

Books for Middle School SRC 2011

Youth Fiction (J)

Bennett, Olivia. The Allegra Biscotti Collection.

When a famous fashionista discovers Emma's fashion designs and offers her the opportunity of a lifetime, Emma creates a secret identity. She quickly discovers juggling school, a new crush, friends and a secret identity might not be as glamorous as she first thought. (SLJ Grades 5-8)

Birdseye, Tom. Storm Mountain.

Two thirteen year old cousins are trapped in a blizzard on the same treacherous mountain in the Cascades that claimed the lives of their world-famous, mountain-climber, twin fathers exactly two years earlier. (Booklist Grades 5-8)

Blackwood, Gary. Around the World in 100 Days.

Harry Fogg, the son of Phileas Fogg, bets that he can drive a steam-powered motorcar all the way around the world in only 100 days. Racing off with three companions, Harry undertakes a grueling journey that will pit him against flash fires, marauders, and even sabotage from within. (SLJ Grades 5-8)

Collins, Tim. Notes From a Totally Lame Vampire: Because the Undead Have Feelings Too!

Nigel Mullet, a 100-year-old vampire doomed to spend eternity in the body of a socially awkward fifteen-year-old boy, records his attempts to impress the love of his life, Chloe, while battling an embarrassingly overwhelming desire to sink his fangs into her. (SLJ Grades 6-9)

Garretson, Dee. Wildfire Run.

Camp David is one of the safest places in the United States. So why can't the President's son, Luke, and his friends stay there without Secret Service agents constantly hovering over them? And yet, when an earthquake sets off a raging wildfire, causing a chain reaction that wreaks havoc at Camp David, they are suddenly on their own. (SLJ Grades 5-7)

Grant, Michael. The Call: Magnificent 12.

Mack MacAvoy never would have guessed that he is destined for a more-than-medium life. And then something incredibly strange happens. A 3000-year-old man named Grimluk appears to deliver some startling news: Mack is one of the Magnificent Twelve. An evil force is on its way, and it's up to Mack to track down eleven other twelve-year-olds in order to stop it. (Booklist Grades 5-8)

Grisham, John. Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer.

Thirteen-year-old Theo Boone dreams of a life in the courtroom. But he finds himself in one much sooner than expected when he is suddenly dragged into the middle of a sensational murder trial. A cold-blooded killer is about to go free, and only Theo knows the truth. But Theo won't stop until justice is served. (SLJ Grades 6-8)

Harrison, Michelle. 13 Treasures.

Tanya is no ordinary girl. She can see fairies. But not the fairies we imagine, evil fairies who cast spells on her, rousing her from her sleep and propelling her out of bed. At wit's end with her daughter's inexplicable behavior, Tanya's mother sends her away to live with her grandmother at Elvesden Manor. (SLJ Grades 5-8)

Kent, Rose. Rocky Road.

Whenever things get tough, the Dobson's break out the special heart-shaped bowls and make ice cream sundaes. The road has been especially rocky lately for Tess and her deaf little brother, Jordan. Their plucky Texan mother talks big, but her get-rich-quick business schemes have only landed them in serious financial hot water. (SLJ Grades 5-7)

Klise, Kate. Grounded.

After most of her family dies in a plane crash, Daralynn and her mother have to learn to cope with dramatic changes. But her real work begins when a crematorium comes to town, and someone has to save a dying business, solve a burning mystery, and resuscitate the broken hearts in Digginsville, Missouri, population 402. (SLJ Grades 4-7)

Young Adult Fiction (Y)

Card, Orson Scott. Pathfinder.

Rigg is well trained at keeping secrets. Only his father knows the truth about Rigg's strange talent for seeing the paths of people's pasts. But when his father dies, Rigg is stunned to learn just how many secrets Father had kept from him. When Rigg discovers that he has the power not only to see the past, but also to change it, his future suddenly becomes anything but certain. (SLJ Grades 7 and up)

Lane, Andy. Death Cloud.

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 diabolical villain. (Booklist Grades 6-9)

Lee, Y.S. Spy in the House.

Rescued from the gallows in 1850s London, young orphan Mary Quinn is surprised to be offered a singular education. Miss Scrimshaw's Academy for Girls is a cover for an all-female investigative unit called The Agency. Mary is about to put her training to the test. Assuming the guise of a lady's companion, she must infiltrate a rich merchant's home in hopes of tracing his missing cargo ships. (SLJ Grades 7 and up)

Reeve, Philip. Fever Crumb.

Fever Crumb is a girl who has been adopted and raised by Dr. Crumb, a member of the order of Engineers, where she serves as apprentice. Soon though, she must say goodbye to Dr. Crumb to assist archeologist Kit Solent on a top-secret project. As her work begins, Fever is plagued by memories that are not her own and Kit seems to have a particular interest in finding out what they are. (SLJ Grades 5-7)

Testa, Dom. Comet's Curse: a Galahad Book.

Desperate to save the human race after a comet's deadly particles begin devastating the adult population, scientist create a ship that will carry a crew of 251 teenagers to a home in a distant solar system. The Web of Titan (#2) and The Cassini Code (#3) are also available in this 6 part series. (SLJ Grades 8 and Up)

Van Draanen, Wendelin. The Running Dream.

Imagine you are a serious track star and wake up in the hospital after an accident to find that your leg has been amputated. Jessica isn't sure who she is now that she can no longer run. It's going to take good friends, teamwork, a serious crush and a new friend with her own problems, to help Jessica help herself and find a place in the world again. (SLJ Grades 7 and Up)

Nonfiction

Houston, Dick. Bulu: African Wonder Dog.

Bulu found his calling as a foster parent to the orphaned baby animals—including warthogs, monkeys, elephants, baboons, bushbucks, and buffalo—cared for by the Tolans. His story is a joyful confirmation of dogs as unique spirits, capable of love, compassion, and bravery. (636.7 Ho) (SLJ Grades 4-8)

Janeczko, Paul B. The Dark Game: True Spy Stories.

Ever since George Washington used them to help topple the British, spies and their networks have helped and hurt America at key moments in history. Colorful personalities, daring missions, the feats of the loyal, and the damage of traitors are interspersed with a look at the technological advances that continue to change the rules of gathering intelligence. (327.12 Ja) (SLJ Grades 5-8)