Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything  
By: Foer, Joshua  
BF385.F64 2012  
Review from: Booklist February 1, 2011  
If you sometimes can’t remember where you put your car keys or, like Foer, the car itself, don’t panic. You’re not alone, and you can do something about it. In this intriguing look at the nature of memory, Foer reassures us that we don’t need to acquire a better memory; we just need to use the one we have more effectively… An engaging, informative, and for the forgetful, encouraging book.

To End All Wars: A Story of Loyalty and Rebellion, 1914-1918  
By: Hochschild, Adam  
D 546 .H63 2011  
Review from: Booklist April 1, 2011  
Delving into prowar and antiwar opinion in Britain during WWI, Hochschild… humanizes responses to the conflict through biographical accounts of British soldiers, politicians, and radicals… Linking his diverse cast of characters, which includes antiwar Bertrand Russell and prowar writers John Buchan and Rudyard Kipling, Hochschild presents a WWI narrative deriving from military histories by Hew Strachan and John Keegan and highlights the fact that it was belief in the war’s futility, folly, or immorality that moved its opponents to action. Socialists, suffragettes, pacifists, and conscientious objectors who preferred prison to compromising their principles populate the book, and Hochschild sympathizes with them rather than British leaders who prosecuted the war. However much that perspective affects the work as history, it strengthens its appeal to those interested in and inspired by past antiwar movements.

Superman: The High-Flying History of America’s Most Enduring Hero  
By: Tye, Larry  
PN 6728 .S9 T94 2012  
Review from: Publisher’s Weekly April 16, 2012  
Tye offers this super-powered, well researched look into every aspect of the character in comics, radio, TV, films, and theater, muscling into such areas as insider editorial decisions, licensing, litigations, and mass comic book burnings. To document Siegel’s anger and angst along with Superman’s “loves and deaths, reinventions, resurrections and redemptions,” Tye interviewed more than 250 writers, artists, editors, actors, filmmakers, and collectors, and he hired student researchers in four cities to do library and courthouse searches. The lengthy legal battles seeking fair compensation for Superman’s creators fill pages. Anyone looking for truth, injustice, and the American way will find it in this comprehensive, definitive history.

Experiment Eleven: Dark Secrets Behind the Discovery of a Wonder Drug  
By: Pringle, Peter  
RC 311.4 .P75 2012  
Review from: Choice January 1, 2013  
Experiment Eleven describes the ultimate nightmare: discovering something that changes the course of human health and existence only to have that painstaking discovery credited to another person, effectively burying the innovator’s work and worth. Author/journalist Pringle recounts the discovery of streptomycin, detailing its alluring history with superior research documentation and writing. This exciting tale of betrayal and eventual redemption is a worthwhile read for anyone in science, intellectual property, or patent work—people who witness the more tangled aspects of scientific discovery.

How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character  
By: Tough, Paul  
LB 1139.25 .T68 2012  
Review from: Publisher’s Weekly July 2, 2012  
This American Life contributor Tough tackles new theories on childhood education with a compelling style that weaves in personal details about his own child and childhood. Personal narratives of administrators, teachers, students, single mothers, and scientists lend support to the extensive scientific studies Tough uses to discuss a new, character-based learning approach… The ultimate lesson of Tough’s quest to explain a new wave of educational theories is that character strengths make up perhaps the single most compelling element of a child’s education, and these traits are rooted deep within the chemistry of the brain. Tough believes that it is society’s responsibility to provide those transformative experiences that will create its most productive future members.
Mr. President: How and Why the Founders Created a Chief Executive
By: Raphael, Ray
JK 511 .R36 2012

Review from: Reference & Research Book News October 1, 2012
Raphael, a former college and high school teacher, examines the development of the American executive office from its earliest revolutionary inauguration into the first few presidencies. He considers the revolutionary aspirations of the Americans and their struggle to thwart the executive authority of monarchs and their governors while also incorporating an executive role in the newly formed United States government. He pays special attention to the tension between those who wanted a strong, centralized, largely unconstrained authority and those who wanted to put significant limits on the executive and have Congress make the most important decisions. The material is organized into three major sections examining the forms of power the American revolutionaries rejected, the struggle to re-conceive executive power in the service of the people's government, and finally the effort to implement these new ideas in the first few administrations.

Beat Cop to Top Cop: A Tale of Three Cities
By: Timoney, John F.
HV 7911.T563 A3 2010

Review from: Publisher's Weekly May 3, 2010
From a rookie in the streets of the South Bronx to police chief in Miami, lifelong cop Timoney reflects on a career that put him at the center of many recent debates and advances in law enforcement. Born in Dublin, Timoney moved to New York in 1961 as a child and joined the NYPD after graduating from high school. He describes patrolling the streets during the turbulent late '60s, when protests and civil unrest ripped at the city's social and political seams. Picking up a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees along the way, Timoney rose steadily through the ranks, working directly for famed police commissioners like Ray Kelly and Bill Bratton. An advocate for community policing as the way the NYPD addressed "quality of life" issues (e.g., vandalism and truancy) that are often precursors of major crimes, Timoney helped develop and refine departmental policies on everything from the use of deadly force to race relations. After retiring from the NYPD in 1996, Timoney spent four years as police commissioner of Philadelphia before becoming Miami's chief of police in 2002, retiring in 2009. Both the ugly side of police work—particularly corruption—and the achievements of his beloved NYPD are showcased in this intriguing look at what it takes to fight crime.

Renaissance People: Lives That Shaped the Modern Age
By: Davis, Robert C., Beth Lindsmith
CT115 .D38 2011

Review from: Booklist February 15, 2012
The expression Renaissance person connotes someone possessing a multitude of talents, and this compilation is similarly endowed. Ninety Renaissance luminaries... are profiled in one- to two-page biographical sketches lavishly illustrated by color plates, many of them full-page size... Renaissance People is that rarest of reference books one that is actually a pleasure to look at and read through. The book’s design, as one might expect considering its publisher, is attractive, with cream-colored pages, elegant layout, and crisp illustrations. The brief biographies are complemented by suggestions for further reading, a list of sources for the quotations included, and a name index that includes reference to illustrations.

In Pursuit of the Unknown: 17 Equations That Changed the World
By: Stewart, Ian
QA21 .S834 2012

Review from: Reference & Research Book News April 1, 2012
For general readers of science and technology titles, this engaging work on the meaning and impact of mathematical equations examines seventeen of the most important equations in history... Covering popular equations such as the Pythagorean theorem and Relativity, as well as more obscure and advanced topics, the work provides an entertaining journey through the development of theoretical mathematics, as well as an informative look at applied science. Numerous tables, graphs, and illustrations are provided throughout...

Heroes of Pharmacy: Professional Leadership in Times of Change
By: Worthen, Dennis B.
RS71 .W67 2012

Review from: Library Journal August 1, 2012
...This book offers revised and expanded biographical essays on 52 pharmaceutical pioneers and 20 American Pharmaceutical Association founders. Each multipage profile, organized alphabetically by surname, contains helpful chronological or thematic subheadings. Quotations, black-and-white artifact and portrait illustrations, and extensive further-reading lists offer deeper insight into each figure and additional research leads. Essays are information-packed yet accessible and engaging...