofer and Marilyn Kallet
- *Telling Time: Essays on Writing*, Nancy Willard
Inventing the Truth: The Art and Craft of Memoir, edited by William Zinsser (He has a series of interviews with authors. Other topics include travel writing, spiritual writing, political writing, and writing for children).

Grass Roots Books & Music
227 SW 2nd Street
Corvallis, OR 97333
541-754-7668, grassroots@peak.org, grassrootsbookstore.com
Recommended Biographies/Autobiographies/Memoirs

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier, Ishmael Beah
The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid, Bill Bryson
Winter Creek: One Writer’s Natural History, John Daniel
What I Talk About When I Talk About Running, Haruki Murakami
Marley & Me, John Grogan
A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius, Dave Eggers
Dreams from My Father, Barack Obama
The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls
Angela’s Ashes, Frank McCourt
Chronicles: Volume One, Bob Dylan
Down and Out in Paris and London, George Orwell
My Life in France, Julia Child
Dry: A Memoir, Augusten Burroughs
Running with Scissors, Augusten Burroughs
The Sharper Your Knife, the Less You Cry, Kathleen Flinn
Three Cups of Tea, Greg Mortenson
Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood, Marjane Satrapi
Twenty Chickens for a Saddle: The Story of an African Childhood, Robyn Scott
Into the Wild, Jon Krakauer
Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster, Jon Krakauer
Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who would Change the World, Tracy Kidder
Tuesdays with Morrie, Mitch Albom
Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life, Barbara Kingsolver
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope, William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer
The Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank
Farewell to Manzanar, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
Rocket Boys: A Memoir, Homer H. Hickham
Crazy for the Storm: A Memoir of Survival, Norman Ollestad
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, Anne Fadiman
The Circuit, Breaking Through, Reaching Out (3 Books), Francisco Jimenez
Naked, David Sedaris
Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith, Anne Lamott
Chosen by a Horse, Susan Richards
Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, An American Childhood (2 books) Annie Dillard
Thinking in Pictures: And Other Reports from My Life with Autism, Temple Grandin
Learning to Breathe: One Woman’s Journey of Spirit & Survival, Alison Wright
Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never, Christopher McDougal
Burning Fence: A Western Memoir of Fatherhood, Craig Lesley
My Stroke of Genius, Jill Bolte Taylor