Great Books Around 200 Pages

- **Adventures of Tom Sawyer** - Twain, Mark
  Call Number: 813 T91t and E-Book
  Tom Sawyer is resilient, enterprising, and vainglorious, and in a series of adventures along the banks of the Mississippi he usually manages to come out on top. From petty triumphs over his friends and over his long-suffering Aunt Polly, to his intervention in a murder trial, Tom engages readers of all ages. He has long been a defining figure in the American cultural imagination.

- **Animal Farm** - Orwell, George
  Call Number: 823 Or9a
  When the downtrodden beasts of Manor Farm oust their drunken human master and take over management of the land, all are awash in collectivist zeal. Everyone willingly works overtime, productivity soars, and for one brief, glorious season, every belly is full. The animals' Seven Commandment credo is painted in big white letters on the barn. All animals are equal. No animal shall drink alcohol, wear clothes, sleep in a bed, or kill a fellow four-footed creature. Those that go upon four legs or wings are friends and the two-legged are, by definition, the enemy.

- **Black Like Me** - Griffin, John Howard
  Call Number: 305.8 G87b
  Griffin was a well-to-do white Southerner in the 50s who darkened his skin to see what it felt like to be a black man in the South. His discoveries shocked the nation and revealed the depth of the nation's racial bigotry and intolerance.

- **Bluest Eye** - Morrison, Toni
  Call Number: 813 M834b
  There are far uglier things in the world than, well, ugliness, and poor Pecola is subjected to most of them. She's spat upon, ridiculed, and ultimately raped and impregnated by her own father. No wonder she yearns to be the very opposite of what she is—yearns, in other words, to be a white child, possessed of the blondest hair and the bluest eye.

- **Breakfast at Tiffany's** - Capote, Truman
  Call Number: 813 C19b
  With her tousled blond hair and upturned nose, dark glasses and chic black dresses, Holly Golightly is top notch in style and a sensation wherever she goes. Her brownstone apartment vibrates with martini-soaked parties as she plays hostess to millionaires and gangsters alike. Yet Holly never loses sight of her ultimate goal—to find a real life place like Tiffany's that makes her feel at home.

- **Cannery Row** - Steinbeck, John
  Call Number: 813 St3c
  Cannery Row celebrates the typical good-natured bums and warm-hearted prostitutes living on the fringes of Monterey, Calif.
• **Catcher in the Rye** - Salinger, J. D.
  Call Number: 813 Sa3c
  This influential and widely acclaimed story details the two days in the life of 16-year-old Holden Caufield after he has been expelled from prep school. Confused and disillusioned, he searches for truth and rails against the "phoniness" of the adult world. He ends up exhausted and emotionally ill, in a psychiatrist's office. After he recovers from his breakdown, Holden relates his experiences to the reader.

• **Ethan Frome** - Wharton, Edith
  Call Number: 813 W55e
  This classic novel is a portrait of the simple inhabitants of a 19th-century New England village. Crafted with stark simplicity, Ethan Frome portrays the power of convention to smother the growth of the individual.

• **Fahrenheit 451** - Bradbury, Ray
  Call Number: 813 B72f
  In Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury's classic, frightening vision of the future, firemen don't put out fires--they start them in order to burn books. Bradbury's vividly painted society holds up the appearance of happiness as the highest goal--a place where trivial information is good, and knowledge and ideas are bad.

• **Farewell to Manzanar: a True Story of Japanese American Experience During and After the World War II Internment** - Houston, James and Jeanne
  Call Number: E-Book
  In 1942, the U. S. government forcibly relocated approximately 110,000 Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans to housing facilities called "War Relocation Camps", in the wake of Imperial Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. Houston's book follows the lives of the members of the Wakatsuki family before, during, and after the experience of internment.

• **Flatland: a Romance of Many Dimensions** - Abbott, Edwin A
  Call Number: 513.82 Ab2f and E-Book
  Flatland is a story of an inhabitant of a two dimensional world and his discovery of a third dimension. He finds out that he is a cube, not a square.

• **Gift from the Sea** - Lindbergh, Anne Morrow
  Call Number: 170.8 L64g
  Lindbergh's book addresses the timeless questions of how does a woman fulfill the roles of citizen, artist, wife/partner, mother, career person, friend, sibling/relative, and balance all of that with the time and self-commitment for spiritual/emotional nurturing?
• **Go Ask Alice** - Anonymous
  Call Number: 813 G533
  Lonely, awkward, and under extreme pressure from her "perfect" parents, the author swings madly between optimism and despair. When one of her new friends spikes her drink with LSD, this diarist begins a frightening journey into darkness. The drugs take the edge off her loneliness and self-hate, but they also turn her life into a nightmare of exalting highs and excruciating lows.

• **Great Gatsby** - Fitzgerald, F. Scott
  Call Number: 813 F 57g-3
  Nick Carraway, a young man from Minnesota, moves to New York in the summer of 1922 to learn about the bond business. He rents a house in the West Egg district of Long Island, a wealthy but unfashionable area populated by the new rich, a group who have made their fortunes too recently to have established social connections and who are prone to garish displays of wealth. Nick's next-door neighbor in West Egg is a mysterious man named Jay Gatsby, who lives in a gigantic Gothic mansion and throws extravagant parties every Saturday night.

• **Heart of Darkness** - Conrad, Joseph
  Call Number: 823 C763y and E-Book
  This book tells the story of a man whose African expeditions lead him to the heart of the Belgian Congo and the darkness of man's desire for power. The movie Apocalypse Now was loosely based on this book.

• **Incredible Journey** - Burnford, Sheila
  Call Number: 813 B9345i
  A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

• **Into the Wild** - Krakauer, Jon
  Call Number: 917.98 K85i and Audio Book
  After graduating from Emory University in Atlanta in 1992, top student and athlete Christopher McCandless abandoned his possessions, gave his entire $24,000 savings account to charity and hitchhiked to Alaska, where he went to live in the wilderness. Four months later, he turned up dead. His diary, letters and two notes found at a remote campsite tell of his desperate effort to survive, apparently stranded by an injury and slowly starving.

• **Laughing Boy: a Navajo Love Story** - La Farge, Oliver
  Call Number: 813 L13L
  This classic depicts a young, Navajo couple experiencing all the uncertainties and joys of first love. At a ceremonial dance, the young, earnest silversmith Laughing Boy falls in love with Slim Girl, an "American"-educated Navajo.
• **Life and Times of Michael K** - Coetzee, J. M.
  Call Number: 823 C65L
  Set in a turbulent South Africa, a young gardener decides to take his mother away from the violence towards a new life in the abandoned countryside, but finds that war follows wherever he goes.

• **Lilies of the Field** - Barrett, William E.
  Call Number: 813B27L
  With the help of a black ex-GI, some determined German nuns build a chapel in the desert.

• **Little Prince** - Saint-Exupery, Antoine
  Call Number: 843 Sa2pr
  An aviator, whose plane is forced down in the Sahara Desert, encounters a little man from a small planet who describes his adventures in the universe, seeking the secret of what is really important in life.

• **Longitude: the True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time** - Sobel, Dava
  Call Number: 526.62 So1L
  Back in the 18th century, thousands of seamen lost their lives because of man's inability to accurately determine an east-west position. Then along came a country carpenter whose skill at clock-making changed the fate of the world.

• **Maggie: a Girl of the Streets** - Crane, Stephen
  Call Number: E-Book
  This book is about a family living in the slums of turn-of-the-century New York. The protagonist of the book is a young girl named Maggie, who is full of dreams and aspirations, unlike her loser relatives. Her main dream is to meet a good man and fall in love with him and start a family, to live happily ever after.

• **Maltese Falcon** - Hammett, Dashiell
  Call Number: 813H18mtr
  Sam Spade, a San Francisco detective, is tough enough to bluff the toughest thugs and hold off the police, risks his reputation when a beautiful woman begs for his help, while knowing that betrayal may deal him a new hand at any moment.

• **Member of the Wedding** - McCullers, Carson
  Call Number: 812.08 F21 in Famous American Plays of the 1940s
  This is the story of a young girl who has made up her mind that she will go on her brother's honeymoon whether she is invited or not.
In Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel's memoir Night, a scholarly, pious teenager is wracked with guilt at having survived the horror of the Holocaust and the genocidal campaign that consumed his family. His memories of the nightmare world of the death camps present him with an intolerable question: how can the God he once so fervently believed in have allowed these monstrous events to occur?

In this work, the reader follows the unnamed narrator of the story, who disillusioned by the oppression and corruption of the society in which he lives withdraws from that society into the underground.

O Pioneers! tells the story of the Bergsons, a family of Swedish immigrants in the farm country near the fictional town of Hanover, Nebraska, at the turn of the 20th century. Alexandra, inherits the family farm when her father dies, and she devotes her life to making the farm a viable enterprise at a time when other immigrant families are giving up and leaving the prairie.

Set in the Gulf Stream off the coast of Havana, Hemingway's magnificent fable is the story of an old man, a young boy and a giant fish. It was The Old Man and the Sea that won Hemingway the Nobel Prize for Literature. Here, in a perfectly crafted story, is a unique and timeless vision of the beauty and grief of man's challenge against the elements.

Crane based this story of a soldier's experiences during the American Civil War on the 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville.

The novel takes place at an Army base in the U.S. state of Georgia. Private Ellgee Williams is a solitary man full of secrets and desires. He has been in service for two years and is assigned to stable duty. After doing yard work at the home of Capt. Penderton, he sees his wife nude and becomes obsessed with her.
• **Siddhartha** - Hesse, Herman  
Call Number: 833 H46si and E-Book  
On fire with youthful idealism, the Brahmin joins a group of ascetics, fasting and living without possessions. Meeting Gotama the Buddha, he comes to feel this is not the right path, and declines joining the Buddha's followers. He reenters the world, hoping to learn of his own nature, but instead slips gradually into hedonism and materialism.

• **Silas Marner** - Eliot, George  
Call Number: 823 EL4s-2 and E-Book  
Gentle linen weaver Silas Marner is wrongly accused of a heinous theft, and he exiles himself from the world—until he finds redemption and spiritual rebirth through his unselfish love for an abandoned child who mysteriously appears one day at his isolated cottage.

• **Slaughterhouse Five** - Vonnegut, Kurt  
Call Number: 813 V89s and E-Book  
Kurt Vonnegut's humorous novel introduces us to Billy Pilgrim, a man who becomes unstuck in time after he is abducted by aliens from the planet Tralfamadore. In the book we follow Pilgrim through all phases of his life, concentrating on his shattering experience as an American prisoner of war who witnesses the firebombing of Dresden.

• **Their Eyes Were Watching God** - Hurston, Zora Neale  
Call Number: 813 H94t  
The novel follows the fortunes of Janie Crawford, a woman living in the black town of Eaton, Florida. Janie has married three men and been tried for the murder of one of them. Janie feels no compulsion to justify herself to the town, but she does explain herself to her friend, Phoeby.

• **Things Fall Apart** - Achebe, Chinula  
Call Number: 896.3 Ac4t  
This novel depicts the rise and fall of Okonkwo, a Nigerian whose sense of manliness is more akin to that of his warrior ancestors than to that of his fellow clansmen who have converted to Christianity and are appeasing the British administrators who infiltrate their village.

• **Time Machine** - Wells, H. G.  
Call Number: 823 W46co and E-Book  
When a Victorian scientist propels himself into the year a.d. 802,701, he is initially delighted to find that suffering has been replaced by beauty, contentment, and peace. Entranced at first by the Eloi, an elfin species descended from man, he soon realizes that these beautiful people are simply remnants of a once-great culture—now weak and childishy afraid of the dark. They have every reason to be afraid: in deep tunnels beneath their paradise lurks another race descended from humanity—the sinister Morlocks. And when the scientist's time machine vanishes, it becomes clear he must search these tunnels if he is ever to return to his own era.