

# Ms. Rademacher's Fun Reading Suggestions

## Fiction - by genre (scroll down for non-fiction!)

### Action/Adventure:



***Acceleration*** by Graham McNamee

It's a hot, hot summer, and working in the Lost and Found is boring. 17-year-old Duncan is cataloging lost things and sifting the endless dusty boxes overflowing with stuff no one will ever claim when he finds a little leather book. It's a diary filled with the dark and dirty secrets of a serial killer stalking his prey in the subway system. What would you do with a book like that? How far would you go to catch a madman? And what if time was running out?



***For the Win*** by Cory Doctorow

At any hour of the day or night, billions of people around the globe are engrossed in multiplayer online games, questing and battling to win virtual gold, jewels, and precious artifacts. Meanwhile, millions of “gold farmers” toil in electronic sweatshops harvesting virtual treasure that their employers sell to real-life gamers for actual money. And then there is the mysterious woman called Big Sister Nor, who builds the oppressed workers into a movement to challenge the status quo. The network of gamers is so successful that it incurs violent opposition. Ultimately, Big Sister Nor’s people devise a plan to crash the economy of every virtual world at once, a Ponzi scheme combined with a brilliant hack that ends up being the biggest, most fun game of all.



***Graceling*** by Kristin Cashore

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, the grace of killing, and teams up with another young fighter to save their land from a corrupt king. Is killing really all she is able to do? Will this be all she can become?



***Hunger Games*** by Suzanne Collins

In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol is cruel, keeping the districts in line by forcing them to send one boy and one girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen regards it as a death sentence when she is forced to represent her district in the Games. But Katniss has been close to dead before and survived.



***Little Brother*** by Cory Doctorow

After being interrogated for days by the Department of Homeland Security in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, seventeen-year-old Marcus, released into what is now a police state, decides to use his expertise in computer hacking to set things right. Can “little brother” succeed when “big brother” is watching?



***Looking Glass Wars*** by Frank Beddor

The "true story" behind Alice in Wonderland! Princess Alyss Heart is brutally cast out of Wonderland by her vicious Aunt Redd, who beheads Alyss' mother and begins to rule over Wonderland with an iron fist. Alyss escapes from Wonderland and is exiled to another world entirely, Victorian London. At age 20 she returns to Wonderland to battle Redd, try to reclaim the throne, and lead Wonderland into its next golden age of imagination.



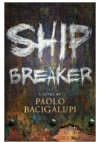
***Nation*** by Terry Pratchett

After a devastating tsunami destroys all that they have ever known, Mau, an island boy, and Daphne, an aristocratic English girl, together with a small band of refugees, set about rebuilding their community and all the things that are important in their lives.



***Right Behind You*** by Gail Giles

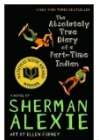
When he was nine, Kip set another child on fire. Now, after years in a juvenile ward, he is ready for a fresh start. But the ghosts of his past soon demand justice, and he must reveal his painful secret. How can Kip tell anyone that he really is, or was, a murderer?



***Ship Breaker*** by Paolo Bacigalupi

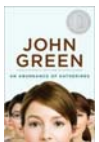
In America's Gulf Coast region, where grounded oil tankers are being broken down for parts, Nailer, a teenage boy, works the light crew, scavenging for copper wiring just to make quota—and hopefully live to see another day. But when, by luck or chance, he discovers an exquisite clipper ship beached during a recent hurricane, Nailer faces the most important decision of his life: strip the ship for all it's worth or rescue its lone survivor, a beautiful and wealthy girl who could lead him to a better life.

## Comedy:



***Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*** by Sherman Alexie

Tells the heartbreaking, hilarious, and beautifully written story of a young Native American teen as he attempts to break free from the life he was destined to live. Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.



***Abundance of Katherines*** by John Green

When it comes to relationships, Colin Singleton's type is girls named Katherine. And when it comes to girls named Katherine, Colin is always getting dumped; nineteen times, to be exact. On road trip miles from home, this anagram-happy, washed-up child prodigy is on a mission to prove The Theorem of Underlying

Katherine Predictability, which he hopes will finally win him the girl. Love, friendship, and a dead Austro-Hungarian archduke add up to surprising and heart-changing conclusions in this ingeniously layered comic novel about reinventing oneself.



***Angus, thongs, and full-frontal snogging*** by Louise Rennison

In this wildly funny journal of a year in the life of Georgia Nicolson, this fresh, irreverent, and simply hilarious book will leave you laughing out loud. As Georgia would say, it's "Fabbity fab fab!"



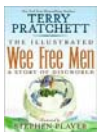
***Guys Read*** edited by Jon Scieszka

*Funny Business* is based around the theme of—what else?—humor: ten hilarious stories from some of the funniest writers around. Before you're through, you'll meet a teenage mummy; a kid desperate to take a dip in the world's largest pool of chocolate milk; a homicidal turkey; parents who hand over their son's room to a biker; and more.



***The Princess Bride*** by William Goldman

This book introduces a brilliant cocktail of characters including the most beautiful woman in the world, the gentle giant, the avenging swordsman, the evil Sicilian, the torture-loving Count, and the King's ex-Miracle Man, to weave an adventure story made complete by its healthy portions of romance, wit, and heroism.



***Wee Free Men*** by Terry Pratchett

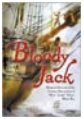
Armed only with a frying pan and her common sense, Tiffany Aching, a young witch-to-be, is all that stands between the monsters of Fairyland and the warm, green Chalk country that is her home. Seeking her kidnapped brother, Tiffany allies herself with the Chalk's local Nac Mac Feegle, a clan of sheep-stealing, sword-wielding, six-inch-tall blue men who are as fierce as they are funny. Together, they battle though an eerie and ever-shifting landscape, fighting brutal flying fairies, dream-spinning dromes, and grimhounds before ultimately confronting the Queen of the Elves, absolute ruler of a world in which reality intertwines with nightmare.

## Historical Fiction:



***Annexed*** by Sharon Dogar

Everyone knows about Anne Frank and her life hidden in the secret annex but what about the boy who was also trapped there with her? What was it like to be forced into hiding with Anne Frank, first to hate her and then to find yourself falling in love with her? To know you're being written about in Anne's diary, day after day? What's it like to start questioning your religion, wondering why simply being Jewish inspires such hatred and persecution? Or to just sit and watch while others die, and wish you were fighting? Anne's diary ends on August 4, 1944, but Peter details with accuracy, clarity and compassion the reality of day to day survival in Auschwitz and ultimately the horrific fates of the Annex's occupants.



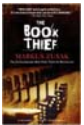
***Bloody Jack*** by L.A. Meyer

In this tale of adventure on the high seas, Mary, an 18th-century London street urchin who dresses as a boy, renames herself "Jacky" and goes to sea as a ship's boy. "Jacky" Faber experiences adventure, danger, near-death situations and romance in this exciting page turner.



***Book of Lost Things*** by John Connolly

High in his attic bedroom, twelve-year-old David mourns the death of his mother. He is angry and alone, with only the books on his shelf for company. But those books have begun to whisper to him in the darkness, and as he takes refuge in his imagination, he finds that reality and fantasy have begun to meld. While his family falls apart around him, David is violently propelled into a land that is a strange reflection of his own world, populated by heroes and monsters, and ruled over by a faded king who keeps his secrets in a mysterious book.



***Book Thief*** by Markus Zusak

It's just a small story really, about among other things: a girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist-fighter, and quite a lot of thievery. Set during World War II in Germany, this groundbreaking novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist; books.



***Briar Rose*** by Jane Yolan

Ever since she was a child, Rebecca has been enchanted by her grandmother Gemma's stories about Briar Rose. But a promise Rebecca makes to her dying grandmother will lead her on a remarkable journey to uncover the truth of Gemma's astonishing claim: *I am Briar Rose*. This journey will lead her to unspeakable brutality and horror but also to redemption and hope.



***Good Fortune*** by Noni Carter

Sarah, Anna, and Ayanna are the names used by one person over the course of her life. Ayanna was her name as a child in Africa, remembered in nightmares, where the memories of the murder of her mother, the horrifying ocean passage in the belly of a slave ship, and being separated from her brother on the auction block haunt her. She is Sarah, a slave on a plantation in Tennessee. Her days are full of endless labor, humiliation, and the threat of rape. She struggles to educate herself despite the danger. She flees to the north with her adopted brother only to find that freedom is not as sweet as she had hoped. Then she changes her name to Anna but she worries about loved ones left behind and is embittered by the severe restrictions and discrimination faced by free blacks. Who is she? What is she meant to do, to become?



***Revolution*** by Jennifer Donnelly

Two girls who are two centuries apart, one never knowing the other. When Andi finds Alexandrine's diary, she recognizes something in her words and is moved to the point of obsession. There's comfort and distraction for Andi in the journal's antique pages. Until, on a midnight journey through the catacombs of Paris, Alexandrine's words transcend paper and time, and the past becomes suddenly, terrifyingly present.

**Horror:**



***Bonechiller*** by Graham McNamee

It's the worst winter in years. One night, running in the dark, Danny is attacked by a creature so strange and terrifying he tries to convince himself he was hallucinating. Then he learns about Native American legends of a monster that's haunted the lake for a thousand years. And that every generation, in the coldest winters, kids have disappeared into the night. People think they ran away but Danny knows better because now the beast is after him.



***Reapers are the Angels*** by Alden Bell

Temple wanders the blighted landscape, keeping to herself, killing the walking dead if she has to and keeping her demons inside her heart. She can't remember a time before the zombies, but she does remember an old man who took her in and the younger brother she cared for until the tragedy that set her on a personal journey toward redemption. Moving back and forth between the insulated remnants of society and the brutal frontier beyond, Temple must decide where ultimately to make a home and find the salvation she seeks.



***Replacement*** by Brenna Yovenoff

Emma is four years old. She gets out of bed and pads across the floor to reach her hand through the bars of the crib. The thing in the crib moves to bite her hand and she pulls back. They spend all night looking at each other in the dark. By morning, the thing is still there. That thing isn't her brother. It's me.



***Sunshine*** by Robin McKinley

Now that human cities have been decimated, the vampiric elite holds one-fifth of the world's capital, threatening to control all the earth in less than 100 years, unless human SOFs (Special Other Forces) can hold them at bay by recruiting Sunshine, daughter of legendary sorcerer Onyx Blaise. Narrated by Sunshine herself, her coming-of-magical-age is launched when she is swarmed by noiseless vampires one night and then chained in a decrepit ballroom as an entree for mysterious, magnetic, shackled, half-starved Constantine.

## **Mystery/Suspense:**



***Black & White & Dead All Over*** by John Darton

Trouble begins one rainy September morning when a powerful editor is found murdered in the newsroom, with the spike that he'd wielded to kill stories hammered into his chest. The problem for Priscilla Bollingsworth, the young, ambitious female NYPD detective assigned to the case, besides the fact that the mayor is breathing down her neck, is that there are too many suspects to choose from.



***Blood on My Hands*** by Todd Strasser

Callie is at an October keg party in the woods, when she notices that her friend Katherine has gone missing. Callie finds her, lying on a path, with a big, bloody fake knife in her. She reaches for the knife and raises it, only to discover, to her horror, that it is real. At that moment, another girl at the party stumbles on them, and takes a photo of Callie holding the bloody knife. Now she is the suspect in a grisly murder. How can she prove her innocence and find the true murderer?



***Compound*** by S. A. Bodeen

Eli's father built the Compound to keep their family safe. They have spent six years in this vast underground structure to protect them from a nuclear holocaust. Now they can't get out. He won't let them.



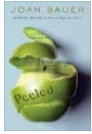
***Mockingbirds*** by Daisy Whitney

Themis Academy is a quiet boarding school with an exceptional student body that the administration trusts to always behave the honorable way. So when Alex is date raped during her junior year, she has two options: stay silent and hope someone helps her, or enlist the Mockingbirds, a secret society of students dedicated to righting the wrongs of their fellow peers.



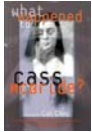
***Neverwhere*** by Neil Gaiman

Richard Mayhew's life is forever changed after he rescues a young girl named Door whom he finds bleeding in the street. Richard is thrust into a dark and evil world, wanted by two very evil, powerful, and nasty mercenaries who like to think that they are, in fact, rather gentlemanly.



***Peeled*** by Joan Bauer

In an upstate New York farming community, high school reporter Hildy Biddle investigates a series of strange occurrences at a house rumored to be haunted.



***What Happened to Cass McBride?*** By Gail Giles

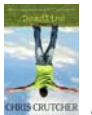
Kyle Kirby has planned a cruel and unusual revenge on Cass McBride, the most popular girl in school, for the death of his brother David. He digs a hole, kidnaps Cass and puts her in a box underground. He buries her alive. But lying in the deepest dark, Cass finds a weapon: she uses the power of words to keep her nemesis talking, and herself breathing, during the most harrowing 48 hours of her life.

## Realistic Fiction:



***By the time you read this, I'll be dead*** by Julie Anne Peters

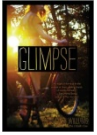
Daelyn Rice attends a private school where she is talked about and referred to as the girl who never speaks. She decides to make a final attempt at suicide a success and finds a web page called "Completers." She begins to write about herself online, about the events of her life and what has brought her to this point. For example, when she was in seventh grade, she shared with her best friend about how, when she was little, her mother was a drug addict who would sometimes let men take pictures of her daughter. After hearing that, her friend said she could not ever hang out with her again, because she could not be friends with a child porn star. Daelyn had just shared a most private event and could not understand what she had done wrong. The emotional roller coaster Daelyn is on every day is shared with the reader and provides an insight to the deep scars left by being bullied.



***Deadline*** by Chris Crutcher

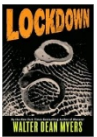
Ben Wolf has big things planned for his senior year. *Had* big things planned. Now what he has is some very bad news and only one year left to make his mark on the world. First, Ben makes sure that no one else knows what is going on, not his superstar quarterback brother, Cody, not his parents, not his coach, no one. Next, he decides to become the best 127-pound football player Trout High has ever seen; to give his close-minded civics teacher a daily migraine; and to help the

local drunk clean up his act. And then there's Dallas Suzuki; amazingly perfect, fascinating, who may or may not give Ben the time of day. Living with a secret isn't easy and Ben's resolve begins to crumble, especially when he realizes that he isn't the only person in Trout with secrets.



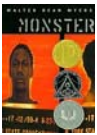
***Glimpse*** by Carol Lynch Williams

Twelve year old girl Hope's life is turned upside down when her older sister Lizzie becomes an elective mute and is institutionalized after trying to kill herself. Ever since their dad died Hope and Lizzie have relied on each other from a young age. Their mother is a reluctant and unreliable parent at best, and it's up to Hope to discover the terrible secret that's eating away at Lizzie before it's too late.



***Lockdown*** by Walter Dean Myers

It seems as if the only progress that's going on at Progress juvenile facility is moving from juvy jail to real jail. Reese wants out early, but is he supposed to just sit back and let his friend Toon get jumped? Then Reese gets a second chance when he's picked for the work program at a senior citizens' home. One of the residents, Mr. Hoof, gives him a particularly hard time. If he can convince Mr. Hoof that he's a decent person, not a criminal, maybe he'll be able to convince himself.



***Monster*** by Walter Dean Myers

FADE IN: Sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon sits on the edge of a cot in Cell Block D of the Manhattan Detention Center. A dingy gray, early morning light filters in from the window and splashes his light brown face. Next to him, as the camera moves into focus, we see the suit he will wear to court. His trial starts today.

This is the beginning of "Monster!", a film written and directed by and also starring Steve Harmon. It's the incredible story of how one guy's life was turned around by a few events, and how he might have to spend the rest of his life behind bars told as it actually happened.



***Please Ignore Vera Deitz*** by A. S. King

Vera's spent her whole life secretly in love with her best friend, Charlie Kahn. And over the years she's kept a lot of his secrets. Even after he betrayed her. Even after he ruined everything. So when Charlie dies in dark circumstances, Vera knows a lot more than anyone; the kids at school, his family, even the police. But will she emerge to clear his name? Does she even want to? Edgy and gripping, *Please Ignore Vera Dietz* is an unforgettable novel: smart, funny, dramatic, and always surprising.



***Speak*** by Laurie Halse Andersen

Speaking out at the "wrong" time by calling 911 from a teen drinking party has made Melinda a social outcast; now she barely speaks at all. While Melinda's smart and savvy interior narrative slowly reveals the searing pain of that 911 night, it also nails the high-school experience. The book is structurally divided into four marking periods, over which Melinda's grades decline severely and she loses the only friend she has left, a perky new girl she doesn't even like. Melinda's nightmare discloses itself in bits throughout the story. She aches to tell her story, and well after readers have deduced the sexual assault, we feel her choking on her untold secret. By springtime, while Melinda studies germination in Biology and Hawthorne's symbolism in English, and seeds are becoming "restless" underground, her nightmare pushes itself inexorably to the surface. When her ex-best-friend starts dating the "Beast," Melinda can no longer remain silent.



***Things a Brother Knows*** by Dana Reinhardt

Levi's older brother Boaz returns from fighting with the Marines in the Middle East. He's safe. Levi's family has waited three long years for this. But Boaz is no longer the brother Levi thought he knew. Even if nobody else wants to see it, Levi can tell that Boaz has changed; something's wrong. When Boaz announces he's off to hike the Appalachian Trail, Levi knows he's lying. He's heading somewhere else. So Levi follows, determined to understand who his brother was, what he's been through, and how to bring him home again.



***This Gorgeous Game*** by Donna Frieras

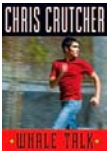
Olivia Peters is over the moon when her literary idol, the celebrated novelist and much-adored local priest Mark D. Brendan, offers to become her personal writing mentor. But when Father Mark's enthusiasm for Olivia's prose develops into something more, Olivia's emotions quickly shift from wonder to confusion

to despair. Exactly what game is Father Mark playing, and how on earth can she get out of it? This remarkable novel about overcoming the isolation that stems from victimization is powerful, luminous, and impossible to put down.



***Thirteen Reasons Why*** by Jay Asher

Clay Jensen returns home from school to find a mysterious box with his name on it lying on his porch. Inside he discovers cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker, his classmate and crush, who committed suicide two weeks earlier. On tape, Hannah explains that there are thirteen reasons why she decided to end her life. Clay is one of them. If he listens, he'll find out how he made the list.



***Whale Talk*** by Chris Crutcher

There's bad news and good news about the Cutter High School swim team. The bad news is that they don't have a pool. The good news is that only one of them can swim anyway. A group of misfits brought together by T. J. Jones to find their places in a school that has no place for them, the Cutter All Night Mermen struggle to carve out their own turf. T. J. is convinced that a varsity letter jacket, unattainable for most, exclusive, revered, the symbol of all that is screwed up at Cutter High, will be an effective carving tool. He's right. He's also very wrong.

## **Romance:**



***Burned*** by Ellen Hopkins

Raised in a stern, abusive Mormon household, a teenage girl starts to question her religion and struggles to find her destiny. Her father is abusive, her mother is submissive, and her church looks the other way. Confused and angry, Pattyn Von Stratten acts out and is sent to live with an aunt on a Nevada ranch. She finds the love and acceptance she craves, with disturbing consequences.



***Education of Bet*** by Lauren Baratz-Logsted

Bet feels confined by her place as neither family nor servant in the home of her wealthy benefactor. Will, the boy who's been like a brother to her since they were four, is unhappy with his fate as well. So Bet makes a plan: she'll pretend she's a boy and take Will's place at school. When she arrives at school, Bet finds boys act rather brutish when they don't think there's a girl in their midst. But brutish Bet can handle. It's the stirrings of attraction for her roommate that get Bet into real trouble.



***Fortune of Carmen Navarro*** by Jennifer Bryant

Carmen Navarro rings up customers at the Quikmart, bored to tears. But Carmen's true love is music: she dropped out of high school to sing with the Gypsy Lovers and land a recording contract, someday. Just a few miles away, Ryan Sweeney hunches over his books, a studious cadet with his eye on West Point. There's not a single girl at the Valley Forge Military Academy, and that's fine by him. But when Ryan spots Carmen, with her shining black hair and snake tattoo, his pulse quickens. Carmen, who normally rolls her eyes at the stiff Academy *soldados*, can tell this one is different. She slips him a note: "Come hear my band." A romance begins, unlikely, passionate and quickly imbalanced. In an enthralling narrative of obsessive love, the novel builds to a stunning close.



***Great and Terrible Beauty*** by Libba Bray

It's 1895, and after the suicide of her mother, 16-year-old Gemma Doyle is shipped off from the life she knows in India to Spence, a proper boarding school in England. Lonely, guilt-ridden, and prone to visions of the future that have an uncomfortable habit of coming true, Gemma's reception there is a chilly one. To make things worse, she's been followed by a mysterious young Indian man, a man sent to watch her. But why? And what will her entanglement with Spence's most powerful girls, and their foray into the spiritual world, lead to?



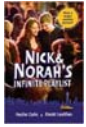
***If I Stay*** by Gayle Foreman

In the blink of an eye everything changes. Seventeen year old Mia has no memory of the accident; she can only recall what happened afterwards, watching her own damaged body being taken from the wreck. Little by little she struggles to put together the pieces, to figure out what she has lost, what she has left, and the very difficult choice she must make. Heart-wrenchingly beautiful, Mia's story will stay with you for a long, long time.



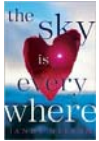
***Just Listen*** by Sarah Dessen

When Annabel, the youngest of three beautiful sisters, has a bitter falling out with her best friend she suddenly finds herself isolated and friendless. But then she meets Owen, a loner, passionate about music and his weekly radio show, and always determined to tell the truth. And when they develop a friendship, Annabel is not only introduced to new music but is encouraged to listen to her own inner voice. With Owen's help, can Annabel find the courage to speak out about what exactly happened the night her friendship with Sophie came to a screeching halt?



***Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*** by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan

Two teens are thrust together for one hilarious, sleepless night of adventure in a world of mix tapes, late-night living, and, live, loud music. Nick frequents New York's indie rock scene nursing a broken heart and Norah is questioning all of her assumptions about the world. Though they have nothing in common except for their taste in music, their chance encounter leads to an all-night quest to find a legendary band's secret show and ends up becoming the first date that could change both their lives.



***The Sky is Everywhere*** by Jandy Nelson

Lennie plays second clarinet in the school orchestra and has always happily been second fiddle to her charismatic older sister, Bailey. Then Bailey dies suddenly, and Lennie is left at sea without her anchor. Overcome by emotion, Lennie soon finds herself torn between two boys: Bailey's boyfriend, Toby, and Joe, the charming and musically gifted new boy in town. While Toby can't see her without seeing Bailey and Joe sees her only for herself, each offers Lennie something she desperately needs. But ultimately, it's up to Lennie to find her own way toward what she really needs-without Bailey.



***Twisted*** by Laurie Halse Andersen

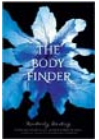
High school senior Tyler Miller used to be the kind of guy who faded into the background. But since he spent the summer doing outdoor work to pay for doing graffiti on the school, he stands out like you wouldn't believe. His new physique attracts the attention of queen bee Bethany Milbury, who just so happens to be his father's boss's daughter, the sister of his biggest enemy, and Tyler's secret crush. That sets off a string of events and changes that have Tyler questioning his place in school, in his family, and in the world.



***Will Grayson, Will Grayson*** by John Green and David Levithan

One cold night, in a most unlikely corner of Chicago, two teens—both named Will Grayson—are about to cross paths. As their worlds collide and intertwine, the Will Graysons find their lives going in new and unexpected directions, building toward romantic turns-of-heart and the epic production of history's most fabulous high school musical.

## Sci-Fi:



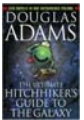
***Body Finder*** by Kimberly Derting

Violet Ambrose is grappling with two major issues: Jay Heaton and her morbid secret ability. While the sixteen-year-old is confused by her new feelings for her best friend since childhood, she is more disturbed by her "power" to sense dead bodies or at least those that have been murdered. Now that a serial killer is terrorizing her small town, and the echoes of the local girls he's claimed haunt her daily, Violet realizes she might be the only person who can stop him. Jay reluctantly agrees to help Violet find the murderer and Violet is unnerved by her hope that Jay's intentions are much more than friendly. But even as she's falling intensely in love, Violet is getting closer and closer to discovering a killer and becoming his prey herself.



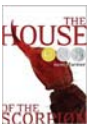
***Brave New World*** by Aldous Huxley

This book shows a world of tomorrow in which capitalist civilization has been reconstituted through the most efficient scientific and psychological engineering, where the people are genetically designed to be passive, consistently useful to the ruling class.



***Complete Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy*** by Douglas Adams

Seconds before the Earth is demolished for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is saved by Ford Prefect, a researcher for the revised *Guide*. Together they stick out their thumbs to the stars and begin a wild journey through time and space.



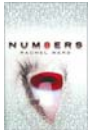
***House of the Scorpion*** by Nancy Farmer

Matteo Alacran was not Born; he was Harvested. His DNA came from El Patron, lord of a country called Opium. Matt's first cell split and divided inside a petri dish. Then he was placed in the womb of a cow, where he continued the miraculous journey from embryo to fetus to baby. He is a boy now, but most consider him a monster, except for El Patron. As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister cast of characters, including El Patron's power-hungry family, and he is surrounded by a dangerous army of bodyguards. Escape is the only chance Matt has to survive. But escape from the Alacran Estate is no guarantee of freedom, because Matt is marked by his difference in ways he doesn't even suspect.



**Interworld** by Neil Gaiman

Joey Harker isn't a hero. In fact, he's the kind of guy who gets lost in his own house. But then one day, Joey gets really lost. He walks straight out of his world and into another dimension. Joey's walk between the worlds makes him prey to two terrible forces, armies of magic and science who will do anything to harness his power to travel between dimensions. When he sees the evil those forces are capable of, Joey makes the only possible choice: to join an army of his own, an army of versions of himself from different dimensions who all share his amazing power and who are all determined to fight to save the worlds.



**Numbers** by Rachel Ward

Ever since she was child, Jem has kept a secret: whenever she meets someone new, no matter who, as soon as she looks into their eyes, a number pops into her head. That number is a date: the date they will die. Burdened with such awful awareness, Jem avoids relationships until she meets Spider, another outsider, and takes a chance. The two plan a trip to the city. But while waiting to ride the Eye ferris wheel, Jem is terrified to see that all the other tourists in line flash the same number. Today's date. Jem's world is about to explode!



**Uglies** by Scott Westerfeld

Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can't wait. In Tally's world, your sixteenth birthday brings an operation that turns you from a repellent ugly into a stunningly attractive pretty and catapults you into a high-tech paradise where your only job is to have a really great time. In just a few weeks Tally will be there. But Tally's new friend Shay isn't sure she wants to be pretty. She'd rather risk life on the outside. When Shay runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the pretty world and it isn't very pretty. The authorities offer Tally the worst choice she can imagine: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. The choice Tally makes changes her world forever.

## Supernatural:



**Fallen** by Lauren Kate

There's something achingly familiar about Daniel Grigori. Mysterious and aloof, he captures Luce Price's attention from the moment she sees him on her first day at the Sword & Cross boarding school in sultry Savannah, Georgia. He's the one bright spot in a place where cell phones are forbidden, the other students are all screw-ups, and security cameras watch every move. Even though Daniel wants nothing to do with Luce, and goes out of his way to make that very clear, she can't let it go. Drawn to him like a moth to a flame, she has to find out what Daniel is so desperate to keep secret, even if it kills her.



**Graveyard Book** by Neil Gaiman

Nobody Owens, known to his friends as Bod, is a normal boy. He would be *completely* normal if he didn't live in a sprawling graveyard, being raised and educated by ghosts, with a solitary guardian who belongs to neither the world of the living nor of the dead. There are dangers and adventures in the graveyard for a boy. But if Bod leaves the graveyard, then he will come under attack from the man Jack who has already killed Bod's family.



**Hush, Hush** by Becca Fitzpatrick

For Nora Grey, romance was not part of the plan. She's never been particularly attracted to the boys at her school, no matter how much her best friend, Vee, pushes them at her. Not until Patch came along. With his easy smile and eyes that seem to see inside her, Nora is drawn to him against her better judgment. But after a series of terrifying encounters, Nora's not sure who to trust. Patch seems to be everywhere she is, and to know more about her than her closest friends. She can't decide whether she should fall into his arms or run and hide. And when she tries to seek some answers, she finds herself near a truth that is way more unsettling than anything Patch makes her feel.



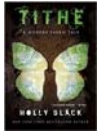
**Peeps** by Scott Westerfeld

A year ago, Cal Thompson was a college freshman more interested in meeting girls and partying than in attending biology class. Now, after a fateful encounter with a mysterious woman named Morgan, biology has become, literally, Cal's life. Cal was infected by a parasite that has a truly horrifying effect on its host. Cal himself is a carrier, unchanged by the parasite, but he's infected the girlfriends he's had since Morgan. All three have turned into the ravening ghouls Cal calls Peeps. The rest of us know them as vampires. It's Cal's job to hunt them down before they can create more of their kind.



***Shiver*** Maggie Steifvater

For years, Grace has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house. One yellow-eyed wolf is a chilling presence she can't seem to live without. Meanwhile, Sam has lived two lives: In winter, the frozen woods, the protection of the pack, and the silent company of a fearless girl. In summer, a few precious months of being human . . . until the cold makes him shift back again. Now, Grace meets a yellow-eyed boy whose familiarity takes her breath away. It's her wolf. It has to be. But as winter nears, Sam must fight to stay human--or risk losing himself, and Grace, forever.



***Tithe*** by Holly Black

Sixteen-year-old Kaye is a modern nomad. Fierce and independent, she travels from city to city with her mother's rock band until an ominous attack forces the sixteen-year-old back to her childhood home. There, amid the industrial, blue-collar New Jersey backdrop, Kaye soon finds herself an unwilling pawn in an ancient power struggle between two rival faerie kingdoms, a struggle that could very well mean her death.

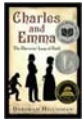


***Wake*** by Lisa McMann

For seventeen-year-old Janie, getting sucked into other people's dreams is getting old. Especially the falling dreams, the naked-but-nobody-notices dreams, and the sex-crazed dreams. Janie's seen enough fantasy booty to last her a lifetime. She can't tell anybody about what she does; they'd never believe her, or worse, they'd think she's a freak. So Janie lives on the fringe, cursed with an ability she doesn't want and can't control. Then she falls into a gruesome nightmare, one that chills her to the bone. For the first time, Janie is more than a witness to someone else's twisted psyche. She is a participant.

## **Non-Fiction:**

## General:



***Charles and Emma; the Darwin's leap of faith*** by Deborah Heiligman

One hundred and fifty years after Charles Darwin published *The Origin of Species*, the theory of evolution continues to cause tension between scientific and religious communities. Did you know this debate raged within Darwin himself? Learn about the man behind the theory in an exploration of history, science, and religion.



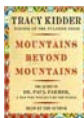
***Fast Food Nation*** by Eric Schlosser

Journalist Schlosser argues that the fast food industry has triggered the growth of malls in America's landscape, widened the gap between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and propelled American cultural imperialism abroad. He discusses facts about food production and preparation, the ingredients and taste-enhancers in the food, the chains' efforts to reel in young, susceptible consumers, and other unsettling facts.



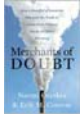
***Fistful of Rice*** by Vikram Akula

Around the globe, poverty has held too many people in its grip for too long. While microfinance, small loans to impoverished individuals, initially attracted attention in the press, it didn't achieve the scale, scope, and profitability necessary to substantially combat poverty. All that changed with Vikram Akula's creation of SKS Microfinance. In this highly personal narrative, *A Fistful of Rice* reveals how he pieced together the best of both philanthropy and capitalism to help millions of India's poor transition from paupers to customers to business owners.



***Mountains Beyond Mountains*** by Tracy Kidder

At the center of *Mountains Beyond Mountains* stands Paul Farmer. Doctor, Harvard professor, renowned infectious-disease specialist, anthropologist, the recipient of a MacArthur genius grant, world-class Robin Hood, Farmer was brought up in a bus and on a boat, and in medical school found his life's calling: to diagnose and cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. This magnificent book shows how radical change can be fostered in situations that seem insurmountable.



***Merchants of Doubt*** by Erik M. Conway

*Merchants of Doubt* tells the story of how a loose-knit group of high-level scientists and scientific advisers, with deep connections in politics and industry, ran effective campaigns to mislead the public and deny well-established scientific knowledge over four decades. Remarkably, the same individuals surface repeatedly—some of the same figures who have claimed that the science of global warming is "not settled" denied the truth of studies linking smoking to lung cancer, coal smoke to acid rain, and CFCs to the ozone hole. "Doubt is our product," wrote one tobacco executive. These "experts" supplied it.



***Sugar Changed the World*** by Marc Aronson and Marina Tamar Budhos

Sugar was the substance that drove the bloody slave trade and caused the loss of countless lives but it also planted the seeds of revolution that led to freedom in the American colonies, Haiti, and France. When this award-winning husband-and-wife team discovered that they each had sugar in their family history, they were inspired to trace the globe-spanning story of the sweet substance and to seek out the voices of those who led bitter sugar lives. The trail ran like a bright band from religious ceremonies in India to Europe's Middle Ages, then on to Columbus, who brought the first cane cuttings to the Americas. With songs, oral histories, maps, and over 80 archival illustrations, here is the story of how one product allows us to see the grand currents of world history in new ways.



***They called themselves the KKK*** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

*Boys, let us get up a club.* With those words, six restless young men raided the linens at a friend's mansion, pulled pillowcases over their heads, hopped on horses, and cavorted through the streets of Pulaski, Tennessee. The six friends named their club the Ku Klux Klan, and quickly their club grew into the self-proclaimed Invisible Empire with secret dens spread across the South. This is the story of how a secret terrorist group took root in America's democracy. Filled with chilling and vivid personal accounts unearthed from oral histories, congressional documents, and diaries, it is a book to read and remember.

## Real Life Adventure:



***Lost Boy, Lost Girl*** by John Bul Dau

One of thousands of children who fled strife in southern Sudan, John Bul Dau survived hunger, exhaustion, and violence. His wife, Martha, endured similar hardships. In this memorable book, the two convey the best of African values while relating searing accounts of famine and war. There's warmth as well, in their humorous tales of adapting to American life.



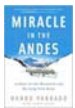
***I am Nujood; aged 10 and divorced*** by Nujood Ali

Forced by her father to marry a man three times her age, young Nujood Ali was sent away from her parents and beloved sisters and made to live with her husband and his family in an isolated village in rural Yemen. There she suffered daily from physical and emotional abuse by her mother-in-law and nightly at the rough hands of her spouse. Flouting his oath to wait to have sexual relations with Nujood until she was no longer a child, he took her virginity on their wedding night. She was only ten years old. Unable to endure the pain and distress any longer, Nujood fled, not for home, but to the courthouse of the capital, paying for a taxi ride with a few precious coins of bread money. When a renowned Yemeni lawyer heard about the young victim, she took on Nujood's case.



***Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*** by Ishmael Beah

Ishmael Beah tells a riveting story: how at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and became a child soldier. Ishmael Beah came to the United States when he was seventeen and graduated from Oberlin College in 2004. He is a member of Human Rights Watch Children's Division Advisory Committee and has spoken before the United Nations on several occasions. He lives in New York City.



***Miracle in the Andes*** by Nando Parrado

In the first hours there was nothing, no fear or sadness, just a black and perfect silence. Nando Parrado was unconscious for three days before he woke to discover that the plane carrying his rugby team, as well as their family members and supporters, to an exhibition game in Chile had crashed somewhere deep in the Andes. He soon learned that many were dead or dying among them his own mother and sister. Those who remained were stranded on a lifeless glacier at nearly 12,000 feet above sea level, with no supplies and no means of summoning help. They struggled to endure freezing temperatures, deadly avalanches, and then the devastating news that the search for them had been called off. Nando resolved that he must get home or die trying.



***Zeitoun*** by Dave Eggers

When Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, Abdulrahman Zeitoun chose to stay through the storm to protect his house and contracting business. In the days after the storm, he traveled the flooded streets in a secondhand canoe, passing on supplies and helping those he could. A week later, on September 6, 2005,

Zeitoun abruptly disappeared. Eggers's riveting nonfiction book, three years in the making, explores Zeitoun's roots in Syria, his marriage to Kathy, an American who converted to Islam, and their children, all within the surreal atmosphere (in New Orleans and the United States generally) in which what happened to Abdulrahman Zeitoun was possible.

## Science:



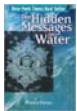
***Brief History of Time: from the Big Bang to Black Holes*** by Stephen Hawking

This landmark volume in scientific writing leads us on an exhilarating journey to distant galaxies, black holes, and alternate dimensions, and includes Professor Hawking's observations about the last decade's advances—developments that have confirmed many of his theoretical predictions. Makes vividly clear how Professor Hawking's work has transformed our view of the universe.



***Grand Design*** by Stephen Hawking and Leonard Mlodinow

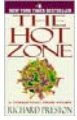
In this major new work, Stephen Hawking looks to the laws of nature and physics for the answers to the ultimate questions. Here in one brilliantly succinct volume is the accumulative wisdom of a lifetime of thinking about the questions that were once addressed by philosophy, but are now the province of science. How could the universe be created out of nothing? Why are we here? Do we have free will? What is the "Grand Design" that made it possible for us to have found a home in the one universe, out of zillions, where human life is possible? According to Hawking, we are very close to an understanding not just of the workings of our universe but of its very existence.



***Hidden Messages in Water*** by Masaru Emoto

This book has the potential to profoundly transform your world view. Using high-speed photography, Dr. Masaru Emoto discovered that crystals formed in frozen water reveal changes when specific, concentrated thoughts are directed toward them. He found that water from clear springs and water that has been exposed to loving words shows brilliant, complex, and colorful snowflake patterns. In contrast, polluted water, or water exposed to negative thoughts, forms

incomplete, asymmetrical patterns with dull colors. The implications of this research create a new awareness of how we can positively impact the earth and our personal health.



***The Hot Zone*** by Richard Preston

A highly infectious, deadly virus from the central African rain forest suddenly appears in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. There is no cure. In a few days 90 percent of its victims are dead. A secret military SWAT team of soldiers and scientists is mobilized to stop the outbreak of this exotic "hot" virus. *The Hot Zone* tells this dramatic story, giving a hair-raising account of the appearance of rare and lethal viruses and their "crashes" into the human race.