Aronson, Marc. *Trapped: How the world rescued 33 miners from 2,000 feet below the Chilean Desert.* True telling of how people from all over the globe pooled knowledge and resources to rescue 33 men trapped below the earth.

Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game.* Genetically engineered warriors and genius generals are necessary for Earth to fight off an alien onslaught. By training with the game, can Ender Wiggin lead Earth to victory?

Carter, Ally. *I’d Tell You I Love You, But Then I’d Have To Kill You.* At the Gallagher School for Girls young ladies learn languages, math and...spy skills. This first book in the Gallagher Girls series introduces Cammie and her friends, as they try to figure out how a spy-training can fall in love.

Crowe, Chris. *Mississippi 1955.* The true story of the murder of Emmett Till is woven into this novel that looks at how one boy deals with the violence of racism in the early days of the civil rights movement.

Donnelly, Jennifer. *A Northern Light.* Mattie desperately wants to go to Barnard College. Unfortunately, she needs to help run the family farm and hold her job at the hotel for needed money. A murder at the hotel forces her to think of the future and what she wants for herself. (Loosely based on an actual murder case in upstate New York.)

Farmer, Nancy. *House of the Scorpion.* Matt, a human clone, finds the courage to escape his future as spare parts for his patron, a powerful drug lord. A National Book Award winner.

Gidwitz, Adam. *The Inquisitor’s Tale.* Medieval travelers visiting various local inns tell tales about three magic children (most-wanted by the king) and their canine protector.

Horowitz, Anthony. *Stormbreaker.* Alex knows his uncle’s death wasn’t an accident. He can’t let it go. When he discovers what really happened, he wished he had as he is pulled into a dangerous web of espionage. (The first book in the Alex Rider series.)

Kidd, Sue Monk. *Secret Life of Bees.* Lily Owen shot and killed her mother. Or so everyone says. While struggling to find clues to solve her own mystery, Lily witnesses the struggle for freedom during the 1960’s Civil Rights Movement.

Krakauer, Jon. *Into Thin Air.* Riveting account of a catastrophic expedition up Mount Everest by Outside journalist and climber Jon Krakauer. The expedition, led by expert guides, left seven people dead.

Lewis, Congressman John and Andrew Aydin. *March. Volumes 1-3.* The memoir of John Lewis, former son of a sharecropper current US Congressman. He recounts his journey through the civil rights movement as he attends the inauguration of President Obama in award winning, graphic novel format.

Lubar, David. *Sleeping Freshman Never Lie.* Scott is lost, a loser and in love. Yes, he’s a high school freshman. He tells his sad tale to his unborn sibling-too much schoolwork, and not enough fun. Well, not fun for Scott, but fun for the reader.

Martel, Yann. *Life of Pi.* Shipwrecked on his way from India to Canada, 16-year-old Pi fantastically recounts how he and the surviving members of his father’s zoo animals survived 227 days at sea.

Mazer, Harry. *A Boy At War: A Novel Of Pearl Harbor.* The son of a naval officer must choose between his father’s wishes for a promotion and befriending a Japanese-American boy following Japan’s attack.

McKinley, Robin. *Hero and the Crown.* Daughter of the Damaran king and a northern witch, Aerin struggles to fulfill her destiny and earn the respect of her people.

Murphy, Jim. *Invincible Microbe: Tuberculosis and the Never Ending Search for a Cure.* A “biography” of this deadly disease as it plagued the human race. Also by Murphy: *Truce-The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting.* WWI soldiers defy their commanders and declare a truce for Christmas Day.
Myers, Walter Dean. **Harlem Summer.** A fictional look at the 1920's is shown in an effort to impress a famous neighborhood jazzman. Mark takes a shady job delivering what turns out to be bootleg liquor. Or try **Sunrise Over Fallujah** about Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Nelson, Peter. **Left For Dead.** The sinking of the USS Indianapolis was one of the worst naval disasters in U.S. history. This is the story of the ship, their wronged captain, her brave sailors, and a young man's crusade to right an injustice.

Pla, Sally J. **Someday Birds.** Charlie's family sets off cross-country to visit his father, who was injured in Afghanistan. While he longs to see his father, his autism makes him extremely uncomfortable outside his regular routine. As the trip unfolds, Charlie concentrates on his list of the birds he and his dad hope to see someday. Many national parks and tourist sites later, Charlie realizes that his adventures have made him stronger.

Preus, Margi. **Shadow on the Mountain.** Set in Norway during WWII, this is the story of 14-year-old Espen who loses his best friend to the Nazi cause while he chooses to fight with the Resistance. An exciting adventure story based on real events.

Reynolds, Jason. **As Brave As You.** Two brothers travel to backwoods Virginia to visit their grandfather for the first time. Not only are they shocked by the lack of modern conveniences (no TV no Internet), but by long-buried family secrets that find their way to the surface.

Riordan, Rick. **The Sword of Summer.** The first in the Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard series. Orphaned and homeless, Magnus is always one step ahead of the law and an uncle with dangerous secrets. When it is revealed that he is the son of a mythical Norse god and is then killed by a fire giant, Magnus becomes part of an ancient quest to stop the end of the world.

Schmidt, Gary. **Okay for Now.** Moving to a new town doesn't mean starting over. Doug still has to deal with his abusive father, a bad reputation, and his brother, an injured Vietnam veteran. An unlikely friendship and a quiet place provide the safe haven he needs. If you like this, try **The Wednesday Wars.**

Schroder, Monika. **The Dog in the Wood.** World War II is over, and things should be better. Unfortunately, Fritz learns first hand that even though his fighting is done, life may never be normal again.

Sheinkin, Steve. **Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon.** This reads like a great spy novel, but it's all true! Follow the story of the making and attempts to steal the atomic bomb.

Sloane, Holly Goldberg. **Counting by 7’s.** Family and friends, that’s what Willow is trying to find. Her adoptive parents are supportive, but her high IQ seems to be an obstacle to friendship. The death of her parents and the kindness of one true friend help her move on from tragedy to a new life of possibilities.

Smelcer, John. **The Trap.** Respect for his tribal elders delays Johnny’s search for his missing grandfather. With time running out for the elder, who has been caught in his own hunting trap, his grandson sets off into the frozen Alaskan winter to find him.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie.** Steven is leading a pretty typical life for an 8th grade drummer until his little brother is diagnosed with leukemia. Amidst the tragedy, he discovers that life, with love and friendship, goes on.

Tharp, Tim. **Knights of the Hill Country.** Football is everything. Or is it? High school star linebacker and senior Hampton Greene finally begins to question his life and discovers that he might be interested in more.

Woodson, Jacqueline. **Brown Girl Dreaming.** This National Book Award winner in verse is a memoir of Woodson’s childhood with her family in the South and NYC.

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