

Central Middle School
Stirling NJ

**Eighth Grade Language Arts/Communication Arts
Summer Reading Program**

Words are ideas.... Reading is learning.... Learning is growing....

During summer vacation, most young people have many more opportunities for free reading—self-improvement and recreational reading – than is available during the busy months of the school year.

Students who use this time productively show impressive results. They learn more. They get better grades later. They show improved aptitude test scores. They are admitted to more selective colleges. They bring wider knowledge to their employers. In short, the depth and breadth of their reading may directly influence their career ladders.

There are many kinds of reading. Sports pages and romance novels are two kinds. But the “best sellers” of today and yesterday, such as those on the following pages, combine high interest levels with real self-improvement.

Students entering eighth grade are required to read three books from the following list. Students are asked to journal the main characters, plot, conflict, setting, and theme of their selected books and have a typed copy to hand in to the reading teacher during the first full week of school. On Monday, September 15th, all students will be evaluated on their summer reading within the Language Arts class. They will be required to complete an in-class essay in which they must refer to each of the books they have read. Keep a record of the books that you read. Parents or guardians are asked to sign next to each book completed; students must bring this form to school on the first day.

Please keep this list in a safe place, as you will use it during the entire school year. Copies of it are available online at www.schoolnotes.com (click on Ms. Lommel’s link), www.longhill.org, and at www.longhill.mainlib.org, as well as at the Long Hill Public Library, Morris County Library Headquarters in Whippany, Borders-Bridgewater and Watchung, and Barnes and Noble-Bridgewater.

We hope that students will find their summer reading experience rewarding and enjoyable, so much so that they will continue to read independently throughout the school year.

Happy summer and happy reading!!

Ms. Delanoy
Language Arts Teacher

Mrs. Golub
Communication Arts Teacher

Ms. Lommel
Teacher-Librarian

Student’s Name: _____

| Book Title | Author | Parent’s Signature |
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**Reading List for Grade 8 Students
Central Middle School, Stirling NJ
2008-2009**

- Adams, Douglas** **The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy** **Fantasy/Humor**
A young man who is rescued by an alien friend seconds before Earth is demolished to make room for a galactic freeway. Start of a series.
- Alcott, Louisa May** **Little Women** **Classic**
Chronicles the joys and troubles of the four March sisters--Meg, Jo, Amy, and Beth--as they grow into young ladies and marry in nineteenth-century New England. Sequels are Little Men and Jo's Boys.
- Alexander, Lloyd** **The Iron Ring** **Fantasy**
Driven by his sense of "dharma," or honor, young King Tamar sets off on a perilous journey, with a significance greater than he can imagine, during which he meets talking animals, villainous and noble kings, demons, and the love of his life.
- Almond, David** **Kit's Wilderness** **Fantasy**
Thirteen-year-old Kit goes to live with his grandfather in the decaying coal mining town of Stoneygate, England, and finds both the old man and the town haunted by ghosts of the past.
- Asimov, Isaac** **Fantastic Voyage: A Novel** **Classic/Science Fiction**
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** **Science Fiction**
As the Galactic Empire declines, psycho-historian Hari Seldon and his band of psycho-biologists form the Foundation, designed to be the nucleus of an eventual ideal universal ruling corporation. Start of a series.
- Austen, Jane** **Pride and Prejudice** **Classic/Historical Fiction**
In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters.
- Austen, Jane** **Sense and Sensibility** **Classic/Historical Fiction**
Two sisters of opposing temperaments share the pangs of tragic love. Their mutual suffering brings a closer understanding between the two sisters, and true love finally triumphs.
- Avi** **The Good Dog** **Animal/Adventure**
McKinley, a malamute, is torn between the domestic world of his human family and the wild world of Lupin, a wolf that is trying to recruit dogs to replenish the dwindling wolf pack.
- Avi** **The Man Who Was Poe** **Mystery**
In Providence, R.I., in 1848, Edgar Allan Poe reluctantly investigates the problems of eleven-year-old Edmund, whose family has mysteriously disappeared and whose story suggests a new Poe tale with a ghastly final twist.
- Barker, Clive** **Abarat** **Fantasy**
Candy Quackenbush of Chickentown, Minnesota, journeys to the Abarat, an archipelago filled with strange wonders, and has a curious revelation: she has been here before, and it is her responsibility to save this mysterious place from the evil forces that threaten it. Start of a series.
- Barron, T.A.** **Heartlight** **Science Fiction**
Kate and her grandfather use one of his inventions to travel faster than the speed of light on a mission to save the sun from a premature death.
- Bauer, Joan** **Rules Of The Road** **Realistic Fiction**
Sixteen-year-old Jenna gets a job driving the elderly owner of a chain of successful shoe stores from Chicago to Texas to confront the son who is trying to force her to retire, and along the way Jenna hones her talents as a saleswoman and finds the strength to face her alcoholic father. Sequel is Best Foot Forward.
- Bauer, Joan** **Stand Tall** **Realistic Fiction**
Tree, a six-foot-three-inch twelve-year-old, copes with his parents' recent divorce and his failure as an athlete by helping his grandfather, a Vietnam vet and recent amputee, and Sophie, a new girl at school.
- Bennett, Cherie** **Life in the Fat Lane** **Realistic Fiction**
Sixteen-year-old Lara, winner of beauty pageants and Homecoming Queen, is distressed and bewildered when she mysteriously starts gaining weight.
- Blackwood, Gary L.** **The Shakespeare Stealer** **Historical Fiction**
A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty. Start of a series.
- Blos, Joan W.** **A Gathering of Days: New Eng. Girl's Journal ...** **Newbery/Historical Fiction**
The journal of a 14-year-old girl, kept the last year she lived on the family farm, records daily events in her small New Hampshire town, her father's remarriage, and the death of her best friend.
- Blumberg, Rhoda** **The Incredible Journey of Lewis And Clark** **History**
Describes the expedition led by Lewis and Clark to explore the unknown western regions of America at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

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| Blume, Judy | <u>Just As Long As We're Together</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Stephanie's relationship with her best friend, Rachel, changes during her first year in junior high as she tries to conceal a family problem and meets a new girl from California. Sequel is <u>Here's To You, Rachel Robinson</u> . | | |
| Bradbury, Ray | <u>Dandelion Wine</u> | Historical Fiction |
| In a small town in 1928, a twelve year-old boy savors the magic of childhood and the wonders of summer. | | |
| Bradbury, Ray | <u>Fahrenheit 451</u> | Science Fiction |
| The classic tale of an unsettling future in which all books are banned or burned. | | |
| Bradbury, Ray | <u>The Martian Chronicles</u> | Science Fiction/Short Stories |
| The first Earth people to attempt the colonization of Mars try to build their new world in the image of the civilization they left behind. | | |
| Bradley, James | <u>Flags of our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima</u> | History |
| James Bradley examines the lives of the six young men who raised the American flag over Iwo Jima in February 1945 and were immortalized by a famous photograph. Version adapted for young people by Michael French. adapted for young people by Michael French. | | |
| Bronte, Charlotte | <u>Jane Eyre</u> | Classic |
| When a penniless governess falls in love with the brooding master of Thornfield, she is unaware of the tragic events that will follow. | | |
| Bronte, Emily | <u>Wuthering Heights</u> | Classic |
| Forced by a storm to spend the night at the home of the somber Heathcliff, Mr. Lockwood uncovers a tale of terror and hatred on the Yorkshire moors. | | |
| Brooks, Bruce | <u>What Hearts</u> | Newbery/Realistic Fiction |
| After his mother divorces his father and remarries, Asa's sharp intellect and capacity for forgiveness help him deal with the instabilities of his new world. | | |
| Campbell, Eric | <u>The Shark Callers</u> | Adventure |
| Two teenage boys, one on a shark hunt and the other traveling with his family, face the challenge of their lives when a volcano erupts causing a massive tidal wave in the South Seas. | | |
| Card, Orson Scott | <u>Ender's Game</u> | Science Fiction |
| Ender, who is the result of genetic experimentation, may be the military genius Earth needs in its war against an alien enemy. Start of a series. | | |
| Cather, Willa | <u>My Antonia</u> | Classic |
| A successful lawyer remembers his boyhood in Nebraska and his friendship with an immigrant Bohemian girl named Antonia. One of Ms. Lommel's favorites. | | |
| Clarke, Arthur C. | <u>Childhood's End</u> | Science Fiction |
| When the Overlords first came to Earth, they brought peace and prosperity with them, but it soon became apparent that their purpose was the elimination of the human race. | | |
| Cleaver, Vera and Bill | <u>Where The Lilies Bloom</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| In the Great Smoky Mountains region, a fourteen-year-old girl struggles to keep her family together after their father dies. | | |
| Colfer, Eoin | <u>The Supernaturalist</u> | Science Fiction |
| In futuristic Satellite City, fourteen-year-old Cosmo Hill escapes from an abusive orphanage and teams up with three other people who share his unusual ability to see supernatural creatures, and together they determine the nature and purpose of the swarming blue Parasites that are invisible to most humans. | | |
| Conford, Ellen | <u>I Love You, I Hate You, Get Lost</u> | Humor/Short Stories |
| A collection of seven humorous stories reflecting the ups and downs of teenage love and life. | | |
| Cooney, Caroline B. | <u>Burning Up</u> | Mystery |
| When a girl she had met at an inner-city church is murdered, fifteen-year-old Macey channels her grief into a school project that leads her to uncover prejudice she had not imagined in her grandparents' wealthy town. | | |
| Cooney, Caroline B. | <u>Driver's Ed</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Three teenagers' lives are changed forever when they thoughtlessly steal a stop sign from a dangerous intersection and a young mother is killed in an automobile accident there. | | |
| Cooper, Susan | <u>The Dark Is Rising</u> | Newbery/Fantasy |
| On his eleventh birthday Will Stanton discovers that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical Signs that will enable the Old Ones to triumph over the evil forces of the Dark. Start of a series. | | |
| Cormier, Robert | <u>After the First Death</u> | Action/Suspense |
| The hijacking of a bus of children is described from the perspectives of a hostage, a hijacker, an Army general involved in the rescue operation, and the general's son who has been chosen as the go-between. | | |
| Coulombis, Audrey | <u>Getting Near To Baby</u> | Newbery/Realistic Fiction |
| Although thirteen-year-old Willa Jo and her Aunt Patty seem to be constantly at odds, staying with her and Uncle Hob helps Willa Jo and her younger sister come to terms with the death of their family's baby. | | |
| Crane, Stephen | <u>The Red Badge of Courage</u> | Classic/HistoricalFiction |
| Classic story of a young Union soldier under fire for the first time during the Civil War. | | |

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| Creech, Sharon | <u>Chasing Redbird</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Thirteen-year-old Zinnia Taylor uncovers family secrets and self truths while clearing a mysterious settler trail that begins on her family's farm in Kentucky. | | |
| Creech, Sharon | <u>The Wanderer</u> | Newbery/Adventure |
| Thirteen-year-old Sophie and her cousin Cody record their transatlantic crossing aboard the Wanderer, a forty-five foot sailboat, which, along with uncles and another cousin, is en route to visit their grandfather in England. | | |
| Crutcher, Chris | <u>Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes</u> | Sports |
| The daily class discussions about the nature of man, the existence of God, abortion, organized religion, suicide and other contemporary issues help a high-school senior's attempt to answer a friend's dramatic cry for help. | | |
| Davis, Jenny | <u>Good-Bye And Keep Cold</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Edda's family struggles to get over the death of her father in a strip-mining accident when she was eight-years-old, especially when years later they discover a terrible secret about him. | | |
| DeFelice, Cynthia | <u>Lostman's River</u> | Adventure |
| In the early 1900s, thirteen-year-old Tyler encounters vicious hunters whose actions threaten to destroy the Everglades ecosystem and, as a result, joins the battle to protect that fragile environment. | | |
| Defoe, Daniel | <u>Robinson Crusoe</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| During one of his several adventurous voyages in the 1600's an Englishman becomes the sole survivor of a shipwreck and lives for nearly thirty years on a deserted island. | | |
| Deuker, Carl | <u>Night Hoops</u> | Sports |
| While trying to prove that he is good enough to play on his high school's varsity basketball team, Nick must also deal with his parents' divorce and erratic behavior of a troubled classmate who lives across the street. | | |
| Dickens, Charles | <u>David Copperfield</u> | Classic |
| The classic story of orphan David Copperfield growing up in nineteenth-century England. | | |
| Dickens, Charles | <u>Great Expectations</u> | Classic |
| Pip, an orphan in Victorian England, learns that a mysterious benefactor has ensured that he will be educated and raised as a gentleman. | | |
| Dickens, Charles | <u>A Tale Of Two Cities</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| The classic tale of the adventures of a young Englishman who gives his life during the French Revolution to save the husband of the woman he loves. | | |
| Dickinson, Peter | <u>A Bone From A Dry Sea</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| In two parallel stories, a female member of a prehistoric tribe becomes instrumental in advancing the lot of her people, and the daughter of a paleontologist visits him on a dig in Africa when important fossil remains are discovered. | | |
| Donnelly, Jennifer | <u>A Northern Light</u> | Mystery/Historical |
| Sixteen-year-old Mattie, determined to attend college and be a writer against the wishes of her father and boyfriend, takes a job at a hotel in 1906 where the death of a guest renews her determination to live her own life. | | |
| Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan | <u>The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</u> | Classic/Mystery |
| Short stories chronicling the adventures of the British detective. | | |
| Dumas, Alexander | <u>The Count of Monte Cristo</u> | Classic |
| After escaping from the island where he has been in prison, Dantes plots his revenge on the people responsible for his imprisonment. | | |
| Dumas, Alexandre | <u>The Three Musketeers</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| The heroic young d'Artagnan and his noble compatriots Athos, Porthos, and Aramis are pitted against a master of intrigue and a quintessential wicked woman. | | |
| Duncan, Lois | <u>Killing Mr. Griffin</u> | Mystery |
| A teenager casually suggests playing a cruel trick on the English teacher, but did he intend it to end with murder? | | |
| Duncan, Lois | <u>They Never Came Home</u> | Mystery |
| When two teenage boys vanish on a camping trip, a stranger claims that one owes him \$2,000. The boys' sister volunteers to repay the money while continually looking for clues that he is alive. | | |
| Dygaard, Thomas | <u>Second Stringer</u> | Sports |
| When Kevin replaces the quarterback and football hero who suffers a knee injury, the second stringer needs to prove that he can do the job and is not just a substitute. | | |
| Eliot, George | <u>Silas Marner</u> | Classic |
| A bitter man living alone with his hoard of gold learns about the power of love when his riches are stolen and a beautiful child is left on his doorstep. | | |
| Enzensberger, Hans M. | <u>The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure</u> | Fantasy |
| Annoyed with his math teacher who assigns word problems and won't let him use a calculator, twelve-year-old Robert finds help from the number devil in his dreams. | | |

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| Farmer, Nancy | <u>A Girl Named Disaster</u> | Adventure |
| While fleeing from Mozambique to Zimbabwe to escape an unwanted marriage, Nhamo, an eleven-year-old Shona girl, struggles to escape drowning and starvation and in so doing comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits. | | |
| Ferris, Jean | <u>Love Among The Walnuts</u> | Mystery |
| Born and raised in isolation in a wealthy, eccentric family, Sandy is shocked when he, his parents, and their servants become victims of a vicious plot by his greedy uncles to incapacitate them and take their money. | | |
| Finney, Jack | <u>Time and Again</u> | Science Fiction/Mystery |
| Illustrator Si Morley steps out of his twentieth-century New York apartment one night--right into the winter of 1882. | | |
| Fitzgerald, F. Scott | <u>The Great Gatsby</u> | Classic |
| The adventures of Jay Gatsby, a dashing enigmatic millionaire, obsessed with trying to win back the woman he loved and lost, Daisy Buchanan, a spoiled woman in the "Roaring Twenties". | | |
| Flake, Sharon | <u>Money Hungry</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| All thirteen-year-old Raspberry can think of is making money so that she and her mother never have to worry about living on the streets again. <u>Begging for Change</u> is the sequel. | | |
| Fleischman, Paul | <u>A Fate Totally Worse Than Death</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| In this horror novel parody, three members of Cliffside High School's ruling clique become convinced that the beautiful new exchange student is the ghost of the girl whose death they caused the year before. | | |
| Fleischman, Paul | <u>Whirligig</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| While traveling to each corner of the country to build a whirligig in memory of the girl whose death he caused, sixteen-year-old Brian finds forgiveness and atonement. | | |
| Garner, Eleanor Ramrath | <u>Eleanor's Story: Am. Girl in Hitler's Germany</u> | Biography |
| World War II breaks out after Eleanor's family moves from America to Germany, and Eleanor must struggle to survive and keep her American identity despite the turbulence and upheaval around her. | | |
| George, Jean Craighead | <u>Julie of the Wolves</u> | Newbery/Adventure |
| While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack. <u>Julie</u> is the sequel. | | |
| Gies, Miep | <u>Anne Frank Remembered: Story of Woman...</u> | Autobiography |
| An autobiography by the woman who helped hide the Frank family in Amsterdam during World War II. | | |
| Gilmore, Kate | <u>The Exchange Student</u> | Fantasy/Science Fiction |
| When her mother arranges to host one of the young people coming to Earth from Chela, Daria is both pleased and intrigued by the keen interest shown by the Chelan in her work breeding endangered species. | | |
| Griffin, Adele | <u>The Other Shepards</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Two sisters have always lived under the shadow of siblings who died before they were born and struggle to establish separate identities and escape from the oppressive weight of their parents' continuing grief. | | |
| Gunther, John | <u>Death Be Not Proud: A Memoir</u> | Biography |
| A biography of the author's son, who died at seventeen after a fourteen-month illness caused by a brain tumor. | | |
| Hale, Shannon | <u>The Goose Girl</u> | Fantasy/Humor |
| Princess Anidori, on her way to marry a prince she has never met, is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers. | | |
| Hale, Shannon | <u>The Princess Academy</u> | Fantasy |
| While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland. | | |
| Hardy, Thomas | <u>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</u> | Classic |
| A young woman finds herself the victim of fate and of forces beyond her control in nineteenth-century England. | | |
| Hayes, Daniel | <u>The Trouble with Lemons</u> | Mystery |
| Tyler and Lymie, eighth grade misfits, discover a dead body in a quarry and work to uncover the mystery behind it. | | |
| Heller, Joseph | <u>Catch-22</u> | Classic/Satire |
| A bombardier, based in Italy during World War II, repeatedly tries to avoid flying bombing missions while his colonel tries to get him killed by demanding that he fly more and more missions. | | |
| Hemingway, Ernest | <u>A Farewell to Arms</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| An American ambulance driver serving on the Austro-Italian front in World War I becomes entangled with an English nurse and deserts to join her. | | |
| Hemingway, Ernest | <u>The Old Man and the Sea</u> | Classic |
| An old fisherman battles the sea and sharks to bring home the giant marlin he caught. One of Mr. Hockmeyer's and Mr. Bartolomucci's favorites. | | |
| Herriot, James | <u>All Creatures Great And Small</u> | Animal/Autobiography |
| An English veterinarian reminisces about his life, career, and animal patients in a small village. Start of a series. | | |
| Hesse, Karen | <u>Out of the Dust</u> | Newbery/Historical Fiction |
| In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression. | | |

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| Hesse, Karen | <u>Stowaway</u> | Historical Fiction |
| A fictionalized journal relates the experiences of a young stowaway from 1768 to 1771 aboard the "Endeavor" which sailed around the world under Captain James Cook. | | |
| Hobbs, Will | <u>Bearstone</u> | Adventure |
| A troubled Indian boy goes to live with an elderly rancher whose caring ways help the boy become a man. Sequel is <u>Beardance</u> . | | |
| Hobbs, Will | <u>Far North</u> | Adventure |
| After the destruction of their float plane, sixteen-year-old Gabe and his Dene friend, Raymond, struggle to survive a winter in the wilderness of the Northwest Territories of Canada. | | |
| Hobbs, Will | <u>Ghost Canoe</u> | Adventure |
| Fourteen-year-old Nathan, fishing with the Makah in the Pacific Northwest, finds himself holding a vital clue when a mysterious stranger comes to town looking for Spanish treasure. | | |
| Hobbs, Will | <u>Kokopelli's Flute</u> | Adventure |
| Thirteen-year-old Tepary discovers an old flute in a cliff dwelling in New Mexico, and through its power he learns about ancient Native American magic. | | |
| Hobbs, Will | <u>Leaving Protection</u> | Adventure |
| Sixteen-year-old Robbie Daniels, working aboard an Alaskan fishing boat, finds himself in danger when he discovers that his mysterious captain is searching for long-buried Russian plaques that lay claim to Alaska and the Northwest. | | |
| Hobbs, Will | <u>The Maze</u> | Adventure |
| Rick, a fourteen-year-old foster child, escapes from a juvenile detention facility and travels to Canyonlands National Park in Utah where he meets a bird biologist working on a project to reintroduce condors to the wild. | | |
| Hoobler, Dorothy/Thomas | <u>The Ghost in the Tokaido Inn</u> | Mystery/Historical Fiction |
| 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 18 th -century Japan. Start of a series. | | |
| Houston, James A. | <u>Frozen Fire</u> | Adventure |
| Determined to find his father who has been lost in a storm, a young boy and his Eskimo friend brave wind storms, starvation, wild animals, and wild men during their search in the Canadian Arctic. | | |
| Houston, Jeanne W. | <u>Farewell To Manzanar: A True Story Of</u> | Autobiography |
| Biography of Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, relating her experiences of living at the Manzanar, California internment camp during World War II and how it influenced her life. | | |
| Hugo, Victor | <u>Les Miserables</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| Against a backdrop of political unrest in France during the nineteenth century, the four individuals with varied backgrounds cross paths. A tale of revolution filled with hope. | | |
| Hunt, Irene | <u>Across Five Aprils</u> | Newbery/Historical Fiction |
| Young Jethro Creighton grows from a boy to a man when he is left to take care of the family farm in Illinois during the difficult years of the Civil War. | | |
| Hurwin, Davida | <u>A Time for Dancing</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Seventeen-year-old best friends Samantha and Juliana tell their stories in alternating chapters after Juliana is diagnosed with cancer. | | |
| Huxley, Aldous | <u>Brave New World</u> | Classic/Science Fiction |
| A satirical novel about the utopia of the future, a world in which babies are decanted from bottles and the great Ford is worshipped. | | |
| Jacques, Brian | <u>Redwall</u> | Fantasy/Animals |
| When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy. Start of a series. | | |
| Johnson, Scott | <u>Safe at Second</u> | Sports |
| Paulie Lockwood's best friend Todd Bannister is destined for the major leagues until a line drive to the head causes him to lose an eye and they both must find a new future for themselves. | | |
| Kadohata, Cynthia | <u>Kira-Kira</u> | Newbery/Historical Fiction |
| Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill. | | |
| Keith, Harold | <u>Rifles For Watie</u> | Newbery/Historical Fiction |
| The struggles and hardships faced by Jeff Bussey on his 300-mile escape route during the Civil War. | | |
| Kerr, M.E. | <u>Gentlehands</u> | Historical Fiction |
| A teenage boy falls in love with an "upper-class" girl and gets to know his estranged grandfather in one heartbreaking summer which climaxes in a shattering search for Nazi war criminals. | | |

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| Kidd, Ronald | <u>Monkey Town: The Summer of the Scopes Trial</u> | Historical Fiction |
| When her father hatches a plan to bring publicity to their small Tennessee town by arresting a local high school teacher for teaching about evolution, the resulting 1925 Scopes trial prompts fifteen-year-old Frances to rethink many of her beliefs about religion and truth, as well as her relationship with her father. | | |
| Knowles, John | <u>A Separate Peace</u> | Classic |
| Gene Forrester looks back fifteen years to a World War II year in which he and his best friend Phineas were roommates in a New Hampshire boarding school. | | |
| Konigsburg, E.L. | <u>The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place</u> | Newbery/Realistic Fiction |
| Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her grand uncles have been building in their back yard for over forty years. | | |
| Larson, Kirby | <u>Hattie Big Sky</u> | Newbery/Historical Fiction |
| Sixteen-year-old Hattie Brooks inherits her uncle's homesteading claim in Montana in 1917 and encounters some unexpected problems related to the war in Europe. | | |
| Lawrence, Iain | <u>B for Buster</u> | Historical Fiction/Adventure |
| Sixteen-year-old Kak, desperate to escape his abusive parents, lies about his age in the spring of 1943 to enlist in the Canadian Air Force and soon finds himself based in England as part of a crew flying bombing raids over Germany. | | |
| Lee, Harper | <u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u> | Classic |
| Scout Finch, the young daughter of a local attorney in the Deep South during the 1930s, tells of her father's defense of an African-American man charged with attacking a white girl. | | |
| L'Engle, Madeline | <u>Troubling A Star</u> | Mystery/Adventure |
| As she tries to stay alive after being left on an iceberg in the Antarctic, sixteen-year-old Vicky recalls the series of events that brought her to the bottom of the world and involved her in a dangerous mystery. | | |
| Levitin, Sonia | <u>The Cure</u> | Science Fiction |
| A young boy living in 2407 collides with the past when he finds himself in Strasbourg in 1348 confronting the antisemitism that sweeps through Europe during the Black Plague. | | |
| Lord, Walter | <u>A Night To Remember</u> | History |
| The story of the "unsinkable" Titanic which went down with 1,503 men, women, and children aboard. | | |
| Lowry, Lois | <u>The Giver</u> | Newbery/Science Fiction |
| Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives. Companion novels are <u>Gathering Blue</u> and <u>Messenger</u> . | | |
| Lubar, David | <u>Dunk</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Chad, hoping to work out his frustrations and his anger by taking a summer job as a dunk tank Bozo on the boardwalk at the New Jersey shore, comes to understand himself and humor as he trains in the art of insults. | | |
| Lubar, David | <u>Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie</u> | Realistic Fiction/Humor |
| While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer. | | |
| Lynch, Chris | <u>Gold Dust</u> | Sports |
| In 1975, twelve-year-old Richard befriends Napoleon, a Caribbean newcomer to his school, hoping that Napoleon will learn to love baseball and the Red Sox, and will win acceptance in their racially polarized school. | | |
| Mah, Adeline Yen | <u>Chinese Cinderella: True Story Unwanted Daughter</u> | Autobiography |
| The author tells the story of her painful childhood in China where she lived until the age of fourteen with her father, stepmother, and siblings, all of whom considered her bad luck because her mother died shortly after giving birth to her. Sequel is <u>Falling Leaves: The True Story of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter</u> . | | |
| Magorian, Michelle | <u>Good Night, Mr. Tom</u> | Historical Fiction |
| A battered child learns to embrace life when he is adopted by an old man in the English countryside during World War II. | | |
| Martin, Ann M. | <u>A Corner of the Universe</u> | Newbery/Historical Fiction |
| The summer that Hattie turns twelve, she meets the childlike uncle she never knew and becomes friends with a girl who works at the carnival that comes to Hattie's small town. | | |
| Martin, Ann M. | <u>Here Today</u> | Historical Fiction |
| After her mother abandons the family, eleven-year-old Ellie Dingman takes charge of her younger siblings, while also dealing with her outcast status in school and frightening acts of prejudice toward the "misfits" that live on her street. | | |
| McDonald, Joyce | <u>Swallowing Stones</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Dual perspectives reveal the aftermath of seventeen-year-old Michael MacKenzie's birthday celebration during which he discharges an antique Winchester rifle and unknowingly kills the father of classmate Jenna Ward. | | |
| McKinley, Robin | <u>The Blue Sword</u> | Fantasy |
| Harry, bored with her sheltered life in the remote orange-growing colony of Daria, discovers magic in herself when she is kidnapped by a native king with mysterious powers. <u>The Hero and the Crown</u> is the "prequel." | | |
| Mikaelsen, Ben | <u>Petey</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| In 1922 Petey, who has cerebral palsy, is misdiagnosed and institutionalized; sixty years later, still in the institution, he befriends a boy and shares with him the joy of life. | | |

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| Mitchell, Margaret | <u>Gone With The Wind</u> | Historical Fiction |
| After the Civil War sweeps away the genteel life to which she has been accustomed, Scarlett O'Hara sets about to salvage her beloved plantation home. | | |
| Montgomery, L.M. | <u>Anne of Green Gables</u> | Classic |
| Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm. Start of a series. | | |
| Myers, Walter Dean | <u>Monster</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken. | | |
| Myers, Walter Dean | <u>The Glory Field</u> | Historical Fiction |
| Follows a family's 200 year history, from the capture of an African boy in the 1750s through the lives of his descendants, revolving around the small plot of land in South Carolina that they call the Glory Field. | | |
| Myers, Walter Dean | <u>Hoops</u> | Sports |
| A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake. | | |
| Na, An | <u>A Step From Heaven</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| A young Korean girl and her family find it difficult to learn English and adjust to life in America. | | |
| Napoli, Donna Jo | <u>Stones In Water</u> | Historical Fiction/Adventure |
| Taken by German soldiers along with other Italian boys including his Jewish friend, Roberto is forced to work in Germany, escapes into the Ukrainian winter, before desperately trying to make his way back home to Venice. | | |
| Napoli, Donna Jo | <u>Zel</u> | Fantasy |
| Based on the fairy tale Rapunzel, the story is told in alternating chapters from the point of view of Zel, her mother, and the prince, and delves into the psychological motivations of the characters. | | |
| Paolini, Christopher | <u>Eragon</u> | Fantasy |
| In Aagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters. Start of a series. | | |
| Paterson, Katherine | <u>Lyddie</u> | Historical Fiction |
| Impoverished Vermont farm girl Lyddie Worthen is determined to gain her independence by becoming a factory worker in Lowell, Massachusetts, in the 1840s. | | |
| Paulsen, Gary | <u>Canyons</u> | Adventure |
| Finding a skull on a camping trip in the canyons outside El Paso, Texas, Brennan becomes involved with the fate of a young Apache Indian who lived in the late 1800s. | | |
| Paulsen, Gary | <u>Nightjohn</u> | Historical Fiction |
| Twelve-year-old Sarny's brutal life as a slave becomes even more dangerous when a newly arrived slave offers to teach her how to read. Sequel is <u>Sarny: A Life Remembered</u> . | | |
| Paulsen, Gary | <u>The Car</u> | Adventure |
| A teenager left on his own travels west in a kit car he built himself, and along the way picks up two Vietnam veterans, who take him on an eye-opening journey. | | |
| Paulsen, Gary | <u>The Haymeadow</u> | Adventure |
| Fourteen-year-old John comes of age and gains self-reliance during the summer he spends up in the Wyoming mountains tending his father's herd of sheep. | | |
| Paulsen, Gary | <u>The Monument</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Thirteen-year-old Rocky, self-conscious about the braces on her leg, has her life changed by the remarkable artist who comes to her small Kansas town to design a war memorial. | | |
| Paulsen, Gary | <u>The Transall Saga</u> | Science Fiction/Adventure |
| While backpacking in the desert, thirteen-year-old Mark falls into a tube of blue light and is transported into a more primitive world, where he must use his knowledge and skills to survive. | | |
| Peters, Julie Anne | <u>Define "Normal"</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| When she agrees to meet with Jasmine as a peer counselor at their middle school, Antonia never dreams that this girl with the black lipstick and pierced eyebrow will help her with her problems at home and become a good friend. | | |
| Pfeffer, Susan Beth | <u>Life As We Knew It</u> | Science Fiction/Survival |
| Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. | | |
| Philbrick, Rodman | <u>The Last Book In The Universe</u> | Science Fiction |
| After an earthquake has destroyed much of the planet, an epileptic teenager nicknamed Spaz begins the heroic fight to bring human intelligence back to the Earth of a distant future. | | |
| Poe, Edgar Allan | <u>Collected Short Stories</u> | Short Stories/Horror |
| A collection of tales of mystery and horror by the nineteenth-century American author, including such stories as "The Pit and the Pendulum" and "The Purloined Letter." | | |

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| Powell, Randy | <u>Tribute To Another Dead Rock Star</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| For a tribute to his mother, a dead rock star, fifteen-year-old Grady returns to Seattle, where he faces his mixed feelings for his retarded younger half-brother Louie while pondering his own future. | | |
| Pressler, Mirjam | <u>Anne Frank: A Hidden Life</u> | Biography |
| Describes the background in which Anne Frank's life and diary were set as she hid in an attic in Nazi-occupied Holland for two years. | | |
| Pullman, Phillip | <u>The Golden Compass (Dark Materials series)</u> | Fantasy |
| Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North. Sequels are <u>The Subtle Knife</u> and <u>The Amber Spyglass</u> . | | |
| Pullman, Phillip | <u>The Ruby In the Smoke</u> | Mystery/Historical Fiction |
| In nineteenth-century London, sixteen-year-old Sally, a recent orphan, becomes involved in a deadly search for a mysterious ruby. The sequel is <u>Shadow In The North</u> . | | |
| Rawlings, Marjorie | <u>The Yearling</u> | Classic/Animal |
| A young boy living in the Florida backwoods is forced to decide the fate of a fawn he has lovingly raised as a pet. | | |
| Remarque, Erich Maria | <u>All Quiet on the Western Front</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| Depicts the experiences of a group of young German soldiers fighting and suffering during the last days of World War I. One of Ms. Lommel's favorites. | | |
| Richter, Conrad | <u>The Light In The Forest</u> | Classic/Historical Fiction |
| After being raised as an Indian for eleven years following his capture at the age of four, John Butler is forcibly returned to his white parents but continues to long for the freedom of Indian life. | | |
| Rinaldi, Ann | <u>The Last Silk Dress</u> | Historical Fiction |
| During the Civil War, Susan finds a way to help the Confederate Army and uncovers mysterious family secrets. | | |
| Roberts, Willo Davis | <u>Twisted Summer</u> | Mystery |
| Fourteen-year-old Cici hopes for a romantic summer at the beach but instead finds herself trying to solve a murder which had occurred there the previous year. | | |
| Rowling, J.K. | <u>Harry Potter (series)</u> | Fantasy/Adventure |
| Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. | | |
| Roy, Jennifer Rozines | <u>Yellow Star</u> | Historical Fiction/Adventure |
| 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. Based on the life of the author's aunt. | | |
| Schmidt, Gary D. | <u>Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy</u> | Newbery/Historical Fiction |
| In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new town, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers want to change into a tourist spot. | | |
| Sender, Ruth Minsky | <u>The Cage</u> | Biography |
| A teenage girl recounts the suffering and persecution of her family under the Nazis--in a Polish ghetto, during deportation, and in a concentration camp. | | |
| Sewell, Anna | <u>Black Beauty</u> | Classic/Animals |
| A horse in nineteenth-century England recounts his experiences with both good and bad masters. One of Mrs. Heide's favorites. | | |
| Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft | <u>Frankenstein</u> | Classic |
| Victor Frankenstein has discovered the secret of generating life from lifeless matter, and has created a monster being by using this terrible power. | | |
| Shaara, Michael | <u>The Killer Angels</u> | Historical Fiction |
| A fictional account of four days in July, 1863 at the Battle of Gettysburg discussing tactics, plans, and preparations for battle from both the Northern and Southern points of view. | | |
| Shakespeare, William | <u>A Midsummer's Night Dream</u> | Classic/Play |
| A comedy in which two sets of lovers, lost in the woods, get caught up in a dispute between the fairy king and queen, along with a group of local thespians. | | |
| Shusterman, Neal | <u>Downsiders</u> | Science Fiction |
| When fourteen-year-old Lindsay meets Talon and discovers the Downsiders world which had evolved from the subway built in New York in 1867, she and her new friend experience the clash of their two cultures. | | |
| Shusterman, Neal | <u>The Dark Side Of Nowhere: A Novel</u> | Science Fiction |
| Fourteen-year-old Jason faces an identity crisis after discovering that he is the son of aliens who stayed on earth following a botched invasion mission. | | |
| Sleator, William | <u>The Boxes</u> | Science Fiction |
| When she opens two strange boxes left in her care by her mysterious uncle, fifteen-year-old Annie discovers a swarm of telepathic creatures and unleashes a power capable of slowing down time. Prequel is <u>Marco's Millions</u> . | | |

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| Sleator, William | <u>The Duplicate</u> | Science Fiction |
| Sixteen-year-old David, finding a strange machine that creates replicas of living organisms, duplicates himself and suffers the horrible consequences when the duplicate turns against him. | | |
| Smith, Betty | <u>A Tree Grows In Brooklyn</u> | Classic/Historical Fiction |
| Young Francie Nolan experiences poverty and hope while growing up with her dreamer father, realist mother, and spoiled brother in turn of the twentieth century Brooklyn. | | |
| Smith, Roland | <u>Cryptid Hunters</u> | Adventure |
| Twins, Grace and Marty, along with a mysterious uncle, are dropped into the middle of the Congolese jungle in search of their missing photojournalist parents. | | |
| Smith, Roland | <u>Jaguar</u> | Adventure |
| While accompanying his father on an expedition up the Amazon River to a jaguar preserve in Brazil, fourteen-year-old Jacob must contend with dangerous animals and fortune hunters. | | |
| Spinelli, Jerry | <u>Milkweed</u> | Historical Fiction |
| A street child, known to himself only as Stopthief, finds community when he is taken in by a band of orphans in Warsaw ghetto which helps him weather the horrors of the Nazi regime. | | |
| Spinelli, Jerry | <u>Wringer</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it. | | |
| Staples, Suzanne Fisher | <u>Shabanu</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Eleven-year old Shabanu is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family, and must either accept the decision, or risk the consequences in present-day Pakistan. Sequel is <u>Haveli</u> . | | |
| Staples, Suzanne Fisher | <u>Shiva's Fire</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| A young Hindu girl from India, Parvati, who is known for the extraordinary events that occur when she dances, leaves her family to train in classical Indian dance with a great master, sacrifices friends and family for her art. | | |
| Steinbeck, John | <u>Of Mice and Men</u> | Classic |
| Sustained by the hope of someday owning a farm of their own, two migrant laborers arrive to work on a ranch in central California. One of Mrs. Boughton's favorites. | | |
| Steinbeck, John | <u>The Red Pony</u> | Classic/Animals |
| Ownership of a beautiful red pony teaches ten-year-old Jody about life and death. | | |
| Stevenson, Robert Louis | <u>Kidnapped</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| After being kidnapped by his villainous uncle, sixteen-year-old David Balfour escapes and becomes involved in the struggle of the Scottish highlanders against English rule. | | |
| Stevenson, Robert Louis | <u>Treasure Island</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune. | | |
| Stoker, Bram | <u>Dracula</u> | Classic/Horror |
| Having discovered the double identity of the wealthy Transylvanian nobleman Count Dracula, a small group of people vow to rid the world of the evil vampire. | | |
| Taylor, Mildred | <u>Let The Circle Be Unbroken</u> | Historical Fiction |
| Four black children growing up in rural Mississippi during the Depression experience racial hatred and hard times, but learn from their parents the pride and self-respect needed to survive. Sequels are <u>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</u> and <u>The Road to Memphis</u> . | | |
| Taylor, Theodore | <u>Sweet Friday Island</u> | Adventure |
| Vacationing on what they think is an uninhabited island, fifteen-year-old Peg and her father find their camping trip turned into a fight for survival. | | |
| Tolkien, J.R.R. | <u>Lord of the Rings (series)</u> | Fantasy/Adventure |
| The classic trilogy which chronicles the great quest undertaken by the hobbit Frodo and the Fellowship of the Ring to journey across Middle-earth and cast the One Ring, filled with the power of the Dark Lord Sauron, into the Cracks of Doom. <u>The Hobbit</u> , <u>The Fellowship of the Ring</u> , <u>The Two Towers</u> , and <u>The Return of the King</u> . | | |
| Turner, Megan Whalen | <u>The Thief</u> | Newbery/Adventure |
| Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone. | | |
| Twain, Mark | <u>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| The tale of a mischievous boy growing up in a nineteenth-century Mississippi River town. | | |
| Twain, Mark | <u>A Connecticut Yankee In King Arthur's Court</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| Nineteenth-century mechanic Hank Morgan suffers a blow to the head and wakes up in King Arthur's Court where he tries to introduce modern technology and political ideas to the inhabitants. | | |

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| Twain, Mark | <u>The Prince And The Pauper</u> | Classic |
| When young Edward VI of England and a poor boy who resembles him exchange places, each learns something about the other's very different station in life. | | |
| Uchida, Yoshiko | <u>A Jar Of Dreams</u> | Historical Fiction |
| A young girl grows up in a closely-knit Japanese American family during the 1930's, a time of great prejudice. | | |
| Vail, Rachel | <u>Do-Over</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Thirteen-year-old Whitman has to deal with the anger he feels towards his father when his parents separate, his own interest in several girls, and the heady feeling of acting in his first play. | | |
| Van der Rol, Rund | <u>Anne Frank, Beyond Diary: A Photographic ...</u> | Biography |
| Photographs, illustrations, and maps accompany historical essays, diary excerpts, and interviews, providing an insight to Anne Frank and the massive upheaval which tore apart her world. | | |
| Verne, Jules | <u>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea.</u> | Classic/Adventure |
| A French professor and two companions sail above and below the world's oceans as prisoners on the fabulous electric submarine of the deranged Captain Nemo. | | |
| Voight, Cynthia | <u>A Solitary Blue</u> | Newbery/Realistic Fiction |
| Jeff's mother, who deserted the family years before, reenters his life and widens the gap between Jeff and his father, a rift that only truth, love, and friendship can heal. | | |
| Voight, Cynthia | <u>Homecoming</u> | Realistic Fiction/Adventure |
| Abandoned by their mother, four children begin a search for a home and an identity. Sequels are <u>Dacey's Song</u> (Newbery Award), <u>Sons from Afar</u> , and <u>Seventeen Against the Dealer</u> . | | |
| Voight, Cynthia | <u>Izzy, Willy-Nilly</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| A car accident causes fifteen-year-old Izzy to lose a leg and face the need to build a new life as an amputee. | | |
| Wallace, Rich | <u>Wrestling Sturbridge</u> | Sports |
| Stuck in a small town and forced by his coach to sit on the bench while his best friend becomes state champion, Ben decides he can't let his last high school wrestling season slip by without challenging his friend and the future. | | |
| Watkins, Yoko K. | <u>So Far From The Bamboo Grove</u> | Historical Fiction |
| A fictionalized autobiography in which eleven-year-old Yoko escapes from Korea to Japan with her mother and sister at the end of World War II. Sequel is <u>My Brother, My Sister And I</u> . | | |
| Wells, H.G. | <u>The Time Machine</u> | Classic/Science Fiction |
| A scientist invents a time machine and uses it to travel into the future, where he discovers the childlike Eloi and the hideous underground Morlocks. | | |
| Wells, H. G. | <u>War Of The Worlds</u> | Classic/Science Fiction |
| An intellectually-superior race from Mars invades the Earth with plans to enslave human beings. | | |
| Wiesel, Elie | <u>Night</u> | Autobiography |
| A young survivor of the Nazi concentration camps is horrified when he looks back at what he and his family endured. <u>Dawn</u> and <u>Day</u> are the final two books in this trilogy. | | |
| Winerip, Michael | <u>Adam Canfield of the Slash</u> | Realistic Fiction/Humor |
| While serving as co-editors of their school newspaper, middle-schoolers Adam and Jennifer uncover fraud and corruption in their school and in the city's government. | | |
| Woodson, Jacqueline | <u>Miracle's Boys</u> | Realistic Fiction |
| Twelve-year-old Lafayette's close relationship with his older brother Charlie changes after Charlie is released from a detention home and blames Lafayette for the death of their mother. | | |
| Yep, Laurence | <u>The Serpent's Children</u> | Historical Fiction |
| In nineteenth-century China, a young girl struggles to protect her family from the threat of bandits, famine, and an ideological conflict between her father and brother. The sequels are <u>Mountain Light</u> and <u>Dragon's Gate</u> , continuing the family's saga in the United States. | | |
| Zindel, Paul | <u>The Gadget</u> | Historical Fiction |
| In 1945, having joined his father at Los Alamos, where he and other scientists are working on a secret project to end World War II, thirteen-year-old Stephen becomes caught in a web of secrecy and intrigue. | | |