

- Boyle, T.C.                                Tortilla Curtain “good, but maybe it isn’t directly in LA— southern CA though” –Karen McGuire
- Bradbury, Ray                            Graveyard for Lunatics: Another Tale of Two Cities “a good thriller set in Hollywood – though the puzzle is not as puzzling as it might be” -anonymous
- Bryant, et.al., eds.                      Central Venue Sounds : Jazz in Los Angeles “a first-rate oral history of the Central Ave. music scene, roughly from the 1920s to the mid-1950s” -Phil Pastras
- Cain, James M.                          Double Indemnity “takes place in Pasadena” –Phyllis Mael
- Chandler, Raymond                      Any novel -- Phyllis Mael
- Cox, Bob                                    My Dog Spot: The Cal Worthington Story “A biography of the Southern California icon – for better or worse” -- Mark Dodge
- Didion, Joan                                Slouching Towards Bethlehem “you have to like Didion’s writing and tolerate her negativism, but some of her essays are really superb . . . also her Play It as It Lays” -anonymous
- Fitch, Janet                                 White Oleander “about foster care system in L.A. and So. California” -Jan Butler “It’s about a girl whose mother is arrested for murder and she becomes a foster child. She moves from one foster home to the next in different areas of LA. It’s also a statement about the state of foster care in Los Angeles. Why I like it? It starts slow, but then it moves pretty quickly. It shows how the environment can shape a person’s life and how person’s nature can still shine through. The protagonist elicits a lot of sympathy. Be it that many of our students are from disadvantaged households, I think that PCC students could relate to the foster child’s issues.” -Wei-I Wang
- Klein & Schiesl                            20<sup>th</sup> Century Los Angeles: Power, Promotion, and Social Conflict “An analysis of the city’s evolution into a multicultural Pacific-Rim society.” – Mark Dodge
- Loh, Sandra Tsing                         If You Lived Here, You’d Be Home “set in 1990s LA. Could be a good novel.” –Karen McGuire
- Martinez, Al                                 City of Angles “I found so many familiar places, people and scenes in this book depicting life in LA that I had to consider myself a true Angeleno after I read it. It is written by Al Martinez . . . famous for his LA Times column about all things LA. His humor and easy conversational style of writing makes this book a fast and funny read.” -Leticia Velez
- Pastras, Philip                               Dead Man Blues: Jelly Roll Morton Way out West “focuses on Morton’s West Coast years (1917-1923, 1940-41), most of which he spent in and around LA” -Phil Pastras

- Powell, Lawrence Clark      An Orange Grove Boyhood “reminiscence of Pasadena area in early 1900s . . . probably hard to find” –Karen McGuire
- Reid, David, ed.                Sex, Death and God in L.A. “a great collection that highlights LA’s diversity” –Kay Dabelow
- Robinson, John                Trails of the Angeles: 100 Hikes in the San Gabriels “This is a favorite and heavily used book. In addition to the basic info about the hikes, it contains a fair amount of history about the region.”
- See, Carolyn                    Golden Days “funny feminist look at LA during the 80’s and after an apocalyptic nuclear war” -Barbara Galvin
- Steffens, Lincoln              Boy on Horseback “about coming of age in ranch era” –Karen McGuire
- Tracey, David                 Chandler’s LA “with pictures of sites he [Chandler] uses” -Phyllis Mael
- Wambaugh, Joseph           Black Marble “had Pasadena settings” – Karen McGuire
- Wambaugh, Joseph           The Big Orange “Read . . . many years ago . . . about Los Angeles. All I know is I enjoyed it. It is in my library at home.” -- Jan Butler
- West, Nathaniel                Day of the Locust “maybe it is too much about Hollywood though” – Karen McGuire