

# Minimal Canon: Canadian Literature

## Narrative

Frances Brooke, *The History of Emily Montague* (1769)  
John Richardson, *Wacousta* (1832)  
Susanna Moodie, *Roughing It in the Bush* (1852)  
L. M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables* (1908)  
Frederick Philip Grove, *Settlers of the Marsh* (1925)  
Sinclair Ross, *As for Me and My House* (1941)  
Hugh MacLennan, *Barometer Rising* (1941)  
Hugh MacLennan, *Two Solitudes* (1945)  
Mordecai Richler, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* (1959)  
Sheila Watson, *The Double Hook* (1959)  
Margaret Laurence, *The Stone Angel* (1964)  
Leonard Cohen, *Beautiful Losers* (1966)  
Alice Munro, *Dance of the Happy Shades* (1968)  
Robert Kroetsch, *The Studhorse Man* (1969)  
Robertson Davies, *Fifth Business* (1970)  
Timothy Findley, *The Wars* (1977)  
Jack Hodgins, *The Invention of the World* (1977)  
Aritha van Herk, *Judith* (1978)  
Joy Kogawa, *Obasan* (1981)  
Timothy Findley, *Famous Last Words* (1981)  
Beatrice Culleton Mosonier, *In Search of April Raintree* (1983)  
Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale* (1985)  
Michael Ondaatje, *In the Skin of a Lion* (1987)  
Rohinton Mistry, *Tales from Firozsha Baag* (1987)  
Carol Shields, *Swann* (1987)  
Anne Michaels, *Fugitive Pieces* (1996)  
Guy Vanderhaeghe, *The Englishman's Boy* (1996)  
Alistair MacLeod, *No Great Mischiefs* (1999)  
Jane Urquhart, *The Stone Carvers* (2001)  
Larissa Lai, *Salt Fish Girl* (2002)  
Dionne Brand, *What We All Long For* (2005)  
Lawrence Hill, *The Book of Negroes* (2007)  
Rawi Hage, *Cockroach* (2008)  
Richard Wagamese, *Indian Horse* (2012)  
Thomas King, *The Back of the Turtle* (2014)  
Margaret Atwood, *Hag-Seed* (2016)  
Esi Edugyan, *Washington Black* (2018)

## Poetry

Oliver Goldsmith, *The Rising Village* (1825)  
Robert Service, *Songs of a Sourdough* (1907)  
E. Pauline Johnson, *Flint and Feather* (1912)  
John McCrae, "In Flanders Fields" (1915)  
E. J. Pratt, *Towards the Last Spike* (1951)  
Leonard Cohen, *Let Us Compare Mythologies* (1956)  
Margaret Atwood, *Double Persephone* (1961)  
Earle Birney, *Near False Creek Mouth* (1964)  
Robert Kroetsch, *Seed Catalogue* (1977)

Irving Layton, *Europe and Other Bad News* (1981)  
George Bowering, *Kerrisdale Elegies* (1984)  
George Elliott Clarke, *Whylah Falls* (1990)  
Mark Strand, *Dark Harbor* (1993)  
Richard Outram, *Mogul Recollected* (1993)  
Daphne Marlatt, *Ghost Works* (1993)  
P.K. Page, *Hologram* (1994)  
Marilyn Dumont, *A Really Good Brown Girl* (1997)  
Zachariah Wells, *Unsettled* (2004)  
Sarah de Leeuw, *Geographies of a Lover* (2013)  
Kayla Czaga, *For Your Safety Please Hold* (2015)  
Louise Bernice Halfe, *Burning in this Midnight Dream* (2017)  
Henry Beissel, *Footprints of Energy* (2019)

### **Drama**

James Reaney, *Sticks and Stones* (1973)  
Rick Salutin, *Les Canadiens* (1977)  
Judith Thompson, *The Crackwalker* (1980)  
David Fennario, *Balconville* (1980)  
John Gray, *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (1981)  
Tomson Highway, *The Rez Sisters* (1988)  
Ann-Marie MacDonald, *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* (1988)  
Guillermo Verdecchia, *Fronteras Americanas/ American Borders* (1993)  
Janet Sears, *Harlem Duet* (1997)  
Drew Hayden Taylor, *AlterNatives* (2000)  
Daniel David Moses, *Kyotopolis* (2009)  
David Yee, *Carried Away on the Crest of a Wave* (2015)

### **Anthology**

*An Anthology of Canadian Literature in English*, ed. Donna Bennett and Russell M. Brown  
(Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2019).

### **Theory**

See *Minimal Canon: American Literature*.