

MsEffie's Personal Favorites by Genre in 10s

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These are my must-read personal favorites, even a few guilty pleasures -- the titles I would love to talk about with a friend over Italian coffee and French madeleines.

TITLES in each genre -- *not in any particular order*

SHORT STORIES

1. "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe
2. "The Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin
3. "Miss Brill" by Katherine Mansfield
4. "The Scarlet Ibis" by James Hurst
5. "Love Is a Fallacy" by Max Shulman
6. "Marigolds" by Eugenia Collier
7. "The Hunger Artist" by Franz Kafka
8. "Br'er Rabbit and the Tar Baby" by Joel Chandler Harris
9. "Recitatif" by Toni Morrison
10. "King of the Bingo Game" by Ralph Ellison

NOVELS

1. *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison
2. *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad
3. *Sula* by Toni Morrison
4. *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
5. *Shogun* by James Clavell
6. *Hawaii* by James Michener
7. *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
8. *Bridge of San Luis Rey* by Thornton Wilder
9. *Cry the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton
10. *Grendel* by John Gardner

DRAMA

1. *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller
2. *Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams
3. *Orpheus Descending* by Tennessee Williams
4. *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* by Edward Albee
5. *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Edmond Rostand
6. *Doctor Faustus* by Christopher Marlowe
7. *A Soldier's Play* by Charles Fuller
8. *True West* by Sam Shepard
9. *Zoot Suit* by Luis Valdez
10. *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw

MOVIES

1. *High Noon*
2. *Gone with the Wind*
3. *Bringing Up Baby*
4. *Blade Runner*
5. *In Cold Blood*
6. *Rashomon*
7. *A Face in the Crowd*
8. *Psycho*
9. *Born Yesterday* (1950)
10. *Amadeus*

Shakespeare (gets his own

list): *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Julius Caesar*, *Othello*, *King Lear*, *The Comedy of Errors*, and *King John*

POETS and POEMS

1. Alfred, Lord Tennyson -- "The Lady of Shallot," "Ulysses," and "Crossing the Bar"
2. Billy Collins -- "Consolation," "Forgetfulness," "Marginalia," and "The Lanyard"
3. Sylvia Plath -- "Daddy," "Cut," "Lady Lazarus," "Mirror," and "Mad Girl's Love Song"
4. Percy Bysshe Shelley -- "Hymn to Intellectual Beauty," "Ozymandias," and "Ode to the West Wind"
5. John Keats -- "When I Have Fears That I May Cease to Be," "On Chapman's Homer," "Bright Star," and "Ode on a Grecian Urn"
6. Seamus Heaney -- *Beowulf* (translation), "Blackberry Picking," "Digging," and "Mid-Term Break"
7. Ted Kooser -- "At the Cancer Clinic," "Abandoned Farmhouse," "Fort Robinson," "Camera," and "A Jar of Buttons"
8. Yusef Komunyakaa -- "Facing It," "Camouflaging the Chimera," "My Father's Love letters," "Anodyne," and "Jasmine"
9. Dante Gabriel Rossetti -- "The Blessed Damozel," "Body's Beauty," "Soul's Beauty," "Dante at Verona," and *Vita Nuova*
10. Edna St. Vincent Millay -- "First Fig," "Second Fig," "What Lips My Lips Have Kissed," "Love Is Not All," and "Renascence"

ESSAYS

1. "I Want a Wife" by Judy Syfers
2. "Thirty-Eight Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police" by Martin Gansberg (Death of Kitty Genovese, *New York Times*)
3. "A Homemade Education: How I Discovered Words" by Malcolm X (Chapter 11 from Autobiography of Malcolm X)
4. "The Man in the Water" by Roger Rosenblatt (*Time* magazine)
5. "Christmas Sermon on Peace" by Martin Luther King, Jr.
6. "A Modest Proposal" by Jonathan Swift
7. "Self-Reliance" by Ralph Waldo Emerson
8. "Of Studies" by Francis Bacon
9. "Meditation 17" by John Donne
10. "The Myth of Sisyphus" by Albert Camus

NON-FICTION

1. *The Prince* by Niccolò Machiavelli
2. *The Art of Loving* by Eric Fromm
3. *The Uses of Enchantment* by Bruno Bettelheim
4. *Tree and Leaf* by J. R. R. Tolkien
5. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich
6. *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal* by Eric Schlosser
7. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything* by Steven Levitt
8. *Future Shock* by Alvin Toffler
9. *A History of the World in Six Glasses* by Tom Standage
10. *Fat Girl: A True Story* by Judith Moore

SCIENCE FICTION

1. *Anthem* by Ayn Rand
2. *A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess
3. *1984* by George Orwell
4. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
5. *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
6. *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
7. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
8. *Dune* by Frank Herbert
9. *The Left Hand of Darkness* by Ursula Le Guin
10. *Cities in Flight* by James Blish

MYSTERIES

1. *The Nine Tailors* by Dorothy Sayers
2. *Death on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie
3. *The Alienist* by Caleb Carr
4. *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett
5. *The Long Goodbye* by Raymond Chandler
6. *Postmortem* by Patricia Cornwell
7. *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer* by Patrick Suskind
8. *The Face of a Stranger* by Anne Perry (William Monk series)
9. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Steig Larsson
10. *The Bone Is Pointed* by Arthur Upfield

1. *The Piéta* by Michelangelo Buonarroti
2. *Beata Beatrix* by Dante Gabriel Rossetti
3. *Polyphemus Deriding Odysseus* by J. M. W. Turner
4. *Nude Descending a Staircase* by Marcel Duchamp
5. *Christina's World* by Andrew Wyeth
6. *Nighthawks* by Edward Hopper
7. *The Scream* by Edvard Munch
8. *Sleeping Gypsy* by Henri Rousseau
9. *La Chute d'Icare* by Henri Matisse
10. *The Ecstasy of Saint Teresa* by Giovanni Bernini

SORT OF DON'T FIT IN ANY GENRE

1. Dante Alighieri -- *Inferno*
2. Anonymous -- *Everyman*
3. Arthur Conan Doyle -- Short Stories
4. Truman Capote -- *In Cold Blood*
5. Sandra Cisneros -- *The House on Mango Street*
6. J. Ruth Gendler -- *The Book of Qualities*
7. Anne Lamott -- *Bird by Bird*
8. Tim O'Brien -- *The Things They Carried*
9. Ayn Rand -- *Anthem*
10. *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell

ART