**The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian (Teen Title)**
*Sherman Alexie*

Arnold Spirit, Jr. wants to get off the Indian, reservation where his family has lived for generations. As much as he loves his family and tribe, fourteen year old Junior sees so much poverty, self-destructive behavior, hopelessness and rampant alcoholism on the reservation that he worries that if he doesn’t find a way out now - his future looks dim. His decision to enroll in the ‘white school’, however, has its own challenges.

**Adirondack Audacity**
*L.R. Smolarek*

From hiking boots to high heels.... Ellen McCauley’s misguided adventures begin as a nature counselor at the posh Camp High Point in the Adirondacks. With a social life sorely lacking in romance, the last thing she expects is the beguiling spell of Vicente Rienz, aloof, arrogant and dangerously handsome. She despises him on sight until the sparks between them ignite into a passion that spins out of control thwarted by a curse born out of Adirondack legend. How does a nature-loving girl end up wearing four-inch stilettos and designer dresses on the coast of California more than three thousand miles from home? Ellen's adventures crisscross the country on a hilarious journey coming back full circle to the mountains in search of love.

**All the Single Ladies**
*Rebecca Traister*

An investigation into the sexual, economic, and emotional lives of women is “an informative and thought-provoking book for anyone—not just the single ladies—who want to gain a greater understanding of this pivotal moment in the history of the United States”

**American Born Chinese (Graphic Novel)**
*Gene Yang*

American Born Chinese is a tale comprised of three different story lines, three different characters, but one single idea. Jin Wang, the son of Chinese immigrants, eats lunch by himself in the corner of the schoolyard and gets picked on by bullies and jocks, but dreams of how he could fit in. The question is how far will he go to get it?

**The Arrival (Graphic Novel)**
*Shaun Tan*

The Arrival is a wordless graphic novel that tells the story of a man who is forced to leave his family and country behind in search of more safe and promising lands. He travels a long way to reach a country that is completely foreign: strange animals, odd customs and an indecipherable language. Like many immigrants, this man must do the best he can in order to survive in a culture of unlimited unknowns

**As Brave As You (Children’s Title)**
*Jason Reynolds*

Genie’s summer is full of surprises. The first is that he and his big brother, Ernie, are leaving Brooklyn for the very first time to spend the summer with their grandparents all the way in Virginia—in the COUNTRY! The second surprise comes when Genie figures out that their grandfather is blind. Genie thinks Grandpop must be the bravest guy he’s ever known, but he starts to notice that his grandfather never leaves the house—as in NEVER. And when he finds the secret room that Grandpop is always disappearing into—a room so full of songbirds and plants that it’s almost as if it’s been pulled inside-out—he begins to wonder if his grandfather is really so brave after all.
**Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress**  
**Dai Sijie**  
This novella tracks the lives of two teens, childhood friends who have been sent to a small Chinese village for "re-education" during Mao's Cultural Revolution. Sons of doctors and dentists, their days are now spent hauling buckets of excrement up the mountainside and mining coal. But the boys—Luo and the unnamed narrator—get a reprieve when the villagers discover their talents as storytellers, and on one of their trips into town, Lou meets the seamstress of the title and falls in love.

**The Beautiful Things that Heaven Bears**  
**Dinaw Mengestu**  
Seventeen years after fleeing the Ethiopian revolution, Sepha Stephanos runs a grocery store in a poor African-American neighborhood in Washington, D.C., where he reflects on his past and the differences between his prospects and the life he imagined.

**Becoming Naomi Leon (Children's Title)**  
**Pam Munoz Ryan**  
Naomi and her younger brother Owen, are living happily in Lemon Tree with their great-grandmother, until Terri Lynn, their mother, waltzes back into their life after a seven year absence.

**Bel Canto**  
**Ann Patchett**  
Terrorists seize an international group of hostages at an embassy party, and as the months go by, the lines between captive and captor blur.

**Between the World and Me**  
**Ta-Nehisi Coates**  
Written as a series of letters to his teenaged son, Coates walks us through the course of his life, from the tough neighborhoods of Baltimore in his youth, to Howard University—which Coates dubs “The Mecca” for its revelatory community of black students and teachers—to the broader Meccas of New York and Paris.

**The Bluest Eye**  
**Toni Morrison**  
An eleven-year-old African American girl prays for her eyes to turn blue so that she will be beautiful and accepted.

**The Book Thief (Teen Title)**  
**Markus Zusak**  
Death narrates this World War II-era story of Liesel Meminger from the time she is taken, at age nine, to live in Molching, Germany, with a foster family in a working-class neighborhood. The child arrives having just stolen her first book and her foster father uses it, The Gravediggers Handbook, to teach her to read and to lull her to sleep when she is awakened by nightmares about her younger brother’s death.

**Bridge to Terabithia (Children’s Title)**  
**Katherine Paterson**  
Jess and Leslie create an imaginary, secret kingdom in the woods called Terabithia that can be reached only by swinging across a creek bed on a rope. But one morning a tragic accident befalls Leslie as she ventures alone to Terabithia, and Jess’s life is changed forever.
The Catcher in the Rye
J.D. Salinger
Catcher in the Rye is the tale of Holden Caulfield, a troubled adolescent who leaves his fancy prep school for an urban walkabout.

Challenger Deep (Teen Title)
Neal Shusterman
Caden Bosch is on a ship that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench. Caden Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. Caden Bosch is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images. Caden Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head. Caden Bosch is split between his allegiance to the captain and the allure of mutiny. Caden Bosch is torn.

Chinglish: A Play
David Henry Hwang
Chinglish is a hilarious comedy about the challenges of doing business in a country whose language - and underlying cultural assumptions - can be worlds apart from those of the West. The play tells the adventures of Daniel, an American business-everman from the Midwest, who hopes to establish his family's sign-making business in China, only to learn what is lost and found in translation.

The Circle
Dave Eggers
When Mae Holland is hired to work for the Circle, the world’s most powerful internet company, she feels she’s been given the opportunity of a lifetime. The Circle, run out of a sprawling California campus, links users’ personal emails, social media, banking, and purchasing with their universal operating system, resulting in one online identity and a new age of civility and transparency. Mae can’t believe her luck, her great fortune to work for the most influential company in the world—even as life beyond the campus grows distant, even as a strange encounter with a colleague leaves her shaken, even as her role at the Circle becomes increasingly public. What begins as the captivating story of one woman’s ambition and idealism soon becomes a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.

Citizen: An American Lyric
Claudia Rankine
A story that recounts mounting racial aggressions in ongoing encounters in twenty-first-century daily life and in the media. Some of these encounters are slights, seeming slips of the tongue, and some are intentional offensives in the classroom, at the supermarket, at home, on the tennis court with Serena Williams and the soccer field with Zinedine Zidane, online, on TV-everywhere, all the time. The accumulative stresses come to bear on a person's ability to speak, perform, and stay alive.

City of Ember (Children’s Title)
Jeanne DuPrau
Lina and Doon live in the city of Ember where there is no natural light. Ember is lit by an old generator that is slowly breaking down and the storerooms that hold all Ember’s supplies are nearly empty. When Lina finds an ancient document that might be instructions for leaving the city, she and Doon embark on a desperate search for a way out of Ember.
Cocktail Hour under the Tree of Forgetfulness
Alexandra Fuller
In this sequel to 'Don’t Let’s Go to the Dogs Tonight', Alexandra Fuller returns to Africa and the story of her unforgettable family. In ‘Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness’ Alexandra Fuller braids a multilayered narrative around the perfectly lit, Happy Valley-era Africa of her mother’s childhood; the boiled cabbage grimness of her father’s English childhood; and the darker, civil war-torn Africa of her own childhood.

The Color of Water
James McBride
An unforgettable memoir of a black man’s search to uncover his white mother’s roots and his own identity.

Coraline (Children’s Title)
Neil Gaiman
Coraline’s parents are always very busy so she must entertain herself. She decides to explore her new apartment and finds a door that leads to a different world. This world seems familiar at first but soon she learns that it is disturbingly different than her own.

Devil in the White City
Erik Larson
Historical narrative of the people and events that shaped the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair, including the seductive serial killer who lured its tourists to their deaths.

East of Eden
John Steinbeck
Steinbeck’s classic, sprawling novel follows the intertwined lives of the Trask and Hamilton families. This generational rivalry recreates the biblical story of Cain and Abel and the fall of Adam and Eve.

Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman’s Search for Everything across Italy, India, and Indonesia
Elizabeth Gilbert
Following a painful divorce and severe depression, the author leaves a successful career and travels the world for a year. On her quest to explore her own nature and learn the art of spiritual balance, she journeys to Italy, India, and Indonesia in this insightful and witty account of the year that would change her life forever.

Elsewhere (Teen Title)
Gabrielle Zevin
Elsewhere is where fifteen-year-old Liz Hall finds herself after she gets hit by a taxicab and dies. It is a place so like Earth, yet completely different. In this place Liz will age backward from the day of her death until she becomes a baby again and returns to Earth. It is here in Elsewhere that Liz learns to live.

The Emperor of Ocean Park
Stephen L. Carter
After the funeral of his powerful father, Talcott Garland, an African American law professor at an Ivy League university, is left to unravel the meaning of a cryptic note and carry out “the arrangements” his father left behind. Talcott soon finds himself in an investigation that entangles him with a number of questionable Washington, D.C., denizens, including attorneys and government officials, law professors, the FBI, shady underworld figures, chess masters, and friends and family. The closer he comes to unraveling his father’s dark secrets, the more dangerous things become.
Empire Falls
Richard Russo
Empire Falls is the story of a once prosperous small town that has been on the decline for decades, and the inhabitants who remain there. Miles Roby, a middle-aged man is at the center of it all. As a young man, Miles was supposed to have left this dying town for a more fulfilling life, but when his mother became ill he returned - and never left. This is a heart-warming and at times hysterically funny tale, with a cast of characters you won't soon forget. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize.

Ethan Frome
Edith Wharton
New England farmer Ethan Frome leads a dutiful but loveless life caring for his wife Zeena. When young Mattie enters their household she brings light and life with her. The power of social convention and dilemma of personal responsibility play out in Ethan’s reaction to the chance she offers.

Everything, Everything (Teen Title)
Nicola Yoon
What if you couldn’t touch anything in the outside world? Never breathe in the fresh air, feel the sun warm your face . . . or kiss the boy next door? In Everything, Everything, Maddy is a girl who’s literally allergic to the outside world, and Olly is the boy who moves in next door . . . and becomes the greatest risk she’s ever taken.

The Eyre Affair
Jasper Fforde
In this unusual mix of alternative history, fantasy fiction, time travel, and humor, Special Operative, Thursday Next, is a literary detective on the trail of a diabolical mastermind who kidnaps and kills characters from literary masterpieces, removing them from literature for all time.

Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation
Joseph Ellis
Founding Brothers takes a look at post-revolutionary war America by closely exploring the events and controversies from the nation’s early years. Ellis does this by unflinchingly examining the politics and character of Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, John Adams, and James Madison.

Gentlemen and Players
Joanne Harris
Harboring dark ties to St. Oswal’s past, a young teacher has arrived with one terrible goal: to destroy the school. A veteran teacher faces a formidable opponent - a master player with a bitter grudge and a strategy that has been meticulously planned to the final move, a secret game with very real, very deadly consequences.

The Girl Who Threw Butterflies (Children’s Title)
Mick Cochrane
For an eighth grader, Molly Williams has more than her fair share of problems. Her father has just died in a car accident, and her mother has become a withdrawn, quiet version of herself. Molly decides to confront her fears--by joining a boy's baseball team.

The Glass Castle
Jeanette Walls
The second child of a scholarly, alcoholic father and an eccentric artist mother discusses her family’s nomadic upbringing from the Arizona desert to Las Vegas, and an Appalachian mining town.
**Graceland**  
**Christopher Abani**
Born into poverty in the chaotic capital city of Nigeria, Elvis is tempted by the underworld and enters a life of crime, encountering beggars, musicians, and American pop culture as he tries to survive in postcolonial Nigeria.

**The Great Gatsby**  
**F. Scott Fitzgerald**
Jay Gatsby, a member of the successful, newly rich class of Jazz Age America aspires to be part of the careless, extravagant lifestyle of the established rich, and attain the illicit love of a wealthy man’s wife.

**The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society**  
**Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows**
Juliet Ashton's life changes dramatically when she embarks on a unique writing project that will introduce her to a circle of friends from Guernsey, an island in the English Channel that had been occupied by the Nazis during World War II. These brave men and women had formed the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society as a cover to protect themselves from the Germans.

**Half-Earth: Our Planet's Fight for Life**  
**Edward O. Wilson**
In order to stave off the mass extinction of species, including our own, we must move swiftly to preserve the biodiversity of our planet, says Edward O. Wilson in his most impassioned book to date. Half-Earth argues that the situation facing us is too large to be solved piecemeal and proposes a solution commensurate with the magnitude of the problem: dedicate fully half the surface of the Earth to nature.

**The Handmaid's Tale**  
**Margaret Atwood**
A look at a future dystopian society where women are no longer allowed to read and are valued only for reproduction.

**A Hologram for the King**  
**Dave Eggers**
*A Hologram for the King* takes us around the world to show how one man fights to hold himself and his splintering family together in the face of the global economy's gale-force winds. In a rising Saudi Arabian city, far from weary, recession-scarred America, a struggling businessman pursues a last-ditch attempt to stave off foreclosure, pay his daughter’s college tuition, and finally do something great.

**A House for Mr. Biswas**  
**V.S. Naipaul**
The early masterpiece of V.S. Naipaul's brilliant career, *A House for Mr. Biswas* is an unforgettable story inspired by Naipaul's father that has been hailed as one of the twentieth century's finest novels. In his forty-six short years, Mr. Mohun Biswas has been fighting against destiny to achieve some semblance of independence, only to face a lifetime of calamity. Shuttled from one residence to another after the drowning death of his father, for which he is inadvertently responsible, Mr. Biswas yearns for a place he can call home. But when he marries into the domineering Tulsi family on whom he indignantly becomes dependent, Mr. Biswas embarks on an arduous and endless struggle to weaken their hold over him and purchase a house of his own. A heartrending, dark comedy of manners, *A House for Mr. Biswas* masterfully evokes a man’s quest for autonomy against an emblematic post-colonial canvas.
**House of Dies Drear (Children’s Title)**
Virginia Hamilton
In The House of Dies Drear, an African-American family tries to unravel the secrets of their new home which was once a stop on the Underground Railroad.

**The House of the Spirits**
Isabel Allende
*The House of the Spirits* brings to life the triumphs and tragedies of three generations of the Trueba family. The patriarch Esteban is a volatile, proud man whose voracious pursuit of political power is tempered only by his love for his delicate wife, Clara, a woman with a mystical connection to the spirit world. When their daughter Blanca embarks on a forbidden love affair in defiance of her implacable father, the result is an unexpected gift to Esteban: his adored granddaughter Alba.

**In Cold Blood**
Truman Capote
This nonfiction book recounts the brutal murder of the Clutter family in their Kansas home on November 15, 1959. Though most readers know the outcome of the story, Capote builds suspense as he recounts the events leading up to the killings, the capture of the murderers, and their trial and execution. This is a classic that set the precedent for the modern true crime genre, and raises questions about crime and violence in America.

**In the Bleak Midwinter**
Julia Spencer Fleming
Clare Fergusson, St. Alban’s new priest in Miller’s Kill, NY, is a tough ex Army chopper pilot. A newborn infant left at the church door brings her together with Russ Van Alstyne, the town’s police chief, and their search for the baby’s mother quickly leads them into the secrets that shadow Miller’s Kill. What they discover is a world of trouble, an attraction to each other—and murder...

**In the Time of Butterflies**
Julia Alvarez
A story based on actual events evokes the horror of the Dominican Republic under dictator General Trujillo, as three sisters die in a jeep “accident”.

**Journey into Mohawk Country (Graphic Novel)**
H.M. van den Bogaert & George O’Connor
With the exact text from van den Bogaert’s travel log, this graphic novel transports readers to the 1600s when Dutch settlers were exploring the Northeastern lands. O’Connor’s graphics add new depths to the text, making it easier for readers to fully understand the amazing trek that was taken across what is now New York State.

**Just Kids**
Patti Smith
In this memoir, singer-songwriter Patti Smith shares tales of New York City: the denizens of Max’s Kansas City, the Hotel Chelsea, Scribner’s, Brentano’s and Strand bookstores and her new life in Brooklyn with a young man named Robert Mapplethorpe—the man who changed her life with his love, friendship, and genius.

**The Kite Runner**
Khaled Hosseini
This is the story of the friendship between a wealthy boy the son of his father’s servant, both of whom are caught up in the tragic final days of Afghanistan’s monarchy and the brutality of the Taliban’s rule.
**The Last Town on Earth**
Thomas Mullen
A small, isolated logging community enacts the drastic measure of quarantine to protect itself from the deadly influenza epidemic of 1918. The town is changed forever when a WWI soldier attempts to enter the community and the sequence of events that follow.

**Let the Great World Spin**
Colum McCann
In the dawning light of a late-summer morning, the people of lower Manhattan stand hushed, staring up in disbelief at the Twin Towers. It is August 1974, and a mysterious tightrope walker is running, dancing, leaping between the towers, suspended a quarter mile above the ground. In the streets below, a slew of ordinary lives become extraordinary.

**Levitation: Physics and Psychology in the Service of Deception (Graphic Novel)**
Jim Ottaviani
Levitation is the true story of one of the greatest illusions ever performed that took place at the turn of the 20th century in England. John Nevil Maskelyne, a man of principles, refused many offers made by the persistent American magician Harry Kellar to buy his wondrous creation and bring it back to the United States. Fed up with trying and being denied, Kellar boldly and fearlessly got what he wanted.

**The Light Between Oceans**
M.L. Stedman
After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, nearly half a day's journey from the coast. To this isolated island, where the supply boat comes once a season, Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel. Years later, after two miscarriages and one stillbirth, the grieving Isabel hears a baby's cries on the wind. A boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby.

**The Lightening Thief (Children’s Title)**
Rick Riordan
Half-god, half-human Percy cannot stop getting into trouble. When Zeus’ lightning bolt is stolen, everyone suspects Percy because of his mischievous history. In an attempt to bring peace to Olympus, Percy starts a journey to find the missing lightning bolt. As the first in the Olympian series, this book introduces readers to the wondrous life of a demigod.

**Links**
Nuruddin Farah
Gripping, provocative, and revelatory, Links is a novel that will stand as a classic of modern world literature. Jeebleh is returning to Mogadiscio, Somalia, for the first time in twenty years. But this is not a nostalgia trip—his last residence there was a jail cell.

**The Little Giant of Aberdeen County**
Tiffany Baker
The Little Prince is a fantasy about a pilot, stranded in the Sahara, who meets a small boy from another planet who calls himself as a prince. The little prince, on a quest for knowledge, asks questions of the pilot, and tells the pilot about life on his own very small planet. This is a story of a grown-up who has almost forgotten what is important, and the story of the pilot’s reconnection to his own sense of imagination and wonder.
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The Little Red Chairs
Edna O’Brien
One night, in the dead of winter, a mysterious stranger arrives in the small Irish town of Cloonoila. Broodingly handsome, worldly, and charismatic, Dr. Vladimir Dragan is a poet, a self-proclaimed holistic healer, and a welcome disruption to the monotony of village life. Before long, the beautiful black-haired Fidelma McBride falls under his spell and, defying the shackles of wedlock and convention, turns to him to cure her of her deepest pains.

Love in the Time of Cholera
Gabriel Garcia Marquez
In their youth, Florentino Ariza and Fermina Daza fall passionately in love. When Fermina eventually chooses to marry a wealthy, well-born doctor, Florentino is devastated, but he is a romantic. As he rises in his business career he whiles away the years in 622 affairs--yet he reserves his heart for Fermina. Her husband dies at last, and Florentino purposefully attends the funeral. Fifty years, nine months, and four days after he first declared his love for Fermina, he will do so again.

The Lovely Bones
Alice Sebold
This is the tale of family, memory, love, and living told by 14-year-old Susie Salmon, who is already in heaven. Through the voice of a precocious teenage girl, Susie relates the awful events of her death and builds out of her family's grief a hopeful and joyful story.

Loving Frank
Nancy Horan
This novel tells the story of the love affair between Mamah Borthwick Cheney and famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Lucky You
Carl Hiaasen
Grange, Florida, is famous for its miracles--the weeping fiberglass Madonna, the Road-Stain Jesus, the Stigmata Man. And now it has JoLayne Lucks, unlikely winner of the State Lottery. JoLayne wants to use her winnings to save the forest in Grange from being turned into a strip-mall. Bodean Gazzer and his buddy, Chub, have the other winning ticket, and want the whole $28 million to start their own underground militia. When Bode and Chub brutally assault her and steal her ticket, JoLayne vows to track them down, take it back--and get revenge.

The Maltese Falcon
Dashiell Hammet
Detective Sam Spade becomes embroiled with a mysterious client, avenges the death of his partner, and chases a priceless treasure, in this classic American private-eye novel.
Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln’s Killer
James L. Swanson
The murder of Abraham Lincoln set off the greatest manhunt in American history. From April 14 to April 26, 1865, the assassin, John Wilkes Booth, led Union cavalry and detectives on a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia, while the nation, still reeling from the just-ended Civil War, watched in horror and sadness. A gripping hour-by-hour account told through the eyes of the hunted and the hunters, this is history as you’ve never read it before.

Marley and Me
John Grogan
The Grogan’s had just started their life together when they brought home a yellow Labrador puppy named, Marley. Although innocent and loveable to the core, Marley was a ball of destruction. He barreled through screen doors, drooled on friends, and ate nearly everything he could. Obedience school did not help, nor did veterinarian prescribed tranquilizers. But Marley would change the family’s lives forever. He would share the Grogan’s joys and sorrows and show them the true meaning of unconditional love.

Maus I: A Survivor’s Tale: My Father Bleeds History (Graphic Novel)
Art Spiegelman
Art Spiegelman tells the story of his father’s hardships and survival during the Holocaust. Each scene opens at the elder Spiegelman’s home in Rego Park, N.Y. Art, who was born after the war, is visiting his father, Vladek, to record his experiences in Nazi-occupied Poland.

Maus II: A Survivor’s Tale: And Here My Trouble’s Began (Graphic Novel)
Art Spiegelman
This sequel picks up where Maus I left off, with Vladek’s separation from his wife Anja, after arriving at Auschwitz. There Vladek must struggle to survive starvation and disease as well as the guards and the ovens -- all while trying to get news of his wife from Auschwitz’s second camp, Birkenau.

Mistress of the Art of Death
Ariana Franklin
With the horrific killing of a Christian boy in England, Plantagenet King Henry II implores the King of Sicily to dispatch his best master of a frightful new science (12th Century forensics or the “art of death”), to solve the crime. A mistress arrives instead....

Monster (Teen Title)
Walter Dean Myers
Steve Harmon is terrified. He is 16 years old and on trial for murder in connection with a robbery. He insists he is innocent, but his defense attorney, and even his own father, question his involvement in the crime.

The Moor’s Account
Laila Lalami
Laila Lalami brings us the imagined memoirs of the first black explorer of America: Mustafa al-Zamori, called Estebanico. The slave of a Spanish conquistador, Estebanico sails for the Americas with his master, Dorantes, as part of a danger-laden expedition to Florida. Within a year, Estebanico is one of only four crew members to survive. As he journeys across America with his Spanish companions, the Old World roles of slave and master fall away, and Estebanico remakes himself as an equal, a healer, and a remarkable storyteller.
Murder on the Orient Express
Agatha Christie
An American passenger is murdered on board the fabled Orient Express. Hercule Poirot determines that the corpse was a renowned child kidnapper/killer, and begins to wonder about connections between the other passengers and the victim. A misplaced button, overheard conversations, a monogrammed handkerchief, and an elusive figure clad in a scarlet kimono all become clues in this variation on the theme of the English house-party.

My Sister’s Keeper
Jodi Picoult
Kate Fitzgerald has a rare form of leukemia. Her sister, Anna, was conceived to provide a donor match for procedures that become increasingly invasive. At 13, Anna hires a lawyer so that she can sue her parents for the right to make her own decisions about how her body is used when a kidney transplant is planned. The book explores the moral and ethical dilemmas surrounding genetic planning, and the prospect of creating babies for health purposes.

My Struggle: Book 1
Karl Ove Knausgard
The provocative, audacious, brilliant six-volume autobiographical novel that has unquestionably been the main event of contemporary European literature. It has earned favorable comparisons to its obvious literary forebears "A la recherche du temps perdu" and "Mein Kampf" but has been celebrated as the rare magnum opus that is intensely, addictively readable.

The Namesake
Jhumpa Lahiri
Lahiri brings her own insight as a first generation American to the story of Gogol Ganguli. Trying to find a place he belongs, negotiating the place between his parents’ traditional culture and his modern American life of career, friends and lovers, Gogol’s story is told with sensitivity and candor.

Native Son
Richard Wright
Set in Chicago in the 1930s, Native Son tells the story of Bigger Thomas, a young black man whose life spins out of control after he kills a young white woman in a moment of panic.

The New Urban Crisis: How Our Cities Are Increasing Inequality, Deepening Segregation, and Failing the Middle Class—and What We Can Do About It
Richard Florida
In recent years, the young, educated, and affluent have surged back into cities, reversing decades of suburban flight and urban decline. And yet all is not well. Florida, one of the first scholars to anticipate this back-to-the-city movement in his groundbreaking The Rise of the Creative Class, demonstrates how the same forces that power the growth of the world’s superstar cities also generate their vexing challenges: gentrification, unaffordability, segregation, and inequality. Our winner-take-all cities are just one manifestation of a profound crisis in today’s urbanized knowledge economy.

The Nightingale
Kristin Hannah
The Nightingale tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France—a heartbreakingly beautiful novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women. It is a novel for everyone, a novel for a lifetime.
No More Dead Dogs *(Children’s Title)*
Gordon Korman
For detention, eighth-grade football hero Wallace Wallace is sentenced to attending rehearsals of the school play where, in spite of himself, he becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well.

The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency
Alexander McCall Smith
The beloved first novel in The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency series, tells the story of the delightfully cunning and enormously engaging Precious Ramotswe, who is drawn to her profession to “help people with problems in their lives.” Immediately upon setting up shop in a small storefront in Gaborone, Mma Ramotswe is hired to track down a missing husband, uncover a con man, and follow a wayward daughter. But the case that tugs at her heart—and lands her in danger—is that of a missing eleven-year-old boy who may have been snatched by witch doctors.

Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea
Barbara Demick
Award-winning journalist Barbara Demick follows the lives of six North Korean citizens over fifteen years—a chaotic period that saw the death of Kim Il-sung, the rise to power of his son Kim Jong-il, and a devastating famine that killed one-fifth of the population. Demick brings to life what it means to be living under the most repressive totalitarian regime today—an Orwellian world that is by choice not connected to the Internet, where displays of affection are punished, informants are rewarded, and an offhand remark can send a person to the gulag for life.

Of Human Bondage
W. Somerset Maugham
Of Human Bondage is W. Somerset Maugham’s acclaimed semi-autobiographical coming-of-age novel. An orphan, and born with a club foot, Philip Carey is a sensitive young man who at 18 goes in search of adventure and a philosophy of his own. After time in Heidelberg and Paris, Philip settles in London and it is there he meets Mildred—for whom he develops an all-consuming, destructive love.

Orphan Train
Christina Baker Kline
Penobscot Indian Molly Ayer is close to “aging out” out of the foster care system. A community service position helping an elderly woman clean out her home is the only thing keeping Molly out of juvie and worse...As she helps Vivian sort through her possessions and memories, Molly learns that she and Vivian aren’t as different as they seem to be. A young Irish immigrant orphaned in New York City, Vivian was put on a train to the Midwest with hundreds of other children whose destinies would be determined by luck and chance. Molly discovers that she has the power to help Vivian find answers to mysteries that have haunted her for her entire life—answers that will ultimately free them both.

The Other Boleyn Girl
Phillipa Gregory
Historically based tale of Mary Boleyn, who was mistress of Henry VIII before her sister Anne insinuated herself into the King’s good graces.

A Painted House
John Grisham
It’s harvest time on an Arkansas cotton farm, and this book chronicles two months in the life of seven-year-old Luke Chandler who, before the season is over will have seen his first naked girl, peeked through a window at a loud and painful childbirth and witnessed two murders.
The Paris Wife
Paula McLain
Chicago, 1920: Hadley Richardson is a quiet twenty-eight-year-old who has all but given up on love and happiness—until she meets Ernest Hemingway. Following a whirlwind courtship and wedding, the pair set sail for Paris, where they become the golden couple in a lively and volatile group—the fabled “Lost Generation”—that includes Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound, and F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Persepolis I: The Story of a Childhood (Graphic Novel)
Marjane Satrapi
Persepolis is Marjane Satrapi’s memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. Satrapi tells the story of her life in Tehran from ages six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah’s regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, and the devastating effects of war with Iraq.

The Poisonwood Bible
Barbara Kingsolver
Told through the voices of the wife and four daughters of a Baptist missionary in the Belgian Congo, this story chronicles the transformation of their lives over the course of 30 years.

Pope Joan
Donna Woolfolk Cross
Vividly recreating life during the Dark Ages, while simultaneously painting a portrait of an unforgettable woman, “Pope Joan” explores the extraordinary life of an independent, intelligent and courageous woman who overcomes oppression and ascends to the highest religious power.

The Red Tent
Anita Diamant
Dinah, a minor character among women of the Old Testament, learns endurance and humanity through the female ritual practices of the time.

Red Queen (Teen Title)
Victoria Aveyard
Mare Barrow’s world is divided by blood—those with common, Red blood serve the Silver-blooded elite, who are gifted with superhuman abilities. Mare is a Red, scraping by as a thief in a poor, rural village, until a twist of fate throws her in front of the Silver court. There, before the king, princes, and all the nobles, she discovers she has an ability of her own.

The Round House
Louise Erdrich
When his mother, a tribal enrollment specialist living on a reservation in North Dakota, slips into an abyss of depression after being brutally attacked, fourteen-year-old Joe Coutz sets out with his three friends to find the person that destroyed his family.

Satchel Paige: Striking Out Jim Crow (Graphic Novel)
James Strum & Rich Tommaso
This historical graphic novel tells the story of one of the greatest baseball legends Leroy “Satchel” Paige. Living in a racist era and facing adversity every day, Paige challenged Jim Crow laws while playing in the Negro Baseball Leagues.

Say You’re One of Them
Uwem Akpan
Each short story making up Say You’re One of Them, is a testament to the wisdom and resilience of children, even in the face of the most agonizing situations our planet can offer.
**The Shack**  
William P. Young  
Mackenzie Allen Phillips's youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation, and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later, in the midst of his great sadness, Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend.

**Silent in the Grave**  
Deanna Raybourne  
With the help of the mysterious private inquiry agent Nicholas Brisbane, Lady Julia investigates the death of her husband and discovers a hidden world of lies and obsessions in Victorian England.

**The Sittaford Mystery**  
Agatha Christie  
In a remote house on a bitter wintry night, a group gathers to pass the time with a seemingly innocent séance. But when the table spells out an eerie message—“Captain Trevelyan...dead...murder,” things go from cheerful to downright creepy. Was this just a joke...or not? To find out, someone will need to travel six miles on foot through the snow—a dangerous journey when a killer could be watching your every move. An isolated setting, a cast of eccentric characters, and a plot full of twists and turns make this a true Agatha Christie classic.

**Snow Flower and the Secret Fan**  
Lisa See  
Set in 19th century China, this is the story of the friendship between Snow Flower and Lily. The two girls share the agony of foot binding at age 7, and later the joys and sorrows of arranged marriages and motherhood – until a heartbreaking misunderstanding drastically changes their relationship.

**The Sparrow**  
Mary Doria Russell  
Emilio Sandoz is a remarkable man, a living saint and Jesuit priest who undergoes an experience so harrowing and profound that it makes him question the existence of God. This experience, the first contact between human beings and intelligent extraterrestrial life begins with a small mistake and ends in a horrible catastrophe.

**Stuck in Neutral (Teen Title)**  
Terry Truman  
Shawn’s father is trying to kill him. That’s what Shawn thinks, at least, that his father is trying to put him out of his own misery. Shawn has cerebral palsy with severe developmental disabilities and cannot communicate with the outside world. With perfect memory, Shawn recounts the events in his life in each chapter that lead him to the present day.

**The Sweet Hereafter**  
Russell Banks  
In The Sweet Hereafter, Russell Banks tells a story that begins with a school bus accident. Using four different narrators, Banks creates a small-town morality play that addresses one of life’s most agonizing questions: when the worst thing happens, who do you blame?
**A Tale of Love and Darkness**  
Amos Oz  
It is the story of a boy growing up in the war-torn Jerusalem of the forties and fifties, in a small apartment crowded with books in twelve languages and relatives speaking nearly as many. His mother and father, both wonderful people, were ill-suited to each other. When Oz was twelve and a half years old, his mother committed suicide, a tragedy that was to change his life. He leaves the constraints of the family and the community of dreamers, scholars, and failed businessmen and joins a kibbutz, changes his name, marries, has children, and finally becomes a writer as well as an active participant in the political life of Israel.

**Tell the Wolves I’m Home**  
Carol Rifka Brunt  
1987. Only one person has ever truly understood fourteen-year-old June Elbus: her uncle, the renowned painter Finn Weiss. Shy at school and distant from her older sister, June is only herself in Finn’s company; he is her godfather, confidant, and best friend. So when he dies, far too young, of a mysterious illness, June’s world is turned upside down. But Finn’s death brings a surprise acquaintance into June’s life, someone who will help her to heal and to question what she thinks she knows about Finn, her family, and even her own heart. As June and this new stranger begin to spend time together, June realizes she’s not the only one who misses Finn, and if she can bring herself to trust this unexpected friend, he just might be the one she needs the most.

**Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace – One School at a Time**  
Greg Mortenson  
In Three Cups of Tea, Greg Mortenson, and journalist David Oliver Relin, recount the journey that led Mortenson to successfully establish schools in some of the most remote regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan. It is the inspiring true story of how one man really is changing the world—one school at a time.

**Timeline**  
Michael Crichton  
When graduate students discover a 600-year-old note signed by their missing professor while reconstructing a medieval site in France, they go back in time to rescue their leader and friend. Arriving in the middle ages during the Hundred Years War, they will need every bit of skill and knowledge they have to come back to present time.

**Tuck Everlasting (Teen Title)**  
Natalie Babbitt  
On the hottest day in August, ten year old Winnie Foster summons the courage to go beyond the iron gates of her house alone. Entering the dark woods, she discovers a secret no one could have imagined. Will Winnie keep the secret?

**Uglies (Teen Title)**  
Scott Westerfield  
Just before their sixteenth birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally’s best friend runs away and Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty at all.

**The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry**  
Rachel Joyce  
Harold Fry is convinced that he must deliver a letter to an old love in order to save her, meeting various characters along the way and reminiscing about the events of his past and people he has known, as he tries to find peace and acceptance.
A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering American on the Appalachian Trail
Bill Bryson
The Appalachian Trail stretches from Georgia to Maine and covers some of the most breathtaking terrain in America. Bill Bryson introduces us to the history and ecology of the trail and to some of the other hardy (or just foolhardy) folks he meets along the way–and a couple of bears.

The Wanderer (Teen Title)
Sharon Creech
"The sea, the sea, the sea. It rolled and rolled and called to me. Come in, it said, come in." Thirteen-year-old Sophie hears the sea calling, promising adventure and a chance for discovery as she sets sail for England with her three uncles and two cousins. Sophie's cousin Cody isn't sure he has the strength to prove himself to the crew and to his father. Through Sophie's and Cody's travel logs, we hear stories of the past and the daily challenges of surviving at sea as The Wanderer sails toward its destination - and its passengers search for their places in the world.

Water for Elephants
Sara Gruen
Ninety-three year old Jacob Jankowski recalls life as a young veterinarian with a Depression-era traveling circus. Love, murder, and an elephant named Rosie await the reader in this profoundly moving tale.

The Watsons Go to Birmingham (Children’s Title)
Christopher Paul Curtis
This book, often funny yet sometimes deeply moving, is told by ten-year-old Kenny and is the story of his family, the Watsons of Flint, Michigan and their trip to Birmingham, Alabama in the Summer of 1963. What they will soon witness is one of the most tragic events in America’s history—the racially motivated bombing of a Birmingham church in which four young girls lose their lives.

What You Owe Me
Bebe Moore Campbell
Tale of a black woman and a Jewish immigrant in post World War II Los Angeles. Their illfated partnership has a profound impact upon their next generation.

The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood among Ghosts
Maxine Hong Kingston
A Chinese American woman tells of the Chinese myths, family stories and events of her California childhood that have shaped her identity.

Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance
Robert M. Pirsig
Pirsig's narrative of a father and son on a summer motorcycle trip across America's Northwest becomes a profound personal and philosophical odyssey into life's fundamental questions