

42 Titles. 7 Categories.

Curated for liberty, preparedness, leadership & survival.

The following list includes books that have proven both thought-provoking and practical — titles that challenge assumptions, sharpen perspective, and remain relevant in today's uncertain environment. Each was chosen for its ability to deepen understanding of liberty, preparedness, leadership, survival psychology, and sustainable living. Members are encouraged to obtain copies through local libraries, independent bookstores, or audiobooks whenever possible.

◆ SURVIVAL & PREPAREDNESS

Practical skills, crisis psychology, and the mindset of resilience

ESSENTIAL READING № 1 Prepper's Home Defense Jim Cobb Baseline defensive manual — layered defense from deterrence and early warning to safe rooms and force escalation. Cuts through Hollywood-style prepping. ► Community first, measured action, sustainable readiness over fear-driven chaos.	№ 4 Emergency Neil Strauss A journalist's journey to full-spectrum preparedness — survival, firearms, evasion, and citizenship abroad. Honest and accessible. ► Bridges skepticism and action. Transformation begins with humility and self-education.	№ 9 Deep Survival Laurence Gonzales Analyzes real disasters to uncover why certain people prevail. The difference lies in mindset, self-awareness, and adaptability. ► Survival begins in the mind long before the event.
№ 10 The Unthinkable Amanda Ripley Research into human behavior during crises. Identifies the three stages: denial, deliberation, decisive action. ► Key for command structure and emergency training within nests.	№ 12 When All Hell Breaks Loose Cody Lundin Combines humor, anthropology, and hard science. Covers hygiene, food, morale, and long-term survival psychology. ► Survival is 90% mental, 10% gear. Preparedness is community care, not paranoia.	№ 17 Bushcraft 101 Dave Canterbury Self-reliance using tools and materials found in nature — fire, shelter, water, navigation, and foraging. Ancient knowledge, modern application. ► Learn the land, use your environment, rely on skill — not gear.
№ 28 Bushcraft First Aid Dave Canterbury & Jason A. Hunt Field manual for first response in remote environments: wound care, splints, improvisation, infection control, evacuation. ► Train members to triage and stabilize. Run regular realistic drills.		

№ 21 The U.S. Constitution & The Federalist Papers <i>Madison, Hamilton & Jay</i> Foundation of American liberty. Defines how power should be limited, balanced, and accountable to the people. ► <i>A manual for civic defense. Every citizen should read them — not just quote them.</i>	№ 2 The Revolution: A Manifesto <i>Ron Paul</i> How liberty erodes through complacency. A challenge to think independently and demand accountability from power. ► <i>A call to reclaim personal responsibility and question authority without abandoning civility.</i>	№ 8 The Law <i>Frédéric Bastiat</i> In under 100 pages — the purpose of law: defend life, liberty, and property. When government redistributes, justice becomes corruption. ► <i>Distills the moral foundation of freedom. Law should restrain power, not expand it.</i>
№ 15 The Whiskey Rebellion <i>William Hogeland</i> The 1790s tax revolt — early Americans challenging federal authority over local rights. ► <i>A case study in why understanding history prevents repeating it.</i>	№ 16 Common Sense <i>Thomas Paine</i> The pamphlet that sparked a revolution. Clear ideas, plainly spoken, broke through apathy and inspired ordinary citizens. ► <i>Essential for anyone involved in local coordination or civic advocacy.</i>	№ 32 Seeing Like a State <i>James C. Scott</i> Why large centralized systems fail when imposing order on complex human environments. ► <i>Informs how nests should be structured: distributed, adaptive, locally governed.</i>

№ 13 1776 <i>David McCullough</i> The Revolutionary War's defining year — Washington's perseverance, ordinary soldiers' resolve, and the fragile unity of a desperate cause. ► <i>Leadership under strain, faith in mission, and unity in uncertainty.</i>	№ 22 The Nightingale <i>Kristin Hannah</i> Two French sisters in WWII — one in the resistance, one surviving occupation. The hidden labor sustaining communities in wartime. ► <i>Train local leaders. Quiet acts — shelter, supplies, information — sustain community under occupation.</i>	№ 25 Slaughterhouse-Five <i>Kurt Vonnegut</i> A soldier survives WWII's Dresden bombing. Satire, trauma, and anti-war sentiment — the moral cost of violence. ► <i>Build empathy. Prioritize mental-health preparedness for members exposed to catastrophe.</i>
№ 27 The Book Thief <i>Markus Zusak</i> Nazi Germany narrated by Death — small acts of humanity in dark times. Language as a tool of survival. ► <i>Preserve and circulate crucial knowledge. Storytelling is a tool for cohesion and resilience.</i>	№ 31 The Fourth Turning <i>William Strauss & Neil Howe</i> Generational theory — societies move through recurring cycles of crisis, rebuilding, and decay. ► <i>A crisis era demands preparation, not panic — and community, not isolation.</i>	№ 33 The Anatomy of Fascism <i>Robert O. Paxton</i> Fascism as a process — how ordinary societies slide into authoritarianism through fear, myth, and opportunism. ► <i>Know the pattern before it completes. Recognition is the first line of defense.</i>
NEW ADDITION № 40 The Gulag Archipelago <i>Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn</i> First-hand account of the Soviet forced labor camp system — how totalitarianism crushes dissent through bureaucratic terror. ► <i>The most complete portrait of what unchecked state power looks like from the inside.</i>		

№ 3 Atlas Shrugged Ayn Rand Innovation collapses under regulation and dependency. Individual excellence as the engine of freedom. ► Resilience, integrity, and the moral value of productive work. Not selfishness — sovereignty.	№ 7 Brave New World Aldous Huxley 1932 vision of engineered pleasure and social control. Societies willingly surrender freedom for comfort. ► A philosophical warning: tyranny rarely comes through force — it comes through sedation.	№ 23 Meditations Marcus Aurelius Personal reflections on duty, virtue, and discipline. Control what you can. Accept what you can't. Act ethically. ► A manual for emotional resilience. Cultivate daily practices that steady leadership during crises.
№ 30 The Republic Plato Foundational dialogue on justice, governance, education, and the nature of leadership via Socratic questioning. ► A blueprint for civic virtue and institutional design. Spark discussions on leadership selection and ethics.	№ 37 The Moral Animal Robert Wright An evolutionary explanation of human behavior, cooperation, and conflict. Why we do what we do. ► Understand the instincts driving your team. Design structures that reward cooperation over self-interest.	NEW ADDITION № 41 Man's Search for Meaning Viktor Frankl A psychiatrist's account of surviving Nazi concentration camps. Finding purpose as the core of human endurance. ► The definitive text on resilience under the worst conditions. Required for any nest leader.

№ 5 Patriots: Surviving the Coming Collapse James Wesley Rawles Hybrid fiction and field manual — post-collapse America with lessons in communication, barter, food storage, defense, and leadership. ► A blueprint for long-term resilience: discipline, moral clarity, and a network that prioritizes cooperation.	№ 11 The Art of War Sun Tzu 2,500-year-old classic on strategy, adaptability, and perception. Victory through preparation and timing — not brute force. ► Master yourself, know your terrain, plan for every outcome. Every mission echoes Sun Tzu's principles.	№ 19 Guerrilla Warfare Che Guevara Tactical manual on irregular warfare and small, mobile units. Decentralization, discipline, and adaptability. ► Read critically — extract lessons in organization, terrain use, and morale-building. Not ideology.
№ 20 On War Carl von Clausewitz War as an extension of politics. The fog, friction, and chaos that influence outcomes. ► Every crisis requires strategy, not reaction. Reinforce the importance of adaptable leadership.	№ 26 CIA KUBARK Files CIA Cold War Documents Declassified interrogation and psychological operations documents. Deception detection, conditioning, and stress behavior. ► Understand how information can be shaped. Build humane interview protocols. Guard against manipulation.	

№ 6 One Second After William R. Forstchen A town loses power after an EMP. The human cost of modern dependency and the speed with which order dissolves. ► <i>Leadership, community trust, and moral grounding are the real assets in crisis — not gear.</i>	№ 14 The Beekeeper's Bible Richard Jones & Susan Bracker Every step of beekeeping — biology, hive design, honey processing, wax use. Stewardship and sustainable practice. ► <i>Small, sustainable practices preserve ecosystems and food supplies. Vital for long-term community independence.</i>	№ 24 Botany for Gardeners Brian Capon How plants grow, reproduce, and respond to environmental conditions. Plant biology made comprehensible for practical use. ► <i>Start a small plot, learn seed-saving, map local seasonal plant calendars.</i>
№ 29 Edible Wild Plants Lee Allen Peterson Field guide to 200+ edible plants — identification, seasons, preparation, and caution notes for look-alikes. ► <i>Learn high-yield safe species for your region. Create drying and preserving protocols.</i>	№ 36 Farmers of Forty Centuries F.H. King Sustainable agriculture systems that fed civilizations for thousands of years without industrial inputs. ► <i>Deep knowledge of soil health and long-cycle food production. Essential for any nest planning food autonomy.</i>	

№ 34 Propaganda Edward Bernays The foundational text on mass persuasion, written by the architect of modern public relations. How consent is manufactured at scale. ► <i>Know how influence works — on you and on others. Inoculation against manipulation starts with understanding it.</i>	№ 38 The True Believer Eric Hoffer A psychological study of how mass movements form, grow, and radicalize followers — religious, political, or ideological. ► <i>Understand the mechanics of radicalization. Protect your community from external manipulation and internal drift.</i>	№ 39 Ur-Fascism Umberto Eco A concise essay identifying 14 recurring traits of fascism, drawn from lived experience rather than theory. ► <i>Fourteen markers. Learn them. The earlier the recognition, the more options remain available.</i>
NEW ADDITION № 42 1984 George Orwell A totalitarian state uses surveillance, propaganda, and rewritten history to maintain absolute control. Language itself becomes a weapon of oppression. ► <i>The definitive warning about what unchecked power looks like at scale. Read alongside Propaganda and Ur-Fascism.</i>	№ 18 To Kill a Mockingbird Harper Lee Through a child's eyes — injustice exposed and the quiet strength required to stand against it. Moral courage as leadership. ► <i>Integrity is the cornerstone of community. No nest can endure without moral backbone.</i>	№ 35 Where There Is No Doctor David Werner A practical medical manual designed for communities without reliable healthcare access. Field-tested globally. ► <i>Every nest should have a copy. When professional care is unavailable, this book becomes the standard of care.</i>

"Our purpose is not fear, but foresight — knowledge as defense, unity as force, liberty as mission. Read deeply. Think critically. Act deliberately. Squirrels adapt, endure, and rebuild."