

Growing up in Boston

There are dozens of books published every year about the Kennedy family but not everyone growing up in and around Boston has that famous name. Below find a small selection of biographies and memoirs from some not-so-famous (and a few famous) people that hail from Greater Boston.

[With or Without You: A Memoir](#) by Domenica Ruta.

A haunting, unforgettable mother-daughter story set in Danvers.

[Pitch Uncertain: A Mid-Century Middle Daughter Finds Her Voice](#) by Maisie Houghton.

15 linked essays recounting the author's upbringing in Cambridge from the 1940s to the 1960s.

[Citizen Somerville: Growing Up with the Winter Hill Gang](#) by Bobby Martini and Elayne Keratsis

The story of Somerville's Winter Hill Gang as told by three strong and very different women.

[Hidden History of the Boston Irish : Little-known Stories from Ireland's "Next Parish Over"](#) by Peter F. Stevens

Over 44 million Americans trace their lineage to Ireland; here are some local stories.

[All Souls : A Family Story from Southie](#) by Michael Patrick MacDonald

Ground-breaking and powerful memoir detailing MacDonald's difficult childhood in South Boston.

[Irish Thunder: The Hard Life & Times of Micky Ward](#) by Bob Halloran.

WCVB Channel 5's Bob Halloran introduces us to 'Irish' Micky Ward, now famous as '[The Fighter](#)'.

[Coming Apart: A Memoir of the Harvard wars of 1969](#) by Roger Rosenblatt.

Recounts the campus unrest in the Spring of 1969.

[To Free a Family: The Journey of Mary Walker](#) by Sydney Nathans.

Mary Walker escaped slavery and fled to Cambridge. Her story is drawn from letters and diaries from both the slave holding family and the abolitionists who helped her.

[Snatched From Oblivion: a Cambridge memoir](#) by Marian Cannon Schlesinger.

Marian Cannon Schlesinger's memoir of growing up in an academic household here in Cambridge.

[Townie: A Memoir](#) by Andre Dubus III.

Son of the eminent author and popular author himself, Dubus struggles to craft an identity growing up in a depressed Massachusetts mill town saturated with drugs and crime.

[Running the Books: The Adventures of an Accidental Prison Librarian](#) by Avi Steinberg.

Harvard grad and struggling writer, Steinberg takes a job running the library counter at a Boston prison.

[The Eden Express: A Memoir of Insanity](#) and [Just Like Someone Without Mental Illness Only More So: A Memoir](#) by Mark Vonnegut.

Extraordinary memoirs from the gifted son of one of the literary grandmasters of the 20th century.

[Let's Take the Long Way Home: A Memoir of Friendship](#) by Gail Caldwell.

Pulitzer Prize winner Gail Caldwell bonds with author Caroline Knapp when they meet walking their dogs at Fresh Pond.