

A&E



Singer **Jimmy Carter** of The Blind Boys of Alabama is 92. Actor **Tina Louise** (“Gilligan’s Island”) is 90. Musician **Sergio Mendes** is 83. Actor **Philip Anglim** (“The Thorn Birds”) is 72. Actor **Catherine Hickland** (“One Life To Live”) is 68. Drummer **David Uosikkinen** of The Hooters is 68. Actor **Carey Lowell** (“Law & Order”) is 63. Singer **Sheryl Crow** is 62. Actor **Jennifer Aniston**, left, is 55. Actor **Damian Lewis** (“Billions”) is 53. Singer **D’Angelo** is 50. Actor **Brice Beckham** (“Mr. Belvedere”) is 48. Vocalist **Mike Shinoda** of Linkin Park and of Fort Minor is 47.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Sunday, Feb. 11, the 42nd day of 2024. There are 324 days left in the year.

On this date in:

660 B.C.: Tradition holds that Japan was founded as Jimmu ascended the throne as the country’s first emperor.

1847: American inventor Thomas Alva Edison was born in Milan, Ohio.

1937: A six-week-old sit-down strike against General Motors ended, with the company agreeing to recognize the United Automobile Workers Union.

1945: President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin signed the Yalta Agreement, in which Stalin agreed to declare war against Imperial Japan following Nazi Germany’s capitulation.

1963: American author and poet Sylvia Plath was found dead in her London flat, a suicide; she was 30.

1975: Margaret Thatcher was elected leader of Britain’s opposition Conservative Party.

1979: Followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini seized power in Iran.

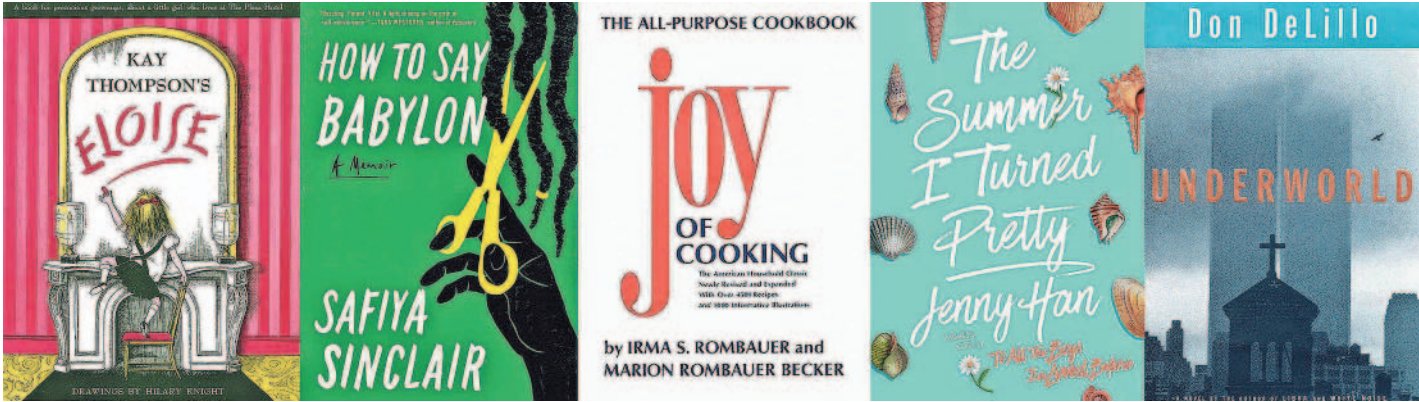
1990: South African Black activist Nelson Mandela was freed after 27 years in captivity.

2006: Vice President Dick Cheney accidentally shot and wounded Harry Whittington, a companion during a weekend quail-hunting trip in Texas.

2008: The Pentagon charged Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and five other detainees at Guantanamo Bay with murder and war crimes in connection with the Sept. 11 attacks.

BESTSELLERS

1. **“House of Flame and Shadow”** by Maas, Sarah J. (Bloomsbury Publishing)
2. **“A Court of Thorns and Roses”** by Maas, Sarah J. (Bloomsbury Publishing)
3. **“Fourth Wing”** by Yarros, Rebecca (Entangled: Red Tower Books)
4. **“Iron Flame”** by Yarros, Rebecca (Entangled: Red Tower Books)
5. **“Little Blue Truck’s Valentine”** by Schertle, Alice (Clarion Books)
6. **“Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones”** by Clear, James (Avery Publishing Group)
7. **“The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store”** by McBride, James (Riverhead Books)
8. **“My First I See You: A Mirror Book”** by Carle, Eric (Little Simon)
9. **“Cat Kid Comic Club: Influencers: A Graphic Novel (Cat Kid Comic Club #5): From the Creator of Dog Man”** by Pilkey, Dav (Graphix)
10. **“No Brainer (Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book 18)”** by Kinney, Jeff (Amulet Books)
11. **“Gothikana”** by Runyx (Bramble)
12. **“I Love You Like No Otter”** by Rossner, Rose (Sourcebooks Wonderland)
13. **“Percy Jackson and the Olympians the Lightning Thief Deluxe Collector’s Edition”** by Riordan, Rick (Disney Hyperion)
14. **“Braiding Sweetgrass”** by Kimmerer, Robin Wall (Milkweed Editions)
15. **“What Moves the Dead”** by Kingfisher, T. (Tor Nightfire)
16. **“The Creative ACT: A Way of Being”** by Rubin, Rick (Penguin Press)
17. **“Million Dollar Weekend: The Surprisingly Simple Way to Launch a 7-Figure Business in 48 Hours”** by Kagan, Noah (Portfolio)
18. **“A Court of Mist and Fury”** by Maas, Sarah J. (Bloomsbury Publishing)
19. **“All Rhodes Lead Here”** by Zapata, Mariana (Avon Books)
20. **“Winter Turning: A Graphic Novel (Wings of Fire Graphic Novel #7)”** by Sutherland, Tui T. (Graphix)



“Eloise” by Kay Thompson, from left, “How to Say Babylon” by Safiya Sinclair, “Joy of Cooking” by Irma S. Rombauer and Marion Rombauer Becker, “The Summer I Turned Pretty” by Jenny Han, and “Underworld” by Don DeLillo. SIMON & SCHUSTER PHOTOS VIA AP

Simon & Schuster marks centennial with its list of 100 notable books

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK – One of the world’s largest and most influential publishers, Simon & Schuster, celebrates its 100th anniversary this year.

To mark the centennial, the publisher has unveiled a list of 100 notable releases – a blend of bestsellers, prize winners, headline makers and cultural sensations. The list tells many stories, through the books selected, not selected, and the evolution of what has been highlighted.

“A group of Simon & Schuster staffers took on the daunting challenge of selecting 100 titles from our history that are believed to best represent the breadth and depth of the company’s publishing program, across imprints,” the publisher announced Wednesday.

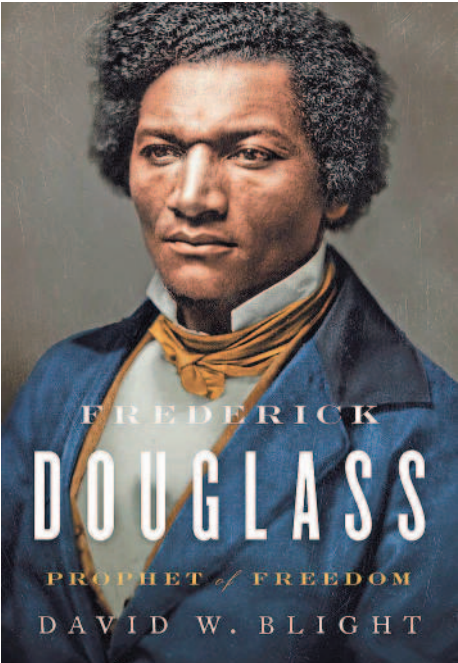
The list begins at the very beginning, in 1924, with a release that would help define the publisher’s long history of tapping into popular tastes. “The Cross Word Puzzle Book,” by F. Gregory Hartswick, Prosper Buranelli, and Margaret Petherbridge, was compiled by founders Richard Simon and Max Schuster from puzzles in the New York World, a prominent newspaper at the time. “The Cross Word Puzzle Book,” which came with an attached pencil, is considered the first publication of its kind.

Signature S&S works have since included Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein’s 1974 bestseller “All the President’s Men,” which helped establish the publisher’s eminence in political non-fiction, and Joseph Heller’s anti-war classic “Catch-22.” The list also features prize-winning history (David Blight’s “Frederick Douglass,” Taylor Branch’s “Parting the Waters”), literary fiction (Don DeLillo’s “Underworld”), commercial fiction (Mary Higgins Clark’s “Where Are the Children?”), Dr. Benjamin Spock’s revolutionary “The Common Sense Baby and Childcare Book” and the children’s favorite “Eloise,” by Kay Thompson and illustrator Hilary Knight.

“We wanted to convey the influence that these books had on culture over the past century, and the sweep of what we published,” says Simon & Schuster CEO Jonathan Karp.

No author could be included twice and books no longer available through Simon & Schuster were left off, such as a major release from the publisher in the 1950s: Sloan Wilson’s novel about a World War II veteran’s struggles back home, “The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit.”

From 1924-1976, all of the authors listed are white, a reflection of what Karp calls “the tenor of the times.” Few writers of color had mainstream success during that era and those who did published their most notable works elsewhere – Ralph Ellison and Maya Angelou with Random House, Richard Wright with Harper (now HarperCollins), James Baldwin with Dial Press, Alex Haley with Doubleday, Langston Hughes and Toni Morrison with Knopf.



“Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom” by David W. Blight

“They (Richard Simon and Max Schuster) were a couple of white guys who had lists of book ideas they wanted to publish and I would suspect that a lot of those ideas reflected their cultural sensibilities and personal interests,” Karp says.

A handful of Black writers appear from 1977-2000, starting with Ntozake Shange’s “for colored girls who have considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf,” before the list broadly diversifies in the 21st century. More recent selections include Jenny Han’s “The Summer I Turned Pretty,” Carlos Eire’s “Waiting for Snow in Havana,” Siddhartha Mukherjee’s “The Emperor of All Maladies,” Jesmyn Ward’s “Sing, Unburied, Sing,” Jason Reynolds’ “Long Way Down” and, the final entry, a book from 2023, Safiya Sinclair’s acclaimed memoir “How to Say Babylon.”

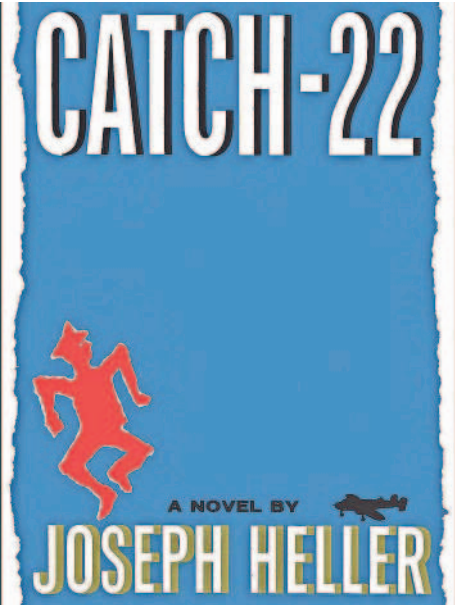
“I have distinct memories of being in the room when some of these books were being presented and feeling the energy they generated,” says committee member Wendy Sheanin, Simon & Schuster’s vice president for independent retail sales. “How to Say Babylon” had that kind of energy and felt like a book that people will keep on reading.”

Karp calls the committee discussions “lively,” and insists he didn’t try to “big foot” anybody. One of his personal favorites, novelist John Irving, was not included, although he did argue successfully for Bruce Springsteen’s memoir, “Born to Run.”

“I am glad my colleagues agreed,” Karp says.

Karp openly questioned one pick. Historian Doris Kearns Goodwin’s Pulitzer Prize-winning “No Ordinary Time,” about Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt during World War II, was chosen over her Abraham Lincoln biography, “Team of Rivals,” the story of Lincoln’s inner circle of former presidential contenders, was read by then-candidate Barack Obama, among others.

“‘No Ordinary Time’ is a wonderful



“Catch-22” by Joseph Heller

book, but ‘Team of Rivals’ influenced Barack Obama’s decision to make Hillary Clinton secretary of state,” Karp says. “That book actually had an influence on the course of events.”

Like many leading publishers, Simon & Schuster began as an independently owned company and vastly expanded after the 1960s. Simon & Schuster’s founders had both died by the end of the ‘60s, and the company changed ownership several times before being purchased last year by the private equity firm KKR.

Along the way, Simon & Schuster acquired numerous other publishers, whose books are now part of the S&S catalog and its centennial list. Several older selections, including F. Scott Fitzgerald’s “The Great Gatsby,” Ernest Hemingway’s “A Farewell to Arms” and Alan Paton’s “Cry, the Beloved Country” were published by Scribner, which Simon & Schuster acquired in 1994. Other works first released elsewhere include Judy Blume’s “Are You There God? It’s Me, Margaret” and B.F. Skinner’s “Science and Human Behavior.”

The list of 100 not only showcases the different kinds of books that get published, but the different ways they caught on.

Some books seemed destined from the start to make news, whether “All the President’s Men,” or Walter Isaacson’s “Steve Jobs.” Others were surprise hits that ended up selling millions, among them “Catch-22” and Fredrik Backman’s novel “A Man Called Ove.” The list also includes what Richard Simon called “planned publishing,” projects initiated by Simon & Schuster, such as Dale Carnegie’s “How to Win Friends and Influence People” – a perennial bestseller released in the 1930s after S&S executive Leon Shimkin sat in on a course given by Carnegie.

“I think with the original publishers, Simon and Schuster, part of their genius is they would marry ideas to authors,” says Karp, who also cites such recent examples as David McCullough’s bestselling book about the Wright brothers. “That’s something we still look to do – find the right author for the book that we think readers want.”

LOCAL MOVIE THEATERS

SARASOTA

BURNS COURT CINEMAS:
506 Burns Lane; filmsociety.org/movies; 941-955-FILM (3456)

REGAL HOLLYWOOD 11: 1993 Main St.; regmovies.com/theatres/regal-hollywood-sarasota; 941-954-5768

AMC SARASOTA 12: 8201 S. Tamiami Trail; amctheatres.com/movie-theatres/

tampa-st-petersburg/amc-sarasota-12; 888-AMC-4FUN (262-4386)

CINEBISTRO SIESTA KEY:
3501 S. Tamiami Trail; cmxcinemas.com/Showtimes/ Cinebistro--Siesta-Key; 941-361-2456

VENICE

GALLERIA STADIUM 11: 2111 Tamiami Trail; spotlighttheatres.com/ spotlight-venice; 941-202-6561

MANATEE COUNTY

LAKEWOOD RANCH CINEMAS:
10715 Rodeo Drive; filmsociety.org/movies; 941-955-FILM (3456)

OAKMONT 8: 4801 Cortez Road; regmovies.com/theatres/regal-oakmont; 941-954-5768

AMC BRADENTON 20: 2507 53rd Ave. E.; amctheatres.com/movie-theatres/

tampa-st-petersburg/amc-bradenton-20; 941-752-3796

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

TOWN CENTER 16:
Tamiami Trail at Murdock Circle; regmovies.com/theatres/regal-town-center-port-charlotte; 941-623-0111