**Witch-Hunt: Mysteries of the Salem Witch Trials** by Marc Aaronson

An acclaimed young adult historian sifts through the facts, myths, half-truths, misinterpretations, and theories around the Salem witch trials to present readers with a vivid, nonfiction narrative of one of the most compelling mysteries in American history.

**Killing Pablo: The Hunt for the World's Greatest Outlaw** By Mark Bowden

A tour de force of investigative journalism -- this is the story of the violent rise and fall of Pablo Escobar, the head of the Colombian Medellin cocaine cartel. Escobar's criminal empire held a nation of thirty million hostage in a reign of terror that would only end with his death.

**Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America** By Firoozeh Dumas

A warm, affectionate, and frequently hilarious memoir of growing up Iranian-American in Southern California. "Funny in Farsi" is above all an unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love. It is a book that will leave readers laughing--without an accent.

**Deadline By Chris Crutcher**

Ben Wolf has big things planned for his senior year. Had big things planned. Now what he has is some very bad news and only one year left to make his mark on the world.

**Perfect Chemistry By Marc Aronson**

A fresh, urban twist on the classic tale of star-crossed lovers. When Brittany Ellis walks into chemistry class on the first day of senior year, she has no clue that her carefully created "perfect" life is about to unravel before her eyes. She's forced to be lab partners with Alex Fuentes, a gang member from the other side of town, and he is about to threaten everything she's worked for.
The Circle of Blood  By Alane Ferguson

Mixing forensic details and ripped-from-the-headlines themes, the author of "The Christopher Killer" makes readers hearts pound yet again with this edge-of-your seat forensic mystery.

The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century  By Thomas  Friedman..

The World Is Flat is a timely and essential update on globalization, its successes and discontents, powerfully illuminated by one of our most respected journalists.

Letters to a Bullied Girl: Messages of Healing and Hope  By Olivia Gardner and Emily Buder

After suffering a seizure in middle school, Gardner was taunted and teased by classmates for two years. Two concerned sisters began a letter-writing campaign to bolster the girl's spirits, and thousands responded in kind. This inspiring collection shows how powerful it can be to just say no.

Outliers: The Story of Success  By Malcom Gladwell

In this landmark work, the author of Blink and The Tipping Point asks what makes high-achievers different? Brilliant and entertaining, Outliers is a landmark work that will simultaneously delight and illuminate.

A Prayer for Owen Meany  By John Irving

In the summer of 1953, two eleven-year-old boys--best friends--are playing in a Little League baseball game in Gravesend, New Hampshire. One of the boys hits a foul ball that kills the other boy's mother. The boy who hits the ball doesn't believe in accidents; Owen Meany believes he is God's instrument. What happens to Owen, after that 1953 foul ball, is extraordinary and terrifying.
In the Name of God By Paula Jolin
Seventeen year-old Nadia is an excellent student, daughter and sister, and above all wants to be the best Muslim she can be. But she's conflicted about her Westernized peers, the economic, social and political struggles of her country, and the war raging in Iraq. When her cousin is arrested by the authorities for speaking out, Nadia finds herself drawn into the world of Islamic fundamentalism.

Raiders Night By Robert Lipsyte
The award-winning author of "The Contender" delivers an absorbing, eye-opening glimpse into the increasingly high-stakes world of high school football, where everyone--coaches, parents, and players--knows that winning really is the only option, no matter the cost.

Heat By Mike Lupica
Baseball is young Michael Arroyo's only salvation, but his dream of playing in the Little League World Series is soon threatened.

Sunrise Over Fallujah By Walter Dean Myers
A two-time Newbery Honor-winning author looks at a contemporary war with the same power and searing insight he brought to the Vietnam War of his classic, Fallen Angels.

Into the Wild By Jon Krakauer
In April 1992, a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhikes to Alaska and walks alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. Four months later, his decomposed body is found by a moose hunter.
In the more than 50 conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated that there are some 300,000 child soldiers. Ishmael Beah used to be one of them. In a rare and mesmerizing account, Beah tells of his experience as a child fighting a war in Sierra Leone.

Set in 1906 against the backdrop of the murder that inspired Theodore Dreiser's "An American Tragedy," this coming-of-age novel effortlessly weaves romance, history, and a murder mystery into something moving, real, and wholly original.

A mesmerizing memoir: a wrenching, hilarious, and stylistically groundbreaking story of a college senior who, in the space of five weeks, loses both of his parents to cancer and inherits his eight-year-old brother.

A master of inventive fiction pens the story of an ex-con who is offered a job as a bodyguard for Mr. Wednesday, a trickster and a rogue. Shadow soon learns that his role in the man's schemes are far more dangerous and dark than he could have ever imagined.

Fascinating for any reader, and absolutely essential for anyone who takes a hike in the woods, this book will change the way readers understand themselves and the great outdoors.

Expanding on her signature themes of the immigrant experience, the clash of culture, and the tangled ties of generations, Lahiri brings to her terrifically poignant first novel the remarkable powers of emotion and insight that radiate truth.
**The Razor's Edge By Somerset Maugham**

Larry Darrell is a young American in search of the absolute. The progress of his spiritual odyssey involves him with some of Maugham's most brilliant characters.

**So Long, See You Tomorrow By William Maxwell**

On an Illinois farm in the 1920s, a man is murdered, and in the same moment the tenous friendship between two lonely boys comes to an end. In telling their interconnected stories, American Book Award winner William delivers a masterfully restrained and magically evocative meditation on the past.

**The Road By Cormac McCarthy**

A man and his young son traverse a post-apocalypse America, covered with "the ashes of the late world." The man can still remember the time before. The boy knows only this time. There is nothing for them but survival and the precious last vestiges of their own humanity.

**Madapple By Christina Meldrum**

Addictive, thought-provoking, and shocking, this debut novel is a page-turning exploration of human nature and divine intervention--and of the darkest corners of the human soul.

**Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nations...One School at a Time By Greg Mortenson**

A former climber builds schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

**The Picture of Dorian Gray By Oscar Wilde**

After having his portrait painted, Dorian Gray is captivated by his own beauty. His wish to stay young forever and pledge his very soul to keep his good looks. Since its first publication in 1890, Oscar Wilde's only novel has remained the subject of critical controversy.
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter By Carson McCullers

Each lonely character’s heart is hunting for something—love, compassion, answers to life’s big questions. And it’s a hunt that most of us can relate to. A deep, little bit weepy, read

Across the Nightingale Floor By Lian Hearn

In his black walled fortress at Inuyama, in medieval Japan, the murderous warlord, Iada Sadamu, surveys his famous nightingale floor. Constructed with exquisite skill, it sings at the tread of each human foot. No assassin can cross it unheard

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress By Sijie Dai

When two boys are sent to a mountain village during the Cultural Revolution, the farmers think they are so hopeless that they assign them the job of storytellers

Columbine by Dave Cullen

Columbine. A word that has become synonymous with terror, pain and sadness. Author Dave Cullen, a journalist who covered the shooting for Slate.com, has been researching the horrific events at Columbine High School for the last ten years. His fascinating findings are detailed in this groundbreaking book, which debunks several of the myths surrounding the shooting and provides a chilling portrait of Eric Harris, who Cullen states was the ringleader in this deadly gang of two. In clear, accessible prose

The Thirteenth Tale By Diane Setterfield

Margaret Lea leads a reading life in her father’s antiquarian bookstore, making a modest living writing short biographies of interesting, if little known, dead people. Then the famously reclusive author, Vida Winter, asks her to write her biography. Margaret is puzzled by the invitation and rightfully so. This wonderfully chilling suspense novel, a 2007 Alex Award winner has a slow build and a stunning conclusion. This book is reminiscent of Jane Eyre, Rebecca, and of course, the now classic Flowers in the Attic.