

Enrichment Reading
2015

Adams, Douglas. *The Ultimate Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. In this collection of novels, Arthur Dent is introduced to the galaxy at large when he is rescued by an alien friend seconds before Earth's destruction and embarks on a series of amazing adventures.

Adams, Richard. *Watership Down*. "Set in England's Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale of adventure, courage, and survival follows a band of very special creatures on their flight from the intrusion of man and the certain destruction of their home. Led by a stouthearted pair of brothers, they journey forth from their native Sandleford Warren through the harrowing trials posed by predators and adversaries, to a mysterious promised land and a more perfect society."

Alexander, Kwame. *The Crossover*. Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*. "One of the most universally loved and admired English novels, *Pride and Prejudice* was penned as a popular entertainment, but the consummate artistry of Jane Austen (1775–1817) transformed this effervescent tale of rural romance into a witty, shrewdly observed satire of English country life that is now regarded as one of the principal treasures of English language. In a remote Hertfordshire village, far off the good coach roads of George III's England, a country squire of no great means must marry off his five vivacious daughters. At the heart of this all-consuming enterprise are his headstrong second daughter Elizabeth Bennet and her aristocratic suitor Fitzwilliam Darcy — two lovers whose pride must be humbled and prejudices dissolved before the novel can come to its splendid conclusion."

Barrow, Randi. *Saving Zasha*. "In Russia after the Second World War, one boy dares to save an entire race of outlawed dogs -- the German shepherd! World War II has just ended when thirteen-year-old Mikhail finds a dying man and his German shepherd, Zasha, in the woods. It's dangerous --- some say traitorous --- to own a German dog after Germany attacked Russia, so Mikhail must keep Zasha a secret to keep her alive, but Mikhail's rival, Katia, is determined to find the dog she is sure he's hiding. At the same time, a soldier named Dimitri is breeding a new Russian dog at a nearby farm, so many dogs

were lost in combat, to starvation, and in the slaughter of German dogs that the country is in dire need of every kind of dog.”

Beals, Melba. *Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High*. A memoir of the battle to integrate the Little Rock Central High School following the 1954 Supreme Court ruling.

Bell, Hilari. *The Last Knight*. In alternate chapters, eighteen-year-old Sir Michael Severson, an anachronistic knight errant, and seventeen-year-old Fisk, his street-wise squire, tell of their noble quest to bring Lady Ceciel to justice while trying to solve her husband's murder .

Blumenthal, Karen. *Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Differently*. This biography chronicles the life and accomplishments of Apple mogul Steve Jobs, discussing his ideas and describing how he has influenced life in the twenty-first century.

Bodeen, S. A. (Stephanie A.) *The Compound*. After his parents, two sisters, and he have spent six years in a vast underground compound built by his wealthy father to protect them from a nuclear holocaust, fifteen-year-old Eli, whose twin brother and grandmother were left behind, discovers that his father has perpetrated a monstrous hoax on them all.

Boo, Katherine. *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity*. “In this brilliant, breathtaking book by Pulitzer Prize winner Katherine Boo, a bewildering age of global change and inequality is made human through the dramatic story of families striving toward a better life in Annawadi, a makeshift settlement in the shadow of luxury hotels near the Mumbai airport. As India starts to prosper, the residents of Annawadi are electric with hope. Abdul, an enterprising teenager, sees “a fortune beyond counting” in the recyclable garbage that richer people throw away. Meanwhile Asha, a woman of formidable ambition, has identified a shadier route to the middle class. With a little luck, her beautiful daughter, Annawadi’s “most-everything girl,” might become its first female college graduate, and even the poorest children, like the young thief Kalu, feel themselves inching closer to their dreams, but then Abdul is falsely accused in a shocking tragedy. *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*, based on years of uncompromising reporting, carries the reader headlong into one of the twenty-first century’s hidden worlds—and into the hearts of families impossible to forget. ”

Borland, Hal. *The Dog Who Came to Stay*. “During a fierce snowstorm, an

abandoned and hungry animal howls at the back door of nature writer Hal Borland's farmhouse, announcing the beginning of a transformational friendship."

Bowers, Rick. *Superman Versus the Ku Klux Klan: The True Story of How the Iconic Superhero Battled the Men of Hate*. Here are intertwining stories about the invention of Superman as a defender of the little guy, his rise as a media force, and the real fight against the Ku Klux Klan demonstrate how a mythical hero could take on the fight for civil rights.

Boyce, Frank Cottrell. *Cosmic*. "Liam has always had trouble keeping his feet on the ground. Being 239,000 miles from earth doesn't make it any easier." --- "Hilariously inventive. Frank Cottrell Boyce makes you laugh and think about parents and growing up, about the goodness of gravity and the infinite stars." (*The Washington Post*)

Boyne, John. *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*. "Berlin 1942. When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move from their home to a new house far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence running alongside stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people he can see in the distance, but Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different to his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences."

Boyne, John. *Stay Where You Are And Then Leave*. "The day the First World War broke out, Alfie Summerfield's father promised he wouldn't go away to fight--but he broke that promise the following day. Four years later, Alfie doesn't know where his father might be, other than that he's away on a special, secret mission. Then, while shining shoes at King's Cross Station, Alfie unexpectedly sees his father's name on a sheaf of papers belonging to a military doctor. Bewildered and confused, Alfie realizes his father is in a hospital close by--a hospital treating soldiers with shell shock. Alfie isn't sure what shell shock is, but he is determined to rescue his father from this strange, unnerving place. . . ."

Brittain, Bill. *The Wish Giver: Three Tales of Coven Tree*. "This Newbery

Honoree depicts three children's misadventures in getting what they asked for when a stranger visits the Coven Tree church and offers to make wishes come true for those who believe in magic.”

Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*. “Primarily of the bildungsroman (coming-of-age) genre, *Jane Eyre* follows the emotions and experiences of its title character, including her growth to adulthood and her love for Mr. Rochester, the master of fictitious Thornfield Hall. In its internalization of the action — the focus is on the gradual unfolding of Jane's moral and spiritual sensibility and all the events are colored by a heightened intensity that was previously the domain of poetry — *Jane Eyre* revolutionized the art of fiction. Charlotte Brontë has been called the 'first historian of the private consciousness' and the literary ancestor of writers like James Joyce and Marcel Proust.”

Buyea, Rob. *Because of Mr. Terupt*. “It’s the start of fifth grade for seven students at Snow Hill School. There’s Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who’s having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn’t let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.”

Cabot, Meg. *The Princess Diaries*. “Fourteen-year-old Mia, who is trying to lead a normal life as a teenage girl in New York City, is shocked to learn that her father is the Prince of Genovia, a small European principality, and that she is a princess and the heir to the throne.”

Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game*. “Ender's skills make him a leader in school and respected in the Battle Room, where children play at mock battles in zero gravity, yet growing up in an artificial community of young soldiers, Ender suffers greatly from isolation, rivalry from his peers, pressure from the adult teachers, and an unsettling fear of the alien invaders. His psychological battles include loneliness, fear that he is becoming like the cruel brother he remembers, and fanning the flames of devotion to his beloved sister. Is Ender the general Earth needs? However, Ender is not the only result of the genetic experiments. The war with the Buggers has been raging for a hundred years, and the quest for the perfect general has been underway for almost as long. Ender's two older siblings are every bit as unusual as he is, but in very different ways. Between

the three of them lie the abilities to remake a world. If the world survives, that is. Winner of the Hugo and Nebula Awards.”

Carson, Rae. *The Girl of Fire and Thorns*. A fearful sixteen-year-old princess discovers her heroic destiny after being married off to the king of a neighboring country in turmoil and pursued by enemies seething with dark magic.

Cashore, Kristin. *Graceling*. “In the Graceling realms, rare people are Graced with a special skill — cooking, fighting, singing, building, lying — and all the Graced are marked with eyes of two different colors. Katsa, niece of the tyrannical king, is graced with fighting — or so she thinks.”

Chima, Cinda Williams. *The Demon King*. This book relates the intertwining fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa, as Han takes possession of an amulet that once belonged to an evil wizard and Raisa uncovers a conspiracy in the Grey Wolf Court.

Christie, Agatha. Five classic murder mysteries. *The Secret Adversary*, *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, *The Boomerang Clue*, *The Moving Finger*, and *Death Comes at the End*.

Clare, Cassandra. *City of Bones*. Suddenly able to see demons and the Darkhunters who are dedicated to returning them to their own dimension, fifteen-year-old Clary Fray is drawn into this bizarre world when her mother disappears and Clary herself is almost killed by a monster.

Clare, Cassandra. *The Infernal Devices*. “Tessa Gray's search for her missing brother leads her into Victorian London's supernatural underworld, where she must learn to trust the demon-killing Shadowhunters if she wants to learn to control her powers and find her brother.”

Clement-Davies, David. *The Sight*. In Transylvania during the Middle Ages, a pack of wolves sets out on a perilous journey to prevent their enemy from calling upon a legendary evil one that will give her the power to control all animals.

Coakley, Lena. *Witchlanders*. After the prediction of Ryder's mother, once a great prophet and powerful witch, comes true and their village is destroyed by a deadly assassin, Ryder embarks on a quest that takes him into the mountains in search of the destroyer.

Coates, Jan. *A Hare in the Elephant's Trunk*. Jacob Akech Deng's young life is forever changed one night in 1987 when soldiers from the north invade his small village in Southern Sudan, and as he struggles to survive and escape the cycle of violence, he tries to remember his mother and her belief in the importance of education.

Cochrane, Mick. *The Girl Who Threw Butterflies*. Eighth-grader Molly's ability to throw a knuckleball earns her a spot on the baseball team, which not only helps her feel connected to her recently deceased father, who loved baseball, but also helps in other aspects of her life.

Coelho, Paulo. *The Alchemist*. “Combining magic, mysticism, wisdom and wonder into an inspiring tale of self-discovery, *The Alchemist* has become a modern classic, selling millions of copies around the world and transforming the lives of countless readers across generations. Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far different—and far more satisfying—than he ever imagined. Santiago's journey teaches us about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts, of recognizing opportunity and learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, most importantly, to follow our dreams.”

Colfer, Eoin. *The Reluctant Assassin*. In Victorian London, Albert Garrick, an assassin-for-hire, and his apprentice, Riley, are transported to modern London, where Riley teams up with the FBI to stop Garrick from returning to his own time and changing the world forever.

Collins, Wilkie. *The Lady in White*. “*The Woman in White* is one of the earliest and most famous mystery novels written. Published by British author Wilkie Collins in 1860, the book centers around Walter Hartright and his run-in with a mysterious woman dressed in white.”

Cooper, Michelle. *A Brief History of Montmaray*. On her sixteenth birthday in 1936, Sophia begins a diary of life in a fictional island country off the coast of Spain, where she is among the last descendants of an impoverished royal family trying to hold their nation together on the eve of the second World War.

Cormier, Robert. *The Chocolate War*. A high school freshman discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school's annual fund raising drive and arousing the wrath of the school bullies.

Crowe, Chris. *Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case*. “The kidnapping and murder of Emmett Till is famous as a catalyst for the Civil Rights Movement. Emmett Till, a fourteen-year-old African American teenager from Chicago, was visiting family in a small town in Mississippi during the summer of 1955. Likely showing off to friends, Emmett allegedly whistled at a white woman. Three days later, his brutally beaten body was found floating in the Tallahatchie River. The extreme violence of the crime put a national spotlight on the Jim Crow ways of the South, and many Americans---African American and white---were further outraged at the speedy trial of the white murderers. Although the two white men were tried and acquitted by an all-white jury, they later bragged publicly about the crime. It was a galvanizing moment for African American leaders and ordinary citizens, including such activists as Rosa Parks. In clear, vivid detail Chris Crowe investigates the before-and-aftermath of the crime, as well as the dramatic court trial, and places it into the context of the nascent Civil Rights Movement.”

D’Adamo, Francesco and Ann Leonori. *Iqbal*. “When young Iqbal is sold into slavery at a carpet factory, his arrival changes everything for the other overworked and abused children there. It is Iqbal who explains to them that despite their master's promises, he plans on keeping them as his slaves indefinitely, but it is also Iqbal who inspires the other children to look to a future free from toil...and is brave enough to show them how to get there. This moving fictionalized account of the real Iqbal Masih is told through the voice of Fatima, a young Pakistani girl whose life is changed by Iqbal's courage.”

Davies, Stephen. *Outlaw*. The children of Britain's ambassador to Burkina Faso, Jake and Kas, are abducted and spend time in the Sahara desert with Yakuuba Sor, who some call a terrorist and others consider a modern-day Robin Hood.

Deuker, Carl. *Runner*. Living with his alcoholic father on a broken-down sailboat on Puget Sound has been hard on seventeen-year-old Chance Taylor, but when his love of running leads to a high-paying job, he quickly learns that the money is not worth the risk.

Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*. “In this unflaggingly suspenseful story of aspirations and moral redemption, humble, orphaned Pip, a ward of his short-tempered older sister and her husband, Joe, is apprenticed to the dirty work of the forge but dares to dream of becoming a gentleman. And, indeed, it seems as though that dream is destined to come to pass — because one day, under sudden and enigmatic circumstances, he finds himself in possession of "great

expectations." In telling Pip's story, Dickens traces a boy's path from a hardscrabble rural life to the teeming streets of nineteenth-century London, unfolding a gripping tale of crime and guilt, revenge and reward, and love and loss. Its compelling characters include Magwitch, the fearful and fearsome convict; Estella, whose beauty is excelled only by her haughtiness; and the embittered Miss Havisham, an eccentric jilted bride. Written in the last decade of Dickens' life, *Great Expectations* was praised widely and universally admired. It was his last great novel, and many critics believe it to be his finest. Readers and critics alike praised it for its masterful plot, which rises above the melodrama of some of his earlier works, and for its three-dimensional, psychologically realistic characters — characters much deeper and more interesting than the one-note caricatures of earlier novels.”

Doctorow, Cory. *Little Brother*. After being interrogated by the Department of Homeland Security after a terrorist attack on San Francisco, California, seventeen-year-old Marcus, released into what is now a police state, uses his expertise in computer hacking to set things right.

Doer, Anthony. *All the Light We Cannot See*. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. “From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant *New York Times* bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of the Second World War. Marie-Laure lives with her father in Paris near the Museum of Natural History, where he works as the master of its thousands of locks. When she is six, Marie-Laure goes blind and her father builds a perfect miniature of their neighborhood so she can memorize it by touch and navigate her way home. When she is twelve, the Nazis occupy Paris and father and daughter flee to the walled citadel of Saint-Malo, where Marie-Laure’s reclusive great-uncle lives in a tall house by the sea. With them they carry what might be the museum’s most valuable and dangerous jewel. In a mining town in Germany, the orphan Werner grows up with his younger sister, enchanted by a crude radio they find. Werner becomes an expert at building and fixing these crucial new instruments, a talent that wins him a place at a brutal academy for Hitler Youth, then a special assignment to track the resistance. More and more aware of the human cost of his intelligence, Werner travels through the heart of the war and, finally, into Saint-Malo, where his story and Marie-Laure’s converge.”

Doyle, Arthur Conan, Sir. *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. This classic mystery features Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson.

Draper, Sharon M. (Sharon Mills). *Copper Sun*. Two fifteen-year-old girls—one a slave and the other an indentured servant—escape their Carolina plantation and try to make their way to Fort Moses, Florida, a Spanish colony that gives sanctuary to slaves.

DuMaurier, Daphne, Dame. *Rebecca*. The new mistress of Manderley's Cornwall estate must constantly compete with the memory of Maxim de Winter's first wife, Rebecca.

Dungy, Tony. *The Mentor Leader: Secrets to Building People and Teams That Win Consistently*. “Your only job is to help your players be better.” “That single idea had a huge impact on Tony Dungy when he heard it from one of his earliest mentors, and it led him to develop the successful leadership style so admired by players and coaches throughout the NFL. Now, a storied career and a Super Bowl victory later, Tony Dungy is sharing his unique leadership philosophy with you. In *The Mentor Leader*, Tony reveals what propelled him to the top of his profession and shows how you can apply the same approach to virtually any area of your life. In the process, you’ll learn the seven keys of mentoring leadership—and why they’re so effective; why mentor leadership brings out the best in people; how a mentor leader recovers from mistakes and handles team discipline; and the secret to getting people to follow you and do their best for you without intimidation tactics. As a son, a football player, and a winning coach, Tony has always learned from others on his path to success. Now you can learn to succeed for your team, family, or organization while living out your values—by becoming a mentor leader.”

Dweck, Carol. *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*. “Dweck explains why it’s not just our abilities and talent that bring us success—but whether we approach them with a fixed or growth mindset. She makes clear why praising intelligence and ability doesn’t foster self-esteem and lead to accomplishment, but may actually jeopardize success. With the right mindset, we can motivate our kids and help them to raise their grades, as well as reach our own goals—personal and professional. Dweck reveals what all great parents, teachers, CEOs, and athletes already know: how a simple idea about the brain can create a love of learning and a resilience that is the basis of great accomplishment in every area.”

Edwardson, Debby Dahl. *My Name Is Not Easy*. “My name is hard like ocean ice grinding the shore...Luke knows his Iñupiaq name is full of sounds white people can’t say, so he leaves it behind when he and his brothers are sent to boarding school hundreds of miles away from their Arctic village. At Sacred Heart School, students—Eskimo, Indian, White—line up on different sides of the cafeteria like there’s some kind of war going on. Here, speaking Iñupiaq—or any native language—is forbidden. And Father Mullen, whose fury is like a force of nature, is ready to slap down those who disobey. Luke struggles to survive at Sacred Heart, but he’s not the only one. There’s smart-aleck Amiq, a daring leader—if he doesn’t self-destruct; Chickie, blond and freckled, a different kind of outsider; and small, quiet Junior, noticing everything and writing it all down. They each have their own story to tell. But once their separate stories come together, things at Sacred Heart School—and the wider world—will never be the same.”

Falkner, Brian. *Brain Jack*. In a near-future New York City, fourteen-year-old computer genius Sam Wilson manages to hack into the AT&T network and sets off a chain of events that have a profound effect on human activity throughout the world.

Fforde, Jasper. *The Last Dragonslayer*. As magic fades from the world, Jennifer Strange is having trouble keeping her magician employment agency business afloat, until she begins having visions that foretell the death of the last dragon and the coming of Big Magic.

Fisher, Catherine. *Incarceron*. To free herself from an upcoming arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of Incarceron, a futuristic prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.

Fitzgerald, Laura Marx. *Under the Egg*. “When Theodora Tenpenny spills a bottle of rubbing alcohol on her late grandfather’s painting, she discovers what seems to be an old Renaissance masterpiece underneath. That’s great news for Theo, who’s struggling to hang onto her family’s two-hundred-year-old townhouse and support her unstable mother on her grandfather’s legacy of \$463. There’s just one problem: Theo’s grandfather was a security guard at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and she worries the painting may be stolen. With the help of some unusual new friends, Theo’s search for answers takes her all around Manhattan, and introduces her to a side of the city—and her grandfather—that she never knew. To solve the mystery, she’ll have to abandon her hard-won self-reliance and build a community, one serendipitous friendship at a time.”

Fleming, Candace. *The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia*. “History comes to vivid life in Fleming’s sweeping story of the dramatic decline and fall of the House of Romanov. Her account provides not only intimate portraits of Tsar Nicholas; his wife, Alexandra; and the five Romanov children, but it also offers a beautifully realized examination of the context of their lives—Russia in a state of increasing social unrest and turmoil. The latter aspect is shown in part through generous excerpts from letters, diaries, memoirs, and more that are seamlessly interspersed throughout the narrative. All underscore the incredible disparity between the glittering lives of the Romanovs and the desperately impoverished ones of the peasant population. Instead of attempting to reform this, Nicholas simply refused to acknowledge its presence, rousing himself only long enough to order savage repression of the occasional uprising. Fleming shows that the hapless tsar was ill equipped to discharge his duties, increasingly relying on Alexandra for guidance; unfortunately, at the same time, she was increasingly reliant on the counsel of the evil monk Rasputin. The end, when it came, was swift and—for the Romanovs, who were brutally murdered—terrible. Compulsively readable, Fleming’s artful work of narrative history is splendidly researched and documented. For readers who regard history as dull, Fleming’s extraordinary book is proof positive that, on the contrary, it is endlessly fascinating, absorbing as any novel, and the stuff of an altogether memorable reading experience.”

Fombelle, Timothée. *Vango : Between Sky and Earth*. In 1934, Vango, a young Frenchman who is about to take his priestly vows, finds himself falsely accused of murder. To clear his name, he must travel across Europe in search of clues to his hidden past.

Forester, Victoria. *The Girl Who Could Fly*. “You just can't keep a good girl down . . . unless you use the proper methods. Piper McCloud can fly. Just like that. Easy as pie. Sure, she hasn't mastered reverse propulsion and her turns are kind of sloppy, but she's real good at loop-the-loops. Problem is, the good folk of Lowland County are afraid of Piper. And her ma's at her wit's end. So it seems only fitting that she leave her parents' farm to attend a top-secret, maximum-security school for kids with exceptional abilities. School is great at first with a bunch of new friends whose skills range from super-strength to super-genius. (Plus all the homemade apple pie she can eat!) However, Piper is special, even among the special. And there are consequences. Consequences too dire to talk about. Too crazy to consider. And too dangerous to ignore. At turns exhilarating and terrifying, Victoria Forester's debut novel has been praised by Stephenie Meyer, author of the *Twilight* saga, as ‘the oddest/sweetest mix

of *Little House on the Prairie* and *X-Men*...Prepare to have your heart warmed.' *The Girl Who Could Fly* is an unforgettable story of defiance and courage about an irrepressible heroine who can, who will, who must . . . fly."

Frank, Anne. *The Diary of a Young Girl*. "Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has since become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit. In 1942, with Nazis occupying Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, until their whereabouts were betrayed to the Gestapo, they and another family lived cloistered in the "Secret Annex" of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death. In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period. By turns thoughtful, moving, and amusing, her account offers a fascinating commentary on human courage and frailty and a compelling self-portrait of a sensitive and spirited young woman whose promise was tragically cut short."

Gantos, Jack. *Dead End in Norvelt*. In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore.

Gee, Maurice. *Salt*. Hari, a downtrodden underclass boy, and Pearl, a privileged girl, both develop a talent to speak to animals and humans through mind control, and find themselves thrown together on a quest to save mankind from a terrible weapon.

Gemeinhart, Dan. *The Honest Truth*. "In all the ways that matter, Mark is a normal boy. He's got a dog named Beau and a best friend, Jessie. He likes to take photos and write haiku poems in his notebook. He dreams of climbing a mountain one day, but in one important way, Mark is not like other kids at all. Mark is sick. The kind of sick that means hospitals and treatments. The kind of sick some people never get better from, so Mark runs away. He leaves home with his camera, his notebook, his dog, and a plan to reach the top of Mount Rainier—even if it's the last thing he ever does. *The Honest Truth* is a rare and extraordinary novel about big questions, small moments, and the incredible journey of the human spirit."

Gladwell, Malcolm. *Outliers: The Story of Success*. “In this stunning new book, Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of ‘outliers’--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing. Along the way he explains the secrets of software billionaires, what it takes to be a great soccer player, why Asians are good at math, and what made the Beatles the greatest rock band.”

Gordon, Jon. *The Carpenter: A Story About the Greatest Success Strategies of All*. “Michael wakes up in the hospital with a bandage on his head and fear in his heart. The stress of building a growing business, with his wife Sarah, caused him to collapse while on a morning jog. When Michael finds out the man who saved his life is a Carpenter he visits him and quickly learns that he is more than just a Carpenter; he is also a builder of lives, careers, people, and teams. As the Carpenter shares his wisdom, Michael attempts to save his business in the face of adversity, rejection, fear, and failure. Along the way he learns that there's no such thing as an overnight success but there are timeless principles to help you stand out, excel, and make an impact on people and the world. Drawing upon his work with countless leaders, sales people, professional and college sports teams, non-profit organizations and schools, Jon Gordon shares an entertaining and enlightening story that will inspire you to build a better life, career, and team with the greatest success strategies of all.”

Gordon, Jon. *The Energy Bus: 10 Rules to Fuel Your Life, Work, and Team with Positive Energy*. “*The Energy Bus*, an international best seller by Jon Gordon, takes readers on an enlightening and inspiring ride that reveals ten secrets for approaching life and work with the kind of positive, forward thinking that leads to true accomplishment - at work and at home. Jon infuses this engaging story with keen insights as he provides a powerful roadmap to overcome adversity and bring out the best in yourself and your team. When you get on *The Energy Bus*, you'll enjoy the ride of your life!”

Gordon, Jon. *The Positive Dog: A Story About the Power of Positivity*. “We all have two dogs inside of us. One dog is positive, happy, optimistic, and hopeful. The other dog is negative, mad, sad, pessimistic, and fearful. These two dogs often fight inside us, but guess who wins the fight? The one you feed the most. So begins the story about a negative mutt named Matt and a big dog named Bubba who teaches him how to feed himself with positivity each day and in the

process Matt transforms his own life and the shelter they call home. *The Positive Dog* is an inspiring, heartwarming story that not only reveals the strategies and benefits of being positive but also an essential truth for humans: Being positive doesn't just make you better. It makes everyone around you better.”

Gordon, Jon. *Training Camp: What the Best Do Better Than Everyone Else*. “*Training Camp* is an inspirational story filled with invaluable lessons and insights on bringing out the best in yourself and your team. The story follows Martin, an un-drafted rookie trying to make it in the NFL. He’s spent his entire life proving to the critics that a small guy with a big heart can succeed against all odds. After spraining his ankle in the pre-season, Martin thinks his dream is lost when he happens to meet a very special coach who shares eleven life-changing lessons that keep his dream alive—and might even make him the best of the best. If you want to be your best—*Training Camp* offers an inspirational story and real-world wisdom on what it takes to reach true excellence and how you and your team (your work team, school team, athletic team, and family team) can achieve it.”

Greenberg, David (David T.). *A Tugging String: A Novel About Growing Up During the Civil Rights Era*. A fictionalized account of the author's years growing up in Great Neck, New York, during the turbulent civil rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s, with his father, who was a lawyer for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

Guys Write for Guys Read: Boys’ Favorite Authors Write About Being Boys. This fast-paced, high-energy collection of short works features today’s most popular writers and illustrators writing about what it means to be a guy. Contributors include Chris Crutcher, Stephen King, Matt Groening, Daniel Pinkwater, Neil Gaiman, Gary Paulsen, and many more.

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. “Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically gifted, autistic boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secrets about his mother.”

Hanley, Victoria. *The Seer and the Sword*. “Legend states that there exists a mighty sword that makes its possessor invincible to his enemies, but there is curse on anyone who lifts the sword for conquest. King Kareed of Archeld goes after this sword anyway, winning it from the King of Bellandra. When he returns home from battle, he brings his daughter, Princess Torina, two special

gifts. One is a unique crystal, in which she can view visions of the future. The other gift is the defeated king's son Landen, who is to be her slave. Torina immediately releases Landen, who becomes a member of the King's army and her close friend, but trouble is lurking in the kingdom of Archeld and people are accusing Landen of plotting against the King. Torina refuses to believe he would hurt her family. Then Torina begins seeing deadly visions in her crystal. Can she save her father's life and the future of her kingdom?"

Harrington, Karen. *Sure Signs of Crazy*. Twelve-year-old Sarah writes letters to her hero, *To Kill a Mockingbird's* Atticus Finch, for help understanding her mentally ill mother, her first real crush, and life in her small Texas town, all in the course of one momentous summer.

Hawkins, Rachel. *Hex Hall: Book One*. "Three years ago, Sophie Mercer discovered that she was a witch. It's gotten her into a few scrapes. Her non-gifted mother has been as supportive as possible, consulting Sophie's estranged father---an elusive European warlock---only when necessary. But when Sophie attracts too much human attention for a prom-night spell gone horribly wrong, it's her dad who decides her punishment: exile to Hex Hall, an isolated reform school for wayward Prodigium, a.k.a. witches, faeries, and shapeshifters. By the end of her first day among fellow freak-teens, Sophie has quite a scorecard: three powerful enemies who look like supermodels, a futile crush on a gorgeous warlock, a creepy tagalong ghost, and a new roommate who happens to be the most hated person and only vampire on campus. Worse, Sophie soon learns that a mysterious predator has been attacking students, and her only friend is the number-one suspect. As a series of blood-curdling mysteries starts to converge, Sophie prepares for the biggest threat of all: an ancient secret society determined to destroy all Prodigium, especially her."

Herbert, Frank. *Dune*. "Paul Atreides, the son of a betrayed duke, is given up for dead on a treacherous desert planet and adopted by its fierce, nomadic people, who help him unravel his most unexpected destiny."

Hillenbrand, Laura. *Seabiscuit*. "Seabiscuit was one of the most electrifying and popular attractions in sports history and the single biggest newsmaker in the world in 1938, receiving more coverage than FDR, Hitler, or Mussolini, but his success was a surprise to the racing establishment, which had written off the crooked-legged racehorse with the sad tail. Three men changed Seabiscuit's fortunes: Charles Howard was a onetime bicycle repairman who introduced the automobile to the western United States and became an overnight millionaire. When he needed a trainer for his new racehorses, he

hired Tom Smith, a mysterious mustang breaker from the Colorado plains. Smith urged Howard to buy Seabiscuit for a bargain-basement price, then hired as his jockey Red Pollard, a failed boxer who was blind in one eye, half-crippled, and prone to quoting passages from Ralph Waldo Emerson. Over four years, these unlikely partners survived a phenomenal run of bad fortune, conspiracy, and severe injury to transform Seabiscuit from a neurotic, pathologically indolent also-ran into an American sports icon.”

Hillenbrand, Laura. *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*. A biography of Olympic runner and World War II bombardier, Louis Zamperini, who had been rambunctious in childhood before succeeding in track and eventually serving in the military, which led to a trial in which he was forced to find a way to survive in the open ocean after being shot down.

Hoose, Phillip. *Colvin, Claudette: Twice Toward Justice*. “On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders. Undaunted, a year later she dared to challenge segregation again as a key plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South. Based on extensive interviews with Claudette Colvin and many others, Phillip Hoose presents the first in-depth account of an important yet largely unknown civil rights figure, skillfully weaving her dramatic story into the fabric of the historic Montgomery bus boycott and court case that would change the course of American history. *Claudette Colvin* is the 2009 National Book Award Winner for Young People's Literature and a 2010 Newbery Honor Book.”

Hunter, James C. *The Servant: A Simple Story About the True Essence of Leadership*. “In this absorbing tale, you watch the timeless principles of servant leadership unfold through the story of John Daily, a businessman whose outwardly successful life is spiraling out of control. He is failing miserably in each of his leadership roles as boss, husband, father, and coach. To get his life back on track, he reluctantly attends a weeklong leadership retreat at a remote Benedictine monastery. To John's surprise, the monk leading the seminar is a former business executive and Wall Street legend. Taking John under his wing, the monk guides him to a realization that is simple yet profound: The true foundation of leadership is not power, but authority, which is built upon relationships, love, service, and sacrifice. Along with John, you will learn that

the principles in this book are neither new nor complex. They don't demand special talents; they are simply based on strengthening the bonds of respect, responsibility, and caring with the people around you. Perhaps this is why *The Servant* has touched readers from all walks of life—because its message can be applied by anyone, anywhere—at home or at work. If you are tired of books that lecture instead of teach; if you are searching for ways to improve your leadership skills; if you want to understand the timeless virtues that lead to lasting and meaningful success, then this book is one you cannot afford to miss.”

Johnston, E. K. *The Story of Owen: Dragon Slayer of Trondheim*. In an alternate world where industrialization has caused many species of carbon-eating dragons to thrive, Owen, a slayer being trained by his famous father and aunt, and Siobahn, his bard, face a dragon infestation near their small town in Canada.

Jones, Diana Wynne. *Howl's Moving Castle*. “The eldest of three sisters in a land where being the eldest is considered a misfortune, Sophie is resigned to her fate as a hat shop apprentice — until a witch turns her into an old woman, and she finds herself in the castle of the greatly feared wizard Howl.”

Jones, Traci L. *Standing Against the Wind*. As she tries to escape her poor Chicago neighborhood by winning a scholarship to a prestigious boarding school, shy and studious eighth-grader Patrice discovers that she has more options in life than she previously realized.

Keyes, Daniel. *Flowers for Algernon*. “When brain surgery makes a mouse into a genius, dull-witted Charlie Gordon wonders if it might also work for him. It does ... but then the mouse begins to regress.”

Kindl, Patrice. *Keeping the Castle: A Tale of Romance, Riches, and Real Estate*. In order to support her family and maintain their ancient castle in Lesser Hoo, seventeen-year-old Althea bears the burden of finding a wealthy suitor who can remedy their financial problems.

Klages, Ellen. *The Green Glass Sea*. While her father works on the Manhattan Project, eleven-year-old gadget lover and outcast Dewey Kerrigan lives in Los Alamos Camp, and becomes friends with Suze, another young girl who is shunned by her peers.

Knowles, John. *A Separate Peace*. “Introverted, intellectual Gene and his daredevil best friend, Phineas, are roommates at a posh New England boarding school just before World War II, but a conflict of loyalties leads them to tragedy.”

Kostick, Conor. *Epic*. On New Earth, a world based on a video role-playing game, fourteen-year-old Erik persuades his friends to aid him in some unusual gambits in order to save Erik's father from exile and safeguard the futures of each of their families.

Krakauer, Jon. *Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster*. The author relates his experience of climbing Mount Everest during its deadliest season and examines what it is about the mountain that makes people willingly subject themselves to such risk, hardship, and expense.

Krech, Bob. *Rebound*. Determined to make the varsity basketball team, seventeen-year-old Ray finds his efforts to play both hindered and helped by the atmosphere of racism in his town.

Krzyzewski, Mike. *Leading with the Heart: Coach K's Successful Strategies for Basketball, Business, and Life*. “In his more than twenty years coaching the Blue Devils, Coach Mike Krzyzewski has made his program the most admired in the nation, with back-to-back national championships in '91, '92, and again in 2001, and ten Final Four appearances since 1986. Now, in *Leading with the Heart*, Coach K talks about leadership-how you earn it, how you practice it, and how you use it to move your organization to the top. From the importance of trust, communication, and pride, to the commitment a leader must make to his team, this inspiring book is a must-read for anyone who loves college basketball-or who simply wants to win in any competitive environment today.”

Larson, Erik. *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*. “On May 1, 1915, with the Second World War entering its tenth month, a luxury ocean liner as richly appointed as an English country house sailed out of New York, bound for Liverpool, carrying a record number of children and infants. The passengers were surprisingly at ease, even though Germany had declared the seas around Britain to be a war zone. For months, German U-boats had brought terror to the North Atlantic, but the *Lusitania* was one of the era's great transatlantic ‘greyhounds’—the fastest liner then in service—and her captain, William Thomas Turner, placed tremendous faith in the gentlemanly strictures of warfare that for a century had kept civilian ships safe from attack. Germany, however, was determined to change the rules of the game, and Walther

Schwieger, the captain of *Unterseeboot-20*, was happy to oblige. Meanwhile, an ultra-secret British intelligence unit tracked Schwieger's U-boat, but told no one. As U-20 and the *Lusitania* made their way toward Liverpool, an array of forces both grand and achingly small—hubris, a chance fog, a closely guarded secret, and more—all converged to produce one of the great disasters of history. It is a story that many of us think we know but don't, and Erik Larson tells it thrillingly, switching between hunter and hunted while painting a larger portrait of America at the height of the Progressive Era. Full of glamour and suspense, *Dead Wake* brings to life a cast of evocative characters, from famed Boston bookseller Charles Lauriat to pioneering female architect Theodate Pope to President Woodrow Wilson, a man lost to grief, dreading the widening war but also captivated by the prospect of new love."

Larson, Erik. *In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and An American Family in Hitler's Berlin*. "The time is 1933, the place, Berlin, when William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Nazi Germany in a year that proved to be a turning point in history. A mild-mannered professor from Chicago, Dodd brings along his wife, son, and flamboyant daughter, Martha. At first Martha is entranced by the parties and pomp, and the handsome young men of the Third Reich with their infectious enthusiasm for restoring Germany to a position of world prominence. Enamored of the "New Germany," she has one affair after another, including with the surprisingly honorable first chief of the Gestapo, Rudolf Diels. But as evidence of Jewish persecution mounts, confirmed by chilling first-person testimony, her father telegraphs his concerns to a largely indifferent State Department back home. Dodd watches with alarm as Jews are attacked, the press is censored, and drafts of frightening new laws begin to circulate. As that first year unfolds and the shadows deepen, the Dodds experience days full of excitement, intrigue, romance—and ultimately, horror, when a climactic spasm of violence and murder reveals Hitler's true character and ruthless ambition. Suffused with the tense atmosphere of the period, and with unforgettable portraits of the bizarre Göring and the expectedly charming--yet wholly sinister--Goebbels, *In the Garden of Beasts* lends a stunning, eyewitness perspective on events as they unfold in real time, revealing an era of surprising nuance and complexity."

Lasky, Kathryn. *The Extra*. Arrested by Hitler's police and imprisoned as part of the "Gypsy plague," fifteen-year-old Lilo is chosen by Nazi filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl to work as an extra, forcing Lilo to choose between working under constant danger or fleeing for her life.

Le Guin, Ursula K. *The Left Hand of Darkness*. While on a mission to the planet Gethen, earthling Genly Ai is sent by leaders of the nation of Orgoreyn to a concentration camp from which the exiled prime minister of the nation of Karhide tries to rescue him.

Le Guin, Ursula K. *A Wizard of Earthsea*. “Yearning for knowledge and power, Sparrowhawk, a young student at the School for Wizards, becomes overanxious and tries his dangerous powers too soon, unleashing a terrible evil throughout the land, as he prepares for his destiny as the greatest sorcerer in the history of Earthsea.”

Lekuton, Joseph Lemasolai and Herman Viola. *Facing the Lion: Growing Up Maasai on the African Savanna*. “Joseph Lemasolai Lekuton gives American kids a firsthand look at growing up in Kenya as a member of a tribe of nomads whose livelihood centers on the raising and grazing of cattle. Readers share Lekuton's first encounter with a lion, the epitome of bravery in the warrior tradition. They follow his mischievous antics as a young Maasai cattle herder, coming-of-age initiation, boarding school escapades, soccer success, and journey to America for college. Lekuton's riveting text combines exotic details of nomadic life with the universal experience and emotions of a growing boy.”

Levine, Gail Carson. *Writer to Writer: From Think to Ink*. “In this lively nonfiction book for young readers, bestselling author Gail Carson Levine shares her secrets of great writing.”

Levine, Kristin (Kristin Sims). *The Lions of Little Rock*. In 1958 Little Rock, Arkansas, painfully shy twelve-year-old Marlee sees her city and family divided over school integration, but her friendship with Liz, a new student, helps her find her voice and fight against racism.

Lockhart, E. *We Were Liars*. “As other reviewers have noted, the plot revolves around the Sinclair family. When you imagine this family, think of a cross between the Kennedy clan and a Ralph Lauren print ad in an upscale magazine. This is an old money family, with more than its share of secrets, prejudices, rituals, and customs. The patriarch of the family owns an island off the coast of Massachusetts, to which his three daughters and their families come each summer for a golden idyll in a magical place. At least, this is the way it is supposed to be, but that is a lie, and it is just the beginning of lies.”

London, Jack. *The Call of the Wild*. “*The Call of the Wild*, considered by many London's greatest novel, is a gripping tale of a heroic dog that, thrust into the brutal life of the Alaska Gold Rush, ultimately faces a choice between living in man's world and returning to nature. Adventure and dog-story enthusiasts as well as students and devotees of American literature will find this classic work a thrilling, memorable reading experience.”

Lowry, Lois. *Number the Stars*. “Through the eyes of ten-year-old Annemarie, we watch as the Danish Resistance smuggles almost the entire Jewish population of Denmark, nearly seven thousand people, across the sea to Sweden. The heroism of an entire nation reminds us that there was pride and human decency in the world even during a time of terror and war.”

Lupica, Mike. *Heat*. Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Mass, Wendy. *Every Soul a Star*. “At Moon Shadow, an isolated campground, thousands have gathered to catch a glimpse of a rare and extraordinary total eclipse of the sun. Three lives are about to be changed forever: Ally: Ally likes the simple things in life-labyrinths, star-gazing, and comet-hunting. Her home, the moon shadow campground, is a part of who she is. She refuses to imagine it any other way. Bree: Popular, gorgeous (everybody says so), a future homecoming queen for sure. Bree wears her beauty like a suit of armor. But what is she trying to hide? Jack: Overweight and awkward, Jack is used to spending a lot of time alone. But when opportunity knocks, he finds himself in situations he never would have imagined. Told from three distinct voices and perspectives, Wendy Mass weaves an intricate and compelling story about strangers coming together, unlikely friendships, and finding one's place in the universe.”

McCormick, Patricia. *Never Fall Down*. Cambodian child soldier Arn Chorn-Pond defied the odds and used all of his courage and wits to survive the murderous regime of the Khmer Rouge.

McCullough, David. *The Wright Brothers*. “Two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize David McCullough tells the dramatic story-behind-the-story about the courageous brothers who taught the world how to fly: Wilbur and Orville Wright.”

McMullan, Margaret. *Sources of Light*. Samantha and her mother move to Jackson, Mississippi, in 1962, and during the year they spend there, Sam learns about photography from a new friend and witnesses the prejudice and violence of the segregationists of the South.

Meyer, Marissa. *Cinder*. Cinder, a gifted mechanic and a cyborg with a mysterious past, is blamed by her stepmother for her stepsister's illness while a deadly plague decimates the population of New Beijing, but when Cinder's life gets intertwined with Prince Kai's, she finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle.

Mitchell, Margaret. *Gone with the Wind*. “Heralded by readers everywhere since its publication in 1946 as The Great American Novel, *Gone with the Wind* explores the depths of human passions with an intensity as bold as its setting in the bluff red hills of Georgia. A superb piece of storytelling, it brings the drama of the Civil War and Reconstruction vividly to life.”

Moorehead, Alan. *Gallipoli*. “A century has now gone by, yet the Gallipoli campaign of 1915-16 is still infamous as arguably the most ill-conceived, badly led and pointless campaign of the entire First World War. The brainchild of Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, following Turkey's entry into the war on the German side, its ultimate objective was to capture the Gallipoli peninsula in western Turkey, thus allowing the Allies to take control of the eastern Mediterranean and increase pressure on the Central Powers to drain manpower from the vital Western Front.”

Murano, Michael Joseph. *Age of the Seer: Epic of Ahirom --- Book One*. “Suddenly torn from his family, twelve-year-old Ahirom is sold as a slave in the Kingdom of Tanniin. Six years later, in order to win his freedom and return home, Ahirom enters the elite Games of the Mines. Pursued relentlessly by his enemies and driven to the limit of his endurance, Ahirom unwittingly awakens a dormant fury within him, and its resonance is caught by a hidden malice that turns the Games into a living nightmare. Refusing to submit to a cruel tyranny, Ahirom must face a harrowing death in the bowels of the earth. Still, a glimmer of hope remains. For deep within the mines, between stone and gold, a power—unlike anything the world has seen—quietly calls his name.”

Murphy, Jim. *An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793*. "1793, Philadelphia. The nation's capital and the largest city in North America is devastated by an apparently incurable disease, cause unknown . . . In a powerful, dramatic narrative, critically acclaimed author Jim Murphy describes the illness known as yellow fever and the toll it took on the city's residents, relating the epidemic to the major social and political events of the day and to 18th-century medical beliefs and practices. Drawing on first-hand accounts, Murphy spotlights the heroic role of Philadelphia's free blacks in combating the disease, and the Constitutional crisis that President Washington faced when he was forced to leave the city--and all his papers--while escaping the deadly contagion. The search for the fever's causes and cure, not found for more than a century afterward, provides a suspenseful counterpoint to this riveting true story of a city under siege."

Myers, Walter Dean. *Fallen Angels*. Seventeen-year-old Richie Perry, just out of his Harlem high school, enlists in the Army in the summer of 1967 and spends a devastating year on active duty in Vietnam.

Nicholls, Sally. *Ways to Live Forever*. Eleven-year-old Sam McQueen, who has leukemia, writes a book during the last three months of his life, in which he tells about what he would like to accomplish, how he feels, and things that have happened to him.

Nix, Garth. *Clariel: The Lost Abhorsen*. "The story of how Clariel became a Free Magic Sorcerer, set 600 years before the birth of Sabriel."

Nix, Garth. *A Confusion of Princes*. Battling aliens, space pirates, and competitors, Prince Khemri meets a young woman named Raine, and learns more than he expected about the hidden workings of a vast, intergalactic Empire, and about himself.

Olson, Rod. *The Legacy Builder: Five Foundational Principles That Work in Sports, Leadership, and Life*. "You've forgotten the five foundational principles that work in sports, life, and leadership. The five non-negotiables. And you can't give away what you don't possess yourself." "When Lance Marshall's life comes crashing down, his wife arranges for him to meet with his high school mentor, Coach Moore. Coach sends Lance 'back to the locker room' to talk with five sports legends who are now successful leaders. Each player will show Lance a principle for excellence in both leadership and the home, but the advice comes with a caveat: Lance must apply the principle he

learns within twenty-four hours or the meeting's end. This modern parable is for business leaders, coaches, and parents who know the challenge of motivating people while balancing the demands of life with integrity—and leaving a legacy that will last forever.”

Oppel, Kenneth. *Half Brother*. “In 1973, as part of an experiment to determine whether chimpanzees can acquire advanced language skills, a renowned behavioral psychologist brings home a baby chimp named Zan and asks his son to treat Zan like a little brother.”

Oppel, Kenneth. *The Boundless*. “*The Boundless*, the greatest train ever built, is on its maiden voyage across the country, and first-class passenger Will Everett is about to embark on the adventure of his life. When Will ends up in possession of the key to a train car containing priceless treasures, he becomes the target of sinister figures from his past. In order to survive, Will must join a traveling circus, enlisting the aid of Mr. Dorian, the ringmaster and leader of the troupe, and Maren, a girl his age who is an expert escape artist. With villains fast on their heels, can Will and Maren reach Will's father and save *The Boundless* before someone winds up dead?”

Oppel, Kenneth. *The Silverwing Collection: Silverywing; Sunwing; Firewing*. “A small bat's curiosity leads to an action-packed odyssey in the acclaimed Silverwing trilogy from Kenneth Oppel. Shade is a young silverwing bat, the runt of his colony, and he's determined to prove himself on the long, dangerous winter migration to Hibernaculum. But when a fierce storm separates Shade from his colony, he soon faces the most incredible journey of his young life—and that journey is just the beginning of an epic trilogy of adventure, wonder, and suspense.”

Oppel, Kenneth. *This Dark Endeavor: The Apprenticeship of Victor Frankenstein*. “Victor and Konrad are the twin brothers Frankenstein. They are nearly inseparable. Growing up, their lives are filled with imaginary adventures...until the day their adventures turn all too real. They stumble upon the Dark Library and discover secret books of alchemy and ancient remedies. Father forbids them from ever entering the room again, but when Konrad falls gravely ill, Victor is drawn back to the Dark Library where he uncovers an ancient formula for the Elixir of Life. Victor, along with his beautiful cousin Elizabeth and friend Henry, immediately set out to find a man who was once known for his alchemical works to help them create the formula. Determined to save Konrad, the three friends scale the highest trees in Strumwald, dive into the deepest lakes, and even make an unthinkable sacrifice in their quest for the

elixir's ingredients. And as if their task was not complicated enough, a new realm of danger—that of illicit love—threatens to end the ordeal in tragedy.” (Also try *Such Wicked Intent: The Apprenticeship of Victor Frankenstein*, Book 2).

Paige, Danielle. *Dorothy Must Die*. “I didn't ask for any of this. I didn't ask to be some kind of hero. But when your whole life gets swept up by a tornado—taking you with it—you have no choice but to go along, you know? Sure, I've read the books. I've seen the movies. I know the song about the rainbow and the happy little blue birds, but I never expected Oz to look like this. To be a place where Good Witches can't be trusted, Wicked Witches may just be the good guys, and winged monkeys can be executed for acts of rebellion. There's still a road of yellow brick—but even that's crumbling. What happened? Dorothy. They say she found a way to come back to Oz. They say she seized power and the power went to her head. And now no one is safe. My name is Amy Gumm—and I'm the other girl from Kansas. I've been recruited by the Revolutionary Order of the Wicked. I've been trained to fight. And I have a mission: Remove the Tin Woodman's heart. Steal the Scarecrow's brain. Take the Lion's courage. And—Dorothy must die.”

Paulsen, Gary. *Tucket's Travels: Francis Tucket's Adventures in the West, 1847-1849*. “Fourteen-year-old Francis is heading west in a wagon train on the Oregon Trail when he's kidnapped by Pawnees. His adventures during the two-year search for his family teach him how to live by the harsh code of the wilderness, and give readers an exciting panoramic vision of the West at a time of settlement and of war with Mexico. Along the way, Francis meets up with Mr. Grimes, a one-armed mountain man, and later rescues Lottie and Billy, children abandoned on the prairie. Together the three encounter bandits, soldiers, storms, eccentric travellers, and discover an ancient treasure. But the real treasure lies at the end of the trail—Tucket's home.”

Peacock, Shane. *Eye of the Crow*. Young Sherlock finds comfort studying the world around him and reconstructing events, but when he decides to snoop around for clues to solve a sensational murder, Sherlock is accused of the crime and now must use all his mystery-solving clues to save himself.

Perkins, Mitali. *Secret Keeper*. When Asha's father goes off to America and leaves his daughters behind in Calcutta, they feel constrained by their life with their traditional uncle and his family, but a friendship with a local boy helps to ease Asha's pain.

Pollan, Michael. *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. "Today, buffeted by one food fad after another, America is suffering from what can only be described as a national eating disorder. Will it be fast food tonight, or something organic? Or perhaps something we grew ourselves? The question of what to have for dinner has confronted us since man discovered fire. But as Michael Pollan explains in this revolutionary book, how we answer it now, as the dawn of the twenty-first century, may determine our survival as a species. Packed with profound surprises, *The Omnivore's Dilemma* is changing the way Americans think about the politics, perils, and pleasures of eating."

Pratchett, Terry. *Dodger*. In an alternative London ruled by a young Queen Victoria, Dodger, a resourceful, homeless boy, unwittingly prevents Sweeney Todd from committing murder.

Pratchett, Terry. *Nation*. After a tsunami destroys all that they have ever known, Mau, an island boy, and Daphne, an aristocratic English girl, together with a small band of refugees, set about rebuilding their community and the things that matter to them.

Reeve, Philip. *Fever Crumb*. In a future London, England, foundling Fever Crumb has been raised as an engineer, but at age fourteen she leaves her sheltered world and begins to learn startling truths about her past while facing danger in the present.

Reeve, Philip. *Mortal Engines*. In the distant future, when cities move about and consume smaller towns, a fifteen-year-old apprentice is pushed out of London by the man he most admires and must seek answers in the perilous Out-Country, aided by one girl and the memory of another.

Reichs, Kathy. *Virals*. "Tory Brennan is the leader of a band of teenage 'sci-philes' who live on an island off the coast of South Carolina and when the group rescues a dog caged for medical testing, they are exposed to an experimental strain of canine parvovirus that changes their lives forever."

Roy, Travis. *Eleven Seconds: A Story of Tragedy, Courage, and Triumph*. Travis Roy recounts how his life has changed since a freak accident in 1995 in his first Boston University hockey game that left him paralyzed from the neck down.

Ryan Munoz, Pam. *Echo*. “Music, magic, and a real-life miracle meld in this genre-defying masterpiece from storytelling maestro Pam Muñoz Ryan. Lost and alone in a forbidden forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each, in turn, become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. And ultimately, pulled by the invisible thread of destiny, their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo. Richly imagined and masterfully crafted, *Echo* pushes the boundaries of genre and form, and shows us what is possible in how we tell stories. The result is an impassioned, uplifting, and virtuosic tour de force that will resound in your heart long after the last note has been struck.”

Schlosser, Eric. *Fast Food Nation*. “In 2001, *Fast Food Nation* was published to critical acclaim and became an international bestseller. Eric Schlosser’s exposé revealed how the fast food industry has altered the landscape of America, widened the gap between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and transformed food production throughout the world. The book changed the way millions of people think about what they eat and helped to launch today’s food movement. In a new afterword for this edition, Schlosser discusses the growing interest in local and organic food, the continued exploitation of poor workers by the food industry, and the need to ensure that every American has access to good, healthy, affordable food. *Fast Food Nation* is as relevant today as it was a decade ago. The book inspires readers to look beneath the surface of our food system, consider its impact on society and, most of all, think for themselves.”

Schmidt, Gary D. *The Wednesday Wars*. “Holling Hoodhood is a seventh grader in the school year of 1967–68. While the Vietnam War consumes his father's attention, Holling is locked into Wednesday lessons with a teacher who insists he read the plays of Shakespeare. The Newbery Award-winning book gets high marks for wit and making a complex sociopolitical era accessible for present-day middle-schoolers.”

Sedgwick, Marcus. *She Is Not Invisible*. Taught to recognize patterns in seemingly random events and numbers, blind Laureth Peak and her brother become tangled in a mystery involving their father's disappearance that requires all of Laureth's skill to enable their survival.

Selznick, Brian. *Wonderstruck*. “Playing with the form he created in his trail blazing debut novel, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, Brian Selznick once again sails into uncharted territory and takes readers on an awe-inspiring journey. Ben and Rose secretly wish their lives were different. Ben longs for the father he has never known. Rose dreams of a mysterious actress whose life she chronicles in a scrapbook. When Ben discovers a puzzling clue in his mother's room and Rose reads an enticing headline in the newspaper, both children set out alone on desperate quests to find what they are missing. Set fifty years apart, these two independent stories--Ben's told in words, Rose's in pictures--weave back and forth with mesmerizing symmetry. How they unfold and ultimately intertwine will surprise you, challenge you, and leave you breathless with wonder. Rich, complex, affecting, and beautiful--with over 460 pages of original artwork--*Wonderstruck* is a stunning achievement from a uniquely gifted artist and visionary.”

Sepetys, Ruta. *Between Shades of Gray*. In 1941, Lina and her family are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers.

Sharenow, Rob. *The Berlin Boxing Club*. In 1936 Berlin, fourteen-year-old Karl Stern, who is considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.

Sheinkin, Steve. *Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal--the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*. Sheinkin recounts the scientific discoveries that enabled atom splitting, the military intelligence operations that occurred in rival countries, and the work of brilliant scientists hidden at Los Alamos.

Sheinkin, Steve. *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights*. Sheinkin describes the fifty black sailors who refused to work in unsafe and unfair conditions after an explosion in Port Chicago killed 320 servicemen, and how the incident influenced civil rights.

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. “Few creatures of horror have seized readers' imaginations and held them for so long as the anguished monster of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The story of Victor Frankenstein's terrible creation and the havoc it caused has enthralled generations of readers and inspired countless writers of horror and suspense.”

Shusterman, Neal. *Bruiser*. Inexplicable events start to occur when sixteen-year-old twins Tennyson and Brontë befriend a troubled and misunderstood outcast, aptly nicknamed Bruiser, and his little brother, Cody.

Smith, Betty, 1896-1972. *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* is an American classic about a young girl's coming-of-age at the turn of the century.

Smith, Roland. *Peak*. After fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello is arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, he's left with two choices: wither away in Juvenile Detention or go live with his long-lost father, who runs a climbing company in Thailand, but Peak quickly learns that his father's renewed interest in him has strings attached. *Big strings*. As owner of Peak Expeditions, he wants his son to be the youngest person to reach the Everest summit--and his motives are selfish at best. Even so, for a climbing addict like Peak, tackling Everest is the challenge of a lifetime, but it's also one that could cost him his life.

Steampunk! is an anthology of fantastically rich and strange stories. "Chockful of gear-driven automatons, looming dirigibles, and wildly implausible time machines . . . should please steampunks of all ages." — *Publishers Weekly* Imagine an alternate universe where tinkerers and dreamers craft and re-craft a world of automatons, clockworks, calculating machines, and other marvels that never were. Visionaries Kelly Link and Gavin J. Grant have taken a genre already rich, strange, and inventive and challenged fourteen masters of speculative fiction, including two graphic storytellers, to embrace its established themes and refashion them in surprising ways and settings. The result is an anthology that defies its genre even as it defines it.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. "An intriguing combination of fantast thriller and moral allegory, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* depicts the gripping struggle of two opposing personalities — one essentially good, the other evil — for the soul of one man. Its tingling suspense and intelligent and sensitive portrayal of man's dual nature reveals Stevenson as a writer of great skill and originality, whose power to terrify and move us remains, over a century later, undiminished."

Stiefvater, Maggie. *The Scorpio Races*. Nineteen-year-old returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, both trying to keep hold of their dangerous water horses long enough to make it to the finish line.

Sullivan, Tara. *Golden Boy*. A Tanzanian albino boy finds himself the ultimate outsider, hunted because of the color of his skin.

Thompson, Holly. *Orchards*. Sent to Japan for the summer after an eighth-grade classmate's suicide, half-Japanese, half-Jewish Kana Goldberg tries to fit in with relatives she barely knows and reflects on the guilt she feels over the tragedy back home.

Toksvig, Sandi. *Hitler's Canary*. Ten-year-old Bamse and his Jewish friend Anton participate in the Danish Resistance during World War II.

Tolkien, J. R. R. (John Ronald Reuel). *The Fellowship of the Ring: Being the First Part of The Lord of the Rings*. The dark, fearsome Ringwraiths are searching for a hobbit. Frodo Baggins knows that they are seeking him and the Ring he bears—the Ring of Power that will enable evil Sauron to destroy all that is good in Middle-earth. Now it is up to Frodo and his faithful servant, Sam, with a small band of companions, to carry the Ring to the one place it can be destroyed: Mount Doom, in the very center of Sauron's realm.

Tolkien, J. R. R. (John Ronald Reuel). *The Hobbit*. Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.

Tressel, Jim. *The Winners Manual: For the Game of Life*. “*The Winners Manual: For the Game of Life* shares Ohio State football coach Jim Tressel's ‘Big Ten’ fundamentals for success: Attitude, Discipline, Faith, Handling Adversity and Success, Excellence, Love, Toughness, Responsibility, Team, and Hope. Peppered with personal stories from Coach Tressel's storied coaching career, this book shares the fundamental lessons that he has been imparting to his players and coaching staffs for the past 20 years. A perfect blend of football stories, spiritual insights, motivational reading, and practical application, *The Winners Manual* provides an inside look at the core philosophy that has positively impacted the lives of thousands of student athletes and served as the foundation for two of the most successful college football programs of all time. Includes eight pages of color photos and a foreword from *New York Times*' best-selling author John Maxwell. All of the proceeds from the book are being donated directly to the William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library Renovation Campaign. Other features: Each chapter closes with a practical application section, where readers will be “coached” on how they can apply the lessons imparted throughout the book to their own lives, via

the establishment of measurable goals, provides a rare inside glimpse into the mind of one of the most respected coaches in college football history and into the huddle of one of the most successful football programs of all time, filled with hundreds of inspirational stories, quotes and anecdotes.”

Turetsky, Biana. *The Time-Traveling Fashionista Aboard the Titanic*. “What if a beautiful vintage dress could take you back in time? Louise Lambert has always dreamed of movie starlets and exquisite gowns and longs for the day when she can fill the closet of her normal suburban home with stylish treasures. But when she receives a mysterious invitation to a vintage fashion sale in the mail, her once painfully average life is magically transformed into a time-travel adventure. Suddenly onboard a luxurious cruise ship a hundred years ago, Louise relishes the glamorous life of this opulent era and slips into a life of secrets, drama, and decadence. . . . Dreamy and imaginative, *The Time-Traveling Fashionista* features thirty full-color fashion illustrations to show gorgeous dresses and styles throughout history.”

Van Draanen, Wendelin. *The Running Dream*. When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

Venkatraman, Padma. *Climbing the Stairs*. In India, in 1941, when her father becomes brain-damaged in a non-violent protest march, fifteen-year-old Vidya and her family are forced to move in with her father's extended family and become accustomed to a totally different way of life.

Verne, Jules. *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. “A pioneer in the genre of science fiction writing, Jules Verne possessed an uncanny ability to imagine — often with startling accuracy — the future possibilities of science. In this classic novel, first published in 1864, the author introduces readers to Otto Lidenbrock, a professor of geology who ventures into a fantastical world within an extinct Icelandic volcano. Verne's vivid imagination and masterful storytelling ability has made this book a popular choice among readers for more than 140 years.”

Volponi, Paul. *The Final Four*. Four players at the Final Four of the NCAA basketball tournament struggle with the pressures of tournament play and the expectations of society at large.

Voorhoeve, Anne C. *My Family for the War*. “Before the start of the Second World War, ten-year-old Ziska Mangold, who has Jewish ancestors but has

been raised as a Protestant, is taken out of Nazi Germany on one of the Kindertransport trains, to live in London with a Jewish family, where she learns about Judaism and endures the hardships of war while attempting to keep in touch with her parents, who are trying to survive in Holland.”

Webb, Brandon. *Among Heroes: A U.S. Navy SEAL's True Story of Friendship, Heroism, and the Ultimate Sacrifice*. “As a Navy SEAL, Brandon Webb rose to the top of the world’s most elite sniper corps, experiencing years of punishing training and combat missions from the Persian Gulf to Afghanistan. Among the best of the best, he led the SEALs’ clandestine sniper training program as course manager, instructing a new generation of the world’s top snipers. Along the way, Webb served beside, trained, and supported men he came to know not just as fellow warriors, but as friends and, eventually, as heroes. *Among Heroes* gives his personal account of these eight extraordinary SEALs, who gave all for their comrades—and their country.”

White, T. H. *The Once and Future King*. T.H. White's masterful retelling of the saga of King Arthur is a fantasy classic as legendary as Excalibur and Camelot, and a poignant story of adventure, romance, and magic that has enchanted readers for generations.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer. *Make Lemonade*. Fourteen-year-old LaVaughn, trying to earn the money for college, takes a job caring for the two children of Jolly, a single teenage mom, and must find the courage to make the right decision for all of them after Jolly is fired.

Yaeger, Don. *A Game Plan for Life: The Power of Mentoring*. “After eight books, many of them bestsellers, *A Game Plan for Life* was the one closest to John Wooden's heart: a moving and inspirational guide to the power of mentorship. The first half focuses on the people who helped foster the values that carried Wooden through an incredibly successful and famously principled career, including his father, his college coach, his wife, Mahatma Gandhi, and Mother Teresa. The second half is built around interviews with some of the many people he mentored over the years, including Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Bill Walton. Their testimony takes readers inside the lessons Wooden taught to generations of players, bringing out the very best in them not just as athletes but as human beings. In all, this is an inspiring primer on how to achieve success without sacrificing principles and how to build one of the most productive and rewarding relationships available to any athlete, businessperson, teacher, or parent—that of mentor and protégé.”

Yousafzai, Malala. *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* describes the life of the young Pakistani student who advocated for women's rights and education in the Taliban-controlled Swat Valley, survived an assassination attempt, and became the youngest nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Zarr, Sara. *The Lucy Variations*. With her chance at a career as a concert pianist passed, Lucy Beck-Moreau decides to help her ten-year-old piano prodigy brother, Gus, map out his own future, even as she explores why she enjoyed piano in the first place.

Zusak, Markus. *The Book Thief*. Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel, a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.