

Non-Boring Nonfiction



Grand Escape: The Greatest Prison Breakout of the 20th Century

by Neal Bascomb

At the height of World War I, as battles raged in the trenches and in the air, a band of pilots came up with an ingenious plan to break out of the most notorious POW camp in all of, inspiring their countrymen in the darkest hours of the war.

All Boys Aren't Blue

by George M. Johnson

Journalist and LGBTQIA+ activist Johnson explores his childhood, adolescence, college years, and the trials and triumphs faced by Black queer boys, from getting his teeth kicked out at age 5 to flea marketing with his loving grandmother.

From a Whisper to a Rallying Cry: The Killing of Vincent Chin and the Trial that galvanized the Asian American Movement

by Paula Yoo

In 1982, a Detroit bar fight turned fatal, leaving a Chinese American man, Vincent Chin, beaten to death at the hands of two white men. When the men pled guilty to manslaughter and received only a \$3,000 fine and three years' probation, the lenient sentence sparked outrage.

In the Shadow of the Moon: America, Russia, and the Hidden History of the Space Race

by Amy E. Cherrix

Chronicles the lesser-known rivalry between former Nazi-turned-U.S. Cold War scientist Wernher von Braun and Russian rocket designer Sergei Korolev, explaining how their controversial scientific achievements shaped human history.

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The Borden Murders

by Sarah Miller

Examines the Borden murders, using newspaper articles to recreate the events and the trial and acquittal of Lizzie Borden and exploring Lizzie's story to theorize on what may have happened.

In Search of Safety: Voices of Refugees

by Susan Kuklin

Five refugees recount their courageous journeys to America - and the unimaginable struggles that led them to flee their homelands.

The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler

by John Hendrix

A true and gripping spy story, this graphic biography describes pivotal moments in the career of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whose religious faith led him to devote his life to the German Resistance to Hitler.

Ten Days A Madwoman

by Deborah Noyes

The compelling and true story of how one truly dedicated journalist admitted herself to an asylum to write a groundbreaking exposé.

Boots on the Ground: America's War in Vietnam

by Elizabeth Partridge

From dense jungles and terrifying firefights to chaotic helicopter rescues and harrowing escapes, the personal stories of eight people reveal a different facet of the Vietnam War.

A Pirate's Life for She: Swashbuckling Women through the Ages

by Laura Sook Duncombe

Tells the story of 16 women who through the ages sailed alongside -- and sometimes in command of -- their male counterparts. These women came from all walks of life but had one thing in common: a desire for freedom.