

Recommended Reads at Heritage Woods Secondary

Author	Call Number	Title	Summary
Ali, Ayaan Hirsi <i>(Autobiography)</i>	ALI	Infidel (2008) 361 p.	Suspenseful account of the author's life and her internal struggle with her Muslim faith.
Anderson, Laurie Halse	AND	Speak (2002) 197 p.	A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.
Anderson, Laurie Halse	AND	Twisted (2007) 250 p.	After finally getting noticed by someone other than school bullies and his ever-angry father, seventeen-year-old Tyler enjoys his tough new reputation and the attentions of a popular girl, but when life starts to go bad again, he must choose between transforming himself or giving in to his destructive thoughts.
Atwood, Margaret <i>(Canadian author)</i>	ATW	The Handmaid's Tale (1985) 324 p.	Set in the near future, America has become a puritanical theocracy and Offred tells her story as a Handmaid under the new social order.
Bennett, Holly <i>(Canadian author)</i>	BEN	The Bonemender (2005) 203 p.	In this fantasy, Gabrielle is a bonemender, a healer, who falls in love with a man whom fate seems to have forbidden her, but they must both think about war before they can think about love.
Bennett, Holly <i>(Canadian author)</i>	BEN	The Bonemender's Oath (2006) 171 p.	The war is over, but the threat from across the mountains has only withdrawn for the time being, and danger lurks closer to home. Both Gabrielle and her brother Tristan must fight for their lives and for those they love, as Gabrielle struggles to save a young man who thinks himself her enemy.
Bennett, Holly <i>(Canadian author)</i>	BEN	The Bonemender's Choice (2007) 222 p.	Dominic's children are kidnapped, but before they can be sold into slavery, a deadly plague strikes.
Black, Holly	BLA	Tithe: a Modern Faerie Tale (2002) 331 p.	Sixteen-year-old Kaye, who has been visited by faeries since childhood, discovers that she herself is a magical faerie creature with a special destiny.

Boyne, Joseph	BOY	The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (2006) 215 p.	Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.
Brown, Dan	BRO	Angels & Demons (2000) 572 p.	World-renowned Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon is summoned to a Swiss research facility to analyze a mysterious symbol seared into the chest of a murder victim, where he discovers evidence of the resurgence of an ancient brotherhood with a vendetta against the Catholic Church.
Brown, Dan	BRO	The Da Vinci Code (2003) 454 p.	Investigating the murder of a Louvre curator, Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon and French cryptologist Sophie Neveu find clues painted into a Da Vinci work, inadvertently uncovering a plot involving the Holy Grail and the secret society known as the Priory of Sion.
Brown, Dan	BRO	The Lost Symbol (2009) 509 p.	Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon, at the U.S. Capitol Building to deliver a lecture, is drawn into a desperate search through the hidden tunnels and temples of Washington, D.C., when his mentor Peter Solomon, a prominent Mason and philanthropist, is kidnapped and the only clue to Solomon's whereabouts lies in an ancient invitation to a long-lost world of esoteric wisdom.

Carroll, Michael	CAR	The Quantum Prophecy (2006) <i>Series: The New Heroes</i> 317 p.	The Quantum Prophecy takes place ten years after a great battle in which the entire world's superheroes and supervillains disappeared. Nobody knows what happened to Titan, Energy, Paragon and their evil adversaries, but when 13-year-old Colin Wagner and his best friend Danny begin to develop strange powers, they realize that a new age of superhumans might be just beginning. Where will they go? Who can they trust? Above all, how will Colin and Danny use their new-found powers - for good or evil?
Cashore, Kristin	CAS	Graceling (2008) 471 p.	In a world where some people are born with extreme and often-feared skills called Graces, Katsa struggles for redemption from her own horrifying Grace of killing and teams up with another young fighter to save their land from a corrupt king.
Cast, P.C. and Kristin	CAS	Marked: A House of Night Novel (2008) <i>Series</i> 306 p.	After being accepted as a fledgling vampire at the House of Night prep school and receiving special powers by a goddess, sixteen-year-old Zoey Montgomery discovers one of her peers is misusing her powers and must decide what the right thing to do is.
Chevalier, Tracy	CHE	Girl with a Pearl Earring (1999) 233 p.	A poor seventeenth-century servant girl knows her place in the household of the painter Johannes Vermeer, but when he begins to paint her, nasty whispers and rumors circulate throughout the town.
Chong, Denise <i>(Canadian Author)</i>	CHO	The Concubine's Children (1994) 266 p.	A true story of the author's family--of her grandmother, brought from China as a young concubine by a sojourner to the New World, of the man's wife and children who would be left behind, and of the author's own discovery of those children six decades later.
Clare, Cassandra	CLA	City of Bones (2007) <i>Book 1 of a trilogy</i> 485 p.	Suddenly able to see demons and the Darkhunters who are dedicated to returning them to their own dimension, fifteen-year-old Clary Fray is drawn into this bizarre world when her mother disappears and Clary herself is almost killed by a monster.
Clark, Mary Higgins	CLA	Where Are You Now? (2008) 289 p.	Twenty-six-year-old Carolyn MacKenzie, having suffered from the 9/11 death of her father, decides to track down her brother who disappeared ten years earlier, and uncovers a web of lies and deceit involving her family and wealthy, powerful people who want to keep a secret quiet.

Collins, Suzanne	COL	The Hunger Games (2008) 374 p.	Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.
Collins, Suzanne	COL	Catching Fire (2009) 391 p.	By winning the annual Hunger Games, District 12 tributes Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark have secured a life of safety and plenty for themselves and their families, but because they won by defying the rules, they unwittingly become the faces of an impending rebellion.
Davis, Amanda	DAV	Wonder When You'll Miss Me (2003) 259 p.	At fifteen, Faith Duckle was lured under the bleachers by a bunch of boys and brutally attacked. Now, almost a year later, a newly thin Faith is haunted by her past and by the flippant, cruel ghost of her formerly fat self who is bent on revenge.
Diamant, Anita	DIA	The Red Tent (1997) 321 p.	The story of Dinah, the daughter of Jacob, is told from her point of view, beginning with the story of her mothers, Leah, Rachel, Zilpah, and Bilhah. These wives of Jacob give her the gifts that are to sustain her through a damaged youth, a calling to midwifery, and a new home in a foreign land.
Dowd, Siobhan	DOW	Bog Child (2008) 321 p.	In 1981, the height of Ireland's "Troubles," eighteen-year-old Fergus is distracted from his upcoming A-level exams by his imprisoned brother's hunger strike, the stress of being a courier for Sinn Fein, and dreams of a murdered girl whose body he discovered in a bog.

Dowswell, Paul	DOW	Ausländer (2009) 291 p.	When Peter's parents are killed, he is sent to an orphanage in Warsaw. With his blond hair, blue eyes, and acceptably proportioned head, he looks just like the boy on the <i>Hitler-Jugend</i> poster. Professor Kaltenbach adopts Peter to his household. Peter is forming his own ideas about what he is seeing, what he is told. Peter doesn't want to be a Nazi, and so he is going to take a very dangerous risk. The most dangerous risk he could possibly choose to take in Berlin in 1942.
Duey, Kathleen	DUE	Skin Hunger (2007) <i>Book 1 of a trilogy</i> 357 p.	In alternate chapters, Sadima travels from her farm home to the city and becomes assistant to a heartless man who is trying to restore knowledge of magic to the world, and a group of boys fights to survive in the academy that has resulted from his efforts.
Dunant, Sarah	DUN	The Birth of Venus (2003) 416 p.	Alessandra Cecchi is not quite fifteen when her father, a prosperous cloth merchant, brings a young painter back from northern Europe to decorate the chapel walls in the family's Florentine palazzo. A child of the Renaissance, with a precocious mind and a talent for drawing, Alessandra is intoxicated by the painter's abilities. but their burgeoning relationship is interrupted when Alessandra's parents arrange her marriage to a wealthy, much older man.
Eliot, Eve	ELI	Insatiable (2001) 284 p.	Recounts the experiences of four high school girls whose feelings of shame, fear, and confusion compelled them to use or refuse food in misguided attempts to feel safe and in control of their lives.
Ellis, Deborah	ELL	The Breadwinner (2000) 170 p.	Because the Taliban rulers of Kabul, Afghanistan, impose strict limitations on women's freedom and behavior, eleven-year-old Parvana must disguise herself as a boy so that her family can survive after her father's arrest.
Farmer, Nancy	FAR	The House of the Scorpion (2002) 380 p.	In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.
Fitch, Janet	FIT	White Oleander (1999) 446 p.	Astrid, the only child of a single mother, struggles to find a place for herself in a world full of foster homes and impossible circumstances, after her mother is jailed for murder.

Follett, Ken	FOL	The Pillars of the Earth (1989) 983 p.	The ambitious prior of Kingsbridge, England, dreams of building the greatest Gothic cathedral in the world, and the struggle to construct it leads to a battle between good and evil in twelfth century England.
Follett, Ken	FOL	World Without End (2007) 1014 p.	In Kingsbridge during the year 1327, four children witness two men being killed in the forest; and years later, even though they have grown apart, they are connected by what they saw.
Friend, Natasha	FRI	Lush (2006) 178 p.	Unable to cope with her father's alcoholism, thirteen-year-old Sam corresponds with an older student, sharing her family problems and asking for advice.
Gabalton, Diana	GAB	Outlander (1991) <i>Series</i> 627 p.	While on vacation in Scotland, Clare touches an ancient stone circle and is hurled back in time 200 years, to 1743.
Gaiman, Neil	GAI	The Graveyard Book (2008) 312 p.	The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures.
Gibb, Camilla <i>(Canadian author)</i>	GIB	Sweetness in the Belly (2005) 408 p.	White, English, and orphaned at eight, Lilly grows up in Morocco as a Muslim, moves to Harar, Ethiopia, for five years and settles in London after political upheaval makes her vulnerable.
(Anonymous)	GOA	Go ask Alice (1971) 159 p.	The painful diary of a young girl when she accidentally falls into the drug scene.
Golden, Arthur	GOL	Memoirs of a Geisha (1997) 434 p.	Nitta Sayuri, a young Japanese woman who was taken from her home at the age of nine and sold into slavery as a geisha, discovers a rare opportunity for freedom when the outbreak of World War II forces an end to the only life she has ever known.
Gregory, Philippa	GRE	The Constant Princess (2005) 520 p.	Katherine of Aragon is betrothed at age 3 to Prince Arthur, son and heir of Henry VII of England. When he dies, she is left to make her own future: how can she now be queen, and found a dynasty? Only by marrying Arthur's young brother, the sunny but spoilt Henry.

Gregory, Philippa	GRE	The Other Boleyn Girl (2001) 735 p.	Mary Boleyn comes to the court of King Henry VIII, where she falls for the dashing king, and begins to enjoy her growing role as unofficial queen; however, she soon realizes she is merely a pawn in her family's ambitious plots as the king's interest begins to turn towards her best friend and rival, her sister, Anne.
Gregory, Philippa	GRE	The Boleyn Inheritance (2006) 518 p.	Novel brings the women of Henry VIII's court vividly to life. Among the cast, who alternately narrate: Henry's fourth wife, Bavarian-born Anne of Cleves; his fifth wife, English teenager Catharine Howard; and Lady Rochford (Jane Boleyn), the jealous spouse whose testimony helped send her husband, Thomas, and sister-in-law Anne Boleyn to their execution.
Gregory, Philippa	GRE	The Queen's Fool (2004) 504 p.	Hannah Green, a fourteen-year-old Jewish girl, finds herself caught in the rivalry between Queen Mary and her half sister, Elizabeth, after her ability to foresee the future leads her to work for the Queen as a spy.
Gregory, Philippa	GRE	The Virgin's Lover (2004) 441 p.	A fictional portrait of the early years of the reign of Elizabeth I follows the young queen as she copes with intrigues aimed at placing Mary, Queen of Scots, on the British throne, and her passion for the traitorous Robert Dudley.
Grisham, John	GRI	The Testament (1999) 533 p.	When Rachel Lane learns that she has inherited eleven billion dollars from her biological father, she wants nothing to do with the money, or her father's other children who insist that they be given the money they feel they deserve, even though the will states they are to get nothing.
Gruen, Sarah <i>(Canadian author)</i>	GRU	Water for Elephants (2007) 355 p.	Ninety-year-old Jacob Jankowski finds himself haunted by memories of his past in the circus and the freaks, exotic animals, and other people he encountered as a performer.
Haddon, Mark	HAD	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (2004) 224 p.	Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

Hely, Steve	HEL	How I Became a Famous Novelist (2009) 322 p.	Pete Tarshaw sets out to write the greatest bestselling novel of all time, thinking it will completely turn his boring, unaccomplished life around, but Pete soon learns the price of fame may be more than he is willing to pay.
Hosseini, Khaled	HOS	The Kite Runner (2003) 394 p.	Amir is the son of a wealthy Kabul merchant, a member of the ruling caste of <i>Pashtuns</i> . Hassan, his servant and constant companion, is a <i>Hazara</i> , a despised and impoverished caste. Their uncommon bond is torn by Amir's choice to abandon his friend amidst increasing ethnic, religious, and political tensions of the dying years of the Afghan monarchy and apparently dissolved when Amir and his father flee to California to escape the Soviet invasion, leaving Hassan and his own gentle father to a terrible fate.
Hosseini, Khaled	HOS	A Thousand Splendid Suns (2007) 374 p.	A novel set against the three decades of Afghanistan's history shaped by Soviet occupation, civil war, and the Taliban, which tells the stories of two women, Mariam and Laila, who grow close despite their nineteen-year age difference and initial rivalry as they suffer at the hand of a common enemy: their abusive husband.
James, P.D.	JAM	The Private Patient (2008) 465 p.	Commander Adam Dalglish and his team are called in to investigate the murder of an investigative reporter at a private nursing home for rich patients being treated by the famous plastic surgeon George Chandler-Powell.
Jordan, Robert	JOR	The Eye of the World (1990) <i>Series: The Wheel of Time</i> 814 p.	In the Third Age the bestial Trollocs hunt the villagers, and the Dark One, imprisoned by the Creator at the moment of creation, is now stirring in Shayol Ghul.
Jordan, Sheryl	JOR	The Raging Quiet (2000) 266 p.	Suspicious of sixteen-year-old Marnie, a newcomer to their village, the residents accuse her of witchcraft when she discovers that the village madman is not crazy but deaf and she begins to communicate with him through hand gestures.
Kidd, Sue Monk	KID	The Secret Life of Bees (2002) 302 p.	14-year-old Lily and Rosaleen, an African-American woman who has cared for Lily since her mother's death, flee their home after Rosaleen is victimized by racist police officers. They find a safe haven in Tiburon, South Carolina at the home of three beekeeping sisters, May, June, and August.

Kingsolver, Barbara	KIN	The Poisonwood Bible (1998) 543 p.	Nathan Price and his family move to the Belgian Congo in 1959, and the experiences they have while living in Africa affect each member of the family in a different way.
King, Stephen	KIN	The Stand (1978) 1141 p.	It's 1985 and a deadly 'superflu' practically wipes out the population of the U.S. Gradually survivors trail across a wasteland of horror and death to congregate in two zones, one the embodiment of good, the other the embodiment of evil.
Lahiri, Jhumpa	LAH	The Namesake (2003) 291 p.	A young man born of Indian parents in America struggles with issues of identity from his teens to his thirties.
Langston, Laura	LAN	Exit Point (2006) 110 p.	Sixteen-year-old Logan is dead, but he realizes he still has unfinished business.
Larsson, Stieg	LAR	The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (2008) 841 p.	Hacker Lisbeth Salander assists Mikael Blomkvist, a crusading journalist, with the investigation of Harriet Vanger's disappearance decades earlier, and the two uncover a dark world of secrets about a wealthy Swedish family as well as a surprising connection between themselves.
Lowry, Lois	LOW	The Giver (1993) 180 p.	Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, 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.
Lowry, Lois	LOW	Gathering Blue (2000) 215 p.	Lame and suddenly orphaned, Kira is mysteriously removed from her squalid village to live in the palatial Council Edifice, where she is expected to use her gifts as a weaver to do the bidding of the all-powerful Guardians.
McCormick, Patricia	MCC	Sold (2006) 263 p.	A novel in vignettes, in which Lakshmi, a thirteen-year-old girl from Nepal, is sold into prostitution in India.
McCourt, Frank	MCC	Angela's Ashes (1996) 363 p.	The author chronicles his impoverished childhood in Limerick, Ireland, in the 1930s and 1940s, describing his father's alcoholism and talent for storytelling; the challenges and tragedies his mother faced, including the loss of three children; and his early experiences in the Catholic church, and balances painful memories with humor.

McDermid, Val	MCD	The Distant Echo (2003) 450 p.	25 years after a young barmaid was murdered, the Cold Case file is re-opened and suddenly the original suspects become targets of revenge.
McKay, Ami <i>(Canadian author)</i>	MCK	The Birth House (2006) 385 p.	When Scots Bay's midwife Miss Babineau dies, her apprentice, Dora Rare, is left to defend the traditional methods of childbirth against the claims of Gilbert Thomas, the new doctor who promises fast, painless labors.
McMann, Lisa	MCC	Wake (2008) 210 p.	Ever since she was 8, high school student Janie has been uncontrollably drawn into other people's dreams, but it is not until she befriends an elderly nursing home patient and becomes involved with an enigmatic fellow-student that she discovers her true power.
Meyer, Stephanie	MEY	Twilight (2005) <i>Series</i> 498 p.	Seventeen-year-old Bella leaves Phoenix to live with her father in Forks, Washington. She meets an exquisitely handsome boy at school for whom she feels an overwhelming attraction and who she comes to realize is not entirely human.
Meyer, Stephanie	MEY	The Host (2008) 618 p.	Melanie, whose mind has been almost completely taken over by an alien named Wanderer, convinces the alien to search for her lost lover, who fled the extraterrestrial invasion, and tries to find a way in which she and Wanderer can coexist.
Mistry, Rohinton <i>(Canadian author)</i>	MIS	A Fine Balance (1995) 713 p.	Set in mid-1970s India, the story focuses on the lives of four unlikely people who come together in a modest flat in the city the day after the government declares a state of Internal Emergency -- four people whose fates and circumstances become entwined.
Mitchell, Margaret	MIT	Gone With the Wind (1936) 1024 p.	After the Civil War sweeps away the genteel life to which she has been accustomed, Scarlett O'Hara sets about to salvage her Georgia plantation home.
Moore, Christopher	MOO	Bloodsucking Fiends (1995) 290 p.	A red-headed vampire named Jody sets her sights on C. Thomas Flood, a night-clerking aspiring writer from San Francisco, and finds more than one way to satisfy her hunger.
Morton, Kate	MOR	The Forgotten Garden (2008) 552 p.	When a little girl is abandoned on a ship going to Australia in 1913 and arrives with only her clothes and a book of fairy tales, she is raised by the dockmaster and his wife as their own; as a young woman, she travels to England where, over time, her own granddaughter eventually assembles the pieces of her life's puzzle.

Mosse, Kate	MOS	Labyrinth (2005) 694 p.	An adventure story of courage, destiny and betrayal, set in medieval and contemporary Carcassonne. A young girl is given a mysterious book by her father which he claims contains the secret of the true Grail.
Muchamore, Robert	MUC	The Recruit (2004) <i>Series: Cherub</i> 329 p.	A terrorist doesn't let strangers into her flat because they might be undercover police, but her children bring their mates home. She doesn't know that a kid has bugged her house. The kid works for CHERUB. CHERUB kids slip under adult radar and get information that sends criminals to jail.
Na, An	NA	A Step from Heaven (2001) 156 p.	A young Korean girl and her family find it difficult to learn English and adjust to life in America.
Nanji, Shenaaz	NAN	Child of Dandelions (2008) 215 p.	In 1972, 15-year-old Sabine has a happy life in Uganda, until the "countdown monster" changes everything – ordering her and everyone like her to leave their home and their country.
Nemat, Marina <i>(Canadian author)</i>	NEM	Prisoner of Tehran: a Memoir (2007) 280 p.	In 1982, 16-year-old Marina Nemat was arrested on false charges by Iranian Revolutionary Guards and tortured in Tehran's notorious Evin prison. Her eventual release came about in an unexpected way. She now lives in Ontario.
Nielsen, Susin <i>(Canadian author)</i>	NIE	Word Nerd (2008) 248 p.	Twelve-year-old Ambrose, forced into home schooling after a brutal attack by bullies at his new school, strikes up a friendship with Cosmo, the son of his landlord, and convinces Cosmo to take him to a local Scrabble club meeting while his mother is at work.
Paolini, Christopher	PAO	Eragon (2003) <i>Series</i> 503 p.	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.
Paver, Michelle	PAV	Wolf Brother (2004) <i>Series</i> 236 p.	6,000 years in the past, twelve-year-old Tarak and his guide, a wolf cub, set out on a dangerous journey to fulfill an oath the boy made to his dying father--to travel to the Mountain of the World Spirit seeking a way to destroy a demon-possessed bear that threatens all the clans.

Patchett, Ann	PAT	Bel Canto (2001) 318 p.	A group of international guests, taken hostage by terrorists while attending a birthday party at the home of the vice president of a small South American country, form bonds with their captors and enter into an almost idyllic lifestyle, united by the music of Roxanne Coss, opera's most revered soprano.
Peacock, Shane <i>(Canadian author)</i>	PEA	Eye of the Crow (2007) 251 p.	In 1867, Sherlock Holmes, an impoverished young outcast with a Jewish father and a highborn mother, visits the scene of a woman's brutal murder, where he meets a wrongly accused young Arab and becomes a suspect himself.
Picoult, Jodi	PIC	My Sister's Keeper (2005) 423 p.	Thirteen-year-old Anna, conceived specifically to provide blood and bone marrow for her sister Kate who was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia at the age of two, decides to sue her parents for control of her body when her mother wants her to donate a kidney to Kate.
Picoult, Jodi	PIC	Nineteen Minutes (2008) 455 p.	Sterling is a small, ordinary New Hampshire town where nothing ever happens -- until the day its complacency is shattered by a shocking act of violence. In the aftermath, the town's residents must not only seek justice in order to begin healing but also come to terms with the role they played in the tragedy.
Proulx, Annie	PRO	The Shipping News (1993) 337 p.	Quoyle and his two emotionally disturbed daughters return to the family ancestral home in Newfoundland to start new lives.
Rankin, Ian	RAN	The Falls (2001) 399 p.	A student has gone missing in Edinburgh and there's very little for Detective Inspector John Rebus to go on apart from his gut feeling that there's more to this case than a runaway high on unaccustomed freedom.
Rex & Sparky	REX	The Dastardly Book for Dogs (2007) 191 p.	From the same kennel as The Dangerous Book for Boys, this hilarious doggy equivalent barks one simple question: What's happened to us?! Designer dog beds? Organic gluten free gourmet doggie biscuits? Spa treatments? Everyone likes to be pampered now and then - but isn't there more to being a dog than wearing a mini cashmere sweater and riding around in a Louis Vuitton handbag? This book is for good dogs, bad dogs, and the millions of people who love them.

Rice, Anne	RIC	Interview with the Vampire (1976) <i>Series: The Vampire Chronicles</i> 342 p.	Louis tells of his experiences as a vampire and of his relationship with the vampire Lestat, who made him one of the undead.
Rowling, J.K.	ROW	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (1997) <i>Series</i> 332 p.	Harry Potter thinks he is an ordinary boy until he is rescued by an owl, taken to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, learns to play Quidditch and does battle in a deadly duel. The reason: Harry Potter is a wizard.
Sanchez, Alex	SAN	Rainbow Boys (2001) <i>Series</i> 233 p.	Three high school seniors, a jock with a girlfriend and an alcoholic father, a closeted gay, and a flamboyant gay rights advocate, struggle with family issues, gay bashers, first sex, and conflicting feelings about each other.
Saramago, José (<i>Won Nobel Prize for Literature</i>)	SAR	Blindness (1995) 326 p.	Translation of a Portuguese novel about the chaos that ensues when a city is struck with an epidemic of blindness in which its victims see only white. (Movie created 2008)
Sebold, Alice	SEB	The Lovely Bones (2002) 328 p.	Fourteen-year-old Susie Salmon, the victim of a sexual assault and murder, looks on from the afterlife as her family deals with their grief, and waits for her killer to be brought to some type of justice.
See, Lisa	SEE	Snow Flower and the Secret Fan (2005) 269 p.	Friends Snow Flower and Lily find solace in their bond as they face isolation, arranged marriages, loss, and motherhood in nineteenth-century China.
Shan, Darren	SHA	Cirque du Freak (2001) <i>Series: Cirque du Freak</i> 266 p.	Two boys who are best friends visit an illegal freak show, where an encounter with a vampire and a deadly spider forces them to make life-changing choices.
Sijie, Dai	SIJ	Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress (2001) 184 p.	Two boys, moved to the country for "re-education" as part of Mao's Cultural Revolution, find little to amuse them, but things change when they discover a stash of Western classics in Chinese translation and use the stories of Balzac to capture the attention of the beautiful daughter of the local tailor.
Singer, Nicky	SIN	Feather Boy (2002) 285 p.	A timid, unpopular boy learns about courage, love, and luck through a school project involving a strong-willed elderly woman, the abandoned house where her son died, and the legend of the Firebird.

Slade, Arthur <i>(Canadian author)</i>	SLA	Dust (2003) 213 p.	Robert realizes that it is his responsibility to find his missing younger brother when other strange things happen on the farm, including his parents' apparent lack of concern for their missing son.
Steele, J.M.	STE	The Taker (2006) 350 p.	Carly Biels contemplates having someone else take her SATs for her after she bombs her first attempt.
Stewart, Trenton Lee	STE	The Mysterious Benedict Society (2007) 485 p.	After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.
Staples, Suzanne Fisher	STA	Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind (1989) 240 p.	When eleven-year-old Shabanu, the daughter of a nomad in the Cholistan Desert of present-day Pakistan, is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family. She must either accept the decision, as is the custom, or risk the consequences of defying her father's wishes.
Swarup, Vikas	SWA	Slumdog Millionaire (<i>previously published as "Q&A" – 2005</i>) 318 p.	After winning India's biggest quiz show, Ram Mohammad Thomas is put in jail as authorities question how a poor orphan who has never gone to school could win such a contest.
Tan, Amy	TAN	The Bonesetter's Daughter (2001) 353 p.	San Francisco ghostwriter Ruth Young finally begins to understand her Alzheimer's-afflicted mother LuLing's preoccupation with ghosts and curses when she reads Luling's writings of her dark backwoods childhood in 1920s China--where LuLing's mute, disfigured nursemaid committed suicide, and a nearby cave held what may have been the bones of the lost ancient hominid Peking Man.
Tiernan, Cate	TIE	Book of Shadows (2002) <i>Series: Sweep</i> 187 p.	A seemingly average teenage girl named Morgan begins to experience strange powers and feelings, making her crush, Cal, a Wiccan himself, wonder if she could be a blood witch, a member of one of the Seven Great Clans.
Turner, Megan Whalen	TUR	The Thief (1996) <i>Trilogy</i> 219 p.	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.

Van de Ruit	VAN	Spud (2007) 317 p.	In 1990, thirteen-year-old John "Spud" Milton, a prepubescent choirboy, keeps a diary of his first year at an elite, boys-only boarding school in South Africa, as he deals with bizarre housemates, wild crushes, embarrassingly dysfunctional parents, and much more.
Walls, Jeannette	WAL	The Glass Castle (2005) 288 p.	The author recalls her life growing up in a dysfunctional family with an alcoholic father and distant mother and describes how she and her siblings had to fend for themselves until they finally found the resources and will to leave home.
Walters, Minette	WAL	The Echo (1997) 412 p.	Wealthy London socialite Amanda Powell becomes the subject of intense scrutiny at the hands of a cynical journalist when a homeless man is found dead on her property.
Wasserman, Robin	WAS	Skinned (2008) 361 p.	Lia Kahn's family pays for the most advanced medical technology to save her when her body is devastated in a horrible accident, but when the operations are complete, Lia remains alive but her body does not.
Weir, Alison	WEI	Innocent Traitor (2006) 397 p.	A novel depicting the life and reign of Lady Jane Grey, who finds herself in the middle of civil unrest that plagued the House of Tudor during the sixteenth century.
Westerfeld, Scott	WES	Uglies (2005) <i>Series</i> 425 p.	Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her new friend Shay decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen year old girls into gorgeous beauties, and realizes that there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she doesn't like.
Wiebe, Rudy and Yvonne Johnson <i>(Canadian author)</i>	WIE	Stolen Life: The Journey of a Cree Woman (1998) 444 p.	This is a chronicle of justice and injustice, the true story of the events that put Yvonne Johnson behind bars for life at the age of twenty-seven. Above all, it is the unforgettable story of a Native woman who has broken a lifetime of silence to share the understandings within her.

Williams, Laura E.	WIL	Behind the Bedroom Wall (1996) 169 p.	Thirteen-year-old Korinna must decide whether to report her parents to her Hitler youth group when she discovers that they are hiding Jews in a secret space behind her bedroom wall.
Zusak, Markus	ZUS	The Book Thief (2005) 552 p.	Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.