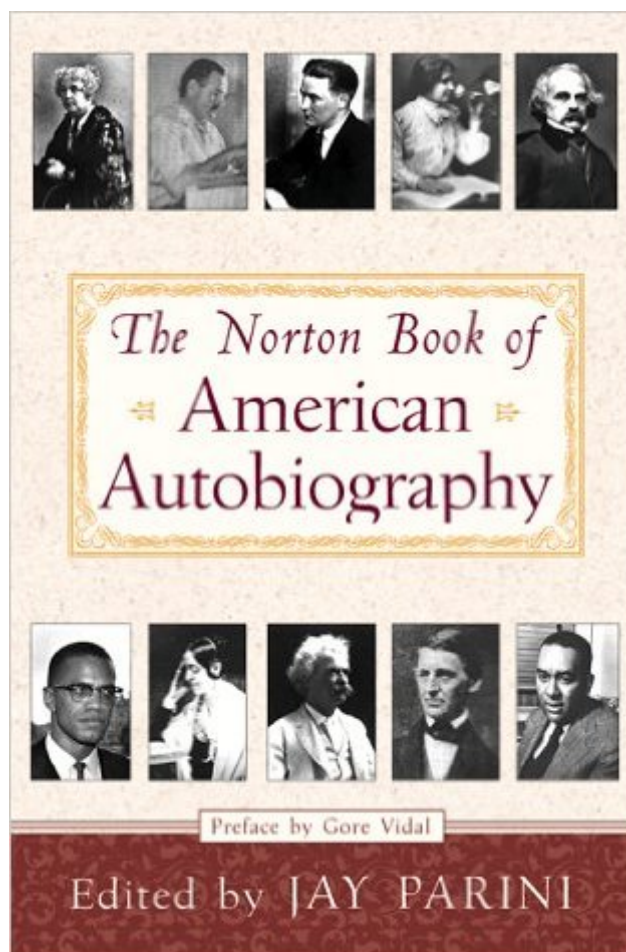


The book was found

# The Norton Book Of American Autobiography



## Synopsis

"The essential American form of expression." —from the Introduction by Jay Parini From Mary Rowlandson's story of her capture by Indians in the mid-seventeenth century to Mary Paik Lee's story of being a pioneer Korean woman in America at the beginning of the twentieth century, the autobiographical form has provided our most vivid, intimate glimpses of daily American life and self-understanding. In this groundbreaking anthology, respected writer and critic Jay Parini brings together an abundant selection from over three centuries of "the democratic voice . . . discovering itself." Here are the voices of the Founding Fathers and African American slaves; of transcendentalists and suffragists; of ancestors such as Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, Mark Twain, Henry James, Helen Keller, Zora Neale Hurston, Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, James Baldwin, and many others; and of a wide range of contemporaries, including Maxine Hong Kingston, Gore Vidal, Julia Alvarez, and Mark Doty. The rich, continuous influence of autobiographical writing in our culture is clear, and as memoirs continue to fascinate readers, this invaluable anthology provides an essential guide to our foremost American literary tradition.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 711 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 1st edition (February 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 039304677X

ISBN-13: 978-0393046779

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.6 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars — See all reviews — (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #97,806 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Reference & Collections #219 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > United States #1223 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > United States

## Customer Reviews

I teach in a jail setting and am limited as to how much can be stored in the classroom office. Some of the students have expressed interest in reading autobiographies. We're not allowed use of the internet, so I needed to resort to books. Yet, they couldn't agree on which autobiographies to read. Thus, I ordered three copies of "The Norton Book of American Autobiography". The book contains

autobiographies of a lot of famous people, and of some people whom I never heard of before. Each autobiography is a few to possibly 20 pages along. It is enough information to give a good overall picture of the individual, and not so long that the reader wants to give up on reading it. I had a couple of reluctant students who thought autobiographies would be boring to read. However, they quickly found the book to be interesting. I gave the book a 3 star ranking. Although the content is good, the presentation is bland. The type font is on the small side. So sometimes you're looking at hundreds of words on a page with no sort of visual to go along with it. Even if the chapter titles could be a little jazzed up, that would help. I also think that the book could have included more famous people. I noticed that if one of my students didn't recognize a name, then he or she would skip that autobiography and find a different one. If you have any questions about the book, feel free to ask.

Autobiography isn't always just the blathering of B-list celebrities. Much of it is some of the finest American literature ever produced. Some say Americans are egotistical and self-involved. Well, fine, maybe so, but it makes for great autobiography. And the informative and literary life synopsi (synopsises?) make for great reading by themselves!!! Huzzah to the editor and his minions!!!

I truly enjoyed how this books gives us the most tasty morsels of some of the greatest writers in America. This book will encourage anyone to find out more about the author and read all of his works. I give this two thumbs up very easily!

I bought this book because I was interested in the autobiography. I had just finished reading a few "shorts" in different anthologies, and I decided to do a search to see if there was anything larger out there. I found The Norton Book of American Autobiography and was pleased. I just finished this massive 711 paged book, and I would recommend it to anyone who's just interested in other people's lives. There are some stand-out writers included (Malcolm X, Benjamin Franklin, etc.), but also some contemporary writers as well (Julia Alvarez, Caroline Knapp, Paul Monette, etc.). This is a great book to read on your own, but I can really see it benefiting a lit. class at the same time.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Norton Book of American Autobiography The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume 2: The Romantic Period through the Twentieth Century (Norton Anthology of English Literature) The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Vol. 1 (Shorter Eighth Edition) The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Vol. A: Beginnings to 1820 The Norton Anthology of American Literature (Shorter Eighth Edition) (Vol. Two-Volume Set) The Norton Anthology of American Literature (Vol.

Package 1: Volumes A & B) The Norton Anthology of American Literature (Eighth Edition) (Vol.  
Package 2: Volumes C, D, E) Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave,  
Written by Himself (Norton Critical Editions) The Norton Anthology of American Literature (Eighth  
Edition) (Vol. A) The Norton Anthology of American Literature (Shorter Seventh Edition) Andrew  
Jackson and the Bank War (Norton Essays in American History) Healing the Divided Self: Clinical  
and Ericksonian Hypnotherapy for Dissociative Conditions (Norton Professional Book) The  
Psychobiology of Mind-body Healing: New Concepts of Therapeutic Hypnosis (A Norton  
professional book) Teaching Self-Hypnosis: Introductory Guide for Clinicians (A Norton professional  
book) American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History  
American Sniper [Movie Tie-in Edition]: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military  
History America The Black Point of View - An Investigation and Study of the White People of  
America and Western Europe and The Autobiography of an American Ghetto Boy, The 1950s and  
1960s The Big Sea: An Autobiography (American Century Series) The Journey Home:  
Autobiography of an American Swami Succeeding Against the Odds: The Autobiography of a Great  
American Businessman

[Dmca](#)