



[On Agate Hill](#) by Lee Smith

Molly Petree, orphaned by the Civil War, is by her own definition "a spitfire and a burden. I do not care. My family is a dead family, and this is not my home, for I am a refugee girl." Raised in the ruins of a once prosperous plantation on Agate Hill in North Carolina, she's a refugee who has no interest in self-pity. To document her headstrong life, she collects its artifacts—her lifelong diaries, letters, poems, songs, newspaper clippings, court records, marbles, rocks, dolls, bones (some human, some not).

[Cold Mountain](#) by Charles Frazier

Sorely wounded and fatally disillusioned in the fighting at Petersburg, a Confederate soldier named Inman decides to walk back to his home in the Blue Ridge mountains to Ada, the woman he loves. His trek across the disintegrating South brings him into intimate and sometimes lethal converse with slaves and marauders, bounty hunters and witches, both helpful and malign. At the same time, the intrepid Ada is trying to revive her father's derelict farm and learning to survive in a world where the old certainties have been swept away.

[Nowhere Else on Earth](#) by Josephine Humphreys

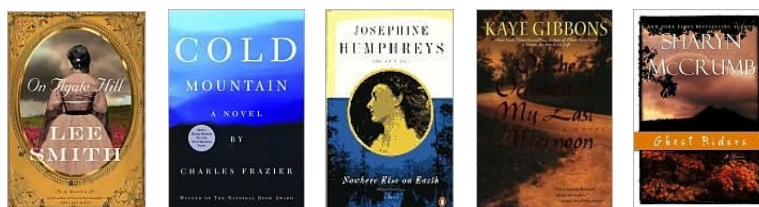
In the summer of 1864, sixteen-year-old Rhoda Strong lives in the Lumbee Indian settlement of Robeson County, North Carolina, which has become a pawn in the bloody struggle between the Union and Confederate armies. The community is besieged by the marauding Union Army as well as the desperate Home Guard who are hell-bent on conscripting the young men into deadly forced labor. Daughter of a Scotsman and his formidable Lumbee wife, Rhoda is fiercely loyal to her family and desperately fears for their safety, but her love for the outlaw hero Henry Berry Lowrie forces her to cast her lot with danger.

[On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon](#) by Kaye Gibbons

Born to privilege on the James River plantation of Seven Oaks, Emma grows up increasingly aware that her family's fortunes are inextricably linked to slavery -- an awareness that begins when she witnesses the senseless murder of a slave by her brutal, dominating father. She flees Seven Oaks to marry surgeon Quincy Lowell, scion of the Boston Lowells, and the couple settles in Raleigh. During the war, she works beside her husband treating wounded Confederate soldiers and gradually comes to see the grand cause as a "conflict perpetrated by rich men and fought by poor boys against hungry women and babies."

[Ghost Riders](#) by Sharyn McCrumb

In 1861 the Civil War reached the mountainous South - where the enemy was your neighbor, the victims were your friends, and the wrong army was whichever one you joined. When Malinda Blalock's husband, Keith, joined the army, she dressed as a boy and went with him. They spent the war close to home in the North Carolina mountains, acting as Union guerilla fighters, raiding the farms of Confederate sympathizers and making as much trouble as they could locally. As hard riding, deadly out-laws, Keith and Malinda avenged Confederate raids on their kin and neighbors.



[My Old True Love](#) by Sheila Kay Adams

In a haunting novel set during the Civil War in the mountains of Appalachia, Arty raises her brother, Hackley, and their cousin, Larkin, together like her own children, but the close relationship between the two young men is threatened when they both fall in love with the same woman.

[Home Across the Road](#) by Nancy Peacock

Every family has secrets, but the Redds have more than most. Consider, for example, the fact that this North Carolina clan has two distinct branches, the white Redds and the black Redds, their former slaves. Through seven generations, their histories and their blood have mixed, culminating in the present-day occupants of Roseberry Plantation, solitary Coyle Redd and his black housekeeper (and distant cousin), China.

[Cataloochee](#) by Wayne Caldwell

Set against the backdrop of the mountains of western North Carolina, an evocative, historical novel follows six decades in the lives of three families in two settlements--Little Cataloochee and Big Cataloochee--from the end of the Civil War until 1928, when the National Park Service prepares to uproot them to make way for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

[The House Behind the Cedars](#) by Charles W. Chesnutt

Originally published in 1900, this groundbreaking novel by a distinguished African-American author explores the Southern obsession with race. The drama of a brother and sister who "pass for white" during the dangerous days of Reconstruction, it offers realistic, unsentimental perspectives on the role of race in 19th-century American life.

[The Sands of Pride](#) by William R. Trotter

This novel chronicles the exploits of bold blockade-runners like Southerner Matthew Sloane, intrepid naval warriors like Federal officer William Barker Cushings, sadistic bushwhackers like Cyrus Bone, and spies like the Confederacy's seductive Belle O'Neal. The novel's center of gravity is the beautiful coastal city of Wilmington, North Carolina, in the midst of a vibrant, bawdy "Golden Age". It was the South's most vital port and guarded by the largest, most formidable earthen fortress ever built in America, Fort Fisher, a stupendous feat of engineering and a symbol of Southern defiance. After every other significant Rebel port had been vanquished, Fort Fisher's guns kept open Wilmington's boisterous docks, which poured supplies from Europe that kept the Confederacy alive. [The Fires of Pride](#) is the second book in this series.

[The Road from Chapel Hill](#) by Joanna Catherine Scott

Eugenia Mae Spotswood, the daughter of a failed aristocrat, longs to regain the life she lost. The slave Tom wants one thing: freedom. After becoming the property of Eugenia Mae, a dangerous affection grows. But he learns freedom is not something she can give him-he must fight for it himself. Clyde Brickett, the farm boy responsible for Tom's capture, has always believed in the South. But he soon learns that sometimes the only way to redeem yourself is to fight against everything he thought he believed in.

