

## AFSC Staff Picks on War and Peace



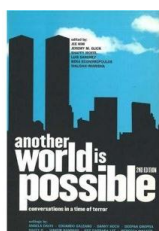
**American Friends  
Service Committee**

*Quaker values in action*

We asked AFSC staff (and some friends) to recommend books that helped them understand war and imagine peace. They responded with the intriguing and eclectic suggestions below. Click the titles for further descriptions and ordering information.

*Collected and edited by Tony Heriza and Peter Lems*

### IN THE SHADOW OF 9-11

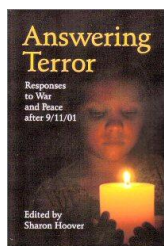


#### **Another World Is Possible**

Edited by Beka Economopoulos, Jeremy Glick, Walidah Imarisha, Sanchez Luis, Shaffy Moeel

Out of print. Try [www.Bookfinder.com](http://www.Bookfinder.com)

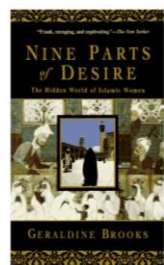
*"my favorite 9-11 book ... love, compassion and critical thought in the face of tragedy"*  
- **Eisha Mason, Los Angeles, CA**



#### **Answering Terror: Responses to War and Peace after 9/11/01**

Edited by Sharon Hoover  
Friends Journal, 2010, 155 pp., paperback  
\$16.00

*"chronicles the profound diversity of thought within Quaker community responses to the attacks ..."*  
- **Lucy Duncan, Philadelphia, PA**



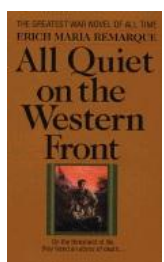
#### **Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women**

by Geraldine Brooks

Anchor Books, 1995, 256 pp., paperback  
\$15.95

*"An excellent book to better understand Islam ... I recently re-read it and still loved it."*  
- **Erin Polley, Indianapolis, IN**

### UNDERSTANDING WAR AND ITS IMPACT



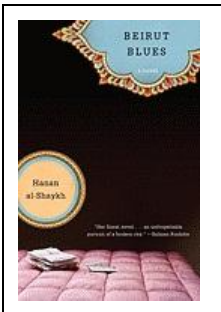
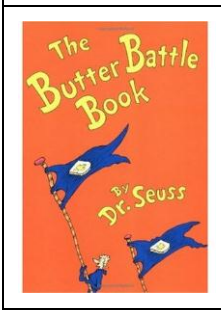
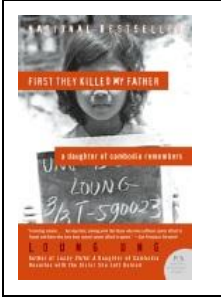
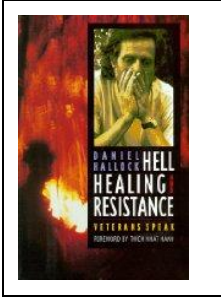
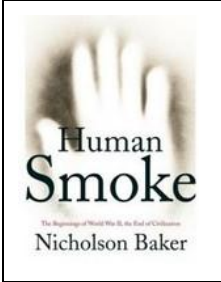
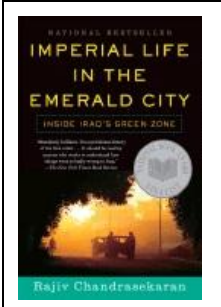
#### **All Quiet On The Western Front**

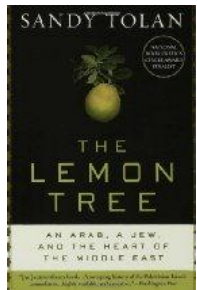
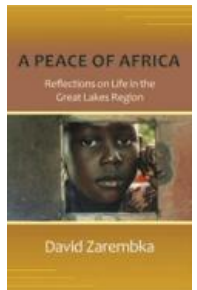
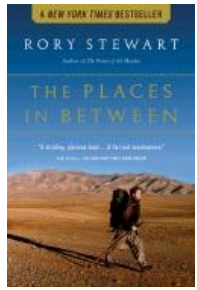
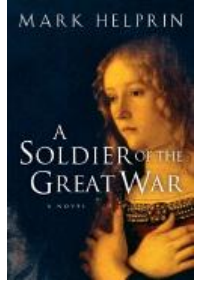
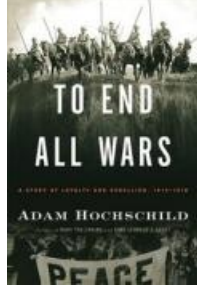
By Erich Maria Remarque

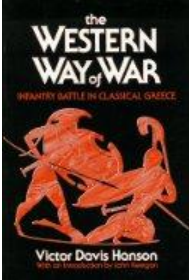
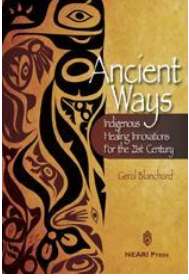
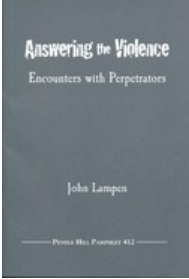
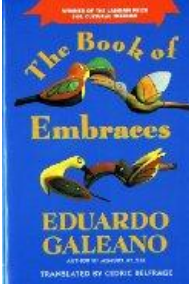

Ballantine, 1928, 347 pp., paperback \$6.99

*"a vivid portrait of the tragic fate of the 'universal soldier' of all countries and all times"*  
- **Terry Messman, San Francisco, CA;**  
also recommended by **Maura Tobias, NY, NY**



	<p><b>Beirut Blues</b> by Hanan al-Shaykh</p> <p>Anchor books, 1996, 382 pp.. Paperback \$15</p>	<p><i>"letters from a woman torn between leaving war ravaged Beirut and staying in the city she loves"</i> - <b>Peter Lems, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
	<p><b>The Butter Battle Book</b> by Dr. Seuss</p> <p>Random House, 1984, 56 pp, \$14.95</p>	<p><i>"battered toast brings home the point that, in an arms race, no one wins"</i> - <b>Brianna Higgins, Greensboro, NC</b></p>
	<p><b><u>First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers</u></b> by Luong Ung</p> <p>HarperOne, 2006, 238 pp., paperback \$13.99</p>	<p><i>"a moving firsthand description of the impact of war from the perspective of a child"</i> - <b>Dennis Carlson, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
	<p><b>Hell, Healing and Resistance</b> By Daniel William Hallock</p> <p>Out of Print. Try <a href="http://www.Bookfinder.com">www.Bookfinder.com</a></p>	<p><i>"Veterans tell their tales of participating in war -- and how they came to resist the violence"</i> - <b>Janine Schwab, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Human Smoke (remainder): The Beginnings of World War II, the End of Civilization</u></b> by Nicholson Baker</p> <p>Simon &amp; Schuster, 2008, 576 pp., Cloth \$7.00</p>	<p><i>"uses original sources including diaries and private letters to show that WWII was not inevitable"</i> - <b>Michael McConnell, Chicago, IL</b></p> <p>...an extraordinary testament to pacifism from Quaker novelist and essayist Nicholson Baker.</p>
	<p><b><u>Imperial Life In The Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone</u></b> By Rajiv Chandrasekaran</p> <p>Vintage, 2007, 295 pp., Paper \$15.95</p>	<p><i>"a devastating behind-the-scenes account of the US figures who ran Iraq after the invasion"</i> - <b>Peter Lems, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>

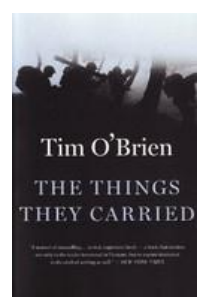
	<p><b>The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East</b> by Sandy Tolan</p> <p>Bloomsbury USA (April 17, 2007) 384 pages, \$15.95</p>	<p><i>"My favorite book to recommend about the Israel/Palestine conflict"</i> - <b>Jennifer Bing, Chicago, IL</b></p>
	<p><b><u>A Peace Of Africa</u>: Reflections on Life in The Great Lakes Region</b> By David Zarembka</p> <p>Madera Press, 2011, 322 pp., Paperback \$25.00</p>	<p><i>"personal stories and historical narratives ... from optimism at the time of independence to conflict, corruption and wars"</i> - <b>Lucy Duncan, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
	<p><b><u>The Places In Between</u></b> By Rory Stewart</p> <p>Harcourt, 2004, 299 pp., Paperback \$15.95</p>	<p><i>"reflections from a walk across Afghanistan ... snapshots of people, culture, and war ... a great introduction to the country"</i> - <b>Peter Lems, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Soldier Of The Great War</u></b> By Mark Helprin</p> <p>Harcourt, 2005, 860 pp., paperback \$16.00</p>	<p><i>"how WWI made a hero, a prisoner, a deserter, and a wanderer in the hell that claimed Europe."</i> - <b>Becky Steele, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
	<p><b><u>To End All Wars</u>: A Story of Loyalty and Rebellion, 1914-1918</b> by Adam Hochschild</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin, 2011, 448 pp., Cloth \$28.95</p>	<p><i>"shows how the escalation of technology makes war more and more inhumane"</i> - <b>Michael McConnell, Chicago, IL</b></p>

	<p><b><u>Western Way Of War:</u> Infantry Battle in Classical Greece</b> By Victor Davis Hanson</p> <p>University of California, 2009, 271 pp., paperback \$25.00</p>	<p><i>“this gem from my undergraduate studies lays out how warfare is untenable and morally reprehensible”</i> <b>- Janine Schwab, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
<b>RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE / BUILDING PEACE</b>		
	<p><b><u>Ancient Ways:</u> Indigenous Healing Innovations for the 21st Century</b> by Gervail Blanchard</p> <p>Nearl Press, 2010, paperback \$24.95</p>	<p><i>“Some cultures never go to war – wouldn’t it be great if we could learn from them?”</i> <b>- Jon Krieg, Des Moines, IA</b></p> <p>Also listen at <a href="http://afsc.org/audio/geral-blanchard-ancient-ways-indigenous-wisdom">http://afsc.org/audio/geral-blanchard-ancient-ways-indigenous-wisdom</a></p>
	<p><b><u>Answering The Violence:</u> Encounters with Perpetrators</b> By John Lampen</p> <p>Pendle Hill Pamphlet, 2011, 32 pp., paperback \$6.50</p>	<p><i>“the controversies, risks, rewards, and possible benefits of reaching out in friendship to perpetrators of violence”</i> <b>- Graham Garner, Philadelphia, PA (FGC-Quaker Books)</b></p>
	<p><b>The Book of Embraces</b> By Eduardo Galeano</p> <p>Norton, 1992, 288 pp., paperback \$15.95</p>	<p><i>“an extraordinary series of stories and reflections about what it is to be human”</i> <b>- Joseph Gerson, Cambridge, MA</b></p>
	<p><b>Drug War Zone: Frontline Dispatches from the Streets of El Paso and Juarez</b> by Howard Campbell</p> <p>U of Texas, 2009, 336 pp., \$24.95</p>	<p><i>“vivid testimonies from Mexicans living under the current border drug war”</i> <b>- Jorge Lafitte, Fortaleza-Ceara, Brazil</b></p>

	<p><b><u>The Moral Imagination</u>: The Art and Soul of Building Peace</b></p> <p>Oxford University Press, 2005, 200 pp., paperback \$19.95</p>	<p><i>“an inspiration to my work ... a very practical application of peace building for highly violent areas”</i>  <b>- Ivan Monzon, Guatemala City, Guatemala</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Nonviolence - The History Of A Dangerous Idea</u></b>  by Mark Kurlansky</p> <p>Modern Library, 2008 224 PP. Paper, \$14</p>	<p><i>“persuasively argues that even the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and World War II could have been avoided by nonviolent means”</i>  <b>- Lucy Duncan, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>
	<p><b>The Nonviolent Cross</b>  By John Douglass</p> <p>Wipf &amp; Stock Publishers, 2006, 301 pp</p>	<p><i>“one of the finest books ever written on nonviolent resistance to war and militarism”</i>  <b>- Terry Messman, San Francisco, CA</b></p>
	<p><b>Nonviolent Social Movements: A geographical perspective</b>  edited by Steven Zunes, Sarah Beth Asher , Lester Kurtz</p> <p>Blackwell/Wiley. 1999, 354 pp., paperback \$57.00  (available used for under \$7)</p>	<p><i>“valuable stories about the power of people and the alternatives to violence”</i>  <b>- Amal Sabawi, Gaza, Palestine</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Peacemaking Circles And Urban Youth: Bringing Justice Home</u></b>  by C. Boyes-Watson</p> <p>Living Justice Press, paperback, \$20</p>	<p><i>“practical advice on how to build peace among marginalized urban youth”</i>  <b>- Jorge Laffitte, Fortaleza-Ceara, Brazil</b></p>

	<p><b>The Plague</b> by Albert Camus</p> <p>Frontal Lobe Publishing, 2011, 220 pp, \$8.50</p>	<p><i>"grounded in Camus' war and post-war experiences ... reminds us of the imperative of looking fearlessly at reality"</i></p> <p>- <b>Joseph Gerson, Cambridge, MA</b></p>
	<p><b>The Power of the People: Active Nonviolence in the United States</b> By Robert Cooney, Helen Michalowski</p> <p>New Society Pub; Updated edition (January 1987)</p> <p>Out of print –Try <a href="http://www.bookfinder.com">www.bookfinder.com</a></p>	<p><i>"...helped me identify with generations of people who took courageous stands against war and oppression."</i></p> <p>- <b>Arnie Alpert, Concord, NH</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Quakers and The Search For Peace</u></b> edited by Sharon Hoover</p> <p>Friends Journal, 2010 , 155 pp, Paper, \$16</p>	<p><i>"an invaluable resource for those who wish to explore the Quaker peace experience and develop their own personal calling for peace"</i></p> <p>- <b>Graham Garner, Philadelphia, PA</b> (FGC-Quakerbooks)</p>
	<p><b>Waging Nonviolent Struggle</b> By Gene Sharp</p> <p>Porter Sargent Pub, 2005, 598 pp., paperback \$19.95</p>	<p><i>"informative and inspirational in understanding the history and strategies of nonviolent actions"</i></p> <p>- <b>Greg Coleridge, Akron, OH</b> (also recommended by <b>Amal Sabawi, Gaza, Palestine</b>)</p>
	<p><b><u>When Blood And Bones Cry Out: Journeys through the Soundscape of Reconciliation and Healing</u></b> By John Paul and Amanda Lederach</p> <p>Oxford University Press, 2011, 288 pp., cloth \$24.95</p>	<p><i>"As a storyteller I'm excited to see this new book about how communities can recover and reconnect by making music and telling their stories"</i></p> <p>- <b>Lucy Duncan, Philadelphia, PA</b></p>

**Professor Tony Bing, a member of AFSC's Nobel Prize Committee and former chair of Peace and Global Studies at Earlham College, recommends:**



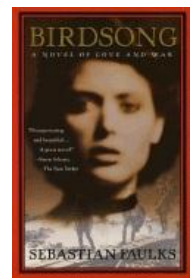
**[The Things They Carried](#)**

By Tim O'Brien

Broadway, 1998, 272 pp., paperback \$14.95

*"stories of U.S. soldiers in the Vietnam War ... a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize"*

**- Tony Bing**



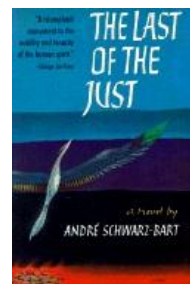
**[Birdsong](#)**

By Sebastian Faulks

Vintage, 1993, 482 pp., paperback \$15.95

*"An unparalleled portrait of the madness of conflict"*

**- Tony Bing**



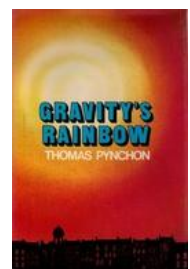
**[The Last Of The Just](#)**

By Andre Schwarz-Bart

Overlook, 2000, 374 pp., paperback \$15.95

*"a vivid description of the fate of French Jews during WWII"*

**- Tony Bing**



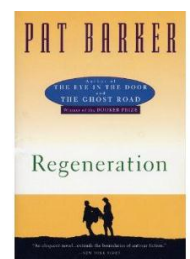
**[Gravity's Rainbow](#)**

By Thomas Pynchon

Penquin, 2005, 768 pp., paperback \$19.00

*"widely acclaimed as the best war novel of all time"*

**- Tony Bing**



**[The Regeneration Trilogy](#)**

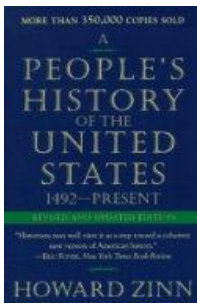
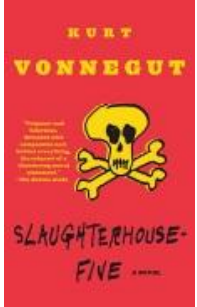
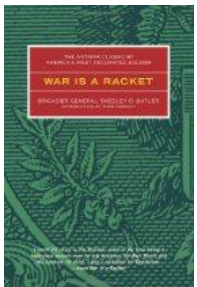
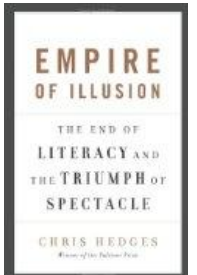
By Pat Barker

Plume (July 1, 1993)  
3 volumes, \$16 each

*"an overwhelming sense of the waste that war brings"*

**- Tony Bing**

**In a poll on AFSC's Facebook page, the top choices were:**

	<p><b><u>A People's History Of The United States:</u></b>  <b>1492 to the present</b>          by Howard Zinn</p> <p>Harper Perennial, 2003, 730 pp., paperback          \$18.95</p>	<p><i>#1 choice</i></p>
	<p><b><u>Slaughterhouse-five:</u></b> or The Children's  <b>Crusade, A Duty-dance With Death</b>          By Kurt Vonnegut</p> <p>Dell, 224 pp., paperback \$7.99</p>	<p><i>#2 Choice</i></p>
	<p><b><u>War Is A Racket:</u></b> The Antiwar Classic by  <b>America's most Decorated Soldier</b>          By Smedley Butler</p> <p>Feral House, 2003, 120 pp., paperback \$9.95</p>	<p><i>#3 Choice</i></p>
	<p><b>Empire of Illusion</b>          By Chris Hedges</p> <p>Nation Books, 2009, \$14.95</p>	<p><i>#4 Choice</i></p>

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