

## ***Examining Biographies with Gifted Students***

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### **Biographies of Women of Achievement**

#### **Madeline Albright (Secretary of State)**

Albright, Madeleine. (2003). *Madam Secretary: A Memoir*. New York: Hyperion Books.

Dobbs, Michael. (1999). *Madeline Albright: A Twentieth Century Odyssey*.  
New York: Holt.

#### **Maya Angelou (Author and Poet)**

Angelou, Maya. (1969). *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. New York: Bantam Books.

#### **Melba Patillo Beals (Author and Journalist)**

Beals, Melba Patillo. (1994). *Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High*. New York: Washington Square Press.

#### **Erma Bombeck (Author and Humorist)**

Edwards, Susan. (1997). *Erma Bombeck: A Life in Humor*. New York: Avon.

#### **Donna Brazille (Political Strategist)**

Brazille, Donna. (2004). *Cooking With Grease: Stirring the Pots in American Politics*.  
New York: Simon & Schuster.

#### **Rachel Carson (Environmentalist)**

Lear, Linda J. (1997). *Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature*. New York: Henry Holt.

#### **Sandra Cisneros (Author)**

Miriam -Goldberg, Caryn. (1998). *Sandra Cisneros: Latina Writer and Activist*.  
Springfield, NJ: Enslow.

#### **Hillary Rodham Clinton (Secretary of State)**

Clinton, Hillary Rodham. (200\_\_). *Living History*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

#### **Amelia Earhart (Pilot)**

Butler, Susan. (1997). *East to Dawn: The Life of Amelia Earhart*. Reading, MA:  
Addison-Wesley.

#### **Anne Frank (Victim of the Holocaust)**

Gies, Miep. (1987). *Anne Frank Remembered*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

#### **Lorraine Hansberry (Playwright)**

Hansberry, Lorraine. (1969). *To be Young, Gifted and Black: An Informal Autobiography of*

*Lorraine Hansberry*. New York: Penguin.

**Leta Hollingworth (Educator)**

Klein, Anne. (2002). *A Forgotten Voice: A Biography of Leta Stetter Hollingworth*. Scottsdale, AZ: Great Potential Press.

**Charlayne Hunter-Gault (Journalist)**

Hunter-Gault, Charlayne. (1992). *In My Place*. New York: Farrar Strauss Giroux.

**Zora Neale Hurston (Author)**

Porter, A. P. (1992). *Jump at de Sun: The Story of Zora Neale Hurston*. Minneapolis: Carolrhoda Books.

**Barbara Jordan (Politician)**

Rogers, Marybeth. (1998). *Barbara Jordan: An American Hero*. New York: Bantam.

**Helen Keller (Author and Activist)**

Keller, Helen. (2003). *The Story of My Life*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

**Coretta Scott King (Human Rights Activist)**

Vivian, Octavia. (2006). *Coretta: The Story of Coretta Scott King*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.

**Rebecca Lobo (Athlete, Sports Analyst)**

Lobo, Ruth Ann & Lobo, Rebecca. (1996). *The Home Team: Of Mothers, Daughters, and American Champions*. New York: Kondasha International.

**Wilma Mankiller (Leader of the Cherokee Nation)**

Mankiller, Wilma. (1993). *Wilma Mankiller: A Chief and Her People*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

**Margaret Mead (Anthropologist)**

Bateson, Mary C. (1985). *With a Daughter's Eye: Memoir of Margaret Mead and Gregory Bateson*. New York: Washington Square Press.

**Sandra Day O'Connor (Supreme Court Justice)**

Biskupic, Joan. (2005). *Sandra Day O'Connor: How the First Woman on the Supreme Court Became its Most Influential Justice*. New York: Harper Perennial.

Day O'Connor, Sandra & Day, H. Alan. (2002). *Lazy B: Growing Up on a Cattle Ranch in the American Southwest*. New York: Random House.

**Mary Lou Retton (Athlete)**

Retton, Mary Lou (2000). *Mary Lou Retton's Gateways to Happiness*. New York: Broadway Books.

**Condoleezza Rice (Secretary of State)**

Felix, Antonia. (2002). *Condi: The Condoleezza Rice Story*. New York: Newmarket Press.

**J. K. Rowling (Author)**

Kirk, Connie Ann. (2003). *J. K. Rowling: A Biography*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.

**Esmerelda Santiago (Author and Screenwriter)**

Santiago, Esmerelda. (1993). *When I Was Puerto Rican*. New York: Vintage Books.

Santiago, Esmerelda. (1998). *Almost a Woman*. New York: Vintage Books.

**Pat Schroeder (Politician)**

Schroeder, Pat. (1998). *24 Years of House work . . . and the Place is Still a Mess: My Life in Politics*. Kansas City, MO: Andrews McMeel.

**Beverly Sills (Opera Singer)**

Sills, Beverly (1976). *Bubbles: A Self-Portrait*. New York: Bobbs-Merrill.

Sills, Beverly and Linderman, Lawrence. (1987). *Beverly: An Autobiography*. New York: Bantam Books.

**Barbra Streisand (Actress and Singer)**

Riese, Randall. (1993). *Her Name is Barbra*. New York: St, Martin's.

**Maria Tallchief (Ballerina)**

Tallchief, Maria. (1997). *Maria Tallchief: America's Prima Ballerina*. New York: Holt.

**Alice Walker (Author)**

White, Evelyn. (2004). *Alice Walker: A Life*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

**Heather Whitestone (Miss America, Motivational Speaker)**

Gray, Daphne (1995). *Yes, You Can, Heather!* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan.

Whitestone, Heather & Hunt, Angela.(1998). *Listening with My Heart*. New York: Doubleday.

**Christine Todd Whitman (Politician)**

Beard, Patricia. (1996). *Growing Up Republican – Christine Whitman: The Politics of Character*. New York: HarperCollins.

**Biographies of Men of Achievement**

**Lance Armstrong (Athlete)**

Armstrong, Lance & Jenkins, Sally. (2000). *It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

**Neil Armstrong (Astronaut)**

Hansen, James R. (2005). *First Man: The Life of Neil Armstrong*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

**Arthur Ashe (Athlete)**

Ashe, Arthur & Rampersad, Arnold. (1993). *Days of Grace: A Memoir*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

**Russell Baker (Author)**

Baker, Russell. (1982). *Growing Up*. New York: Congdon & Weed.

**Larry Bird (Athlete)**

Bird, Larry. (1991). *Drive: The Story of My Life*. New York: Doubleday.

**Terry Bradshaw (Athlete, Sports Analyst)**

Bradshaw, Terry. (1989). *Looking Deep*. New York: Contemporary Books.

Bradshaw, Terry & Fisher, David. (2002). *Keep it Simple*. New York: Atria Books.

**Tom Brokaw (Television Journalist and Author)**

Brokaw, Tom (2002). *A Long Way from Home: Growing Up in the American Heartland*. New York: Random House.

**Jim Carrey (Actor)**

Knelman, Martin. (2000). *Jim Carrey: The Joker is Wild*. Buffalo, NY: Firefly Books.

**Ben Carson (Surgeon)**

Carson, Ben (1990). *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Carson, Ben & Murphey, Cecil. (1992). *Think Big: Unleashing Your Potential for Excellence*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

**Jimmy Carter (President)**

Carter, Jimmy. (2001). *An Hour Before Daylight: Memories of a Rural Boyhood*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

**Bart Conner (Athlete)**

Conner, Bart. (1985). *Winning the Gold*. New York: Warner Books.

**Anderson Cooper (Television Journalist)**

Cooper, Anderson. (2006). *Dispatches from the Edge: A Memoir of Wars, Disasters, and Survival*. New York: HarperCollins.

**Bob Dole (Politician)**

Dole, Bob. (2005). *One Soldier's Story: A Memoir*. New York: HarperCollins.

**Michael J. Fox (Actor)**

Fox, Michael J. (2009). *Always Looking Up: The Adventures of an Incurable Optimist*. New York: Hyperion.

**Bill Gates (Entrepreneur)**

Manes, Stephen & Andrews, Paul. (1994). *Gates*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

**John Glenn (Astronaut)**

Glenn, John & Taylor, Nick. (1999). *John Glenn: A Memoir*. New York: Bantam Books.

**Tony Hawk (Athlete)**

Hawk, Tony & Mortimer, Sean (2000). *Hawk: Operation: Skateboarder*. New York: HarperCollins.

**Homer Hickam, Jr. (Aerospace Engineer)**

Hickam, Homer. (1998). *October Sky*. New York: Dell Publishing.

**Grant Hill (Athlete)**

Hill, Grant. (1996). *Change the Game: One Athlete's Thoughts on Sports, Dreams, and Growing Up*. New York: Warner Books.

**Ron Howard (Film Director)**

Gray, Beverly. (2003). *Ronnie Howard: From Mayberry to the Moon ... and Beyond*. Nashville, TN: Rutledge Hill Press.

**Derek Jeter (Athlete)**

Jeter, Derek & Curry, Jack. (2000). *The Life You Imagine: Life Lessons for Achieving Your Dreams*. New York: Three Rivers Press.

**Michael Jordan (Athlete)**

Greene, Bob (1992). *Hang Time: Days and Dreams with Michael Jordan*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

**Bob Kerrey (Politician)**

Kerrey, Bob (2002). *When I Was a Young Man*. New York: Harcourt, Inc.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. (Civil Rights Leader)**

Carson, Clayborne. (Ed.). (1998). *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* New York: Warner.

**Carl Lewis (Athlete)**

Lewis, Carl (1990). *Inside Track: My Professional Life in Amateur Track and Field*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

**Marcus Mabry (Journalist)**

Mabry, Marcus. (1995). *White Bucks and Black-Eyed Peas*. New York: Scribner.

**John McCain (Politician)**

McCain, John. (1999). *Faith of My Fathers*. New York: Random House.

**Ruben Navarette (Journalist)**

Navarette, Ruben, Jr. (1993). *A Darker Shade of Crimson: Odyssey of a Harvard Chicano*.  
New York: Bantam.

**Barack Obama (President)**

Obama, Barack (2004). *Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*.  
New York: Three Rivers Press.

**Paul O'Neill (Athlete)**

O'Neill, Paul & Rocks, Burton. (2003). *Me and My Dad: A Baseball Memoir*. New York:  
William Morrow.

**Gordon Parks (Photographer and Film Director)**

Parks, Gordon. (1990). *Voices in the Mirror: An Autobiography*. New York: Doubleday.

**Sidney Poitier (Actor, Film Director, Author)**

Poitier, Sidney. (2008). *Life Beyond Measure: Letters to My Great-Granddaughter*. New York:  
HarperCollins.

**Colin Powell (Secretary of State)**

DeYoung, Karen. (2006). *Soldier: The Life of Colin Powell*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Powell, Colin. (1995). *My American Journey*. New York: Random House.

Steins, Richard. (2003). *Colin Powell: A Biography*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.

**Dan Rather (Television Journalist)**

Rather, Dan. (1991). *I Remember*. Boston: Little, Brown & Company.

Weisman, Alan. (2006). *Lone Star: The Extraordinary Life and Times of Dan Rather*. Hoboken,  
NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

**Richard Rodriguez (Journalist)**

Rodriguez, Richard. (1982). *Hunger for Memory: The Education of Richard Rodriguez*.  
New York: Bantam Books.

Rodriguez, Richard. (1992). *Days of Obligation: An Argument with my Mexican Father*. New  
York: Viking.

Rodriguez, Richard. (2002). *Brown: The Last Discovery of America*. New York: Penguin.

**Carl Rowan (Journalist)**

Rowan, Carl. (1991). *Breaking Barriers*. Boston: Little, Brown & Company.

**Tim Russert (Television Journalist)**

Russert, Tim. (2004). *Big Russ & Me: Father and Son – Lessons of Life*. New York: Miramax.

**Carlos Santana (Musician)**

Shapiro, Marc. (2000). *Carlos Santana: Back on Top*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

**Jerry Seinfeld (Comedian)**

Oppenheimer, Jerry. (2002). *Seinfeld: The Making of an American Icon*. New York: HarperCollins.

**Shel Silverstein (Poet and Cartoonist)**

Rogak, Lisa. (2007). *A Boy Named Shel: The Life and Times of Shel Silverstein*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

**Steven Spielberg (Film Director)**

McBride, Joseph. (1997). *Steven Spielberg: A Biography*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

**Waitzkin, Josh (National Chess Champion, Martial Arts Champion)**

Waitzkin, Josh (2007). *The Art of Learning: An Inner Journey to Optimal Performance*. New York: Free Press.

**J. C. Watts (Politician)**

Watts, J. C. Jr. (2002). *What color is a conservative? My Life and Politics*. New York: HarperCollins.

**Carl Yastrzemski (Athlete)**

Yastrzemski, Carl. (1990). *Yaz: Baseball, the Wall, and Me*. New York: Warner Books.