

HASLNLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Aguirre, Ann. ***Enclave***. Feiwel and Friends, 2011. Following her fifteenth birthday, Huntress Deuce is sent with topsider Fade to determine the fate of a neighboring enclave. After a shocking discovery, the pair is banished by their own enclave's elders and must face the darkness and dangers unlike any ever seen.
- Anderson, Laurie Halse. ***Chains***. Simon & Schuster, 2008. After being sold to a cruel Loyalist couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War. Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction. *Series*
- Arbuthnott, Gill. ***The Keepers' Tattoo***. Chicken House, 2010. Months before her fifteenth birthday, Nyssa learns that she is a special member of a legendary clan, the Keepers of Knowledge, as she and her uncle try to escape from Alaric, the White Wolf, who wants to use lines tattooed on her scalp to destroy the rest of her people.
- Aronson, Marc. ***If Stones Could Speak: Unlocking the Secrets of Stonehenge***. National Geographic, 2010. Texts, photographs, and explanatory maps and illustrations document archaeologist Mike Parker Pearson's study of Stonehenge and the surrounding area, describing what he found and what the artifacts reveal about the site and its history.
- Asimov, Isaac. ***The Stars, Like Dust***. First published 1951. At the death of his father, Biron Farrill becomes involved in the plot to rebel against the Tyranni who have conquered many worlds. *Series*
- Bachmann, Stefan. ***The Peculiar***. Greenwillow Books, 2012. Scorned by both human and faery creatures, young changeling Bartholomew Kettle sets out on a mysterious and dangerous journey across ancient London to rescue his little sister Hettie. Someone has been kidnapping and murdering changelings. Will Bartholomew find his sister in time or will she meet the same fate as those Peculiaris before her?
- Barker, Clive. ***Abarat***. Joanna Cotler, 2002. A journey beyond imagination unfolds when Candy travels to the Abarat, a world composed of twenty-five islands where each island represents a different hour of the day and is filled with strangely imaginative creatures. Will Candy be able to save the Abarat from the dark forces that are beginning to stir? Beautifully bizarre paintings add depth to this unique fantasy story filled with daring adventure and surprises. Bram Stoker Award. *Series*
- Barton, Chris. ***Can I See Your ID? : True Stories of False Identities***. Dial Books, 2011. From the impoverished young woman who enchanted nineteenth-century British society as a faux Asian princess to the lonely but clever Frank Abagnale of "Catch Me if You Can" fame, these ten true vignettes offer riveting insight into mind-blowing masquerades.

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- Bondoux, Anne-Laure. ***A Time of Miracles***. Translated from the French by Y. Maudet. Delacorte, 2010. In the early 1990s, a boy with a mysterious past and the woman who cares for him endure a five-year journey across the war-torn Caucasus and Europe, weathering hardships and welcoming unforgettable encounters with other refugees searching for a better life. Batchelder Award Winner 2011
- Bradford, Chris. ***Young Samurai: The Way of the Warrior***. Disney-Hyperion, 2008. Orphaned by a ninja pirate attack off the coast of Japan in 1611, twelve-year-old English lad Jack Fletcher is determined to prove himself despite the bullying of fellow students. A legendary sword master who rescues Jack begins training him as a samurai warrior. *Series*
- Card, Orson Scott. ***Pathfinder***. Simon Pulse, 2010. Thirteen-year-old Rigg has a secret ability to see the paths of others' pasts, but revelations after his death set him on a dangerous quest that brings new threats from those who would either control his destiny or kill him. *Series*
- Carson, Rae. ***The Girl of Fire and Thorns***. Greenwillow, 2011. Princess Elisa has been married off to a neighboring king. Unsure about who she is and what to do, she is kidnapped and catapulted into an adventure where she has to blend her own fate with that of her people.
- Carter, Ally. ***Heist Society***. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. A group of teenagers uses its combined talents to re-steal several priceless paintings and save fifteen-year-old Kat Bishop's father, himself an international art thief, from a vengeful collector. *Series*
- Charlton, Blake. ***Spellwright***. Tor Books, 2010. A wizard's apprentice, Nicodemus Weal, has trouble controlling his spells because he is dyslexic. To make matters worse, he is named a suspect in the murder of a powerful wizard and must race against time to clear his name and uncover who is responsible for that crime as well as the destruction of the city around him. *Series*
- Chatterton, Martin. ***The Brain Finds a Leg***. Peachtree, 2009. In Farrago Bay, Australia, thirteen-year-old Sheldon is recruited by a new student, Theo Brain, to help investigate a murder which is tied not only to bizarre animal behavior but also to a diabolical plot to alter human intelligence. *Series*
- Chibbaro, Julie. ***Deadly***. Atheneum, 2011. New York City in 1793 is reeling from typhoid fever and sixteen-year-old Prudence is hired, against convention, by the Sanitation Department to discover how the disease is being spread.
- Chima, Cinda Williams. ***The Demon King***. Disney-Hyperion, 2009. This book is the first in a high fantasy series that tells of the intertwining fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa. As Han takes possession of an amulet that once belonged to an evil wizard, Raisa uncovers a conspiracy in the Grey Wolf Court. *Series*

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- Choldenko, Gennifer. ***No Passengers Beyond This Point***. Dial Books, 2011. With their house in foreclosure, sisters India and Mouse and their brother Finn are sent to stay with an uncle in Colorado until their mother can join them. However, when the plane lands, the children are welcomed by cheering crowds to a strange place where each of them has a perfect house and a clock that is ticking down the time.
- Cummings, Priscilla. ***Red Kayak***. Dutton, 2004. Living near the water on Maryland's Eastern Shore, thirteen-year-old Brady and his best friends J.T. and Digger become entangled in a tragedy which tests their friendship and their idea about right and wrong.
- Dendy, Leslie A. ***The Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine***. Holt, 2005. Recounts the true and amazing stories of ten scientists and medical researchers who endured extreme hardship and discomfort in order to test new discoveries and inventions in the fields of medicine and science.
- Dionne, Erin. ***Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet***. Dial Books, 2010. Hamlet's attempts to be a "normal" eighth grader become increasingly difficult when her genius seven-year-old sister and her eccentric Shakespeare scholar parents both begin to attend her school.
- Dixon, Heather. ***Entwined***. Greenwillow, 2011. Confined to their dreary castle while mourning their mother's death, Princess Azalea and her eleven sisters join The Keeper, trapped in a magic passageway, in a nightly dance that soon involves romance, mystery and eventually nightmare!
- Doyle, Arthur Conan, Sir. ***The Hound of the Baskervilles***. First published 1902. Sherlock Holmes is asked to investigate the tale of a mysterious death and a hound that haunts the lonely moors around the Baskervilles' ancestral home.
- Draper, Sharon M. ***Fire from the Rock***. Dutton, 2007. In 1957, honor student Sylvia Patterson is thrilled to be chosen to be among the first African American students to attend the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, but threats of violence by racist mobs cause Sylvia to reconsider.
- Dumas, Alexandre. ***The Three Musketeers***. First published 1844. Young d'Artagnan comes to Paris to join the Musketeers who serve King Louis XIV and try to foil the evil plots of Cardinal Richelieu.
- Engle, Margarita. ***The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom***. Holt, 2008. Using free verse poetry, Rosa tells her story of healing, revolution, slavery, survival, and hope for freedom during three revolutions in Cuba between 1868 and 1898.
- Eulberg, Elizabeth. ***Take a Bow***. Scholastic, 2012. The Senior Showcase recital at a performing arts high school in New York is approaching: Sophie is grateful for the support of her friends and boyfriend; Emme and Ethan wonder whether they could be more than friends and band-mates; and Carter does not know how to admit that he would rather be a painter than a performer.

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- Evans, Richard Paul. ***Michael Vey, Prisoner of Cell 25***. Simon Pulse, 2011. To everyone at school, fourteen-year-old Michael Vey is nothing special, just the kid with Tourette's syndrome. However Michael is extremely special . . . he has electric powers. Michael and his friends set out to discover how he and a cheerleader named Taylor ended up with their abilities, and their investigation brings them to the attention of a powerful group who wants to use the electric teens to control the world. *Series*
- Falkner, Brian. ***Assault***. Random House, 2012. In the year 2030, six teens have been modified to look like the aliens who are battling for control of Earth. Their mission: to go behind enemy lines to uncover and destroy a shocking, secret alien project.
- Feinstein, John. ***The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. Two teen reporters stumble across an illegal betting ring when they team up with major Washington news reporters to cover one of the fiercest rivalries of college football. *Series*
- Fleischman, Sid. ***Sir Charlie Chaplin: The Funniest Man in the World***. Greenwillow, 2010. Charlie Chaplin, who was raised by a mentally ill mother and an alcoholic, mostly absent, father, spent his childhood in the depths of poverty but grew to international fame as perhaps "the funniest man in the world" in vaudeville, silent movies, and finally "talkies" at the end of his career.
- Freedman, Russell. ***The War to End All Wars: World War I***. Clarion, 2010. This is a narrative history of World War I that features archival photographs and describes how advanced military weaponry impacted the course of the war.
- Frost, Robert. ***Poetry for Young People: Robert Frost***. Edited by Gary D. Schmidt. Sterling, 1994. A selection of twenty-five poems by Robert Frost arranged by the four seasons and illustrated by Henri Sorenson. At the bottom of each poem is a brief editor's note about how the lines could be read.
- Gaiman, Neil. ***The Graveyard Book***. HarperCollins, 2008. Toddler Bod, short for Nobody, crawls into a graveyard after his family is brutally murdered. He is then raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen by the graveyard's ghosts and otherworldly creatures. Newbery Award 2009
- Gier, Kerstin. ***Ruby Red***. Translated from the German by Anthea Bell. Holt, 2011. Sixteen-year-old Gwyneth Shepherd unexpectedly travels through time to the eighteenth century where she discovers a mystery about her real birth date and finds to her dismay that she must work with Gideon -- another time traveler who hates her! *Series*
- Gleitzman, Morris. ***Once***. Holt, 2010. After living in a Catholic orphanage for nearly four years, a naive Jewish boy runs away and embarks on a journey across Nazi-occupied Poland to find his parents. *Series*
- Gonzalez, Christina Diaz. ***The Red Umbrella***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. In 1961, fourteen-year-old Lucia's comfortable life in Cuba ends when communists take control of the country. Lucia and her younger brother are sent by their parents to live with a foster family in Nebraska and must adapt to a new language and way of life.

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- Green, Tim. ***The Big Time: A Football Genius Novel***. Harper, 2010. Troy has a talent for predicting professional football teams' plays, but his talent complicates his own seventh grade team's drive to the Georgia State Championship, especially when the father he never knew shows up. *Series*
- Grimes, Nikki. ***Planet Middle School***. Bloomsbury, 2011. A series of poems describes all the baffling changes at home and at school in twelve-year-old Joylin's transition from tomboy basketball player to not-quite-girly girl.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. ***Uprising***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Newly arrived in New York from Italy in 1911, Bella gets a job at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory working long hours under terrible conditions alongside hundreds of other immigrants. When a spark ignites a bit of cloth, the factory becomes engulfed in flames.
- Hale, Marian. ***Dark Water Rising***. Holt, 2006. While salvaging and rebuilding in the aftermath of the Galveston flood of 1900, sixteen-year-old Seth proves himself in a way that his previous efforts never could; but he still must face his father man-to-man. Actual eyewitness accounts are incorporated into the story.
- Hale, Nathan. ***One Dead Spy: The Life, Times, and Last Words of Nathan Hale, America's Most Famous Spy***. Amulet Books, 2012. After being swallowed by a giant history book moments before his own execution, Nathan Hale is given the chance to tell his own story as well as many other stories from American History. *Series*.
- Harrington, Kim. ***The Dead and Buried***. Point, 2012. High School senior Jade is horrified to learn her father and stepmother have bought the house of a girl who was mysteriously killed just the year before they moved to town. She is even more horrified to realize the house is being haunted by the dead girl's very mean-spirited ghost.
- Hartman, Rachel. ***Seraphina***. Random House, 2012. Seraphina is half dragon and half human and, if people knew, would be considered an abomination. She lives a life in the shadows until her musical talent, a mysterious death, and her attraction to a handsome prince bring her life to a crisis.
- Higgins, F. E. ***The Eyeball Collector***. Feiwel and Friends, 2009. Homeless and orphaned after his father is blackmailed and dies, Hector seeks revenge against the creepy con man who ruined them and follows him to the mansion of the cruel Lady Mandible.
- Hinds, Gareth. ***The Odyssey: A Graphic Novel***. Candlewick, 2010. Homer's epic tale of Odysseus - the ancient Greek hero who encounters witches and other obstacles on his journey home after fighting in the Trojan War - is retold in graphic novel format.
- Hoffman, Alice. ***Green Witch***. Scholastic, 2010. A year after her family and world are destroyed, Green and her fellow survivors go on a quest for answers about life, love, loss, and their future. *Series*

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- Jablonski, Carla. **Resistance: Book 1**. First Second, 2010. After trying to hide their Jewish friend Henri when his parents disappear, Paul and Marie are asked to join the French resistance. They experience the horrors of World War II in Vichy France as their own father is held by the Nazis. *Series*
- Kincaid, S.J. **Insignia**. Katherine Tegen, 2012. Tom, a fourteen-year-old genius at virtual reality games, is recruited by the United States Military to begin training at the Pentagon Spire as a Combatant in World War III, controlling the mechanized drones that do the actual fighting off-planet. *Series*
- Kipling, Rudyard. **The Jungle Book**. First published in magazines, 1893-1895. This is a collection of stories which center on Mowgli, a “man-cub” raised by wolves. His journey to adulthood is aided by Baloo the bear and Bagheera the black panther. Also included is the story of a mongoose, Rikki-Tikki-Tavi.
- Kirby, Matthew. **The Clockwork Three**. Scholastic, 2010. As mysterious circumstances bring Giuseppe, Frederick, and Hannah together, their lives soon interlock like the turning gears in a clock and they realize that each one holds a key to solving the others' mysteries.
- Korman, Gordon. **Pop**. Balzer + Bray, 2009. Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him, but whose childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water.
- Lane, Andrew. **Death Cloud**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010. In 1868, with his army officer father suddenly posted to India, and his mother mysteriously "unwell," fourteen-year-old Sherlock Holmes is sent to stay with his eccentric uncle and aunt in their vast house in Hampshire, where he uncovers his first murder and a diabolical villain. *Series*
- Le Guin, Ursula K. **A Wizard of Earthsea**. First published 1968. After pride causes him to unleash a demon, Zed is compelled to either chase or escape from the ever-pursuing shadow. *Series*
- Lee, Y.S. **A Spy in the House**. Candlewick, 2010. Rescued from the gallows in 1850s London, young orphan and thief Mary Quinn is offered a place at Miss Scrimshaw's Academy for Girls where she is trained to be part of an all-female investigative unit called The Agency. At age seventeen, she infiltrates a rich merchant's home in hopes of tracing his missing cargo ships. *Series*
- Lu, Marie. **Legend**. Putnam's, 2011. In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy. *Series*
- McMann, Lisa. **The Unwanteds**. Aladdin, 2011. In a society that purges thirteen-year-olds who are creative, identical twins Aaron and Alex are separated -- one to attend University while the other, supposedly Eliminated, finds himself in a wondrous place where youths hone their abilities and learn magic. *Series*

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- Meloy, Maile. ***The Apothecary***. Putnam's, 2011. During the early days of the Red Scare, Janie and her family must leave their home in Los Angeles and move to London. There, she encounters a fascinating boy named Benjamin Burrows who wants to become a spy. When Benjamin discovers his father has some secrets of his own, Janie and Benjamin begin a race against the Russians to prevent a global disaster.
- Meyer, Marissa. ***Cinder***. Feiwel and Friends, 2012. Cinder, a gifted mechanic and a cyborg with a mysterious past, is blamed by her stepmother for her stepsister's illness while a deadly plague decimates the population of New Beijing. When Cinder's life gets intertwined with Prince Kai's, she finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle. *Series*
- Monaghan, Annabel. ***A Girl Named Digit***. Houghton Mifflin, 2012. After identifying a terrorist plot by cracking their codes, Digit, a brilliant girl from Santa Monica, California, gets involved with the young FBI agent who is trying to ensure her safety.
- Mull, Brandon. ***A World Without Heroes***. Aladdin, 2011. Fourteen-year-old Jason Walker is transported to a strange world called Lyrian, where he joins Rachel and a few rebels to piece together the Word that can destroy the malicious wizard emperor. *Series*
- Mulligan, Andy. ***Trash***. David Fickling Books, 2010. A group of fourteen-year-old boys -- who make a living picking garbage from the outskirts of a large city -- finds something special and mysterious that brings terrifying consequences.
- Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. ***Wisdom's Kiss: A Thrilling and Romantic Adventure, Incorporating Magic, Villainy, and a Cat***. Houghton Mifflin, 2011. Princess Wisdom has been betrothed to the Duke of Farina. Unfortunately, she falls in love with a circus acrobat whose heart already belongs to another. Despite all this, they must band together, along with Magic the cat (to whom there is more than meets the eye), in order to preserve the kingdom and save it from almost certain ruin.
- Ness, Patrick. ***A Monster Calls***. Candlewick, 2011. Troubled by the recurring nightmare that started with his mother's cancer treatments, twelve-year-old Conor is shocked by a monster in the form of a giant yew tree that appears at his window -- a monster who has three stories to tell and who wants "the truth" from Conor.
- O'Brien, Caragh M. ***Birthmarked***. Roaring Brook, 2010. Sixteen-year-old Gaia Stone, a midwife who dutifully delivers at least three babies a month and hands them over to the Enclave, a community within walls where the children are adopted and live with conveniences which are not available to the outside world, begins to question her loyalty to the group after her mother is brutally taken away from her by the people she serves. *Series*
- O'Neal, Eilis. ***The False Princess***. Egmont USA, 2011. Nalia has been raised as the Princess of Thorvaldor, but on her sixteenth birthday she learns that her real name is Sinda and that she is part of a complicated plot that would change the future of her country forever.

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- Oppel, Kenneth. ***This Dark Endeavor***. Simon & Schuster, 2011. Victor Frankenstein, his twin brother, and his cousin explore the dark and forbidden depths of the Frankenstein castle, stumbling across the ancient magical texts that Victor later hopes will save his brother's life. A precursor to the classic character first introduced by Mary Shelley in 1818. *Series*
- Park, Linda Sue. ***A Long Walk to Water***. Clarion, 2010. Young Salva survives many dangers growing up in war-torn Sudan and dedicates his life to making a difference for those who live in his native land. Based on a true story.
- Rice, Condoleezza. ***Condoleezza Rice: A Memoir of My Extraordinary, Ordinary Family and Me***. Delacorte, 2011. Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice shares stories of growing up in a black middle class family during the racially turbulent 1950s and 1960s.
- Riggs, Ransom. ***Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children***. Quirk Books, 2011. Sixteen-year-old Jacob, having traveled to a remote island after a family tragedy, discovers an abandoned orphanage, and, after some investigating, he learns the children who lived there may have been dangerous and quarantined but may also still be alive. Haunting vintage photographs are dispersed throughout the book, giving the story a hint of creepiness.
- Ruiz Zafón, Carlos. ***The Prince of Mist***. Little, Brown, 2010. In 1943, in a seaside town where their family has gone to be safe from war, thirteen-year-old Max Carver and his fifteen-year-old sister Alicia, along with new friend Roland, face off against an evil magician who is striving to complete a bargain made before he died.
- Runholt, Susan. ***Rescuing Seneca Crane***. Viking, 2009. While accompanying her mother on a business trip to Scotland, fourteen-year-old Kari and her best friend Lucas attempt to solve a kidnapping mystery. *Series*
- Sachar, Louis. ***The Cardturner: A Novel About a Queen, a King, and a Joker***. Delacorte, 2010. When his wealthy uncle, a champion bridge player who has lost his vision, asks seventeen-year-old Alton to be a cardturner for him, Alton has no idea how much he will ultimately learn from his eccentric relative.
- Schmatz, Pat. ***Bluefish***. Candlewick, 2011. Longing for the country and his missing dog Roscoe, Travis tries to survive in a new school while living with his alcoholic grandfather and burdened by a painful secret. Hope comes in the form of a teacher and a new friend named Velveeta.
- Schmidt, Gary D. ***Okay for Now***. Clarion, 2011. Fourteen-year-old Doug has just moved to a new town. A new town means another chance to start over. Will everyone assume he is like his thug of an older brother? Will everyone assume he is like his corrupt, abusive father? All Doug wants is to be treated fairly and, thanks to a couple of new friends, Doug may just find out what it is like to be "okay for now."
- Scieszka, Jon. ***Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories About Growing Up Scieszka***. Viking, 2008. Part memoir and part scrapbook, this book is a very funny autobiography of growing up in a family of six boys in the 1950s.

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- Sepetys, Ruta. ***Between Shades of Gray***. Philomel, 2011. On a calm, beautiful night in 1941 Lithuania, fifteen-year-old Lina's life is torn apart as she and her family are forced from their home and sent to work in labor camps along the harsh Arctic Circle as part of Stalin's forced relocation program.
- Sheinkin, Steve. ***The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery***. Roaring Brook, 2010. An introduction to the life of Benedict Arnold that highlights not only the traitorous actions that made him legendary, but also his heroic involvement in the American Revolution.
- Shulman, Polly. ***The Grimm Legacy***. Putnam's, 2010. High school student Elizabeth gets an after-school job as a page at the "New York Circulating Material Repository." When she gains coveted access to its Grimm Collection of magical objects, she and the other pages are drawn into a series of frightening adventures involving mythical creatures and stolen goods.
- Shusterman, Neal. ***Unwind***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Three teens embark upon a cross-country journey in order to escape from a society that salvages body parts from children ages thirteen to eighteen. *Series*
- Smiley, Jane. ***The Georges and the Jewels***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2009. Seventh-grader Abby Lovitt grows up on her family's California horse ranch in the 1960s, learning to train the horses her father sells and trying to reconcile her strict religious upbringing with her own ideas about life. *Series*
- Sonnenblick, Jordan. ***After Ever After***. Scholastic, 2010. Jeffrey, cancer survivor from *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie*, now confronts eighth grade without Steven, his staunch, supportive older brother; but he bonds with Tad, also a cancer survivor, making a pact to help each other – Tad to walk for graduation without his wheelchair and Jeffrey to pass his standardized test in math to graduate.
- Stiefvater, Maggie. ***The Scorpio Races***. Scholastic, 2011. Some race for fame. Some race for fortune. Then there is the story of Puck Connolly who, for the sake of her family, willingly risks her life as she races the legendary water horses in the bloody and brutal Scorpio Races.
- Stroud, Jonathan. ***The Ring of Solomon***. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. Bartimaeus, a wise-cracking djinni, finds himself in the tenth century and at the court of King Solomon with an unpleasant master and a sinister servant, and he gets himself into trouble with King Solomon's magic ring. *Series*
- Supplee, Suzanne. ***Somebody Everybody Listens To***. Dutton, 2010. When Retta Lee Jones graduates from high school and leaves her small town in search of a big break in Nashville, she encounters warmth and kindness along with cruelty and violence.
- Swanson, James L. ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer***. Scholastic, 2009. This is a nail-biting and detailed telling of the assassination of Lincoln and all the accompanying chaos of the struggle to catch his killer.
- Telgemeier, Raina. ***Smile***. Graphix, 2010. In this charming graphic novel Raina navigates the tough world of middle school all while enduring mountains of dental work after knocking out her two front teeth.

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- TenNapel, Doug. ***Ghostopolis***. Graphix, 2010. Welcome to the afterlife. Terminally ill Garth Hale is accidentally transported to Ghostopolis before his time, and now it is up to washed-up, ghost-wrangler Frank Gallows and Garth's own deceased grandfather to get the boy back among the living in this action-packed, graphic-novel adventure.
- Tolkien, J. R. R. ***The Hobbit, or There and Back Again***. First published 1937. Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return. *Series*
- Valente, Catherynne M. ***The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making***. Feiwel and Friends, 2011. The narrator tells a story, not unlike the perils of Alice in Wonderland and Dorothy in Oz, of a twelve-year-old girl named September who is whisked away to Fairyland to retrieve the golden sword for the cruel queen, Marquess. *Series*
- Verne, Jules. ***20,000 Leagues Under the Sea***. First published 1869. This is a nineteenth-century science fiction tale of an electric submarine, its eccentric captain, and an undersea world.
- Westerfeld, Scott. ***Leviathan***. Simon Pulse, 2009. In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using steam-driven iron machines, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts. *Series*
- White, Kiersten. ***Paranormalcy***. HarperTeen, 2010. When a dark prophecy begins to come true, sixteen-year-old Evie of the International Paranormal Containment Agency must not only try to stop it, she must also uncover its connection to herself and to the alluring shape-shifter named Lend.
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