1. “Big History: From the Big Bang to the Present” by Cynthia Stokes Brown
2. “This Fleeting World: A Short History of Humanity” by David Christian
3. “Maps of Time: An Introduction to Big History” by David Christian
4. “A Brief History of Time” by Stephen Hawking
5. “The Passion of the Western Mind” by Richard Tarnas
6. “[Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies”](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1842.Guns_Germs_and_Steel) by Jared Diamond
7. “A Short History of Nearly Everything” by Bill Bryson