

Almond, David - Skellig

Michael finds a mysterious stranger when he retreats to the garage after a recent move.

Anderson, Laurie Halse - Fever 1793

When her mother becomes sick with yellow fever, Matilda Cook must learn to be self-reliant in order to survive in Philadelphia, 1793.

Bauer, Joan - Hope Was Here

Hope and her aunt move from Brooklyn to Wisconsin where they become involved in the local diner owner's campaign to remove a corrupt mayor.

Bloor, Edmund - Tangerine

Paul fights for the right to play soccer in spite of near blindness and slowly begins to remember what happened to his sight.

Cooney, Caroline - The Face on the Milk Carton

A photograph of a missing girl on a milk carton leads Janie on a search for her real identity.

Creech, Sharon - The Wanderer

Sophie and her cousin record their transatlantic crossing aboard a 45-foot sailboat en route to visit their grandfather in England.

Crutcher, Chris- The Crazy Horse Electric Game

Willie, a star athlete, ends up in a very unusual school after being injured in a water-skiing accident.

Curtis, Christopher - The Watsons Go To Birmingham-1963

Everyday life is changed forever when the Watsons, an African American family living in Michigan, visit Grandma in Alabama during the summer of 1963.

Deuker, Carl - Painting the Black

Remy Ward has no idea how much his life will change when star athlete Josh Daniels moves across the street.

Dowell, Frances - Dovey Coe

Twelve-year old Dovey Coe is accused of murder in North Carolina in 1928.

Fleischman, Paul - Whirligig

Brian finds forgiveness as he travels across the country building a whirligig in memory of a girl whose death he caused.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson - Just Ella

When Ella accepts Prince Charming's proposal, she is subjected to a never ending tangle of rules and etiquette, so she plots her escape.

Hayes, Daniel - The Trouble With Lemons

Tyler and Lymie, 8th grade misfits, discover a dead body and work to solve the mystery.

Hesse, Karen - Phoenix Rising

Nyle learns about relationships and death when Ezra comes to live with her grandmother after being exposed to radiation leaked from a nuclear power plant.

Hobbs, Will - The Maze

Rick escapes from a juvenile detention facility near Las Vegas and travels to Utah where he meets a bird biologist working to reintroduce condors to the wild.

Koertge, Ron - Where the Kissing Never Stops

A high school junior having difficulty with his father's death and his mother's new job meets a new girl that makes him think life is quite wonderful.

Lynch, Chris - Gold Dust

In 1975, Richard befriends Napoleon, a Caribbean newcomer, hoping that Napoleon will learn to love baseball and win acceptance in the racially polarized Boston school.

McClaren, Clemence - Waiting for Odysseus

Presents the epic story of Odysseus through the eyes of his wife Penelope, the sorceress Circe, the goddess Athena and his nanny Eurycleia.

McDonald, Joyce - Swallowing Stones

Explores the aftermath of Michael's birthday celebration during which he fires a rifle and unknowingly kills the father of one his classmates.

Napoli, Donna Jo - Beast

Retelling of "Beauty and the Beast" from the point of view of the beast and set in Persia.

Orgel, Doris - We Goddesses

Three Greek goddesses, Athena, Aphrodite, and Hera, tell their own stories.

Paterson, Katherine - Jacob Have I Loved

Feeling deprived all her life of schooling, friends, mother and even her name by her twin sister, Louise finally begins to find her identity.

Paulsen, Gary - The Schernoff Discoveries

Harold and his best friend, both hopeless geeks, try to survive unusual science experiments, the attacks of the football team and other dangers of junior high school.



**Peck, Richard - A Year Down
Yonder**

During the depression of 1937, Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois and comes to a better understanding of this fearsome woman.

Philbrick, W.R. - The Last Book In the Universe

A thousand years in the future, an earthquake destroys much of the planet, and an epileptic teenager named Spaz begins an heroic fight to bring human intelligence back to earth.

Plum-Ucci, Carol - Body of Christopher Creed

Torey Adams, a high school junior with a seemingly perfect life, struggles with doubts and questions surrounding the mysterious disappearance of the class outcast.

Ryan, Pam Munoz - Esperanza Rising

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances on the eve of the Great Depression.

Tashjian, Janet - Multiple Choice

Monica, a perfectionist and word game expert, tries to break free from all of the suffocating rules in her life by creating a game for living called Multiple Choice.

Wallace, Rich - Playing Without a Ball

Feeling abandoned by his parents, who have gone their separate ways and left him behind in a small Pennsylvania town, Jay finds hope for the future in a church-sponsored basketball team and a female friend.

Walter, Virginia - Making Up Megaboy

When 13-year old Robbie shoots an old man in a liquor store, everyone who knows the quiet, withdrawn youth struggles to understand this act of seemingly random violence.

Whelan, Gloria - Homeless Bird

When Koly enters into an ill-fated arranged marriage, she must either suffer a destiny dictated by India's tradition or find the courage to oppose it.

Winick, Judd - Pedro and Me

In graphic art format, this book details the friendship between two roommates on the MTV show "Real World," one of whom died of AIDS.

Zindel, Paul - Rats

When mutant rats threaten to take over Staten Island, Sarah and her younger brother Mike try to figure out how to stop them.

Compiled by
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BOOKS FOR GRADES

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