

Ken's List Spring 2024

Here's two books I'm reading now.

1774 by Mary Beth Norton. The Long Year of Revolution. Another book about my passion, the American Revolution.

The Path Between the Seas. The Creation of the Panama Canal by David McCullough

I finished McCullough's book about building the Brooklyn Bridge and while I enjoyed it, it was too technical. Which is another way of saying it was over my head from an engineering standpoint.

Ken's Winter 2024 Recommendation's

For anyone interested in our country's history, especially Naval history, a must read is "At Dawn We Slept" by Gordon W. Prange. It is probably the definitive account of December 7, 1941.

Also, I've just finished a two-book series by Jeff Shaara... two novels of the American Revolution. "Rise to Rebellion" and its sequel "The Glorious Cause." If you prefer your history in more of a "story" form, these are your books.

Warren's note:

I bought Jeff Shara's first book in 1996, *Gods and Generals* which is a prequel to *Killer Angels* by his father Michael Shara. We were leaving the next day to go back and see my mother who was not doing well and I took my wife down to a local book store to get her a book. I saw a display with his book and bought it and loved it. I then read *Killer Angels* and now have 16 of Jeff's 18 books.

Technically they are novels. The history is as accurate as Jeff could make it. He picks 4 or 5 key persons involved in the story and switches from one to another telling the story as they saw it from their knowledge and point of view as the story progresses. You feel like you were there with them. One of my most favorite authors.

I just checked his website; [Author & Historian - Jeff Shaara](#)

And I see I missed his 2023 book *Old Lion* about Teddy Roosevelt 2023

The Shadow of War 2024 (Is coming soon – taking orders now) About the Cuban Missile crisis.

I exchanged a few e-mails with Jeff when he was considering this subject for a book several years ago. He was concerned that he might not find enough material to make a book. I send him the names of a few books that I thought would help him and I can't wait to read this one.

Ken's Note:

Warren has a story or two about his duty during the Cuban missile crisis and I was sitting in a college classroom as the Russian freighters approached the naval blockade. One of the best books on that subject is Robert F. Kennedy's "Thirteen Days." I've never cared much for the Kennedy's but they earned their paychecks those two weeks (and kept us out of nuclear war!)