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Scholastic Book of Outstanding Americans

AnnMarie Hamar

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Reviewer: AnnMarie Hamar
Reading Level: Intermediate
Rating: Outstanding
Genre: Non-fiction;
Subject: Biography--Famous Americans; Books—Reviews;

Did you know that the "B.B." in B.B. King's name stands for "Blues Boy?" Or that Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman in the United States to receive a medical degree? Sheila Keenan's outstanding book profiles 450 famous Americans who made contributions to every field from anthropology and politics, to sports and film. Her subjects include artists, businessmen, poets, educators, and rock musicians. The majority of the profiles are brief, a half a page, and include a photograph. A few of her subjects, including John F. Kennedy, Bob Dylan, and Eleanor Roosevelt, receive a full page spread. Each profile is concise and well-written, and manages to contain enough information to spark an interest in further reading and research.