

# WTBBL Book List:

## True Adventures

**Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail** by Ben Montgomery, 2015. ([BR021504](#), [DB080502](#))

Biography of Emma Gatewood (1887-1973), who left her family in Ohio in May 1955, saying only that she was going for a walk. Four months later she completed a solo hike of the Appalachian Trail, from south to north--the first woman to do so. Details her trip and subsequent celebrity. Nonfiction.

**Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers Who Helped Win World War II** by Liza Mundy, 2017. ([DB089397](#))

Exploration of technical and social intelligence of birds. Surveys twenty-first century research into birds' behavioral and morphological traits, including ways to measure intelligence, the structure of their brains, ways they use technology, social interactions, diversity of birdsong, use of space and time, and more. Nonfiction.

**Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster** by Jon Krakauer, 1997. ([BRG01386](#), [DB044525](#))

A journalist's first-hand report on the ill-fated Mt. Everest expedition of May 1996 in which a freak storm claimed the lives of nine adventurers. Describes the grueling ascent of the climbers, their sense of elation at reaching the peak, and the tragic events that followed. Nonfiction.

**The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu: and Their Race to Save the World's Most Precious Manuscripts** by Joshua Hammer ([DB084705](#))

A journalist recounts the efforts of a small group of librarians and archivists in Mali to rescue thousands of rare manuscripts before they fell into the hands of the jihadists attacking the city of Timbuktu. Nonfiction.

**The Sisterhood: The Secret History of Women at the CIA** by Liza Mundy, 2024. ([DB118281](#))

The Sisterhood offers a riveting new perspective on history, revealing how women at the CIA ushered in the modern intelligence age, and how their silencing made the world more dangerous. Nonfiction.

**Living with Conviction: Unexpected Sisterhood, Healing, and Redemption in the Wake of Life-Altering Choices** by Toby Dorr, 2023. ([DB115511](#))

Having never had so much as a traffic ticket, Toby Dorr shattered her mold of perfection by helping a convicted murderer, a trainer in her prison dog program, escape in a dog crate. Her story is a lesson in perspective. Instead of focusing on everything she lost, Dorr made a conscious choice to use her twenty-seven months in prison as a period to reflect on her life, heal emotional wounds, plot a course for the future, and embrace the sisterhood of women she encountered behind bars. Nonfiction.

**Mothertrucker: Finding Joy on the Loneliest Road in America** by Amy Butcher, 2021. ([DB114680](#))

Amy Butcher was an accomplished college professor, mentor, and writer, but in her own home, she was embarrassed and emotionally burdened by an increasingly abusive relationship. Exhausted and terrified of the ways her partner's behavior could escalate, Amy reached out to Instagram celebrity Joy "Mothertrucker" Wiebe. Joy was a fifty-year-old wife and mother and the nation's only female ice road trucker, a woman who maneuvered big rigs through the Alaskan wilderness along the deadliest road in America. Invited by Joy to ride shotgun, Amy found her escape on a road that was treacherous, beautiful, and exhilarating-an adventurous ride through the Alaskan wilderness that was profoundly life changing. Nonfiction.

**Woman in the wilderness : a story of survival, love & self-discovery in New Zealand** by Miriam Lancewood, 2018. ([DBC02950](#))

Miriam is a young Dutch woman living in the heart of the mountains with her New Zealand husband. She lives simply in a tent or hut, and survives by hunting wild animals and foraging edible plants, relying on only minimal supplies. For the last six years she has lived this way, through all seasons, often cold, hungry and isolated in the bush. She loves her life and feels free, connected to the land, and happy because she learned to dig deep and push the boundaries in order to discover what really matters in life. Adult. Some strong language. Nonfiction.

**Seeing the world my way : a totally blind and partially deaf guy's global adventures** by Tony Giles, 2010. ([BRG04387](#))

Follows Tony's journey of hedonism and thrill-seeking adventure as he travels across North America, Asia and Australasia. This is a young blind and deaf man's view of the world as he sets out to achieve his dream, dealing with disability whilst living life to the limit. From bungee jumping in New Zealand to booze filled nights out in New Orleans, 'Seeing the World My Way' is a no-holds-barred account that is not for the faint hearted. Nonfiction.

**Storm Warning: The Story of a Killer Tornado** by Nancy Mathis, 2007. ([DB065554](#))

Explores gardeners' options to rescue nearly extinct species and restore natural communities. When Marinelli joins a botanist to search the Long Island shores for an endangered species of seabeach amaranth, it starts her thinking about a gardener's role in a biologically homogenizing world. She also examines perceptions of what is "natural." Nonfiction.