 Cindy and Lynn’s

Best Fiction Books for 2012

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**Our Blog –** **Bookends** - <http://bookends.booklistonline.com/>

Amato, Mary. *Guitar Notes.* 2012. Egmont, $16.99. (MJ)

Tripp, who plays guitar only for himself, and Lyla, a cellist whose talent has already made her famous but not happy, form an unlikely friendship when they are forced to share a practice room at their high school.

Applegate, Katherine. *The One and Only Ivan.* 2012. Harper, $16.99 (EMJ)

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

Ashley-Hollinger, Mika. *Precious Bones.* 2012. Random/Delacorte, $16.99. (EM)

In 1949 in the Florida Everglades, a ten-year-old girl called Bones, whose father is part Miccosukee Indian, tries to discover what really happened when he is accused of two murders and sent to jail.

Bachmann, Stefan. *The Peculiar.* 2012. Harper/Greenwillow, $16.99. (EMJ)

Changeling Bartholomew Kettle, having been locked away by his mother to protect him from humans and faeries who would want him dead for being half-human and half-faery, witnesses another changeling being kidnapped by a beautiful and mysterious figure, and, after hearing of the bodies of changelings being found dead and marked with a red tattoo, he realizes he is the next target and must figure out a way to stay alive. Teen author.

Bacigalupi, Paolo. *The Drowned Cities.* 2012. Little, Brown, $16.99. (S)

Companion to: *Ship Breaker*. In a dark future America that has devolved into unending civil wars, orphans Mahlia and Mouse barely escape the war-torn lands of the Drowned Cities, but their fragile safety is soon threatened and Mahlia will have to risk everything if she is to save Mouse, as he once saved her.

Bray, Libba. *The Diviners.* 2012. Little, Brown, $19.99. (S)

Seventeen-year-old Evie O'Neill is thrilled when she is exiled from small-town Ohio to New York City in 1926, even when a rash of occult-based murders thrusts Evie and her uncle, curator of The Museum of American Folklore, Superstition, and the Occult, into the thick of the investigation.

Buckell, Tobias, ed. *Diverse Energies.* 2012. Lee & Lowe/Tu, $17.99. (JS)

"In this collection of original and rediscovered stories of tragedy and hope, the diverse stars are students, street kids, ‘good girls,’ kidnappers, and child laborers pitted against their environments, their governments, and sometimes one another as they seek answers in their dystopian worlds."

Burg, Shana. *Laugh With the Moon.* 2012. Random/Delacorte, $16.99. (EM)

Massachusetts thirteen-year-old Clare, grieving after her mother's recent death, reluctantly travels with her father to spend nine weeks in a remote village in Malawi, where new friends and experiences help open her mind and heart.

Cameron, Sharon. *The Dark Unwinding.* 2012. Scholastic, $17.99. (JS)

In 1852, when seventeen-year-old Katharine is sent to her family's estate to prove that her uncle is insane, she finds he is an inventor whose work creating ingenious clockwork figures supports hundreds of families, but strange occurrences soon have her doubting her own sanity.

Cashore, Kristin. *Bitterblue.* 2012. Penguin/Dial, $19.99. (JS)

Companion book to *Graceling* and *Fire*. Eighteen-year-old Bitterblue, queen of Monsea, realizes her heavy responsibility and the futility of relying on advisors who surround her with lies as she tries to help her people to heal from the thirty-five-year spell cast by her father, a violent psychopath with mind-altering abilities.

Cooper, Michelle. *The FitzOsbornes At War.* 2012. Random/Knopf, $17.99. (JS)

"In this third installment to the *Montmaray Journals*, Sophie and her family come together to support the war effort during World War I, meanwhile fighting to protect their beloved Montmaray."

Cox, Suzy. *The Dead Girls Detective Agency.* 2012. Harper, $8.99. (JS)

"When Charlotte is pushed in front of the F train, she wakes up as the newest member of the Dead Girls Detective Agency and learns that she must solve her own murder before she can pass to the Other Side.”

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *The Mighty Miss Malone.* 2012. Random/Wendy Lamb, $16.99.

(EM)

Deza Malone, the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, accompanies her mother and older brother on a trip to find her father, an African American man who left to find work after the Great Depression hit. They end up in a Hooverville outside of Flint, Michigan, and her brother attempts to be a performer while Deza and her mother search for a home.

Damico, Gina. *Croak.* 2012. Graphia, $16.99. (JS)

A delinquent sixteen-year-old girl is sent to live with her uncle for the summer, only to learn that he is a Grim Reaper who wants to teach her the family business.

Doyle, Roddy. *A Greyhound of a Girl.* 2012. Abrams/Amulet, $16.95. (JS)

"Mary O'Hara is a sharp and cheeky twelve-year-old Dublin schoolgirl who is bravely facing the fact that her beloved Gran is dying. But Gran can't let go of life, and when a mysterious young woman turns up in Mary's street with a message for her Gran, Mary gets pulled into an unlikely adventure."

Ellison, Kate. *Butterfly Clues.* 2012. Egmont, $17.99. (S)

Penelope "Lo" Marin's copes with the stress of constantly moving by collecting--sometimes stealing--things from each new place, a habit that has become more compulsive since the death of her brother, but while she is wandering around Cleveland, Ohio, Lo finds a butterfly pendant at a flea market she recognizes as something stolen from a recently murdered girl and begins to piece together clues to find out the truth behind her death.

Fitzpatrick, Huntley. *My Life Next Door.* 2012. Penguin/Dial, $16.99. (S)

When Samantha, the seventeen-year-old daughter of a wealthy, perfectionistic, Republican state senator, falls in love with the boy next door, whose family is large, boisterous, and just making ends meet, she discovers a different way to live, but when her mother is involved in a hit-and-run accident Sam must make some difficult choices.

Flake, Sharon. *Pinned.* 2012. Scholastic, $16.99. (JS)

Autumn, who struggles with a learning disability and exceeds at wrestling, and Adonis, who is confined to a wheelchair and loves books, learn how their weaknesses can become assets.

Fleming, Candace. *On the Day I Died: Stories from the Grave.* 2012. Random, $16.99 (JS)

In a lonely Illinois cemetery one cold October night, teen ghosts recount the stories of their deaths in different time periods, from 1870 to the present, to sixteen-year-old Mike, who unknowingly picked up a phantom hitchhiker.

Frost, Mark. *The Paladin Prophecy.* 2012. Random, $16.99. (JS)

A fifteen-year-old boy who has spent his entire life trying to avoid attention finds himself in the middle of a millenia-old struggle between titanic forces when he is simultaneously recruited by an exclusive prep school and followed by sinister agents.

Green, John. *The Fault in Our Stars.* 2012. Penguin/Dutton, $16.99. (S)

Sixteen year old Hazel, who has cancer, meets Augustus at a kids-with-cancer support group and as they fall in love they both wonder how they will be remembered.

Hale, Shannon. *Palace of Stone.* 2012. Bloomsbury, $16.99. (EM)

Miri returns to Asland and calls upon all of her knowledge of rhetoric and other useful lessons learned at the Princess Academy when she and the other girls face strong opposition while working for a new, fair charter.

Hartman, Rachel. *Seraphina.* 2012. Random, $16.99. (JS)

In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce and dragons can assume human form, Seraphina, whose mother died giving birth to her, grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents.

Hautman, Pete. *The Obsidian Blade.* 2012. Candlewick, $16.99. (JS)

After thirteen-year-old Tucker Feye's parents disappear, he suspects that the strange disks of shimmering air that he keeps seeing are somehow involved, and, when he steps inside one, he is whisked away on a time-twisting journey trailed by a shadowy sect of priests and haunted by ghostlike figures.

Hiassen, Carl. *Chomp.* 2012. Random/Knopf, $16.99. (EMJ)

The difficult star of the reality television show, "Expedition Survival," disappears on location in the Florida Everglades, where they were filming animals from the wildlife refuge run by Wahoo Crane's family, and Wahoo and classmate Tuna Gordon set out to find him, but they must avoid Tuna's gun-happy father.

Horvath, Polly. *One Year in Coal Harbor.* 2012. Random/Schwartz & Wade, $15.99. (EM)

In a small fishing village in British Columbia, twelve-year-old Primrose tries to be a matchmaker for her Uncle Jack, befriends Ked, a new foster child, tries to decide if she is willing to go to jail for her convictions, and together with Ked, publishes a cook book to raise money for the Fisherman's Aid. Includes recipes.

House, Silas and Neela Vaswani. *Same Sun Here.* 2012. Candlewick, $15.99. (EMJ)

A twelve-year-old Indian immigrant in New York City and a Kentucky coal miner's son become pen pals, and eventually best friends, through a series of revealing letters exploring such topics as environmental activism, immigration, and racism.

Hunt, Lynda Mullaly. *One for the Murphys.* 2012. Penguin, $16.99. (EMJ)

Carley struggles with being open to love after she suffers a betrayal that forces her to move in with a foster family.

Kindl, Patrice. *Keeping the Castle: a Tale of Romance, Riches and Real Estate.* 2012.

Penguin/Viking, $16.99. (MJS)

In order to support her family and maintain their ancient castle in Lesser Hoo, seventeen-year-old Althea bears the burden of finding a wealthy suitor who can remedy their financial problems.

King, A.S. *Ask the Passengers.* 2012. Little, Brown, $17.99. (S)

Astrid Jones, who realizes that she is a lesbian, deals with the gossip and rejection she faces by sending love up to the people on airplanes as they pass over her.

Kokie, E.M. *Personal Effects.* 2012. Candlewick, $16.99. (S)

Matt has been sleepwalking through life while seeking answers about his brother T.J.'s death in Iraq, but after discovering that he may not have known his brother as well as he thought he did, Matt is able to stand up to his father, honor T.J.'s memory, and take charge of his own life.

Lackey, Mercedes. *Dead Reckoning.* 2012. Bloomsbury, $16.99. (JS)

In 1867 Texas, Jett, a girl passing as a boy while seeking her long-lost twin brother, joins forces with Honoraria Gibbons, an inventor, and White Fox, a young Army scout, to investigate a zombie army that is terrorizing the West.

LaFevers, Robin. *Grave Mercy.* 2012. Houghton, $16.99. (S)

Seventeen-year-old Ismae avoids an arranged marriage by making a place for herself at the convent of St. Martin, where she learns of her unique gifts and must determine whether she will be trained as an assassin and serve as a handmaiden to Death.

Lanagan, Margo. *The Brides of Rollrock Island.* 2012. Random/Knopf, $17.99. (S)

"On remote Rollrock Island, men go to sea to make their livings--and to catch their wives. The witch Misskaella knows the way of drawing a girl from the heart of a seal, of luring the beauty out of the beast, and for a price a man may buy himself a lovely sea-wife.

Lane, Andrew. *Rebel Fire.* 2012. Farrar, $16.99. (JS)

In 1868, teenaged Sherlock Holmes discovers that his American tutor is hunting a notorious killer who was supposedly killed by the United States government, but who is apparently alive and well in Surrey, England.

Lawrence, Caroline. *Case of the Deadly Desperados.* 2012. Penguin/Putnam, $16.99. (EMJ)

When twelve-year-old P.K. (Pinky) Pinkerton's foster parents are murdered by Whittlin' Walt and his gang of ruthless desperados, Pinky goes on the run and is forced into hiding with Ma's priceless last possession: the deed to a large amount of land and silver mines in the Nevada Mountains. But relying on disguises will only keep Pinky hidden for so long, and the desperados are quickly closing in.

Leavitt, Martine. *My Book of Life by Angel.* 2012. Farrar, $17.99. (S)

"Sixteen-year-old Angel struggles to free herself from the trap of prostitution in which she is caught."

Levine, Kristin. *The Lions of Little Rock.* 2012. Penguin/Putnam, $16.99. (EMJ)

Twelve-year-old Marlee develops a strong friendship with Liz, the new girl in school, but when Liz suddenly stops attending school and Marlee hears a rumor that her friend is actually an African American girl passing herself off as white, the two young girls must decide whether their friendship is worth taking on integration and the dangers it could bring to their families.

Levithan, David. *Every Day.* 2012. Random/Knopf, $16.99. (JS)

Every morning A wakes in a different person's body, in a different person's life, learning over the years to never get too attached, until he wakes up in the body of Justin and falls in love with Justin's girlfriend, Rhiannon.

Lowry, Lois. *Son.* 2012. Houghton, $16.99. (JS)

Companion book to: *The Giver*, *Gathering Blue*, and *Messenger*. Unlike the other Birthmothers in her utopian community, teenaged Claire forms an attachment to her baby, feeling a great loss when he is taken to the Nurturing Center to be adopted by a family unit.

Maas, Sarah. *Throne of Glass.* 2012. Bloomsbury, $17.99. (JS)

After she has served a year of hard labor in the salt mines of Endovier for her crimes, Crown Prince Dorian offers eighteen-year-old assassin Celaena Sardothien her freedom on the condition that she act as his champion in a competition to find a new royal assassin.

Marchetta, Melina. *Froi of the Exiles.* 2012. Candlewick, 18.99. (S)

Froi settles in and is guided and aided by the guard to the royal family, but when he is sent on a secret mission to the kingdom of Charyn, Froi is surprised by what he finds in the surreal royal court and within himself.

Martinez, Jessica. *Virtuosity.* 2012. S&S, $16.99. (JS)

Just before the most important violin competition of her career, seventeen-year-old prodigy Carmen faces critical decisions about her anti-anxiety drug addiction, her controlling mother, and a potential romance with her most talented rival.

McBride, Lisa. *Necromancing the Stone.* 2012. Henry Holt, $16.99. (S)

Sequel to: Hold me closer necromancer. Six weeks after escaping from the necromancer Douglas, Sam LaCroix is under the protection of the Blackthorn pack of werewolves and fey hounds and unsure if his necromancer rival is dead.

McCormick, Patricia. *Never Fall Down.* 2012. Harper/Balzer + Bray, $16.99. (S)

When soldiers arrive in his hometown in Cambodia, Arn Chorn Pond is separated from his family and sent to a labor camp, where he works in the rice paddies until he volunteers to learn to play an instrument--a decision that both saves his life and lands him in battle.

McDonald, Ian. *Planesrunner.* 2012. Prometheus/Pyr, $16.99) (JS)

When fourteen-year-old Everett Singh's scientist father is kidnapped from the streets of London, he leaves a mysterious app on Everett's computer giving him access to the Infundibulum--a map of parallel earths--which is being sought by technologically advanced dark powers that Everett must somehow elude while he tries to rescue his father.

McKay, Hilary. *Caddy’s World.* 2012. S&S/Margaret McElderry, $16.99. (EM)

Twelve-year-old Caddy's world turns upside down with the early arrival of a new baby, which leads her father, Bill, to temporarily become a stay-at-home "mom," at the same time that her best friends since kindergarten, Ali, Beth, and Ruby, begin to grow apart.

McNamee, Graham. *Beyond: a Ghost Story.* 2012. Random, $15.99. (JS)

Everyone thinks seventeen-year-old Jane has attempted suicide more than once, but Jane knows the truth--her shadow is trying to kill her.

McQuerry, Maureen Doyle. *The Peculiars.* Abrams/Amulet, $16.95. (JS)

Eighteen-year-old Lena Mattacascar sets out for Scree, a weird place inhabited by Peculiars, seeking the father who left when she was young, but on the way she meets young librarian Jimson Quiggley and handsome marshall Thomas Saltre, who complicate her plans.

Messner, Kate. *Capture the Flag.* 2012. Scholastic, $16.99. (EM)

When the original Star Spangled Banner is stolen, seventh-graders Anne, Jose, and Henry, all descendants of the Silver Jaguar Society, pursue suspects on airport carts and through baggage handling tunnels while stranded at a Washington, D.C., airport during a snowstorm.

Newman, Leslea. *October Mourning: a Song for Matthew Shepard.* 2012. Candlewick, $15.99. (JS)

Relates, from various points of view, events from the night of October 6, 1998, when twenty-one-year-old Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was lured out of a Wyoming bar, savagely beaten, tied to a fence, and left to die.

Nix, Garth. *A Confusion of Princes.* 2012. Harper, $16.99. (JS)

Battling aliens, space pirates, and competitors, Prince Khemri meets a young woman, named Raine, and learns more than he expected about the hidden workings of a vast, intergalactic Empire, and about himself.

Oppel, Kenneth. *Such Wicked Intent.* 2012. S&S, $16.99. (S)

When his grieving father orders the destruction of the Dark Library, Victor retrieves a book in which he finds the promise of not just communicating with the dead, but entering their realm, and soon he, Elizabeth, and Henry are in the spirit world of Chateau Frankenstein, creating and growing a body.

Palacio, R.J. *Wonder.* 2012. Random/Knopf, $16.99. (EM)

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunts and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

Peterfreund, Diana. *For Darkness Shows the Stars.* 2012. Harper/Balzer and Bray,

$17.99. (JS)

"Elliot North fights to save her family's land and her own heart in this post-apocalyptic reimaging of Jane Austen's Persuasion."

Potter, Ellen. *The Humming Room.* 2012. Feiwel, $16.99. (EM)  
 Twelve-year-old Roo Fanshaw, who has a talent for hiding, is sent to live with his estranged uncle in his on Cough Rock Island, where he discovers the secrets of the largely uninhabited house and its hidden garden.

Pratchett, Terry. *Dodger.* 2012. Harper, $16.99. (MJS)

In an alternative London ruled by a young Queen Victoria, Dodger, a resourceful, homeless boy, unwittingly prevents Sweeney Todd from committing murder.

Pullman, Philip. *Fairy Tales from the Brothers Grimm: A New English Version.* 2012.

Penguin/Viking, $27.95. (EMJS)

Retells fifty fairy tales originally written by the Grimms brother, including Rapunzel, The Brave Little Tailor, Briar Rose, and Snow White.

Quick, Matthew. *Boy 21.* Little, Brown, $16.99. (S)

Finley, an unnaturally quiet boy who is the only white player on his high school's varsity basketball team, lives in a dismal Pennsylvania town that is ruled by the Irish mob, and when his coach asks him to mentor a troubled African American student who has transferred there from an elite private school in California, he finds that they have a lot in common in spite of their apparent differences.

Ransom, Candace. *Rebel McKenzie.* 2012. Disney/Hyperion, $16.99. (EM)

When feisty twelve-year-old Rebel McKenzie, an aspiring paleontologist, goes to spend the summer taking care of her older sister's seven-year-old son at the mobile home park in Frog Level, Virginia, she never expects to enter a beauty pageant or meet a hand model.

Roth, Veronica. *Insurgent.* 2012. Harper/Katherine Tegen, $19.99. (S)

Sequel to *Divergent*. Tris Prior survives the Erudite simulation attacks that occur during the time she expected to be celebrating her achievement of being ranked first among the initiate class of her chosen faction, Dauntless. Even though the Dauntless have been freed from Erudite mind control, a war develops and secrets emerge.

Scheier, Leah. *Secret Letters.* 2012. Disney/Hyperion, $16.99. (JS)

Sixteen-year-old Dora travels to London to meet Sherlock Holmes, who might be her biological father, and ask his help for her cousin who is being blackmailed over some stolen letters, but although Holmes dies before she arrives, a handsome young detective comes to Dora's aid.

Schlitz, Laura Amy. *Splendors and Glooms.* 2012. Candlewick, $17.99. (EMJ)

When Clara vanishes after the puppeteer Grisini and two orphaned assistants were at her twelfth birthday party, suspicion of kidnapping chases the trio away from London and soon the two orphans are caught in a trap set by Grisini's ancient rival, a witch with a deadly inheritance to shed before it is too late.

Schrefer, Eliot. *Endangered.* Nov.2012. Scholastic, $17.99. (JS)

A girl, having travelled with her mother to an animal sanctuary for bonobos in the Congo, struggles to survive with the animals after revolution breaks out and she and the chimpanzees are forced to flee into the jungle.

Schreiber, Joe. *Au Revoir Crazy European Chick.* 2011. Houghton, $16.99. (JS)

Perry's parents insist that he take Gobi, their quiet, Lithuanian exchange student, to senior prom but after an incident at the dance he learns that Gobi is actually a trained assassin who needs him as a henchman, behind the wheel of his father's precious Jaguar, on a mission in Manhattan.

Smith, Jennifer. *The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight.* 2012. Little, Brown,

$17.99. (S)

Hadley and Oliver fall in love on the flight from New York to London, but after a cinematic kiss they lose track of each other at the airport until fate brings them back together on a very momentous day.

Stead, Rebecca. *Liar & Spy.* 2012. Random/Wendy Lamb, $15.99. (EM)

Seventh-grader Georges adjusts to moving from a house to an apartment, his father's efforts to start a new business, his mother's extra shifts as a nurse, being picked on at school, and Safer, a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building.

Stiefvater, Maggie, Tessa Gratton & Brenda Yovanoff. *The Curiosities: A Collection of Stories.*

2012. Carolrhoda, $16.99. (JS)

An anthology of darkly paranormal stories, with comments by the authors on their writing process.

Stiefvater, Maggie. *Raven Boys.* 2012. Scholastic, $18.99. (S)

Though she is from a family of clairvoyants, Blue Sargent's only gift seems to be that she makes other people's talents stronger, and when she meets Gansey, one of the Raven Boys from the expensive Aglionby Academy, she discovers that he has talents of his own--and that together their talents are a dangerous mix.

Strahan, Jonathan, ed. *Under My Hat: Tales from the Cauldron.* 2012. Random,

$16.99. (S)

An anthology of short fiction about witches.

Terlouw, Jan. *Winter in Wartime.* 2011. Lemniscaat, $9.95. (MJ)

Near the end of World War II, 14-year-old Michiel becomes involved with the Resistance after coming to the aid of a wounded British soldier. With the conflict coming to an end, Michiel comes of age and learns the start difference between adventure fantasy and the ugly realities of war.

Thomas, Lex. *Quarantine: the Loners.* 2012. Egmont, $17.99. (S).

When a virus deadly to adults infects their high school, brothers David and Will and the other students soon break into gangs that fight each other for survival and the hope of escaping their quarantine.

Turnage, Sheila. *Three Times Lucky.* 2012. Penguin/Dial, $16.99. (EM)

Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a cafe and co-parent of Mo with his cook, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder.

Vivian, Siobhan. *The List.* 2012. Scholastic/Push, $17.99. (S)

Emily and seven other high school girls struggle with the way they see themselves and the way others see them after a list ranking the prettiest and ugliest girls is posted.

Volponi, Paul. *The Final Four.* 2012. Penguin/Viking, $16.99. (S)

Four players at the Final Four of the NCAA basketball tournament struggle with the pressures of tournament play and the expectations of society at large.

Vooroeve, Anne. *My Family for the War.* 2012. Penguin/Dial, $17.99. (JS)

Ten-year-old Franziska Mangold escapes Nazi Germany on the kindertransport she boards in Berlin, and when she arrives in London, she takes on the name Frances and struggles with her identity as she pieces together a new life without her family.

Wein, Elizabeth.. *Code Name Verity.* 2012. Disney/Hyperion, $16.99. (S)

In 1943, a British fighter plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France and the survivor tells a tale of friendship, war, espionage, and great courage as she relates what she must to survive while keeping secret all that she can.

Willey, Margaret. *Four Secrets.* 2012. Carolrhoda, $16.99. (JS)

Through journal entries required by their social worker at a juvenile detention center, middle-schoolers Katie, Nate, and Renata relate how they came to kidnap their tormentor, Chase, a star athlete from the town's most prominent family, who surprisingly became their willing victim.

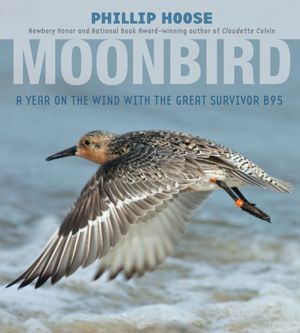
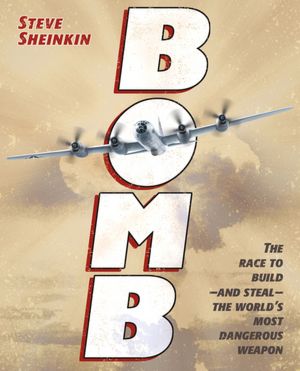
Williams, Kathryn. *Pizza, Love, and Other Stuff That Made Me Famous.* 2012. Holt,

$16.99. (JS)

Although sixteen-year-old Sophie has grown up working in her family's Mediterranean restaurant in Washington, D.C., she is not prepared to compete on the new reality show, Teen Test Kitchen, when her best friend Alex convinces her to audition. Includes recipes.

Zettel, Sarah. *Dust Girl.* 2012. Random, $16.99. (MJS)

On the day in 1935 when her mother vanishes during the worst dust storm ever recorded in Kansas, Callie learns that she is not actually a human being.

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Aronson, Marc. *Master of Deceit: J. Edgar Hoover and American in the Age of Lies.* 2012. Candlewick, $25.99. (JS)

Examines the legacy and the power held by J. Edgar Hoover during his years as the first director of the FBI and describes how his decisions affected the lives of Americans in the twentieth century.

Bang, Molly. *Ocean Sunlight: How Tiny Plants Feed the Seas.* 2012. Scholastic/Blue Sky. $18.99. (EM)

Acclaimed Caldecott artist Bang paints a stunning, sweeping view of our ever-changing oceans. In this timely book, she uses her signature poetic language and dazzling illustrations to introduce the oceanic world.

Bausum, Ann. *Marching to the Mountaintop: How Poverty, Labor Fights and the Civil Rights Movement Set the Stage for Martin Luther King Jr.’s Final Hours.* 2012. National Geographic, $19.95. (EMJ)

Examines the link between the 1968 Memphis sanitation strike and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., discussing how the strike, the media, politics, the civil rights movement, and the labor protests all laid the foundations for what many consider to be King's greatest speech, given just days before he was killed, and how that speech and King's death influenced the end of the strike.

Berger, Lee & Marc Aronson. *The Skull in the Rock: How a Scientist, a Boy and Google Earth Opened a New Window on Human Origins.* 2012. National Geographic, $18.95. (EM)

The story of how a boy, a dog, a scientist and Google Earth found a nearly two million-year-old fossil from a skeleton that just may rewrite the story of human evolution.

Burns, Loree Griffin. *Citizen Scientists: Be a Part of Scientific Discovery From Your Own Backyard.* 2012. Houghton, $18.99. (EM)

Text, tips, and photographs explain how to observe and gather data about backyard insects and animals.

Coombs, Kate. *Water Sings Blue: Ocean Poems.* 2012. Chronicle, $16.99. (EMJ)

A collection of poems about the sea, accompanied by watercolors by artist Meilo So.

DiCristofano, Carolyn Cinami. *A Black Hole Is Not a Hole.* 2012. Charlesbridge, $18.95. (EM)

An examination of black holes that discusses what they are, what causes them, how they are discovered, and more.

Freedman, Russell. *Abraham Lincoln & Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship.* 2012. Clarion, $18.99. (EMJ)

Looks at the lives of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, including their friendship and their affect on Emancipation and the Civil War.

Freedman, Russell. *The Boston Tea Party.* 2012. Holiday House, $17.95. (EM)

Introduces young readers to the Boston Tea Party and its impact on American history.

Goodman, Susan E. *See How They Run: Campaign Dreams, Election Schemes, and the*

*Race to the White House.* Revised edition, July 2012. Bloomsbury, $9.95. (EMJ)

Provides a short history of Democracy, explains the process by which presidential campaigns are conducted, and discusses why citizens should exercise their right to vote.

Heos, Bridget. *Stronger Than Steel: Spider Silk, DNA and the Quest for Better*

*Bulletproof Vests, Sutures and Parachute Rope.* Dec. 2012. Houghton, $18.99.

 In The Spider Silk Scientists, readers enter Randy Lewis' lab where they come face to face with golden orb weaver spiders and genetically engineered goats, whose milk contains the proteins to spin spider silk--and to weave a nearly indestructible fiber. Learn how this amazing material might someday be used to repair or replace human ligaments and bones, improve body armor, strengthen parachute rope, and even tether an airplane to an aircraft carrier!

Hopkinson, Deborah. *Titanic: Voices from the Disaster.* 2012. Scholastic, $17.99. (EMJ)

Draws on stories from survivors and archival photographs to describe the history of the "Titanic" from its launch to its sinking.

Hoose, Phillip. *Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95.* 2012. Farrar, $21.99. (MJS)

National Book Award winning author Phillip Hoose takes us around the hemisphere with the world's most celebrated shorebird, showing the obstacles rufa red knots face, introducing a worldwide team of scientists and conservationists trying to save them, and offering insights about what we can do to help shorebirds before it's too late.

Jarrow, Gail. *The Amazing Harry Kellar: Great American Magician.* 2012. Boyds Mills/Calkins Creek, $17.95. (EMJ)

Introduces the life and accomplishments of Harry Kellar, following his career from his early days as a magician's assistant to his own international stardom at the turn of the twentieth century, and discussing the science behind some of Kellar's tricks.

Khan, Hena. *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors.* 2012. Chronicle, $17.99. (EM)

In simple rhyming text a young Muslim girl and her family guide the reader through the traditions and colors of Islam.

Kops, Deborah. *The Great Molasses Flood: Boston, 1919.* 2012. Charlesbridge, $16.99. (EM)

Chronicles the events surrounding the Great Molasses Flood, during which a large storage tank burst in a Boston neighborhood in 1919 and caused a deadly wave of molasses to flood the streets.

Levinson, Cynthia. *We’ve Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children’s March.* 2012. Peachtree, $19.95. (MJS)

Levinson retells the story of how, against the better judgment of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., young people led the civil rights protests in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963.

Lewis, J. Patrick, ed. *The National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry.* 2012. National

Geographic, $24.95. (EMJ)

Full-color photographs accompany two hundred poems about animals.

Montgomery, Sy. *Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World*. April 2012*.* Houghton, $16.99. (EMJ)

Examines the life and accomplishments of Temple Grandin, whose childhood diagnosis of autism and love of cows led her to revolutionize the livestock industry.

Murphy, Jim. *The Giant and How He Humbugged America*. 2012. Scholastic. $19.99. (MJ)

“An account of how the Cardiff Giant mystery snowballed into one of America's biggest money-making spectacles--and scams.”

Murphy, Jim. *Invincible Microbe*. 2012. Clarion. $18.99. (MJS)

This is the story of a killer that has been striking people down for thousands of years: tuberculosis. After centuries of ineffective treatments, the microorganism that causes TB was identified, and the cure was thought to be within reach but drug-resistant varieties continue to plague and panic the human race. The "biography" of this deadly germ, an account of the diagnosis, treatment, and "cure" of the disease over time, and the social history of an illness that could strike anywhere but was most prevalent among the poor are woven together in an engrossing, carefully researched narrative.

Newquist, HP. *The Book of Blood: From Legends and Leeches to Vampires and Veins.* 2012. Houghton, $17.99.

“A thrilling and lively tour of the world of blood, from ancient history to modern science, to dark and often gruesome legends of vampires and plague, this book informs readers about the most important tissue in the body.”

O’Reilly, Bill. *Lincoln’s Last Days: the Shocking Assassination That Changed America Forever.* 2012. Henry Holt, $28.00. (MJS)

Provides an account of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, discussing how actor John Wilkes Booth and his fellow Confederate sympathizers hatched their murderous plot, and following the ensuing manhunt, trials, and executions of the conspirators.

Pasternak, Carol. *How to Raise Monarch Butterflies: A Step-by-Step Guide for Kids.* 2012. Firefly Books, $19.95. (EM)

A step-by-step guide to raising monarch butterflies, covering anatomy, finding caterpillars, releasing your butterfly, and more.

Rappaport, Doreen. *Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During The Holocaust.* 2012. Candlewick, $22.99.

Provides detailed accounts of twenty-one acts of defiance committed against Nazis in Nazi-occupied countries during World War II.

Reef, Catherine. *The Bronte Sisters: The Brief Lives of Charlotte, Emily and Anne.* 2012*.* Clarion. (MJS) $18.99

An exploration of the lives of the Bronte sisters and the time in which they lived.

Rusch, Elizabeth. *The Mighty Mars Rovers: The Incredible Adventures of Spirit and Opportunity.* 2012. Houghton, $18.99. (EMJS)

The story of the two robot vehicles, Spirit and Opportunity, that were sent to explore Mars, lasting far past their projected lives of three months and sending back invaluable images of the environmentally hostile planet.

Sandler, Martin. *The Impossible Rescue: the True Story of an Amazing Arctic Adventure.* 2012. Candlewick, $22.99 (MJ)

Presents the true story of three men sent by President McKinley in 1897 to drive two herds of reindeer across parts of Alaska to feed stranded whalers whose ships were trapped in ice.

*Scholastic Discover More Series.* 2012. Scholastic, $7.99 - $12.99. (EMJ)  
 Scholastic Discover More is a revolutionary new nonfiction line pairing stunning print books with corresponding interactive digital books that extend the learning online.

Sheinkin, Steve. *Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon.* 2012. Roaring Brook, $19.99. (JS)   
 Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.

Swain, Gwenyth. *Hope and Tears: Ellis Island Voices.* 2012. Boyds Mills/Calkins Creek $17.95. (MJS) Presents fictional stories of immigrants who arrived at Ellis Island, as well as inspectors, doctors, nurses, cooks, social workers, and others who lived and worked there.

Stone, Tanya Lee. *Courage Has No Color: the True Story of the Triple Nickles.* 2013.  
 Candlewick, $24.99. (EMJS)  
 Examines the role of African Americans in the military through the history of the Triple Nickles, America’s first black paratroopers, who fought in a little-known attack on the American West by the Japanese. The 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion.  
  
Witherspoon, Jack. *Twist It Up: More Than 60 Delicious Recipes from an Inspiring Young Chef.* 2011. Chronicle, $19.99. (EMJ)  
 A collection of recipes from eleven-year-old chef Jack Witherspoon accompanied by color photographs and including helpful hints, information on kitchen equipment, and a table of equivalents.

**Graphic Novels**

Burke, James. *Bird & Squirrel: On the Run.* 2012. Scholastic/Graphix, $10.99. (EM) Squirrel, who is afraid of everything, teams up with Bird, who is fearless but grounded by a wounded wing, to head south for the winter, closely followed by Cat, who wants to eat them both.

Fearing, Mark. *Earthling!* 2012. Chronicle, $12.99. (EMJ) When Bud gets on the wrong school bus and finds himself at Cosmos Academy on another planet, where Earthlings are considered extremely dangerous, he must conceal his identity as a native of Earth.

Hatke, Ben. *Legends of Zita the Spacegirl.* 2012. First Second, $12.99. (EMJ)  
 Zita is determined to find her way home to Earth, but her exploits have made her an intergallactic megastar, and as her true self is eclipsed by her public persona, she faces a robot doppelganger, unsure of who she can trust.

Lambert, Joseph. *Annie Sullivan and the Trials of Helen Keller.* 2012. Disney/Hyperion. $16.99 (MJS)  
 A graphic novel that explores the role of Annie Sullivan as teacher and companion to Helen Keller and discusses the bond that formed between the two women as Helen went on to accomplish many feats.

Larson, Hope.  *A Wrinkle in Time: the Graphic Novel.* 2012. Farrar, $19.99. (EMJ)

A graphic novel adaptation of *A Wrinkle in Time* in which Meg Murry, her brother Charles, and their friend Calvin, embark on a journey through space and time, assisted by three otherworldly women, when they set out to find Meg's father, a physicist who disappeared while experimenting with time travel.

Siegel, Mark. *Sailor Twain: Or the Mermaid in the Hudson.* 2012. Roaring Brook, $24.99. (JS) Captain Elijah Twain rescues a mermaid from the Hudson River and nurses her back to health in the secrecy of his cabin, while the owner of the steamboat Twain captains, Lafayette, harbors secrets of his own. Meanwhile, reclusive author C.G. Beaverton publishes a new book that may hold answers for both men.

Telgemeier, Raina. *Drama.* 2012. Scholastic/Graphix, $20.99. (MJ)  
 Callie rides an emotional roller coaster while serving on the stage crew for a middle school production of *Moon over Mississippi* as various relationships start and end, and others never quite get going.



