



Books for Middle School SRC 2012

Youth Fiction (J)

Friend, Catherine. Barn Boot Blues.

When her parents swap urban life in Minneapolis for rural life on a farm 100 miles away, twelve-year-old Taylor feels as if she is living on another planet. (SLJ Grades 4-7)

Mass, Wendy. 13 Gifts.

Shortly before her thirteenth birthday, shy and withdrawn Tara is sent to stay with her aunt, uncle, and cousin in her parents' hometown of Willow Falls, where she makes friends and becomes involved with an elderly buyer and seller of collectibles, who seems to be trying to give Tara some kind of mysterious message. (SLJ Grades 6-8)

Moskowitz, Hannah. Zombie Tag.

In the months since Wil's older brother Graham died, Wil has spent most of his time playing a game he invented but when he finds a way to bring Graham and others back from the dead, fighting zombies is suddenly no longer a game. (SLJ Grades 5-8)

O'Connor, Sheila. Sparrow Road.

Twelve-year-old Raine spends the summer at a mysterious artists' colony and discovers a secret about her past. (SLJ Grades 5-7)

Ray, Delia. Here Lies Linc.

While researching a rumored-to-be-haunted grave for a local history project, Lincoln Crenshaw unearths some startling truths about his own family. (SLJ Grades 5-7)

Rylander, Chris. The Fourth Stall.

Sixth-graders Mac and Vince operate a business charging schoolmates for protection from bullies and for help to negotiate conflicts peacefully, with amazing challenges and results. (SLJ Grades 4-7)

Tashjian, Janet. My Life as a Stuntboy.

Derek Fallon has the opportunity of a lifetime--to perform stunts in a movie featuring a popular twelve-year-old star--but complications arise involving his best friend, a capuchin monkey, and Derek's chronic inability to concentrate on schoolwork. (SLJ Grades 4-7)

Young Adult Fiction (Y)

Bacigalupi, Paolo. Ship Breaker.

In a futuristic world, teenaged Nailer scavenges copper wiring from grounded oil tankers for a living, but when he finds a beached clipper ship with a girl in the wreckage, he has to decide if he should strip the ship for its wealth or rescue the girl. (SLJ Grades 7 Up)

Edgar, Elsbeth. The Visconti House.

Laura Horton has always been an outsider, more interested in writing, drawing, or spending time with her free-spirited family than in her fellow teens, but she is drawn to Leon, a new student, as together they explore the mysteries of her eccentric old house. (SLJ Grades 5-8)

Gier, Kerstin. Ruby Red.

Sixteen-year-old Gwyneth discovers that she, rather than her well-prepared cousin carries a time-travel gene, and soon she is journeying with Gideon, who shares the gift, through historical London trying to discover whom they can trust. (SLJ Grades 6-9)

Hiaasen, Gary. Chomp.

When the difficult star of the reality television show "Expedition Survival" disappears while filming an episode in the Florida Everglades using animals from the wildlife refuge run by Wahoo Crane's family, Wahoo and classmate Tuna Gordon set out to find him while avoiding Tuna's gun-happy father. (SLJ Grades 6-9)

Lore, Pittacus. I Am Number Four.

In rural Ohio, friendships and a beautiful girl prove distracting to a fifteen-year-old who has hidden on Earth for ten years waiting to develop the Legacies, or powers, he will need to rejoin the other six surviving Garde members and fight the Mogadorians who destroyed their planet, Lorien. (SLJ Grades 7 Up)

Schmidt, Gary. Okay For Now.

As a fourteen-year-old who just moved to a new town, with no friends, an abusive father, and a louse for an older brother, Doug Swieteck has all the stats stacked against him until he finds an ally in Lil Spicer--a fiery young lady. Together, they find a safe haven in the local library, inspiration in learning about the plates of John James Audubon's birds, and a hilarious adventure on a Broadway stage. (SLJ Grades 6-9)

Turetsky, Bianca. Time-Traveling Fashionista.

Twelve-year-old Louise Lambert accepts an invitation to a private sale of vintage clothing but upon donning an evening gown, she finds herself in 1912 aboard the Titanic as the gown's original owner, silent film star Alice Baxter. (SLJ Grades 5-8)

Chapter Book Series (Y)

Landy, Derek. Skulduggery Pleasant.

When twelve-year-old Stephanie inherits her weird uncle's estate, she must join forces with Skulduggery Pleasant, a skeleton mage, to save the world from the Faceless Ones. (SLJ Grades 5-8)

Mull, Brandon. Beyonders.

Jason Walker is transported to a strange world called Lyrian, where he joins Rachel, who was also drawn there from our world, and a few rebels, to piece together the Word that can destroy the malicious wizard emperor, Surroth. (SLJ Grades 4-8)

Patterson, James. Witch and Wizard.

Torn from their parents in a society increasingly controlled by the government, 15-year-old Wisty and her older brother, Whit, are incarcerated in a totalitarian prison where they discover they have incredible supernatural powers. (SLJ Grades 5-9)

Graphic Novel (Y)

Inzana, Ryan. Ichiro.

Raised by a Japanese mother in New York City, his American father killed in a war, Ichiro finds it difficult to figure out where he fits in. A trip to Japan leaves the boy with his grandfather, in a country he does not know. And one night Ichiro gets dragged down a hole by a monster. When he awakens he isn't in Japan or in the mortal world. He has entered into the domain of the gods. Will Ichiro ever find a place to call home? (SLJ Grades 7 Up)

Yolen, Jane. Foiled.

Aliera is a star at fencing, but at school no one notices her--until her new lab partner Avery begins flirting with her. Aliera's mother just bought her a foil from a garage sale, and it has a strange jewel attached to the hilt. Will Aliera's first date be ruined when magical creatures try to steal her foil? (SLJ Grades 8 Up)

Non-Fiction

Napoli, Donna Jo. Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Heroes and Monsters.

Presents illustrated retellings of classic Greek myths, sharing the stories of Zeus, Aphrodite, Apollo, Athena, Helen of Troy, Perseus, and Medusa, with sidebars for each god, goddess, hero, and monster that link the tales to constellations, history, geography, and culture. (j292.13 Na) (SLJ Grades 5-9)

Sklansky, Amy E. Out of This World: Poems and Facts about Space.

Offers lyrically presented facts about space and with perspective illustrations and additional explanations in the margins. (j811.54 Sk) (SLJ Grades 3-5)

Thomas, Keltie. Animals that Changed the World.

Outlines the way different types of animals, including livestock, pets, such creatures as silkworms that sparked trade, working beasts, noxious animals, and those that inspire the imagination, have influenced human civilization. (j590 Th) (SLJ Grades 4-8)