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.


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.


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.
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.
1948: Frank died in March at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.
1948: Primo Levi’s “A Good Day” is published.
1948: 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.
1964: O’Connor died on August 3 of lupus in Milledgeville, Georgia.
1965: Malcolm X was assassinated on February 21 in New York, New York.
1966: Daniel Keyes’ *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: Dee Brown’s *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West* 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.
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Sandra Cisneros’s <em>The House on Mango Street</em> is published.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Levi died of an alleged suicide on April 11.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Gwendolyn Brooks’s <em>Blacks</em> is published.</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>Alan Paton died of throat cancer on April 12 in Botha’s Hill, Natal, South Africa.</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Brown died on December 12 in Little Rock, Arkansas.</td>
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