American literature

Famous American books

Many of the world’s greatest stories come from America. Some of these famous stories are over 100 years old, but they are still popular today.

*Huckleberry Finn* (1885)

A young boy runs away from home. He makes friends with an African American slave, Jim. Together, they travel down the Mississippi River. They have lots of adventures, some good and some bad. At the end of the story Jim becomes a free man.
**The Shining (1977)**

Jack works in a hotel in the mountains. It’s winter and the hotel is closed. He lives there with his wife and their son. But there are ghosts in the hotel… After some time Jack begins to behave in a very strange way. He attacks his wife and son and he tries to kill them.

**Little Women (1868)**

Four sisters live with their mother in Boston during the 1860s. Their father isn’t at home because he’s fighting in the American Civil War. The four girls are all very different, but they all help each other during a very difficult time.
This is the story of Frederic Henry, a young American ambulance driver in the Italian Army during World War I. He falls in love with an English nurse called Catherine. The story is tragic. Catherine dies after giving birth to their still-born child.