

A Sampling of Books for Family History Writing

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How-To Books

- Carmack, Sharon. *You Can Write Your Family History*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2003.
- Cass, Deborah. *Writing Your Family History: A Practical Guide*. Corwood Press, 2004.
- Cox, Meg. *The Book of New Family Traditions*. Philadelphia: Running Press Books, 2003.
- Davis, Donald. *Telling Your Arkansas Stories*. Little Rock: August House, 2002.
- Dixon, Janice. *Family Focused: A Step-By-Step Guide to Writing Your Autobiography and Family History*. Mount Olympus Publishing, 1997.
- Gilbert, Allison. *Passed and Present: Keeping Memories of Loved Ones Alive*. Berkeley, CA: Seal Press, 2016.
- Goldrup, Lawrence P. *Writing the Family Narrative*. Provo, UT: Ancestry Publishing, 1987.
- Gutkind, Lee, and Hattie Fletcher, eds. *Keep It Real: Everything You Need to Know about Researching and Writing Creative Nonfiction*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2008.
- Gutkind, Lee. *You Can't Make This Stuff Up: The Complete Guide to Writing Creative Nonfiction from Memoir to Literary Journalism and Everything in Between*. Philadelphia: Da Capo, 2012.
- Harris, Steven M., and Roy A. Bean. *Seven Letters That Will Bring You Closer to Your College Student*. Provo: Y Mountain Press, 2012.
- Hatcher, Patricia Law. *Producing a Quality Family History*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1996.
- Hobbs, Catherine. *The Elements of Autobiography and Life Narratives*. New York: Pearson, 2005.
- Karr, Mary. *The Art of Memoir*. New York: HarperCollins, 2015.
- Kemphorne, Charley. *For All Time: A Complete Guide to Writing Your Family History*. Boynton/Cook-Heinemann, Portsmouth, NH, 1996.
- Kyle, Nicole. *Writing Family History Made Easy: A Beginner's Guide*. Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 2007.
- Miller, Brenda, and Suzanne Paola. *Tell It Slant: Writing and Shaping Creative Nonfiction*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2004.
- Perl, Sondra, and Mimi Schwartz. *Writing True: The Art and Craft of Creative Nonfiction*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2006.
- Polking, Kirk. *Writing Family Histories and Memoirs*. Cincinnati, Betterway Books, 1995.
- Rainer, Tristine. *Your Life as Story: Discovering the "New Autobiography" and Writing Memoir as Literature*. New York: Jeremy P. Tarcher/Putnam, 1997.
- Spence, Linda. *Legacy: A Step-By-Step Guide to Writing Personal History*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1997.
- Stillman, Peter R. *Families Writing*. Cincinnati: Writers' Digest Books, 1989.
- Sturdevant, Katherine Scott. Cincinnati: *Bringing Your Family History to Life through Social History*. Betterway Books, 2000.
- Thiel, Diane. *Winding Roads: Exercises in Writing Creative Nonfiction*. New York: Longman, 2008.
- Titford, John. *Writing and Publishing Your Family History*. Countryside Books, 1996.
- Wiebe, Katie Funk. *How to Write Your Personal or Family History: If You Don't Do It, Who Will?* Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 2009.
- Winterowd, Ross. *Senior Citizens Writing*. West Lafayette, IN: Parlor Press, 2007.

Sample Biographies, Autobiographies, Memoirs, Family Histories

- Baker, Russell. *Growing Up*. New York: Signet, 1984.
- Bennett, Richard. *Camping with Lucy*. Richard Bennett, 2014. (See Lulu.com)

- Booth, Mary E., with Yuvonne C. Brooks. *B. F. Booth: The Legacy*. Tempe, AZ: Mary E. Booth, 2001.
- Cook, Barbara, with Tom Santopietro. *Then and Now: A Memoir*. New York: Harper, 2016.
- Ford, Richard. *Between Them: Remembering My Parents*. New York: Harper/Collins, 2017.
- Frankel, Stuart. *From One Generation to Another*. East Hampton, NY: Hidden Pond Press, 2005.
- Griffiths, Lawn. *Batting Rocks Over the Barn: An Iowa Farm Boy's Odyssey*. Lawn Griffiths, 2015.
- Jackson, Robert B. *The Gasoline Buggy of the Duryea Brothers*. New York: Henry Z. Walck, 1968.
- Johnson, Connie, and Dianne Johnson. *Farm Kids: A 1950s Wisconsin Memoir*. Clothesline Press, 2006.
- Johnson, Yvette. *The Song and the Silence: A Story about Family, Race, and What Was Revealed in a Small Town in the Mississippi Delta While Searching for Booker Wright*. Atria Books, 2017.
- Kane, William. *Journeys Taken: The Search for a Better Life: New France to New England, 1600-2000*. Tempe, AZ: Crowsnest Press, 2002.
- Kane, William. *The Brothers and Sisters: A Story of Two Immigrant Families*. Tempe, AZ: Crowsnest, 2003.
- Logan, Ben. *The Land Remembers: The Story of a Farm and Its People*. Madison, University of Wisconsin Press, 1975/2016.
- May, George W. *Charles E. Duryea: Automaker*. Chillicothe, IL: Peoria Regional Museum Society, 1996.
- Martin, Janet Letnes, and Suzann (Johnson) Nelson. *Cream Peas on Toast: Comfort Food for Norwegian-Lutheran Farm Kids (and Others)*. Hastings, MN: Caragana Press, 1994.
- Martin, Lee. *Turning Bones*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003.
- McCarty, Terry M., with Margaret Ann Chatfield McCarty. *The Chatfield Story: Civil War Letters and Diaries of Private Edward L. Chatfield of the 113th Illinois Volunteers*. Georgetown, TX: BookSurge, 2010.
- McCourt, Frank. *Angela's Ashes: A Memoir*. New York: Touchstone, 1996.
- Mott, Jacolyn A., ed. *Jasper F. Cropsey: Artist and Architect*. New York: New York Historical Society, 1987.
- Scharchburg, Richard P. *Carriages without Horses: J. Frank Duryea and the Birth of the American Automobile Industry*. Society of Automotive Engineers, 1993.
- Shelton, Richard. *Nobody Rich or Famous: A Family Memoir*. Tucson: University of Arizona, 2016.
- Simpson, Bland. *The Mystery of Beautiful Nell Cropsey: A Nonfiction Novel*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1993.
- Trillin, Calvin. *Family Man*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999.
- Vance, J. D. *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*. New York: HarperCollins, 2016.
- Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006.
- Walls, Jeannette. *Half-Broke Horses*. New York: Scribner, 2009.

Cultural History

- Joy, Sam C. *Sam, The Freeway Isn't a Cattle Trail Anymore: Stories of Early 1900's Rural Life in the Salt River Valley, Arizona*. Potencia, 2013.
- Conklin, Nancy Faires, and Margaret A. Lourie. *A Host of Tongues: Language Communities in the United States*. New York: The Free Press, 1983.
- Martinson, Floyd M. *Growing Up in Norway, 800 to 1990*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1992.
- Mencken, H. L. *The American Language: An Inquiry into the Development of English in the*

United States. 4th ed. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1937.

Spears, Linda, Frederick B. Wildfang, and the Tempe History Museum. *Then and Now: Tempe*. Tempe: Arcadia Publishing, 2010.

Zempel, Solveig, ed. and trans. *In Their Own Words: Letters from Norwegian Immigrants*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1991.