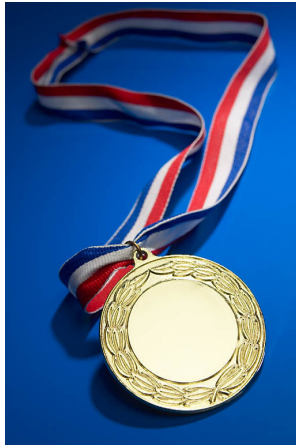


National Book Award



Fiction

A Selection of Winners for the Last 50 Years

The National Book Awards are given annually by the National Book Foundation to distinguished works by American authors.

2009
McCann, Colum
Let the Great World Spin
Ten ordinary individuals show great resilience, courage and spirit in a decaying New York City.

2008
Matthiessen, Peter
Shadow Country
A notorious desperado is gunned down by his neighbors. Set in the nineteenth-century Florida Everglades.

2007
Johnson, Denis
Tree of Smoke
An epic novel of bungled espionage and small mercies in the Vietnam era.

2006
Powers, Richard
The Echo Maker
Set in Nebraska during the Platte River's massive spring migrations, this novel explores the power and limits of human intelligence.

2005
Vollmann, William T.
Europe Central
A complex reimagining of authoritarian societies in World War II Europe.

2004
Tuck, Lily
The News from Paraguay
A historical epic that tells an unusual love story, this novel offers a kaleidoscopic portrait of nineteenth-century Paraguay.

2003
Hazzard, Shirley
The Great Fire
In East Asia after WWII, love provides meaning to a war-torn world

2002
Glass, Julia
Three Junes
Three fateful summers in the lives of a contemporary Scottish family.

2001
Franzen, Jonathan
The Corrections
Meet the quirky Lambert family. The principal story revolves around the father, Alfred Lambert, who is suffering from Parkinson's disease.

2000
Sontag, Susan
In America
The experience of a celebrated Polish actress who emigrates to California.

1999
Jin, Ha
Waiting
Married Chinese military officer, Lin Kong waits to marry the woman he loves in this tale set in China during the Cultural Revolution.

1998
McDermott, Alice
Charming Billy
The life of love and loss of Irish American Billy Lynch.

1997
Frazier, Charles
Cold Mountain
Confederate deserter journeys home to sweetheart in North Carolina.

1996
Barrett, Andrea
Ship Fever and Other Stories
A novella of a tragic epidemic, plus short stories.

1995
Roth, Philip
Sabbath's Theater
Mickey Sabbath turned down an offer to become Henson's Big Bird and became a dirty old man instead.

1994
Gaddis, William
A Frolic of His Own
College teacher sues Hollywood for stealing his play.

1993
Proulx, Annie
The Shipping News
Reporter moves back to his ancestor's bleak house on the Newfoundland coast.

1992
McCarthy, Cormac
All the Pretty Horses
John rides his horse into adventures in Mexico.

1991
Rush, Norman
Mating
Woman anthropologist falls in love with head of utopian community in Africa.

1990
Johnson, Charles
The Middle Passage
Freed slave escaping marriage stows away on a ship bound for Africa.

1989
Casey, John
Spartina
Rhode Island fisherman takes the boat he just built into a violent hurricane.

1988
Dexter, Peter
Paris Trout
Racism in small-town Georgia.

1986
Doctorow, E.L.
World's Fair
New York in the 1930s from a young boy's point of view.

1985
DeLillo, Don
White Noise
A toxic cloud forces the chairman of the Nazi studies program to heroic action.

1983
Walker, Alice
The Color Purple
In letters to God and her sister, Celia tells her story of abuse and escape.

1982
Updike, John
Rabbit is Rich
Inheriting a business does not solve his problems. Third in a series chronicling daily challenges of the middle class.

1981
Morris, Wright
Plains Song, for Female Voices
Three generations of Atkins women on the Midwest plains.

1980
Styron, William
Sophie's Choice
Sophie survived Auschwitz but is haunted by the choice she made there.

1979
O'Brien, Tim
Going After Cacciato
Cacciato deserts his, Vietnam unit to go to Paris.

1974
Pynchon, Thomas
Gravity's Rainbow

In London during the Blitz, Lieutenant Slothrop's libido predicts German rocket launchings.

1967
Malamud, Bernard
The Fixer
Bok is jailed for murder, but his only crime is being a Jew in Czarist Russia.

1966
Porter, Katherine
The Collected Stories
Includes "Pale Horse, Pale Rider" and "Flowering Judas".

1960
Roth, Philip
Goodbye, Columbus
Summer love doesn't always last.

1956
O'Hara, John
Ten North Frederick
Life of the ruling class in Pennsylvania town.

1954
Bellow, Saul
The Adventures of Augie March
From poor boy in Chicago to high life in Paris.

1953
Ellison, Ralph
Invisible Man
African-American man's search for identity.

1952
Jones, James
From Here to Eternity
Two army men and the women they loved in Hawaii, just before Pearl Harbor.