

## **Summer Reading Assignment for Class 5 into 6**

Read The Sword in the Stone by T.H. White **plus**

**three** additional books on this reading list

(Make sure to choose books you have not read before!)

**Note: We are not requiring you to write or draw anything this year. Just read! (In fact, please don't stop at 4 books!)**

**Also, be sure to ask your family, friends, and local public librarians what books they love. Once you've read *The Sword in the Stone* + 3 books off this list, you're welcome to read any books you want.**

**Finally, if you haven't already, sign up for a public library card. It will save your family money. Plus, if you join that library's summer reading program, you may qualify for prizes and treats! 😊**

**Happy reading,  
Ms. Bartolf  
[bartolf@chapin.edu](mailto:bartolf@chapin.edu)**

**ps – I've placed stars next to the books that may take a little longer to read. Don't let that stop you, though. They're some of my personal favorites!**

## Classics (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- \*Adams, Richard. Watership Down.  
You'll stay up past your bedtime reading this sophisticated book about bunnies on the run. A must for animal lovers!
- \*Austen, Jane. Pride and Prejudice.  
Elizabeth is a bookish girl who would rather read than discuss romance. Will she ever find true love? Find out in this witty tale of family, love and honor.
- \*Cooper, James Fenimore. The Last of the Mohicans.  
A white man and an Mohican warrior struggle to protect two English girls in the dangerous wilderness of frontier America.
- \*Dumas, Alexander. The Count of Monte Cristo.  
The dashing Edmond Dantès is betrayed by his enemies and thrown into a secret dungeon in the Chateau d'If. Read the story of his miraculous escape and complex revenge.
- Grahame, Kenneth. The Wind in the Willows.  
A charming tale of friendship and old fashioned mischief among four animal friends living on the River Thames in England.
- Greene, Bette. Summer of My German Soldier.  
The ultimate story of forbidden love! A twelve-year-old Jewish girl befriends an escaped Nazi soldier who's been brought to America. Will she risk everything for the understanding and love of one boy?
- Lovelace, Maud. Heaven to Betsy.  
It's Betsy Ray's freshman year at Deep Valley High School, and she and her best childhood chum, Tacy Kelly, are loving every minute. Betsy and Tacy find themselves in the midst of a new crowd of friends, with studies aplenty (including Latin and--ugh--algebra), parties and picnics galore --and boys!
- Montgomery, Lucy Maude. Anne of Green Gables.  
Anne, a poetic orphan with a hyperactive imagination, is sent to live with a couple who requested a boy. Read the whole series!
- \*Orczy, Baroness. The Scarlet Pimpernel.  
In 1792, the French Revolution gives way to the Reign of Terror and the condemned nobility have only one hope: rescue by the mysterious Scarlet Pimpernel.
- \*Smith, Betty. A Tree Grows in Brooklyn.  
An observant and incredibly courageous girl named Francie struggles against all odds in her poor Brooklyn neighborhood.
- \*Smith, Dodie. I Capture the Castle.  
A seventeen-year-old girl sits in the kitchen sink of a ramshackle castle and chronicles her sister's marital ambitions, her father's writer's block and her first descent into love.
- Steinbeck, John. Travels with Charley: In Search of America.  
A famous author and his poodle embark on a journey across the country in 1960.
- \*Tolkien, J.R. The Hobbit.  
A hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, lives happily in his comfortable home until a wandering wizard grants his wish. The Hobbit precedes the Lord of the Rings trilogy.
- Twain, Mark. The Prince and the Pauper.  
A rich boy and a poor boy exchange places.
- Webster, Jean. Daddy Long Legs  
An orphaned teenage girl is forced to write one letter a month to a mysterious benefactor who agrees to pay for her college education.

## Realistic Fiction (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Baskin, Nora. The Truth About My Bat Mitzvah.  
Seventh-grader Caroline Weeks has a Jewish mom and a non-Jewish dad. When Caroline's nana dies around the same time that Caroline's best friend, Rachel, is having her bat mitzvah, Caroline starts to become more interested in her Jewish identity.
- Bauer, Joan. Hope was Here.  
Sixteen-year-old Hope and her aunt become involved with a political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor. Joan Bauer also wrote Backwater, Rules of the Road, Squashed, and, most recently, Stand Tall.
- Blume, Lesley M.M. Cornelia and the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters.  
Cornelia, eleven years old and lonely, learns about language and life from an elderly new neighbor who has many stories to share about the fabulous adventures she and her sisters had while traveling around the world.
- Brashares, Ann. Three Willows.  
Ama, Jo, and Polly, three close friends from Bethesda, Maryland, are looking forward to high school, but wonder if their relationship will survive the challenges that each girl faces over the summer break.
- Cholodenko, Genifer. If a Tree Falls at Lunch Period.  
Kirsten and Walk, seventh-graders at an elite private school, stand up to a mean but influential classmate and discover a huge secret about their parents.
- \*Creech, Sharon. Walk Two Moons.  
Thirteen year old Sal tries to make sense of her mother's mysterious disappearance during a six-day drive to Idaho with her grandparents.
- Dowell, Frances O'Roark. Dovey Coe.  
Accused of murder in her North Carolina mountain town in 1928, Dovey Coe, a strong-willed twelve-year-old girl, struggles to prove her innocence.
- Duder, Tessa. In Lane Three, Alex Archer.  
Fifteen-year-old Alex competes with her arch rival for a place on the New Zealand Olympic swim team.
- Fleischman, Paul. Seedfolks.  
One by one, a number of people transform a trash-filled inner-city lot into a productive and beautiful garden.
- Guy, Rosa. The Friends.  
Two teenage girls from Harlem work on their friendship in the midst of family problems.
- Henkes, Kevin. Olive's Ocean.  
On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, twelve-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate and her feelings for an older boy.
- Hiaasen, Carl. Hoot.  
Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. Hiaasen also wrote a similar book called Flush about a boy's plot to foil a casino boat that pollutes his local beach.
- Johnson, Angela. Heaven.  
Fourteen-year-old Marley's seemingly perfect life in the small town of Heaven is disrupted when she discovers that her father and mother are not her real parents.

## Realistic Fiction (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Joseph, Lynn. Color of My Words.  
Ana Rosa, an aspiring writer from the Dominican Republic, always depends on her older brother until the life-changing events on her thirteenth birthday.
- Korman, Gordon. No More Dead Dogs.  
Gordon Korman loves to write about kids getting into trouble. In this book, an eighth grade boy refuses to change his essay for English class in spite of being threatened with detention.
- Lee, Marie. Finding My Voice.  
A high school student with a talent for writing explores her feelings as the only person of Korean descent in her Midwestern town.
- Levitin, Sonia. The Return.  
Suffering from discrimination in Ethiopia, Desta and her Jewish family flee the country and attempt the dangerous journey to Israel.
- Martin, Ann M. A Corner of the Universe.  
In a moving story set in the 1960s, Hattie spends the summer with a childlike uncle she has never met before and becomes friends with a girl who works at the carnival.
- McKay, Hilary. Saffy's Angel.  
After learning that she is adopted, thirteen-year-old Saffron returns to her Italian birthplace and finds a special memento of her past.
- Mohr, Nicholasa. Going Home.  
Felita, a Puerto Rican girl who was raised in New York, visits her relatives in Puerto Rico for the first time and is treated like an outsider.
- Mosher, Richard. Zazoo.  
A thirteen-year-old Vietnamese orphan raised in rural France by her aging "Grand-Pierre" learns about life, death, and love.
- Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. Dairy Queen.  
After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her. (If you like this, check out the sequel, The Off Season.)
- Myers, Walter Dean. Monster.  
Sixteen-year-old Steve records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script while on trial for murder.
- Na, An. A Step from Heaven.  
In this beautifully told story, a young Korean girl and her family find it difficult to learn English and adjust to life in America.
- Nye, Naomi Shihab. Habibi.  
Fourteen-year-old Liyane faces major changes when her family moves from the United States to a new home between Jerusalem and her father's Palestinian village.
- Orr, Wendy. Peeling the Onion.  
Following an automobile accident in which her neck is broken, a teenage karate champion begins a long and painful recovery with the help of her family.
- Papademetriou, Lisa. Sixth-Grade Glommers, Norks and Me.  
Trying to survive the sixth grade and all its relationship dramas, Allie Kimball begins to keep a journal where she records all the highs and lows of friendships, crushes, team events, and daily happenings throughout the fun, sad, crazy, happy year.

Perkins, Lynne Rae.	<u>Criss Cross.</u> In this quiet book, teenagers in a small town connect and disconnect as they make sense of their changing destinies.
Perkins, Mitali.	<u>The Sunita Experiment.</u> When her grandparents come for a visit from India to California, Sunita's mom changes the family's American ways back to their Indian roots.
Spinelli, Jerry.	<u>Crash.</u> Spinelli writes about popularity and staying true to oneself in this book, as well as <u>Stargirl</u> and <u>Maniac Magee</u> .
Staples, Suzanne Fisher.	<u>Shabanu.</u> Set in present-day Pakistan, eleven-year-old Shabanu is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family. She must either accept the decision, as is the custom, or risk the consequences of defying her father's wishes.
Stone, Phoebe.	<u>Deep Down Popular.</u> In a small, Virginia town, sixth-grader Jessie Lou Ferguson has a crush on the hugely popular Conrad Parker Smith, and when he suddenly develops a medical problem and the teacher asks Jessie Lou to help him, they become friends, to her surprise.
Tolan, Stephanie S.	<u>Surviving the Applewhites.</u> Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the arty Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.
Townsend, Sue.	<u>The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 3/4.</u> 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.
Van Draanen, Wendelin.	<u>Flipped.</u> In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.
Voight, Cynthia.	<u>Homecoming.</u> Abandoned by their mother at a shopping mall, four children begin a search for a home and an identity. An engrossing story of love, adventure and survival. Be sure to read the sequel, <u>Dacey's Song</u> , too!
Whelan, Gloria.	<u>Homeless Bird.</u> 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.
Wolff, Virginia Euwer.	<u>Make Lemonade.</u> In order to earn money for college, fourteen-year-old LaVaughn babysits for a teenage mother. The story is continued in <u>True Believer</u> , a National Book Award winner. Virginia Euwer Wolff also wrote <u>The Mozart Season</u> and <u>Bat 6</u> .
Woodson, Jacqueline.	<u>Miracle's Boys.</u> The story of three brothers and how their close relationship changes after their mother dies and the oldest brother chooses to raise the others himself. Jacqueline Woodson also wrote <u>Hush</u> in which a girl and her family must enter the Federal Witness Protection Program and give up their true identities.
Yang, Gene Luen.	<u>American Born Chinese.</u> Alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans. Presented in comic book format.

## Mystery and Adventure Stories (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Abrahams, Peter. Down the Rabbit Hole.  
A hilarious page-turner about a young girl named Ingrid who accidentally leaves her soccer cleats at the site of a grisly murder.
- Anderson, Janet S. The Last Treasure.  
Thirteen-year-old Ellsworth leaves his father to visit relatives he has never met before and, along with his cousin, Jess, uncovers old family secrets and searches for an ancestor's hidden treasure.
- Broach, Elisa. Shakespeare's Secret.  
Named after a character in a Shakespeare play, misfit sixth-grader Hero becomes interested in exploring this unusual connection because of a valuable diamond supposedly hidden in her new house, an intriguing neighbor, and the unexpected attention of the most popular boy in school.
- \*Christie, Agatha. And Then There Were None (Ten Little Indians).  
A group of people accept an invitation to an island without realizing that the mysterious owner wants to avenge past wrongs.
- Dickinson, Peter. A Bone from the Dry Sea.  
In two parallel stories, a girl from a prehistoric tribe and a girl visiting her paleontologist father on a dig in Africa come together when important fossil remains are discovered. Peter Dickinson also wrote Eva and The Ropemaker.
- Ferris, Jean. Love Among the Walnuts, or, How I Saved my Family from being Poisoned.  
In this humorous tale, Sandy is shocked when he, his parents, and their servants become victims of a vicious plot by his greedy uncles to poison them and take their money. Another funny title by this author is Once Upon A Marigold.
- Funke, Cornelia Caroline. Inkheart.  
Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life when one of the characters abducts them and tries to force her father into service. Cornelia Funke also wrote the immensely popular books, The Thief Lord and Inkspell.
- George, Jean Craighead. My Side of the Mountain.  
Terribly unhappy in his family's crowded New York City apartment, Sam Gibley runs away to the solitude—and danger—of the mountains, where he finds a side of himself he never knew.
- Golding, Julia. The Diamond of Drury Lane. (Cat Royal series).  
Cat is a street-smart orphan whose parents abandoned her at the Drury Lane Theater in London as baby. When the theater owner asks for her help keeping a hidden diamond safe, Cat vows to help.
- Hamilton, Virginia. The House of Dies Drear.  
A family moves into a haunted house, a house once used to hide slaves on the Underground Railway, and begins thinking they may be in grave danger.
- Hoeye, Michael. Time Stops for No Mouse.  
After meeting lively aviatrix Linka Perflinger, watchmaker mouse Hermux Tantamoq falls desperately in love. When she disappears, he sets out to search for her and finds himself in way over his head. The Sands of Time is also a Hermux Tantamoq adventure.
- Hoobler, Dorothy & Thomas. The Ghost in the Tokaido Inn.  
While attempting to solve the mystery of a stolen jewel, Seikei, a merchant's son who longs to be a samurai, joins a group of kabuki actors in eighteenth-century Japan. In the sequel, Demon in the Teahouse, Seikei investigates a series of murders and arson in the capital city of Edo, each of which is associated in some way with a popular geisha.

## Mystery and Adventure Stories (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody. In the Stone Circle.  
While spending the summer in an old stone house in Wales, fourteen-year-old Cristyn comes to terms with the death of her mother while satisfying the request of the ghost of a thirteenth-century princess.
- Lawrence, Caroline. The Thieves of Ostia.  
In Rome in the year 79 A.D., a group of children from very different backgrounds work together to discover who beheaded a pet dog--and why.
- \*King, Laurie R. The Beekeeper's Apprentice.  
Seventeen-year-old Mary Russell becomes the apprentice of Sherlock Holmes.
- MacGrory, Yvonne. The Secret of the Ruby Ring.  
When she makes a wish on a special ring, eleven-year-old Lucy is transported from her pampered present to a somewhat turbulent time in Ireland in 1885, where she must work as a servant until she can find a way back home. The story continues in Emma and the Ruby Ring.
- Oppel, Kenneth. Silverwing.  
When a newborn bat named Shade, but sometimes called "Runt," becomes separated from his colony during migration, he grows in ways that prepare him for even greater journeys.
- Paterson, Katherine. Park's Quest.  
Park makes some startling discoveries when he visits his grandfather in order to learn more about his father, who died in the Vietnam War, and finds a Vietnamese-American girl living there.
- \*Pullman, Philip. The Ruby in the Smoke.  
In nineteenth-century London, sixteen-year-old Sally becomes involved in a deadly search for her father's murderers and a mysterious ruby. Shadow in the North and The Tiger in the Well complete this trilogy.
- Schlitz, Laura Amy. A Drowned Maiden's Hair: a Melodrama.  
At the Barbary Asylum for Female Orphans, eleven-year-old Maud is adopted by three spinster sisters moonlighting as mediums who take her home and reveal to her the role she will play in their seances.
- Selznick, Brian. The Invention of Hugo Cabret: a novel in words and pictures.  
When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.
- Sleator, William. Into the Dream.  
When Paul and a classmate realize they are having the same frightening dream, they begin searching for an explanation.
- Springer, Nancy. The Case of the Missing Marquess: an Enola Holmes Mystery.  
Enola Holmes, much younger sister of detective Sherlock Holmes, must travel to London in disguise to unravel the disappearance of her missing mother.
- Stewart, Trenton Lee. The Mysterious Benedict Society.  
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.
- Turner, Megan Whalen. The Thief.  
Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and is recruited to steal a precious stone from a remote temple of the gods in this surprising adventure story.

## Science Fiction & Fantasy (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- \*Adams, Douglas. Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.  
The destruction of the Earth turns a mild-mannered Englishman into a hitchhiker in an intergalactic world.
- Asimov, Isaac. Fantastic Voyage.  
Five people are miniaturized and sent on a rescue mission through a man's body where they have sixty minutes to reach and break up a blood clot in his brain.
- Beagle, Peter. The Last Unicorn.  
With the assistance of a magician, an immortal, beautiful unicorn sets out to discover if she is truly the last unicorn left on Earth.
- Billingsley, Franny. The Folk Keeper.  
Orphan Corinna disguises herself as a boy to pose as a Folk Keeper, one who keeps the Evil Folk at bay, and discovers her heritage as a seal maiden.
- Cashore, Kristin. Graceling.  
In a world where some people are born with extreme and often-feared skills called Graces, Katsa struggles for redemption from her own horrifying Grace of killing and teams up with another young fighter to save their land from a corrupt king.
- Clement-Davies, David. Fire Bringer.  
The Herla, a herd of Scottish deer, are fighting against a tyrannical new lord. Herla lore promises that a hero, a fawn with a strange birthmark, will ignite an epic battle and free the Herla forever. This tale is continued in The Sight.
- Collins, Suzanne. The Hunger Games.  
Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.
- Cornish, D.M. Lamplighter (series)  
Having grown up in a home for foundlings and possessing a girl's name, Rossamünd sets out to report to his new job as a lamplighter and has several adventures along the way as he meets people and monsters who are more complicated than he previously thought. Includes glossaries and maps.
- Crossley-Holland, Kevin. The Seeing Stone.  
In late twelfth-century England, a thirteen-year-old boy receives a magical seeing stone which shows him images of the legendary King Arthur.
- Duane, Diane. So You Want To Be a Wizard.  
Thirteen-year-old Nita, tormented by a gang of bullies whom she won't fight, finds the help she needs in a library book on wizardry.
- \*Dunn, Mark. Ella Minnow Pea.  
In this very funny and clever tale, the language-loving inhabitants of Nollop, South Carolina, interpret the falling of the letter "Z" from a beloved monument as a divine warning not to use the letter any longer.
- DuPrau, Jeanne. The City of Ember.  
In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs in order to be a Messenger so she can discover new places in her decaying, but beloved city.
- Engdahl, Sylvia. Enchantress from the Stars.  
Two children try to save an undeveloped planet in an interplanetary adventure.
- Farmer, Nancy. Sea of Trolls.  
After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest to Jotunheim, home of the trolls.

## Science Fiction & Fantasy (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- \*Farmer, Nancy. The House of the Scorpion.  
In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States. Nancy Farmer also wrote A Warm Place, A Girl named Disaster, and The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm.
- Gaiman, Neil. Coraline.  
Looking for excitement, Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own. For more chills, check out Neil Gaiman's Newbery-winner, The Graveyard Book.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Just Ella.  
In this continuation of the Cinderella story, fifteen-year-old Ella finds that accepting Prince Charming's proposal ensnares her in a suffocating tangle of palace rules and royal etiquette, so she plots to escape.
- Hale, Shannon. Book of a Thousand Days.  
Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.
- Hale, Shannon. The Princess Academy.  
An unusual and thought-provoking story about a fourteen-year-old girl forced to attend an uptight school for potential princesses. Hale also wrote the popular book Goose Girl, about a princess betrayed by her evil lady-in-waiting and the boy she falls in love with as she tries to take back her title.
- Hill, Stuart. The Cry of the Icemark (series)  
Princess Thirrin, a teenager, becomes the queen of Icemark after her father is killed and must take over the country's defense against the PolyPontian Empire, relying on help from Oskan, a witch's son, in order to save her people.
- \*Jones, Diana Wynne. The Lives of Christopher Chant.  
A sophisticated and wonderfully entertaining story about a young boy who trains to become the controller of all the world's magic. Highly recommended!
- Kerr, P.B. The Ahkenaten Adventure (Children of the Lamp series)  
When twelve-year-old twins Philippa and John discover that they are descended from a long line of djinn, their mother sends them away to their Uncle Nimrod, who takes them to Cairo where he starts to teach them about their extraordinary powers.
- Kindl, Patrice. Goose Chase.  
Rather than marry a cruel king or a seemingly dim-witted prince, an enchanted goose girl endures imprisonment, capture by several ogresses, and other dangers before learning exactly who she is.
- Law, Ingrid. Savvy.  
Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.
- \*LeGuin, Ursula. A Wizard of Earthsea.  
A wizard's apprentice tampers with long held secrets, accidentally unleashing an evil creature upon the world and must then restore the balance.
- Levine, Gail Carson. Fairest.  
In a land where beauty and singing are valued above all else, Aza eventually comes to reconcile her unconventional appearance and her magical voice, and learns to accept herself for who she truly is.

## Science Fiction & Fantasy (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Lowry, Lois. Gossamer.  
The author of The Giver and Gathering Blue uses her exceptional imagination to explain where our dreams really come from.
- McCaffrey, Anne. Dragonsong.  
Forbidden by her father to indulge in music, a girl on the planet Pern runs away and starts a new life living with dragons.
- McCutcheon, H.L. LightLand.  
Twelve-year-old Lottie and her best friend, Lewis, find themselves in a world called LightLand where they confront the dreaded NightKing, a dangerous being who experiments with the energies of memory.
- \*McKinley, Robin. The Hero and the Crown.  
Aerin, with the guidance of the a wizard and the help of the blue sword, wins the birthright due her as the daughter of the Damarian king and a witch of the mysterious, demon haunted North. Robin McKinley is also popular for Beauty whose love breaks the Beast's spell.
- Naylor, Phillip Reynolds. Jade Green  
After being orphaned, 15 year old Judith is sent to live with her creepy uncle, who insists that she not bring anything green into his house.
- Nicholson, William. The Wind Singer.  
Kestrel Hath rebels against the stifling rules of her society, is forced to flee and then follows an ancient map in a quest for the legendary silver voice of the wind singer.
- Nix, Garth. Mister Monday.  
The first book of the Keys to the Kingdom series. An asthmatic boy named Arthur battles Mister Monday over a magical key that unlocks a large, magical house.
- Pierce, Tamora. Alanna: the First Adventure.  
In the first of the Song of the Lioness series, eleven-year-old Alanna disguises herself as a boy so she can become a knight. Tamora Pierce has written several series including the Circle of Magic, the Circle Opens, the Immortals, and the Protector of the Small.
- Pratchett, Terry. The Wee Free Men.  
Tiffany, a young witch-to-be, teams up with the Wee Free Men, a clan of six-inch-high blue men, to rescue her baby brother and ward off a sinister invasion from Fairyland.
- Paolini, Christopher. Eragon.  
Magic swords? Check. Dragons? Check. Elves? Check. Monsters? Check.
- \*Pullman, Philip. The Golden Compass.  
Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North. The Subtle Knife and The Amber Spyglass complete this trilogy.
- Riordan, Rick. The Lightning Thief (series)  
A middle-schooler named Percy struggles with Latin, attention defecit disorder, and the reality that he may be the son of a Greek god.
- Rowling, J.K. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (series).  
Rescued from his horrible aunt and uncle, a young boy proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.
- Sage, Angie. Magyk (series).  
Jenna learns that (1) she is a princess, (2) the man who has raised her (Silas Heap) is not her father, and (3) there's an evil wizard out to kill her.

## Science Fiction & Fantasy (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Scott, Michael. The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel (series).  
Fifteen-year-old twins, Sophie and Josh, find themselves caught up in the deadly struggle between rival alchemists, Nicholas Flamel and John Dee, over the possession of an ancient book that holds the secret formulas for alchemy and everlasting life.
- Shinn, Sharon. Summers at Castle Auburn.  
As a child, Coriel Halsing spent many glorious summers at Castle Auburn with her half-sister and fell in love with a handsome prince who could never be hers, but now that she is a young woman, she begins to see the dark side of this magical place.
- Stroud, Jonathan. The Amulet of Samarkand.  
Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician, Simon Lovelace.
- Stroud, Jonathan. The Golem's Eye (The Bartimaeus Trilogy, Book 2)  
In their continuing adventures, magician's apprentice Nathaniel, now fourteen years old, and the djinni Bartimaeus travel to Prague to locate the source of a golem's power before it destroys London
- \*Ursu, Anne. The Shadow Thieves  
(Calling all Greek myths fans!) After her cousin Zee arrives from England, thirteen-year-old Charlotte and he must set out to save humankind from denizens of the underworld, Nightmares, Death, Pain, and a really nasty guy named Phil.
- Vande Velde, Vivian. Heir Apparent.  
While playing a total immersion virtual reality game, fourteen-year-old Giannine learns that she must win the game quickly or suffer real (non-virtual) damage.
- Wilce, Ysabeau S. Flora Segunda. : being the magickal mishaps of a girl of spirit, her glass-gazing sidekick, two ominous butlers (one blue), a house with eleven thousand rooms, and a red dog.  
While taking a shortcut in her eleven thousand room home, fourteen-year-old Flora Fydraaca discovers Valefor, the family butler who was banished years earlier by the girl's mother, and tries to restore the magical being's position in the household.
- Zevin, Gabrielle Elsewhere.  
After being killed in a car accident, Lizzie finds herself in Elsewhere, a heaven-like place where people grow progressively younger.

## Historical Fiction (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Anderson, Laurie Halse. Fever, 1793.  
In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of the yellow fever epidemic.
- Anderson, Laurie Halse. Chains.  
After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.
- Avi. Crispin: the Cross of Lead.  
Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy, in fourteenth-century England, flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.
- Bawden, Nina. Carrie's War.  
Carrie and her younger brother spend World War II as evacuees in a small Welsh village where Carrie, upset by a family feud, commits an act that haunts her for thirty years.
- Berry, James. Ajeemah and His Son.  
A father and his eighteen-year-old son are affected differently by their experiences as slaves in Jamaica in the early nineteenth-century.
- Blackwood, Gary. The Shakespeare Stealer (series)  
A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but decides to become an actor instead. The orphan's story continues in the follow-up books, Shakespeare's Scribe and Shakespeare's Spy.
- Boyne, John. The Boy in the Striped Pajamas.  
Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.
- Choi, Sook Nyui. Year of Impossible Goodbyes.  
A Korean girl, Sookan, survives the oppressive Japanese and Russian occupation of North Korea, during the 1940s, to later escape to freedom in South Korea.
- Chute, B.J. Greenwillow.  
A timeless and poetic fable of a young man, believing he is doomed to wander the Earth and never marry, who unexpectedly falls in love.
- Compestine, Ying Chang. Revolution is Not a Dinner Party.  
Starting in 1972 when she is nine years old, Ling, the daughter of two doctors, struggles to make sense of the communists' Cultural Revolution, which empties stores of food, homes of appliances deemed "bourgeois," and people of laughter.
- Conrad, Pam. Prairie Song.  
Louisa's life, in a loving pioneer family on the Nebraska prairie, is altered by the arrival of a new doctor and his beautiful, tragically frail wife.
- Cooney, Caroline. Goddess of Yesterday.  
Taken from her home on an Aegean island, Anaxandra poses as two different princesses before ending up as a servant in the company of Helen and Paris as they make their way to Troy.
- \*Cooper, Susan. King of Shadows.  
As part of an all-boy acting company preparing to perform in a replica of the famous Globe Theatre in London, Nat Field suddenly finds himself transported back to 1599 and performing in the original theater under the tutelage of Shakespeare himself.

## Historical Fiction (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Curtis, Christopher Paul. Bud, Not Buddy. ~  
Set during the Great Depression, Bud escapes a bad foster home and sets out on a hilarious adventure in search of the man he believes to be his father. The Watsons Go to Birmingham is another well-loved title by this author.
- Cushman, Karen. Catherine Called Birdy.  
The thirteen-year-old daughter of an English country knight keeps a journal in which she records the events of her life, particularly her longing for adventure. Karen Cushman also wrote Matilda Bone and The Midwife's Apprentice about medieval times.
- Cushman, Karen. The Loud Silence of Francine Green.  
In 1949, thirteen-year-old Francine goes to Catholic school in Los Angeles where she becomes best friends with a girl who questions authority and is frequently punished by the nuns, causing Francine to question her own values.
- Fletcher, Susan. Shadow Spinner.  
When Marjan, a thirteen-year-old crippled girl, joins the Sultan's harem in ancient Persia, she gathers for Shahrazad the stories which will save the queen's life.
- Geras, Adele. Troy and its sequel, Ithaka.  
Told from the point of view of the women of Troy, portrays the last weeks of the Trojan War, when women are sick of tending the wounded, men are tired of fighting, and bored gods and goddesses find ways to stir things up.
- Hesse, Karen. Witness.  
A series of poems express the views of various people in a small Vermont town, including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl, during the early 1920s when the Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate the town. Karen Hesse is also well-known for her Newbery Medal winner, Out of the Dust.
- Kadohata, Cynthia. Kira-kira.  
A poignant story about a Japanese-American girl growing up in the shadow of her older, genius sister during the 1950's.
- Kidd, Ronald. Monkey Town.  
When her favorite high school teacher is arrested for teaching about evolution, fifteen-year-old Frances has to rethink many of her beliefs about religion, as well as her relationship with her father.
- 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 outcast. Be sure to read the sequel, White Sands, Red Meance.
- Konigsburg, E.L. A Proud Taste for Scarlet and Miniver.  
While waiting in heaven for divine judgment to be passed, Eleanor of Aquitaine and three people who knew her well recall the events of her life.
- Lasky, Kathryn. Elizabeth I, Red Rose of the House of Tudor.  
In this tale of the Royal Diary series, Princess Elizabeth, the eleven-year-old daughter of King Henry VIII, recounts her mother's execution, revels in her studies, and agonizes over her father's health.
- Levine, Gail Carson. Dave at Night.  
Dave, an orphan living at the cruel Hebrew Home for Boys, sneaks out at night and is welcomed into the music and culture filled world of the Harlem Renaissance.
- Levitin, Sonia. Journey to America.  
A Jewish family, fleeing Nazi Germany in 1938, endures innumerable separations before being reunited.

## Historical Fiction (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Lyons, Mary E. Letters from a Slave Girl: The Story of Harriet Jacobs.  
A collection of fictional letters recreates the life and times of Harriet Ann Jacobs, a young slave who escaped to freedom in the 1840s and became a published author and abolitionist.
- Magorian, Michelle. Good Night, Mr. Tom.  
During World War II, a battered child is adopted by an old man in the English countryside.
- Matas, Carol. In My Enemy's House.  
A Jewish girl with blond hair and blue eyes passes herself off as a Christian during World War II and becomes a servant in a Nazi household.
- McCaughrean, Geraldine. The Kite Rider.  
In thirteenth-century China, twelve-year-old Haoyou takes to the sky as a circus kite rider and ends up meeting the great Mongol ruler Kublai Khan.
- Meyer, Carolyn. Mary, Bloody Mary.  
Mary Tudor tells the story of her troubled childhood as daughter of King Henry VIII. Beware, Princess Elizabeth is about King Henry VIII's other daughter, Elizabeth, as she endures the political intrigues and dangers of the reigns of her half-brother Edward and her half-sister Mary before becoming Queen of England eleven years later.
- Napoli, Donna Jo. Daughter of Venice.  
Fourteen-year-old Donata, disguised as a boy, sneaks out of her noble family's house to roam the streets of late sixteenth-century Venice and then must confront the repercussions of her actions. Other titles by Donna Jo Napoli include Beast, Spinners, Stones in Water, and Zel.
- Park, Linda Sue. A Single Shard.  
Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives in a renowned potters' village and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself. Linda Sue Park also wrote When My Name was Kieko in which Kim Sun-hee and Tae-yul must keep a family secret hidden during the World War II Japanese occupation of Korea when even use of their Korean names was forbidden.
- Rees, Celia. Pirates! The True and Remarkable Adventures of Minerva Sharpe and Nancy Kington, Female Pirates.  
In 1722, after arriving with her brother at the family's Jamaican plantation where she is to be married off, sixteen-year-old Nancy Kington escapes with her slave friend, Minerva Sharpe, and together they become pirates traveling the world in search of treasure.
- Rinaldi, Ann. Cast Two Shadows.  
In South Carolina in 1780, fourteen-year-old Caroline sees the Revolutionary War take a terrible toll on her family and friends and comes to understand the true nature of war. Ann Rinaldi also wrote Girl in Blue in which fourteen-year-old Sarah, disguised as a boy, leaves her Michigan home to enlist in the Union Army and become a soldier on the battlefields of Virginia as well as a Union spy.
- Roy, Jennifer. The Yellow Star.  
From 1939, when Sylvia is four and a half years old, to 1945 when she has just turned ten, a Jewish girl and her family struggle to survive in Poland's Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation.
- Schmidt, Gary D. The Wednesday Wars.  
During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

## Historical Fiction (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Spinelli, Jerry. Milkweed.  
A street child, known to himself only as Stopthief, finds community when he is taken in by a band of orphans in a Warsaw ghetto who help him weather the horrors of the Nazi regime.
- \*Sturtevant, Katherine. A True and Faithful Narrative.  
In London in the 1680s, Meg--now sixteen years old--tries to decide whether to marry either of the two men who court her, taking into account both love and her writing ambitions.
- \*Taylor, Mildred. The Land. ~  
Paul, the son of a white father and a black mother, finds himself caught between the two worlds, in the years after the Civil War, as he pursues his dreams of owning land. This title is the prequel to Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.
- Thomas, Jane Resh. The Counterfeit Princess.  
Vowing revenge when her parents are executed in 1553 by the Duke of Northumberland, teenaged Iris becomes a messenger, spy, and stand-in for Princess Elizabeth during the volatile political times surrounding Edward VI's death.
- Yep, Laurence. The Star Fisher.  
Fifteen-year-old Joan Lee and her family find the adjustment hard when they move from Ohio to West Virginia in the 1920s and are treated as outsiders. Laurence Yep also wrote Dragonwings about a father and son who dream of making a flying machine.
- Yolen, Jane. Queen's Own Fool: A Novel of Mary Queen of Scots.  
When twelve-year-old Nicola serves as the fool for Mary, Queen of Scots, she experiences the political and religious upheavals of both France and Scotland. The tale continues in Girl in a Cage.

## Biography / Autobiography (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Bridges, Ruby. Through My Eyes.  
Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement, as a six-year-old, in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960.
- Bober, Natalie. Abigail Adams: A Life of Letters, Loyalties, & Love.  
Drawing from more than 2,000 surviving pieces of Abigail Adam's personal correspondence, Natalie Bober portrays Abigail Adams as more than just the wife of one president and the mother of another.
- Cleary, Beverly. A Girl from Yamhill: A Memoir.  
This popular children's author recounts her childhood years in Oregon, through high school and into adulthood, highlighting her family life and her interest in writing.
- Delano, Marfe Ferguson. Genius: A Photobiography of Albert Einstein.  
Presents a biography of Albert Einstein, in words and photographs, and examines the life of the physicist whose theories revolutionized the way science views the space-time continuum, and integrates Einstein's political, cultural, and social interests with his scientific beliefs. (Newsflash: he was not a bad student, as some might have you believe!)
- Delano, Marfe Ferguson. Helen's Eyes: A Photobiography of Annie Sullivan.  
Photographs and text present the life and accomplishments of the young woman who overcame a poverty-stricken childhood, family tragedy, and failing eyesight to teach the blind and deaf Helen Keller how to communicate. (Note: If you enjoy this book, be sure to check out Susan Miller's book, Miss Spitfire, which imagines the emotional relationship between Annie and Helen in even greater detail.)
- Filipovic, Zlata. Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo.  
Zlata's life, as told through her diary, changes drastically when war breaks out and she becomes trapped in a war-torn land.
- Fleischman, Sid. Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini.  
A biography of the magician, ghost chaser, aviator, and king of escape artists whose amazing feats are remembered long after his death in 1926. Profiling his early years, personal life, and great accomplishments in show business, the story of the famous magician, Harry Houdini, comes to life through a review of his greatest tricks and most amazing feats, complete with index, photos, and author's notes.
- \*Fossey, Dian. Gorillas in the Mist.  
Dian Fossey provides us with a rare glimpse of the lives of four gorilla families living in the rain forests of the Virunga mountains of Rwanda.
- Fradin, Dennis & Judith. Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.  
Ida B. Wells, along with her contemporaries Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass, worked tirelessly for African-American and women's rights.
- Freedman, Russell. Eleanor Roosevelt.  
Eleanor Roosevelt was the first President's wife to have an independent role as spokeswoman for the powerless and downtrodden. In addition, she served as one of the first delegates to the United Nations. Russell Freedman also wrote Martha Graham: A Dancer's Life and Lincoln: A Photobiography.
- Gunther, John. Death Be Not Proud.  
The author recounts his son's illness from a brain tumor and tragic death at the age of seventeen.
- \*Herriott, James. All Creatures Great and Small.  
An English veterinarian reminisces about his life, career, and animal patients.

## Biography / Autobiography (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Hoose, Phillip M. We Were There, Too!: Young People in U.S. History.  
This collection of biographies includes dozens of young people who made a mark in American history from civil rights workers to explorers, planters, spies and sweatshop workers.
- Houston, Jeanne Wakatsuki. Farewell to Manzanar.  
Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston relates her experiences of living at the Manzanar internment camp during World War II.
- Jiang, Ji-li. Red Scarf Girl.  
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.
- Keller, Helen. The Story of My Life.  
Helen Keller was born without the ability to hear or speak. In this book, she tells of the magical moment when she first recognizes the connection between words and objects, her joy at learning how to speak, friendships with notable figures, and an extraordinary relationship with her inspired teacher, Anne Sullivan.
- Kherdian, David. The Road from Home.  
David Kherdian retraces his mother's childhood in Turkey before the Turkish government deported its Armenian population.
- Levine, Karen. Hana's Suitcase.  
A biography of a Czech girl who died in the Holocaust, told in alternating chapters with an account of how the curator of a Japanese Holocaust center learned about her life after Hana's suitcase was sent to her.
- Li, Moying. Snow Falling in Spring.  
This inspiring memoir follows Moying Li from age 12 to 22, illuminating a complex, dark time in China's history as it tells the compelling story of one girl's difficult but determined coming-of-age during the Cultural Revolution.
- Lowry, Lois. Looking Back: A Book of Memories.  
Using family photographs and quotes from her books, the famed author, Lois Lowry, provides an intimate look into her life.
- Myers, Walter Dean. At Her Majesty's Request.  
The author recreates the story of the African princess who was saved from execution and raised in England by Queen Victoria.
- Rappaport, Doreen. Living Dangerously.  
Defying social convention, six women undertake dangerous adventures.
- Reiss, Johanna. The Upstairs Room.  
A Dutch Jewish girl describes the two and a half years she spent hiding in the upstairs bedroom of a farmer's house during World War II.
- Ringgold, Faith et al. Talking to Faith Ringgold.  
In a uniquely interactive, conversational manner, the author of Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky and Tar Beach comments on her achievements, how she developed her style, and what her best known works mean to her.
- Rol, Ruud. Anne Frank, Beyond the Diary: A Photographic Remembrance.  
Photographs, illustrations, and maps accompany historical essays, diary excerpts, and interviews to provide an insight on Anne Frank.

- Roth-Hano, Renee. Touch Wood: A Girlhood in Occupied France.  
In this autobiographical novel set in Nazi occupied France, Renée and her family flee their home in Alsace and live a precarious existence in Paris until Renée and her sister escape to the shelter of a convent in Normandy.
- Siegel, Aranka. Upon the Head of a Goat: A Childhood in Hungary, 1939-1944.  
This moving book recounts the bewilderment of being a Jewish child in Hungary, during World War II, and the ordeal of survival in the ghetto.
- Sis, Peter. The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain.  
Annotated illustrations, maps, and dreamscapes explore how the artist-author's life was shaped while growing up in Czechoslovakia during the Cold War, in a powerful graphic memoir.
- Stanley, Fay. The Last Princess: The Story of Princess Ka'iulani of Hawaii.  
Hawaii's last heir to the throne was denied her right to rule when the monarchy was abolished.
- Uchida, Yoshiko. Invisible Thread.  
Children's author, Yoshiko Uchida, describes growing up in Berkeley, California, as a second generation Japanese-American, and her family's internment in a Nevada concentration camp during World War II.

## Poetry

- Fleischman, Paul. Big Talk: Poems for Four Voices.
- Fleischman, Paul. Joyful Noises: Poems for Two Voices.
- Greenberg, Jan, editor. Heart to Heart: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth-Century American Art.
- Hirsch, Robin. FEG: Ridiculous Stupid Poems for Intelligent Children.
- Janeczko, Paul B. How to Write Poetry.
- Janeczko, Paul B. The Place My Words are Looking for: What Poets Say About and Through Their Work.
- Katz, Bobbi. We the People.
- Koch, Kenneth. Talking to the Sun: An Illustrated Anthology of Poems for Young People.
- Nelson, Marilyn. Carver, a Life in Poems.
- Nye, Naomi Shihab. 19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East.
- Peacock, Molly and Elise Peachen, editors. Poetry in Motion: 100 Poems from the Subways & Buses.
- Sirowitz, Hal. Mother Said: (Poems).
- Woodson, Jacqueline. Locomotion.  
In a series of poems, an African-American fifth grader writes about his life in New York City, living in a foster home, and finding his poetic voice at school. Woodson also wrote Miracle's Boys and Feathers.

Oxford's Poetry for Young People series also offers collections on particular poets such as Lewis Carroll, Emily Dickinson, Rudyard Kipling, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Edgar Allen Poe, William Shakespeare, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Walt Whitman.

## Books to Entertain and Inform (\* stars indicate more challenging books)

- Blais, Madeleine. [In These Girls, Hope is a Muscle.](#)  
A powerful and exciting account of an all-girls basketball team, from tryouts and practices through the final championship game, whose passion for the sport is rivaled only by their loyalty to one another.
- Jackson, Donna M. [Bone Detectives. How Forensic Anthropologists Solve Crimes and Uncover Mysteries of the Dead](#)  
A fascinating book that discusses how scientists solve crimes (especially murders). (Note – this book is not for the squeamish!)
- Krull, Kathleen. [They saw the future : oracles, psychics, scientists, great thinkers, and pretty good guessers](#)  
Discusses the work and predictions of those who have speculated about or claimed to see the future, from the oracles of ancient Greece to such modern figures as Edgar Cayce and Jeane Dixon.
- Krull, Kathleen. The [Lives](#) series  
[Lives of the Artists : Masterpieces, Messes \(and what the neighbors thought\)](#)  
[Lives of Extraordinary Women: Rulers, Rebels \(and What the Neighbors Thought\)](#)  
[Lives of the Presidents: Fame, Shame \(and What the Neighbors Thought\)](#)  
[Lives of the Athletes: Thrills, Spills \(and What the Neighbors Thought\)](#)  
[Lives of the Musicians: Good Times, Bad Times \(and What the Neighbors Thought\)](#)  
[Lives of the Writers: Comedies, Tragedies \(and What the Neighbors Thought\)](#)
- Macaulay, David. [Mosque.](#)  
David Macaulay, an incredibly imaginative writer and illustrator, is well known for his visual dissections of historic structures. [Mosque](#) reveals the methods and materials used to construct a mosque in late-sixteenth century Turkey. His other titles include [Building Big](#), [Cathedral](#), and [Motel of the Mysteries](#).
- Macaulay, David. [The New Way Things Work.](#)  
Text and numerous detailed illustrations introduce and explain the scientific principles and workings of hundreds of machines. Includes new material about digital technology.
- \*Macaulay, David. [The Way We Work.](#)  
Reveals the inner workings of the human body.
- McPherson, James M. [Fields of Fury: the American Civil War.](#)  
Richly illustrated with photographs, paintings, and maps, this book examines the causes, events and effects of the American Civil War.
- Mortensen, Greg. [Three Cups of tea: one man's mission to promote peace – one child at a time\(Young Reader's Edition\)](#)  
This young-reader's edition presents the story of Greg Mortenson's famous project building schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan. It also includes an extended interview with Mortenson's 12-year-old daughter, Amira, who describes her overseas experiences with her parents, and then waiting at home while her father travels the world.
- Murphy, Jim. [An American Plague: the true and terrifying story of the yellow fever epidemic of 1793.](#)  
[An American Plague](#) describes the yellow fever epidemic that swept through Philadelphia in 1793 and the efforts by physicians, the Free African Society, and others to cure and care for the sick.

Book synopses courtesy of Follett Library Services and the publisher's product description of the book on [Amazon.com](#).