

HAISLN Recommended Reading List 2006

Edited by Lana Miles and Maribel Castro

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About the HAISLN Recommended Reading List

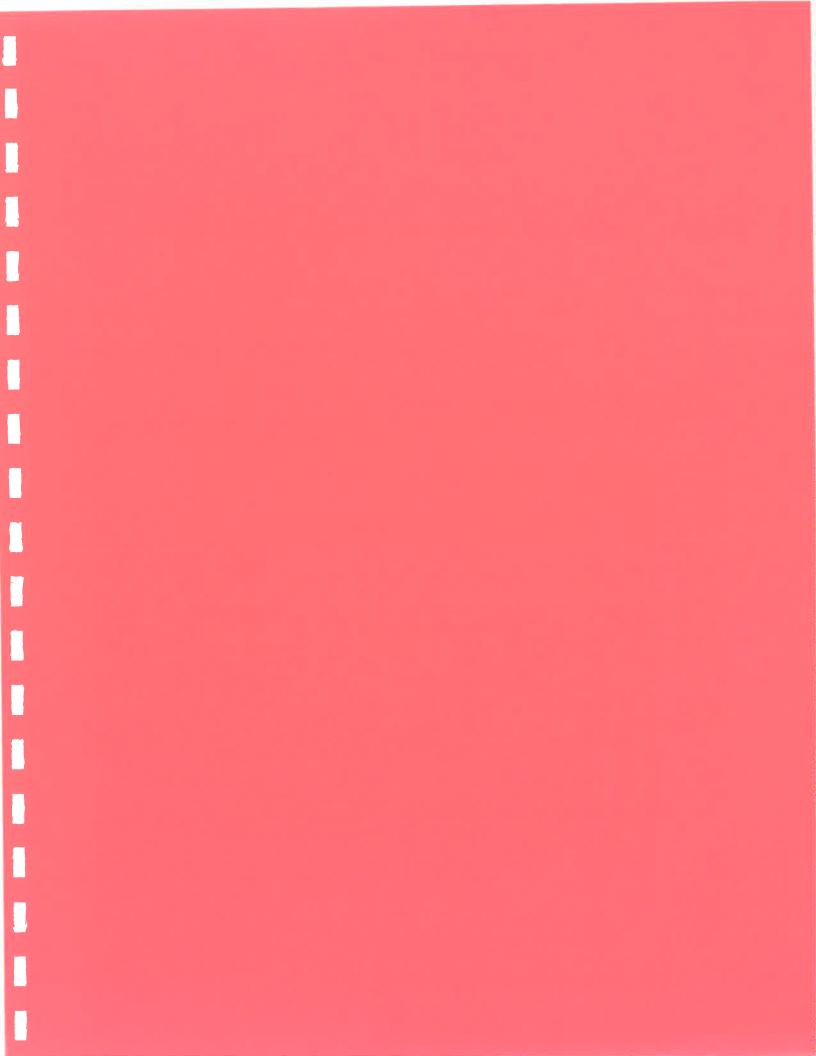
This list of titles has been compiled by librarians at member schools of the Houston Area Independent Schools Library Network (HAISLN). It includes both fiction and nonfiction books by some of the best authors for children and young adults.

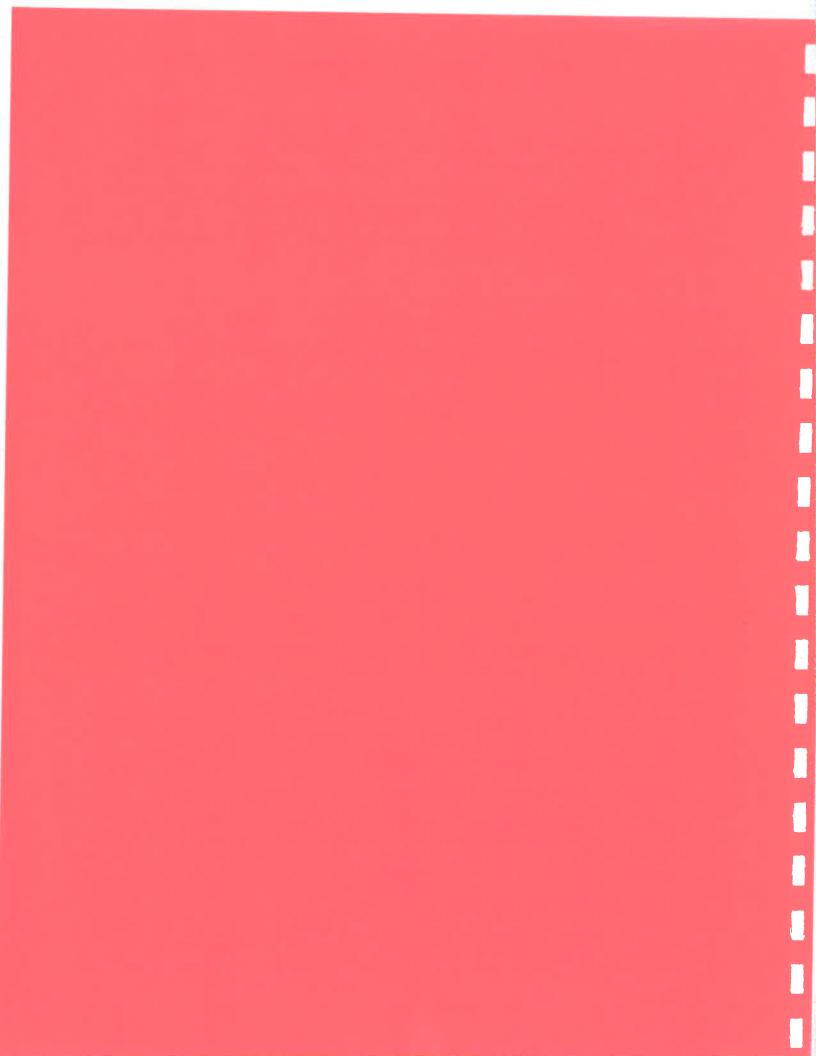
Books on the list are evaluated annually by grade-level committees. Committee members rely on recommendations from standard, professionally prepared evaluation aids and on input from students and teachers, as well as the collective HAISLN expertise. A conscious effort is made to appeal to the broad range of interests, maturity levels, and reading abilities of students.

In most cases the number of books by any given author is limited to one or two per grade level list. An older title with superior literary quality may remain on the list despite newer publications by the same author. Before reading a recommended author's book that does not appear on the student's grade list, readers should be aware that authors often write for multiple interest and age levels. Books that are part of a series are also noted, but not all books in a series are necessarily appropriate at the indicated grade level.

Students may find that some titles that are required reading for their classes appear on this list. Be advised that if a book for required reading is selected for independent reading, it may have to be re-read with the class at a later date.

This list is offered as one possible source of reading guidance. Additional lists of award winners and recommended books may be obtained from your school or public librarian. We hope that books from this list bring students many hours of enjoyment and encourage the life-long love of reading.





- Ahlberg, Janet. *Each Peach Pear Plum*. Viking, 1978. Rhymed text and illustrations invite the reader to play I Spy with a variety of folklore characters including Mother Goose.
- Ajmera, Maya. **To Be a Kid.** Charlesbridge, 1999. Text and photographs from countries around the world illustrate some of the activities children everywhere have in common.
- Asch, Frank. *Goodbye House*. Aladdin, 1986. Just before leaving with his family for the move to their new home, Little Bear says goodbye to all his favorite places in and around his old house.
- Ashman, Linda. *To the Beach!* Harcourt, 2005. A family's outing to the beach keeps getting delayed by the need to go back home for forgotten items.
- Balan, Bruce. *Cows Going Past.* Dial, 2005. A family sees many different kinds of cows from the window of their car while on a trip.
- Bennett, Kelly. *Not Norman: A Goldfish Story*. Candlewick, 2005. While a boy attempts to convince someone else to take his disappointing pet, he learns to love Norman the goldfish himself.
- Bertram, Debbie. *The Best Time to Read*. Random House, 2005. A boy who had just learned to read tries to find someone in his family who will listen to him read aloud.
- Best, Cari. *Are You Going to Be Good?* Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2005. While attending his first "night party" to celebrate Great-Gran Sadie's 100th birthday, Robert's manners disappoint family members and relatives but please the guest of honor who loves his dance steps.
- Blackstone, Stella. Who Are You, Baby Kangaroo? Barefoot Books, 2004. A curious puppy leads the reader to a number of animal babies in search of the name for a baby kangaroo. Notes on animal mothers and various infant animals are included.
- Bottner, Barbara. *Bootsie Barker Bites*. Putnam, 1992. Bootsie Barker only wants to play games in which she bites until one day her friend comes up with a better game.
- Bowen, Anne. *When You Visit Grandma & Grandpa*. Carolrhoda Books, 2004. A sister explains to her new baby brother the excitement and activities surrounding a trip to Grandma's and Grandpa's house.
- Brenner, Barbara. *Thinking about Ants*. Mondo, 1997. The reader is asked to imagine what it would be like to be an ant, and descriptions of what ants look like, what they eat, and where and how they live are provided.
- Bridges, Sarah. *I Drive a Bulldozer*. Picture Window Books, 2005. The workings of a bulldozer and the duties of someone who drives one for a living are described.
- Calmenson, Stephanie. *Dinner at the Panda Palace*. HarperCollins, 1991. Mr. Panda, owner of the Panda Palace restaurant, manages to find seating for all of his animal patrons on a very busy night.
- Carle, Eric. 10 Little Rubber Ducks. HarperCollins, 2005. When a storm strikes a cargo ship, ten rubber ducks are tossed overboard and swept off in ten different directions.

- Catalanotto, Peter. **Matthew A. B. C**. Atheneum, 2002. A new boy named Matthew joins Mrs. Tuttle's class which already has twenty-five students whose first names are Matthew and whose last names begin with every letter except Z.
- Cauley, Lorinda Bryan. *Clap Your Hands*. Putnam, 1992. Rhyming text instructs the listener to find something yellow, roar like a lion, give a kiss, tell a secret, spin in a circle, and perform other playful activities along with the human and animal characters pictured.
- Chen, Chih-Yuan. *Guji Guji*. Kane/Miller, 2004. Guji, Guji, a crocodile hatched and raised by a mother duck, must come up with a plan to save his family when a trio of bad crocodiles tries to convince him to serve up his relatives for their dinner.
- Collicutt, Paul. *This Boat.* Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2001. Many different types of boats and ships are depicted with short descriptions of their various characteristics.
- Cooke, Trish. *Full, Full of Love*. Candlewick, 2003. For young Jay Jay, Sunday dinner at Gran's house is full of hugs and kisses, tasty dishes, all kinds of fishes, happy faces, and love.
- Cooper, Elisha. **A Good Night Walk**. Orchard, 2005. The reader is taken on a journey through a neighborhood and shown the sights, sounds, and smells as evening approaches.
- Cordsen, Carol Foskett. *The Milkman*. Dutton, 2005. In the early, early morning, the milkman makes his rounds, helping his neighbors in a variety of ways.
- Cote, Nancy. *It's All about Me!* Putnam, 2005. A little boy is upset and jealous when his baby brother is born, but his parents reassure him that he is still special.
- Cowley, Joy. **Chameleon, Chameleon.** Scholastic, 2005. A colorful chameleon encounters friend and foe while making his way from one tree to another in search of a tasty insect dinner.
- Cronin, Doreen. *Click Clack, Quackity-Quack: An Alphabet Adventure.* Atheneum, 2005. Each letter in this alphabet book represents a different word describing the adventures of a group of farm animals gathering for a picnic.
- DiPucchio, Kelly S. *Bed Hogs*. Hyperion, 2004. Hoping to get some sleep, Little Runt boots his hog family out of bed one by one, but then finds that he needs them back again.
- Dodd, Lynley. *Hairy Maclary, Scattercat*. First published 1985. Hairy Maclary finds a variety of cats to chase until Scarface Claw bothers and bustles him, rustles and hustles him, races and chases him all the way home.
- Dodds, Dayle Ann. *Hello, Sun!* Dial, 2005. A young girl and her cat must change clothes many times as the weather goes from sunny to cloudy to rainy to snowy.
- Dunrea, Olivier. **BooBoo.** Houghton Mifflin, 2004. BooBoo the gosling likes to eat from morning until night and thinks everything is "good food" well, almost everything!
- Dyer, Jane. *Little Brown Bear and the Bundle of Joy.* Little, Brown, 2005. When Little Brown Bear learns that his parents are expecting "a bundle of joy," he sets out to discover what that means and is not at all happy with what he learns.

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- Edwards, Pamela Duncan. **Ms. Bitsy Bat's Kindergarten**. Hyperion, 2005. The new kindergarten teacher at Oak Tree School is a bat, and she quickly makes all the students feel at home.
- Ehlert, Lois. Leaf Man. Harcourt, 2005. A man made of leaves blows away, traveling wherever the wind may take him.
- Ehrlich, Fred. *Does a Yak Get a Haircut?* Blue Apple Books, 2003. This story shows how only some animals get haircuts and explains why it does not hurt for a child to have his hair cut.
- George, Kristine O'Connell. *Up!* Clarion, 2005. Rhyming text and illustrations animate the feeling of "up" as experienced by a little girl with her father.
- George, Lindsay Barrett. *Inside Mouse, Outside Mouse.* Greenwillow, 2004. Two mice, one who sleeps inside the house in a clock and one who sleeps outside the house in a stump, follow complicated but strangely parallel paths and meet each other at a window.
- Gralley, Jean. *The Moon Came Down on Milk Street*. Holt, 2004. When the moon comes down in pieces, different helpers work to set things right again, including the Fire Chief, rescue workers, and helper dogs.
- Gretz, Susanna. *Riley and Rose in the Picture*. Candlewick, 2005. On a rainy day Riley the dog and Rose the cat decide to stay indoors and draw a picture together but have trouble agreeing on how to do it.
- Guthrie, Woody. *New Baby Train*. Little, Brown, 2004. This illustrated version of the song presents an answer to the question "Where do little babies really come from?"
- Henkes, Kevin. *Wemberly Worried*. Greenwillow, 2000. A mouse named Wemberly, who worries about everything, finds that she has a whole list of things to worry about when she faces the first day of nursery school.
- Hest, Amy. **You're the Boss, Baby Duck!** Candlewick, 1997. When her parents make such a fuss over their new baby, Baby Duck feels neglected until Grandpa helps her to realize that she is still important.
- Himmelman, John. **Mouse in a Meadow**. Charlesbridge, 2005. The author provides full-color, detailed nature illustrations depicting the various species of mice, insects, snakes, spiders, and beetles that inhabit a typical North American meadow.
- Ho, Minfong. *Peek!: A Thai Hide-and-Seek.* Candlewick, 2004. A father and daughter play hide-and-seek in the midst of animals near their house in Thailand.
- Hoberman, Mary Ann. **Whose Garden Is It?** Harcourt, 2004. When Mrs. McGee walks through a garden wondering whose it is, all of the plants and animals as well as the sun and the gardener claim it as their own.
- Horacek, Petr. *A New House for Mouse*. Candlewick, 2004. Mouse finds an enormous apple and decides that she must take it inside, but her burrow is too small so she sets out in search of a new, bigger house and an owner who's willing to share.
- Huneck, Stephen. *Sally Goes to the Farm*. H. Abrams, 2002. Sally, a black Labrador retriever, goes to a farm where she enjoys various activities.

- Hutchins, Pat. *The Doorbell Rang*. Greenwillow, 1986. Each time the doorbell rings, there are more people who have come to share Ma's wonderful cookies.
- Jeffers, Oliver. *How to Catch a Star*. Philomel, 2004. Eager to have a star of his own, a boy devises imaginative ways of catching one.
- Jenkins, Emily. *That New Animal*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2005. The lives of two dogs change after a new animal, a baby, comes to their house.
- Jenkins, Martin. *The Emperor's Egg.* Candlewick, 1999. The parental behavior of Emperor penguins is described, with the focus on how the male keeps the egg warm until it hatches and how the parents care for the chick after it is born.
- Jenkins, Steve. *Prehistoric Actual Size*. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. Facts about the sizes of various dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals are provided.
- Johnson, G. Francis. *Has Anyone Lost a Glove?* Boyds Mills, 2004. Jabari sets out to find the person who has lost the blue glove he finds when he and his mother leave the subway.
- Juster, Norton. *The Hello, Goodbye Window.* Michael Di Capua Books/Hyperion, 2005. A little girl tells about the special kitchen window at her beloved Nanna and Poppy's house from which a person can see anyone or anything coming and going. (Caldecott Medal 2006)
- Kasza, Keiko. *The Dog Who Cried Wolf*. Putnam, 2005. Tired of being a house pet, Moka the dog moves to the mountains to become a wolf but soon misses the comforts of home.
- Kellogg, Steven. *A Rose for Pinkerton*. Dial, 1981. The family of Pinkerton the dog decides he needs a friend, but is a cat named Rose really suitable?
- Kraus, Robert. *Leo the Late Bloomer*. Windmill, 1971. Leo, a young tiger, finally blooms under the anxious eyes of his parents.
- Krauss, Ruth. *Bears*. First published 1948. This story is about a little boy in a wolf suit and lots of bears that appear everywhere.
- Kuskin, Karla. **So, What's It Like to Be a Cat?** Atheneum, 2005. A cat answers a young child's questions about such things as how much and where it sleeps, and whether or not it likes living with people.
- Lewison, Wendy Cheyette. *Raindrop, Plop!* Viking, 2004. A young girl and her dog find many things to count on a rainy day, both as they play outside and after they come home to a warm, dry house.
- Lindeen, Carol K. **Seals**. Capstone, 2005. Simple text and photographs present seals, their body parts, and their behavior.
- Lionni, Leo. *An Extraordinary Egg.* Knopf, 1994. Jessica the frog befriends the animal that hatches from an egg she brought home, thinking it is a chicken.

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- London, Jonathan. *A Truck Goes Rattley-Bumpa*. Holt, 2005. An introduction to trucks is provided in simple text with illustrations, describing different types of trucks, what they do, and their various shapes, colors, and sounds.
- Loomis, Christine. *The 10 Best Things about My Dad*. Scholastic, 2004. A child describes his father who is loving, supportive, caring, and fun.
- Lund, Deb. **Dinosailors**. Harcourt, 2003. After spending time sailing, some seasick dinosaurs decide they have had enough of the high seas.
- Maass, Robert. *When Summer Comes*. Holt, 1996. Text and photographs depict the typical activities of summer.
- MacLachlan, Patricia. *Bittle.* HarperCollins, 2004. Nigel the cat and Julia the dog think they will have no use for the new baby in their house, but after awhile they realize that they have come to love her.
- Markes, Julie. **Shhhhh! Everybody's Sleeping.** HarperCollins, 2005. A young child is encouraged to go to sleep by the thought of everyone else sleeping, from teacher to baker to postman.
- Marshall, James. **George and Martha.** First published 1972. Several episodes in the friendship of two hippopotamuses are related.
- Marzollo, Jean. *I Spy Lightning in the Sky.* Scholastic, 2005. Rhyming verses ask readers to find hidden objects in the photographs.
- Mayer, Mercer. **There's Something in My Attic**. First published 1988. Convinced there is something making noise in the attic at night, a brave little girl sneaks up the stairs, lasso in hand, to capture whatever it is.
- McCloskey, Robert. *Blueberries for Sal*. First published 1948. Little Sal and Little Bear both lose their mothers while eating blueberries and almost end up with the other's mother. (Caldecott Medal Honor Book)
- Moon, Nicola. *Tick-Tock, Drip-Drop!: A Bedtime Story.* Bloomsbury, 2004. When Rabbit has trouble falling asleep because of various noises, Mole tries to help.
- Moore, Inga. **Six-Dinner Sid.** Simon & Schuster, 1991. Sid the cat plays the pet of six different owners on Aristotle Street so that he can get six dinners every night.
- Murphy, Stuart J. **100 Days of Cool**. HarperCollins, 2004. Four students arrive on the first day of school looking cool and their teacher challenges them to keep it up as they count down one hundred days to a cool celebration.
- Nelson, Kadir. *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*. Dial, 2005. A pictorial interpretation of the classical spiritual is presented.
- Numeroff, Laura Joffe. *If You Give a Pig a Party*. Laura Geringer, 2005. One thing leads to another when you give a pig a party.
- Parr, Todd. **Reading Makes You Feel Good**. Little, Brown, 2005. The characteristics and various advantages of reading are described.

- Pearson, Tracey Campbell. *Myrtle*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. With the help of their Aunt Tizzy, Myrtle and her baby brother learn how to deal with a mean neighbor named Frances.
- Pham, LeUyen. *Big Sister, Little Sister*. Hyperion, 2005. A little sister describes what it is like to have a big sister.
- Robbins, Maria **Polushkin.** Mother, Mother, I Want Another. Knopf, 2005. In this newly illustrated edition, Mrs. Mouse is anxious to get her son to sleep and goes off to find what she thinks he wants.
- Rockwell, Anne F. **Growing Like Me**. Silver Whistle, 2001. This book explains how plants and animals of the meadow, woods, and pond grow and evolve, such as caterpillars changing into butterflies, eggs hatching into robins, and acorns becoming oaks.
- Rose, Deborah Lee. **One Nighttime Sea: An Ocean Counting Rhyme**. Scholastic, 2003. This counting book features nocturnal sea creatures, from one blue whale calf to ten turtle hatchlings, and back down to one seal pup, with facts about each of the twenty animals pictured.
- Rotner, Shelley. *Everybody Works*. Millbrook Press, 2003. Photographs and simple text show the many ways in which work can be accomplished.
- Schwartz, David M. Wood Frog. G.Stevens, 2001. The life cycle of a wood frog is described.
- Scotton, Rob. *Russell the Sheep*. HarperCollins, 2005. Russell the sheep tries many different ways to get to sleep.
- Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. *Lemons Are Not Red*. Roaring Brook Press, 2004. Clever cut-outs are used to introduce young readers to different colors
- Seuss, Dr. *The Foot Book*. Random House, 1996. Simple text describes all sorts of feet doing all sorts of things.
- Slate, Joseph. *Miss Bindergarten Has a Wild Day in Kindergarten*. Dutton, 2005. From Adam throwing his hat too high to Zach setting the butterflies free, the students in Miss Bindergarten's class contribute to one wild day in kindergarten.
- Spinelli, Eileen. *Three Pebbles and a Song.* Dial, 2003. As his mouse family endures a long, cold winter, Moses's contributions of a dance, a juggling act, and a little song prove more useful than he had supposed.
- Steig, William. **Sylvester and the Magic Pebble.** First published 1969. Sylvester the donkey finds a magic pebble that grants his every wish, but in a moment of fright he wishes he were a rock and then cannot hold the pebble to wish himself back to normal. (Caldecott Medal 1970)
- Stevenson, James. "Could Be Worse!" First published 1977. Everything is always the same at Grandpa's house, even the things he says -- until one unusual morning.
- Sturges, Philemon. **The Little Red Hen Makes a Pizza**. First Published 1999. In this version of the traditional tale, the duck, the dog, and the cat refuse to help the Little Red Hen make a pizza but do get to participate when the time comes to eat it.
- Suen, Anastasia. Raise the Roof! Viking, 2003. A family helps build their new house.

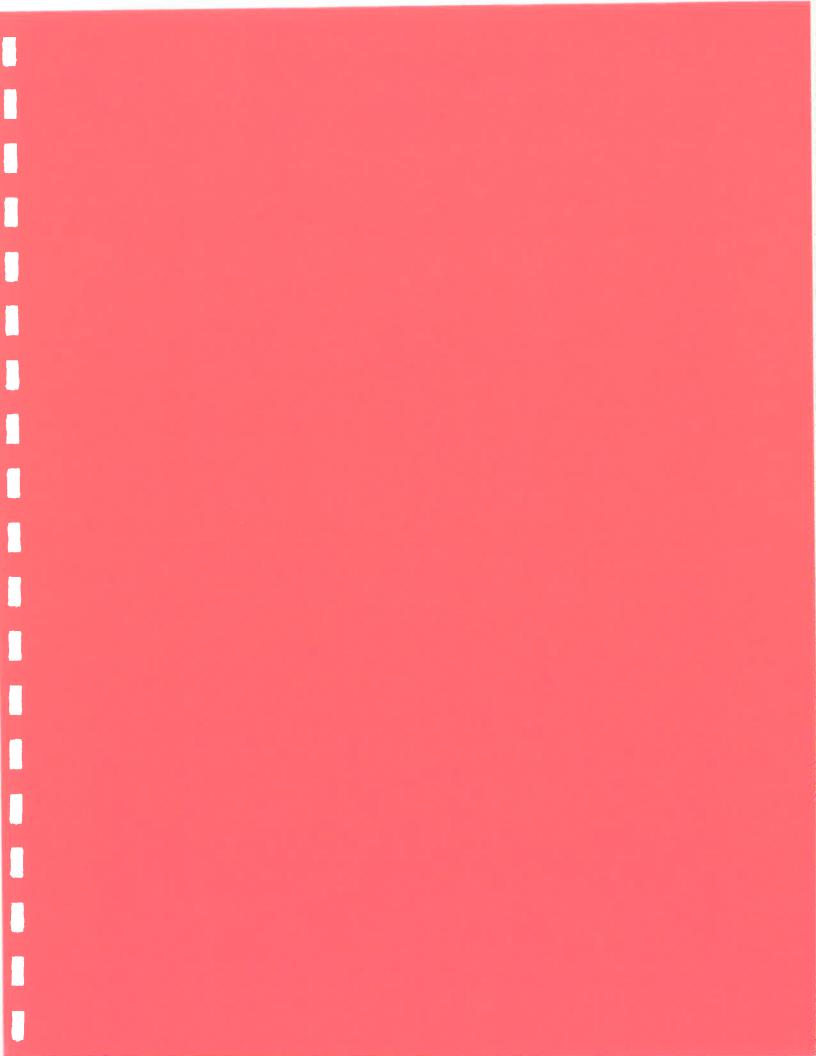
- Yorinks, Arthur. *Hey, Al.* First Published 1986. A city janitor and his treasured canine companion are transported by a large colorful bird to an island in the sky where their comfortable paradise existence threatens to turn them into birds as well. (Caldecott Medal 1987)
- Zane, Alex. **The Wheels on the Race Car**. Orchard, 2005. With text based on the popular song, "The Wheels on the Bus," animal race car drivers roar around the track.
- Ziefert, Harriet. *Buzzy's Birthday: A Lift-the-Flap Story*. Blue Apple Books, 2004. Buzzy has fun as his parents help him celebrate with his friends.

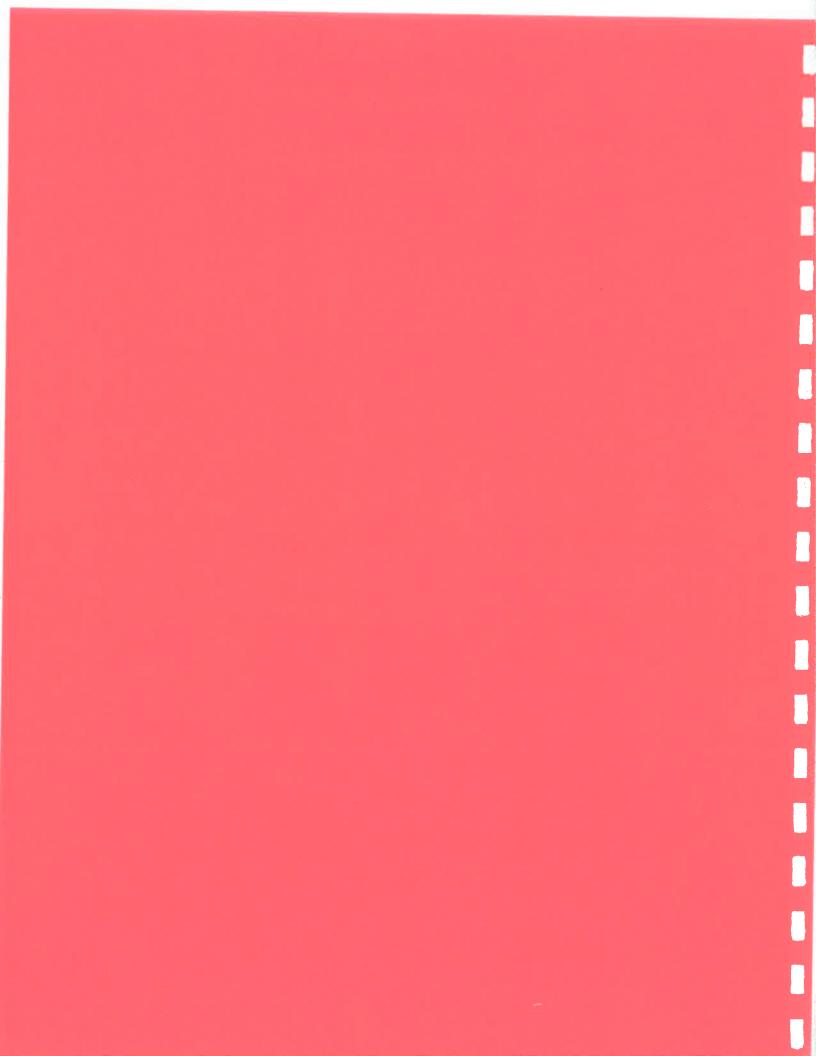
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Any unabridged title is acceptable.

*Beginning readers are marked with an asterisk.

- *Adler, David. **Bones & the Big Yellow Mystery.** Viking, 2004. Detective Jeffrey Bones and his grandfather quickly lead the reader to the solution of the missing school bus.
- *Adler, David. **President George Washington**. Holiday House, 2005. From Washington's youth to his death, this book gives enough details and background to make it an enjoyable biography for new readers.
- *Adler, David. **Young Cam Jansen and the Double Beach Mystery.** Viking, 2002. Cam uses her photographic memory and her brain to solve two mysteries at the beach, involving a missing mother and a missing set of papers. Cam Jansen Adventure Series
- Ahlberg, Allan. *The Children who Smelled a Rat.* Candlewick Press, 2005. Another adventuresome day in the Gatskill family starts when the baby rolls away in a shopping cart, the twin's teacher acts strange and a lost bird tries to hypnotize the cat.
- Bailey, Linda. *Stanley's Party*. Kids Can Press, 2003. Stanley is a good dog, but when his people go out at night, he begins to wonder what it would be like to taste the forbidden pleasures of sitting on the couch, and when he tries it, one thing leads to another.
- *Baker, Keith *More Mr. and Mrs. Green*. Harcourt, 2004. The two happy alligators have a wonderful day fishing with special bait; a day painting pictures and a sunny play day in the park.
- *Bang-Campbell, Monika. *Little Rat Rides*. Harcourt, 2004. Little Rat overcomes her fears and learns how to ride. Pee Wee, the very big horse doesn't always do what Little Rat expects.
- *Bang-Campbell, Monika. *Little Rat Sets Sail*. Harcourt, 2002. Little Rat is taking sailing lessons but is afraid of the water. Buzzy Bear, the sailing instructor, teaches him to make friends, jump in the water and sail.
- Barber, Tiki. *By My Brother's Side.* Simon & Schuster, 2004. Through hard work and determination twin brothers who have shared a love of football since childhood become NFL superstars.
- Bauer, Marion Dane. *The Blue Ghost.* Random House Children's Book, 2005. While visiting her grandmother's log cabin, Liz encounters the ghost of her great-great-great grandmother and suddenly finds that she has been transported back in time.
- Berenzy, Alix. **Sammy the Classroom Guinea Pig.** Henry Holt, 2005. Why is Sammy, the classroom guinea pig squealing on Monday morning? Mrs. B. and her students go through all the possible reasons for caring for a pet guinea pig.

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Grade 1 and 2

- Brett, Jan. *Honey...Honey...Lion*. G.P. Putnam, 2005. African honey badger and the honeyguide bird always share their honey until one day badger becomes greedy.
- Chesworth, Michael. *Alphaboat*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002. A rhyming text full of puns tells the story of the letters of the alphabet sailing off to look for a buried treasure.
- Climo, Shirley. The Little Red Ant and the Great Big Crumb: A Mexican Fable. Clarion, 1995. A small red ant finds a crumb in a Mexican cornfield, but she is afraid that she lacks the strength to move it herself so she goes off to find an animal that can move the crumb.
- Creech, Sharon. *A Fine, Fine School*. Joanna Cotler Books, 2001. When a principal loves his school so much that he wants the children to attend classes every day of the year, it's up to his students to show him free time is a good thing, too.
- Cronin, Doreen. *Diary of a Spider*. Joanna Cotler Books, 2005. In this sequel to *Diary of a Worm*, worm's friend spider gives his view of the world. He discovers that there is a lot to learn about being a spider, including spinning webs, avoiding vacuum cleaners and never falling asleep in a shoe.
- Crummel, Susan Stevens. *City Dog, Country Dog.* Marshall Cavendish, 2004. Two French dogs, Henri and Vincent, meet at art school and become good friends despite their differences.
- Danneberg, Julie. *First Year Letters*. Whispering Coyote, 2003. Through a series of letters sent to Mrs. Hartwell in the classroom mailbox, we experience the sometimes hilariously funny pleasures and pains of a normal group of kids and an innovative first-year teacher.
- *Danziger, Paula. **Second Grade Rules**, **Amber Brown.** G.P. Putnam Sons, 2004. Amber Brown loves the second grade but wonders if she will ever receive an award from Deskarina, the desk fairy, for keeping her desk clean. A is Amber Series
- Davies, Nicola. **Surprising Sharks**. Candlewick Press, 2003. Sharks come in all shapes and sizes. Many species from the smallest to the scariest are described in this informative picture book.
- De Paola, Tomie. **Stagestruck.** G.P. Putnam& Sons, 2005. Tomie does not get the leading role of Peter Rabbit in the class play. He is so disappointed he decides to get the audience's attention by making his character Mopsy the star!
- Dicamillo, Kate. *Mercy Watson to the Rescue*. Candlewick Press, 2005. Mercy is the adored pet pig of the Watsons. One night Mercy climbs into bed with her masters seeking that toasty feeling, but she overloads the bed and it begins to fall through the floor.
- Florian, Douglas. *Bow Wow Meow: It's Rhyming Cats and Dogs*. Harcourt, 2003. It's rhyming cats and dogs in Douglas Florian's furrr-ocious collection of twenty-one original poems and paintings about our favorite animal friends.

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- Gibbons, Gail. *Dinosaur Discoveries*. Holiday House, 2005. Fabulous, concise and clear dinosaur information is in this book. It also includes pronunciations, maps of fossil discoveries, and author's notes.
- Golenbock, Peter. *Hank Aaron: Brave in Every Way*. Harcourt, 2001. This is a biography of the Hall of Fame baseball player who broke Babe Ruth's career home run record.
- *Guest, Elissa Haden. *Iris and Walter and Cousin Howie.* Harcourt, 2003. Walter's visiting cousin, Howie, has exciting plans, but none of them include Walter's friend, Iris. Iris and Walter Series
- Harper, Charise Mericle. *There was a Bold Lady who Wanted a Star*. Little, Brown, 2002. In this variation on the traditional cumulative rhyme, a feisty woman tries roller skates, a bicycle and even a rocket to reach a star.
- *Helmer, Marilyn. **Yummy Riddles**. Kids Can Press, 2003. These riddles will provide budding comedians with a fresh batch of food-related material to try out on their friends and family.
- Hoberman, Mary Ann. You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together. Little, Brown, 2004. This title presents short retellings of familiar fairy tales, each told in two voices designed especially for young children and adults to read together.
- *Hoff, Syd. *Danny and the Dinosaur Go To Camp*. HarperCollins, 1996. When Danny brings his favorite dinosaur to camp, they enjoy boating, hiking, and roasting marshmallows.
- *Holub, Joan. *Why Do Birds Sing?* Dial Books, 2004. A colorful book that explains why birds sing by examining several facts that look at their behavior and characteristics.
- *Howe, James. *Pinky and Rex and the Just-Right Pet.* Simon & Schuster, 2001. Seven-year-old Pinky, a confirmed dog lover, has a change of heart after his family's new pet kitten pounces on his foot in the middle of the night.
- Hughes, Shirley. *Ella's Big Chance: a Jazz-Age Cinderella.*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. 2004. Ella, a seamstress in her father's dress shop, surprises her sisters, Ruby and Pearl, at the ball honoring the Duke of Arc a wonderful variation of the Cinderella story with an unusual ending.
- Isadora, Rachel. *Nick Plays Baseball*. G.P. Putnam's, 2001. The story of Nick and his teammates' championship baseball game provides an introduction to the aspects of the game of baseball including equipment, player positions and rules.
- Isadora, Rachel. **Sophie Skates**. Puffin, 1999. A young girl who loves to ice skate introduces the sport: the parts and care of skates, the techniques of different skating moves and ice-skating competitions.
- Karas, G. Brian. **On Earth.** G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. The earth and its cycles are simply but beautifully illustrated in this poetic text. Difficult concepts are explained through children's real life experiences.

- Katz, Alan. *Take Me Out of the Bathtub and Other Silly Dilly Songs.* McElderry, 2001. Comedy writer Katz provides ludicrous lyrics to 14 traditional tunes, offering playful parodies on some familiar routines.
- Kimmel, Eric A. *Anansi and the Magic Stick*. Holiday House, 2001. Part trickster tale, part sorcerer's apprentice story, this cheerful picture book about Anansi the Spider is loosely based on the West African story "The Magic Hoe."
- *Krensky, Stephen. *Arthur and the* **1,001** *Dads*. Little, Brown, 2003. Arthur and his friends try to find a substitute to attend the Father's Day picnic with Buster, whose father isn't around much since his parent's divorce.
- *Krensky, Stephen. *Lionel's Birthday*. Dial, 2003. It's a time of questions, wishes, and a search for hidden presents as Lionel prepares to celebrate his birthday.
- Kuskin, Karla. *Toots the Cat.* Henry Holt, 2005. In this series of simple but vivid poems we meet Toots, the calico cat who has adopted the poet's family. Toots is charming, frustrating, quirky and totally cat. This is for all cat lovers.
- *Labatt, Mary. **Sam Gets Lost**. Kids Can Press, 2004. Sam's fun trip downtown turns scary after he hops out of the car and gets lost in the city.
- Landry, Leo. **Sea Surprise.** Henry Holt, 2005. Kate, a mermaid, and her best friend Dave, a shark, have planned a special surprise for their best friend Ed who has lost his zap. A funny story with silly illustrations makes this a delightful tale of friendship.
- Leedy, Loreen. *The Great Graph Contest*. Holiday House, 2005. Gonk and Chester, two amphibian friends, hold a contest to see who can make better graphs. This is an entertaining and easy to follow introduction to various types of graphs. It includes instructions for children to make their own.
- Lester, Helen. *Hooway for Wodney Wat*. Houghton Mifflin, 1999. All his classmates make fun of Rodney because he can't pronounce his name, but it is Rodney's speech impediment that drives away the class bully.
- *Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad Are Friends*. HarperCollins, 1970. Be entertained by the classic, short, delightful tales about best friends Frog and Toad. Series
- Markle, Sandra. **Spiders Biggest! Littlest!** Boyds Mills Press, 2004. From the Goliath Bird Spider to the Crab Spider amazing photographs show how spiders benefit from their size. Includes a map of where spiders live.
- *Marshall, James. *Fox on the Job*. Puffin Books, 1988. Fox tries several different jobs to earn money
- McBrier, Page. **Beatrice's Goat.** Atheneum Books, 2001. A young girl's dream of attending school in her small Ugandan village is fulfilled after her family is given an income producing goat. Based on a true story about the work of the Heifer Project.
- McCall, Francis. A Huge Hog is a Big Pig: A Rhyming Word Game. Greenwillow, 2002. A variety of mostly farm animals are introduced with such phrases as a granny nanny, a soggy doggy, and a loose goose.

- McDermott, Gerald. *Jabuti the Tortoise: A Trickster Tale from the Amazon.*Harcourt, 2001. All the birds enjoy the song-like flute music of Jabuti, the tortoise, except Vulture who, jealous because he cannot sing, tricks Jabuti into riding his back toward a festival planned by the King of Heaven.
- McDonald, Megan. *Stink! The Incredible Shrinking Kid*. Candlewick Press, 2005. Is Stink really shrinking? He is already the shortest kid in second grade. Will his big sister help him get taller?
- McKissack, Patricia. *The Honest-To-Goodness Truth.* Atheneum, 2000. After promising never to lie, Libby learns that it's not always necessary to blurt out the whole truth.
- McNulty, Faith. *If you Decide to Go to the Moon.* Scholastic Press, 2005. This book tells you how to get to the moon, what to do after you land, and most importantly how to get back home.
- *Miller, Sara Swan. *Three Stories You Can Read to Your Teddy Bear*. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. If your teddy bear seems quiet and just sits on your bed staring, maybe he is bored and needs to be entertained. This book has perfect stories for teddy bears to hear.
- Muth, Jon. **Zen Shorts**. Scholastic Press, 2005. Stillwater, a talking panda, shares Zen stories with three children. Each story matches the mood and character of the child.
- Napoli, Donna Jo. *Albert*. Harcourt, 2001. Albert seems to have opted out of life until a pair of cardinals builds a nest in his hand and deposit four eggs in it.
- *Nixon, Joan Lowery. **Gus and Gertie and the Lucky Charms**. SeaStar Books, 2002. The fine-feathered heroes Gus and Gertie return for another slapstick easy-to-read mystery as they arrive at the Animals' Winter Olympics with dreams of winning gold as Antarctica's first synchronized swimming team.
- O Flatharta, Antoine. *Hurry and the Monarch.* Knopf, 2005. On her way from Canada a monarch butterfly lands on Hurry the tortoise in Wichita Falls, Texas. Through their friendship Hurry witnesses the life cycle of a monarch. This story has strong Texas connections and the illustrations depict the beauty of the Monarch and Texas springtime.
- *Parish, Herman. *Amelia Bedelia Rocket Scientist*. Greenwillow Books, 2005. Another fun story about Amelia Bedelia and this time she volunteers at a school science fair where all sorts of things happen in solving several science experiments.
- Polacco, Patricia. *John Philip Duck*. Philomel, 2004. Set in the Depression, a young boy from Memphis, who works at the Peabody Hotel, trains his pet duck to do tricks and performances set to the music of John Philip Sousa marches.

- Recorvits, Helen. *My Name is Yoon*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Disliking her name as written in English, Korean-born Yoon, or "shining wisdom," refers to herself as "cat," "bird," and "cupcake," as a way to feel more comfortable in her new school and new country.
- Reynolds, Peter. *The Dot*. Candlewick, 2003. "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." This sage advice, offered by her teacher, sets the young heroine on a journey of self-expression, artistic experimentation, and success.
- *Roberts, Bethany. *Ogre Eats Everything*. Dutton, 2005. A sequel to Maybelle and Ogre, this humorous easy to read chapter book tells a story about friendship, especially when Maybelle tries to teach Ogre to read.
- Rodman, Mary Ann. **My Best Friend.** Viking, 2005. At the local swimming pool six year old Lily is doing her best to impress seven year old Tamika because she wants to be best friends. No matter how hard Lily tries, Tamika either ignores her or teases her. Could there be another best friend?
- Rylant, Cynthia. *Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas*. Simon and Schuster, 2005. When Henry and Mudge go with Henry's parents to visit Great Grandpa Bill in the home with lots of other grandpas, they lead them on a wonderful adventure. Henry and Mudge Series.
- *Rylant, Cynthia. The High-Rise Private Eyes: the Case of the Baffled Bear. Greenwillow, 2004. Bunny and Jack, animal detectives, take a break from playing cards to look for Bernard Bear's missing messenger whistle. High Rise Private Eye Series
- Sams, Carl R. and Jean Stoick. *Lost in the Woods: A Photographic Fantasy*. Carl R. Sams II Photography, 2004. In this photographic story, a fawn is discovered sleeping alone in the tall grass at the edge of the forest, which raises the concerns of the animal community.
- Sayre, April Pulley. **Army Ant Parade**. Holt, 2002. The animals in the forest prepare for the army ants to swarm over the ground in a thick stream, searching for food.
- Schwartz, David. *If You Hopped Like a Frog.* Scholastic, 1999. David Schwartz introduces the concept of ratio by comparing what humans would be able to do if they had bodies like different animals
- *Sharmat, Marjorie. *Nate the Great on the Owl Express.* Dell Yearling, 2003. Nate investigates when an owl named Hoot disappears on board the Owl Express. Series
- Sis, Peter. **Train of States.** Greenwillow, 2004. An imaginative look at the fifty states using circus trains to display the information. State facts are presented in intricate detail.

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- Smothers, Ethel Footman. *Hard-Times Jar*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Emma, the daughter of poor migrant workers, longs to own a real book. When she turns eight and must attend school for the first time, she is amazed to discover a whole library in her classroom
- Stanley, Diane. *Goldie and the Three Bears.* HarperCollins, 2003. In this fractured Goldilocks tale, Goldie, who has yet to find a friend to love with all her heart, makes an unplanned visit to the house of some bears.
- Steig, William. *The Amazing Bone*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1976. On her way home from school, Pearl finds an unusual bone that has unexpected powers.
- Stevens, Janet and Susan Stevens Crummel. **The Great Fuzz Frenzy**. Harcourt, 2005. Violet, a Golden Retriever, loses her tennis ball down a prairie dog hole. The prairie dogs have a frenzy with the fuzz.
- Stowell, Penelope. *The Greatest Potatoes*. Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. George Crum, son of a former slave and a Native American was a chef in Saratoga, New York in 1853. As a practical joke, George created the worst fried potatoes in the world. The Saratoga flaky fried potatoes became an instant hit.
- Sturges, Philemon. **She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain.** Little, Brown, 2004. New words to the traditional tune describe a camper-driving, "hooting" and "shouting" guest and the party that will begin when she arrives.
- *Sutcliffe, Jane. *Jesse Owens*. Carolrhoda Books, 2001. This is a biography of track-and-field athlete Jesse Owens, from his childhood in Alabama to his athletic career, which culminated in his winning four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany.
- Swope, Sam. *Gotta Go! Gotta Go!* Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2000. Although she doesn't know how or why, a small creepy-crawly bug is certain that she must make her way to Mexico.
- Tavares, Matt. *Mudball*. Candlewick Press, 2005. The year is 1903. Andy Oyler, the shortest player in his baseball league is batting with two outs and rain is falling hard. Andy's bat connects with the ball, but will it be hard enough to bring in the runs and win the game?
- Teague, Mark. *Detective LaRue: Letters from the Investigation*. Scholastic, 2004. While on vacation, Mrs. LaRue receives letters from her dog, Ike, who has been falsely accused of harming the neighbor's cats and is trying to clear his name.
- *Thomas, Shelley Moore. *Get Well, Good Knight*. Dutton, 2002. The much-heralded Good Knight is back—only this time his three little dragon friends are sick in bed.
- Uhlberg. Myron. **Dad, Jackie and Me.** Peachtree Publisher, 2005. In 1947, Jackie Robinson is playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers, the first black man to play in major league baseball. The author and his deaf father become fans and share the thrill of Jackie's incredible season.

HAISLN Recommended Reading List 2006

Grade 1 and 2

- *Van Leeuwen, Jean. *Oliver the Mighty Pig.* Dial, 2004. Oliver feels like the superhero Mighty Pig when he wears his Mighty Pig cape, but he finds that being a superhero in the real world has some complications.
- Ward, Jennifer. **The Seed and the Giant Saguaro.** Rising Moon, 2003. A packrat, carrying fruit from the giant saguaro, is chased by various desert animals and inadvertently helps spread the cactus's seeds. Information on saguaros is included.
- Weatherby, Brenda. **The Trucker**. Scholastic, 2004. Wesley dreams his toy semi-flatbed truck grows big enough for him to have a trucking adventure but wakes to find he is in the back of his father's truck.
- Whatley, Bruce. *Wait! No Paint!* HarperCollins, 2001. Full of surprises, interaction between the illustrator and the characters, and hilarious wordplay, this quirky retelling of "The Three Little Pigs" encourages readers to look at this favorite story in a whole new way.
- Whybrow, Ian **Badness for Beginners: A little Wolf and Smellybreff Adventure.**Carolrhoda Books, 2005. Little Wolf and his brother Smellybreff get lessons in badness from their Mom and Dad. They just can't be naughty enough to suit Mom and Dad.
- Willems, Mo. *The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog.* Hyperion, 2004. Pigeon learns about sharing when a curious duckling keeps asking questions about the hot dog pigeon has found.
- Winter, Jonah. *Roberto Clemente Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates*. Atheneum Books, 2005. This is the story of Roberto Clemente, a young Puerto Rican who followed his baseball dream to the big leagues and went on to help the poor in his homeland.
- Wong, Janet. *Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club*. Margaret McElderry Books, 2004. Alex tries lots of different activities, swim team, football, piano lessons, but the Wednesday chess club is his favorite. At the tournament, he tries very hard to win but discovers having fun is more important.
- Wood, Don. *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear.*Child's Play International, 1984. Little Mouse worries that the big hungry bear will take his freshly picked red, ripe strawberry for himself.
- Yolen, Jane. *A Sip of Aesop*. Scholastic, 1995. The author retells, in verse, thirteen fables from the Greek slave, Aesop, including "The Hare and the Tortoise," "The Boy Who Cried Wolf," and "The Fox and the Stork."

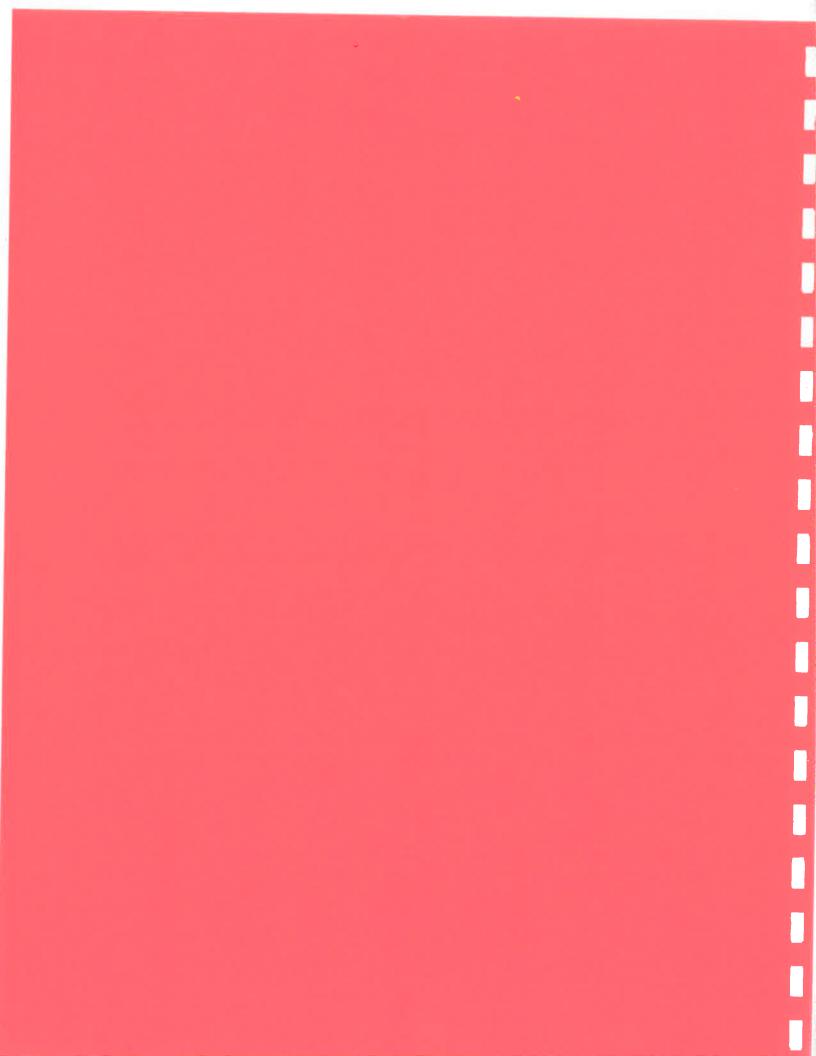
- Young, Ed. **What About Me?** Philomel, 2002. In this Sufi tale, a young boy follows the instructions of the Grand Master in the hope of gaining knowledge, only to be surprised as to how he acquires it.
- Zoehfeld, Kathleen Weidner. *Did Dinosaurs Have Feathers?* HarperCollins,2004. This book discusses the discovery and analysis of Archaeopteryx, a feathered dinosaur which may have been an ancestor of modern birds.

Compiled by:

Joanne Levy (Chair), St. John's Lower School; Marilyn Arlen, Shlenker School; Jonnie Beasley, Sugar Grove Christian School Sandy Bryan, River Oaks Baptist School; Diane King, Westbury Christian School;

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- Adler, David A. *A Picture Book of Samuel Adams*. Holiday House, 2005. The life of Sam Adams, one of our Revolutionary heroes who spoke out about unfair British taxes imposed on the colonists, is portrayed in this picture biography.
- Appelt, Kathi. Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America. HarperCollins, 2005. This is a biography of Lady Bird Johnson (wife of President Lyndon Johnson) who reminded citizens about the importance of conserving natural resources, as well as promoting the beautification of cities and highways by planting wildflowers.
- Atwater, Richard. *Mr. Popper's Penguins*. First published 1938. The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortune of Mr. Popper. Newbery Honor book.
- Avi. **Poppy's Return.** HarperCollins, 2005. In this ongoing Dimwood Forest adventure, Poppy travels to her childhood home to save the other mice there from destruction by a bulldozer.
- Birney, Betty. *Friendship According to Humphrey*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. When Humphrey the hamster returns to Mrs. Brisbane's class after the winter break he finds a new class pet.
- Blume, Judy. **Double Fudge**. Dutton 2002. His younger brother's obsession with money and the discovery of the long-lost cousins, Flora and Fauna, provide many embarrassing moments for twelve-year-old Peter.
- Brown, Don. *Odd Boy Out: Young Albert Einstein*. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. Albert Einstein, a subject uncommon to young readers, is introduced in this picture book that portrays how his brilliance often caused him to be the odd boy in school and in life.
- Butcher, Nancy. *It Can't Be Done, Nellie Bly! A Reporter's Race Around the World.*Peachtree, 2003. In this factual account, newspaper reporter, Nellie Bly, races another reporter to travel around the world in fewer than eighty days.
- Byars, Betsy. **The SOS File.** Henry Holt, 2004. The students in Mr. Magro's class submit stories about their biggest emergencies to the SOS file, and read them aloud for extra credit.
- Byrd, Robert. **The Hero and the Minotaur.** Dutton, 2005. Follow the Greek hero Theseus as he overcomes challenges on the road, defeats the Minotaur and becomes the wise and just ruler of Athens.
- Child, Lauren. *Clarice Bean Spells Trouble*. Candlewick Press, 2005. Spelling causes lots of trouble for Clarice.
- Chocolate, Debbi. *Pigs Can Fly!: The Adventures of Harriet Pig and Friends*. Cricket Books, 2004. In four stories, Harriet Pig realizes her dream to fly, helps a friend, trains for a swim race, and repays a mouse that saved her life.
- Cleary, Beverly. *Ramona's World*. Morrow, 1999. Enjoy the adventures of nine-year-old Ramona as she experiences the ups and downs of fourth grade, tries to be a good role model for her new baby sister, Roberta, and delights in her new best friend, Daisy.

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- Cleary, Brian P. *Rainbow Soup: Adventures in Poetry.* Carolrhoda Books, 2004. This clever, comical introduction to various types of poetry, including limericks, concrete poems, and haiku, is sure to start some giggles!
- Clements, Andrew. *Jake Drake, Class Clown*. Simon & Schuster, 2002. Jake acts like a class clown in order to cheer up his teacher.
- Cole, Joanna. *Ms. Frizzle's Adventures: Imperial China.* Scholastic, 2005. Ms. Frizzle and friends travel back 1000 years to experience the culture and geography of China.
- Colfer, Eoin. *The Legend of Spud Murphy*. Miramax Books, 2004. When their mother starts dropping them off at the library several afternoons a week, nine-year-old William and his brother dread boredom and the overbearing town librarian, but they are surprised at how things turn out.
- Connor, Leslie. *Miss Bridie Chose a Shovel*. Houghton, 2004. Miss Bridie emigrates to America in 1856 choosing to bring with her a shovel which she keeps with her and uses throughout her life.
- Craft, Mahlon F. **Sleeping Beauty.** SeaStar Books, 2002. A beautiful and beloved princess, cursed by the one fairy who was not invited to her christening, pricks her finger on her sixteenth birthday and falls asleep for one hundred years.
- Crawley, Dave. *Cat Poems*. Wordsong, 2005. Playfully illustrated poems describe the behaviors of cats.
- Crowell, Cressida. *How to Train Your Dragon*. Little, Brown, 2004. Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan by catching and training a dragon.
- Dahl, Roald. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. First published 1964. Charlie finds the winning ticket in a Wonka Bar and is rewarded for his kindness.
- Dyer, Heather. *The Fish in Room 11*. Scholastic, 2004. Toby, an orphan living in a hotel by the sea, finds the love and support of a real family when he meets Eliza Flot, a mermaid living with her family under the dock.
- Easton, Patricia Harrison. *Davey's Blue Eyed Frog.* Clarion 2003. A bossy talking frog that claims to be a princess in need of a kiss causes Davey to think and then rethink how to help her.
- Farris, Christine. My Brother, Martin: A Sister Remembers Growing up with The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Simon & Schuster, 2003. The reader views the early life of Martin Luther King, Jr. as seen through the eyes of his older sister.
- Florian, Douglas. **Zoo's Who: Poems and Paintings.** Harcourt, 2005. Short poems and zany illustrations combine in a tribute to favorite zoo animals.
- Friedman, Laurie. *Mallory vs. Max*. Carolrhoda, 2005. Eight-year-old Mallory feels left out when her brother gets a dog that becomes the center of attention.
- Gardiner, John R. **Stone Fox**. First published 1980. Willie hopes to win the purse in a dog sled race in order to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm.

- Gibbons, Gail. *Owls*. Holiday House, 2005. This illustrated introduction to owls covers various species, life cycles, behaviors, and more.
- Goodall, Jane. *Rickie and Henri: A True Story*. Penguin, 2004. A frightened orphan baby chimpanzee meets a shaggy dog, and a bond is formed.
- Greene, Stephanie. **Owen Foote, Mighty Scientist**. Clarion, 2004. Owen and his best friend Joseph enter their tadpole project in the science fair, but when problems occur and some of the tadpoles die, the boys must find a way to salvage both the project and their friendship.
- Haas, Jessie. *Birthday Pony*. Greenwillow, 2004. Grandma Aggie tries to help her granddaughter Jane and the high-spirited pony Popcorn become riding partners.
- Hahn, Mary Downing. *Janey and the Famous Author*. Clarion, 2005. Third-grader Janey is so excited about meeting her favorite author that she almost ruins the day for her entire class.
- Hamilton, Virginia. *The Girl Who Spun Gold*. Blue Sky Press, 2000. This beautifully illustrated folk tale is a West Indian variant of the Rumpelstiltskin story.
- Harlow, Joan Hiatt. *Thunder From the Sea.* Simon & Schuster, 2004. In an adventure just right for dog lovers, Tom and Thunder encounter adventure and suspense.
- Herzog, Brad. *T is for Touchdown: A Football Alphabet.* Sleeping Bear Press, 2004. Full page colorful illustrations highlight an alphabetical introduction to both the nuts and bolts and history of football.
- Holt, Kimberly Willis. *Mister and Me*. Puffin Books, 1998. In a small Louisiana mill town in 1940, Jolene does not want her Momma to marry the logger who is courting her, but even her bad behavior does not drive him away.
- Hopkins, Lee Bennett. *Oh, No! Where Are My Pants? And other Disasters: Poems.*HarperCollins, 2005. Poetry describing those "disaster days" when things go badly is sure to hit home with every reader.
- Hopkinson, Deborah. Billy and the Rebel: Based on a True Civil War Story. Atheneum, 2005. During the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863, a mother and son shelter a young confederate deserter.
- Howe, James. *It Came from Beneath the Bed!* Atheneum, 2002. With help from his Uncle Harold, Howie, a wired-haired dachshund, writes a story in which he saves the world from a science experiment gone awry.
- Hurwitz, Johanna. *Fourth Grade Fuss*. HarperCollins, 2004. Julio and his best friend Lucas share adventures in the fourth grade, including preparing to take the end-of-year statewide test.
- Jenkins, Alvin. **Next Stop Neptune: Experiencing the Solar System.** Houghton Mifflin, 2004. Amazing facts about planets, moons, asteroids, and everything in between will enthrall all space science enthusiasts.
- Jennings, Patrick. *The Weeping Willow*.. Holiday House, 2002. While trying to build a "boys only" tree house, Ike and his best friend Buzzy argue so much that Ike builds his sister Mem a playhouse.

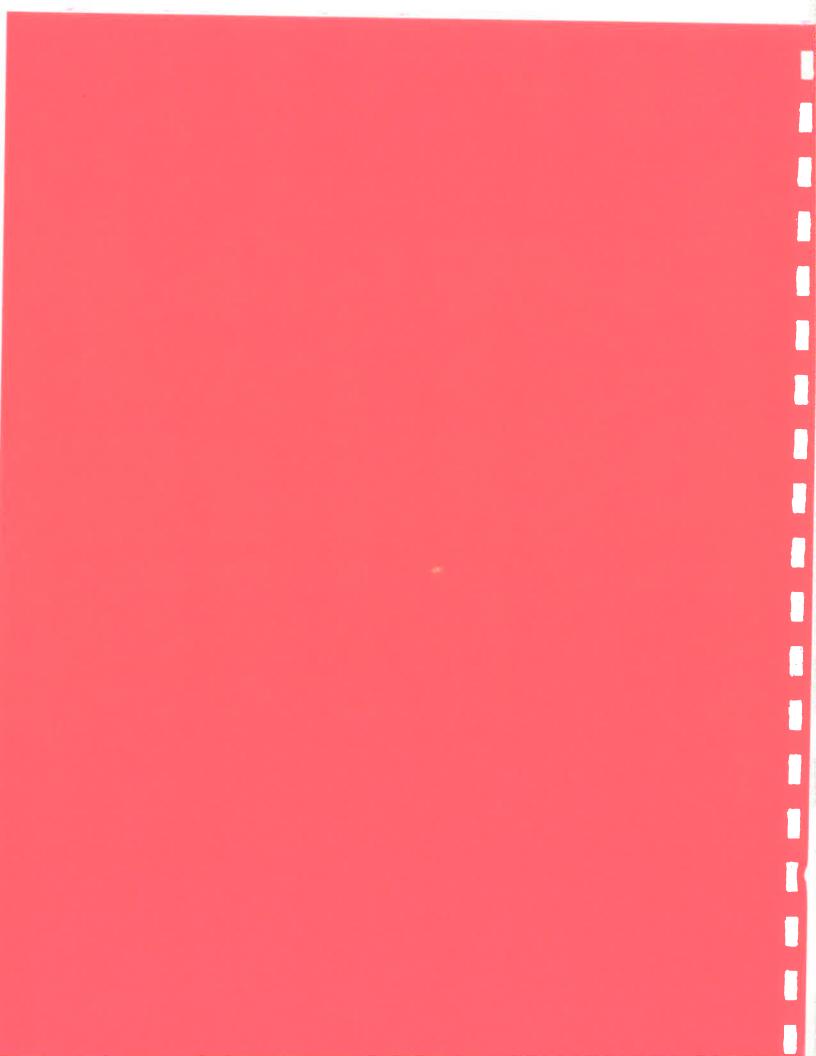
- Johnston, Tony. *The Spoon in the* Bathroom *Wall.* Harcourt, 2005. In this Arthurian legend spoof, Martha encounters an evil principal, a bully, and a giant spoon.
- King-Smith, Dick. *The Golden Goose.* Knopf, 2005. A golden goose seems to have magical powers which bring much good luck and joy to the farmer and his family.
- Kline, Suzy. *Herbie Jones Moves On.* G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2003. Readers will be surprised by the ending of this book as Herbie and his friend Raymond, whose family is moving, try to thwart the sale of Raymond's house.
- Krull, Kathleen. Houdini: World's Greatest Mystery Man and Escape King. Walker, 2005. Meet Harry Houdini, master escape artist, in this picture book biography.
- Leedy, Loreen and Pat Street. *There's a Frog in My Throat: 440 Animal Sayings a Little Bird Told Me.* Winslow Press, 2002. Animal idioms we hear every day are explained with humor and colorful illustrations.
- Levine, Gail Carson. *Fairy Dust and the Quest for the Egg.* Disney Press, 2005. Follow fairy Prilla in her quest to save Never Land despite her feelings of inadequacy and frustration over being a "no-talent fairy."
- Locker, Thomas and Joseph Bruchac. Rachel Carson: Preserving a Sense of Wonder. Fulcrum, 2004. Beautiful full page illustrations accompany this brief, but informative biography of one of America's most outspoken advocates for taking care of our environment.
- Lowry, Lois. **Gooney Bird and the Room Mother**. Houghton, 2005. In this second story about Gooney Bird Greene, the second-grader saves the day by finding her class a surprise room mother.
- MacLachlan, Patricia. *More Perfect Than the Moon.* Joanna Cutler Books, 2004. In this fourth book after *Sarah Plain and Tall*, Cassie uses her journal to express her feelings about a new baby in the family.
- MacLean, Christine. *Mary Margaret and the Perfect Pet Plan*. Dutton Children's Books, 2004. Mary Margaret, desperate for a pet, develops a plan to get the cuddly, furry pet of her dreams, despite the fact that her father is allergic to both cats and dogs and her mother is expecting a baby and feeling "crabby."
- Markle, Sandra. *Outside and Inside Mummies*. Walker, 2005. Explore a variety of mummies and the new technologies developed to help study them.
- Mayer, Marianna. **Pegasus**. Morrow Junior Books, 1998. Join the young hero Bellerophon and his legendary winged-horse Pegasus as they battle the fierce Chimera monster in this beautifully illustrated story from Greek mythology.
- McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody Declares Independence*. Candlewick, 2005. Visiting Boston gives Judy the idea to declare her independence which leads her to learn the price of freedom is responsibility.
- Miller, Debbie S. *The Great Serum Race: Blazing the Iditarod Trail*. Walker & Co., 2002. The exciting account of the dog relay to bring diphtheria serum to Nome in 1925 is enhanced by incredible illustrations by nature artist John Van Zyle.

- Mills, Claudia. *Perfectly Chelsea*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. Nine-year-old Chelsea's experiences, which include a fight with her best friend, making mistakes in the handbell concert, and saying goodbye to the only church minister she has ever known, help her to accept that things change and that people, including herself, are not perfect.
- Morgan, Clay. **The Boy Who Spoke Dog**. Dutton, 2003. After being marooned on an island near New Zealand, Jack, an orphaned cabin boy from San Francisco, becomes allied with a group of dogs that protect the local sheep from the wild dogs.
- Morpurgo, Michael. *McElderry Book of Aesop's Fables*. Simon & Schuster, 2004. Lively language enriches twenty-one favorite fables which are perfect for reading aloud and sharing.
- Nagda, Ann Whitehead. **Meow Means Mischief.** Holiday House, 2003. A stray kitten turns out to be the perfect way to help Rana make friends in her new school and to feel more comfortable with her grandparents.
- Nolan, Lucy. **Down Girl and Sit: Smarter Than Squirrels.** Marshall Cavendish, 2004. In this humorous story told from the dogs' point of view, two dogs named Down Girl and Sit try to make the neighborhood safe.
- Parks, Linda Sue. *The Firekeeper's Son.* Clarion, 2004. Set in 19th century Korea, Sang-hee must take over his father's important job of lighting the mountain top fire.
- Pinkney, Jerry. **Noah's Ark**. SeaStar, 2002. With award winning illustrations, the author retells the biblical story of the great flood and how Noah and his family responded to God's call to save life on earth.
- Prelutsky, Jack. *If Not For the Cat.* Greenwillow, 2004. This is a beautifully illustrated collection of animal Haiku verses.
- Pringle, Laurence. **Snakes! Strange and Wonderful.** Boyds Mills, 2004. Explore the unique hunting, eating, traveling, climbing, and swimming behaviors of snakes around the world in this fascinating non-fiction book.
- Rappaport, Doreen. *Dirt on Their Skirts: the Story of the Young Women Who Won the World Championship.* Dial, 2000. Margaret experiences the excitement of watching the 1916 championship game of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball league.
- Reiche, Dietlof. **Freddy In Peril: Book Two In the Golden Hamster Saga**. Scholastic, 2004. When the evil Professor Fleischkopf attempts to kidnap Freddy in order to dissect his brain and discover why he can read and write, Freddy needs the help of his humorous and talented friends to outsmart the villain.
- Rumford, James **Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing.**Houghton, 2004. This bilingual biography is about the man who developed a language and alphabet for the Cherokee people.

- Ruurs, Margaret. *My Librarian is a Camel: How Books are Brought to Children Around the World.* Boyds Mills, 2005. Librarians around the world deliver books by camels, elephants, and other outlandish modes of transportation.
- Rylant, Cynthia. *The Octopus*. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Whistler and Lila, two of the mice children who live in a lighthouse, meet a young octopus when they visit the beach during low tide.
- Scieszka, Jon. *Oh Say, I Can't See.* Penguin, 2005. Samantha, Joe, and Fred time warp to Revolutionary War days where they must convince George Washington and his men to cross the Delaware.
- Silverstein, Shel. *Runny Babbit: A Billy Sook.* HarperCollins, 2005. Readers will have fun with Runny Babbit and his topsy-turvy poetry.
- Simon, Seymour. *Guts: Our Digestive System*. HarperCollins, 2005 Simon takes a fascinating romp through the human body's digestive system. Mills, 2005. Learn all about guardian dogs and how they are trained to guard farm animals, protecting them from outside dangers
- St. George, Judith. **So You Want to Be an Explorer?** Philomel, 2005. Humor abounds in this book featuring both men and women explorers
- Tang, Greg. *Math Potatoes: Mind-Stretching Brain Food.* Scholastic, 2005. Colorful rhymes and riddles help make math more accessible and fun.
- Turner, Pamela S. *Hachiko: The True Story of a Loyal Dog*. Houghton, 2004. Relates the true story of a dog who accompanied his master to and from a Tokyo train station for a year and, after his master died, continued to wait for him there every day for many years.
- Urbigkit, Cat. **Brave Dogs, Gentle Dogs: How They Guard Sheep**. Learn all about guardian dogs and how they are trained to guard farm animals, protecting them from outside dangers.
- Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Meet the Gecko*. Random House, 2005. Nolan, a true hero, helps his favorite TV hero outsmart a reporter who has been stalking him.
- Willey, Margaret. Clever **Beatrice and the Best Little Pony**. Atheneum, 2004. Clever Beatrice seeks out the village breadmaker to come up with a plan to protect her pony.
- Winthrop, Elizabeth. *The Castle in the Attic.* Holiday House, 1985. A miniature castle comes to life for ten-year-old William when he shrinks to fit into its adventures.
- Wisniewski, David. **The Secret Knowledge of Grown-ups: The Second File.**HarperCollins. 2001. Creative reasons behind rules made by grownups for children are laugh-out-loud funny.
- Yolen, Jane. *Mightier Than the Sword: World Folktales for Strong Boys.* Silver Whistle, 2003. A collection of 14 folktales from around the world demonstrates the triumph of brain over brawn and strength in compassion and kindness.

Compiled by: Sue McGown (Chair), St. John's Lower School Caro Ann Germann, Kinkaid School; Laurie Mitchell, St. Mark's Episcopal School; Susan Giddings, Fort Bend Baptist Academy; Sandra Walsh, Duchesne Academy Aimee Patterson, St. Francis Episcopal Day School

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- Alexander, Lloyd. *The Gawgon and the Boy.* Dutton, 2001. In Depression-era Philadelphia, when eleven-year-old David is too ill to attend school, he is tutored by the unique and adventurous Aunt Annie whose teaching combined with his imagination greatly enriches his life.
- Allen, Thomas B. George Washington, Spymaster: How the Americans Outspied theBritish and Won the Revolutionary War. National Geographic, 2004. An illustrated biography of the Revolutionary War general and first President of the United States, George Washington, focusing on his use of spies to gather intelligence that helped the colonies win the war.
- Avi. **Never Mind!:** A Twin Novel. HarperCollins, 2004. Twelve-year-old New York City twins Meg and Edward have nothing in common, so they are just as shocked as everyone else when Meg's hopes for popularity and Edward's mischievous schemes coincidentally collide in a hilarious showdown.
- Balliett, Blue. *The Wright 3*. Scholastic Press, 2006. Spring semester at the Lab School in Hyde Park finds Petra and Calder drawn into another mystery when unexplainable accidents and ghostly happenings throw a spotlight on Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House, and it's up to the two junior sleuths to piece together the clues. Sequel to *Chasing Vermeer*.
- Barron, T. A. **The Lost Years of Merlin**. Philomel, 1996. A young boy with no memory of his past washes ashore on the coast of Wales and finds his true name after a series of adventures. Lost Years of Merlin Series.
- Bridges, Ruby and Lundell, Margo, ed. **Through My Eyes**. Scholastic, 1999. The author recounts the story of the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960, when she was six year old.
- Choldenko, Gennifer. *Al Capone Does My Shirts*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2004. A twelve-year old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935, when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister. Newbery Honor.
- Codell, Esme Raji. **Sahara Special**. Hyperion, 2003. Struggling with school and her feelings since her father left, Sahara gets a fresh start with a new and unique teacher who supports her writing talents and the individuality of each of her classmates.
- Coville, Bruce. **William Shakespeare's Hamlet**. Dial Books, 2004. A simplified prose retelling of Shakespeare's play about the prince of Denmark who seeks revenge for his father's murder.

- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Just Ella*. Simon & Schuster, 1999. Fifteen-year-old Ella finds that accepting Prince Charming's proposal ensnares her in such a suffocating tangle of palace rules and royal etiquette that she plots her escape.
- Hahn, Mary Dowling. *The Old Willis Place: A Ghost Story*. Clarion Books, 2004. Tired of the strict set of rules imposed on them since "the bad thing happened," twelve-year-old Diana is tempted to break the mysterious rules in hopes of making friends with the new caretaker's daughter at the old Willis place.
 - Hale, Shannon. *The Goose Girl*. Bloomsbury, 2003. Princess Anidori, on her way to marry a prince she has never met, is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers.
- Hannigan, Katherine. *Ida B: ...And Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and(Possibly) Save the World.* Greenwillow Books, 2004. In Wisconsin, Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school.
- Hobbs, Will. *Jackie's Wild Seattle.* HarperCollins, 2003. Fourteen-year-old Shannon and her little brother, Cody, spend the summer with their uncle, helping at a wildlife rescue center named Jackie's Wild Seattle.
- Holm and Hale. The Stink Files Dossier 101: The Postman Always Brings Mice. HarperCollins, 2005. A dashing British feline spy is dismayed to find himself stranded in New Jersey and adopted by a typical suburban family, until he puts his skills to good use for his new human.
- Horvath, Polly. *The Pepins and Their Problems*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. The reader is invited to help solve the Pepin family's unusual problems, which include having a cow that creates lemonade rather than milk and having to cope with a competitive neighbor.
- Hunter, Erin. *Moonrise*. HarperCollins, 2005. As they journey home to warn their clans of the coming destruction, the six cats, guided by StarClan's prophecy, meet an unfamiliar tribe of cats with their own set of beliefsand their own mysterious prophecy.
- Ibbotson, Eva. *Haunting of Granite Falls.* Penguin, 2005. When twelve-year-old Alex's Scottish castle of Carra is sold, dismantled, and moved to Texas, the ghosts that raised him from a child have difficulty relocating.

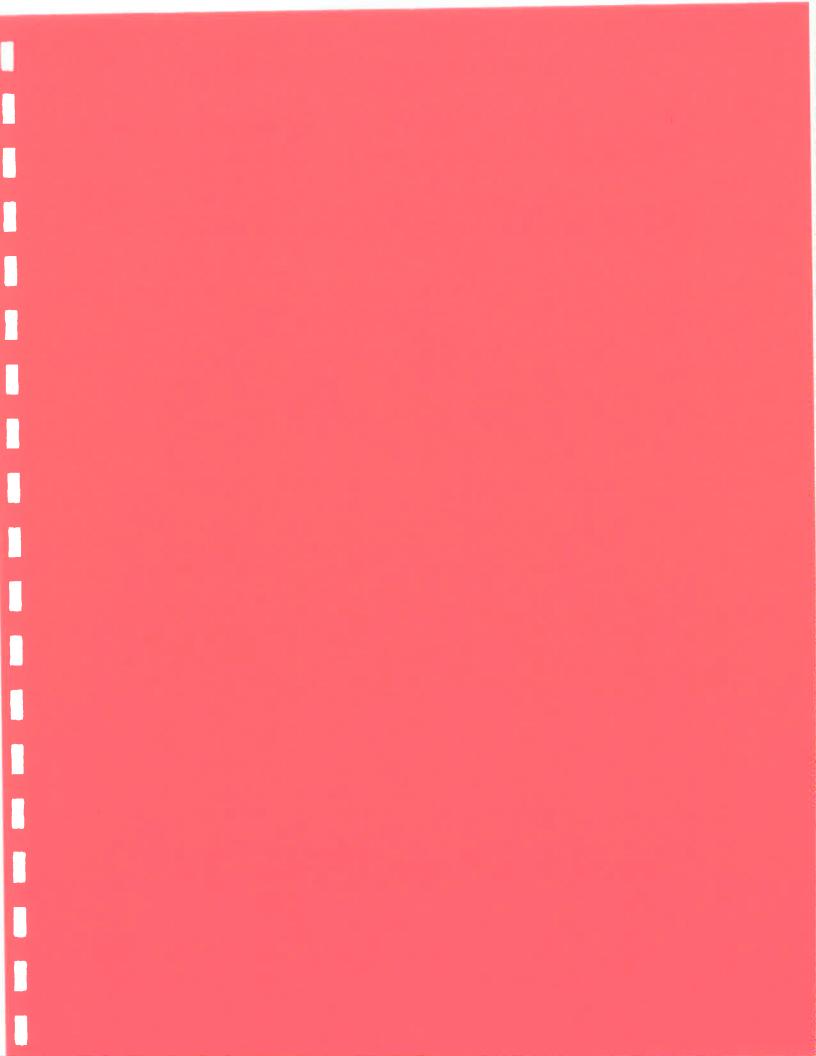
- Jackson, Donna. M. *Hero Dogs: Courageous Canines in Action*. Little, Brown, 2003. Presents a variety of stories about working and rescue dogs, such as those involved in the work at the World Trade Center site after the disaster of September 11, 2001.
- Janeczko, Paul B. *World Afire*. Candlewick Press, 2004. In this novel written as a collection of eyewitness poems, the excitement and anticipation of attending the circus on July 6, 1944 in Hartford, Connecticut, turns to horror when a fire engulfs the circus tent, killing nearly 180 people, mostly women and children.
- Karr, Kathleen. *Exiled: Memoirs of a Camel*. Marshall Cavendish, 2004. A first-person narrative from a camel's viewpoint about being sent from Egypt to serve in the United States Camel Corps, and life on the Mojave Desert before and during the Civil War.
- Kerley, Barbara. *Walt Whitman: Words for America*. Scholastic Press, 2004. A biography of the American poet whose compassion led him to nurse soldiers during the Civil War, to give voice to the nation's grief after Lincoln's assassination, and to capture the true American spirit in verse.
- Konigsberg, E.L. *The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place*. Atheneum, 2004. Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her grand uncles have been building in their back yard for over forty years.
- Koppes, Steven N. Killer Rocks from Outer Space: Asteroids, Comets, and Meteorites. Lerner, 2004. Describes the role that collisions with meteors, comets, and asteroids have played in the history of Earth and other planets in the solar system and examines what is being done to protect Earth from future collisions.
- Lasky, Kathryn. *The Man Who Made Time Travel*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Describes the need for sailors to be able to determine their position at sea and the efforts of John Harrison, an eighteenth-century man who spent his life refining instruments to enable them to do this.
- Llewellyn, Claire. *Great Discoveries & Amazing Adventures.* Houghton Mifflin, 2004. An entertaining introductory look at a swath of discoveries from Tollund Man to Przewalski's horse, the source of the Nile to deepsea vents, Machu Picchu to the Vung Tau shipwreck, and at some of the people who made them.
- Montgomery, Sy. *The Tarantula Scientist*. Houghton Mifflin 2004. Describes the research that Samuel Marshall and his students are doing on tarantulas, including the largest spider on earth, the Goliath bird-eating tarantula.

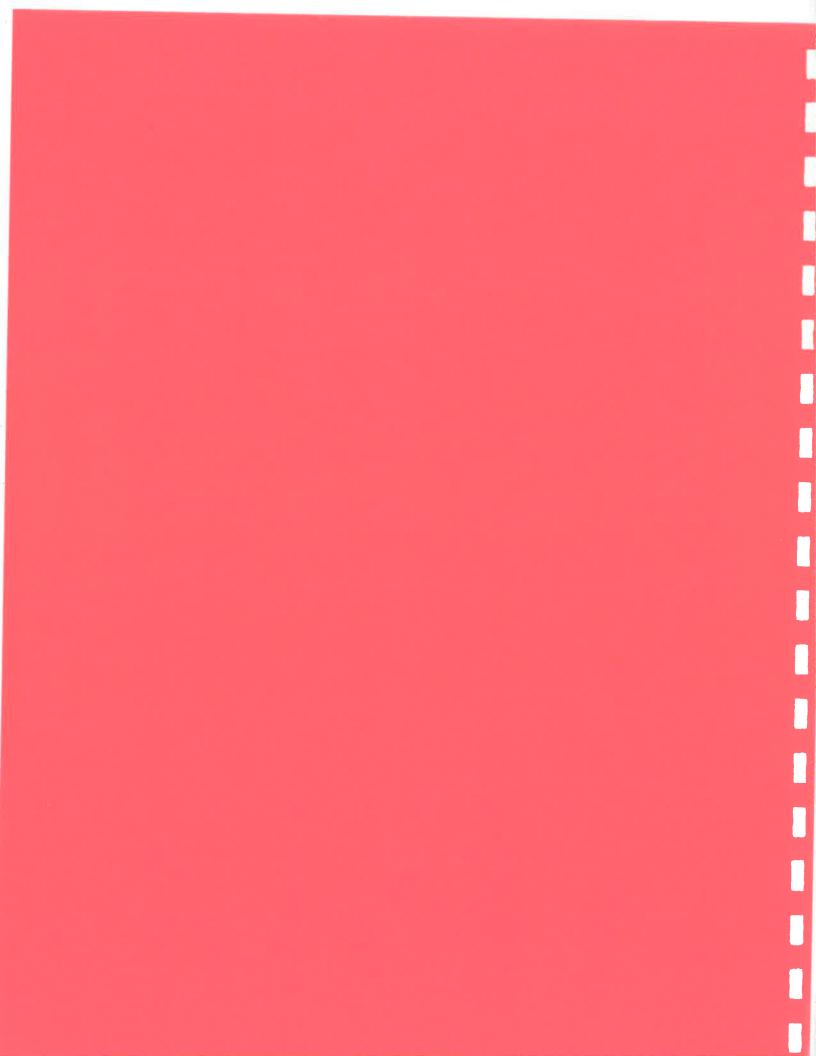
- Morgan, Clay. *The Boy Who Spoke Dog*. Penguin, 2005. After being marooned on an island near New Zealand, Jack, an orphaned cabin boy from San Francisco, becomes allied with a group of dogs who protect the local sheep from wild dogs.
- Napoli, Donna Jo. **North**. Greenwillow Books, 2004. Tired of his mother's over-protectiveness and intrigued by the life of African American explorer Matthew Henson, twelve-year-old Alvin spends a season with a trapper near the Arctic Circle.
- Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **Saving Shiloh**. Atheneum, 1997. Marty and his family try to help Judd Travers change his mean ways, even though his neighbors continue to expect the worst of him. Mark Twain Award. Previous books in the Shiloh trilogy are: Shiloh and Shiloh Season.
- Peck, Richard. *Fair Weather*. Dial, 2001. In 1893 thirteen-year-old Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe and attend the World's Columbian Exposition which, along with an encounter with Buffalo Bill and Lillian Russell, turns out to be a life-changing experience for everyone.
- Riordan, Rick. **The Sea of Monsters**. Hyperion, 2006. Percy is back and this time to rescue Camp Half Blood from certain disappearance by retrieving the Golden Fleece from an island in the Sea of Monsters, known today as the Bermuda Triangle. Previous book in the *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series: *The Lightning Thief.*
- Ritter, John. *The Boy Who Saved Baseball*. Philomel, 2003. The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato.
- Roberts, Willo Davis. *Hostage*. Simon & Schuster, 2001. When eleven-year-old Kaci interrupts burglars in the process of robbing her house, she and her nosy elderly neighbor Mrs. Banducci are kidnapped and held hostage by the desperate and ruthless criminals.
- Springer, Nancy. **Wild Boy: A Tale of Rowan Hood.** Penguin, 2005. Determined to avenge the death of his swineherd father at the hands of the Sheriff of Nottingham, Rook finally gets his chance when the Sheriff's son is captured by Robin Hood.
- Stewart, Paul. **Beyond the Deepwoods.** Random House, 2004. Thirteen-year-old Twig, having always looked and felt different from his woodtroll family, learns that he is adopted and travels out of his Deepwoods home to find the place where he belongs.

- Stone, Jeff. **Tiger.** Random, 2005. Five young warrior monk brothers survive an insurrection and must use the ancient martial arts to avenge their grandmaster. *Five Ancestors* Series: Book One.
- Townley, Roderick. *The Great Good Thing.* Atheneum, 2001. Nothing ever changes inside the story book kingdom inhabited by twelve-year-old Princess Sylvie, her parents, and many other characters until Sylvie discovers that by allying herself with the Reader she can experience new adventures beyond the confines of the book. Sequel is *Into the Labyrinth:* A Novel.
- Walker, Alice. *Langston Hughes, American Poet*. HarperCollins, 2002. An illustrated biography of the Harlem poet whose works gave voice to the joy and pain of the black experience in America.
- White, Ruth. *Buttermilk Hill*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. When Piper's parents divorce and gradually begin to make new lives for themselves, she faces the difficult changes, finding solace and a means of self-expression through her interest in poetry.
- Wiles, Deborah. *Each Little Bird that Sings*. Harcourt, 2005. Comfort Snowberger is well acquainted with death since her family runs the funeral parlor in their small southern town, but even so the ten-year-old is unprepared for the series of heart-wrenching events that begins on the first day of Easter vacation with the sudden death of her beloved great-uncle Edisto.

Compiled by: Betsy Ginsburg (Chair), St. Francis Episcopal Day School; Dorcas Hand, Annunciation Orthodox School; Lana Miles, Duchesne Academy; Jean Pfluger, Duchesne Academy

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- Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Fever*, 1793. Simon & Schuster, 2000. In 1793, Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.
- Avi. The Book Without Words: A Fable of Medieval Magic. Hyperion, 2005. Sybil is a servant girl working for Thorston, an alchemist, who has spent his life trying to figure out the secret to immortality which can be found in The Book without Words. Just as he is about to succeed he drops dead, leaving Sybil and Odo, a talking raven, to reap the rewards of his work.
- Ayres, Katherine. *Macaroni Boy*. Delacorte, 2003. In Pittsburgh in 1933, sixth-grader Mike Costa notices a connection between several strange occurrences, but the only way he can find out the truth about what's happening is to be nice to the class bully.
- Barry, Dave. *Peter and the Starcatchers*. Hyperion, 2004. Peter, an orphan boy, and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep a secret trunk full of "starstuff" from falling into the hands of the diabolical Black Stache and his evil associate Mister Grin.
- Bausum, Ann. With Cloth and Courage: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote. National Geographic, 2004. Chronicles the long history of the fight for women's voting rights, beginning in 1848, focusing on the years between 1913 and 1920 when the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed.
- Birdsall, Jeanne. The Penderwicks, A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy. Knopf Books, 2005. Four lovable sisters and their father spend their summer vacation in the Berkshire Mountains. While there, they share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of their snobbish mother.
- Colfer, Eoin. *Artemis Fowl.* Hyperion, 2001. When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.
- Collins, Suzanne. *Gregor the Overlander*. Scholastic, 2003. When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving humans, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by an ancient prophecy.

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- Cooper, Susan. *King of Shadows*. McElderry, 1999. While in London as part of an all-boy acting company preparing to perform in a replica of the famous Globe Theater, Nat Field suddenly finds himself transported back to 1599 and performing in the original theater under the tutelage of Shakespeare himself.
- Crossman, David A. **The Mystery of the Black Moriah.** Down East Books, 2002. Bean and Ab are looking forward to a relaxing vacation after their last case nearly got them killed, but when Spooky turns up some strange things on the banks of Indian Creek and some unusual characters come to stay, it becomes evident that the summer's adventures are far from over. A Bean & Ab mystery.
- Cummings, Priscilla. *A Face First.* Dutton, 2001. Twelve-year-old Kelley decides to cut off contact with her friends and classmates after suffering third-degree burns to her face and body in a car accident, but finds hope for recovery when she accepts their loyalty and support.
- Curlee, Lynn. **Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.** Atheneum, 2002. This book explores the mystery and wonder associated with the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Colossus of Rhodes, the Great Pyramid at Giza, and other incredible structures from ancient times.
- Curtis, Christopher Paul. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*. Delacorte, 1995. Byron's family leaves Flint, Michigan, to live with Grandma Sands in Birmingham where they experience the realities of race relations in the South. Newbery Honor
- Cushman, Karen. **Rodzina.** Clarion Books, 2003. A twelve-year-old Polish American girl is boarded onto an orphan train in Chicago with fears about traveling to the West and a life of unpaid slavery.
- Farmer, Nancy. *The Sea of Trolls*. Atheneum, 2004. After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest to Jotunheim, home of the trolls.
- Feiler, Bruce, *Walking the Bible*. HarperCollins, 2004. An illustrated journey for kids through the greatest stories ever told. The author describes his journey through places mentioned in the Old Testament.
- Funke, Cornelia Caroline. *Inkheart.* Scholastic, 2003. Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father Mo, a bookbinder, can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler named Capricorn, freed from the novel *Inkheart* years earlier, tries to force Mo to release an immortal monster from the story.

- Greenberg, Jan, ed. **Heart to Heart: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth- Century Art.** Abrams, 2002. A compilation of poems by Americans writing about American art in the twentieth century includes Naomi Shihab Nye, Jane Yolen, X.J. Kennedy, and others.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden*. Simon and Schuster, 1998. In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong. *Shadow Children* series.
- Henkes, Kevin. *Olive's Ocean.* Greenwillow Books, 2003. On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, twelve-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother, on her feelings for an older boy, and on her plans to be a writer. Newbery Honor
- Hiaasen, Carl. *Flush.* Knopf Books, 2005. With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.
- Holt, Kimberly Willis. *My Louisiana Sky*. Holt, 1999. Growing up in the 1950s in Louisiana, twelve-year-old Tiger Ann struggles with her feelings about her stern but loving grandmother, her mentally slow parents, and her good friend and neighbor Jesse.
- Ibbotson, Eva. **Journey to the River Sea.** Dutton, 2001. Sent with her governess to live with the dreadful Carter family in exotic Brazil in 1910, Maia endures many hardships before fulfilling her dream of exploring the Amazon River.
- Johnson, Angela. *Bird*. Dial Books, 2004. Devastated by the loss of a second father, thirteen-year-old Bird follows her stepfather from Cleveland to Alabama in hopes of convincing him to come home, and along the way helps two boys cope with their difficulties.
- Kadohata, Cynthia. *Kira-Kira*. Atheneum, 2004. The story of the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill. Newbery Medal
- Ketchum, Lisa. Into a New Country: Eight Remarkable Women of the West. Little, Brown, 2000. Born into different cultures and backgrounds, each of these eight women challenged the rules and broke the barriers set down for women of their time. Their extraordinary lives offer inspiring examples of courage and determination.

- Lawrence, Caroline. *The Pirates of Pompeii*. Roaring Brook Press, 2003. At a refugee camp following the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, which buried Pompeii, Flavia and her friends discover that children are disappearing and a very powerful citizen might be involved.
- Lester, Julius. *Day of Tears*. Hyperion Books, 2005. This powerful and engaging historical novel is told in dialogue and through monologues by various fictional characters as they look back at the largest slave auction in United States history. Coretta Scott King Award
- Levine, Ellen. *Catch a Tiger by the Toe*. Viking, 2005. In the Bronx, New York, during the McCarthy era, twelve-year old Jamie keeps a terrible secret about her family, but when the truth is exposed, her parents lose their jobs and she is fired from the school newspaper.
- Mah, Adeline Yen. Chinese Cinderella and the Secret Dragon Society. Harper Collins, 2005. After her father and stepmother throw her out of their house in Shanghai, China, twelve-year-old Ye Xian is taken in by a martial arts group and joins them and her aunt in a mission to help the Americans fight the Japanese.
- Matthews, L. S. **Fish**. Delacorte, 2004. As fighting closes in on the village where Tiger's parents have been working, the three of them and a mysterious guide set out on a difficult journey to safety.
- McCaughrean, Geraldine retold by. *Odysseus*. Cricket Books, 2004. Odysseus begins his long journey home after years of fighting during the Trojan War, but he and his men encounter monsters and ghastly creatures, are imprisoned, and face raging seas that threaten their safe return.
- McKay, Hilary. **Saffy's Angel**. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2002. Thirteenyear-old Saffron's relationship with her eccentric, artistic family changes when she finds out she was adopted, until they help her return to her birthplace in Italy to bring back a special memento of her past.
- McMullen, Margaret. *How I Found the Strong: A Civil War Story*. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. Frank Russell, known as Shanks, wishes he could have gone with his father and brother to fight for Mississippi and the Confederacy, but his experiences with the war and his changing relationship with the family slave, Buck, change his thinking.
- Meltzer, Milton. *Ten Kings: And the Worlds They Ruled.* Orchard, 2002. Presents illustrated profiles of ten legendary kings who used their power to change the course of history, including Hammurabi, King David, Kublai Khan, and others.

- Murphy, Jim. A Young Patriot: The American Revolution As Experienced By One Boy. Clarion, 1995. Joseph Plumb Martin, who enlisted in the summer of 1776 at the age of fifteen, details key battles and the life of a soldier during the American Revolution in this memoir retold by Jim Murphy.
- Myers, Walter Dean. *The Greatest: Muhammad Ali.* Scholastic, 2001. A biography of one of the world's greatest boxers chronicles his childhood, his rise as a champion, his politics, and his battle against Parkinson's disease.
- Napoli, Donna Jo. **Bound**. Atheneum, 2004. In a novel based on Chinese Cinderella tales, fourteen-year-old stepchild Xing-Xing endures a life of neglect and servitude, as her stepmother cruelly mutilates her own child's feet so that she alone might marry well.
- Nelson, Marilyn. *Carver: A Life in Poems.* Front Street, 2001. A collection of poems provides a portrait of the life of African-American botanist and inventor George Washington Carver.
- Nye, Naomi Shihab, ed. *Is This Forever or What?: Poems and Paintings from Texas*. Greenwillow, 2004. Full-color artwork accompanies a collection of poems by 140 Texans.
- Paolini, Christopher. *Eldest*. Random House, 2005. In this sequel to *Eragon*, our hero successfully evades an Urgals ambush and is adopted into the Ingeitum clan, then sent to finish his training so he can further help the Varden in their struggle against the Empire.
- Peck, Richard. *The Teacher's Funeral: A Comedy in Three Parts*. Dial, 2004. In rural Indiana in 1904, fifteen-year-old Russell's dreams of quitting school and joining a wheat threshing crew are disrupted when mean old Myrt Arbuckle "hauls off and dies" and Russell's older sister takes over the teaching at his one-room schoolhouse.
- Pierce, Tamora. **Shatterglass.** Scholastic, 2003. Tris and her mage-student, a young man whose glassmaking magic has been amplified and mixed with lightning, team up to track a killer who may be nearer than they suspect. Book four in *The Circle Opens* series.
- Ryan, Pam Muñoz. *Becoming Naomi Leon*. Scholastic, 2004. When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.
- Sandler, Martin W. America's Great Disasters. HarperCollins, 2003. This book examines the causes and effects of such American disasters as the sinking of the steamboat Sultana in 1871, the Johnstown Flood, the Dust Bowl, the influenza epidemic of 1918-1919, and the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

- Sidman, Joyce. *Eureka!: Poems about Inventors*. Millbrook, 2002. In sixteen poems, the lives about famous and relatively unknown inventors from ancient times to the present are told from the inventor's point of view.
- Snyder, Zilpha Keatley. *The Unseen*. Delacorte Press, 2004. Feeling angry and out of place in her large family, twelve-year-old Xandra finds a magical key to a world of ghostly, sometimes frightening, phantoms that help her see herself and her siblings more clearly.
- Van Draanen, Wendelin. **Swear to Howdy**. Knopf, 2003. Two thirteen-year-old boys share neighborhood adventures, complaints about their older sisters, family secrets, and even guilt that bind them together in a special friendship.
- Warren, Andrea. *Escape from Saigon: How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy.* Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. Chronicles the experiences of an orphaned half-Vietnamese and half-American boy from his birth and early childhood in Saigon, through his departure from Vietnam in the 1975 Operation Babylift, and his subsequent life as the adopted son of an American family in Ohio.
- Whelan, Gloria. *Chu Ju's House*. HarperCollins, 2004. In order to save her baby sister, fourteen-year-old Chu Ju leaves her rural home in modern China and earns food and shelter by working on a sampan, tending silk worms, and planting rice seedlings, while wondering if she will ever see her family again.
- White, Andrea. **Surviving Antarctica**. Harper Collins, 2005. In the year 2083, five fourteen-year-olds who were deprived by chance of the opportunity to continue their educations reenact Scott's 1910-1913 expedition to the South Pole as contestants on a reality television show.

Compiled by: Betsy Ginsburg (Chair), St. Francis Episcopal Day School; Dorcas Hand, Annunciation Orthodox School; Lana Miles, Duchesne Academy; Jean Pfluger, Duchesne Academy

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- Al-Windawi, Thura. *Thura's Diary: My Life in Wartime Iraq.* Viking, 2004. Presents an English translation of the diary entries of nineteen-year-old Thura Al-Windawi, the oldest daughter in a middle-class Shia Muslim family living in Baghdad. She shares her thoughts, emotions, and experiences throughout the war in Iraq, from March 15 through June 2003.
- Ahmedi, Farah with Tamin Ansary. *The Story of My Life: An Afghan Girl on the Other Side of the Sky*. Simon Spotlight, 2005. Farah Ahmedi, a victim of a land mine at twelve, tells of her childhood before and during the Taliban rule in Afghanistan, and how she and her mother coped after coming to America.
- Allende, Isabel. *City of the Beasts*. HarperCollins, 2002. Fifteen-year-old Alexander Cold leaves his home and family to join his fearless grandmother, a magazine reporter, on an epic voyage of magical realism to a remote and dangerous part of the Amazon.
- Bauer, Joan. *Best Foot Forward*. Putnam, 2005. This book continues the story from *Rules of the Road*, about Jenna, Gladstone Shoes salesman extraordinaire, and her many personal and business challenges, now faced with unscrupulous business partners.
- Bell, Hilari. *A Matter of Profit*. HarperCollins, 2001. Sick of the horrors of conquering beings on other planets, Ahvrem will end his service as a soldier and save his sister from an unhappy marriage if he can discover who is behind a rumored plot to assassinate the Emperor.
- Blackwood, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer*. Dutton, 1998. A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of *Hamlet*.
- Bloor, Edward. *Tangerine*. Harcourt, 1997. Twelve-year-old Paul's family revolves around his football-hero brother, failing to notice as Paul fights for the right to play soccer when disqualified for his bad eyesight.
- Bradley, James; adapted for young people by Michael French. *Flags of our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima.* Delacorte, 2001. James Bradley examines the lives of the six young men (one of them Bradley's father) who raised the American flag over Iwo Jima in February 1945 and were immortalized by a famous photograph.
- Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. *Halfway to the Sky*. Delacorte, 2002. After her brother dies and her parents get divorced, twelve-year-old Katahdin sets out to hike the whole Appalachian Trail, from Georgia to Maine, on her own.
- Cabot, Meg. *All-American Girl*. HarperCollins, 2002. Sophomore Samantha Madison stops a presidential assassination attempt, is appointed teen ambassador to the United Nations, and catches the eye of the very cute First Son.

- Cadnum, Michael. **Ship of Fire**. Viking Penguin, 2003. In 1587, sailing to Spain on board Sir Francis Drake's ship "Elizabeth Bonaventure," seventeen-year-old surgeon's apprentice Thomas Spyre finds that, with the sudden death of his master, he must take over as ship's surgeon and prove his skill not only as a doctor but also as a fighter when he is enlisted by Drake to face battle.
- Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game*. Tor, 1984. Andrew "Ender" Wiggins, who spends his childhood at military school in outer space, believes he is playing computer-simulated war games; in fact, he is commanding the last great fleet of Earth. First in a science fiction series. Hugo Award; Nebula Award.
- Christie, Agatha. *A Pocket Full of Rye*. First published 1953. The wealthy Rex Fortescue falls dead at a normal tea shortly after partaking of the fare, and when the only clue is rye in his pocket, Miss Marple uses the old nursery rhyme "Sing a Song of Sixpence" to help solve the murder.
- Colfer, Eoin. **Supernaturalist**. Hyperion, 2004. In the futuristic Satellite City, Cosmo Hill escapes from an orphanage, teams up with three other teens and tries to determine what the swarming blue creatures are that no one else seems to be able to see.
- Cooper, Michael. *Dust to Eat: Drought and Depression in the 1930s*. Clarion, 2004. Michael Cooper focuses on the conditions of the people so affected by first the Great Depression and then the Dust Bowl of the 1930's, using photographs and literary quotations to highlight the text.
- Cooney, Caroline. *Code Orange*. Delacorte, 2005. While conducting research for a school paper on smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope containing 100-year-old smallpox scabs and becomes the target of terrorists intent on starting a modern-day plague.
- Crichton, Michael. **Andromeda Strain**. Ballantine, 1992. For five days, scientists struggle to identify and control a deadly new virus threatening the United States.
- Crossley-Holland, Kevin. *The Seeing Stone*. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2001. During the late twelfth century, thirteen-year-old Arthur enjoys looking at the legendary King Arthur through his seeing stone, a gift from Merlin, and notices the parallels with his own life.
- Crowe, Chris. *The Mississippi Trial, 1955*. Putnam Penguin, 2002. In Mississippi in 1955, a sixteen-year-old finds himself at odds with his grandfather over issues surrounding the kidnapping and murder of a fourteen-year-old African-American from Chicago.
- Deuker, Carl. *High Heat*. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. When sophomore Shane Hunter's father is arrested for money laundering at his Lexus dealership, the star pitcher's life of affluence and private school begins to fall apart.

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- Dickinson, Peter. **The Ropemaker**. Delacorte, 2001. A magic spell that has protected a forest village for centuries starts to fail, and Tilja and her friends must travel to an evil empire to restore its power.
- Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan. **Sign of the Four**. First published 1890. Sherlock Holmes is asked by a Miss Morstan to investigate the strange disappearance of her father ten years ago, and why she has been receiving a beautiful and very large pearl for her birthday every year since!
- Ellis, Deborah. *Parvana's Journey*. Groundwood, 2002. Parvana buries her father and sets out across Afghanistan, dressed as a boy to protect against attacks from the Taliban, determined to find her mother and the rest of her family.
- Farmer, Nancy. *House of the Scorpion*. Atheneum, 2002. In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.
- Feinstein, John. *Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery*. Knopf, 2005. Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson, eighth grade sports writers, uncover a blackmail mystery while covering the Final Four College Basketball Tournament.
- Fields, Terri. *After the Death of Anna Gonzalez*. Holt, 2002. Poems written in the voices of forty-seven people (including students, teachers, and other school staff) record the aftermath of a high school student's suicide and the preoccupations of teen life.
- Fletcher, Susan. **Shadow Spinner**. Atheneum, 1998. When Marjan, a thirteen-year-old crippled girl, joins the Sultan's harem in ancient Persia, she gathers for Scheherazade the stories which will save the queen's life.
- Fleischman, Paul. *Whirligig*. Holt, 1998. Brian travels to the four corners of the U.S. to build a whirligig in memory of a girl he killed while he was driving drunk.
- Fox, Helen. **Eager**. Wendy Lamb, 2004. Eager, the Bell family's new robot is very different from all the other new robots in that it does learn from its experiences and it looks like the Michelin Man instead of all the sleek, but somewhat sinister robots that seem to be taking over.
- Franklin, Kristine L. *The Grape Thief*. Candlewick, 2003. Fourteen-year-old Cuss, so nicknamed for his ability to swear in fourteen different languages, is faced with having to leave school in the seventh grade in order to help support his family in a 1920s Washington State mining town.
- Gallo, Donald. *First Crossing: Stories about Teen Immigrants*. Candlewick, 2004. This is a collection of short, fictional stories about the extreme challenges often faced by many teen immigrants in America. Contributors are prominent authors of young-adult literature such as Pam Muñoz Ryan, Lindsey Namioka, David Lubar, and Elsa Marston.

- Gardner, Sally. *I, Coriander*. Dial, 2005. Coriander, a seventeenth-century Londoner who finds herself friendless after her mother dies and after her father leaves her with a Puritanical stepmother, discovers that she is a fairy just like her mom.
- Grandits, John. **Technically it's not my fault: Concrete Poems**. Clarion, 2004. This is a collection of poems in which the words and the artistry of their placement on the page portray the life of an 11-year-old boy.
- Haddix, Margaret. *Double Identity*. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Thirteen-year-old Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight with no explanation leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself and her family.
- Hale, Shannon. *Princess Academy*. Bloomsbury, 2005. The king's priests divine that the prince must choose his bride from among the young girls who live in a small mountain village, and the girls are then ordered to attend a special academy established to train them in the ways of royalty. When bandits attempt to kidnap and hold the future princess as ransom, Miri, one of the mountain girls, realizes that she can mindspeak and saves herself and the others from harm. Newbery Honor book
- Hobbs, Will. **Wild Man Island**. HarperCollins, 2002. After fourteen-year-old Andy slips away from his kayaking group to visit the wilderness site of his archaeologist father's death, a storm strands him on Admiralty Island, Alaska, where he manages to survive, encounters unexpected animal and human inhabitants, and looks for traces of the earliest prehistoric immigrants to America.
- Hoffman, Mary. **Stravaganza: City of Masks**. Bloomsbury, 2002. While sick in bed with cancer, Lucien begins making journeys to a place in a parallel world that resembles Venice, Italy, and he becomes caught up in the political intrigues surrounding the Duchessa who rules the city.
- Holt, Kimberly Willis. *Keeper of the Night.* Henry Holt & Co., 2003. Isabel, a thirteen-year-old girl living on the island of Guam, and her family try to cope with the death of Isabel's mother who committed suicide.
- Hughes, Dean. **Soldier Boys**. Atheneum, 2001. Two boys, one German and one American, are eager to join their respective armies during World War II, and their paths cross at the Battle of the Bulge.
- Ibbotson, Eva. **The Star of Kazan.** Dutton, 2004. Annika, a foundling, is being raised by two servants of three sibling professors at the turn of the twentieth century in Vienna, when a strange woman comes into her life claiming to be her mother.

- Martin, Ann M. *A Corner of the Universe*. Scholastic, 2002. The summer Hattie turns twelve she meets Adam, a childlike uncle she never knew existed, who lifts the corners of her universe. Newbery Honor
- Mazer, Harry. **Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor**. Simon & Schuster, 2001. While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenager Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and, through the chaos of the subsequent days, tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona.
- McKinley, Robin. **Spindle's End.** Putnam, 2000. The infant princess Briar Rose is cursed on her name day by Pernicia, an evil fairy, and then whisked away by a young fairy to be raised in a remote part of a magical country, unaware of her real identity and hidden from Pernicia's vengeful powers.
- Meyer, Carolyn. *White Lilacs*. Harcourt Brace, 1993. In 1921 Dillon, Texas, twelve-year-old Rose Lee sees trouble threatening her black community when the whites decide to take their land for a city park.
- Meyers, Ann. **Assassin**. Walker & Co., 2005. In alternating chapters, a young White House seamstress named Bella and the actor, John Wilkes Booth, give personal accounts of the days and events that lead up to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.
- Mikaelsen, Ben. **Sparrow Hawk Red.** Hyperion, 1993. Thirteen-year-old Ricky, the Mexican American son of a former Drug Enforcement Agency man, tries to avenge his mother's murder by crossing over into Mexico to steal a high-tech radar plane from drug smugglers.
- Miklowitz, Gloria. **Secrets in the House of Delgado**. Eerdmans, 2001. In Spain in 1492, fourteen-year-old Maria, a Catholic orphan, becomes a servant to a wealthy family of Conversos, converted Jews, at a time when the Jews are being expelled from the country and when the Inquisition is diligently searching for religious heretics.
- Mowat, Farley. **Never Cry Wolf**. First published 1968. One of Canada's greatest storytellers and conservationists describes life among Arctic wolves and caribou.
- Murphy, Jim. An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. In 1793, a yellow fever epidemic swept through Philadelphia, creating chaos as people began evacuating in droves, leaving the city without government, goods, or services. Physicians, the Free African Society, and others stayed on to care for the sick.
- Namioka, Lensey. **Ties That Bind, Ties That Break**. Delacorte 1999. Ailin, rebelling against the ancient Chinese tradition of binding girls' feet, loses her family's support and makes a new life in the United States.

- Nelson, Peter. Left for Dead. A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis. Delacorte, 2002. Fifty years after the sinking of the U.S.S. Indianapolis at the end of World War II, a young boy helps the survivors set the record straight, bringing to light the Navy cover-up and an unfair court-martial of the ship's captain.
- Nix, Garth. *Abhorsen*. HarperCollins, 2003. Abhorsen-in-Waiting Lirael and Prince Sameth, a Wallmaker, must confront and bind the evil spirit Oranis before it can destroy all life. Sequel to: *Sabriel* and *Lirael*.
- Nye, Naomi Shabib. **You & Yours**. BOA Editions, 2005. Nye's poetry is firmly grounded in two geographical locations, small moments in her Texas home, and many larger themes in the Middle East, where part of her family hails from.
- Oppel. Kenneth, *Airborn*. Eos, 2004. Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an enormous airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures and to fight pirates.
- Paolini, Christopher. *Eragon*. Random House, 2003. In Aegaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.
- Park, Linda Sue. *Project Mulberry, a novel*. Clarion, 2005. Korean-American seventh grader Julia Song learns a lot about friendship, prejudice, patriotism and biology as she and best friend Patrick develop an original silkworm project on her suburban townhouse porch for the State Fair.
- Patterson, James. Little Brown, 2005. *Maximum Ride, the Angel Experiment*. After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "birdkids" take off in pursuit and find themselves battling their seemingly evil creators.
- Paulsen, Gary. *The Rifle*. Bantam, 1995. A priceless, handcrafted rifle, fired throughout the American Revolution, is passed down through the years until it fires on a fateful Christmas Eve in 1994.
- Peck, Richard. *The River Between Us.* Dial, 2003. During the early days of the Civil War, the Pruitt family takes in two mysterious young ladies who have fled New Orleans to come north to Illinois. Scott O'Dell Historical Fiction Award
- Philbrick, Rodman. *The Young Man and the Sea*. Blue Sky Press, 2004. Motherless Skiff Beaman embarks alone on a dangerous trip to catch a giant blue fin tuna in order to earn enough money to buy a new engine for his father's boat.
- Pierce, Tamora. *Trickster's Choice*. Random House, 2003. Alianne, kidnapped and put into slavery, calls forth her mother's courage and her father's spying skills in order to survive on the Copper Isles in a royal court rife with political intrigue and murderous conspiracy. Sequel: *Trickster's Queen*.

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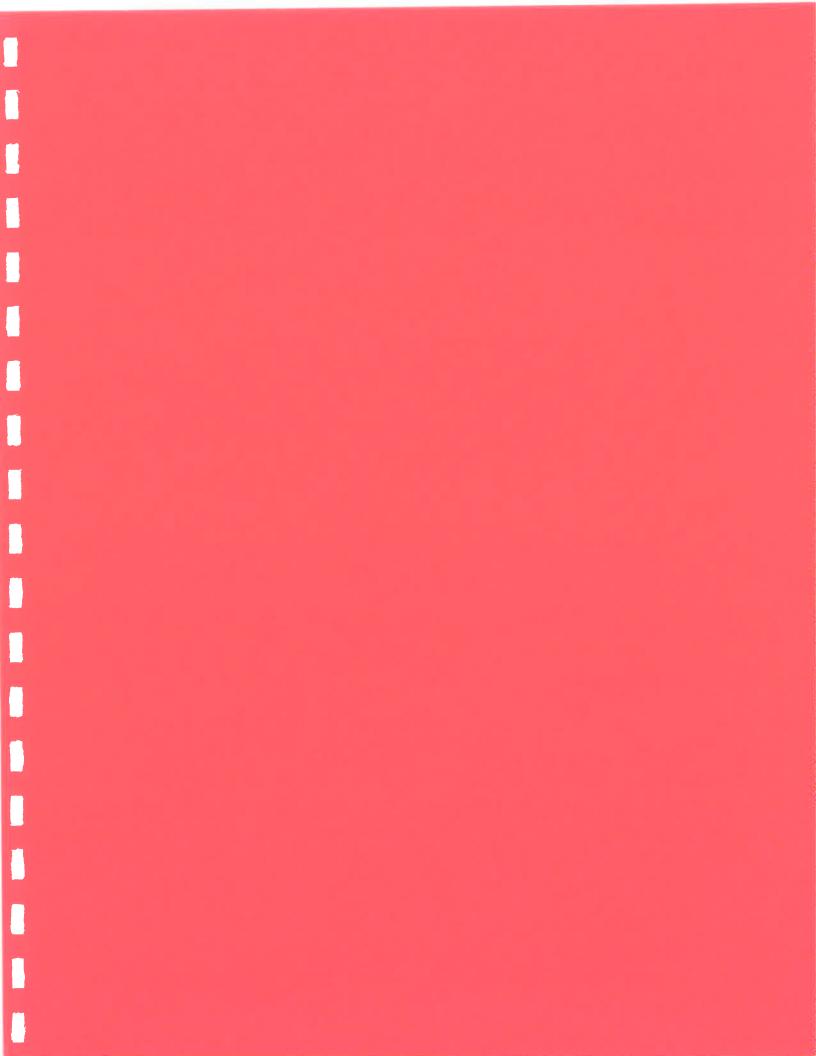
- Pratchett, Terry. **Wee Free Men**. HarperCollins, 2003. Tiffany Aching, a budding witch, teams up with the Wee Free Men to rescue her brother and to ward off an invasion from Fairyland.
- Rees, Celia. **Sorceress.** Candlewick, 2003. Eighteen-year-old Agnes, a Mohawk Indian descended from a line of shamanic healers, uses her own newly-discovered powers to uncover the story of her ancestor, a seventeenth-century New England English healer who fled charges of witchcraft. Sequel to Witch Child.
- Riordan, Rick. *Lightning Thief.* Miramax, 2005. Percy Jackson can't figure out why he has such problems with his anger, or why some people seem to be trying to destroy him until he learns that his father is a Greek god. First book in the *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series.
- Rinaldi, Ann. **Wolf by the Ears**. Scholastic, 1991. Harriet Hemmings, rumored to be the daughter of Thomas Jefferson, struggles to decide whether to escape of remain a slave at Monticello.
- Rylant, Cynthia. **Boris**. Harcourt, 2005. The narrator of these nineteen poems speaks directly to her cat, Boris, about his life and her own, since his arrival at her door. This book is a good introduction for newcomers to poetry, and especially appropriate for cat lovers.
- Scieszka, Jon, ed. *Guys Write for Guys Read*. Viking, 2005. Contains a collection of short stories, drawings, comics, poems, and memoirs from well-known writers of "guy" fiction, written by boys, for boys. Includes pieces by Daniel Pinkwater, Neil Gaiman, Will Hobbs, Stephen King, Gary Paulsen, among others.
- Shusterman, Neal. *The Schwa Was Here*. Dutton, 2004. A Brooklyn eightlig ider nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is so non-descript that he blends into his surroundings and goes unnoticed by nearly everyone. Horn Book/Boston Globe Award
- Siegelson, Kim L. *Trembling Earth*. Philomel, 2004. In 1864, two boys one an escaped slave running toward freedom and the other one a white boy hoping to collect the bounty money for capturing him, make their way through Google Okefenokee Swamp.
- Spinelli, Jerry. **Stargirl**. Knopf, 2000. Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica light with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.
- Spinner, Stephanie. *Quiver*. Knopf, 2002. Atalanta, abandoned as an infant, has grown to become a renowned archer and swiftest mortal alive due to the intervention of Artemis, goddess of the hunt, so when the father who forsook her so many years before issues an ultimatum that Atalanta marry and produce an heir, she counters with the condition that the man she weds must be able to best her in a footrace or die.

- Stoker, Bram. *Dracula*. First published 1897. A courageous band of men and women vow to destroy the sinister and brilliant vampire Count Dracula.
- Stroud, Jonathan. **Amulet of Samarkand**. Miramax, 2003. Nathaniel, a young magician's apprentice, calls up the djinni Bartimaeus to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from another magician, and they both get caught up in a vast conspiracy of treason and murder. First in a series: *The Bartimaeus Trilogy*.
- Taylor, Mildred. **The Land**. Fogelman, 2001. Paul-Edward, the son of a part Indian, part-African slave mother and a white plantation owner father, finds himself caught between the two worlds of his parents as he pursues his dream of owning land in the aftermath of the Civil War. Prequel to *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry*.
- Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Hobbit, or There and Back Again*. First published 1937. 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.
- Trueman, Terry. **Stuck in Neutral**. HarperCollins, 2000. Fourteen-year-old Shawn McDaniel, who suffers from severe cerebral palsy and cannot function, relates his perceptions of his life, his family, and his condition, especially as he believes his father is planning to kill him.
- Updale, Eleanor. *Montmorency, Thief, Liar, Gentleman?* Orchard, 2004. In Victorian London, after his life is saved by a young physician, a thief utilizes the knowledge he gained in prison and from scientific lectures he attended as the physician's case study exhibit to create a new, highly successful, double life for himself.
- Vande Velde, Vivian. *Heir Apparent*. Harcourt, 2002. In a futuristic setting, a girl is involved playing a "total immersion" video game in which her mind is integrated with the game. What she soon discovers is that the game is broken, and she can only withdraw her mind and survive if she wins.
- Verne, Jules. **20,000 Leagues Under the Sea**. First published 1869. This is a nineteenth-century science fiction tale of an electric submarine, its eccentric captain, and undersea world, which anticipated many of the scientific achievements of the twentieth century.
- Voigt, Cynthia. *Izzy, Willy-Nilly*. Ballantine, 1986. Izzy's drunken date crashes the car, crippling her and changing her young life forever.
- Warren, Andrea. **Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps**. HarperCollins, 2001. This is a biography of Jack Mandelbaum, from his teenage years starting as a twelve-year-old in Poland in 1939, to the end of the World War II, three years of which he spent in concentration camps.

- Wolff, Virginia Euwer. *True Believer*. Holt, 2001. Living in the inner city amidst guns and poverty, fifteen-year-old LaVaughn finds that life is what you make of it--an occasion to rise to. Sequel to *Make Lemonade*.
- Woodson, Jacqueline. *Hush*. Penguin, 2002. Twelve-year-old Toswiah finds her life radically changed when her family must enter the witness protection program.
- Wynne-Jones, Tim. *A Thief in the House of Memory*. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2005. The death of an apparent stranger in the Steeple family's old home triggers troubling questions for sixteen-year-old Declan as he tries to make sense of his fragmented dreams, random memories, and unexplained coincidences, hoping to learn the truth about the mother who suddenly left when he was ten.
- Wrede, Patricia. **Sorcery & Cecelia, or, the Enchanted Chocolate Pot**. Harcourt, 2003. In 1817 in England, two young cousins, Cecilia living in the country and Kate in London, write letters to keep each other informed of their exploits, which take a sinister turn when they find themselves confronted by evil wizards.
- Yancey, Richard. *The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp*. Bloomsbury, 2005. Orphaned and incurably-geeky teen Alfred Kropp is coerced by his unscrupulous uncle into stealing a valuable sword that turns out to be Excalibur, and he is drawn into a dangerous and violent misadventure.
- Yolen, Jane. *Girl in a Cage.* Philomel, 2002. Marjorie Bruce, daughter of Robert the Bruce of Scotland, has been captured in 1306 by Edward I (Longshanks) of England and placed in a cage on public display for months.

Compiled by: Sally Hilliard, Chair, River Oaks Baptist School; Connie Harper, Second Baptist School, Diane King, Westbury Christian School; Laura Leib, Grace Presbyterian School; Rebecca Shields, St. Vincent De Paul

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Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Adams, Douglas. *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Crown, 2004 (25th anniversary edition). First published 1980. Seconds before Earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is rescued by his friend Ford Prefect, and together they travel the galaxy with the help of a handy guide labeled "Don't Panic."
- Almond, Steve. Candyfreak: A Journey through the Chocolate Underbelly of America. Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2004. Former journalist Steve Almond, who admits to eating a piece of candy every day of his life, writes a memoir/report/travelogue about the history of candy in America. A delicious, darkly funny read without calories or carbs. Alex Award
- Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Speak**. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1999. A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.
- Ansary, Tamin. West of Kabul, East of New York: An Afghan American Story. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002. Begun as an email sent to friends the day after the World Trade Center was attacked, Ansary's story sheds light on the makings of the Muslim extremists.
- Armstrong, Jennifer. What a Song Can Do: 12 Riffs on the Power of Music. Knopf/Random House, 2004. A collection of twelve short stories explores the powerful impact that music has in our lives—especially in the lives of teens.
- Armstrong, Lance. *It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life*. Berkley, 2001. A teenage misfit who finds his niche in cycling calls on the same personal characteristics that made him a cycling champion to survive cancer, win the Tour de France and find real joy.
- Bissinger, H. G. *Friday Night Lights: A Town, a Team, and a Dream.*HarperCollins, 1991. The author penetrates the culture of high school football as it is lived in Odessa, Texas.
- Bragg, Rick. *All Over but the Shoutin'*. Vintage, 1998. Pulitzer-prize winning reporter Rick Bragg remembers his years of growing up in poverty-stricken Alabama and how football became the vehicle for his success.
- Brashears, Ann. *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. Delacorte, 2001. During summer break, longtime friends Lena, Tibby, Carmen, and Bridget each embark on adventures that they share with one another through a pair of jeans that they have decided will be worn by all and so will absorb all of their stories.
- Bray, Libby. *A Great and Terrible Beauty*. Delacorte, 2003. After her mother dies mysteriously in India in 1895, Gemma is sent to a finishing school in England where she becomes aware of her magical powers.

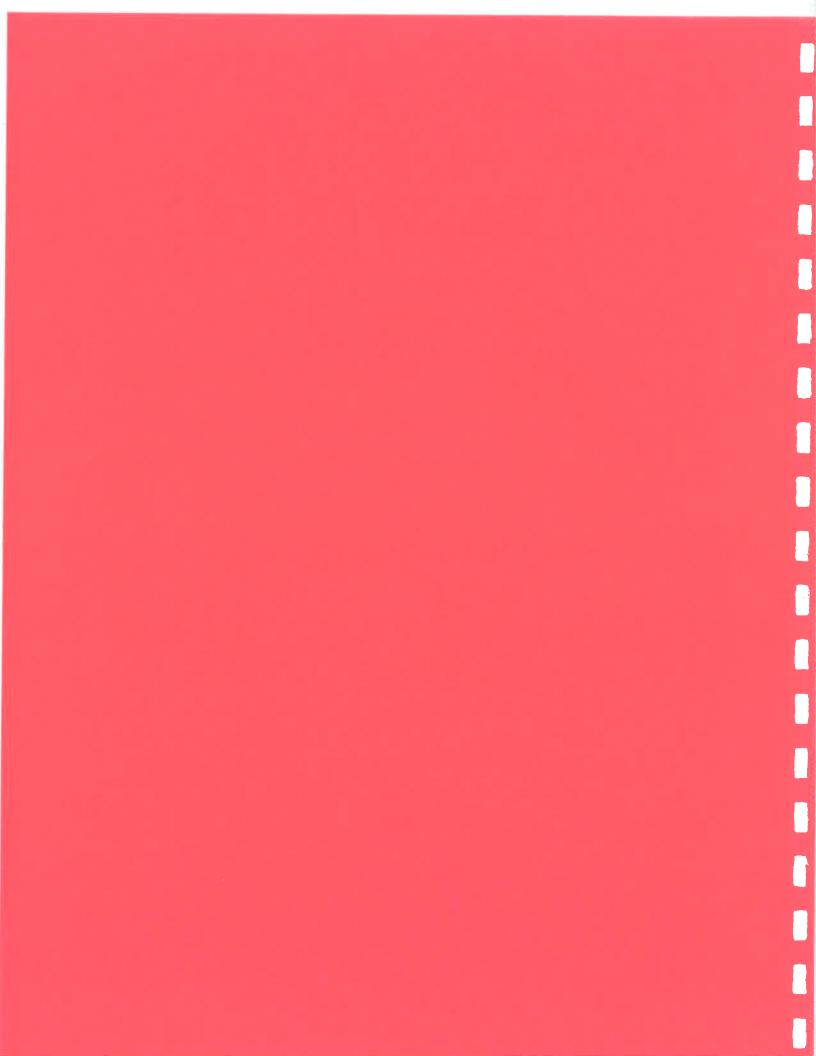
- Forester, C. S. **Mr. Midshipman Hornblower**. First published 1951. A quiet seventeen-year-old finds high adventure after joining the British Royal Navy at the time of the Napoleonic Wars.
- Gantos, Jack. *Hole in My Life*. Farrar, Strauss & Giroux, 2002. A compelling personal memoir of a poor boy's dream to be a writer, his entanglements with drugs and prison, and his ultimate success.
- Giaman, Neil. *Neverwhere*. Avon, 1997. Richard Mayhew helps an injured girl and finds his life changed when he leaves the reality of present-day London and enters the city's underground world of sewers and abandoned subway stations.
- Grisham, John. *A Painted House*. Dell, 2002. The symbolic title describes a young country boy's experience of dramatic events during the 1952 Arkansas cotton harvest among clashing migratory workers of different cultures.
- Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. Random House, 2003. Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.
- Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The House of the Seven Gables*. First published 1851. Hepzibah tries to shelter her brother from the evil of Judge Pyncheon in 19th century Massachusetts.
- Hemingway, Ernest. **A Farewell to Arms**. First published 1929. A British nurse and an American ambulance driver fall in love during World War I.
- Herbert, Frank. *Dune*. First published 1965. The Atreides family is banished to planet Dune, where the ferocious Fremen live.
- Jenkins, A. M. *Damage*. HarperCollins, 2001. Even though senior Austin Reed has everything--good looks, athletic ability, a beautiful girlfriend, and a great momhe feels detached and barely alive. A powerful, unflinching depiction of teenage depression.
- Jordan, Robert. *Eye of the World*. Tor, 1990. During the Third Age, the Age of Prophecy, time and the world hang in the balance, in peril of falling under the Shadow.
- Kidd, Sue Monk. **The Secret Life of Bees**. Viking, 2002. Searching for a connection to her dead mother, Lily leaves her abusive father and finds shelter with a family of African-American sisters.
- King, Thomas. *Truth and Bright Water*. Grove/Atlantic, 2000. A coming-of-age tale of two American Indian boys is projected against a literal and symbolic divide between them.

- Klass, David. **You Don't Know Me: A Novel.** Frances Foster Books, 2001. Fourteen-year-old John creates alternative realities in his mind as he tries to deal with his mother's abusive boyfriend, his crush on a beautiful but shallow classmate, and other problems at school.
- Kooser, Ted. **Weather Central**. University of Pittsburgh Press, 1994. Poet Laureate Ted Kooser uses nonliterary language to clearly yet eloquently write about the simple and the unusual things in everyday life.
- Korman, Gordon. **Son of the Mob**. Hyperion, 2002. Strait-laced Vince, son of a Mafia family, falls for the daughter of the FBI agent bugging his house.
- Lawson, Mary. *Crow Lake: A Novel*. Dell, 2002. Kate Morrison, on a return visit to the small Ontario farming community where she grew up, recalls the sudden death of her parents in a car accident when she was seven years old, and the continuing impact of the tragedy on all of the family.
- MacCollough, Can. **Stealing Henry**. Roaring Brook, 2005. Seventeen-year-old Savannah "brains" her alcoholic step-father with a frying pan and leaves home with her eight-year-old half brother, Henry. Their journey to their mother's hometown in Maine mirrors the earlier nomadic life Savannah experienced with her mother.
- McCall Smith, Alexander. *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*. Anchor Books, 2002. Immediately upon setting up shop in a small storefront in Gaborone, Precious Ramotswe is hired to track down a missing husband, uncover a con man, follow a wayward daughter, and locate a missing boy who may have been snatched by witch doctors.
- Mah, Adeline Yen. *Chinese Cinderella*. Delacorte, 1999. The author recounts the cruelty she suffered from her stepmother and the callous indifference of her well-to-do father while growing up in China at the end of World War II.
- Markandaya, Kamala. *Nectar in a Sieve*. First published 1955. A realistic novel about a life of terrible hardships and disasters lived out in India with unflagging optimism and courage by a peasant woman and her family.
- Martel, Yann. *The Life of Pi*: *A Novel*. Harcourt, 2002. Sixteen-year-old Pi Patel, his family and their zoo animals emigrate from India to North America aboard a cargo ship, but the ship sinks and Pi finds himself sharing a lifeboat with a 450-pound Bengal tiger. Man Booker Prize.
- Martí, José. *Versos Sencillos/Simple Verses*. Arte Público, 1997. Heartfelt poems in Spanish/English reflect life experiences of Cuba's nineteenth-century literary leader and patriot.

- Mathabane, Mark. Kaffir Boy: The True Story of a Black Youth's Coming of Age in Apartheid South Africa. Macmillan, 1986. Despite overwhelming odds, a young South African boy triumphs over the degrading racism and dire poverty of his childhood.
- Mitchell, Margaret. **Gone with the Wind**. First published 1936. After her genteel, romantic lifestyle is swept away by the Civil War, Scarlett O'Hara summons strength to salvage her plantation home.
- Morris, Mary McGarry. *The Lost Mother*. Viking, 2005. Abandoned by their mother and loosing their home to bankruptcy, twelve-year-old Thomas and his eight-year-old sister Margaret are forced to grow up too quickly, surviving hand-to-mouth living in a tent with their father in the Vermont woods during the Great Depression.
- Myers, Walter Dean. **Fallen Angels**. Scholastic, 1988. Young American soldiers are soon disillusioned and challenged by the realities of the war in Vietnam. Coretta Scott King Award.
- Nye, Naomi Shihab. 19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East. HarperCollins, 2002. In response to September 11, 2001, Nye offers profound poems about the Middle East and being an Arab American living in the United States.
- Pont, Sally. *Finding Their Stride*. Harcourt Brace, 1999. Members of a track team from a small, private Pennsylvania school, although typically outnumbered and defeated as a team, find success as individuals.
- Pratchett, Terry. *Going Postal*. HarperCollins, 2004. Arch-swindler Moist Van Lipwig has an awful choice to make: he can hang, or he can try to re-establish the long defunct Ank Morpork Post Office, where tons of undelivered letters have been accumulating for decades.
- Pullman, Philip. *The Golden Compass*. Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North. Carnegie Medal.
- Quindlen, Anna. *Blessings: A Novel*. Random, 2002. The caretaker on a large estate takes on the care of an abandoned baby with the help of the estate's matriarch.
- Reed, Kit. **Thinner Than Thou**. Tor, 2005. A clever science fiction take on our culture's pursuit of youth and physical perfection as the new, true religion. Food rather than sex is now society's forbidden fruit, and the Fashion Police really are out to get you! There are laugh-out-loud parts and parts that hit too close to home.
- Rice, David. *Crazy Loco: Stories*. Dial Books, 2001. A collection of nine stories about growing up Mexican American in the Rio Grande Valley of southern Texas.

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- Roach, Mary. **Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers.** Norton, 2003. Explores the sometimes funny, sometimes gruesome uses for human bodies after death: for example, as crash-test dummies, practice for plastic surgeons, and research on decomposition.
- Rosenberg, Liz. *Light-Gathering Poems*. Henry Holt, 2000. Using light as a metaphor, this collection of poems brings images of light and hope into focus.
- Salinger, J. D. *Catcher in the Rye*. First published 1951. Holden Caulfield runs away from boarding school to New York City.
- Sandburg, Carl. **Selected Poems**. Harcourt, 1996. Outstanding previously uncollected or unpublished poems by the great American author are thematically grouped.
- Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood.* Pantheon, 2003. In graphic novel format, Satrapi tells of her childhood growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution.
- Saylor, Stephen. *The Judgment of Caesar: A Novel of Ancient Rome*. St. Martin's Minotaur, 2004. In 48 B.C., Roman generals Caesar and Pompey have long battled to rule the world. As Pompey plots a reckless stand on the banks of the Nile, Gordianus the Finder, who has brought his wife Bethesda to the river seeking a cure for her in its sacred waters, finds himself suddenly at the heart of a series of treacherous and history-altering events.
- Smith, Betty. *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. First published 1943. Francie Nolan is a sensitive, resourceful young girl growing up in the Williamsburg slums of Brooklyn with her brother Neelie, her lovable drunkard father and her tender, determined mother.
- Sumner, Melanie. *The School of Beauty and Charm*. Algonquin Books, 2001. Louise Pepper is on a downward spiral after the accidental death of her brother Roderick.
- Stratton, Allan. **Chanda's Secrets**. Annick Press, 2004. Sixteen-year-old Chanda Kabelo loves school and dreams of winning a scholarship one day, but people are dying all around her. Everyone is afraid to say why, but Chanda knows it is because of AIDS.
- Taylor, William. *The Blue Lawn*. Alyson Publications, 1999. A fifteen-year-old boy acknowledges his attraction to an older rugby teammate, as he also begins to break out of the preconceived notions his family and others have about him.
- Tsukiyama, Gail. **Women of the Silk**. St. Martin's Press, 1991. In 1926, a group of Chinese women toiling from dawn to dusk in a vast silk factory forge a sisterhood and lead the first strike against their employers.



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- Arnold, Marilyn, Bonnie Ballif-Spanville and Kristen Tracy, editors. A Chorus for Peace: A Global Anthology of Poetry by Women. University of lowa Press, 2002. Poets from all ages and all over the world united with one themes peace. Includes the work of Marjorie Agosin, Lucille Clifton, Naomi Shahib Nye, Padwa Tuqan and many others
- Atwood, Margaret. *Oryx and Crake: A Novel.* Nan A. Talese, 2003. Snowman hear starvation and losing his memory for language, describes his post-plague society stripped of vegetation and all other forms of life except the generically engineered Children of Crake. New York Times Notable Book of the Year
- Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*. First published 1813. Elizabeth and Jane Bennet overcome obstacles to their happiness with Mr. Darcy and Mr. Ringley respectively, in this comedy of manners set in early nineteenth-confuny England.
- Baldwin, James. **Go Tell It On the Mountain**. First published 1953. Follows the members of the Grimes family in their wanderings from the ancestral South to the tenements of Harlem, where young John Grimes struggles with his identity as the stepson of a stern evangelist preacher at a storefront church in 1935.
- Bunting, Josiah. *All Loves Excelling: A Novel*. Bridge Works Press, 2001. Extreme pressure placed on seniors to get into the "right" college leads to tragedy at a highly competitive prep school.
- Capote, Truman. In Cold Blood: A True Account of a Multiple Murder and Its Consequences. First published 1965. The shocking story of the murder of the Clutter family in Holcomb, Kansas by two psychotic young men. Edgar Award
- Chabon, Michael. *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay: A Novel*Random, 2000. Comic strip adventures interwoven with an escape from wartorn Europe and the progress to maturity of two young men of great charm and
 talent. Pulitzer Prize
- Cherryh, C. J. **Foreigner**. DAW/Penguin, 1994. Bren Cameron, humanity's advisor to the Atevi, builds understanding between a race of giant, black-sidured, golden-eyed warriors and the humans who have been allowed to stay on Asevi in exchange for their technological knowledge.
- Chevalier, Tracy. *The Lady and the Unicorn*. Dutton, 2004. A handsome afternth-century artist who is commissioned to create a series of woven tapestry panels becomes smitten with the daughter of his nobleman patron.
- Cisneros, Sandra. Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories. Random, 1991. Colorful stories from life on both sides of the Mexican border.

- Coben, Harlan. **Tell No One**. Delacorte, 2001. After eight years of struggling with grief over his wife's murder by a serial killer, Dr. David Beck receives a mysterious email including a secret word only the two of them knew.
- Collins, Billy. **Sailing Alone Around the Room: New and Selected Poems**. Random House, 2001. Former Poet Laureate Collins treats us to poems about his daily life with truth, humor, and descriptive language.
- Cone, Marla. **Silent Snow: The Slow Poisoning of the Arctic**. Grove/Atlantic, 2005. Traditionally thought of as the last great unspoiled territory on Earth, the Arctic is actually home to some of the most contaminated people and animals on the planet.
- Conroy, Pat. *The Lords of Discipline*. First published 1980. Cadets at a southern military academy face hazing, hatred, and prejudice as they confront members of a secret society dedicated to preserving traditions.
- Corwin, Miles. And Still We Rise: The Trials and Triumphs of Twelve Gifted Inner-City Students. HarperCollins, 2001. The award-winning reporter for the Los Angeles Times chronicles the incredible challenges faced by high school seniors in a South-Central Los Angeles gifted program.
- Cox, Lynn. **Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer**. Knopf, 2004. Writer Lynn Cox chronicles her quest to swim the most challenging waters of the world including the Bering Sea, the Strait of Magellan, the Cape of Good Hope, and the coast of Antarctica. Alex Award
- Cronin, Justin. **The Summer Guest**. Dial, 2004. A complex family story set in an idyllic fishing camp in the Maine woods from the 1940s to the 1970s.
- Desai Hidier, Tanuja. *Born Confused*. Scholastic, 2002. Trying to set a balance between being an American teenager and honoring her Indian heritage, Dimple Lala's life becomes complicated when her best friend rebuffs her and her parents try to find her an Indian boyfriend.
- Dostoyevsky, Fyodor. *Crime and Punishment*. First published 1866. Raskalnikov, a student who believes his personal intellectual and spiritual superiority places him above the masses, tests his theory of invincibility by committing murder.
- Dunn, Mark. *Ella Minnow Pea: A Novel in Letters*. MacAdam/Cage Publishing, 2001. A funny, fable-like tale of how life would change if we were suddenly unable to use specific letters of the alphabet.
- Dylan, Bob. *Chronicles. Volume One*. Simon & Schuster, 2004. Bob Dylan has been called the greatest lyricist of the twentieth century and the spokesman for the hippie generation. In this book he tells of his self-directed journey through music and life. Interesting for the history, the music, and process involved in reaching stardom. Quills Award

- Ellison, Ralph. *Invisible Man*. First published 1952. A nameless black man searches for his own identity in a hostile world. National Book Award
- Ehrenreich, Barbara. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*. Henry Holt & Company, 2001. Told with humor as well as insight, this is the author's account of life for low wages in America: land of Big Boxes, fast food, and desperate strategies for survival. Alex Award
- Eugenidies, Jeffrey. **Middlesex.** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002. In order to understand why she is not like other girls, Calliope must uncover a guilty family secret and the astonishing genetic history that turns Callie into Cal. Pulitzer Prize
- Feynman, Richard. Six Easy Pieces: Essentials of Physics Explained by Its Most Brilliant Teacher. Addison-Wesley, 1995. Presents six "easy" chapters from the Nobel Prize-winning physicist's Lectures on Physics (1963), originally prepared for Caltech undergraduate students.
- Flannery, Sarah with David Flannery. *In Code: A Mathematical Journey*. Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2002. A sixteen-year-old girl and her father convey their love of mathematics in the book written after Sarah wins Ireland's Young Scientist of the Year 1999 award for her project on cryptography.
- Flinn, Alexandra. *Breathing Underwater*. HarperCollins, 2001. Sent to counseling for hitting his girlfriend, Caitlin, and ordered to keep a journal, sixteen-year-old Nick recounts his relationship with Caitlin, examines his controlling behavior and anger, and describes living with his abusive father.
- Frank, E. R. *America: A Novel*. Atheneum, 2002. The enduring love of his foster mother and a dedicated therapist are fifteen-year-old America's only positive life forces in this disturbing, powerful story of forgiveness and "against the odds" survival.
- Fuller, Alexandra. *Don't Let's Go To the Dogs Tonight: An African Childhood*. Random House, 2001. Moving from Rhodesia/Zimbabwe to Malawi to Zambia, the author and her family endure tragic crises with humor and strength of character, adding dimension to the volatile events of recent African history.
- García Márquez, Gabriel. *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*. First published 1983. Murder upsets a wedding in this novel by the Nobel Prize author.
- Gladwell, Malcolm. The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference. Little Brown, 2002. Looks at why major changes in society often happen suddenly, and describes the personality types who are natural originators of new ideas and trends.

- Krakauer, Jon. *Under the Banner of Heaven: A Story of Violent Faith*. Doubleday, 2003. On July 24, 1983, a woman and her infant daughter were murdered by two brothers who believed they were ordered to kill by God. The roots of their crime lie deep in the history of an American religion practiced by millions. NY Times Notable Book of the Year, ALA Notable Book of the Year
- Kurson, Robert. Shadow Divers: The True Adventure of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of World War II.

 Random House, 2004. Two week-end scuba divers flirt with danger and intrigue in their six-year quest to learn more about a sunken World War II German U-boat they discovered sixty miles off the New Jersey coast. Alex Award
- Lahiri, Jhumpa. *The Namesake*. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. Gogol Ganguli's parents, after their arranged marriage, emigrate to Cambridge, Massachusetts. He grows up resenting both his strange name and the Indian culture imposed on him by his family.
- Larson, Erik. *Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America*. Crown Publishers, 2003. The true story of two men, an architect and a serial killer, whose fates were linked by the greatest fair in American history: the Chicago World's Exposition of 1893, nicknamed "The White City." Edgar Award, National Book Award Finalist
- Le Couteur, Penny and Jay Burreson. *Napoleon's Buttons: How 17 Molecules Changed History*. Jeremy P. Tarcher/Putnam, 2003. Chemically, tin falls apart in very cold temperatures. That Napoleon's army used tin for many ordinary items, such as buttons, may have hastened his defeat by the Russian Army. The authors recount sixteen more fascinating stories of how chemistry changed history.
- Levitt, Steven and Stephen J. Dubner. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores* the *Hidden Side of Engineering*. William Morrow, 2005. Levitt ties economics to the emotional forces affecting human behavior, in interesting explanations of things from cheating sumo wrestlers to the relative dangers of guns versus swimming pools.
- Mahfouz, Naguib. *Palace Walk*. Doubleday, 1989. The Nobel Prize-winning author's novel describes the severe and alluring world of a Muslim family living in Cairo during Egypt's occupation by British forces in the early 1900's.
- Markham, Beryl. **West with the Night**. First published 1983. The British aviator, first to fly west across the Atlantic solo, describes her childhood in British East Africa and her unconventional life.
- McBride, James. *The Color of Water*. Riverhead Books, 1996. A black man pays tribute to his eccentric, determined white mother. ALA Notable Book
- McEwan, Ian. *Atonement: A Novel*. Doubleday, 2001. The lives of three people are changed forever by a young girl's scheming imagination during the summer of 1935. National Book Critics Circle Award

- McMurtry, Larry. *Lonesome Dove*. First published 1985. Augustus McCrae and W. F. Call, former Texas Rangers, partners and friends, face danger and hardships during a cattle drive from Texas to Montana in the late nineteenth century. Pulitzer Prize
- Meyers, Kent. *The Work of Wolves*. Harcourt, 2004. A Lakota teenager and a German exchange student join a horse trainer to save a group of abused horses from a cruel land baron with a much too-attractive wife. Alex Award
- Morrison, Toni. *The Bluest Eye*. First published 1969. Nobel Prize-winning author's novel about a young black girl who yearns for beautiful blue eyes like the little white girls she sees.
- Neruda, Pablo. *Twenty Love Poems and a Song of Despair*. First published 1924. Beautiful bilingual edition of love poems by the Nobel Laureate poet.
- Niffenegger, Audrey. *The Time Traveler's Wife.* MacAdam/Cage, 2003. Henry, a dashing, adventuresome librarian, and Clare, a beautiful artist, are bound by their love and tested by unusual circumstances resulting from Henry's chronodisplacement disorder. Alex Award
- Norman, Elizabeth. We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese. Random House, 1999. Nurses are held captive in the jungles of the Philippines in this harrowing World War II tale.
- Packer, Z. Z. *Drinking Coffee Elsewhere*. Riverhead, 2003. Eight short stories revolving around young African-Americans, from little girls in a Brownie troop to a young man who accompanies his father to the Million Man March.
- Pamuk, Orhan. **Snow**. Knopf/Random House, 2004. Exiled Ka returns to his home town in Turkey. There he finds that Ipek, the beautiful girl he loved as a child, still lives in the city of Kars, and that his community has been stunned by a rash of suicides of zealously religious girls who had refused to remove their head scarves in public. New York Times Notable Book
- Picoult, Jodi. *My Sister's Keeper: A Novel*. Atria, 2004. Thirteen-year-old Anna, a product of preimplantation genetic diagnois, has undergone countless surgeries, transfusions, and shots so that her older sister, Kate, can fight leukemia. She begins a legal procedure to stop her parents from using her body to keep Kate alive. Alex Award
- Plath, Sylvia. **The Bell Jar**. First published 1963. This autobiographical novel describes an ambitious and brilliant young woman's search for values and her eventual breakdown. Additional poems were added to the 2004 edition.
- Roberts, Cokie. *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation.* Morrow, 2004. This social history of the Colonial Period, profiling the women who influenced the Founding Fathers, was written by the ABC news commentator and National Public Radio news analyst.

- Roth, Philip. *The Plot Against America*. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. A fantasy with semi-autobiographical elements about an America in which Charles Lindbergh defeats President Roosevelt in the 1940 presidential election and acts on his anti-Semitic leanings.
- Santiago, Esmeralda. *Almost a Woman*. Perseus, 1998. An ambitious and determined teenager overcomes the challenges of language barriers, cultural stereotypes, poverty, and a fiercely protective mother.
- Schlosser, Eric. Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal. Houghton Mifflin, 2001. The author charges that fast food has hastened the malling of the American landscape, widened the chasm between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and propelled U.S. cultural imperialism abroad.
- Schwartz, Maxime. *How the Cows Turned Mad*. University of California Press, 2003. A gripping biological detective story traces the history of mad cow and other infectious brain diseases of livestock and people.
- Seierstad, Asne. *The Bookseller of Kabul.* Little, Brown, 2003. The author recounts her experiences while staying in Afghanistan with the bookseller Sultan Khan and his family just after the fall of the Taliban.
- Siije, Dai. *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*. Knopf, 2002. During the Chinese Cultural Revolution, two boys exiled to the countryside for "reeducation" are distracted first by a violin, then by a beautiful young seamstress and a stash of Western classics.
- Sittenfeld, Curtis. **Prep**. Random House, 2005. Midwesterner Lee Fiora wins a scholarship to an exclusive East coast boarding school where she constantly feels like an outsider. A painful coming-of-age story told by a modern teenager. NY Times Notable Book of the Year
- Smith, Bob. *Hamlet's Dresser: A Memoir*. Scribner, 2002. A young man with a troubled family background discovers Shakespeare and his life.
- Sobel, Dava. *Planets*. Viking, 2005. Explores the origins and oddities of the planets through the lens of popular culture, from astrology, mythology, and science fiction to art, music, poetry, biography, and history.
- Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath*. First published 1939. Forced out of their home in the Oklahoma dust-bowl region by economic desperation, a family of "Okie" farmers drives west to California in search of work as migrant fruit pickers. Pulitzer Prize
- Sullivan, Robert. Rats: Observations on the History and Habitat of the City's Most Unwanted Inhabitants. Bloomsbury, 2004. An entertaining and detailed account of the rat's seemingly inexhaustible connections to the history of New York City and mankind. Alex Award

- Tan, Amy. *Bonesetter's Daughter*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2001. Ruth, American-born daughter of a Chinese immigrant mother, arranges for a translation of her mother's handwritten story of her life in China and learns some long-hidden truths about her family that help her understand and appreciate her mother better. NY Times Notable Book
- Temple-Raston, Dina. A Death in Texas: A Story of Race, Murder and a Small Town's Struggle for Redemption. Henry Holt & Co., 2002. From the initial investigation through the trials and their aftermath, a journalist follows the turns of events through the eyes of Sheriff Billy Rowles—an enlightened lawman determined to take lessons from the tragedy—and the townspeople trying to come to grips with the dragging death of James Byrd in Jasper, Texas.
- Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden*. First published 1854. Observations on nature and life penned during the author's solitary stay at Walden Pond, outside Concord, Massachusetts, from 1845 to 1847.
- Tucker, Jonathan B. **Scourge: The Once and Future Threat of Smallpox**. Grove Press, 2001. The history of the smallpox virus is traced from the first recorded outbreak around 3700 B.C. through its development as a modern biological warfare agent.
- Welty, Eudora. *One Writer's Beginnings*. First published 1984. The Mississippi writer describes her childhood and the influences that shaped her life.
- Wilson, Edward O. **The Future of Life**. Knopf, 2002. A complex, intelligent look at a plan to save the biosphere for ensuing generations by resolving the conflict between environmentalism and economics.

Compiled by:

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