

## Recommended New Books for Students, Grades K-12

### Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd grades:

#### Fiction:

Ehlert, Lois. [\*Rrralph\*](#). J Picture Book.

The narrator describes discovering how Ralph the dog can talk, appropriately saying words such as "roof," "rough," "bark," and "wolf." Good book for talking about puns, pronunciation, spelling, etc.

Gall, Chris. [\*Substitute Creacher\*](#). J Picture Book.

Mr. Creacher, a multi-tentacled substitute teacher, warns his prankish students not to misbehave, recounting rhyming cautionary tales of the weird, spooky, and unexpected. (Could be paired with *Miss Nelson Is Missing!*)

Hall, Michael. [\*Perfect Square\*](#). J Picture Book.

A perfect square that is perfectly happy is torn into pieces, punched with holes, crumpled, and otherwise changed but finds in each transformation that it can be something new, and just as happy. (Shapes, emotions)

Hayes, Geoffrey. [\*Patrick in a Teddy Bear's Picnic and Other Stories\*](#). J Graphic Novel.

The further adventures of Patrick the little teddy bear as he goes on a picnic with his mother, tries to avoid his nap, goes to the bakery to buy cookies, and contends with the bullying Big Bear.

Kimura, Ken. [\*999 Tadpoles\*](#). J Picture Book.

999 Tadpoles fit perfectly into a small pond, but when they grow into frogs, it's a different story.

Levine, Arthur. [\*Monday Is One Day\*](#). J Concept Time/Seasons.

A rhyming countdown of the days of the week as a father and child find ways to spend time together while waiting for the weekend.

Liwska, Renata. [\*Red Wagon\*](#). J Picture Book.

When Lucy gets a new red wagon she wants to play with it immediately, but first she must use it to bring vegetables home from the market for her mother.

Lyon, George Ella. [\*All the Water in the World\*](#). J Picture Book.

Lots of picture books introduce young children to the water cycle, but few have such an infectious beat and eye-catching illustrations as this title, which begs to be read aloud. With occasional rhymes, the short, poetic lines are conversational and instructive and evoke a sense of mystery.... What kids will respond to immediately, though, are the noisy, delicious sounds and rhythms in the words as well as the kinetic energy in the beautifully composed, atmospheric digital illustrations, which have the richly patterned and textured look of paint-and-paper collage. Playfully arranged type in changing fonts adds to the visual fun while giving cues for energizing read-alouds. On the final, stunning spreads, a mother's hair swirls into a wave of water that becomes a joyful spiral of living creatures, all reinforcing the simple, profound message: our lives depend on "so precious" water.

--BOOKLIST, March 15, 2011

Matthies, Janna. [\*The Goodbye Cancer Garden\*](#). J Parent/Teacher Picture Book.

When a mother is diagnosed with breast cancer, she and her family plant a garden and watch it grow through the seasons as she undergoes treatments and gets better.

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. [\*This Plus That: Life's Little Equations\*](#). J Picture Book.

Simple arithmetical equations show how big and small moments add up in life.

Soetoro-Ng, Maya. [\*Ladder to the Moon\*](#). J Picture Book for Older Readers.

Suhaila's wish to know her deceased grandmother is granted when a golden ladder appears at her window and Grandma Annie invites her on a journey to the moon, where they welcome people who are facing tragedy. Includes facts about the painting and woman who inspired the story.

Wardlaw, Lee. [\*Won Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku\*](#). J Picture Book.

A cat arrives at a shelter, arranges to go home with a good family, and settles in with them, all the while letting them know who is boss and, finally, sharing his real name.

Wild, Margaret. [\*Harry and Hopper\*](#). J Parent/Teacher Picture Book.

One day when Harry comes home from school, his faithful companion Hopper isn't there to greet him, in a touching story about the process of healing after losing a beloved pet.

Yolen, Jane. [\*The Day Tiger Rose Said Goodbye\*](#). J Parent/Teacher Picture Book.

A cat whose kitten days are far behind her says goodbye to her human family, and the animals and places that have made her life special, before leaving this life behind.

### **Nonfiction:**

[\*The Adventures of Mark Twain by Huckleberry Finn with considerable help from Robert Burleigh\*](#). J Biography Twain

An introduction to the life and career of American author Mark Twain told in the voice Huckleberry Finn, one of his most enduring characters. For ages 5 and older.

Jenkins, Steve. [\*Time to Eat\*](#). J Nonfiction 591.53 J418t, Easy

Which animals eat bamboo, can gulp down a whole deer, or swallow rocks to help them eat?

McDonnell, Patrick. [\*Me, Jane\*](#). J Biography Goodall

Holding her stuffed toy chimpanzee, young Jane Goodall observes nature, reads Tarzan books, and dreams of living in Africa and helping animals. Includes biographical information on the prominent zoologist.

Murray, Laura. [\*The Gingerbread Man Loose in the School\*](#). J398.2 G433 M964g, Easy

A gingerbread man searches all over the school for the group of children that made him and then left him behind.

Sidman, Joyce. [\*Swirl by Swirl\*](#). On order, publication date 10/4/11; on order

Celebrates the shape of a spiral in nature, from rushing rivers to flower buds and even the shape of an ear.

Weakland, Mark. [Bubbles Float, Bubbles Pop](#). A perfect easy level (for ages 3-7) nonfiction book about the science of bubbles, with beautiful pictures.

Winter, Jeanette. [The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps](#). J Biography Goodall  
**Starred Review, [Kirkus Reviews](#), March 1, 2011:**

"This gorgeous, accessible biography allows young readers to absorb the significance of Jane's tireless research, her groundbreaking discoveries and important work protecting Africa's land and animals."

### **3rd & 4th grades:**

#### **Fiction:**

Henkes, Kevin. [Junonia](#). J Fic Henkes

The week of her tenth birthday, Alice and her parents go to Sanibel Island, Florida, just as they do every year, but this time some of the people who are always there are missing and some new people have come, which unsettles Alice, who wants things to be exactly the same as they always are.

Holm, Jennifer. [The Trouble with May Amelia](#). J Fic Holm

Living with seven brothers and her father, who thinks girls are useless, a thirteen-year-old Finnish American farm girl is determined to prove her worth when an enterprising gentleman tries to purchase their cash-strapped family settlement in Washington State in 1900.

Jenkins, Emily. [Toys Come Home](#). J 1st Chapter Jenkins

When a little girl gets a plush stingray for her birthday, it makes friends with some of her other toys as they all try to navigate in the world of real people.

Lai, Thanh. [Inside Out and Back Again](#). J Historical Fic Lai

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

Uhlberg, Myron. [A Storm Called Katrina](#). J Pic Bk Older Readers Uhl

When flood waters from broken levees submerge their New Orleans neighborhood in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, a young cornet player and his parents evacuate their home and struggle to survive and stay together.

Urban, Linda. [Hound Dog True](#). J Fic Urban

Mattie, a shy fifth-grader, wants to hide out at her new school by acting as apprentice to her Uncle Potluck, the custodian, but her plan falls apart when she summons the courage to speak about what matters most and finds a true friend.

Warner, Sally. [EllRay Jakes Is Not a Chicken](#). J First Chapter Book Warner

Eight-year-old EllRay's father has promised a family trip to Disneyland if EllRay can stay out of trouble for a week, but not defending himself against Jared, the class bully, proves to be a real challenge.

## Nonfiction:

Anderson, William. [\*The Little House Guidebook\*](#). J 813.52 An

Calling all Laura Ingalls Wilder fans: you can plan next summer's vacation using this comprehensive guide to all the in which Laura Ingalls Wilder once lived. For ages 7 and older.

Bouler, Olivia. [\*Olivia's Birds\*](#). J 598 B664o

Written and drawn by 11-year-old Bouler, she wrote the book as a way to highlight endangered birds, as well as raise money to help restore the parts of the Gulf of Mexico affected by the oil spill that occurred in April-June 2010. For ages 8 and older.

Christensen, Bonnie. [\*Fabulous: A Portrait of Andy Warhol\*](#). J Biography Warhol

You might recognize him from his famous paintings of Campbell's soup cans and coke bottles. But do you know about the artist who created these images? Andy Warhol was often sick as a child but found comfort in reading comic books and most especially in drawing. From his early days in Pittsburgh in the 1930s to the height of his glory in the 1960s when he blurred the line between commercial art and fine art, this book chronicles an artist's remarkable path to becoming a renowned Pop Art icon.

Gourley, Robbin. [\*First Garden: The White House Garden and How It Grew\*](#). J 635 G743f, Easy

Tells the history of vegetable gardening at the White House, concluding with a list of favorite White House recipes.

Hines, Anna Grossnickle. [\*Peaceful Pieces\*](#). J 811.54 H589q

A collection of poems about peace by Anna Grossnickle Hines, accompanied by illustrations that feature homemade quilts.

Landau, Elaine. [\*Oil Spill!: Disaster in the Gulf of Mexico\*](#). J 363.738 L231o

Presents facts about the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico that began on April 20, 2010.

Peña, Matt de la. [\*A Nation's Hope\*](#). J Biography Louis

On the eve of World War II, African American boxer Joe Louis fought German Max Schmeling in a bout that had more at stake than just the world heavyweight title; for much of America their fight came to represent America's war with Germany. This elegant and powerful picture book biography centers around the historic fight in which Black and White America were able to put aside prejudice and come together to celebrate our nation's ideals.

Krull, Kathleen. [\*Big Wig: A Little History of Big Hair\*](#). J 391.5 K939b

In taking on this unusual topic, the author offers students a look at history in a brief, but very engaging presentation. Major hairstyling trends are highlighted, as well as related developments such as the hair dryer. The brief entries are accompanied by full color, whimsical gouache illustrations that perfectly capture the outrageousness and humor of the styles of the time period. The book is arranged chronologically beginning with cavemen, and touches on various areas of the world and all types of styles, from the wigs of Louis XIII, to the style of the samurai. Entries are expanded upon with additional historical information in the "Hair Extensions" section. With its brief but informative entries and engaging illustrations, this book will appeal to readers looking for a research source or pleasure reading.—*Library Media Connection* review.

## 5th-8th grades:

### Fiction:

Avi. [\*City of Orphans\*](#). J Hist Fic Avi

In 1893 New York, thirteen-year-old Maks, a newsboy, teams up with Willa, a homeless girl, to clear his older sister, Emma, from charges that she stole from the brand new Waldorf Hotel, where she works. Includes historical notes.

Barnhill, Kelly. [\*The Mostly True Story of Jack\*](#). J Fic Bar

Jack is practically invisible at home, but when his parents send him to Hazelwood, Iowa, to spend a summer with his odd aunt and uncle, he suddenly makes friends, is beaten up by the town bully, and is plotted against by the richest man in town.

Birdsall, Jeanne. [\*The Penderwicks at Point Mouette\*](#).

When the three younger Penderwick sisters go to Maine with Aunt Claire and are separated from oldest sister Rosalind for the first time in their lives, an uncertain Skye is left in charge as the OAP--oldest available Penderwick.

Davies, Jacqueline. [\*The Lemonade Crime\*](#). J Fic Dav

Sequel to *The Lemonade War*. When money disappears from fourth-grader Evan's pocket and everyone thinks that his annoying classmate Scott stole it, Evan's younger sister stages a trial involving the entire class, trying to prove what happened.

Frost, Helen. [\*Hidden\*](#). Teen Fic Fro

When fourteen-year-olds Wren and Darra meet at a Michigan summer camp, both are overwhelmed by memories from six years earlier when Darra's father stole a car, unaware that Wren was hiding in the back.

Gourlay, Candy. [\*Tall Story\*](#). J Fic Gou

Sixteen-year-old Bernardo, who is eight feet tall and suffers from a condition called Gigantism, leaves the Philippines to live with his mother's family in London, much to the delight of his thirteen-year-old half sister Andi, a passionate basketball player.

Hughes, Pat. [\*Five 4ths of July\*](#). J Historical Fic Hug

On July 4th, 1777, fourteen-year-old Jake Mallory and his friends are celebrating their new nation's independence, but over the next four years Jake finds himself in increasingly adventurous circumstances as he battles British force. Jake barely survives captivity on a prison ship, and finally returns home to Connecticut, war-torn and weary, but hopeful for America's future.

Kluger, Jeffrey. [\*Freedom Stone\*](#). J Fic Klu

With the help of a magical stone from Africa, a thirteen-year-old slave travels to the battle of Vicksburg to clear her father's name and free her family from bondage.

Lewis, Gill. [\*Wild Wings\*](#). J Fic Lew

Callum becomes friends with Iona, a practically feral classmate who has discovered an osprey, thought to be gone from Scotland, on Callum's family farm, and they eventually share the secret with others, including Jeneba who encounters the same bird at her home in Gambia.

Selznick, Brian. [\*Wonderstruck: A Novel in Words and Pictures\*](#). J Fic Sel

Having lost his mother and his hearing in a short time, twelve-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he never knew in New York City, and meets there Rose, who is also longing for something missing from her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.

Springstubb, Tricia. [\*Mo Wren, Lost and Found\*](#). J Fic Spr

When eleven-year-old Mo's mother dies in an accident and Mo's devastated father deals with the loss by moving the family to a new town and starting a new life as the owner of a sports bar, Mo must leave her much loved neighborhood on Fox Street to live in an apartment above the "cursed" Corky's Tavern.

Stanley, Diane. [\*The Silver Bowl\*](#). Teen Fic Sta

From the age of seven when she became scullery maid in a castle, Molly has seen visions of the future which, years later, lead her and friend Tobias on an adventure to keep Alaric, the heir to the throne, safe from a curse.

Tan, Shaun. [\*Lost and Found: 3 Stories\*](#). J Graphic Novel Tan

Three stories explore how we lose and find what matters most to us, as a girl finds a bright spot in a dark world, a boy leads a strange, lost being home, and a group of peaceful creatures loses its home to cruel invaders.

Valente, Catherynne. [\*The Girl Who Navigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making\*](#). Teen Fic Val

Twelve-year-old September's ordinary life in Omaha turns to adventure when a Green Wind takes her to Fairyland to retrieve a talisman the new and fickle Marquess wants from the enchanted woods.

### **Nonfiction:**

Adoff, Arnold. [\*Roots and Blues: A Celebration\*](#). J 811.54 Ad71r

Lyrical text explores how Blues have been part of everyday life throughout history, from its origins in the sounds of the earth, through slaves' voices singing of freedom, to today's greatest performers--and listeners.

Aronson, Marc. [\*Trapped: How the world rescued 33 miners from 2,000 feet below the Chilean desert\*](#). J 363.1 Ar67t

A middle grade nonfiction title about thirty-three miners trapped in a copper-gold mine in San Jose, Chile and how experts from around the world, from drillers, to astronauts, to submarine specialists, came together to make their remarkable rescue possible.

Bragg, Georgia. [\*How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous\*](#). J 920 B73h

A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and the circumstances surrounding those deaths, including King Tut -- Julius Caesar -- Cleopatra -- Christopher Columbus -- Henry VIII, and more.

Fleming, Candace. [\*Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart\*](#). J Biography Earhart

Tells the story of Amelia Earhart's life - as a child, a woman, and a pilot - and describes the search for her missing plane.

Fritz, Jean. [\*Alexander Hamilton: The Outsider\*](#). J Biography Hamilton

Fritz, a notable biographer of the Revolutionary War period for young people, provides a brisk, well-written account introducing Founding Father Alexander Hamilton as an outsider to America. Raised in the West Indies, Hamilton traveled to New York for his education in 1773 and became immersed in the political turmoil that led to the Revolutionary War. Joining the army as an artillery captain, he became an aide-de-camp to General Washington and led an attack at Yorktown. After the war, he served in Congress, at the Constitutional Convention, and as the first secretary of the treasury before sustaining a mortal wound in a duel with his longtime rival, Aaron Burr. Fast moving and engaging, this straightforward biography acknowledges Hamilton's flaws while portraying him as an intelligent, energetic man who rose to the challenge of his times. In addition to the black-and-white reproductions of period paintings and prints that illustrate the text, Schoenherr's striking, engraving-like images of Hamilton as scholar, soldier, aide-de-camp, statesman, and duelist introduce each section. The appended section of notes deals with historical background information, rather than sources for facts or quotes, but a source bibliography is included. This lively biography sheds light on Hamilton's character and his place at the nation's beginnings. (*Booklist*)

Jackson, Donna M and Caitlin O'Connell. [\*The Elephant Scientist\*](#). J 599.67 Oc5e

Journey to the Namibian desert with Caitlin O'Connell, an American scientist, and witness one of nature's largest, most complex, and most intelligent mammals living today on this earth.

Kirkpatrick, Katherine. [\*Mysterious Bones: The Story of Kennewick Man\*](#). J 363.25 K636m

Presents the story of Kennewick Man, one of the oldest and most complete skeletons found in America near the Columbia River in Washington.

Lourie, Peter. [\*The Manatee Scientists: Saving Vulnerable Species\*](#). J 599.55 L934m

This is a living, breathing window into the watery world of manatee studies, with eager scientists pursuing the preservation of stressed sirenian populations with determination and grit. (*School Library Journal*)

Nelson, Kadir. [\*Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African-Americans\*](#).

J 973.0496 N334h

Nelson...adds to his notable titles with this powerful view of African American history. Illustrated with 44 full-page paintings, this handsome volume is told in the fictionalized, informal voice of an African American senior looking back on her life and remembering what her elders told her. (*Booklist*)

Rubin, Susan Goldman. [\*Music Was It: Young Leonard Bernstein\*](#). J Biography Bernstein

What do you do when you have a dream and your father is firmly against it? That's the frame story for this highly readable and inspiring biography of Leonard Bernstein, whose father, Sam, was insistent that music should be a hobby and that Leonard should take over the family beauty-parlor-equipment business. But what Rubin's involving book makes so clear is that music was Leonard's life, and even a carping father couldn't change that. From the moment young Leonard started banging around on a relative's cast-off piano, the boy wanted more; as the years went on, that meant working to pay for his own lessons, worrying about what avenue his talents should take, and enduring prejudice for his American Jewish heritage, which made conducting seem an unlikely career. (*Booklist*)

Say, Allen. [\*Drawing from Memory\*](#). J Biography Say

Caldecott Medalist Allen Say presents a stunning graphic novel chronicling his journey as an artist during WWII, when he apprenticed under Noro Shinpei, Japan's premier cartoonist. Drawing from memory is Allen Say's own story of his path to becoming the renowned artist he is today. Shunned by his father, who didn't understand his son's artistic leanings, Allen was embraced by Noro Shinpei, Japan's leading cartoonist and the man he came to love as his "spiritual father."

Sullivan, George. [\*Tom Thumb: The Remarkable Story of a Man in Miniature\*](#). J Biography Thumb

Explores the life and career of the dwarf Tom Thumb, who toured the world as a curiosity at the behest of showman P.T. Barnum.

### 9th-12th grades:

#### Fiction:

Ayarbe, Heidi. [\*Compulsion\*](#). Teen Fic Aya

Poised to lead his high school soccer team to its third straight state championship, seventeen-year-old star player Jake Martin struggles to keep hidden his nearly debilitating obsessive-compulsive disorder.

Billingsley, Franny. [\*Chime\*](#). Teen Fic Bil

In the early twentieth century in Swampsea, seventeen-year-old Briony, who can see the spirits that haunt the marshes around their town, feels responsible for her twin sister's horrible injury until a young man enters their lives and exposes secrets that even Briony does not know about.

Downham, Jenny. [\*You Against Me\*](#). Teen Fic Dow

When eighteen-year-old Mikey's younger sister claims to have been raped and he seeks to avenge the crime, he meets Ellie, the sister of the accused, and befriends her, complicating the situation considerably for all of them.

Engle, Margarita. [\*Hurricane Dancers: The First Caribbean Pirate Shipwreck\*](#). Teen Fic Eng

Engle, whose award-winning titles include the Newbery Honor Book, *The Surrender Tree* (2008), offers another accomplished historical novel in verse set in the Caribbean. Young Quebrado's name means "the broken one," a child "of two shattered worlds." The son of a Taíno Indian mother and a Spanish father, he is taken in 1510 from his village on the island that is present-day Cuba and enslaved on a pirate's ship, where a brutal conquistador, responsible for thousands of deaths throughout the Americas, is held captive for ransom. When a hurricane destroys the boat, Quebrado is pulled from the water by a fisherman, Naridó, whose village welcomes him, but escape from the past proves nearly impossible. Once again, Engle fictionalizes historical fact in a powerful, original story. With the exception of Quebrado, all the characters are based on documented figures (discussed in a lengthy author's note), whose voices narrate many of the poems. (*Booklist*)

Ferraiolo, Jack D. [\*Sidekicks\*](#). Teen Fic Fer

Batman has Robin, Wonder Woman has Wonder Girl, and Phantom Justice has Bright Boy, a.k.a. Scott Hutchinson, an ordinary dude by day and a superfast, superstrong sidekick by night, fighting loyally next to his hero...despite his doubts about the social benefits of wearing yellow tights. After an embarrassing incident involving said tights and the revelation that his

lifelong nemesis, supervillain sidekick Monkeywrench, might be one of the most popular kids at his school, Scott begins to question his role. How long can he stay on the sidelines and still hope to have a life?

Hemphill, Stephanie. [\*Wicked Girls: A Novel of the Salem Witch Trials\*](#). Teen Fic Hem

A fictionalized account, told in verse, of the Salem witch trials, told from the perspective of three young women living in Salem in 1692--Mercy Lewis, Margaret Walcott, and Ann Putnam, Jr.

Koertge, Ronald. [\*Now Playing: Stoner & Spaz II\*](#). Teen Fic Koe

High schooler Ben Bancroft, a budding filmmaker with Cerebral Palsy, struggles to understand his relationship with drug-addict Colleen while he explores a new friendship with A.J., who shares his obsession with movies and makes a good impression on Ben's grandmother.

Ostlere, Cathy. [\*Karma: A Novel in Verse\*](#). Teen Fic Ost

In 1984, following her mother's suicide, 15-year-old Maya and her Sikh father travel to New Delhi from Canada to place her mother's ashes in their final resting place. On the night of their arrival, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is assassinated, Maya and her father are separated when the city erupts in chaos, and Maya must rely on Sandeep, a boy she has just met, for survival.

Resau, Laura and María Virginia Farinango. [\*The Queen of Water\*](#). Teen Fic Res

In a desperately poor Andean village in Ecuador, 7-year-old Virginia is sold off by her indigena (Indian) parents as a servant to an academic, mestizo family. In her new home, the wife beats her, the husband gropes her, and she is insulted as a *longa tonta* (stupid Indian). Still, she teaches herself to read and write and begins to perform science experiments in secret. Then, when she is 12, she finally gets a chance to return to her parents.

Restrepo, Bettina. [\*Illegal\*](#). Teen Fic Res

Nora, a fifteen-year-old Mexican girl, faces the challenges of being an illegal immigrant in Texas when she and her mother cross the border in search of Nora's father.

Schmidt, Gary. [\*Okay for Now\*](#). Teen Fic Sch

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 Swietek 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.

Sepetys, Ruta. [\*Between Shades of Gray\*](#). Teen Fic Sep

Sepetys' first novel offers a harrowing and horrifying account of the forcible relocation of countless Lithuanians in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country in 1939. In the case of 16-year-old Lina, her mother, and her younger brother, this means deportation to a forced-labor camp in Siberia, where conditions are all too painfully similar to those of Nazi concentration camps. Sepetys, the daughter of a Lithuanian refugee, estimates that the Baltic States lost more than one-third of their populations during the Russian genocide. Though many continue to deny this happened, Sepetys' beautifully written and deeply felt novel proves the reality is otherwise. Hers is an important book that deserves the widest possible readership. (*Booklist*)

Taylor, Laini. [\*Daughter of Smoke and Bone\*](#). Teen Fic Tay

Karou is a seventeen-year-old art student with a most unusual family. From his desk in a dusty, otherworldly shop, her mysterious, monstrous father sends her on errands across the globe, collecting teeth for a shadowy purpose. On one such errand, Karou encounters an angel, and soon the mysteries of her life and her family are unraveled--with consequences both beautiful and dreadful. National Book Award finalist Laini Taylor has created a lushly imaginative, fully realized world in *Daughter of Smoke and Bone*. Taylor's writing is as sumptuous as poetry, and the story overflows with dark and delightful magic, star-crossed love, and difficult choices with heartbreaking repercussions. Readers of all ages will be utterly enchanted. --*Juliet Disparte (Amazon Best Books of the Month)*

Venkatraman, Padma. [\*Island's End\*](#). Teen Fic Ven

A young girl trains to be the new spiritual leader of her remote Andaman Island tribe, while facing increasing threats from the modern world.

### **Nonfiction:**

Blumenthal, Karen. [\*Bootleg: Murder, moonshine, and the lawless years of prohibition\*](#). J 363.41 B627b

For more than a decade starting in 1920, millions of regular Americans ignored the law of the land. Parents became bootleggers, kids smuggled illegal alcohol, and outlaws became celebrities. It wasn't supposed to be that way, of course. When Congress passed the Eighteenth Amendment, prohibiting the sale and manufacture of alcohol in the United States, supporters believed it would create a better, stronger nation. Instead it began an era of lawlessness, when famous gangsters like Al Capone rose to fame, and many reconsidered their concept of right and wrong. This is the story of those years in American history-- the story of prohibition.

Marrin, Albert. [\*Flesh and Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and Its Legacy\*](#). J 974.71 M349f

Published to coincide with the centennial anniversary of the 1911 fire that erupted in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory, this powerful chronicle examines the circumstances surrounding the disaster...Marrin's message that protecting human dignity is our shared responsibility is vitally resonant. (*Publisher's Weekly*)

Reef, Catherine. [\*Jane Austen: A Life Revealed\*](#). Biography Au74r

Jane Austen's popularity never seems to fade. She has hordes of devoted fans, and there have been numerous adaptations of her life and work. But who was Jane Austen? The writer herself has long remained a mystery. And despite the resonance her work continues to have for teens, there has never been a young adult trade biography on Austen. Catherine Reef changes that with this highly readable account. She takes an intimate peek at Austen's life and innermost feelings, interweaving her narrative with well-crafted digests of each of Austen's published novels. The end result is a book that is almost as much fun to read as Jane's own work—and truly a life revealed. . (*amazon.com* review)

Sheff, Nic. [\*We All Fall Down: Living with Addiction\*](#). Teen She

Sheff's first memoir of addiction, *Tweak* (2008), figures in this follow-up--if only he could finish writing it, the publisher would give him the cash he needs to jump-start a better life, pay back IOUs, and, you know, score some booze and weed. Yes, the drugs are less scary this time (no needles), but the ride is just as terrifying, as the 23-year-old Sheff bounces from two detox centers into a dangerously abrupt relationship living with a girl in Charleston. Good intentions and bad decisions follow. (*Booklist*)

Kris Springer, 10/2011