How Lucky We Are to Be Alive Right Now: What to Read When You’re Obsessed with Hamilton

Posted by: Emily Williams on Thursday, February 18th, 2016

Look around, look around! Based on founding father Alexander Hamilton, the hip-hop musical that bears his surname has become a pop culture obsession for many. If you've listened to the soundtrack on repeat for weeks, don't throw away your shot to learn more. We have these titles, plus further suggested reading highlighted on our catalog.

*Hamilton* by Ron Chernow

This is the book that inspired Lin-Manuel Miranda to write the musical. Miranda purchased it at an airport as vacation reading, then quickly realized he could not say no to this story. Written by a historian, the 818-page epic biography is a must read for fans who want to delve deeper. Check out #HamBio on social media while reading for an internet-wide book club experience.
Jefferson and Hamilton: The Rivalry that Formed a Nation [5] by John E. Ferling

You can't talk about Alexander Hamilton without mentioning his fatal duel with Aaron Burr (sir). But Hamilton's ongoing conflict with Thomas Jefferson was just as legendary.

Revolutionary Mothers: Women in the Struggle for America's Independence [6] by Carol Berkin

The Schuyler sisters play key parts in the musical and in Hamilton's life. This book, along with others like Cokie Robert's Founding Mothers [7], highlights the stories of the often overlooked women of the time.
Aristotle & Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe [8] by Benjamin Alire Saenz

And hey, if you just want to listen to Lin-Manuel Miranda's voice for a little while longer, he narrates this excellent young adult audiobook.

Thanks to the librarians of the Worst Bestsellers podcast for their literary Hamilton commentary in episode 38 [9] and suggestions of many of these titles.

**Audience:** All Ages [10]
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