

LEKTÜRE-EMPFEHLUNGEN

(Listed according to world regions)

-----A. Mainly in English

(LITERATURE:)

(pl = play; titles are novels, unless otherwise indicated)

W. Plomer (S. Africa): **Turbott Wolfe** (satirical on “his own” whites)

Doris Lessing (Rhodesia/Zimbabwe): **African Stories**; Going Home; Winter in July

G. Greene: The Heart of the Matter (passion and Catholic morals among Whites in West Africa)

Ch. Achebe (Nigeria): **No Longer at Ease** (traditional prejudice and modern corruption hit idealist African back from university in England)

T. Cole (Nigeria): **Every Day Is For The Thief** (very critical of post-independence urban Africans)

A. Nicol (Sierra Leone): **The Truly Married Woman and Other Stories** (good! Often humorous. Life seen through children’s eyes; Britons in Africa)

A. K. Armah (Ghana): **The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born** (corruption of post-colonial native “elites”)

Graham Greene: The Comedians (in dictator “Papa Doc’s” Haiti, from ominous luxury to cruelty; brilliant style)

C. Waite-Smith (Jamaica): **African Sling Shot** (in: "Carray!") (pl) (comedy about removal of colonial monument after independence)

V. S. Naipaul (Trinidad, of Indian origin, lives in England): **Mimic Men** (excellent characterisation of upper-class life in a post-colonial West-Indian island)

E. Mittelholzer (Guyana): **A Morning at the Office** (in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad)

R. Heath: Shadows around the Moon (childhood in Guyana - then a British colony)

Lee Edgell (Belize): **Beka Lamb** (“everyday life” of a girl, her family, friends...)

E. M. Forster (GB): **A Passage to India** (calamitous results from whites and Indians attempting togetherness)

M. Anand (India): Untouchable (Moslems and British soldiers are comparatively kind to the Hindu untouchables)

Anita Desai (India): Games at Twilight (short stories, esp. "Scholar and Gypsy", "The Farewell Party"; fashionable "white" attitudes clash in India)

Vikram Seth: A Suitable Boy (long, yet entertaining, very critical, on Indian upper middle classes)

R. Mistry: A Fine Balance (young urban people in political turmoil in Assam)

George Orwell (GB): Burmese Days (sufferings of a sensitive Englishman in colonial Burma)

M. M. Lay (Burma): Not Out of Hate

Joseph Conrad (GB): Lord Jim (set in Malaya)

Almayer's Folly (the tropics' tragic possibilities for the "white man" - in Malaya)

Tan Kok Sen: Man of Malaysia

A. Burgess (the famous English author, R.C.): **Malayan Trilogy** (Whites among Asians, just before "independence", decay of idealism)

Botan: Letters from Thailand (Chinese in Bangkok)

W. Somerset Maugham (GB): The Painted Veil (unfaithful wife of English doctor in colonial Hong Kong discovers his value during epidemic in China, though too late)

A. Wendt: Leaves of the Banyan Tree (dt.: Der Clan von Samoa) (very good novel on the impact of white influence on the new generation(s) of Samoans)

X. Herbert: Capricornia (excellent, if voluminous; set in northern Australia, cf. Tropic of the Capricorn = Wendekreis des Steinbocks)

"Henry Handel Richardson" (Ethel Florence Lindesay Robertson): Richard Mahoney (hero ostracized by Australian society for holding larger views, and inadmissible behaviour); The Getting of Wisdom (presenting "the artist as a young woman" at the Presbyterian Ladies College, Melbourne – which the author attended in the 1880s – , being treated well, she depicted the school with the dishonesty called "artistic freedom"; also, however, with many interesting observations, which may

be truthful in a more general way)

Australian Short Stories: Vance Palmer, James Hackston (funny!), P. Cowan,
D. Malouf, Thelma Forshaw. Marjorie Barnard, J. Morrison

Lawler (Australia): Summer of the Seventeenth Doll (pl) (problems of sheep-shearer
“mates” with their girlfriends when they live together during the off-season)

Seymour (Australia): The One Day Of The Year (pl) (father and son, and the latter’s
upper-class girlfriend have to confront one another when father
celebrates Anzac Day)

Katherine Mansfield (New Zealand, short stories): The Doll’s House (!), The Voyage
Ian Middleton, O. E. Middleton (N.Z., short stories)

David French (Canada): Leaving Home (pl) (working-class Toronto, late 1950s);
Jitters (comedy about staging plays, actors)

Canadian Short Stories: G. P. Grove, A. MacLeod, H. Garner, S. Ross, N. Levine

Stephen Crane (US): The Red Badge of Courage (horrors of the American
Civil War)

Mark Twain (US): Huckleberry Finn

Gore Vidal (US): Burr (historical novel about Jefferson’s Vice-President,
corruption in early US)

Sinclair Lewis (US): Babbitt (small-town American businessman suffering from
being sensitive and loyal to an ostracised friend)

Thomas Wolfe (US): Look Homeward, Angel (family history)

E. L. Masters (US): Spoon River Anthology (poems about the Depression)

H. McCoy (US): They Shoot Horses, Don't They? (dance marathon during
Depression of 1930s, cf. film)

N. Mailer (US): The Naked and the Dead (! WW II in the Pacific: a group of

American soldiers and their different pre-war lives)

Th. Wilder (US): Our Town (pl, idyllic American family life)

Tennessee Williams (US): Cat On A Hot Tin Roof (pl, complex-ridden family life, !);
The Night of the Iguana (!)

E. Albee (US): Who Is Afraid Of Virginia Woolf? (! pl, neurotic relationships in family
of academics)

J. Updike (US): Couples (hedonism among modern New Englanders)

R. Jarrell (US): Pictures from an Institution (very witty and tender, about teachers
at a girls' college)

Mary McCarthy (US): The Group (! adult lives of girls of a class of a prestigious
American college)

Lisa Alther: Kinflicks (! young woman's way from small town to college etc, lesbian
love, critical of middle class, witty, often funny)

W. Inge (US): The Dark at the Top of the Stairs (pl) (family, especially
adolescents', drama in the Mid-West; "upstairs" being the bedrooms in
British and American houses)

S. Bellow (Canadian-born, US): Herzog (! American intellectual - Jewish, middle-
class - in "midlife" crisis)

S. O' Casey (Ireland): **The Shadow of a Gunman** (pl) (Irishmen's sentimentality and
a poet's vanity exposed during 1920s troubles)

G. Moore (Anglo-Irish): Esther Waters (a maid-servant's story, in England, 19th c.)

Oscar Wilde (Anglo-Irish): The Importance of Being Earnest (pl, excellent comedy)
The Happy Prince (and other fairy-tales)
De Profundis
The Ballad of Reading Gaol

E. M. Forster (GB): Howards End (class differences against cordiality;
"Englishness" prevents communication)

Kenneth Grahame: The Golden Age (children's views, nature's beauty!)

J. B. Priestley (GB): An Inspector Calls (pl)

C. P. Snow (GB): Corridors of Power (intrigues in politics);
The Masters (intrigues at "Oxbridge")

J. Osborne (one of the "angry young men" in England in the 1950s):
Look Back In Anger (pl)

J. Braine (GB): Room at the Top (social climbing and its human costs, in a town
in Northern England)

Stan Barstow (GB): A Kind of Loving (human relationships under stress, working
class)

P. G. Wodehouse (GB): Carry On, Jeeves (and other novels, funny!)

From among the famous British authors of the 17th to 19th centuries

J. Donne: No Man Is An Island (poem: "For Whom The Bell Tolls" !)

J. Keats: Odes

W. Wordsworth: The Apparition on the Lake (poem)

W. Thackeray: Vanity Fair (sharp and melancholic portrait of English social life
ca. 1810-40)

Ch. Dickens

A. Trollope: Barchester Towers (subtleties of social contacts)

A. Bennett: Old Wives' Tale

G. Meredith: The Egoist; The Ordeal of Richard Feverel (egocentric sentimentality)

G. Gissing: New Grub Street (the misery of an unsuccessful writer)

Matthew Arnold: Dover Beach (poem; sadness of materialism)

(BACKGROUND INFORMATION:)

1. Literature

- **B. King: The New English Literatures** (about the importance of new developments
outside the U.K. and U.S.)

- D. Dabydeen & N. Wilson-Tagoe: A Reader's Guide to West Indian and Black British Literature

2. Other (History, Sociology, Travelling...)

- G. Gissing: By the Ionian Sea (Southern Italy, 19thc.)
- J. Renier: The English - Are They Human? (their "psychological ritualism")
- Fürst Pückler-Muskau: Reisebriefe aus Irland (Letters fro a journey to Ireland by the German prince P., 19th c.)
- A. de Tocqueville: Über die Demokratie in Amerika; In der amerikanischen Wildnis; Voyages en Angleterre et en Irlande (19th c,)
- Wäscha kwonnesin (his life in the Canadian North, with beavers)
- B. Bryson: The Lost Continent (Western U.S.A.)
- B. Bryson: Down Under (Australia)
- L. Christmas: The Ribbon and the Ragged Square (Australia)
- C. K. Stead: Distance Looks Our Way (about New Zealand's isolation)
- **V.S. Naipaul: The Middle Passage** (on the infamous "triangle" of trading "passages": European (luxury) goods to Africa to buy slaves there, who were taken to the West Indies and exchanged for the products of plantations (tended by slaves!) - coffee, sugar, rum, taken to Europe... Bristol and Liverpool were England's main ports in this "triangle")
- **P. Leigh Fermor (GB): The Traveller's Tree** (excellent "travelogue", West Indies)
- **D. Mitter: Art and Nationalism in Colonial India**
- **Ramu: Family and Caste in Urban India**
- **P. K. Varma: The Great Indian Middle Class** (turning ignorant – especially of India's needs – after the economic boom of the 1990s)
- **Blaise & Mukherjee: Days and Nights in Calcutta**
- **Jiggins: Caste and Family in the Politics of the Singhalese 1947-78**
- **W. Somerset Maugham: The Gentleman in the Parlour** (travels in Burma. Thailand, and Indochina)

- **Hua Wun Yin: Class and Communalism in Malaysia** (communalism: insistence on differences between racial communities – Malays, Chinese, Indians,...)

- **G. Greene: Journey without Maps; In Search of a Character** (journals of the author's journeys in West Africa:)

- **Last, M. - Richards, P. - Fyfe, C.: Sierra Leone 1787-1987**
- **Peil with Sada: African Urban Society**
- **L. van der Post** (white South African): **Venture to the Interior** (expedition in Nyasaland/Malawi)

- **E. Waugh: When the Going Was Good** (on journeys in Africa etc.)
- **N. Jabavu** (South Africa): **The Ochre People; Drawn in Colour** (black middle class life in S. Africa from the 1930s onwards, compared to East Africa)
- **Erasto Man'genyia** (Tanzania): **Discipline and Tears** (African civil servant in colonial Tanganyika)
- **Shiva Naipaul** (Indian from the W. Indies, lived in England): **North of South** (sceptical observations about East Africa)
- **P. Marnham** (UK): **Dispatches from Contemporary Africa** (on former French West Africa and former British East Africa, very critical of "Northern" governments' developing aid in "co-operation" with post-independence African regimes)

(Bitter comments of Blacks from abroad looking for their roots in Africa:)

- **Eddy L. Harris** (U.S.A.): **Native Stranger** (mainly in West Africa)
- **A. Maja-Pearce** (G.B.-Nigeria): **In My Father's Country**

Journeys round the world/Pacific:

Magellan (by Pigafetta), J. Cook, (with him) **G. Forster, A. v. Chamisso**

- **P. Theroux** (US): **The Happy Isles of Oceania** (travelogue, Pacific islands)

- **Catherine A. Lutz** (US): **"Unnatural Emotions": Everyday Sentiments on a Micronesian Atoll** (ethnology, very good on the high prestige of compassion and worrying about others leading to mutual help, in communal life)

-----B. En français

I. Littérature, Philosophie:

(XVIIe s.)

Pascal: Pensées

(Moralistes:)

La Rochefoucauld: Maximes (souvent mordantes, sceptiques)

La Bruyère: Caractères (avec traduction de Théophraste, ironie et compassion)

Mme de la Fayette: La princesse de Clèves (analyse hardie des sentiments personnels dans le cadre social des conventions (de l'aristocratie): en avouant l'infidélité avec honnêteté, on commet la faute de s'exonérer psychologiquement au détriment de l'autre. Cette lucidité psychologique, qui révèle les vices de la société, mais aussi l'ambiguïté des vertus sociales, sera caractéristique de la littérature française.

(XVIIIe s.)

(Moralistes)

Vauvenargues: Réflexions

Chamfort: Maximes et réflexions

L'abbé Prévost: L'Histoire de Manon Lescaut

(XIXe s.)

Mme de Staël: De l'Allemagne

Benjamin Constant: Adolphe (récit assez autobiographique, le déclin pénible d'une liaison amoureuse)

Ch. Leconte de Lisle (né à la Réunion) (poèmes: Les Eléphants)

Gustave Flaubert: Madame Bovary

Emile Zola: Germinal

H.-F. Amiel (Genève): Journal intime (description minutieuse du combat de l'auteur contre le pessimisme excessif de sa sensibilité extraordinaire – à lire les notes du 19, 22 et 29 mars (concernant la religion), du 11 et 15 avril et du 3 mai 1854)

Bergson: L'Evolution créatrice

(XXe s.)

E. Bourdet : Les temps difficiles (d'un entrepreneur, pièce de théâtre)

Saint-Exupéry: Le petit prince

Céline: Voyage au bout de la nuit

H. Bazin: Madame Ex (souffrances causées par le divorce)

Constant Burniaux (Belge): Le village englouti (sentiments d'un garçon en vacances)

Neel Doff (Belgique, née Néerlandaise): Jours de détresse et de famine (autobiographie de la jeune femme)

Marguerite Audoux: L'atelier de Marie-Claire (roman sur la vie d'un groupe de femmes pauvres)

Cesbron: Les saints vont en enfer (prêtres-ouvriers!)

Claire Etcherelli: Elise ou la vraie vie (roman, engagement féministe et social)

Le P. Teilhard de Chardin

Simone Weil

-- (Canada/Québec)

Roger Lemelin: La famille Plouffe

Marcel Dubé: Florence (théâtre, vie d'une secrétaire)

Gratien Gélinas : Tit-Coq (comédie)

Pierre Gélinas : Les vivants, les morts et les autres

Contes de Gabrielle Roy, R Fournier

A. Laberge : Madame Pouliche (une femme de ménage)

— (Algérien)

M. Dib : L'incendie

---- (Haïti)

Jean Métellus: La famille Vortex (roman, excellente description de la vie d'une famille aisée)

----- (Guyane française)

Bertène Juminer: Les bâtards (roman, espoir et déception d'un docteur rentré de la France; société «bâtarde», néocolonialiste)

Afrique :

---- (Sénégal)

Sembène Ousmane: Le mandat; Xala; Voltaïque (romans, nouvelle élite, critique de la bourgeoisie «nationale», «compradore»)

---- (Mali)

S. Badian: Sous l'orage (roman, changements dans un village peu avant l'indépendance, la condition de la femme africaine)

---- (Côte d'Ivoire)

Bernard Dadié: Monsieur Thôgo-gnigni (théâtre satirique traitant des nouveaux riches noirs)

Ahmadou Kourouma: Les soleils des indépendances (roman)

--- (Bénin, l'ancien Dahomé(y))

Jean Pliya: La secrétaire particulière (comédie)

--- (Rép. Dém. du Congo, l'ancien Zaïre, ex-Congo belge, Congo-Léo, Congo Kinshasa)

V.Y. Mudimbe: Le bel immonde (roman, corruption de la bourgeoisie «nationale»)

--- (R. (P.) du Congo, l'ex-Congo français, Congo-Brazza)

H. Lopes: Tribaliques (contre les dictatures de l'Afrique «indépendante»)

— (Comores)

Toihiri, M.A.: La République des imberbes (roman des inquiétudes d'une situation politique précaire)

--- (Iles de la Société, Moorea)

P. Nardi: Peaux d'bananes (mémoires sobres et émouvants de l'auteur qui a vécu, comme écolier, l'occupation allemande; puis, comme mécanicien-soudeur dans la marine nationale, la guerre d'Indochine; et en fin, le bonheur d'être agriculteur à Moorea)

II. Information:

A. Littérature

(éd. «Que sais-je»)
Litt. algérienne
Litt. belge
Litt. québécoise

Condé : Le roman antillais
Cornevin : Littératures d'Afrique noire de langue française
Littératures nationales d'écriture française

B. Civilisation

(France)

J. Benoit: Confessions d'un prolétaire (XIX^e siècle)

(Canada)

G. Havard – C. Vidal: Histoire de l'Amérique française

Bilodeau: Classes sociales et pouvoir politique au Québec (histoire sociale)

(Afrique sub-saharienne)

A. Gide: Voyage au Congo

Gauthereau: Journal d'un colonialiste

Decraene: Lettres de l'Afrique atlantique

Le Clézio: L'Africain (= le père de l'auteur, médecin au Nigéria)

(Afrique du Nord)

M. Feraoun : Journal (Algérie)

Kassa Houari : Confessions d'un immigré (Algérie)

G. Schweizer : Die Berber

-----C. Autoren allgemein kulturhistor. Interesses:

(Kunst/the arts:) Ruskin, Huizinga, Spengler, J. Burckhardt, Sedlmayr; A. Hauser

(Alltagskultur/everyday culture:;) Braudel

(Wirtschaft u. Politik/ economy and politics:) E. Maurer, Zinn, P. Kennedy

(Adel/nobility:) Zmora, Lieven, Reif

(Kultur "Nord - Süd":) **E. Said**

N. Barley: The Innocent Anthropologist

(Missionsarbeit, interpretiert als nicht dominant/ on missionary work not being domineering:) **Conversion** (hg. Mills, Grafton)

(Literatur:) E. Auerbach: Mimesis

-----D. Spanisch- u. Portugiesischsprachige Länder:

I. Literatur

Cervantes: Don Quijote

Ortega y Gasset (besonders Reisebetrachtungen über Spanien)

M.A. Asturias (Guatemala): **El papa verde** = Der grüne Papst

El Señor Presidente = Der Herr Präsident

J. Gutiérrez (Costa Rica): **Puerto Limón**

M. Otero Silva (Venezuela): **Oficina No.1**

J. Icaza (Ecuador): **Huasipungo** = H., kleines Stückchen Erde

A. Blest Gana (Chile, 19. Jh.): Martín Rivas

R.L. Payró (Argentinien, 19. Jh.): Las divertidas aventuras del nieto de Juan Moreira= Die vergnüglichen Abenteuer des Enkels (Neffen) von J. M.

E. Echeverría (Arg., 19.Jh.): El matadero = Das Schlachthaus (der Politik)

M. Gálvez (Arg., 20. Jh.): La maestra normal (Lehrerin in Provinzstadt)

J. Lins do Rego (Brasil.): Menino de Engenho = Kleiner/Kind der (Zuckerrohr-)Plantage

A.H. de Lima Barreto (Br): **Triste Fim de Policarpo Quaresma** (! = Das traurige Ende des P.Q., sehr gut übers. u. kommentiert v. B. Zilly)

Euclides da Cunha (Br): **Os sertões** = Krieg im Sertão (gegen die „Canudos“)

J. Guimarães Rosa (Br): Grande Sertão (:Veredas)

Graciliano Ramos (Br): **Vidas sêcas** = Karges (Trockene)Leben

Vimala Devi (Goa): **Monção** (= Monsun) **e outros contos**

Castro Soromenho (Angola): **Homens sem caminho** = Menschen ohne Weg

II. Reisebücher (Englisch)

P. Theroux: The Old Patagonian Express (a journey from the U.S. to Mexico and Central America – these being the most impressive chapters – and down to Argentina)

The Great Railway Bazaar

P. Marnham: So far from God... (journey through Mexico and Central America)

-----E. I. Niederländisch-Indien = Indonesien

Pramudya Ananta Toer (20. Jh.): **Bumi Manusia** (städt. Gesellschaft in ndl. Indien)

Mochtar Lubis (20. Jh.): **Twilight in Djakarta** (Korruption nach Unabhängigkeit)

Teeuw: Modern Indonesian Literature

(niederländ. Autor/inn/en;)

"**Multatuli**" (= Eduard Douwes Dekker, 19. Jh.): **Max Havelaar** (gegen Kolonialismus)

M. Lulofs (20. Jh.): **Gummi** (-plantagen)

G. Mak (20.Jh.): **Das Jahrhundert meines Vaters** (in Ndl. Indien)

----- E. II. Niederlande:

N. Beets (aka Hildebrand, 19. Jh.): Camera Obscura

-----F. Belgien

(flämisch:)

H. Claus: Belladonna (korruptes haltloses Milieu von Filmemachern in provinziellem Flandern, 1990er Jahre)

(französisch:)

P. Gilbert: Bauduin-des-mines (Industrielle der Wallonie 30er bis 50er Jahre)

C. Burniaux; Nouvelles (: Le village englouti)

-----G. Nordafrika, Naher Osten/Middle East:

(s.o., Algerien)

Mahfuz (Ägypten);

Fürüzan (Türkei);

Hedayat (Iran)

Ibn Battuta (mittelalterl. Reisetagebücher!/ medieval travelogue)

Roger Allen: The Arabian Novel

-----H. Italienisch:

Goldoni

Verga; Italo Svevo; Jovine, Vittorini, Bernari, Seborga; V. Brancati, C. Levi, D. Dolci; Lampedusa; Moravia

-----I. Rumänien:

I. L. Caragiale (gesellschaftskritisch, gegen Bauernarmut/poverty of peasants)

Alexandru Ivasiuc (1933 – 77): ! Im Vorhof der Hölle (Vestibul) (life of a doctor in WW II and dictatorship)

----- J. Ungarn/Hungary:

Zs. Moricz: Verwandte/ Relatives (einander ausnützend)

----- K.. Griechenland/Greece:

Samarakis: „Der Fehler“/The Mistake (bei Geheimpolizei/ story of latent conflict with secret police)

Plaskovitis: (politische Intrigen)

-----L. Bulgarien:

V. Zarev: Familienbrand (in Kleinstadt//“family life burning, in a small town)

-----M. Polen (Österreich):

J. Wittlin: Das Salz der Erde (galizische Landleute bei Beginn des 1. Weltkriegs)/The salt of the Earth : Galician peasants drawn into WW I)

-----N. Russland:

Radischtschew

Uspenski

Turgenjew

Gribojedow

Tschechow: Die Steppe

Gogol

Tolstoi: Krieg und Frieden

Ostrowskij: Der Wald

Gontscharow: Oblomow

Garschin: Aus den Erinnerungen des Gemeinen Iwanow/Memories of the Private I.

Paustowski

W. Tendrjakow

J.W. Trifonow

W. Below (Kurzgeschichten)

-----O. Skandinavien:

I. Literatur:

H.C. Andersen (dän.): Märchen („fairy tales“)

(Schweden:)

Selma Lagerlöf: Nils Holgersons Reise...

B. Sjöberg: Das gesprengte Quartett / The quartet exploded (Typen in Kleinstadt, gute Beobachtungen, humorvoll/ humorous observations of small-town life around 1900)

Moa Martinson: Mutter heiratet

(Dänemark:)

H. Bang: Tine (Schrecken des dt.-dän. Krieges in Kleinstadt/ the horror of the German-Danish war of 1865, in small town);
Sommerfreuden (in Seebad, ironisch) (life in a seaside resort)

(Norwegen:)

Ibsen

A. Mykle: Liebe ist eine einsame Sache

J, Bjørneboe: Viel Glück, Tonnie (Junge Kleinkriminelle, im Gefängnis)

S. Hoem: Fährfahrten der Liebe/Ferry-travels of Love (among pessimistic views of the troubles of a young woman, a good passage about her suicide being stopped by a „guest“ who enters her hotel room „by mistake“ and leaves immediately, but has given her a chance to see what she was about to throw away in a mere minute of despair; I read this scene in class, in German, to 17-year olds)

II. Sachinformation:

N. Kent: The Soul of the North

(?) Böök: Schweden reich und arm

-----P. Ostasien

I. Literar. Werke

Japan (ca.1900-1950):

Natsume: Le pauvre cœur des hommes (souffrances d'un solitaire très sensible à la tradition)

Tanizaki: Le goût des orties (conflit tradition - influence occidentale, moderne)

Shimazaki: The Broken Commandment (of an "eta", an outcast of Japanese society, never to reveal his identity)

Tayama: The Country Teacher (who feels inferior)

Niwa: The Buddha Tree (sentimental dilemmas of a weak-willed temple priest)

Kita: The Fall of the House of Nire (during and after World War II)

Shiga: Erinnerung an Yamashina/Memories of Y. (Kurzgeschichten, Charakter eines verwöhnten Mannes/ short stories, characterization of spoiled man)

China (ca. 1910-30):

Lao Xe: Rickshaw

Ba Jin: The Family (traditional upper middle-class life against the reformist new generation)

Mao Dun: Midnight (in a big modern Chinese city of the '30s)

II. Sach- u. Reisebücher

A. Kimball: Crisis in Identity and Contemporary Japanese Novels

Reischauer; The Japanese

Lafcadio Hearn (USA, sensitive, idealizing Japan in the 1920s; also on the West Indies)

W. Somerset Maugham: On A Chinese Screen

-----Q. Deutschsprachig

(A) = Österreich, (CH) = Schweiz

I. Literar. Werke:

! Grimmelshausen: *Simplicissimus*, (*Mutter Courage*) (30 Years War!)

! Bräker (CH): *Der arme Mann im Tockenburg*/*The Poor Man of T* (a Swiss soldier deserting the Prussian army, 18th c.)

! Matthias Claudius: *Gedichte*/poems

Goethe; *Die Wahlverwandtschaften*/*Elective Affinities* (between men and women „otherwise engaged“.. we read the novel in high school);

Paralipomena;

(plays:) *Torquato Tasso* (the poet at Ferrara, spontaneity and rules)

Schiller: *Über Anmut und Würde*; *Über naive und sentimentalische Dichtung*/About gracefulness and dignity; *About naive and* (on the othe hand) sentimental poetry

Hölderlin: *Gedichte* (interesting for its feeling of the tragical?)

-- Grimm´s *Märchen* („fairy.tales“)

- W. Hauff: *Märchen* „

-- W. Busch (very comical verse and drawings, especially for children; the story of two funny dogs, *Plisch und Plum*, made a German official say, on seeing my name: „Oh, wie (like) *Plisch und Plum*“!)

! Grillparzer (A): *Der arme Spielmann*/ *The Poor Musician* (novel; „Austrian“ melancholy at failure of a „mad“ artist)

! A. Stifter: *Der Waldsteig*/ *The forest path* (quiet girl´s innocent sympathy dissolves young man´s obsessions)

Bunte Steine/ *Multi-coloured stones* (short stories, presenting quiet beauty of nature, rich in fine details; Stifter´s „soft law“ of the redeeming effects of modest phenomena in nature, whose description he therefore prefers to that of sensational ones)

(20th c.):

! J. Roth (A): *Radetzky*marsch (novel set among the civil servants and officers of the sad last years of the Austro-Hungarian Empire; old-fashioned correctness, soft authoritarianism)

A. Petzold (A): *Das rauhe Leben* /*The Rough Life* - of a working.class youth; novel)

J. Ringelnatz: *Gedichte* (satirical poetry)

! Christian Morgenstern: Gedichte (very poetic, often humorous/surrealist, but true, poems) a v e r y short one:

Links sind Bäume, rechts sind Bäume
und dazwischen Zwischenräume,
und dahinter fließt ein Bach -
ach!

Left are trees, right are trees
and in between („between“-) spaces (interstices, but Z. is a normal German word),
and behind runs a stream -
Oh!

- W. Bonsels: Biene Maja (The bee M., a children's tale)

Rainer Maria Rilke: Gedichte („Der Tod der Geliebten“)

Georg Trakl: „Grodek“

F. Hochwälder (A): Das heilige Experiment/The Sacred Experiment
(The play deals with the destruction of the Jesuit Indian missions in what was later Paraguay by colonial Spain and Portugal, wishing to annex the territories of the missions and even compelling the Pope to dissolve the order, re-established about 50 years later; it shows the dilemma of the missionaries between what they think is right and the limited means they would have if they did not obey the Pope, whereby they would also create the cruelties of warfare.)

Ödön v. Horvath (A, of Hungarian origin; „h.“ means „Croatian“ in Hungarian): plays and novels (inter-war crisis mainly of young people)

!W. Borchert: Draußen vor der Tür (/Outside in front of the door, English title: The Man Outside; a very good play of 1947 about a soldier coming back from the war, unable to find a place in society, and his moral questions. We read it at school in Berlin). Prose texts also very good, less sombre. (The author died aged 26, having suffered as a soldier in Russia and as a political prisoner of the Nazi regime.)

!H. Böll: Und sagte kein einziges Wort/And said not a single word (short novel, marital crisis of a young Catholic couple in post-war Western Germany, with little help from clergy; we read it in my Catholic high school in Berlin)

!Martin Walser: Die Verteidigung der Kindheit (/The defence of childhood, a long novel of the 50s about a Saxon student in West-Berlin, his precarious life there, while he always tries to help his mother in Dresden, in the German Democratic Republic.
Ehen in Philippsburg (Marriages at Ph., a cruelly honest novel about the new greedy society in West Germany)

Dürrenmatt (CH): Die Physiker, (play about the responsibilities of physicists)

II. (Literar.) Sachinformation:

- The Others' Austria, Impressions of American and British Travelers (ed. H. and L. Jarka, Ariadne Press, Riverside, Calif., 2006; containing, as an example of the empathy some visitors, especially Americans, were capable of, the remarkable explanation Metternich, the authoritarian conservative Austrian chancellor, gave of his political attitude to the American scholar George Ticknor in 1836 – saying that the U.S.A. will become a big power and will then, like Austria at the time, no longer practice freedom and democracy.
- W. Johnston: The Austrian Mind

-----R. (Griech. u. Römische!) Antike

Parmenides (!), Heraklit; Platon (Sokrates); Homer; Aischylos, Sophokles ("Antigone!"), Euripides; Xenophon („Anabasis“)

Livius, Sallust, Tacitus, Lukan; Cicero, Seneca; Vergil; Horaz, Ovid ;
Ausonius (“Die Mosel”, the river Moselle)

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