

Literary Chronology

- 1564:** William Shakespeare was born on or about April 23 in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, England.
- 1596:** William Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* is published.
- 1616:** Shakespeare died on April 23 in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, England.
- 1759:** Mary Wollstonecraft was born on April 27 in Hoxton, England.
- 1792:** Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* is published.
- 1797:** Wollstonecraft died on September 10 of complications from childbirth.
- 1811:** Harriet Beecher was born on June 14 in Litchfield, Connecticut.
- 1835:** Mark Twain was born Samuel Langhorne Clemens in 1835 in Missouri.
- 1850:** Katherine O'Flaherty Chopin was born on February 8 in St. Louis, Missouri.
- 1852:** Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is published.
- 1857:** Joseph Conrad was born Jozef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski on December 3 in Berdyczew, Podolia, Russia (now Ukraine).
- 1868:** William Edward Burghardt Du Bois was born on February 23 in Great Barrington, Massachusetts.
- 1879:** Edward Morgan Forster was born on January 1 in London, England.
- 1882:** Adeline Virginia Stephen was born January 25 in London, England.
- 1884:** Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is published.
- 1896:** Stowe died on July 1 in Hartford, Connecticut.
- 1899:** Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* is published.
- 1902:** James Mercer Langston Hughes was born on February 1 in Joplin, Missouri.
- 1902:** Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* is published.
- 1903:** Alan Paton was born on January 11 in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa.
- 1903:** W. E. B. Du Bois's *The Souls of Black Folk* is published.
- 1904:** Chopin died on August 20 of a brain hemorrhage in St. Louis, Missouri.
- 1908:** Dorris (Dee) Alexander Brown was born on February 28 near Alberta, Louisiana.
- 1908:** Richard Wright was born on September 4 in Roxie, Mississippi.
- 1910:** Twain died of heart disease on April 21 in Redding, Connecticut.
- 1914:** Ralph Waldo Ellison was born on March 1 in Oklahoma City.
- 1917:** Gwendolyn Brooks was born June 7 in Topeka, Kansas.

- 1919:** Primo Michele Levi was born on July 31 in Turin, Italy.
- 1919:** Monica Sone was born Kazuko Monica Itoi in Seattle, Washington.
- 1921:** Langston Hughes's "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" is published.
- 1921:** Alex Haley was born on August 11 in Ithaca, New York.
- 1924:** E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India* is published.
- 1924:** Conrad died on August 3 of a heart attack in Bishopsbourne, Kent, England.
- 1925:** Mary Flannery O'Connor was born March 25 in Savannah, Georgia.
- 1925:** Malcolm Little was born on May 19, 1925, in Omaha, Nebraska.
- 1926:** Nelle Harper Lee was born on April 28 in Monroeville, Alabama.
- 1927:** Daniel Keyes was born August 9 in Brooklyn, New York.
- 1929:** Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15 in Atlanta, Georgia.
- 1929:** Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* is published.
- 1929:** Anne Frank was born on June 12 in Frankfurt, Germany.
- 1930:** Lorraine Hansberry was born on May 19 in Chicago, Illinois.
- 1933:** Ernest James Gaines was born in 1933 on a plantation in Louisiana.
- 1934:** Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston was born on September 26 in California.
- 1940:** Richard Wright's *Native Son* is published.
- 1941:** Woolf committed suicide by drowning on March 28 in Lewes, Sussex, England.
- 1943:** Mildred Delois Taylor was born on September 13 in Jackson, Mississippi.
- 1944:** Ralph Ellison's "King of the Bingo Game" is published.
- 1944:** Alice Walker was born February 9 in Eatonton, Georgia.
- 1945:** Frank died in March at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.
- 1947:** Primo Levi's "A Good Day" is published.
- 1947:** Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* is published.
- 1948:** Leslie Marmon Silko was born on March 5 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 1948:** Alan Paton's *Cry, the Beloved Country* is published.
- 1953:** Monica Sone's *Nisei Daughter* is published.
- 1954:** Sandra Cisneros was born December 20 in Chicago, Illinois.
- 1959:** Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun* is published.
- 1960:** Wright died on November 28 of a heart attack in Paris, France.
- 1960:** Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* is published.
- 1961:** Flannery O'Connor's "Everything that Rises Must Converge" is published.
- 1963:** Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" is published.
- 1963:** Du Bois died on August 27 in Accra, Ghana.
- 1964:** O'Connor died on August 3 of lupus in Milledgeville, Georgia.
- 1965:** Hansberry died of lung cancer on January 12 in New York, New York.
- 1965:** Malcolm X was assassinated on February 21 in New York, New York.
- 1965:** Malcolm X's *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* is published.
- 1966:** Daniel Keyes's *Flowers for Algernon* is published.
- 1967:** Hughes died on August 22 of a cerebral hemorrhage in St. Louis, Missouri.
- 1968:** King was assassinated on April 4 in Memphis, Tennessee.
- 1970:** Forster died on June 7 in Coventry, England.
- 1970:** Dee Brown's *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West* is published.
- 1971:** Ernest J. Gaines's *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman* is published.
- 1973:** Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston's *Farewell to Manzanar: A True Story of Japanese American Experience during and after the World War II Internment* is published.
- 1976:** Mildred D. Taylor's *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* is published.
- 1977:** Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony* is published.
- 1982:** Alice Walker's *The Color Purple* is published.

1984: Sandra Cisneros's *The House on Mango Street* is published.

1987: Levi died of an alleged suicide on April 11.

1987: Gwendolyn Brooks's *Blacks* is published.

1988: Alan Paton died of throat cancer on April 12 in Botha's Hill, Natal, South Africa.

1992: Alex Haley died of cardiac arrest on February 10 in Seattle, Washington.

1994: Ellison died on April 16 of cancer in New York, New York.

2000: Gwendolyn Brooks died on December 3 of cancer in Chicago, Illinois.

2002: Brown died on December 12 in Little Rock, Arkansas.