

Title	Author	Grade Level
<p><b><i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i></b></p> <p>Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.</p>	Alexie, Sherman	7-8
<p><b><i>After Tupac and D Foster</i></b></p> <p>In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur's music, as together they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.</p>	Woodson, Jacqueline	7-8
<p><b><i>All of the Above</i></b></p> <p>A challenge from Mr. Collins takes his students on a quest to set a world math record, but more importantly prove to themselves and everyone else that they are not "dead end" kids. This book is based on a true story from Alexander Hamilton School in Cleveland, OH.</p>	Pearsall, Shelley	7-8
<p><b><i>Amistad: A Long Road to Freedom</i></b></p> <p>Traces the 1839 revolt of Africans against their Spanish captors aboard the slave ship Amistad, their landing in the United States and arrest for piracy and murder, and trials which ended in their acquittal by the Supreme Court.</p>	Myers, Walter Dean	7-8
<p><b><i>Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl</i></b></p> <p>Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has since become a world classic. It's a powerful reminder of the horrors of war, and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.</p>	Frank, Anne	7-8
<p><b><i>Begging for Change</i></b></p> <p>In the sequel to Money Hungry, Raspberry Hill is worried that she and her mother will end up homeless after her mother is hospitalized. She does odd jobs to help, but ends up stealing from her best friend and questions if she is turning into her father.</p>	Flake, Sharon	7-8
<p><b><i>Bound</i></b></p> <p>Xing Xing outwits her stepmother to win the prince in this haunting retelling of the Cinderella story that uses an ancient setting and details about customs such as foot binding and ancestor worship to return the story to its Chinese roots.</p>	Napoli, Donna Jo	7-8
<p><b><i>Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter</i></b></p> <p>Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood, and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair.</p>	Yen Mah, Adeline	7-8
<p><b><i>Diary of Ma Yan: The Struggles and Hopes of a Chinese Girl</i></b></p> <p>Ma Yan's diary chronicles her struggle to escape the desperate poverty in rural China through education. But, with so little money to pay the fees, she must be persistent and resourceful.</p>	Haski, Piere and Yan, Ma	7-8
<p><b><i>Esperanza Rising</i></b></p> <p>Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must</p>	Munoz Ryan, Pam	7-8

adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.		
<b><i>Feathers</i></b> When a new, white student nicknamed "The Jesus Boy" joins her sixth grade class in the winter of 1971, Frannie's growing friendship with him makes her start to see some things in a new light.	Woodson, Jacqueline	7-8
<b><i>Freaky Green Eyes</i></b> Fifteen-year-old Frankie relates the events of the year leading up to her mother's mysterious disappearance and her own struggle to discover and accept the truth about her parents' relationship.	Oats, Joyce Carol	7-8
<b><i>The Giver</i></b> Living in a "perfect" world without social ills, a boy approaches the time when he will receive a life assignment from the Elders, but his selection leads him to a mysterious man known as the Giver, who reveals the dark secrets behind the utopian facade.	Lowry, Lois	7-8
<b><i>Go and Come Back</i></b> Alicia, a young tribeswoman living in a village in the Amazonian jungle of Peru, tells about the two American women anthropologists who arrive to study her people's way of life.	Abelove, Joan	7-8
<b><i>Holes</i></b> As further evidence of his family's bad fortune, which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.	Sachar, Louis	7-8
<b><i>Hush</i></b> Because of events she cannot control, Toswiah becomes Evie, and suddenly everything changes when her family enters the Federal Witness Protection Program.	Woodson, Jacqueline	7-8
<b><i>A Long Way From Chicago</i></b> A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.	Peck, Richard	7-8
<b><i>Milkweed</i></b> A boy orphaned in Warsaw, Poland during the Holocaust is unsure of his identity. He makes a friend who names him Misha, and they both come up with a story to protect him from the Nazis.	Spinelli, Jerry	7-8
<b><i>Miracle's Boys</i></b> Nothing is like it used to be. If it were, their Mama and Papa would still be alive. This is the story of three remarkable young men: Lafayette, Charlie, and Tyree, who have only each other to rely on, and who must decide whether they'll work with that or let it tear them apart.	Woodson, Jacqueline	7-8
<b><i>Money Hungry</i></b> Raspberry Hill and her mother are determined to move to a safer neighborhood, which is why she hoards her savings. When her stinginess begins to cause problems, she is forced to reexamine her values.	Flake, Sharon	7-8
<b><i>Mud City</i></b> In the final book of the Breadwinner trilogy, Shauzia lives unhappily in a refugee camp that lacks water and hope. Clinging to her dreams of a life in France, Shauzia dresses as a boy and escapes to the city to try and earn her passage to France.	Ellis, Deborah	7-8
<b><i>Nothing But the Truth</i></b> A witty satire of school politics; this story shows how easily the truth can become	Avi	7-8

distorted. Philip Mallory, an unmotivated freshman, is punished for not saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Facts about the incident become exaggerated until a minor school infraction turns into a national scandal.		
<b><i>One Crazy Summer</i></b> In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.	Williams-Garcia, Rita	7-8
<b><i>Samir &amp; Yonatan</i></b> Samir, a Palestinian boy, is sent for surgery to an Israeli hospital where he has two otherworldly experiences, making friends with an Israeli boy, Yonatan, and traveling with him to Mars where Samir finds peace about his brother's death in the war.	Carmi, Daniella	7-8
<b><i>Shabanu</i></b> This timely work tells the story of a young girl and her family struggling to survive in the Cholistan Desert of Pakistan.	Staples, Suzanne Fisher	7-8
<b><i>Skin I'm In</i></b> Thirteen-year-old Maleeka is self-conscious because of her dark complexion. She meets a new teacher with a birthmark on her face and learns to love herself for who she is, not what she looks like.	Flake, Sharon	7-8
<b><i>Walk Two Moons</i></b> As Sal entertains her grandparents with Phoebe's outrageous story, her own story begins to unfold. The story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother.	Creech, Sharon	7-8
<b><i>Watsons Go to Birmingham</i></b> The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African-American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they visit their Grandma in Alabama during the summer of 1963.	Curtis, Christopher Paul	7-8
<b><i>Year Down Yonder</i></b> In 1937 fifteen-year-old Mary Alice, initially apprehensive about leaving Chicago to spend a year with her fearsome, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois, gradually begins to better understand and admire her grandmother's unusual qualities.	Peck, Richard	7-8