

June 2010

Dear Seventh Graders,

Reading is a very important part of your experience at DUTCHESS DAY SCHOOL. Summer is a wonderful time for recreational reading, for exploring new books or reading those that you never had time for during the busy school year. Although I hope that you will be a voracious reader this summer, I request that each of you read a minimum of four books. Regardless of the number, you must keep track of the books you read, because I will ask that you share your reading log in the fall on the first day of school.

Keep in mind that it is in your best interest to be reading everyday. That said, I recognize that reading is not solely about books. If you love reading Sports Illustrated or a particular blog, then write that down. If graphic novels are your thing, then include them too!

There is one book that is mandatory and must be read by the time you return to school in September. It is *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry. You should be prepared to respond to questions about the book's plot, characters, setting, conflicts, and themes. Do buy your own copy so you can mark it up with pen, pencil and highlighter!

I have combined two lists: one is from one of my old schools and the other is courtesy of Ms.Park, so there are A LOT of titles arranged by genre. Enjoy the variety!

I wish you a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Sincerely,

Ms. Roberts

FICTION (REALISTIC AND HISTORICAL):

Adams, Richard *Watership Down*: This maverick band of rabbits, with their rich culture and fully developed language, have become heroes to so many that this remarkable novel is considered a modern classic for both adults and children.

Anderson, M.T.

THE ASTONISHING LIFE OF OCTAVIAN NOTHING

Set against the disquiet of Revolutionary Boston, Octavian's life is filled with contradictions, mysteries, and surprising revelations. The issues of slavery and human rights, racism, free will, and wars are all highly relevant today. This was the newest National Book Award Winner.

BAUER, JOAN

HOPE WAS HERE

Sixteen-year-old Hope and her aunt move to a small town in Wisconsin to join the "short order dance" of life at the Welcome Stairways Diner. In the course of just a few months, Hope encounters issues as diverse as her customers: corruption in politics, a new love, serious illness and the meaning of family. Newbery Honor Book

BAUER, JOAN

SQUASHED

Ellie Morgan's life would be almost perfect if she could just get her potentially prize-winning pumpkin, Max, to put on about 200 pounds, and if she could take off twenty herself. Then she could become a famous pumpkin-growing personality and squash that obnoxious Cyril Pool once and for all, and maybe get a new boyfriend in the process.

Beatty, Patricia *Look Homeward, Hannalee*: A young girl and her brother are forced to leave the south to work in the mills in Illinois. This book describes her efforts to keep the family together and to return to the south.

BERGMAN, TAMAR

ALONG THE TRACKS

In World War II, after the Nazis invade Russia, Yankele is separated from his family. He somehow manages to survive for four years on his own as he travels from one railroad station to another with bands of other lost and abandoned children. This remarkable story is based on a true experience.

Borland, Hal *When Legends Die*: A Ute Indian boy in Colorado is betrayed by his own people and the white man but finds his way back to his Indian roots.

Brashares, Ann

FOREVER IN BLUE

In this 4th book of the Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants series, Lena, Tibby, Carmen, and Bridget discover many more things about themselves and the importance of their relationship with each other.

BROOKS, BRUCE

THE MOVES MAKE THE MAN

As Jerome, a black athlete, shares his skills and interest in basketball with Bix, a white baseball player, their friendship grows and the game becomes a reflection of both their lives.

Buck, Pearl S. *The Good Earth*: Regarded as Buck's masterpiece, this novel describes the rise of Wang Lung, a Chinese peasant, to the position of a rich landowner, helped by his wife O-lan. Their vigor, fortitude, persistence and love of the soil are emphasized throughout.

Byars, Betsy *The Pinballs*: Three unwanted kids, Pinballs, as wisecracking Carly dubs them, collide in a warm and caring foster home and learn to pin their hopes on each other.

CHOTJEWITZ, DAVID.

DANIEL, HALF HUMAN: AND THE GOOD NAZI. Tr. from the German by Doris Orgel.

In this suspenseful story set in 1930s Germany, a boy accustomed to privilege is forced into a life of deception after discovering that he is

half-Jewish. His complicated relationship with his friend Armin is challenged when the rise of Nazism takes the children in different directions.

Christopher, John *The White Mountain, The City of Gold and Lead & The Pool of Fire*: This trilogy takes place in the 21st century. Will lives in a society run by machine-like creatures called Tripods and works to set humankind free.

Christopher, John *The Prince is Waiting, Beyond the Burning Lands & The Sword of the Spirit*: Another excellent science fiction trilogy set in the future.

Cleaver, Vera and Bill *Where the Lilies Bloom*: A touching and humorous story about 14 year-old Mary Call who manages to keep her orphaned brothers and sisters alive in the face of the hostile world of the Great Smoky Mountains.

Collier, James L. and Christopher *War Comes to Willy Freeman*: Willy Freeman finds herself caught suddenly in the Revolution when she sees her father killed and her mother kidnapped by the British. Disguising herself as a boy, she sets out to find her mother and finds along the way being black and female makes her search especially dangerous.

COLE, BROCK

THE GOATS

Targets of a cruel prank, Laura and Howie, two young teenagers, run away from their summer camp. They soon find themselves facing danger and adventure together and forming steadfast and enduring friendship.

Cooper, Susan *The Dark is Rising*: The eleventh son of an eleventh son on his eleventh birthday becomes an unknowing and unwilling participant in the struggle between good and evil across the centuries.

CORMIER, ROBERT

THE CHOCOLATE WAR and BEYOND THE CHOCOLATE WAR

These are two powerful, suspenseful novels about high school politics, cruelty, and conformity. Cormier's other memorable, if unsettling, novels worth reading are AFTER THE FIRST DEATH, I AM THE CHEESE, and WE ALL FALL DOWN.

Crew, Gary *Strange Objects*: After discovering valuable relics from a 17th century shipwreck, a sixteen year old Australian disappears under mysterious circumstances.

CURTIS, CHRISTOPHER PAUL.

BUCKING THE SARGE

14-year-old Luther works for his mother, The Sarge, who runs a mid-way house for those less fortunate and who is nothing but a gigantic crook. Luther cannot stand his mother's evil ways. With great wit and intelligence, he plots to escape his ruthless mother's plans for his life and to find his way in the world outside of Flint, Michigan. Author of BUD, NOT BUDDY once again wrote a humorous story that has something more to deliver than just a few funny punch lines.

DESAI HIDIER, TANUJA

BORN CONFUSED

Dimple Lala, the insightful 17-year-old narrator of this story of an ABCD (American Born Confused Desi,) tells about her life as a New Jersey Indian-American school girl who, as a perpetual outsider, is always trying to find herself.

Doyle, Arthur Conan *The Hound of the Baskervilles*: Sherlock Holmes and Watson set out to solve the most bewildering and blood curdling cases of their careers as they investigate the curse that has been hanging over the Baskerville family for generations.

Farmer, Nancy *The Ear, the Eye and the Arm*: Set in the Africa of the future, specifically Zimbabwe, 2194. General Matsika's three children are kidnapped and put to work in a plastic mine while three mutant detectives use their special powers to search for them.

FAST, HOWARD

APRIL MORNING

An hour-by-hour account of the Battle of Lexington, this account of historical fiction is compelling to the end.

Field, Rachel *Hitty: Her First Hundred Years*: This is about a doll who was carved out of a piece of white ash wood one winter in Maine nearly two hundred years ago. She belonged to Phoebe Prible, who took her everywhere. It's an old-fashioned historical novel with charm.

FINE, ANNE

UP ON CLOUD NINE

In Ian's words, his wacky best buddy Stolly is the most ingenious trouble-maker in history. Although hilarious recollections abound, the readers are keenly aware a dark, suicidal streak in Stolly. Now he lies in a coma in the hospital after falling (or jumping) off of the roof. Told with wry and dark humor but full of compassion, this superbly crafted novel was the finalist for the prestigious Carnegie Award in England.

FLEISCHMAN, PAUL
WHIRLIGIG

When sixteen-year-old Brent Bishop accidentally causes the death of a young woman, he is sent on an unusual journey of repentance, building wind toys across the land.

Gaines, Ernst J. *A Lesson Before Dying*: Grant Wiggins, a university trained school teacher is persuaded to help Jefferson, a young black man, to face his death sentence with dignity.

GILMORE, KATE
ENTER THREE WITCHES

Sixteen-year-old Bren finds living with witches hard enough, but how can he prevent his girlfriend from discovering their existence! Full of humorous remarks and situations, this is quite a gem.

Gratz, Alan
SAMURAI SHORTSTOP

Baseball and the Way of the Warriors (Bushido) shared many common traits: honor, teamwork, physical and inner strengths, and serve as a unified backdrop of this tightly written and action packed school story set in 1890s Japan.

GREENE, CONSTANCE C.
SUMMER OF MY GERMAN SOLDIER

Sheltering an escaped prisoner of war is the beginning of some shattering experiences for a twelve-year-old girl from Arkansas. Other titles include BEAT THE TURTLE DRUM and THE LOVE LETTERS OF J. TIMOTHY OWEN.

Garfield, Leon *Smith*: Smith, a 12-year-old pickpocket pursued by thieves, leads a swift-packed descent into 18th century London's underground peopled with timeless personalities cleverly self-revealed through dialogue passages that echo Dickens

Henkes, Kevin *Protecting Marie*: An eloquently written novel that validates the art of keeping a good family together.

Henkes, Kevin *The Birthday Room*: Another beautiful story by Henkes, this one about a boy discovering both his past and himself.

HENKES, KEVIN
OLIVE'S OCEAN

12-year-old Martha receives a page from the journal of a classmate, Olive, who has died in an accident. Olive's entry about a desire to be Martha's friend, to see the ocean, and to become a writer propels Martha into a journey from childhood to the brink of adolescence.

Henry, O. any selected stories (read five): O. Henry is the master of the surprise ending and his stories are entertaining and thought provoking.

Herriot, James *All Creatures Great and small*: Animal and human personalities are revealed in this warm and graphic account written by practicing country Veterinarian. Episodes are gripping, touching, and often hilarious.

HESSE, KAREN
WITNESS

In 11 voices, and 11 individual view points, this story of the influence of KKK in the early 20th century in a small town in Vermont unfolds.

Highwater, Jamake *Legend Days*: Abandoned in the wilderness after smallpox devastates her tribe, eleven-year old Amana acquires from Grandfather Fox a warrior's courage and a hunter's prowess, gifts that sustain her as she watches the progressive disintegration of her people.

HOLT, KIMBERLY WILLIS
KEEPER OF THE NIGHT

13-year-old Isabel's life on the Island of Guam is shattered after her mother's suicide. Keeper of the Night chronicles, in poetic prose and

sparkling imagery, Isabel's doubts, worries, and her strong will to reconstruct life for herself and her remaining family. Holt portrays the everyday life on Guam vividly without ever slipping into exoticism.

HOWE, JAMES

TOTALLY JOE

Even though Joe always knows that he is gay, the 8th grade journal assignment helps him to explore and express his growing self-awareness.

Johnson, Angela *Toning the Sweep* :Three generations of African-American women, each holding on to a separate truth.

Keehn, Sally *I am Regina*:In this novel based on a true story of Indian capture of pioneer settlers, Regina feels torn from her home among the Delaware Indians when soldiers liberate her to be claimed by a mother she barely remembers.

KINDL, PATRICIA

OWL IN LOVE

Humorously and tenderly depicted, Owl Tycho's joy and angst of being a "were-owl" (a shape-shifter) who falls in love with her science teacher, guarantees a light but satisfying read.

KONIGSBURG, E.L.

OUTCASTS OF 19 SCHUYLAR PLACE

Margaret Rose, age 12, hates being in Camp Talequa where she suffers from the taunting and humiliating by a clique of girls. She is rescued by her great-grand uncles. But, something is wrong — her usually loving uncles, who are watchmakers and artists, are distracted and do not care for her the same way they always did. She soon finds out that something the uncles have been building for the last 45 years is going to be destroyed. Margaret Rose springs into action to save the day.

KONIGSBURG, E. L.

A PROUD TASTE FOR SCARLET AND MINIVER

Told in a humorous, tongue-in-cheek style, this is the story of Eleanor of Aquitaine, queen of France and then of England. Her wit is sharp as she recounts her life in the 12th century.

KUIJER, GUUS

BOOK OF EVERYTHING

Thomas has visions, of levitating chairs and other oddities, but the most vivid are the visits from Jesus. Thomas slowly gains confidence to combat his father's abusive behaviors.

LASKY, KATHRYN

BEYOND THE BURNING TIME

This fictional re-creation of the Salem witch trials gives frightening immediacy to the term witch-hunt as we get caught up in the escalation of events when Mary's mother is brought to trial. It is a novel of the past that becomes a page-turner for today's readers.

LAWRENCE, IAIN

GHOST BOY

Tired of the taunts and indignities of the local residents, fourteen-year-old Harold, an albino, runs away to join the circus.

Lawrence, Iain *The Wreckers*: A dramatic historical novel about a village on the coast of Cornwall that lures storm-tossed ships to their doom.

LESTER, JULIUS.

DAY OF TEARS

This short novel in dialogues and monologues portrays a deeply troubling time in American history when slaves were auctioned. They were separated from their families and sent to undesirable new places. Julius Lester presented many voices that were involved in a historical auction, based on his research of slave narratives. A powerful and moving novel.

Lester, Julius *To Be a Slave*:A compilation selected from various sources and arranged chronologically, of the reminiscences of slaves and ex-slaves about their experiences from the leaving of Africa, through the Civil War, and into the early 20th century.

LIPSYTE, ROBERT

THE CHEMO KID (and others, especially the CONTENDER and ONE FAT SUMMER)

This intriguing novel tells the story of Fred Bauer, an unremarkable high-school wimp whose life is utterly changed when he discovers a cancerous growth on his neck.

Llewellyn, Richard *How Green was My Valley*: A warm and moving story of a Welsh mining family written in 1939.

Lyons, Mary

LETTERS FROM A SLAVE BOY

Based loosely on the real life story of Joseph Jacobs, this is an emotionally charged and authentic tale of a young African American's struggle to become free and to free his mother and sister from the evil of slavery.

Lyons, M. *Letters from a Slave Girl*: The true story of Harriet Jacobs told through a series of letters. Working to set her family free is the driving motivation of her life.

MARTIN, ANN M.

A CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE

Hattie Owen divides her 12-year-old life history into Before Adam and After Adam. Adam is her mentally disabled uncle whose existence was hidden away by Hattie's parents and grandparents, until the summer when she turns 12. Hattie and Adam become instant pals — she is Adam's advocate and deeply affected by his eccentric behaviors and often surprisingly insightful views of the world. This is a 2003 Newbery Honor title.

McDonald, Joyce *Swallowing Stones*: An eye-opening novel about the consequences of our actions and the painful path towards learning to take responsibility for them.

McKAY, HILARY

SAFFY'S ANGEL

Saffy finds out at the beginning of this humorous story that she was adopted, into this very loving but quirky family of artists. She becomes obsessed with the idea to search for an angel statue in Italy which she remembers from the toddler days with her mother. Her riotous trip and the collection of eccentric characters make this a memorable read.

Mazer, Harry *The Island Keeper*: Runaway Cleo faces up to her problems on a lonely island in Canada.

MIKAELSEN, BEN

TOUCHING SPIRIT BEAR

Cole Matthews is an angry and defiant young man. Because of his violent crime against another 9th grader, he is facing a prison sentence. But then a Tlingit Indian parole officer named Garvey offers Circle Justice, based on Native American traditions, in which victim, offender, and community all work together to find a healing solution, he takes the offer and thinks that he can somewhat "wiggle" out of his punishment. When Cole challenges the giant White Bear and is mauled almost to death, Cole awaits his fate and begins the transition from anger to humility.

MOSHER, RICHARD

ZAZOO

Zazoo, a Vietnamese orphan adopted by a French man who had a terrible and sorrowful past, has to deal with an aging foster parent, her own budding sense of romance, and grappling with the dark past when Nazis invaded France. Even though the tone is tender and often reflective, the story is charged with deep emotion and the plot gripping.

MYERS, WALTER DEAN

FALLEN ANGELS

This is a gripping war novel about the price five young men pay for their tour of duty in Vietnam.

MYERS, WALTER DEAN

MONSTER

This Young Adult Book of the Year (Prinz Award) winner tells a powerful and thoughtful story from the viewpoint of a 16-year-old boy Steve Harmon who is accused of assistance in a murder robbery case and is undergoing trial. The book takes the unusual form of Steve's imaginary screenplay.

NELSON, THERESA

RUBY ELECTRIC

Ruby deals with her real life problems by visualizing screen plays in her head. Full of humor and drama, Ruby's voice crackles with electricity.

Oates, Joyce Carol *Big Mouth, Ugly Girl*: Ursula Riggs, a high school junior leaps to her classmate Matt Donaghy's defense when his throwaway joke about blowing up the school makes him a suspected terrorist, but then rebuffs Matt's overtures of friendship. The novel

intensifies even though Matt is quickly exonerated. Matt's friends ice him out, citing pressure from their parents, and his family receives hate mail.

Orczy, Baroness Emma *The Scarlet Pimpernel*: Is he in heaven? Is he in hell? That elusive Pimpernel!

ORLEV, URI

Translated by Hillel Halkin from Hebrew

RUN, BOY, RUN

At the age of eight, Srulik is left alone in the Warsaw Ghetto, and must fend for himself, even forgetting his name, in order to survive the Holocaust. The 2004 Batchelder Award winner for best translated children's book of the year..

Orwell, George *1984*: A dictatorship called Big Brother rules the people in a collective society where the Thought Police convince the people that "ignorance is strength and war is peace." Winston, the hero, becomes involved in a forbidden love affair.

Ouida, Sebestyen *Words by Heart*: A powerful tale of an African American girl with a "Magic Mind" who must learn what forgiveness is. Set in the cotton country of the west at the turn of the century, this novel shows that strength comes from within.

Paterson, Katherine *Come Sing, Jimmy Jo*: James Johnson's music-making family is harmonious only when they sing.

Paterson, Katherine *Lyddie*: Impoverished Vermont farm girl Lyddie Worthen is determined to gain her independence by becoming a factory worker in Lowell, Massachusetts in the 1840's.

PATON, ALAN

CRY THE BELOVED COUNTRY

This powerful novel of conflict and brotherhood between two families set in South Africa under Apartheid continues to haunt us.

Paulsen, Gary *Dogsong*: A young eskimo tries his strength as he dog-sleds into the snow fields.

PECK, RICHARD

THE RIVER BETWEEN US

Set against the dramatic backdrop of the American Civil War, this intriguing family history of the Pruitts and their mysterious guests: the flamboyant Delphine Duval and her silent maid Calinda features unforgettable characters, vivid descriptions of the home front and the battle fields, and a surprising ending.

PFEFFER, SUSAN BETH

THE YEAR WITHOUT MICHAEL

When fourteen-year-old Michael suddenly disappears, the remaining members of his family are thrown into a state of uncertainty and agony.

PHILBRICK, W.R.

FREAK THE MIGHTY

At the beginning of eighth grade, Max, a slow learner who is HUGE for his age and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when combining forces they make a powerful team.

Portis, Charles *True Grit*: A persistent and clever girl tracks down her dad's killer with the help of two gunslingers. Funny and touching.

Pyle, Howard *Otto of the Silver Hand*: An innocent boy is caught up in a vicious feud in the Middle Ages.

Richter, Conrad *Light in the Forest*: A four-year old white boy is kidnapped by Indians and treated as one of the tribe. The story tells of the difficulties he encounters upon returning to his own family.

Rowling, J.K.

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HOLLOW

The 7th and final volume in this international best selling series.

SCHMIDT, GARY D.

LIZZIE BRIGHT AND THE BUCKMINSTER BOY (Historical Fiction)

Based on a little known piece of history, the island of Malaga Maine was originally settled by Benjamin Darling a freed (or escaped) slave and his white wife, Sarah Proverbs. More slaves followed. In the early 1900's, as the shipping industry began to fail in neighboring white

mainland Philipsburg, the town elders begin to see the poor community of Malaga as a possible lucrative tourist attraction and proceed to destroy it. Schmidt's fictional portrayal of this story is told through the friendship between Lizze Bright, a Malaga local and Turner Buckminster, the bullied new preacher's son and how they take a stand. Although the story is sad, there is much humor and it is filled with feeling and imagery.

Sewell, Anne *Black Beauty*:The classic story of the beloved horse. A must read for horse lovers and others.

Speare, Elisabeth *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*:Kit moves from the Caribbean to a stern Puritan community in Connecticut where her unconventional ways bring an accusation of witchcraft upon her.

SPINELLI, JERRY

MILKWEED

Set during WWII, within the Warsaw Ghetto, MILKWEED is the story of a little orphan boy, who does not remember his parents, does not really know his name, and does not know whether he is a Gypsy or a Jew. He finally settles on being Misha who is good at stealing food and supplies for himself and for others in the Ghetto and because his small size, he could even crawl through a hole in the Wall to get in and out of the Ghetto. This story, told through Misha's innocent voice and with plenty of actions, shows the horror of the Jewish Holocaust and the nobility of human spirit.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher *Shiva's Fire*:By the author of *Shabanu*, this novel tells the story of Parvati, an extraordinary dancer, and the path she chooses in life.

Stevenson, Robert Louis *Treasure Island*:In this story of piracy and concealed treasure, Jim Hawkins discovers a treasure map, becomes involved with pirates and other sinister characters and has many mysterious and terrifying adventures.

THEROUS, PAUL

THE MOSQUITO COAST (and others)

Fourteen-year-old Charlie Fox records his family's experiences pursuing his disgruntled father's utopian dream in the Honduran wilderness.

Thompson, Kate

THE NEW POLICEMAN

Irish teenager JJ Liddy discovers that time is leaking from his world into the land of the fairies, and as he attempts to stop the leak he finds out about his family history and a crime his great-grandfather possibly committed.

TOWNSEND, SUE

THE ADRIAN MOLE DIARIES

(The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 3/4 : The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole)

Hilarious and quirky, these "secret" diaries of a 13-year-old English boy have entertained many teen readers for a long time. Read it and you'll see how teenage angst can be so vividly and humorously captured.

Twain, Mark *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*:The classic tale of adventure, mischief and mischance about one of literature's most enduring young heroes.

Twain, Mark *Life on the Mississippi*:The autobiography of Twain as a young man who learns to become a steamboat pilot.Perhaps the greatest story of apprenticeship ever written.

VOIGT, CYNTHIA

COME A STRANGER

This is one of the last books in the series that begins with Homecoming, continues with Dicey's Song, and A Solitary Blue. This time the story is about Dicey's friend Minna, a black girl who comes face to face with racism, and has to come to terms with her life. You'll meet memorable characters in these books.

VOIGT, CYNTHIA

IZZY, WILLY-NILLY

Who are your real friends? Izzy struggles to rethink her friendships after losing a leg in a car crash.

Webster, J *Daddy Long Legs*:An orphaned girl writes letters to her secret benefactor who pays for her to go to boarding school. Who is he?

White, T.H. *The Sword in the Stone*: Part of the Arthurian legends, this is an account of everyday life in a great medieval manor house in which two boys learn swordsmanship, hawking and hunting as one of the boys prepares to become king.

WOLFF, VIRGINIA EUWER
TRUE BELIEVER

Possibly the best American novel for young people published in 2001, the journal-verse-style writing delivers a genuine and interesting voice of Verna LaVaughn, 15-year-old inner-city school girl who strives to better herself to “get out” of her neighborhood and the life which is constantly in poverty and in danger of violence. On top of all that, she also is gradually losing her two best friends who are now part of a radical religious group and has to figure out how to mend her broken heart over a loving person who cannot love back. Readers will not be able to put down the book for the beauty of the language and style, for the truth of the characters and their emotions, and for the depth of love and friendship among the characters. This is the sequel to the equally superb MAKE LEMONADE.

WOODSON, JACQUELINE
I HADN'T MEANT TO TELL YOU THIS

In a quiet, beautiful friendship story, two young teenagers resist the racism in their school and the sorrow in their families and help each other find the strength to go on.

WOUK, HERMAN
MARJORIE MORNINGSTAR

Nineteen-year-old Marjorie is offered the job of her dreams — working in a summer stock company where she meets her first love.

YOLEN, JANE AND ROBERT J. HARRIS
GIRL IN A CAGE

In 1306, 11-year-old Marjorie, daughter of Robert Bruce, newly crowned king of Scotland finds herself captured by the enemy, locked in an iron cage and is displayed outdoors day and night in the Town Square. Marjorie tells in a first-person voice of her captivity and the exciting and moving events leading up to it. This is a compelling historical fiction.

Zindel, Lizabeth
GIRL OF THE MOMENT

15-year-old Lily Miles learns first hand how messed up the lives of the rich and famous can be when she becomes the summer intern of a teen celebrity. Lizabeth Zindel is an Dalton Alum. and a film producer. Her personal background adds a lot of reality to this fun read.

ZINDEL, PAUL
THE PIGMAN

Two teenagers who lead unhappy lives at home form a strange relationship with a lonely old man. Other titles include THE PIGMAN AND ME, THE PIGMAN'S LEGACY, THE AMAZING AND DEATH-DEFYING DIARY OF EUGENE DINGMAN.

CLASSICS/AWARD WINNERS

ALCOTT, LOUISA MAY
LITTLE WOMEN (and others)

The March sisters come of age in Concord during the Civil War.

AUEL, JEAN
CLAN OF THE CAVE BEAR (series)

This is the best-selling epic of a lost girl adopted into a tribe of prehistoric hunter-gathers.

CRANE, STEPHEN
THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE

A young soldier comes of age under the stress of Civil War combat.

DUMAS, ALEXANDRE
THE THREE MUSKETEERS (and others)

This is perhaps the greatest “cloak and sword” story ever written; it is a fast-paced tale of the heroic deeds of Athos, Porthos, Aramis and D'Artagnan as defenders of Louis XIV.

DUMAS, ALEXANDRE
THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

Young sailor Edmond Dantes, unjustly accused of aiding the exiled Napoleon, is sentenced to life imprisonment. After 14 years, Dantes

makes a daring escape and uncovers a vast treasure on the island of Monte-Cristo. Adopting the persona of the Count of Monte Cristo, Dantes comes back home to seek revenge. Full of excitement and suspense, this is one to read on summer nights.

FINNEY, JACK

TIME AND AGAIN and FROM TIME TO TIME

For mystery and romance, science fiction and nostalgia, this novel is a must-read!! One night, Si Morley steps out of his twentieth-century Upper West Side apartment - right into the winter of 1882.

KINSELLA, W.P.

SHOELESS JOE

Read this classic story of dreams and baseball! It will enchant you!

KIPLING, RUDYARD

KIM

A young Irish boy in colonial India is involved with a native mystic and the Secret Service.

LONDON, JACK

THE CALL OF THE WILD

This enduring classic story tells the story of an extraordinary dog named Buck who is torn between his love of man and his love of the wild. Another Jack London classic is WHITE FANG, also highly recommended.

MITCHELL, MARGARET

GONE WITH THE WIND

This epic saga of the years before, during and after the Civil War in Georgia continues to fascinate all ages. The many characters include the unforgettable Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler.

NA, AN

A STEP FROM HEAVEN

This story traces the life of Korean-born Young Ju from the age of four through her teenage years, from Korea to the States. Young Ju's steady growth in language and understanding of the new culture presents a sharp contrast of her father's inability to adapt to the new environment. Frustrated, her father becomes abusive. The not-all-happy ending is convincing and promises an uplifting path for the main character. A 2002 Printz Award winner for Young Adult Literature.

PATERSON, KATHERINE

JACOB HAVE I LOVED

Louise knew that she was the despised twin and that Caroline was the one everyone loved best. It took her a long time and a lot of growing up until she could accept herself as a worthwhile person. A Newbery Award Winner.

PECK, RICHARD

A YEAR DOWN YONDER

A rip-roaring story set against the backdrop of the Depression Era, features a grandmother who is a sharp shooter, bakes the most delicious pies, steals pumpkins from her neighbor's garden, plays tricks on Halloween pranksters, and is truly hearted. This Newbery winner is the sequel to A LONG WAY FROM CHICAGO.

SMITH, BETTY

A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN

This is the delightful and moving story of the hardships, sorrows and happiness of Francie, a poor girl living in Brooklyn at the turn of the century. A popular novel for generations, it continues to find a wide audience today.

STEINBECK, JOHN

OF MICE AND MEN

The poignant story of George Milton and mentally retarded Lennie searching for a better life is a remarkable classic.

STEVENSON, ROBERT LOUIS

TREASURE ISLAND (and others, especially KIDNAPPED)

Generations have loved this tale about Jim Hawkins who sets out to recover the hidden fortune that many dangerous men are plotting to obtain.

SWIFT, JONATHAN
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

A satire revealing human foibles through Gulliver's adventures in fantastic lands, this classic continues to endure.

TAYLOR, MILDRED
THE LAND

This epic-scaled novel set in the post-Civil War time, delineates the childhood and young manhood of Paul Edward Logan, son of a white slave owner and a slave woman. Being given much privileged as a child (able to read and write, and rated as one of the legitimate children, etc.) Paul Edward has to suffer much with the reality of life as he grows older. Taylor's masterful skills in portraying the landscape, creating deep and vivid characters, and telling a most compelling story won her the Coretta Scott King Award of 2002, and is one of the top 10 best books for young adults.

TWAIN, MARK
THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER

This is the classically moving story about the swapped identities of a poor Cockney lad and the Prince of Wales. For any Arthurian fan out there, A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT definitely offers a very different view.

TWAIN, MARK
THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER &
THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN

Twain's matchless excursion delves into the joys and troubles of boyhood on the Mississippi.

MYSTERY/HORROR

ADAMS, DOUGLAS
DIRK GENTLY'S HOLISTIC DETECTIVE AGENCY

An ageless absent-minded professor tries to outwit a billion-year-old ghost in this zany murder mystery.

BUNTING, EVE
THE PRESENCE

In alternating point of views, the chilling story of 17-year-old Catherine and her encounter with an evil spirit (The Presence) who resides inside a church and has ensnared young girls for decades unfolds.

CHRISTIE, AGATHA
MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS (and others)

Hercule Poirot investigates a variety of motives for murder as the Calais Coach races across Europe. The passengers provide the intriguing clues. AND THEN THERE WERE NONE is another masterpiece of psycho-thriller.

DOYLE, SIR ARTHUR CONAN
THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (and others)

You and Dr. Watson can attempt to figure out all the clues which Sherlock Holmes finds so simple.

DUMAURIER, DAPHNE
REBECCA

The mysterious atmosphere of an old English estate and the peculiar behavior of the housekeeper arouse a young bride's suspicions about the death of her husband's first wife.

DUNCAN, LOIS
KILLING MR. GRIFFIN

A group of high-school students kidnaps a strict English teacher to get even with him — and what starts as a prank becomes a horror. Other chilling titles by this talented thriller writer are: I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER; STRANGER WITH MY FACE, and LOCKED IN TIME.

HAMILTON, VIRGINIA
SWEET WHISPERS, BROTHER RUSH

Convincing detail and moving characters heighten the drama in this gripping ghost story that probes into two generations of a family's secret.

HOFFMAN, NINA KIRIKI.

A STIR OF BONES

Susan can communicate with her House. When she joins the group of new friends to venture into a haunted house, her ability to communicate with a House helps wake up and befriend the ghost boy, Nathan, whose spirit has been trapped in the house where he died a long time ago. This book is just creepy enough, just romantic enough, and complex, but not confusing, for those who want to have a little bit of “chilling” sensation for a hot summer day!

HOROWITZ, ANTHONY.

SCORPIA

This fifth installment of the Alex Rider Adventures series is more exciting (if possible) than the first four books, and it delivers a very strong emotional punch, too!

NAYLOR, PHYLLIS REYNOLDS

JADE GREEN: A GHOST STORY

While living with her uncle in a house haunted by the ghost of a young woman, recently orphaned Judith Sparrow wonders if her one small transgression causes mysterious happenings.

NIXON, JOAN LOWERY

THE OTHER SIDE OF DARK (and many others)

Stacey has been in a coma for four years. When she awakens, she finds herself suddenly 17 years old and ready to locate and identify the boy who murdered her mother.

WYNNE-JONES, TIM

THE BOY IN THE BURNING HOUSE

In this action-packed thriller, 14-year-old Jim tries to solve the mystery of his father’s disappearance from their rural Canadian community. He gets help from the disturbed Ruth Rose, who suspects her stepfather, a local pastor, and together they discover a series of secrets.

SCIENCE FICTION

ADAMS, DOUGLAS

THE HITCHHIKER’S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY

The hilarious journey of Arthur Dent and his friend Ford Prefect, who escape from Earth seconds before it is demolished and travel to a variety of galactic civilizations while gathering information for a hitchhiker’s guidebook. Read the entire trilogy if you find this one fascinating: THE RESTAURANT AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE and LIFE, UNIVERSE & EVERYTHING,

ASIMOV, ISAAC

FANTASTIC VOYAGE

Four men and one woman, reduced to a microscopic fraction of their original size, board a miniaturized submarine and travel through the bloodstream of a brilliant scientist to save his life - and the world.

ASIMOV, ISAAC

FOUNDATION (series)

In this classic science fiction tale, the Foundations are created by Hari Seldon to preserve human culture after the collapse of the first galactic empire. The series follows the developments as the Foundations struggle to survive and fulfill the mission.

BELL, HILARI

A MATTER OF PROFIT

In this sci-fi mystery, Ahvren, the son of Saiden, investigates the rumored rebel force against the Emperor of The T’Chin Empire, a confederation of 40 planets. Along the way Ahvren learns much about himself, the larger picture of the T’Chins, and the secrets to maintaining the delicate balance amongst various species. T’Chin is a vivid and distinctive world and the alien life forms and cultures are entirely believable.

CARD, ORSON SCOTT

ENDER’S GAME (series)

In this first book of a series (SPEAKER FOR THE DEAD, XENOCIDE & CHILDREN OF THE MIND), young (very young) Ender Wiggin is destined to become the leader of a troop of child army in a space mission to completely annihilate an alien species on another planet. New York Times called this Hugo and Nebula awards winner “intense.” but it has more than just intensity. It is intelligent and full of surprises and imagination.

CARD, ORSON SCOTT
ENDER'S SHADOW

What an achievement! Card manages to tell yet another intriguing and gripping story based on a minor character from ENDER'S GAME, 20 odd years later. Bean's story of surviving in the toughest environment and outsmarting the most vicious enemies in Battle School is as well-crafted, exciting, and insightful as its predecessor. The sequels to ENDER'S SHADOW are SHADOW OF THE HEGEMON, SHADOW PUPPETS and SHADOW OF THE GIANT.

CLARKE, ARTHUR C.
CHILDHOOD'S END

In the near future, Earth is invaded and ruled by a kindly superior species, which is preparing humanity for a giant evolutionary step forward.

CLARKE, ARTHUR C.
2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY

After a signal is discovered on the moon, astronauts set out to trace its source, only to have their plans endangered by a computer gone berserk.

CRICHTON, MICHAEL
JURASSIC PARK (Sequel: THE LOST WORLD)

When a scientist decides to clone dinosaurs to create an exciting theme park, chaos and terror reign.

FARMER, NANCY
HOUSE OF THE SCORPION

In a future world, young Matt is a perfect clone of the elderly (140 years old) Matteo Alacran, the de facto King of a country called Opium. Once Matt's vital organs are harvested to prolong Alacran's life, he's done for. Matt must escape. In this breathtaking and fascinating tale of survival, readers will see the strength of friendship and loyalty. We will also ponder: What does it mean to be human? This book won the 2002 National Book Award for Young Readers.

HEINLEIN, ROBERT
STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND (and others)

Robert Heinlein gives his satirical view of human behavior as observed by the first human born on Mars who returns to Earth to claim his birthright.

HERBERT, FRANK
DUNE (series)

This is the epic series about a desert world and the immense struggle for wealth and power.

LEHMANN, CHRISTIAN (translated from French by William Rodarmor)
ULTIMATE GAME

Lehmann's novel relates moments in the lives of three teenagers who purchase a computer game that recreates a virtual reality of a time machine of history's evils: war after war. Eric and Charles are pitted against Andreas, the oldest, whose need for power propels him to play the game as judge, jury, and finally, prey.

O'BRIEN, ROBERT C.
Z FOR ZACHARIAH

Seemingly the only person left alive after the holocaust of a war, Anne Burden is relieved to see a man arrive into her valley — until she realizes that he is a tyrant and she must somehow escape.

ORWELL, GEORGE
1984

This is Orwell's chilling, prophetic vision of a totalitarian "future."

REEVE, PHILIP
MORTAL ENGINES

In this original and fast-paced science fiction set in a post-apocalypse future, cities of the world move around on tractor treads pursuing and scavenging each other. The breathtaking series continues in PREDITOR'S GOLD and INFERNAL DEVICES.

SLEATOR, WILLIAM
MARCO'S MILLIONS

In this exciting prequel to *THE BOXES*, Marco discovers the tool and secret to traveling amongst the planets via a passageway in his basement. High emotional prices have to be paid at the end for this knowledge and ability.

VERNE, JULES

20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA (and others)

A huge, glowing sea monster has attacked and wrecked several ships. Professor Arronax joins a mission to hunt down the monster, and finds himself aboard a secret submarine. It's exciting to explore the ocean's depths, but what if he wants to leave? Captain Nemo seems to have made him a captive — 20,000 leagues under the sea!

VANDE VELDE, VIVIAN

HEIR APPARENT

Giannine, trapped in the mal-functioning virtual reality game of Heir Apparent, has to win the game before her body deteriorates and she dies. The game, set in a magical, medieval time, demands that she makes alliances with the right people, slays a dragon, solves riddles, and many other tasks. This page-turner is filled with true danger and humor on the side. A wonderful summer read.

WELLS, H.G.

THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

The Martians are landing on earth! They've already destroyed London. Who or what can stop them from taking over the whole world? This classic story brings the hysteria and madness of such a nightmare to life.

FANTASY

Alexander, Lloyd *The Book of Three, The Black Cauldron, The Castle of Lyrr, Taran the Wanderer & The High King*: These books make up the Prydain Cycle – an imaginary land based on Welsh myths and legends.

BEAGLE, PETER

THE LAST UNICORN

A funny/sad story in which an enchanting unicorn - joined on her journey by a bungling magician, a pure-at-heart wench, and a butterfly - leaves her idyllic forest in search of others of her kind.

BILLINGSLEY, FRANNY

FOLK KEEPER

Fifteen-year-old Corinna Stonewall never feels cold, always knows exactly what time it is, and her hair grows two inches each night while she sleeps. She possesses extraordinary powers even beyond her own imagination. This inventive and dark fantasy is a wonderful fusion of selkie tales and romance.

BRADSHAW, GILLIAN

BEYOND THE NORTH WIND

The Greek God Apollo sends a talented young magician from his home in ancient Greece to the land of the Arimaspians to conquer the one-eyed giants and save the griffins — in a book filled with magic, heroism and myth.

BROOKS, TERRY

SHANNARA (series)

This is the richly detailed epic fantasy about three scientists who strive to save their Four Lands.

COOPER, SUSAN

KING OF SHADOWS

A young actor, 13-year-old Nat, travels back in time to 1599 and performs at the Globe Theatre alongside Master William Shakespeare himself in the first ever production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The two form a bond that helps Nat come to terms with his own loss from a family tragedy.

EDDINGS, DAVID

PAWN OF PROPHECY (series)

This is the beginning volume in a fantasy series set against a history of 7,000 years of the struggles of Gods and Kings and men — of strange lands and events — and a prophecy that must be fulfilled.

FEIST, RAYMOND

THE RIFTWAR SAGA

In this colorful, intricate Tolkienesque saga, Prince Arutha, Jimmy the Hand, and Pug the Magician join forces to do battle with the dark powers.

FUNKE, CORNELIA

Translated by Anthea Bell from German

INKHEART and INKSPELL

Meggie, 12-year-old, goes on a dangerous adventure in which she and her father are pursued by a group of sinister bandits, led by a man named Scorpio. Most intriguing are the identities of the bandits (who were fictional characters from story books) and the magical ability of Meggie's father who can "read" people, animals, and objects OUT of and IN to books!

GRUBER, MICHAEL

THE WITCH'S BOY

Woven into many familiar fairy tales, a good witch will sacrifice anything to protect her ungrateful founding child.

HILTON, JAMES

LOST HORIZON

Four people are brought against their will to the mysterious land of Shangri-La, a place where no one grows old.

JONES, DIANA WYNNE

HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE

When a witch turns 17-year-old Sophie into an old woman, Sophie goes to live with the feared wizard Howl in his castle and becomes embroiled in the zany events that eventually lead to her happiness. This book is now a feature length animation by the Japanese animator, Miyazaki (Spirited Away.)

JONES, DIANA WYNE

LIVES OF CHRISTOPHER CHANT (series)

In a parallel universe of London, magic and witchcraft is taken for granted. Young Christopher realizes that all the "Anywheres" that he visits during many of his "dreams" are just as real as the one he lives in and that he, being the chosen one who has more than one lives, has a lot to learn and catch up. Fascinating premises, executed seamlessly, will keep you reading nonstop.

JONES, DIANA WYNNE

THE MERLIN CONSPIRACY

Told alternately by Roddy and Nick, this complex, riveting fantasy moves swiftly along as the characters combine their newfound magical powers and learn the actions in one world may have long reaching effects in other worlds.

L'ENGLE, MADELEINE

MANY WATERS

Sandy and Dennys, twins, find themselves in a harsh, remote desert land where unicorns, mammoths and humans are embroiled in many conflicts. This is a continuation of the author's famed Time Trilogy, A Wrinkle in Time.

LE GUIN, URSULA

TEHANU: THE LAST BOOK OF EARTHSEA

Sparrowhawk, the archmage of Earthsea, returns from the dark land stripped of his magic powers. He finds refuge with the aging widow Tenar and a crippled girl who carries an unknown destiny. A WIZARD OF EARTHSEA, TOMBS OF ATUAN, and THE FARTHEST SHORE are the first three titles in the series.

MAHY, MARGARET

THE CHANGEOVER: A SUPERNATURAL ROMANCE

In this chilling tale, Laura finds herself in a life-or-death struggle to save her brother from evil forces — discovers love and her own supernatural power in the process.

MCKINLEY, ROBIN

THE HERO AND THE CROWN and THE BLUE SWORD

Seeking her birthright, Aerin, daughter of a Damarian king, becomes the legendary female warrior whose blue sword is wielded years later by Harry Crewe, a young woman destined to be another female warrior.

NICHOLSON, WILLIAM

THE WIND SINGER (series)

Kestrel Hath and her twin brother Bowman escape from their stifling city of Aramant to rescue the key to the wind singer and free their people.

NIX, GARTH

SABRIEL, LIRAEAL, and ABHORSON

Sabriel, daughter of and the most recent Abhorsen (a necromancer who, instead of focusing on bringing back the Dead, is skilled at making sure that they stay dead,) is now faced suddenly with the incredible task of rescuing her father from the land of the dead and combatting the evil power in the Old Kingdom. LIRAEAL is the 2nd book in this series from Australia and ABHORSON will be released this summer in the U.S. The exciting conclusion of this trilogy is ABHORSON.

PATTOU, EDITH

EAST

In this retelling of a Scandinavian folk tale “East of the Sun, West of the Moon” Rose saves her sister’s life and the family fortune by agreeing to go and live far away with the white bear, in his wondrous cave. There are several narrators of this story — Rose, The White Bear, Rose’s Father, The Troll Queen, and Rose’s Brother. The reader pieces together a richly detailed, moving, imaginative story that is full of actions and thrilling adventures.

PRATCHETT, TERRY.

A HAT FULL OF SKY

This is a wonderful sequel to THE WEE FREE MEN. Young Tiffany Aching, two years removed from saving the world with an iron skillet, returns to face two new challenges: formal education in witchcraft and an identity-eating monster. It’s the Feegles (those weird little blue men) to the rescue this time!

PULLMAN, PHILIP

THE AMBER SPYGLASS

In this powerful ending of a thrilling trilogy, as war rages and Dust drains from the sky, the fate of the living and dead comes to depend on Lyra and Will, two ordinary children with extraordinary powers. The first two titles in the trilogy are THE GOLDEN COMPASS and THE SUBTLE KNIFE.

SPRINGER, NANCY

I AM MORGAN LE FAY

The arch-villain in the Arthurian legend, Morga le Fay, gets to tell her own story from a magically gifted little girl to the embittered grown woman whose struggle against Fate (her namesake) seems always turns back to haunt her. An earlier companion to this novel is I AM MORDRED.

STEWART, MARY R.

THE CRYSTAL CAVE (series)

This series consists of the spellbinding adventures of King Arthur’s court told by a master storyteller.

STROUD, JONATHAN

THE AMULET OF SAMARKAND

Bartimaeus. A powerful 5,000 year old djinni with a sarcastic bent is summoned by an inexperienced apprentice magician. The results are danger, death, and a big dose of comic relief. The sequels are GOLEM’S EYE and PTOLEMY’S GATE.

TOLKIEN, J.R.R.

THE LORD OF THE RING (series)

Starting with THE HOBBIT, the journey through Middle Earth, told with poetic language and vivid description of creatures and landscapes, this classic series (FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING, THE TWO TOWERS and THE RETURN OF THE KING) has enjoyed the highest acclaim in the realm of fantasy writings in our century.

TURNER, MEGAN WHALEN

THE THIEF

Tales of gods and goddesses are woven throughout this story of Gen, a master thief, who is on an adventurous journey for his king to steal a precious stone. A 1997 Newbery Honor Book.

WHITE, T.H.

THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING

The magnificent legend of King Arthur is retold as a novel for modern readers. Arthur’s anguish over war, the love story of Guinevere and Lancelot, and the evil Mordred comprise the story of Camelot. Also: The Book of Merlyn.

NONFICTION, BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIRS

ANGELOU, MAYA

I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS (1st of series)

This is Angelou's moving and award-winning autobiography that recalls the joy and pain of growing up in the South during the depression.

AXLINE, VIRGINIA

DIBS IN SEARCH OF SELF

This is the powerful story of an emotionally disturbed boy's successful struggle through therapy.

BARTOLETTI, SUSAN CAMPBELL

HITLER YOUTH

By weaving the stories of twelve young Germans into the larger fabric of Nazism, Bartoletti raises awareness of Hitler's manipulations and offers readers an chance to consider how they might have acted in the same situation.

FLEISCHMAN, SID

THE ABRACADABRA KID: A WRITER'S LIFE

With his usual lighthearted tone, this Newbery winning writer (for THE WHIPPING BOY) recounts his lifelong career as a professional magician, starting in the Great Depression, and his second career as a master story weaver.

FLEMING, CANDACE

BEN FRANKLIN'S ALMANAC: BEING A TRUE ACCOUNT OF THE GOOD GENTLEMAN'S LIFE

Presented in the style of Franklin's own original almanac, Fleming's fascinating biography is chock full of information that makes history jump right out of the page.

FREEDMAN, RUSSELL

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT: A LIFE OF DISCOVERY

Widely recognized as one of the most influential women of her time, Eleanor Roosevelt began life as an "ugly duckling" — but grew into an extraordinary and courageous defender of human rights.

FREEDMAN, RUSSELL

IN DEFENSE OF LIBERTY: THE STORY OF AMERICA'S BILL OF RIGHTS

In his eminently clear and careful text Freedman explains why and how the first ten amendments to the U. S. Constitution came to be written and what they mean. Timely and valuable commentary on our freedoms.*

FREEDMAN, RUSSELL

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF CRAZY HORSE

This is an ALA recommended biography of the Oglala leader who relentlessly resisted the white man's attempt to take over Indian lands.

GOURSE, LESLIE

DIZZY GILLESPIE AND THE BIRTH OF BEEBOP

This is the story of jazz great Dizzy Gillespie, his passion for music and how he charted new territory and won recognition for one of America's greatest original art forms.

GRAHAM, ROBIN

DOVE

Sixteen-year-old Robin Graham sails solo around the world.

GUNTHER, JOHN

DEATH BE NOT PROUD

Gunther's moving story of his son's courageous battle against cancer is compelling.

HASKINS, JAMES

BAYARD RUSTIN-BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

In this 1997 biography of Bayard Rustin, one understands fully his behind-the-scene's strength and importance in the American civil rights movement, and how much his ideas influenced Martin Luther King, Jr.

HAYDEN, TOREY

ONE CHILD (and others)

This is a remarkable true story about the relationship between a neglected six - year-old girl and the teacher who teaches her to love.

HERRIOT, JAMES

ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL (series)

The humorous, serious and heartwarming adventures of an English veterinarian are fun to read.

JENKINS, PETER

A WALK ACROSS AMERICA

In 1973 a disillusioned college graduate set out with his dog, Cooper, to walk across America.

KENEALLY, THOMAS

SCHINDLER'S LIST

This is the riveting story of Oscar Schindler who saved thousands of Jews during the Holocaust.

LAWLOR, LAURIE

HELEN KELLER: REBELLIOUS SPIRIT

This carefully researched and fluidly written biography on Helen Keller portrays her as a distinctive and sometimes flawed individual.

MAH, ADELINE YEN

FALLING LEAVES: THE MEMOIR OF AN UNWANTED CHINESE DAUGHTER

An international best-seller, a heart-wrenching but ultimately inspiring memoir recounts the author's painful childhood as the unwanted daughter of a wealthy yet abusive Chinese family, from which she escaped to the West.

MATHABANE, MARK

KAFFIR BOY

Under Apartheid, a young man comes of age in this autobiographical account.

MYERS, WALTER DEAN

TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE: THE FIGHT FOR HAITI'S FREEDOM

Forty-one ominous paintings, first exhibited in 1940, give backbone to this gripping picture biography of the heroic Haitian freedom fighter who led his country to its independence in 1804.

PARTRIDGE, ELIZABETH

THIS LAND WAS MADE FOR YOU AND ME: THE LIFE AND SONGS OF WOODY GUTHRIE

The creatively prolific and yet deeply troubled life of Woody Guthrie, song-writer of modern American ballads and social protest music, is documented with sensitivity and honesty in this handsome volume.

PAULSEN, GARY

GUTS: THE TRUE STORIES BEHIND HATCHET AND THE BRIAN BOOKS (Memoir)

Gary Paulsen records in, often quite gory, details many dangerous situations he experienced and wove into his Brian books, including: the extremes of exhaustion and cold he knew in running the Iditarod dog races in Alaska, the chilling close-up knowledge of heart attacks from his experiences as a volunteer ambulance driver, the child killed by two kicks from the razor-sharp hooves of a small deer, the difficulties of sharing a rescue helicopter ride with a terrified dog team, and some spectacular gross-outs about the nutritional need to eat every part of an animal. Not for the faint of heart.

PAULSEN, GARY

WOODSONG

This is the compelling memoir of Paulsen's intimate relationship with Minnesota's North Woods and the dog team he trained for the Iditarod.

ROTH-HANO, RENEE

TOUCH WOOD and SAFE HARBORS

A French Jewish girl is hidden in a convent during the Holocaust. After the war she begins a new life in America.

SALZMAN, MARK

IRON & SILK

A young Yale graduate describes his two years in China teaching English to medical students, perfecting his Chinese and studying martial arts with a master.

SPIEGELMAN, ART

MAUS & MAUS II

The story of a Holocaust survivor is recounted in comic strip form featuring mice as the Jews and cats as the Germans. It is like nothing else you have ever read or seen.

STEINBECK, JOHN
TRAVELS WITH CHARLEY

Steinbeck travels across the United States with his French poodle, Charley.

TAYLOR, ROB
THE BREACH

This is an extraordinary true story of physical adventure, tragedy, and spiritual challenge at the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

WARREN, ANDREA
SURVIVING HITLER: A BOY IN THE NAZI DEATH CAMP (biography)

This is a powerful story of Jack Mandelbaum. As a teenager during WWII, he spent three horrific years in a concentration camp, and as a grown man, he chose the path of tolerance and forgiveness.

WATKINS, YOKO
SO FAR FROM THE BAMBOO GROVE (Sequel: MY BROTHER, MY SISTER AND I)

An autobiographical account of Yoko's escape from Korea to Japan with her mother and sister at the end of World War II, this heart-wrenching novel recounts the terrible hardships they had to bear in order to return to their homeland.

ZINDEL, PAUL
THE PIGMAN AND ME

This is a fast-paced, humorous autobiography by the author of *The Pigman*, who had a little help from his own "pigman."

POETRY & SHORT STORIES

BAUER, MARION DANE
AM I BLUE? COMING OUT FROM THE SILENCE

These sixteen short stories by noted young adult authors are about growing up gay or lesbian or having gay or lesbian friends or parents.

BIERHORST, JOHN
IN THE TRAIL OF THE WIND: AMERICAN INDIAN POEMS AND RITUAL ORATIONS

This collection of Indian poetry originates from various tribes and is arranged by theme.

BRADBURY, RAY
THE ILLUSTRATED MAN

Bradbury is at his very best in these eighteen tales involving time and space — without and within.

BRADBURY, RAY
THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES

Bradbury continues to enrich us with these short stories about the Earth and Mars.

BRENNER, BARBARA (Editor)
VOICES: POETRY AND ART FROM AROUND THE WORLD

A sampler of traditional, ancient and modern poetry from six continents is interspersed with illustrations of world art and sculpture.

CATHER, WILLA
THE TROLL GARDEN

These elegant stories often deal with the conflicts faced in society by individuals of artistic temperament.

CUMMINGS, E. E.
COMPLETE POEMS (edited by George J. Firmage .. or any other anthology)
Read and look at this unique poet's work. You will constantly be pleasantly surprised.

GALLO, DONALD R., ed.
CONNECTIONS; SHORT STORIES VISIONS; 19 SHORT STORIES
Gallo has edited several volumes of short stories by well known writers for young adults.

IRVING, WASHINGTON
SKETCH BOOK
In his light stories rooted in folktales, Irving makes a lasting contribution to the modern short story.

LARDNER, RING
HAIRCUT AND OTHER STORIES
Ring Lardner, a satirist with a keen voice, writes of ordinary people with razor-sharp wit.

LONDON, JACK
TO BUILD A FIRE AND OTHER STORIES
Jack London, author of the Call of the Wild, continues his adventures in this collection of stories.

MCKISSACK, PATRICIA
DARK THIRTY
This is a wonderful collection of ghost stories with African American themes, designed to be told during the dark-thirty—the half hour before sunset—when ghosts seem all too unbelievable.

MOORE, ROBIN
WHEN THE MOON IS FULL
These six haunting, rustic tales that involve relationships between people and animals are of the supernatural and inspired by folk legends from the old Pennsylvania Mountains.

NELSON, MARILYN
CARVER: A LIFE IN POEMS
A collection of Marilyn Nelson's (Canadian Poet Laureate) poems about the genius, the humanity, and the contribution of George Washington Carver. The poems never shy away from harsh realities and reach for the soul of their subject matter. Readers gain tremendous understanding of the man who has been simplified to "the peanut guy" in American History texts.

NYE, NAOMI SHIHAB
19 VARIETIES OF GAZELLE: POEMS OF THE MIDDLE EAST
Arab American poet Naomi Nye gathered more than 40 poems she wrote about the Middle East and her own experience of being an Arab American after the 9/11 tragedy. This is a solid, affecting collection of a beloved poet for young people.

NYE, NAOMI SHIHAB
THE SAME SKY: A collection of poems from around the world
A poetry anthology in which 120 poets from sixty-two different countries celebrate the natural world and its human and animal inhabitants. Elegantly designed and lovingly selected by poet Nye, this collection belongs on any poetry lover's shelf.

NYE, NAOMI SHIHAB
WHAT HAVE YOU LOST?
The topic of "LOSS" is explored by the one hundred and forty poets whose work is collected in this anthology.

POE, EDGAR ALLEN
SELECTED TALES
These horror and detective stories are timeless - to be read and re-read.

ROCKMAN, HAZEL, ed.
SOMEHOW TENDERNESS SURVIVES: STORIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
This is a wonderful anthology of ten stories and memoirs by black and white South African writers.

SOTO, GARY
BASEBALL IN APRIL (and others)
This group of eleven stories is about growing up Mexican-American in central California.

RYLAND, CYNTHIA
GOD WENT TO BEAUTY SCHOOL

This collection of poems are the poet's imagination of how God might act, think, and feel, if He/She lives among the mortals. God might want to go to a beauty school to learn the art of manicure so he/she can admire one of his best creations: the human hand; God might want to have a pet, sail a boat, and eat some ice cream, just to experience the delight of everyday life.

SATRAPI, MARJANE
PERSEPOLIS

Persepolis is Marjane Satrapi's wise, funny, and heartbreaking memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. It is presented in black-and-white comic strip format. Through the simple lines, Satrapi's story is extremely powerful. A must-read for all! Check out some images and read about the book at the publisher's website.