OLDIES BUT GOODIES

ALCOTT, LOUISA MAY. LITTLE WOMEN.
Tomboyish Jo, beautiful Meg, fragile Beth, and romantic Amy come of age while their father is off to war. (Publisher)

AUSTEN, JANE. EMMA.
Note: If you don’t laugh while reading the first few pages of this, return to it in a few years. Beautiful, clever, rich - and single - Emma Woodhouse is perfectly content with her life and sees no need for either love or marriage. Nothing, however, delights her more than interfering in the romantic lives of others. But when she ignores the warnings of her good friend Mr. Knightley and attempts to arrange a suitable match for her protegee Harriet Smith, her carefully laid plans soon unravel and have consequences that she never expected. (Publisher)

BRADBURY, RAY. FARENHEIT 451.
Guy Montag was a fireman whose job it was to start fires... The system was simple. Everyone understood it. Books were for burning... along with the houses in which they were hidden. Guy Montag enjoyed his job. He had been a fireman for ten years, and he had never questioned the pleasure of the midnight runs nor the joy of watching pages consumed by flames... never questioned anything until he met a seventeen-year-old girl who told him of a past when people were not afraid. Then he met a professor who told him of a future in which people could think... and Guy Montag suddenly realized what he had to do! (Publisher)

BRADBURY, RAY. SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES.
The carnival rolls in sometime after midnight, ushering in Halloween a week early. The shrill siren song of a calliope beckons to all with a seductive promise of dreams and youth regained. In this season of dying, Cooger & Dark’s Pandemonium Shadow Show has come to Green Town, Illinois, to destroy every life touched by its strange and sinister mystery. And two boys will discover the secret of its smoke, mazes, and mirrors; two friends who will soon know all too well the heavy cost of wishes... and the stuff of nightmare. (Publisher)

BRONTE, EMILY. WUTHERING HEIGHTS.
Wuthering Heights is a wild, passionate story of the intense and almost demonic love between Catherine Earnshaw and Heathcliff, a foundling adopted by Catherine’s father. After Mr Earnshaw’s death, Heathcliff is bullied and humiliated by Catherine’s brother Hindley and wrongly believing that his love for Catherine is not reciprocated, leaves Wuthering Heights, only to return years later as a wealthy and polished man. (Publisher)

DAHL, ROALD. SKIN AND OTHER STORIES.
How would you get rid of a murder weapon without causing suspicion? Where would you hide a diamond where no one else would think of looking? What if you found out that the tattoo on your back was worth over a million dollars? You will discover that just about anything is possible in a Roald Dahl story, and here are eleven of his very best. (Publisher)
DUMAS, ALEXANDER. **THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO**.

Dashing young Edmond Dantès has everything. He is engaged to a beautiful woman, is about to become the captain of a ship, and is well liked by almost everyone. But his perfect life is shattered when he is framed by a jealous rival and thrown into a dark prison cell for 14 years.

The greatest tale of betrayal, adventure, and revenge ever written, The Count of Monte Cristo continues to dazzle readers with its thrilling and memorable scenes, including Dantès’s miraculous escape from prison, his amazing discovery of a vast hidden treasure, and his transformation into the mysterious and wealthy Count of Monte Cristo. (Publisher)

DUMAURIER, DAPHNE. **REBECCA**.

Imagine this. You’re not the prettiest girl in the neighborhood, so you’ve agreed to marry a rich guy you barely know. He’s a widower. His first wife, Rebecca de Winter was a lot prettier than you. When you show up to his estate, Manderley, you meet a sinister housekeeper named Mrs. Danvers who still lays out Rebecca’s clothing every day. Mind you, you’re not allowed to try on the clothing. But why? What’s going on at Manderley? Find out in this dark page-turner! (Goldberg)

GOLDING, WILLIAM. **LORD OF THE FLIES**.

William Golding’s compelling story about a group of very ordinary small boys marooned on a coral island has become a modern classic. At first it seems as though it is all going to be great fun; but the fun before long becomes furious and life on the island turns into a nightmare of panic and death. As ordinary standards of behaviour collapse, the whole world the boys know collapses with them—the world of cricket and homework and adventure stories—and another world is revealed beneath, primitive and terrible. (Publisher)

GREENE, BETTY. **SUMMER OF MY GERMAN SOLDIER**.

Like stories about forbidden love? If you thought Bella and Edward had it rough in Twilight, try being a Jewish girl with a crush on a Nazi during World War II. Anton is a German soldier --- a Nazi — who’s been taken prisoner by Americans and sent to Jenkinsville, Arkansas. He’s being kept in a P.O.W. (Prisoner of War) camp in Patty’s small, and very Christian hometown. However, one day, the prisoners are brought into the department store where Patty works to buy some clothing and strikes up a conversation with Patty. Patty has every reason to distrust Anton at first. After all, aren’t all Nazis monsters? Don’t they kill Jewish people? However, as Patty chats with Anton that day in her father’s store she sees the goodness in him. Will it lead her to do something stupid? Something like helping him escape his prisoner-of-war camp? A sad and weirdly sweet book about seeing people for who they really are. (Goldberg)

HINTON, S.E. **THE OUTSIDERS**.

This action-filled novel about a town where rich kids “Socs” – short for Socials – bully the poor kids (a.k.a. “Greasers”) continues to win fans decades after it was published by high-school aged author, S.E. Hinton. If you like underdog stories with a touch of romance, look no further. After you read it, be sure to check out the movie starring a young, pre-Katie Tom Cruise. (Goldberg)
MONTGOMERY, LUCY MAUD. **ANNE OF AVONlea.** (SERIES)

Anne's dream of finding a home had come true. But now she is a young woman, with new dreams, She has a teaching job in the city, with a chance to become a published magazine writer.

And an even greater adventure awaits: Anne is about to begin her first romance—with a handsome Boston millionaire whose dreams are very different from hers... (Publisher)

ORCZY, BARONESS. **THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL.**

Armed with only his wits and his cunning, one man recklessly defies the French revolutionaries and rescues scores of innocent men, women, and children from the deadly guillotine. His friends and foes know him only as the Scarlet Pimpernel. But the ruthless French agent Chauvelin is sworn to discover his identity and to hunt him down. (Publisher)

SMITH, BETTY. **A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN.**

This deeply psychological and sometimes disturbing book slowly and meticulously exposes the complex relationships of the Nolan Family. Opening when its narrator Francie is around ten years old and ending when she is sixteen, the story sucks you into the everyday life of a Brooklyn kid gradually losing her innocence as she watches her parents' relationship fall apart and experiences her first two romances away from home. (Publisher)

SMITH, DODIE. **I CAPTURE THE CASTLE.**

If you're the kind of dreamy, tea-sipping kind of gal who loves to scribble in your journal, dote on your dog, and obsess over the hot guys next door – Cassandra will quickly become your hero. As J.K. Rowling once quipped, “This book has one of the most charismatic narrators I've ever met.” If you don’t already have a blazing passion for England, this book will hit you over the head with all things lovable about Jolly Old E. Its quirky characters — from the charismatic 17 year old Cassandra, to the family dog, Heloise (Dodie Smith also wrote 101 Dalmatians) are bursting at the seams with lovable Englishness. (Goldberg)

STEINBECK, JOHN. **OF MICE AND MEN.**

Lenny is a big guy -- practically a giant -- who doesn’t know his own strength. He loves his best friend George, who’s taken care of him even when it winds up costing him. Lenny doesn’t mean to get into trouble, really he doesn’t. He’s a bit slow on the uptake, but underneath he’s a loving person and George knows it. They’re as loyal to one another as two friends could possibly be, until one day, an unimaginable evil enters their life: a married woman. One of the most profoundly disturbing and memorable books in our library. (Goldberg)

TOLKEIN, J.R.R. **THE HOBBIT.** (SERIES)

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum. (Publisher)
WEBSTER, JEAN. **DADDY LONG LEGS** and **DEAR ENEMY**.

One of the great novels of American girlhood, Jean Webster's *Daddy-Long-Legs* (1912) follows the adventures of an orphan named Judy Abbott, whose letters to her anonymous male benefactor trace her development as an independent thinker and writer. Its sequel, *Dear Enemy* (1915), also told in letters, follows the progress of Judy's former orphanage now run by her friend Sallie McBride, who struggles to give her young charges hope and a new life. Full of irrepressible female characters that both recall Alcott's Jo March and anticipate the popular heroines of contemporary literature, Webster's novels are witty, heartfelt, and delightfully modern. (Publisher)

**MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE**

BOSCH, PSEUDONYMOUS. **THE NAME OF THIS BOOK IS SECRET.** *(SERIES)*

Cassandra and Max find a missing magician's notebook and start to investigate the fire which burnt down his house and his mysterious "symphony of smells." (Publisher)

BRADLEY, ALAN. **THE SWEETNESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PIE.** *(SERIES)*

Flavia de Luce has it rough. Her mother is dead and her stepsisters have taken to locking her in the closet with her hands tied. Fortunately, Flavia is as good at untying knots as she is at chemistry. Thanks to some of her eccentric forbears, she even has her own in-house chemistry lab – one she uses to mess with her sister's make-up when they've been particularly cruel. When someone leaves a dead bird with a postage stamp impaled upon its beak on the doorstep, and a dead body shows up in the family garden, she knows it is her destiny to become a detective. (Goldberg)

CHRISTIE, AGATHA. **AND THEN THERE WERE NONE.**

A Chapin favorite. A group of people – none of whom know each other – receive a mysterious invitation to Indian Island – a remote place off the coast of England famous for its luxurious, ultramodern mansion. When they arrive, their host is nowhere to be found. Later, when they gather for cocktails, one of the guests puts on a phonograph record he sees lying around – a record that recites each guest's name – and an ugly secret he or she was hoping to hide.

That night, the first person among them drops dead – a seeming accident until the second night, when another person drops dead, and then another. When the survivors realize these accidents are really murders, they form alliances to determine which person(s) are behind the killings. Can they do so before there are none?

Note: this book was written in 1940, when racism and anti-Semitism were all too common. Be forewarned about encountering language/stereotypes that you might find upsetting. (Goldberg)

DOWD, SIOBHAN. **THE LONDON EYE MYSTERY.**

Ted and Kat watched their cousin Salim board the London Eye. But after half an hour it landed and everyone trooped off–except Salim. Where could he have gone? How on earth could he have disappeared into thin air? Ted and his older sister, Kat, become sleuthing partners, since the police are having no luck. Despite their prickly relationship, they overcome their differences to follow a trail of clues across London in a desperate bid to find their cousin. And ultimately it comes down to Ted, whose brain works in its own very unique way, to find the key to the mystery. This is an unput-downable spine-tingling thriller–a race against time. (Publisher)
GUTMAN, DAN. **GETTING AIR.**

After foiling a terrorist hijacking aboard their airplane, fourteen-year-old Jimmy, his younger sister, and two skateboarding friends crash-land the plane and try to survive in a forest wilderness until help arrives. (Publisher)

KING, LAURIE K. **THE BEEKEEPER'S APPRENTICE.** (SERIES)

15-year-old American Mary Russell has recently lost her parents in a dreadful car accident. She's been sent to live with her evil aunt in England, a money-grubbing woman who detests Mary but longs to control her fortune. As the book opens up, Mary has gone for a walk in the country when she literally trips over the feet of Mr. Sherlock Holmes. Holmes, who has retired from his practice at 221B Baker Street, has been living in the boonies and studying bees of all things. From their initial meeting, he is convinced that Mary has what it takes to be the next big name in sleuthing and proceeds to train her in all the necessary

PULLMAN, PHILLIP. **THE RUBY IN THE SMOKE.** (SERIES)

Sally Lockhart isn't like other girls, which is probably why halfway through this book, she winds in a sleazy opium den trying to track down her father’s killer. She's fearless, yes, but that doesn’t mean that she's averse to receiving help from her cute friend Phillip (read the follow up books in the series for more of their romance!). In this opening book to the Sally Lockhart trilogy, Sally is in a race against time and an evil blackmailer to find out who killed her father and why. It's a journey that takes her through the worst slums in town, with twists and turns sure to delight (and baffle) even the most sophisticated readers. (Goldberg)

STEWART, TRENTON LEE. **THE MYSTERIOUS BENEDICT SOCIETY.** (SERIES)

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. (Publisher)

STEAD, REBECCA. **WHEN YOU REACH ME.**

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The $20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. (Publisher)
SCIENCE FICTION / DYSTOPIAN

COLLINS, SUZANNE. THE HUNGER GAMES. (SERIES)

Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen lives Panem, in one of 12 districts controlled by the Capitol and its evil President Snow. Every year, President Snow reminds the districts who’s boss by forcing each district to send two child tributes (one boy, one girl) to fight to the death in a televised event/reality-show called The Hunger Games.

When Katniss’s tiny sister Prim is picked as her district’s female tribute, Katniss volunteers to go in her sister’s place even if it means certain death. Peeta, a boy Katniss barely knows, is the male tribute from the same district. Katniss and Peeta are fiercely competitive with one another at the beginning of the Games, until Katniss realizes the audience is rooting for them to fall in love. Starved for food and hoping for audience donations, she decides to give the audience what it wants and begins to act lovestruck around Peeta. Will her love become real? There can be only one winner of The Hunger Games. Will one of them die to save the other? (Goldberg)

CONDIE, ALLY. MATCHED. (SERIES)

Cassia has always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her: what to read, what to watch, what to believe. So when Xander’s face appears on-screen at her Matching ceremony, Cassia knows with complete certainty that he is her ideal mate... until she sees Ky Markham’s face flash for an instant before the screen fades to black. (Publisher)

FARMER, NANCY. THE HOUSE OF THE SCORPION.

Matt lives in a future society controlled by an evil and all-powerful drug lord named El Patron. What he doesn’t know—yet—is that he and El Patron share the same DNA. In fact, Matt was made in a laboratory as a perfect clone of El Patron, a clone El Patron could use for organs as his own body decayed. What El Patron didn’t bank on was that Matt was every bit as smart as he was, and capable of figuring it all out in time to escape with his life. (Goldberg)

HADDIX, MARGARET PETERSON. FOUND. (SERIES)

When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel and two opposing forces, each trying to repair the fabric of time. (Publisher)

L’ENGLE, MADELEINE. A WRINKLE IN TIME. (SERIES)

It was a dark and stormy night; Meg Murry, her small brother Charles Wallace, and her mother had come down to the kitchen for a midnight snack when they were upset by the arrival of a most disturbing stranger. “Wild nights are my glory,” the unearthly stranger told them. “I just got caught in a downdraft and blown off course. Let me sit down for a moment, and then I’ll be on my way. Speaking of ways, by the way, there is such a thing as a tesseract.” A tesseract (in case the reader doesn’t know) is a wrinkle in time. To tell more would rob thereader of the enjoyment of the adventures in space and time of Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin. (Publisher)
MACKLER, CAROLYN AND JAY ASHER. THE FUTURE OF US.

Josh and Emma are about to discover themselves--fifteen years in the future.

It's 1996, and Josh and Emma have been neighbors their whole lives. They've been best friends almost as long--at least, up until last November, when everything changed. Things have been awkward ever since, but when Josh's family gets a free AOL CD-ROM in the mail, his mom makes him bring it over so that Emma can install it on her new computer. When they sign on, they're automatically logged onto Facebook . . . but Facebook hasn't been invented yet. Josh and Emma are looking at themselves fifteen years in the future.

Their spouses, careers, homes, and status updates--it's all there. And every time they refresh their pages, their futures change. As they grapple with the ups and downs of what their lives hold, they're forced to confront what they're doing right--and wrong--in the present. (Publisher)

PATTERSON, JAMES. THE ANGEL EXPERIMENT. (SERIES)

Fourteen-year-old Maximum Ride, better known as Max, knows what it's like to soar above the world. She and all the members of the "flock"--Fang, Iggy, Nudge, Gazman and Angel--are just like ordinary kids--only they have wings and can fly. It may seem like a dream come true to some, but their lives can morph into a living nightmare at any time...like when Angel, the youngest member of the flock, is kidnapped and taken back to the "School" where she and the others were experimented on by a crew of whack jobs. (Publisher)

PEARSON, MARY E. THE ADORATION OF JENNA FOX.

Who is Jenna Fox? Seventeen-year-old Jenna has been told that is her name. She has just awoken from a coma, they tell her, and she is still recovering from a terrible accident in which she was involved a year ago. But what happened before that? Jenna doesn’t remember her life. Or does she? And are the memories really hers? This fascinating novel represents a stunning new direction for acclaimed author Mary Pearson. Set in a near future America, it takes readers on an unforgettable journey through questions of bio-medical ethics. (Publisher)

PFEFFER, SUSAN BETH. LIFE AS WE KNEW IT.

A terrifying book! Miranda’s disbelief turns to fear in a split second when a meteor knocks the moon closer to the earth. How should her family prepare for the future when worldwide tsunamis wipe out the coasts, earthquakes rock the continents, and volcanic ash blocks out the sun? As summer turns to Arctic winter, Miranda, her two brothers, and their mother retreat to the unexpected safe haven of their sunroom, where they subsist on stockpiled food and limited water in the warmth of a wood-burning stove. (Publisher)

WESTERFELD, SCOTT. LEVITAN.

In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts. (Publisher)
FANTASY

CLARE, CASSANDRA. CITY OF BONES: THE MORTAL INSTRUMENTS SERIES.

When fifteen-year-old Clary Fray heads out to the Pandemonium Club in New York City, she hardly expects to witness a murder -- much less a murder committed by three teenagers covered with strange tattoos and brandishing bizarre weapons. Then the body disappears into thin air. It's hard to call the police when the murderers are invisible to everyone else and when there is nothing -- not even a smear of blood -- to show that a boy has died. Or was he a boy? (Publisher)

COOPER, SUSAN. OVER SEA, UNDER STONE. (SERIES)

Simon, Jane, and Barney find an ancient map in their uncle's attic with the secret to summon forces of Light in order to defeat the Darkness. There's a problem, though. As they try to figure out the map's secrets, will they be able to keep one another safe from the evil forces in their town that constantly trail them and invade their uncle's house? (Goldberg)

MEBUS, SCOTT. GODS OF MANHATTAN. (SERIES)

Thirteen-year-old New Yorker Rory Hennessy can see things no one else can. When a magician's trick opens his eyes to Mannahatta, Rory finds an amazing spirit city coexisting alongside modern-day Manhattan. A place where Indian sachems, warrior cockroaches, and papier-mâché children live, ruled by the immortal Gods of Manhattan including Babe Ruth, Alexander Hamilton, and Peter Stuyvesant. But Rory's power to see Mannahatta brings danger, and he is pursued by enemies, chasing history and trying to free those who have been enslaved. (Publisher)

NIX, GARTH. SABRIEL. (SERIES)

Sent to a boarding school in Ancelstierre as a young child, Sabriel has had little experience with the random power of Free Magic or the Dead who refuse to stay dead in the Old Kingdom. But during her final semester, her father, the Abhorsen, goes missing, and Sabriel knows she must enter the Old Kingdom to find him. (Publisher)

A great choice for fans of Eragon and Harry Potter! (Goldberg)

PAOLINI, CHRISTOPHER. ERAGON. (SERIES)

Fifteen-year-old Eragon believes that he is merely a poor farm boy--until his destiny as a Dragon Rider is revealed. Gifted with only an ancient sword, a loyal dragon, and sage advice from an old storyteller, Eragon is soon swept into a dangerous tapestry of magic, glory, and power. Now his choices could save--or destroy--the Empire. (Publisher)

PATTOU, EDITH. EAST.

Rose has always felt out of place in her family, a wanderer in a bunch of homebodies. So when an enormous white bear mysteriously shows up and asks her to come away with him--in exchange for health and prosperity for her ailing family--she readily agrees. (Publisher)
PULLMAN, PHILIP. THE GOLDEN COMPASS. (SERIES)

Lyra sets out for the top of the world in search of her kidnapped playmate, Roger, bearing a rare truth-telling instrument, the compass of the title. All around her children are disappearing—victims of so-called “Gobblers”—and being used as subjects in terrible experiments that separate humans from their daemons, creatures that reflect each person’s inner being. And somehow [the people closest to her] are involved. (Publisher)

STEAD, REBECCA. WHEN YOU REACH ME.

By sixth grade, Miranda and her best friend, Sal, know how to navigate their New York City neighborhood. They know where it’s safe to go, like the local grocery store, and they know whom to avoid, like the crazy guy on the corner.

But things start to unravel. Sal gets punched by a new kid for what seems like no reason, and he shuts Miranda out of his life. The apartment key that Miranda’s mom keeps hidden for emergencies is stolen. And then Miranda finds a mysterious note… (Publisher)

THOMPSON, KATE. THE NEW POLICEMEN.

Who knows where the time goes? There never seems to be enough time in Kinvara, or anywhere else in Ireland for that matter. When J.J.’s mother says that what she really wants for her birthday is more time in her day, J.J. decides to find her some. But how can he find time for her, when he barely has enough time to keep up with school and his music? And where will he get time to find out if the shocking rumor is true—that his great-grandfather was a murderer? It seems as though J.J.’s given himself an impossible task. But then a neighbor reveals a secret to him—there is a place where time stands still. (Publisher)

ZEVIN, GABRIELLE. ELSEWHERE.

Elsewhere is where fifteen-year-old Liz Hall ends up, after she has died. It is a place so like Earth, yet completely different. Here Liz will age backward from the day of her death until she becomes a baby again and returns to Earth. But Liz wants to turn sixteen, not fourteen again. She wants to get her driver’s license. She wants to graduate from high school and go to college. And now that she’s dead, Liz is being forced to live a life she doesn’t want with a grandmother she has only just met. And it is not going well. How can Liz let go of the only life she has ever known and embrace a new one? Is it possible that a life lived in reverse is no different from a life lived forward? This moving, often funny book about grief, death, and loss will stay with the reader long after the last page is turned. (Publisher)

HISTORICAL FICTION

ACKERMAN, DIANE. THE ZOOKEEPER’S WIFE.

The remarkable WWII story of Jan Zabinski, the director of the Warsaw Zoo, and his wife, Antonina, who, with courage and coolheaded ingenuity, sheltered 300 Jews as well as Polish resisters in their villa and in animal cages and sheds. (Publisher)
ANDERSON, LAURIE HALSE. **CHAINS** and **FORGE**.

As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen-year-old Isabel wagers her own fight...for freedom. Promised freedom upon the death of their owner, she and her sister, Ruth, in a cruel twist of fate become the property of a malicious New York City couple, the Locktons, who have no sympathy for the American Revolution and even less for Ruth and Isabel. When Isabel meets Curzon, a slave with ties to the Patriots, he encourages her to spy on her owners, who know details of British plans for invasion. She is reluctant at first, but when the unthinkable happens to Ruth, Isabel realizes her loyalty is available to the bidder who can provide her with freedom.

In **Forge**, the compelling sequel to **Chains**, a National Book Award Finalist and winner of the Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction, acclaimed author Laurie Halse Anderson shifts perspective from Isabel to Curzon and brings to the page the tale of what it takes for runaway slaves to forge their own paths in a world of obstacles—and in the midst of the American Revolution. (Publisher)

ANDERSON, M.T. **ASTONISHING LIFE OF OCTAVIAN NOTHING**.

In this fascinating and eye-opening Revolution-era novel, Octavian, a black youth raised in a Boston household of radical philosophers, is given an excellent classical education. He and his mother, an African princess, are kept isolated on the estate, and only as he grows older does he realize that while he is well dressed and well fed, he is indeed a captive being used by his guardians as part of an experiment to determine the intellectual acuity of Africans. (Publisher)

AUCH, MARY JANE. **ASHES OF ROSES**.

Sixteen-year-old Rose Nolan and her family are grateful to have finally reached America, the great land of opportunity. Their happiness is shattered when part of their family is forced to return to Ireland. Rose wants to succeed and stays in New York with her younger sister Maureen. The sisters struggle to survive and barely do so by working at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory. Then, just as Rose is forming friendships and settling in, a devastating fire forces her, Maureen, and their friends to fight for their lives. Surrounded by pain, tragedy, and ashes, Rose wonders if there’s anything left for her in this great land of America. (Publisher)

HADDIX, MARGARET PETERSON. **UPRISING**.

Told from alternating points of view, this historical novel draws upon the experiences of three very different young women: Bella, who has just emigrated from Italy and doesn’t speak a word of English; Yetta, a Russian immigrant and crusader for labor rights; and Jane, the daughter of a wealthy businessman. Bella and Yetta work together at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory under terrible conditions—their pay is docked for even the slightest mistake, the bosses turn the clocks back so closing time is delayed, and they are locked into the factory all day, only to be frisked before they leave at night to make sure they haven’t stolen any shirtwaists. Through a series of twists and turns, the three girls become fast friends—and all of them are in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory on March 25, 1911, the day of the [famous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory] fire. In a novel that puts a human face on the tragedy, Margaret Peterson Haddix has created a sweeping, forceful tale that will have readers guessing until the last page who—if anyone—survives. (Publisher)

KLAGES, ELLEN. **THE GREEN GLASS SEA**.

While her father works on the Manhattan Project, eleven-year-old gadget lover and outcast Dewey Kerrigan lives in Los Alamos Camp, and becomes friends with Suze, another young girl who is shunned by her peers. (Publisher)
MEYER, L.A. **BLOODY JACK: BEING AN ACCOUNT OF THE CURIOUS ADVENTURES OF MARY “JACKY” FABER, SHIP’S BOY.**

Life as a ship’s boy aboard HMS Dolphin is a dream come true for Jacky Faber. Gone are the days of scavenging for food and fighting for survival on the streets of eighteenth-century London. Instead, Jacky is becoming a skilled and respected sailor as the crew pursues pirates on the high seas. There’s only one problem: Jacky is a girl. And she will have to use every bit of her spirit, wit, and courage to keep the crew from discovering her secret. This could be the adventure of her life—if only she doesn’t get caught. . . . (Publisher)

MEYER, CAROLYN. **MARY, BLOODY MARY.**

The story of Mary Tudor’s childhood is a classic fairy tale: A princess who is to inherit the throne of England is separated from her mother; abused by an evil stepmother who has enchanted her father; stripped of her title; and forced to care for her baby stepsister, who inherits Mary’s rights to the throne. (Publisher)

PRATCHETT, TERRY. **NATION.**

Thirteen-year-old Mau has almost completed the initiation rite of his Pacific island culture. Only one part of the ritual remains, but Mau worries that he will never be able to complete it. A devastating tsunami has wiped out his entire island, leaving only Mau and the British governor’s daughters as survivors. Of course, what follows is far more poignant than any quiet South Pacific ceremony. (Publisher)

RINALDI, ANN. **TIME ENOUGH FOR DRUMS.**

In this extremely romantic book about American Revolution, Jem Emerson, a fifteen-year-old from New Jersey, is torn between her love for her family and her feelings for her twenty-four-year-old tutor, John Reid. (Publisher)

SCHMIDT, GARY D. **THE WEDNESDAY WARS.**

Meet Holling Hoodhood, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High, who must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn’t like Holling—he’s sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare outside class? But everyone has bigger things to worry about, like Vietnam. His father wants Holling and his sister to be on their best behavior: the success of his business depends on it. But how can Holling stay out of trouble when he has so much to contend with? A bully demanding cream puffs; angry rats; and a baseball hero signing autographs the very same night Holling has to appear in a play in yellow tights! (Publisher)

SCHMIDT, GARY D. **OKAY FOR NOW.**

As a fourteen-year-old who just moved to a new town, with no friends and a louse for an older brother, Doug Swietek has all the stats stacked against him. As Doug struggles to be more than the “skinny thug” that his teachers and the police think him to be, he finds an unlikely ally in Lil Spicer—a fiery young lady who “smelled like daisies would smell if they were growing in a big field under a clearing sky after a rain.” In Lil, Doug finds the strength to endure an abusive father, the suspicions of a whole town, and the return of his oldest brother, forever scarred, from Vietnam. Together, they find a safe haven in the local library, inspiration in learning about the plates of John James Audubon’s birds, and a hilarious adventure on a Broadway stage. (Publisher)
SELZNICK, BRIAN. WONDERSTRUCK.

Relates the stories of twelve-year-old Ben, who loses his mother and his hearing in a short time frame and decides to leave his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he has never known in New York City; and Rose, who lives with her father but feels compelled to search for what is missing in her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures. (Publisher)

SPIEGELMAN, ART. MAUS I & MAUS II

Two graphic novels of the Holocaust survival based on Spiegelman's family featuring mice as Jews and cats and Nazis.

TAN, AMY. THE JOY LUCK CLUB.

In 1949 four Chinese women-drawn together by the shadow of their past-begin meeting in San Francisco to play mah jong, invest in stocks, eat dim sum, and 'say' stories. They call their gathering the Joy Luck Club. (Publisher)

WILLIAMS-GARCIA, RITA. ONE CRAZY SUMMER.

It is 1968, and three black sisters from Brooklyn have been put on a California-bound plane by their father to spend a month with their mother, a poet who ran off years before and is living in Oakland. Delphine, 11, remembers her mother, but after years of separation she's more apt to believe what her grandmother has said about her, that Cecile is a selfish, crazy woman who sleeps on the street. At least Cecile lives in a real house, but she reacts to her daughters' arrival without warmth or even curiosity. Instead, she sends the girls to eat breakfast at a center run by the Black Panther Party and tells them to stay out as long as they can so that she can work on her poetry. Over the course of the next four weeks, Delphine and her younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern, spend a lot of time learning about revolution and staying out of their mother's way. With memorable characters (all three girls have engaging, strong voices) and a powerful story, this is a book well worth reading and rereading. (School Library Journal)

REALISTIC FICTION

BIRDSALL, JEANNE. THE PENDERWICKS OF GARDAM STREET. (SERIES)

The second book of one of Chapin’s most beloved series – and my favorite. (Goldberg)

The four Penderwick sisters are faced with the unimaginable prospect of their widowed father dating, and they hatch a plot to stop him. (Publisher)

CREECH, SHARON. WALK TWO MOONS.

"How about a story? Spin us a yarn." Instantly, Phoebe Winterbottom came to mind. "I could tell you an extensively strange story," I warned. "Oh, good!" Gram said. "Delicious!" And that is how I happened to tell them about Phoebe, her disappearing mother, and the lunatic. 

As Sal entertains her grandparents with Phoebe's outrageous story, her own story begins to unfold -the story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother. (Publisher)
COLE, BROCK. THE GOATS.

Stripped and marooned on a small island by their fellow campers, a boy and a girl form an uneasy bond that grows into a deep friendship when they decide to run away and disappear without a trace. (Publisher)

DRAPER, SHARON. OUT OF MY MIND.

Eleven-year-old Melody has a photographic memory. Her head is like a video camera that is always recording. Always. And there's no delete button. She's the smartest kid in her whole school—but no one knows it. Most people—her teachers and doctors included—don't think she's capable of learning, and up until recently her school days consisted of listening to the same preschool-level alphabet lessons again and again and again. If only she could speak up, if only she could tell people what she thinks and knows . . . but she can't, because Melody can't talk. She can't walk. She can't write. Being stuck inside her head is making Melody go out of her mind—that is, until she discovers something that will allow her to speak for the first time ever. (Publisher)

FREDERICK, HEATHER VOGEL. THE MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB. (SERIES)

When the mothers of four sixth-grade girls with very different personalities pressure them into forming a book club, they find, as they read and discuss "Little Women," that they have much more in common than they could have imagined. (Publisher)

HENKES, KEVIN. OLIVE’S OCEAN.

"Olive Barstow was dead. She’d been hit by a car on Monroe Street while riding her bicycle weeks ago. That was about all Martha knew."

Martha Boyle and Olive Barstow could have been friends. But they weren’t — and now all that is left are eerie connections between two girls who were in the same grade at school and who both kept the same secret without knowing it.

Now Martha can't stop thinking about Olive. A family summer on Cape Cod should help banish those thoughts; instead, they seep in everywhere. And this year Martha's routine at her beloved grandmother's beachside house is complicated by the Manning boys. Jimmy, Tate, Todd, Luke, and Leo. But especially Jimmy. What if, what if, what if, what if, what if? (Publisher)

HOWE, JAMES. TOTALLY JOE.

Meet Joe Bunch. Lovable misfit and celebrity wannabe from Paintbrush Falls, New York. Like his longtime best friends Addie, Skeezie, and Bobby, Joe's been called names all his life. So when he's given the assignment to write his alphabiography -- the story of his life from A to Z -- Joe has his doubts. This whole thing could be serious ammunition for bullying if it falls into the wrong hands. But Joe discovers there's more to the assignment -- and his life -- than meets the eye. Especially when he gets to the letter C, which stands for Colin Briggs, the coolest guy in the seventh grade (seriously) -- and Joe's secret boyfriend. (Publisher)

By the time Joe gets to the letter Z, he's pretty much bared his soul about everything. And Joe's okay with that because he likes who he is. He's Totally Joe, and that's the best thing for him to be. Here is an exuberant, funny, totally original story of one boy's coming out -- and coming-of-age.
IGNATOW, AMY. THE POPULARITY PAPERS: RESEARCH FOR THE SOCIAL IMPROVEMENT AND GENERAL BETTERMENT OF LYDIA GOLDBLATT AND JULIE GRAHAM-CHANG. (SERIES)

Two best friends embark on a project to study the behavior and taste of the popular girls at their elementary school so that by the time they get to middle school they too will be in the right crowd and record their findings in the form of a scrapbook. (Publisher)

KONIGSBURG, E.L. THE OUTCASTS OF 19 SCHUYLER PLACE.

Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her great-uncles have been building in their backyard for more than forty years. (Publisher)

KORMAN, GORDON. Schooled.

Homeschooled on an isolated "alternate farm commune" that has dwindled since the 1960s to 2 members, 13-year-old Cap has always lived with his grandmother, Rain. When she is hospitalized, Cap is taken in by a social worker and sent—like a lamb to slaughter—to middle school. Smart and capable, innocent and inexperienced (he learned to drive on the farm, but he has never watched television), long-haired Cap soon becomes the butt of pranks. He reacts in unexpected ways and, in the end, elevates those around him to higher ground. From chapter to chapter, the first-person narrative shifts among certain characters: Cap, a social worker (who takes him into her home), her daughter (who resents his presence there), an A-list bully, a Z-list victim, a popular girl, the school principal, and a football player (who unintentionally decks Cap twice in one day). Korman capably manages the shifting points of view of characters who begin by scorning or resenting Cap and end up on his side. (Carolyn Phelan / Booklist)

MASS, WENDY. A MANGO-SHAPED SPACE.

Mia Winchell seems to be a typical teenager, but she's keeping a huge secret from everyone who knows her: sounds, numbers, and words appear in color for her. Mia has synesthesia, the mingling of perceptions whereby a person can see sounds, smell colors, or taste shapes. When trouble in school forces Mia to reveal her condition, her friends and family can't relate to her, and she must look to herself to develop an understanding and appreciation for her gift. (Publisher)

MCKAY, HILARY. CADDY EVER AFTER.

Love is in the air for the Casson family! Four hilarious, endearing tales unfold as Rose, Indigo, Saffy, and Caddy each tell their intertwining stories. Rose begins by showing how she does special with her Valentine's card for Tom in New York. Not to be outdone, Indigo has his own surprise in store for the Valentine's Day disco at school. For her part, Saffy has an unusual date in a very, very dark graveyard, and is haunted by a balloon that almost costs her her best friend. But it is Caddy who dares everything -- as she tells all about love at first sight when you have found the Real Thing. Unfortunately the Real Thing is not darling Michael. What is Rose going to do? (Publisher)

PEARSALL, SHELLEY. All of the Above.

Based on a true story, All of the Above is the delightful and suspenseful story of four inner city students and their quest to build the world's largest tetrahedron. Weaving together the different personal stories of the kids, their teacher, and the community that surrounds them, award-winning author Shelley Pearsall has written a vividly engaging story about the math, life and good-tasting barbecue. (Publisher)
SPINELLI, JERRY. **STARGIRL.**  
From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of “Stargirl, Stargirl.” She captures Leo Borlock’s heart with just one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted. At first. Then they turn on her. (Publisher)

TOWNSEND, SUE. **THE SECRET DIARY OF ADRIAN MOLE, AGED 13 ¾**  
Adrian Mole’s first love, Pandora, has left him; a neighbor, Mr. Lucas, appears to be seducing his mother (and what does that mean for his father?); the BBC refuses to publish his poetry; and his dog swallowed the tree off the Christmas cake. "Why" indeed. (Publisher)

VAN DRAANEN, WENDELIN. **FLIPPED.**  
A tale of two kids, and two very different fathers, told in alternating points of view of the children. (Goldberg)

WHelan, Gloria. **HOMELESS BIRD.**  
When thirteen-year-old Koly enters into an ill-fated arranged marriage, she must either suffer a destiny dictated by India’s tradition or find the courage to oppose it. (Publisher)

WEEKS, SARAH. **SO B. IT.**  
Heidi’s mother only knows 23 words, total. So how, Heidi wonders, did she come into the world? Who’s her father? All Heidi knows is that twelve years ago, her mother showed up on Bernie’s doorstep with a baby in her arms. Since then, Heidi’s been raised and homeschooled by Bernie. Now that she’s 12, Heidi has more questions than ever before. Can she piece together the clues to find out the truth? Her mother keeps repeating the word, soof. It’s one of the 23 words she uses, along with her name “So B. It.”. Could that word soof unlock the truth about her birth? (Goldberg)

**NON-FICTION / GRAPHIC NOVELS / POETRY**

ALLEN, THOMAS. **GEORGE WASHINGTON: SPYMASTER.**  
Follow the action as 1775 dawns, and Washington finds himself in serious trouble. At war with Britain, the world’s most powerful empire, his ragtag army possesses only a few muskets, some cannons, and no money. The Americans’ only hope is to wage an invisible war—a war of spies, intelligence networks, and deception. Enter the shadowy world of double agents, covert operations, codes and ciphers—a world so secret that America’s spymaster himself doesn’t know the identities of some of his agents. (Publisher)
ALLIN, MICHAEL. **ZARAF: A GIRAFFE’S TRUE STORY.**

Chronicles the journey of the giraffe Ottoman Viceroy of Egypt, Muhammad Ali, gave to King Charles X as it traveled from Egypt to France in 1827.

CERAM, C.W. **GODS, GRAVES AND SCHOLARS.**

We travel with Heinrich Schliemann as, defying the ridicule of the learned world, he actually unearths the remains of the ancient city of Troy. We share the excitement of Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter as they first glimpse the riches of Tutankhamen's tomb, of George Smith when he found the ancient clay tablets that contained the records of the Biblical Flood. We rediscover the ruined splendors of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, one of the wonders of the ancient world; of Chichen Itza, the abandoned pyramids of the Maya; and the legendary Labyrinth of the Minotaur in Crete. Here is much of the history of civilization and the stories of the men who rediscovered it. (Publisher)

FLEMING, CANDACE. **AMELIA LOST: THE LIFE AND DISAPPEARANCE OF AMELIA EARHART.**

In alternating chapters, Fleming deftly moves readers back and forth between Amelia’s life (from childhood up until her last flight) and the exhaustive search for her and her missing plane. With incredible photos, maps, and handwritten notes from Amelia herself—plus informative sidebars tackling everything from the history of flight to what Amelia liked to eat while flying (tomato soup)

FRANK, ANNE. **DIARY OF A YOUNG GIRL.**

Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has since become a world classic -- a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit. In 1942, with Nazis occupying Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, until their whereabouts were betrayed to the Gestapo, they and another family lived cloistered in the “Secret Annex” of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death. In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period. (Publisher)

HERRIOTT, JAMES. **ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL.**

Delve into the magical, unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world's most beloved veterinarian, and his menagerie of heartwarming, funny, and tragic animal patients. For decades, Herriot roamed the remote, beautiful Yorkshire Dales, treating every patient that came his way from smallest to largest, and observing animals and humans alike with his keen, loving eye. In All Creatures Great and Small, we meet the young Herriot as he takes up his calling and discovers that the realities of veterinary practice in rural Yorkshire are very different from the sterile setting of veterinary school. (Publisher)

HOOSE, PHILIP M. **CLAUDETTE COLVIN: TWICE TOWARD JUSTICE.**

On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders. Undaunted, a year later she dared to challenge segregation again as a key plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South. (Publisher)
JIANG, JI-LI. RED SCARF GIRL: A MEMOIR OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION.

It's 1966, and twelve-year-old Ji-li Jiang has everything a girl could want: brains, tons of friends, and a bright future in Communist China. But it's also the year that China's leader, Mao Ze-dong, launches the Cultural Revolution—and Ji-li's world begins to fall apart. Over the next few years, people who were once her friends and neighbors turn on her and her family, forcing them to live in constant terror of arrest. When Ji-li's father is finally imprisoned, she faces the most difficult dilemma of her life. (Publisher)

JAMESZKO, PAUL B. THE PLACE MY WORDS ARE LOOKING FOR: WHAT POETS SAY ABOUT AND THROUGH THEIR WORK.

Paul B. Janeczko says, "poetry will always be something of a mystery to me. When I read poetry, when I write a poem, I always wonder how poetry happens, and I imagine that many of you wonder, too. Happily, the poets in this book have agreed to share their poems as well as their thoughts about writing poetry. (Publisher)

JURMAIN, SUZANNE. THE SECRET OF THE YELLOW DEATH: A TRUE STORY OF MEDICAL SLEUTHING.

Red oozes from the patient's gums. He has a rushing headache and the whites of his eyes look like lemons. His tongue may soon turn black. He will likely die within days. Here is the true story of how four Americans and one Cuban tracked down a killer, one of the world's most vicious plagues - yellow fever. (Publisher)

LORD, WALTER. A NIGHT TO REMEMBER.

A Night to Remember remains a completely riveting account of the Titanic's fatal collision and the behavior of the passengers and crew, both noble and ignominious. Some sacrificed their lives, while others fought like animals for their own survival. Wives beseeched husbands to join them in lifeboats; gentlemen went taut-lipped to their deaths in full evening dress; and hundreds of steerage passengers, trapped below decks, and sought help in vain. (Publisher)

MACAULAY, DAVID. THE WAY WE WORK.

Macaulay has taken on the task of explaining the body from atoms on up. He does this with lively color, scientific accuracy and his familiar, and shamelessly hokey, humor...There is plenty of classical anatomy. The illustrations of cell division, the wall of the small intestine and other subjects are models of clarity in biological illustration. But the ruling idea behind the book is of the body as a mechanism. That's a good working idea, particularly for young readers. But the book inspires confidence for the rest of us, too. (Publisher)

MAH, ADELINE YEN. CHINESE CINDERELLA: THE TRUE STORY OF AN UNWANTED DAUGHTER.

Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck after her mother dies giving birth to her. Life does not get any easier when her father remarries. She and her siblings are subjected to the disdain of her stepmother, while her stepbrother and stepsister are spoiled. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not enough to compensate for what she really yearns for -- the love and understanding of her family. (Publisher)
SACKS, OLIVER.  **THE MAN WHO MISTOOK HIS WIFE FOR A HAT.**

*The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat* tells the stories of individuals afflicted with fantastic perceptual and intellectual aberrations: patients who have lost their memories and with them the greater part of their pasts; who are no longer able to recognize people and common objects; who are stricken with violent tics and grimaces or who shout involuntary obscenities; whose limbs have become alien; who have been dismissed as retarded yet are gifted. (Publisher)

SCHLOSSER, ERIC AND CHRIS WILSON.  **CHEW ON THIS: EVERYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW ABOUT FAST FOOD.**

Find out what really goes on at your favorite restaurants—and what lurks between those sesame seed buns. (Publisher)

WARRICK, KAREN CLEMENS.  **SANDRA CISNEROS: INSPIRING LATINA AUTHOR.**

Sandra Cisneros began her career as an author by writing about her childhood memories. She used language she heard every day in her neighborhood. She mixed English with Spanish words and phrases. Through her stories, she learned to speak out loud. She learned to laugh. She used language she heard every day, yet she wrote with a voice all her own. Cisneros has overcome many hardships, including poverty and racism, to become a unique voice of Mexican-American literature. She now encourages other women and members of minority groups as both a writer and activist to achieve their full potential in life. (Publisher)