- 1) Washington Irving, The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent. (1819/20)
- 2) James Fenimore Cooper, *The Pioneers* (1823)
- 3) Edgar Allan Poe, "MS Found in a Bottle" (1833), "The Fall of the House of Usher" (1839), "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" (1841), "The Masque of the Red Death" (1842), "The Pit and the Pendulum" (1842), "The Tell-Tale Heart" (1843), "The Gold Bug" (1843), "The Black Cat" (1843), "The Purloined Letter" (1844)," "The Cask of Amontillado" (1846)
- 4) George Lippard, The Quaker City (1844)
- 5) Margaret Fuller, Woman in the Nineteenth Century (1845)
- 6) Frederick Douglass, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845)
- 7) Julia Ward Howe, *The Hermaphrodite* (1846/7)
- 8) Herman Melville, Moby-Dick (1851)
- 9) Herman Melville, Billy Budd (1888/9)
- 10) Nathaniel Hawthorne, The Blithedale Romance (1852)
- 11) Nathaniel Hawthorne, "My Kinsman, Major Molineaux" (1832), "Alice Doane's Appeal" (1835), "The Gray Champion," (1835), "Young Goodman Brown" (1835), "The Ambitious Guest" (1835), "The May-Pole of Merry Mount" (1836), "The Minister's Black Veil" (1836), "The Birth-Mark" (1843), "Rappaccini's Daughter" (1844), "Ethan Brand" (1850)
- 12) Harriet Beecher Stowe, Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852)
- 13) Fanny Fern, Fern Leaves from Fanny's Portfolio (1853)
- 14) Solomon Northup, 12 Years a Slave (1853)
- 15) William Wells Brown, Clotel, or, The President's Daughter (1853)
- 16) Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Nature" (1836), "The American Scholar" (1837), "An Address Delivered Before the Senior Class in Divinity College, Cambridge" (1838), "Self-Reliance" (1841), "The Over-Soul" (1841), "Circles" (1841), "The Transcendentalist" (1842), "The Poet" (1844), "Experience" (1844), "Napoleon: or, The Man of the World" (1850)
- 17) Henry David Thoreau, Walden (1854)
- 18) Walt Whitman, Leaves of Grass (1855)
- 19) Emily Dickinson, "I never lost as much but twice," "I taste a liquor never brewed," "There's a certain Slant of Light," "I died for Beauty—but was scarce," "I heard a Fly buzz when I died," "I felt a funeral, in my Brain," "My Life had stood—a Loaded Gun," "Tell all the Truth but tell it slant," "Wild Nights—Wild Nights!" "I'm Nobody! Who are you?" "A Bird came down the Walk," "After great pain, a formal feeling comes," "Much madness is divinest Sense," "I dwell in Possibility," "Because I could not stop for Death"
- 20) John Greenleaf Whittier, "For Righteousness' Sake" (1855), "Telling the Bees" (1858), "At Port Royal. 1861." "Barbara Frietchie (1863), "What the Birds Said" (1864), "Snow-Bound" (1866), "The Brewing of Soma" (1872), "Burning Drift-Wood," "Among the Hills: Prelude," "Proem," "Song of Slaves in the Desert," "Maud Muller," "The Barefoot Boy," "An Autograph," "My Triumph"
- 21) E.D.E.N. Southworth, The Hidden Hand (1859)
- 22) Harriet Jacobs, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (1861)

- 23) Rebecca Harding Davis, Life in the Iron Mills (1861)
- 24) Louisa May Alcott, Little Women (1868/9)
- 25) Anna Katharine Green, The Leavenworth Case (1878)
- 26) Mark Twain, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1884)
- 27) William Dean Howells, The Rise of Silas Lapham (1885)
- 28) Edward Bellamy, Looking Backward (1888)
- 29) Henry James, Daisy Miller (1878), What Maisie Knew (1897), The Turn of the Screw (1898), The Beast in the Jungle (1903)
- 30) Sarah Orne Jewett, The Country of the Pointed Firs (1896)

Critical Texts:

- 1) D.H. Lawrence, Studies in Classic American Literature (1923)
- 2) F.O. Matthiessen, American Renaissance (1941)
- 3) Richard Chase, The American Novel and Its Tradition (1957)
- 4) Leslie Fiedler, Love and Death in the American Novel (1966)
- 5) Ann Douglas, The Feminization of American Culture (1977)
- 6) Eve Kosofsky Segwick, Epistemology of the Closet (1990)
- 7) Paul Giles, Virtual Americas (2002)
- 8) Virginia Jackson, Dickinson's Misery (2005)
- 9) Barbara Packer, The Transcendentalists (2007)
- 10) Peter Coviello, Tomorrow's Parties (2013)