

**An abbreviated list of good stuff to read/watch
about general science/anthropology/history**

Michael L. Ferro

Ayaan Hirsi Ali:

- The Caged Virgin: An Emancipation Proclamation for Women and Islam. A collection of essays and lectures from 2003–2004. ISBN-10: 0743288343
- Infidel. 2007. ISBN 0-7432-9503-X
- Nomad: From Islam to America: A Personal Journey Through the Clash of Civilizations. 2010. ISBN-13: 978-1439157312

Douglas Adams: Everything he ever did! Especially:

- Last Chance to See. Ballantine Books. ISBN: 0345371984
- The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (series)
- Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency. 1987. ISBN 0-671-69267-4.
- Douglas Adams: Parrots, the universe and everything [video] available at http://www.ted.com/talks/douglas_adams_parrots_the_universe_and_everything.html

Russell Ciochon:

- Other Origins: The Search for the Giant Ape in Human Prehistory. ISBN-10: 0553070819
- Dragon Bone Hill. (with Noel Thomas Boaz) ISBN-10: 0195152913

Bill Bryson: Everything he's done, especially:

- A Short History of Nearly Everything. ISBN-10: 0767923227
- Mother Tongue: The English Language. ISBN-10: 014014305X

Richard Dawkins:

- The Selfish Gene. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 1976. ISBN 0-19-286092-5.
- The Extended Phenotype. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 1982. ISBN 0-19-288051-9.
- The Blind Watchmaker. New York: W. W. Norton & Company. 1986. ISBN 0-393-31570-3.
- River out of Eden. New York: Basic Books. 1995. ISBN 0-465-06990-8.
- Climbing Mount Improbable. New York: W. W. Norton & Company. 1996. ISBN 0-393-31682-3.
- Unweaving the Rainbow. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 1998. ISBN 0-618-05673-4.
- A Devil's Chaplain. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 2003. ISBN 0-618-33540-4.
- The Ancestor's Tale. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 2004. ISBN 0-618-00583-8.
- The God Delusion. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 2006. ISBN 0-618-68000-4.
- The Greatest Show on Earth: The Evidence for Evolution. Free Press (United States). 2009. ISBN 0-593-06173-X.
- Growing Up in the Universe (1991) [documentary] available for free at <http://richarddawkins.net/growingupintheuniverse>

Vincent Gaston Dethier:

- To Know a Fly. 1963. ISBN-10: 0070165742

Jared Diamond:

- Why is Sex Fun? The Evolution of Human Sexuality, ISBN 0-465-03127-7
- Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies. W.W. Norton & Co. ISBN 0-393-06131-0
- Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed. Viking Books. ISBN 1-586-63863-7

Hans Magnus Enzensberger:

- The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure. 2000. ISBN-10: 0805062998

Richard P. Feynman: (He's done a lot)

- Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman! (Adventures of a Curious Character). ISBN-13: 978-0393316049

-What Do You Care What Other People Think?: Further Adventures of a Curious Character. ISBN-13: 978-0393320923

Tim Flannery: [He's done a lot, but the only one I've read is:]

-The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America and its Peoples. 2001. ISBN 0-8021-3888-8

Harry G. Frankfurt:

-On Bullshit. 2005. ISBN-10: 0691122946

-On Truth. 2006. ISBN-10: 030726422X

R. Buckminster Fuller: (He's done a lot)

-The Dymaxion World of Buckminster Fuller. With Robert Marks. ISBN 0385018045

George Gamow:

-One Two Three . . . Infinity: Facts and Speculations of Science. ISBN-10: 0486256642

Marvin Harris:

-Cows, Pigs, Wars and Witches: The Riddles of Culture. 1975. ISBN 0-09-122750-X

-Cannibals and Kings: The Origins of Cultures. 1977. ISBN 0-394-40765-2

-Our Kind: who we are, where we came from, where we are going. 1990. ISBN 0-060-91990-6.

-Cultural Materialism: The Struggle for a Science of Culture ISBN 0-7591-0135-3

-Patterns of Race in the Americas ISBN 0-313-22359-9

-Theories of Culture in Postmodern Times. 1999. ISBN 0-7619-9021-6

Sam Harris:

-The End of Faith. 2004. ISBN 0-393-03515-8

-Letter to a Christian Nation. 2006. ISBN 0-307-26577-3

-The Moral Landscape: How Science Can Determine Human Values. 2010. ISBN 978-1-4391-7121-9

Kit Harrison, George H. Harrison, Michael James Riddet:

-Birds Do It, Too: The Amazing Sex Life of Birds. ISBN-10: 1572230924

Stephen Hawking:

-A Brief History of Time. 1988. Bantam Press. ISBN 055305340X

Adam Hochschild

King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa, ISBN-13: 978-0618001903

Darrell Huff:

-How to Lie with Statistics: ISBN-10: 0393310728

Arno Karlen:

-Napoleon's Glands and Other Ventures in Biohistory. ISBN-10: 0446329738

Harriet Jacobs:

-Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl. 1861.

Dean King:

-Skeletons on the Zahara: A True Story of Survival: ISBN-10: 0316835145

Annie Leonard:

The Story of Stuff: How Our Obsession with Stuff Is Trashing the Planet, Our Communities, and Our Health-and a Vision for Change, ISBN-10: 143912566X

-<http://storyofstuff.com/>

Aldo Leopold:

-A Sand County Almanac (Outdoor Essays & Reflections)

Paul Lockhart:

-A Mathematician's Lament: How School Cheats Us Out of Our Most Fascinating and Imaginative Art Form. 2009. ISBN-10: 1934137170

Gordon MacCreagh:

-White Waters and Black. ISBN-10: 0226500187
-The Last of Free Africa. 1928. New York: The Century Co.

George MacDonald Fraser: Everything he did, especially:

-The Flashman Series (12 books)
-Quartered Safe Out Here (1992)

Kathleen Meyer:

-How to Shit in the Woods: An Environmentally Sound Approach to a Lost Art

Gary Larson:

-There's a Hair in My Dirt!: A Worm's Story. 1998. ISBN 0-06-093274-0
-The Complete Far Side: 1980-1994. 2003. ISBN 0-7407-2113-5

Charles C. Mann:

-1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus. 2005. ISBN 9781400040063

Herman Melville:

-Moby-Dick. 1851. [ONE OF THE GREATEST BOOKS EVER]
-Typee: A Peep at Polynesian Life

Desmond Morris: (He's done a lot, but the only two I've read are:)

-The Naked Ape (1967)
-The Naked Woman: A Study of the Female Body (2004)

Redmond O'Hanlon:

-Into the Heart of Borneo (1984)
-In Trouble Again (1988)
-No Mercy: A Journey Into the Heart of the Congo (1997) [ONE OF THE GREATEST BOOKS EVER]
-Trawler (2005)

Henry Petroski: [He's done a lot, but the only one I've read is:]

-The Pencil: A History of Design and Circumstance (1990)

James Randi:

-Flim-Flam! Psychics, ESP, Unicorns, and Other Delusions, 1982, Prometheus Books, ISBN 0-87975-198-3
-The Search for the Chimera [video] available at <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=5561140991117928923#>

William Ryan and Walter Pitman:

-Noah's Flood: The New Scientific Discoveries About The Event That Changed History. 2000. ISBN-10: 0684859203

Carl Sagan: All of it, especially

-The Demon-Haunted World: Science as a Candle in the Dark. Ballantine Books, March 1996, ISBN 0-345-40946-9
-Cosmos [documentary] available for free at <http://www.hulu.com/cosmos>

Michael Shermer: [He's done a lot, but the only one I've read is:]

-Why People Believe Weird Things: Pseudoscience, Superstition, and Other Confusions of Our Time. 1997. ISBN 0-8050-7089-3

Pat Shipman:

-Taking Wing: Archaeopteryx and the Evolution of Bird Flight. ISBN-10: 0684849658

Jason Stearns

-Dancing in the Glory of Monsters: The Collapse of the Congo and the Great War of Africa, ISBN-13: 978-1610391078

Neil deGrasse Tyson: [He's done a lot, but the only one I've read is:]

-Death by Black Hole: And Other Cosmic Quandaries (2007) ISBN 0393330168

-The Pluto Files [book and show] available at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/pluto/>

[different version] http://fora.tv/2009/02/04/Neil_deGrasse_Tyson_Pluto_Files

Samantha Weinberg:

-A Fish Caught in Time: The Search for the Coelacanth. ISBN-10: 0060932856

Steven Weinberg:

-The First Three Minutes: A Modern View Of The Origin Of The Universe

Edward O. Wilson: [He's done a lot:]

-Biophilia. 1984. Harvard University Press. ISBN 0-674-07441-6

-Journey to the Ants: A Story of Scientific Exploration. 1994. Harvard University Press. ISBN 0-674-48525-4, with Bert Hölldobler

Howard Zinn: [He's done a lot, but the only one I've read is:]

-A People's History of the United States

And of course it goes without saying anything by these authors is fantastic: Arthur C. Clarke, Philip José Farmer (especially *Venus on the Half-Shell*), Stephen Fry, Harry Harrison, Peter F. Hamilton, Robert A. Heinlein, Elspeth Huxley, George Orwell, Jonathan Swift, Mark Twain (everything he wrote), Bill Watterson (Calvin and Hobbes), Kurt Vonnegut, etc.