

The Armchair Traveler Explores Afghanistan

Call #	Title & Author	Description
Fiction		
FIC Fesperman	The Warlord's Son Dan Fesperman	Skelly, a burned-out war correspondent, and his Pakistani translator, Najeeb, make a harrowing journey into war-torn Afghanistan, where they are plunged into a deadly web of intrigue, betrayal, violence and religious extremism.
FIC Gately	Lipstick in Afghanistan Roberta Gately	Elsa Murphy, a young nurse, has left Boston to provide aid and medical care in Afghanistan. The one comfort from home Elsa allows herself is lipstick, which helps her retain her identity behind the veil she wears.
FIC Hosseini	The Kite Runner Khaled Hosseini	Traces the unlikely friendship of a wealthy Afghan youth and a servant's son in a tale that spans the final days of Afghanistan's monarchy through the atrocities of the present day.
FIC Khadra	The Swallows of Kabul Yasmina Khadra	With their lives as a diplomat and lawyer frozen by the ascendancy of the Taliban, Moshen and Zunaira find their situation turning into a nightmare when Zunaira is arrested and condemned to death.
FIC Marciano	The End of Manners Francesca Marciano	An unlikely pair of women is dispatched to war-torn Afghanistan circa 2004 to report a story about young Afghan women attempting suicide rather than entering into arranged marriages.
FIC Wilson	Winter in Kandahar Steven E. Wilson	Pursued by both the CIA and al-Qaida, young Tajik Ahmed Jan struggles to save his people from obliteration and find the true meaning of life in a land where all seems lost.
Non-Fiction— Includes biography, history, politics, travel & more!		
NON-FIC 305.42 Women	Women for Afghan Women Sunita Mehta, ed.	This well-written, readable collection of essays tells the story of Afghan women in their own voices, providing timely insights and information about the people of Afghanistan and the faith of Islam.
NON-FIC 305.486 Rodriguez	The Kabul Beauty School Deborah Rodriguez	A wedding is about to take place, but there is a potentially dire secret—the bride is not technically a virgin. How Rodriguez, set to marry a nice Afghan man, solves this problem makes a great story, embellished as it is with all the traditional wedding preparations.
NON-FIC 915.404 Constable	Fragments of Grace: My Search for Meaning in the Strife of South Asia Pamela Constable	Between extended sojourns in South Asia, Pamela Constable, a veteran foreign correspondent, reflects on the risks and rewards of her profession, revisits her roots, and compares her experiences with Islam, Hinduism and Christianity.
NON-FIC 915.8104 Elliot	An Unexpected Light: Travels in Afghanistan Jason Elliot	Part historical evocation, part travelogue and part personal quest, this book is the account of Elliot's journey through Afghanistan, capturing perfectly the powerful allure of a seldom-glimpsed world.
NON-FIC 958.1 Rall	To Afghanistan and back: A Graphic Travelogue Ted Rall	When U.S. bombs started raining on the Taliban, Rall didn't just watch it on TV – he jumped on a plane straight to the war zone. But the only cartoonist to go to Afghanistan got more than he bargained for. Within days of arriving, armed men were hunting down journalists to murder and rob them. Waving funnies didn't help.
NON-FIC 958.1 Rasanayagam	Afghanistan: A Modern History Angelo Rasanayagam	This serious, yet accessible history of modern Afghanistan is of vital importance for understanding the country's current crisis and is essential reading for historians, policy makers and all those interested in the state of the world today.
NON-FIC 958.103 Macintyre	The Man Who Would Be King: The First American in Afghanistan Ben Macintyre	In 1838, Josiah Harlan set off in the footsteps of Alexander the Great across the Hindu Kush and forged his own kingdom, only to be ejected from Afghanistan a few months later by the invading British. Ben Macintyre tells the astonishing true story of the man who would be the first and last American king.

NON-FIC 958.104 Coll	Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and bin Laden Steve Coll	Based on scrupulous research and firsthand accounts by key government, intelligence and military personnel both foreign and American, Coll details the secret history of the CIA's role in Afghanistan, the rise of the Taliban, the emergence of bin Laden and the failed efforts by U.S. forces to find and assassinate bin Laden in Afghanistan
NON-FIC 958.104 Anderson	The Lion's Grave: Dispatches from Afghanistan Jon Lee Anderson	Distinguished by Anderson's gritty, on-the-ground observations, probing interviews and extraordinary gift for telling a story, <i>The Lion's Grave</i> is war reporting in the tradition of A. J. Liebling and Michael Herr. It captures the war at its pivotal moments and crystallizes the inherent precariousness of Afghanistan's future.
NON-FIC 958.104 Fleishhacker	Lessons from Afghanistan David Fleishhacker	<i>Lessons from Afghanistan</i> explores what it is really like to live in a medieval culture in the current century. Conventions about the use of time and space, attitudes about life stemming from ancient traditions, and the practical necessities of living in a country fragmented by geography and history are underlying facts of life in Afghanistan.
NON-FIC 958.104 Rashid	Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism in Central Asia Ahmed Rashid	Correspondent Ahmed Rashid brings the shadowy world of the Taliban into sharp focus in this enormously insightful book. He explains the Taliban's rise to power, its impact on Afghanistan and the region, its role in oil and gas company decisions, and the effects of changing American attitudes toward the Taliban.
NON-FIC 958.104 Tortajada	The Silenced Cry: One Woman's Diary of a Journey to Afghanistan Ana Tortajada	In 2000, Spanish journalist Tortajada set out to see the effects the Taliban had on Afghan women's lives. This account of the three weeks they spent among Afghan refugees in Peshawar and the four days they spent in Kabul captures intimate moments, conveying not just suffering and pain but also joy and beauty.
NON-FIC 973.049 Ansary	West of Kabul, East of New York: An Afghan American Story Tamim Ansary	The day after 9/11, San Francisco author Tamim Ansary sent an anguished e-mail to friends, discussing the attack from his perspective as an Afghan American. It reached millions. This book relates his earlier harrowing journey through the Islamic world during the height of the Iran Revolution and his struggle to reconcile his Afghan and American identities.
BIOG Khan Family	The Bookseller of Kabul Åsne Seierstad	For over twenty years, Sultan Khan has defied the authorities, whether communist or Taliban, to supply books to the people of Kabul. He has been arrested, interrogated and imprisoned, and has watched illiterate Taliban soldiers burn piles of his books in the street. Yet he has persisted in his passion for books.
JUV 958.1 O'Brien	Afghan Dreams: Young Voices of Afghanistan Tony O'Brien	From street workers to female students, children who work in family businesses, and pickpockets who steal, these are the faces of young Afghans who universally wish for peace in their neighborhoods, in their country, in their lifetimes.
NON-FIC 958.1 Lemmon	The Dressmaker of Khair Khana Gayle Tzemach Lemmon	When her father and brother were forced to flee the city, Kamila became the sole breadwinner for her five siblings. Armed only with grit and determination, she picked up a needle and thread and created a thriving business of her own.
YA 305.42 Latifa	My Forbidden Face: Growing Up Under the Taliban Latifa	From 1997 to 2001, sixteen-year-old Latifa was a prisoner in her own home as the Taliban wreaked havoc on the lives of Afghan girls and women. This is her testimony – a young woman's reaction to the inhumanity taking place before her very eyes.

Videos and DVDs

NON-FIC 909.07 Crusades	Crusades	The Crusades began as a holy mission to liberate Jerusalem and became the largest mass migration in European history. When they ended 200 years later, the Crusades had created a mythology of knights and chivalry, and left a legacy of distrust between East and West that continues to shape our world today.
NON-FIC 958.1 Guns...	Guns of Afghanistan	A&E chronicles the long and bloody history of firearms in the war-torn land of Afghanistan and examines the combination of unconventional tactics and mastery of the increasingly advanced weaponry with which Afghans have fought back foreign invaders.
DVD FOREIGN Baran	Baran	The story of illegal Afghan immigrants living and working at a construction site in Tehran, Iran. When one of the workers is injured, his daughter, posing as a man, becomes the breadwinner. But a hot-headed 17 year-old local youth, also working at the site, discovers the secret.
DVD FOREIGN Osama	Osama	Chronicles the true story of a girl in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan who must disguise herself as a boy to save her family from starvation. This is the first feature film made in Afghanistan in the post-Taliban era.
DVD SPECIAL INTEREST Restrepo	Restrepo	This documentary focuses solely on the deployment of a platoon of U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley, considered one of the most dangerous postings in the U.S. military.