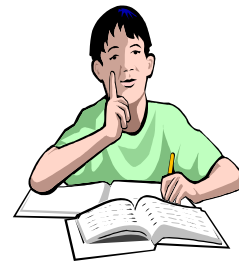


Growing up

Day dreams and hard knocks



An American Childhood (Biography) by Annie Dillard [check catalog](#)

The author grew up in Pittsburgh in the 1950's. This book is full of rich detail and wry observation and once you've met Annie's delightful mother you will not easily forget her.

Big Russ & Me; father and son: lessons of life (070.92/RUS) [check catalog](#)

Tim Russert was a well known and much loved political journalist. In this book he recalls his father, Big Russ, who worked two jobs for thirty years to support his family and who taught values, such as honesty and decency, to his son.

Climbing the Mango Trees (Biography) by Madhur Jaffrey [check catalog](#)

She grew up in a well-to-do family in Delhi in pre-independence India and Jaffrey evokes this vanished age brilliantly. Her description of meals and food preparation are especially vivid. There are even some recipes at the end of the book.

Crisis, Pursued by Disaster, Followed Closely by Catastrophe (Biography)
by Mike O'Connor [check catalog](#)

Throughout his childhood Mike O'Connor's family appeared to be normal, apart from the many occasions when they would abandon their homes and possessions and flee across the border to Mexico. It took the author many years to unravel the truth about his parents.

The Division Street Princess (Biography) by Elaine Soloway [check catalog](#)

This is the coming of age story of a girl, a store and a vibrant city street in an old Chicago neighborhood. It gives the reader an entertaining picture of a unique and lively community.

Don't Let's Go To the Dogs Tonight (Biography) by Alexander Fuller

This is the story of a family of white farmers who lived through the Rhodesian civil war. It is also an unusual and illuminating account of an African childhood. [check catalog](#)

The Glass Castle (362.82/WAL) by Jeanette Walls

This is the disturbing and fascinating story of a chaotic childhood. Neglected by their eccentric and wandering parents Jeanette Walls and her siblings had to fend mostly for themselves until they were able to escape their family circumstances. [check catalog](#)

The Invisible Wall (813.54/BER) by Harry Bernstein

Harry grew up in a small English mill town. Jewish families lived on one side of his narrow street and Christian families on the other. His mother struggled to hold the family together on the eve of the First World War. [check catalog](#)

Secret Daughter (Biography) by June Cross

Born in 1954 to a white actress and a well-known black comedian, June Cross spent her childhood shuttling between two worlds. She lived with her mother until she was four years old and then was sent to live with a black family. Growing up during the unrest of the 60's and 70's Cross struggled constantly with the question of her identity. [check catalog](#)

The Tender Bar (070.92/MOE) by John Moehringer

Abandoned by his own father before he could talk, 8-year-old J. R. found some surrogate fathers in the bar on the corner of his street. These men took him to the beach and to ballgames and he listened to their stories. Even when he grew up and moved away, the bar remained a refuge. [check catalog](#)

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