

The Feminine Mystique

100 Best Non Fiction Books has its origins in the recent 2 year-long Observer serial which every week featured a work of non fiction). It is also a companion volume to McCrum's very successful 100 Best Novels published by Galileo in 2015. The list of books starts in 1611 with the King James Bible and ends in 2014 with Elizabeth Kolbert's The Sixth Extinction. And in between, on this extraordinary voyage through the written treasures of our culture we meet Pepys' Diaries, Charles Darwin's The Origin of Species, Stephen Hawking's A Brief History of Time and a whole host of additional works.

Betty Friedan argues that once past the initial stages of describing and working against political and economic injustices, the women's movement should focus on working with men to remake private and public tasks and attitudes.

"An important debut work of narrative nonfiction: the timely, never-before-told story of five brilliant, passionate women who, in the early 1960s, converged at the newly founded Radcliffe Institute for Independent Study, stepping outside the domestic sphere and shaping the course of feminism in ways that still resonate today. In 1960, at the height of an era that expected women to focus solely on raising families, Radcliffe College announced the founding of an Institute for Independent Study, offering fellowships to women with a PhD or "the equivalent" in artistic success. Acclaimed writer and Harvard lecturer Maggie Doherty introduces us to five brilliant friends--poets Anne Sexton and Maxine Kumin, painter Barbara Swan, sculptor Mariana Pineda, and writer Tillie Olsen--who came together at the Institute and would go on to make history. Drawing from their notebooks, letters, lecture recordings, journals, and finished

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works, Doherty weaves from these women's own voices a moving narrative of friendship, ambition, activism, and art. Beautifully written and urgently told, *The Equivalents* shows us where we've been--and inspires us to go forward"--

Follows the adventures of Paul Atreides, the son of a betrayed duke given up for dead on a treacherous desert planet and adopted by its fierce, nomadic people, who help him unravel his most unexpected destiny.

Women are constantly being told that it's simply too difficult to balance work and family, so if they don't really "have to" work, it's better for their families if they stay home. Not only is this untrue, Leslie Bennetts says, but the arguments in favor of stay-at-home motherhood fail to consider the surprising benefits of work and the unexpected toll of giving it up. It's time, she says, to get the message across--combining work and family really is the best choice for most women, and it's eminently doable. Bennetts and millions of other working women provide ample proof that there are many different ways to have kids, maintain a challenging career, and have a richly rewarding life as a result. Earning money and being successful not only make women feel great, but when women sacrifice their financial autonomy by quitting their jobs, they become vulnerable to divorce as well as the potential illness, death, or unemployment of their bread-winner husbands. Further, they forfeit the intellectual, emotional, psychological, and even medical benefits of self-sufficiency. The truth is that when women gamble on dependancy, most eventually end up on the wrong side of the odds. In riveting interviews with women from a wide range of backgrounds, Bennetts tells their dramatic stories--some triumphant, others heart-breaking. *The Feminine Mistake* will inspire women to accept the challenge of figuring out who they are and what they want to do with their lives in

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addition to raising children. Not since Betty Friedan has anyone offered such an eye-opening and persuasive argument for why women can--and should--embrace the joyously complex lives they deserve.

Among those women was Friedan herself, who frankly recorded her astonishment, gratification, and anger as the movement she helped create grew beyond all her hopes, and then raced beyond her control into a sexual politics she found disturbing.

In 1963, Betty Friedan unleashed a storm of controversy with her bestselling book, *The Feminine Mystique*. Hundreds of women wrote to her to say that the book had transformed, even saved, their lives. Nearly half a century later, many women still recall where they were when they first read it. In *A Strange Stirring*, historian Stephanie Coontz examines the dawn of the 1960s, when the sexual revolution had barely begun, newspapers advertised for "perky, attractive gal typists," but married women were told to stay home, and husbands controlled almost every aspect of family life. Based on exhaustive research and interviews, and challenging both conservative and liberal myths about Friedan, *A Strange Stirring* brilliantly illuminates how a generation of women came to realize that their dissatisfaction with domestic life didn't reflect their personal weakness but rather a social and political injustice.

Essential reading for our times, as women are pulling together to demand their rights— A landmark portrait of women, men, and power in a transformed world. "Anchored by data and aromatized by anecdotes, [Rosin] concludes that women are gaining the upper hand." —The Washington Post Men have been the dominant sex since, well, the dawn of mankind. But Hanna Rosin was the first to

notice that this long-held truth is, astonishingly, no longer true. Today, by almost every measure, women are no longer gaining on men: They have pulled decisively ahead. And “the end of men”—the title of Rosin’s Atlantic cover story on the subject—has entered the lexicon as dramatically as Betty Friedan’s “feminine mystique,” Simone de Beauvoir’s “second sex,” Susan Faludi’s “backlash,” and Naomi Wolf’s “beauty myth” once did. In this landmark book, Rosin reveals how our current state of affairs is radically shifting the power dynamics between men and women at every level of society, with profound implications for marriage, sex, children, work, and more. With wide-ranging curiosity and insight unhampered by assumptions or ideology, Rosin shows how the radically different ways men and women today earn, learn, spend, couple up—even kill—has turned the big picture upside down. And in *The End of Men* she helps us see how, regardless of gender, we can adapt to the new reality and channel it for a better future.

Through these interviews Betty Friedan speaks fervently and combatively for herself and the momentous causes she has fought for. In 1963 Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* was published, and since that time this writer, teacher, public intellectual, and passionate advocate of social and economic justice in America has remained in the public spotlight. Transforming her into the mother of modern

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feminism, her landmark book challenged the prevailing gender ideology in the country and ultimately led to one of the most profound movements for social change in American history. In these interviews her arguments about equity and fairness -- as well as the striking consistency of her views about men, women, and the American family -- provide a rich resource for scholarly research. The interview genre captures Friedan's immediacy, her passion, her wit, her candor, and her contradictions. In showing her political and philosophical development, they reveal her to be one of the twentieth century's most significant thinkers.

Book jacket.

The Feminine Mystique W. W. Norton & Company

This biography of Betty Friedan traces the development of her feminist outlook from her childhood in Illinois to her marriage. Horowitz offers a reading of The Feminine Mystique and argues that the roots of Friedan's feminism run deeper than she has led us to believe.

An editor of The Atlantic best known for his 2010 cover story, "How a New Jobless Era Will Transform America," presents cautionary predictions about American life in the aftermath of the recession that describes long-term consequences being faced by Americans from every walk of life.

Betty Friedan's book The Feminine Mystique is possibly the best-selling of all the

titles analysed in the Macat library, and arguably one of the most important. Yet it was the product of an apparently minor, meaningless assignment. Undertaking to approach former classmates who had attended Smith College with her, 10 years after their graduation, the high-achieving Friedan was astonished to discover that the survey she had undertaken for a magazine feature revealed a high proportion of her contemporaries were suffering from a malaise she had thought was unique to her: profound dissatisfaction at the 'ideal' lives they had been living as wives, mothers and homemakers. For Friedan, this discovery stimulated a remarkable burst of creative thinking, as she began to connect the elements of her own life together in new ways. The popular idea that men and women were equal, but different – that men found their greatest fulfilment through work, while women were most fulfilled in the home – stood revealed as a fallacy, and the depression and even despair she and so many other women felt as a result was recast not as a failure to adapt to a role that was the truest expression of femininity, but as the natural product of undertaking repetitive, unfulfilling and unremunerated labor. Friedan's seminal expression of these new ideas redefined an issue central to many women's lives so successfully that it fuelled a movement – the 'second wave' feminism of the 1960s and 1970s that fundamentally challenged the legal and social framework underpinning an entire society.

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Description: Includes draft conclusion, "A New Life Plan for Women."

In this enthralling narrative—the first of its kind—historian and journalist Ruth Rosen chronicles the history of the American women's movement from its beginnings in the 1960s to the present. Interweaving the personal with the political, she vividly evokes the events and people who participated in our era's most far-reaching social revolution.

Released for the first time in paperback, this landmark social and political volume on feminism is credited with being responsible for raising awareness, liberating both sexes, and triggering major advances in the feminist movement. Reprint.

A beautifully illustrated collection of Gloria Steinem's most inspirational and outrageous quotes, with an introduction and essays by the feminist activist herself "A fearless book full of passion, resolute perspective, and unbiased hope for the future."—Janelle Monáe For decades—and especially now, in these times of crisis—people around the world have found guidance, humor, and unity in Gloria Steinem's gift for creating quotes that offer hope and inspire action. From her early days as a journalist and feminist activist, Steinem's words have helped generations to empower themselves and work together. Covering topics from relationships ("Many are looking for the right person. Too few are trying to be the right person.") to the patriarchy ("Men are liked better when they win. Women

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are liked better when they lose. This is how the patriarchy is enforced every day.”) and activism (“Revolutions, like trees, grow from the bottom up.”), this is the definitive collection of Steinem’s words on what matters most. Steinem sees quotes as “the poetry of everyday life,” so she also has included a few favorites from friends, including bell hooks, Flo Kennedy, and Michelle Obama, in this book that will make you want to laugh, march, and create some quotes of your own. In fact, at the end of the book, there’s a special space for readers to add their own quotes and others they’ve found inspiring. *The Truth Will Set You Free, But First It Will Piss You Off!* is both timeless and timely. It is a gift of hope from Steinem to readers, and a book to share with friends.

At last Betty Friedan herself speaks about her life and career. With the same unsparing frankness that made *The Feminine Mystique* one of the most influential books of our era, Friedan looks back and tells us what it took -- and what it cost -- to change the world. Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*, published in 1963, started the women's movement it sold more than four million copies and was recently named one of the one hundred most important books of the century. In *Life So Far*, Friedan takes us on an intimate journey through her life -- a lonely childhood in Peoria, Illinois salvation at Smith College her days as a labor reporter for a union newspaper in New York (from which she was

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dismissed when she became pregnant) unfulfilling and painful years as a suburban housewife finding great joy as a mother and writing *The Feminine Mystique*, which grew out of a survey of her Smith classmates and started it all. Friedan chronicles the secret underground of women in Washington, D.C., who drafted her in the early 1960s to spearhead an "NAACP" for women, and recounts the courage of many, including some Catholic nuns who played a brave part in those early days of NOW, the National Organization for Women. Friedan's feminist thinking, a philosophy of evolution, is reflected throughout her book. She recognized early that the women's movement would falter if institutions did not change to reflect the new realities of women's lives, and she fought to keep the movement practical and free of extremism, including "man-hating." She describes candidly the movement's political infighting that brought her to the point of legal action and resulted in a long breach with fellow leaders Gloria Steinem and Bella Abzug. Friedan is frank about her twenty-two-year marriage to Carl Friedan, an advertising entrepreneur. She writes about the explosive cycle of drinking, arguing, and physical battering she endured and explores her prolonged inability to leave the marriage. (They are now friends and the grandparents of nine.) Friedan was not only pivotal in the founding of NOW, she was also the driving force behind the creation of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action

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League (NARAL), the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC), and the First Women's Bank and Trust Company. She made history by introducing the issue of sex discrimination as an argument against the ratification of a Supreme Court nominee. She convinced the Secretary General of the United Nations to declare 1975 the International Year of the Woman. In this volume, Friedan brings to extraordinary life her bold and contentious leadership in the movement. She lectures, writes, leads think tanks, and organizes women and men to work together in political, legal, and social battles on behalf of women's rights.--From publisher description.

When Betty Friedan produced *The Feminine Mystique* in 1963, she could not have realized how the discovery and debate of her contemporaries' general malaise would shake up society. Victims of a false belief system, these women were following strict social convention by loyally conforming to the pretty image of the magazines, and found themselves forced to seek meaning in their lives only through a family and a home. Friedan's controversial book about these women - and every woman - would ultimately set Second Wave feminism in motion and begin the battle for equality. This groundbreaking and life-changing work remains just as powerful, important and true as it was forty-five years ago, and is essential reading both as a historical document and as a study of women living in a man's

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world. 'One of the most influential nonfiction books of the twentieth century.' New York Times 'Feminism began with the work of a single person: Friedan.'

Nicholas Lemann With a new Introduction by Lionel Shriver

"If you've never read it, read it now."—Arianna Huffington, O, The Oprah Magazine Landmark, groundbreaking, classic—these adjectives barely do justice to the pioneering vision and lasting impact of *The Feminine Mystique*. Published in 1963, it gave a pitch-perfect description of "the problem that has no name": the insidious beliefs and institutions that undermined women's confidence in their intellectual capabilities and kept them in the home. Writing in a time when the average woman first married in her teens and 60 percent of women students dropped out of college to marry, Betty Friedan captured the frustrations and thwarted ambitions of a generation and showed women how they could reclaim their lives. Part social chronicle, part manifesto, *The Feminine Mystique* is filled with fascinating anecdotes and interviews as well as insights that continue to inspire. This 50th-anniversary edition features an afterword by best-selling author Anna Quindlen as well as a new introduction by Gail Collins.

The book that sparked a feminist revolution, now with a new introduction by Gaby Hinsliff. 'Love and children and home are good but they are not the whole world, even if most of the words now written for women pretend they are. Why should

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women accept this picture of a half-life, instead of a share in the whole of human destiny?' First published in 1963, Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* changed the world. Widely credited with inspiring second-wave feminism, the book spoke to women across the globe and defined 'the problem that has no name'. It showed women that they could and should aim for a life beyond the home and the family, and that they could never find true fulfilment as long as their roles and ambitions were so narrowly defined. Based on interviews with suburban housewives, as well as researching psychology and how women were portrayed in media and advertising, *The Feminine Mystique* showed that many women were in fact deeply unsatisfied, but unable to find a voice to express their feelings. A powerful and ground-breaking piece of feminist writing and a historically important literary work, it laid the foundations for many feminist activists following in Friedan's footsteps, and had significant societal and political influence on the progression of gender equality. This new edition, published to coincide with the 100th anniversary of Betty Friedan's birth, includes a new introduction by Gaby Hinsliff, which discusses the reasons why Friedan's book still has so much to say to women today. Praise for *The Feminine Mystique*: 'One of the most influential non-fiction books of the twentieth century' *The New York Times* 'If American women look at their lives today, they are seeing Betty

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Friedan's legacy in action.' Naomi Wolf, Time 'Brilliant... succeeded where no other feminist writer had. She touched the lives of ordinary readers.' The New Yorker 'The Feminine Mystique forever changed the conversation as well as the way women view themselves. If you've never read it, read it now and reflect on what our mothers and grandmothers were feeling at the time. It's a great moment to celebrate this milestone work, which fundamentally altered the course of women's lives.' Arianna Huffington, O, The Oprah Magazine 'A highly readable, provocative book.' New York Times Book Review 'The Feminine Mystique is the Tupac Shakur of literary feminism, reincarnated at least once every decade with new insights that engender old beefs while at the same time serving as a reminder of why it's a classic.' The Los Angeles Review of Books "This exhibition of contemporary art features the work of women who address feminist issues either directly or obliquely, filtered through a contemporary response to Betty Friedan's critical text, 'The Feminine Mystique.' Discussed as 'the problem that has no name,' the indefinable unhappiness faced by women at mid-twentieth century is re-visited in the work of these artists who take up this familiar issue, as well as a host of new ones, for the beginning of the twenty-first century." -- Dr. Rocío Aranda-Alvarado, page 5.

The author of the ground-breaking work, *The Feminine Mystique*, tackles the meaning of age and aging in contemporary society, for both men and women. 250,000 first printing. BOMC Feat Alt. QPB Split Main. First serial, Time. Tour.

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A major history of American liberalism and the key personalities behind the movement Why is it that nearly every liberal initiative since the end of the New Deal—whether busing, urban development, affirmative action, welfare, gun control, or Roe v. Wade—has fallen victim to its grand aspirations, often exacerbating the very problem it seeks to solve? In this groundbreaking work, the first full treatment of modern liberalism in the United States, bestselling journalist and historian Eric Alterman together with Kevin Mattson present a comprehensive history of this proud, yet frequently maligned tradition. In *The Cause*, we meet the politicians, preachers, intellectuals, artists, and activists—from Eleanor Roosevelt to Barack Obama, Adlai Stevenson to Hubert Humphrey, and Billie Holiday to Bruce Springsteen—who have battled for the heart and soul of the nation.

This book is available as open access through the Bloomsbury Open Access programme and is available on www.bloomsburycollections.com. The challenges presented by feminism to traditional understandings of representation, normative values, power relations and the political are not simply the product of late-20th century thinking. *Feminist Moments*, in examining some of the pivotal texts in the history of feminist thought, demonstrates that these challenges emerge from a long and varied history of feminist writing. The volume brings together texts from literary and analytical works written by women and men, and from inside and outside the Western tradition, including Mary Wortley Montagu, Anna Wheeler and William Thompson, Nazira Zeineddine, Betty Friedan, Andrea Dworkin and Luisa Valenzuela. The volume is unique in offering close readings of key passages from the selected texts, making it ideal for classroom use; its original essays, all authored by specialists, will also be of interest to more advanced scholars. In juxtaposing and analysing a wide range of texts which despite their

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significance are rarely discussed together, *Feminist Moments* provides a fascinating historical narrative of feminist thought which will be highly valuable to students and scholars of the history of political thought, political philosophy and gender and literary studies.

Where is the Women's Movement today, a half century after *The Feminine Mystique* was published? The answer is rooted in the health and vitality of the organizations that comprise the national movement. In this book, the women's national social movement is critiqued and analyzed at an organizational level.

The Career Mystique examines taken-for-granted rules of the career game--that continuous, full-time, hard work pays off--deeply embedded in the American Dream. Possibilities of fulfilling the career mystique are dwindling, given insecurities and risks of a global economy, strains and double demands on the job and at home, uncertainties and ambiguities around retirement. This outdated myth stands in the way of fashioning innovative policies more in keeping with life in 21st century America. Visit our website for sample chapters!

In *The Feminine Mystique*, Jewish-raised Betty Friedan struck out against a postwar American culture that pressured women to play the role of subservient housewives. However, Friedan never acknowledged that many American women refused to retreat from public life during these years. Now, *A Jewish Feminine Mystique?* examines how Jewish women sought opportunities and created images that defied the stereotypes and prescriptive ideology of the "feminine mystique." As workers with or without pay, social justice activists, community builders, entertainers, and businesswomen, most Jewish women championed responsibilities outside their homes. Jewishness played a role in shaping their choices, shattering Friedan's assumptions about how middle-class women lived in the postwar years. Focusing on ordinary

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Jewish women as well as prominent figures such as Judy Holliday, Jennie Grossinger, and Herman Wouk's fictional Marjorie Morningstar, leading scholars explore the wide canvas upon which American Jewish women made their mark after the Second World War.

Description: Unspecified draft chapter including section, "The Misinterpreted Frustrations and the Real Ones."

Description: This item consists of a series of letters and fan mail written to Betty Friedan, mostly by American women, relaying reviews of her book *The Feminine Mystique*, or else referring to the wider public reception of her work. Some letters, conversely, criticise Friedan for suggesting that "any capable woman who did not throw herself wholeheartedly into a career was derelict". Amongst these letters there are also associated newspaper and magazine clippings, lecture notes, and thesis extracts. "Betty Friedan's book *The Feminine Mystique* is possibly the best-selling of all the titles analysed in the Macat library, and arguably one of the most important. Yet it was the product of an apparently minor, meaningless assignment. Undertaking to approach former classmates who had attended Smith College with her, 10 years after their graduation, the high-achieving Friedan was astonished to discover that the survey she had undertaken for a magazine feature revealed a high proportion of her contemporaries were suffering from a malaise she had thought was unique to her: profound dissatisfaction at the 'idea©!'; lives they had been living as wives, mothers and homemakers. For Friedan, this discovery stimulated a remarkable burst of creative

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thinking, as she began to connect the elements of her own life together in new ways. The popular idea that men and women were equal, but different--that men found their greatest fulfillment through work, while women were most fulfilled in the home--stood revealed as a fallacy, and the depression and even despair she and so many other women felt as a result was recast not as a failure to adapt to a role that was the truest expression of femininity, but as the natural product of undertaking repetitive, unfulfilling and unremunerated labor. Friedan's seminal expression of these new ideas redefined an issue central to many women's lives so successfully that it fuelled a movement--the 'second wave'; feminism of the 1960s and 1970s that fundamentally challenged the legal and social framework underpinning an entire society."--Provided by publisher.

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