

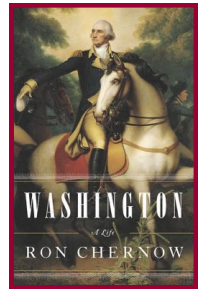


## BIOGRAPHY

The Pulitzer Prize has been awarded by Columbia University since 1917. The awards are given on the recommendations of a board of jurors for Journalism, Letters, Music and Drama. The awards for Letters include Fiction, Non-Fiction, Poetry, Biography, and History. The Pulitzer in Biography is presented for distinguished book of the category by an American author. It is left up to the Nominating Juries and The Pulitzer Prize Board to determine exactly what makes a work "distinguished." For more information, visit: [www.pulitzer.org](http://www.pulitzer.org)

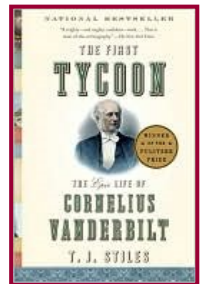
### 2011 Washington: a Life by Ron Chernow

Celebrated biographer Ron Chernow provides a richly nuanced portrait of the father of our nation. With a breadth and depth matched by no other one-volume life of Washington, this crisply paced narrative carries the reader through his troubled boyhood, his precocious feats in the French and Indian War, his creation of Mount Vernon, his heroic exploits with the Continental Army, his presiding over the Constitutional Convention, and his magnificent performance as America's first president. With a dramatic sweep worthy of its giant subject, Washington is a magisterial work from one of our most elegant storytellers.



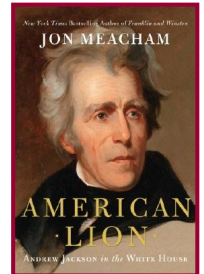
### 2010 The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt by T. J. Stiles

Stiles presents a thoroughly researched, annotated, and illustrated account of the rise of the visionary Cornelius Vanderbilt (1794-1877) from boatman to railroad entrepreneur, revealing his difficult personal and family life, struggle to attain a place in New York society, and role in establishing the arguably individualistic, lightly regulated financial system that America has today. Vanderbilt came to exemplify the contradictions of the masters of competition who stifled rivals by later enacting monopolies similar to the kind they had first opposed.



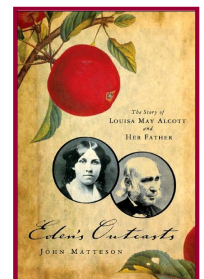
### 2009 American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House by Jon Meacham

Chronicles the life and career of Andrew Jackson, a self-made man who went on to become a military hero and seventh president of the United States, analyzing Jackson's seminal role during a turbulent era in history. A thought-provoking study of Andrew Jackson chronicles the life and career of a self-made man who went on to become a military hero and seventh president of the United States, critically analyzing Jackson's seminal role during a turbulent era in history, the political crises and personal upheaval that surrounded him, and his legacy for the modern presidency.



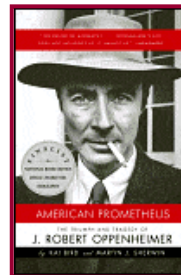
### 2008 Eden's Outcasts: The Story of Louisa May Alcott and Her Father by John Matteson

Louisa May Alcott's name is known universally. Yet, during her youth, the famous Alcott was her father, Bronson—an eminent teacher, lecturer, and friend of Emerson and Thoreau. Willful and exuberant, Louisa flew in the face of all her father's theories of child rearing. She, in turn, could not understand the frugal life Bronson preached. At the same time, like most daughters, she wanted her father's approval. As her father struggled to recover from a breakdown, Louisa learned to support her family, teaching if she must, but finally finding her vocation in writing.



**2007 The Most Famous Man in America: the Biography of Henry Ward Beecher by Debby Applegate**

No one predicted success for Henry Ward Beecher at his birth in 1813. The blithe, boisterous son of the last great Puritan minister, he seemed destined to be overshadowed by his brilliant siblings—especially his sister, Harriet Beecher Stowe, who penned the century's bestselling book Uncle Tom's Cabin. But when pushed into the ministry, the charismatic Beecher found fame by shedding his father's Old Testament-style fire-and-brimstone theology and instead preaching a New Testament-based gospel of unconditional love and healing.



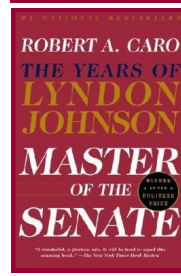
**2006 American Prometheus: the Triumph & Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer by Kai Bird**

Six decades after the dropping of the atomic bomb, its relevance to our lives grows ever more clear. No person was more aware of the far-reaching implications of this new, destructive technology than Manhattan Project physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer. As early as 1946, this supposedly unworldly scientist noted that the breakthrough weaponry would ultimately make all our cities vulnerable to nuclear terrorist attack. The only defense, he cautioned, was a screwdriver capable of opening "each and every crate or suitcase."



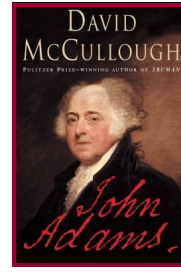
**2005 de Kooning: An American Master by Mark Stevens and Annalyn Swan**

This sweeping biography chronicles in detail de Kooning's rise from his humble beginnings in Rotterdam to his fame as an abstract expressionist and his descent into alcoholism and Alzheimer's. De Kooning is one of the most important artists of the twentieth century, a true "painter's painter" whose protean work continues to inspire many artists.



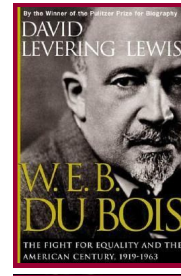
**2004 Khrushchev: The Man and His Era by William Taubman**

Drawing on newly opened archives in Russia and Ukraine, Taubman writes a thorough biography of one of the most complex and important political figures of the 20th century whose life and career spanned revolution, civil war, famine, collectivization, industrialization, terror, world war, the Cold War, Stalinism, and post-Stalinism.



**2003 Master of the Senate by Robert Caro**

In this third volume of his magisterial biography of the protean LBJ, Caro brilliantly analyzes his marshaling and manipulation of power. During LBJ's Senate years, as civil rights became a more urgent issue, the power of individuals to block legislation became a major issue. Opposition to civil rights, Caro notes, was the southern senators' ongoing revenge for Gettysburg, a defense of the mythologized southern way of life.



**2002 John Adams by David McCullough**

**2001 W.E.B. Du Bois: The Fight for Equality and the American Century by David Levering Lewis**

**2000 Vera (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov) by Stacy Schiff \***

**1999 Lindbergh by A. Scott Berg**

**1998 Personal History by Katharine Graham**

**1997 Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt**

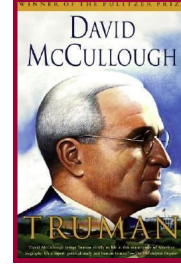
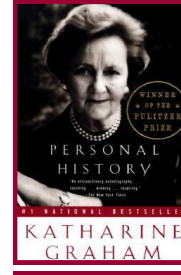
**1996 God: A Biography by Jack Miles (231 MILES)**

**1995 Harriet Beecher Stowe: A Life by Joan D. Hedrick**

**1994 W.E.B. Du Bois: Biography of a Race 1868-1919 by David Levering Lewis**

**1993 Truman by David McCullough**

**1992 Fortunate Son: The Healing of a Vietnam Vet by Lewis B. Puller Jr. \***



For more past winners, please see the [Pulitzer Prize website](#).