

AWARD WINNING  
BOOKS  
2000-2007

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# AWARD WINNING BOOKS

## FICTION

**The Accidental**, by Ali Smith. **RC 61928**

England. Amber arrives uninvited at the Smarts' summer rental, where writer Eve and her adulterous second husband Michael live with Eve's twelve-year-old daughter and seventeen-year-old son. Amber changes the family members' perceptions of themselves and then gets the boot. Explicit descriptions of sex and strong language. Whitbread 2005.

**The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay**, by Michael Chabon. **RC 50950**

1939. An eighteen-year-old artist and magician flees Czechoslovakia for his cousin's New York home. With their love of legend and fantasy, the boys launch a superhero comic-book series. The golden age of comic art is at hand, but so are the horrors of global war. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Pulitzer 2001.

**American Gods**, by Neil Gaiman. **RC 52917**

On his way to his wife's funeral, ex-convict Shadow meets the mysterious Mr. Wednesday, who has an uncanny knowledge of Shadow's life. Accepting Wednesday's job offer throws Shadow into a supernatural world where ancient gods abound. Explicit descriptions of sex, violence, and strong language. Nebula 2003, Hugo 2002.

**Angels Fall**, by Nora Roberts. **RC 62893**

Traumatized by a shooting in Boston, Reece Gilmore flees across the country. She stops in Angel's Fist, Wyoming, and takes a job as a fast-order cook. When she witnesses a murder, only reporter-turned-author Brody believes her. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Quill 2007.

**Anil's Ghost**, by Michael Ondaatje. **RC 50089**

Representing the Centre for Human Rights, Anil Tissera, a forensic pathologist, arrives in Sri Lanka, her birthplace, to investigate reports of political mass murders. Her task is complicated by uncertainty over the trustworthiness of her government-appointed counterpart, Sarath Diyasena, an archaeologist. Some violence and some strong language. Kiriyaama 2000.

**Atonement**, by Ian McEwan. **RC 54023**

England, 1935. Cambridge graduates Cecilia and Robbie fall in love, defying class distinctions. But a greater crime is perpetrated by Cecilia's melodramatic thirteen-year-old sister, Briony. Her willful misconstruction of events she witnesses leads to the disintegration of her upper-class family and a lifetime of recriminations. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. NBCC 2002.

**Austerlitz**, by W.G. Sebald. **RC 53308**

A discussion of architectural history in 1967 in the Antwerp, Belgium, train station initiates a tenuous friendship between the unnamed speaker and the title character. During encounters over the next thirty years, Austerlitz gradually reveals his complex identity as a child of Holocaust victims who was raised by Welsh Protestants. NBCC 2001.

**Being Dead**, by Jim Crace. **RC 52563**

A married couple, both doctors of zoology, are found spread-eagled, murdered, and robbed on a beach--Joseph's hand clasping Celice's ankle, a loving gesture even in death. Descriptions of their bodies' return to the elements are interspersed with the couple's love story beginning on that same sand thirty years before. Some descriptions of sex. NBCC 2000.

**Bel Canto**, by Ann Patchett. **RC 54190**

The private performance of lyric soprano Roxane Coss entices Japanese industrialist Katsumi Hosokawa to attend a party in his honor in South America. While the audience applauds, guerrillas occupy the mansion taking everyone hostage. As the outer world recedes, relationships between captors and captives come into play. Some strong language. PEN/Faulkner 2002, Orange 2002.

**Beneath a Southern Sky**, by Deborah Raney. **RC 57150**

Missionary Daria Camfield returns home, grieving her husband's death. She overcomes her loss and falls in love again--but is shocked to learn that her husband is still alive. Now Daria discovers that her faith in God will help her resolve her dilemma. Followed by **After the Rains (RC 57682)**. Rita 2002.

**Bet Me**, by Jennifer Crusie. **RC 58276**

Thirty-three-year-old Minerva Dobbs's boyfriend not only dumps her right before her sister's wedding but also bets his buddy, Cal Morrissey, that Min will sleep with Cal. Min overhears them and although she plans revenge falls in love instead. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2005.

**Between Sisters**, by Kristin Hannah. **RC 58727**

Time and differences have kept divorce lawyer Meghann Dontess, (from **Distant Shores RC 56933**), and her sister, Claire, from the closeness they shared during a difficult childhood. Reunited for Claire's wedding, they establish new bonds, and Meghann finds herself falling in love as well. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Rita 2004.

**Birthright**, by Nora Roberts. **RC 55869**

Ancient bones are uncovered at a construction site in Maryland and archaeologist Callie Dunbrook and her ex-husband are asked to investigate. When a local woman claims that Callie is her long-lost daughter--kidnapped twenty-nine years earlier--Callie must search for the truth. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Rita 2004.

**Blessing the Boats: New and Selected Poems 1988-2000**, by Lucille Clifton. **RC 52339**

A collection of poetry about the human condition personalized through the voice of an African American woman. She shares observations about lynching, race, being female, menstruation, illness, celebrations, and the puzzles of existence. Some strong language. NBA 2000.

**Blind Assassin**, by Margaret Atwood. **RC 50848**

This convoluted tale of two sisters begins with the questionable circumstances of the 1945 death of the younger, Laura, at twenty-five. A memoir by Iris, the surviving and now elderly sister, recalls what led up to the tragic event. Interspersed is a novel-within-a-novel, Laura's posthumously published book. Booker 2000.

**Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman: Twenty-four Stories**, by Haruki Murakami. **RC 63388**

Short stories translated from Japanese. In the title piece, a twenty-five-year-old man's trip to a hospital with his hearing-impaired teenage cousin reminds him of the time he visited a girl who invented a story about a blind willow tree and a sleeping woman. Kiriyama 2007.

**Blue Smoke**, by Nora Roberts. **RC 61166**

Baltimore arson investigator Reena Hale has finally found love with carpenter Bowen Goodnight when her past comes back to haunt her. A pyromaniac stalker out for revenge taunts her with chilling phone calls and a string of horrifying crimes. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Quill 2006.

**The Bodyguard**, by Suzanne Brockmann. **RC 52406**

FBI agent Harry O'Dell reluctantly protects beautiful Mafia widow Alessandra Lamont from her late husband's associates. But Harry falls in love. So when police protection fails, he disguises Alessandra and takes her into his own family circle. Explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Rita 2000.

**The Border Bride**, by Elizabeth English. **RC 56030.**

The Borderlands, 1375. English Lord Darnley promises his daughter Maude to Scottish Jemmy Kirallen. When he sends his illegitimate daughter Alyson instead, the two fall in love. Alyson's identity is soon discovered, jeopardizing her life. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Rita 2002.

**A Breath of Snow and Ashes**, by Diana Gabaldon. **RC 61201**

Jamie Fraser and his time-traveling wife, Claire, are caught in the conflict between Great Britain and its American colonies. Jamie knows from Claire that Britain loses, but he tries to keep North Carolina loyal. Sequel to **The Fiery Cross (RC 53366)**. Descriptions of sex, violence, and strong language. Quill 2006.

**The Bridal Season**, by Connie Brockway. **RC 56853**

Victorian England. Runaway music hall performer Letty Potts finds a train ticket and travels to Little Bidewell, Northumberland. She is mistaken for wedding planner Lady Agatha Whyte, and manages to orchestrate a high society nuptial. Sir Elliot March, despite his suspicions, falls in love with Letty. Prequel to **Bridal Favors (RC 56854)**. Explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2002.

**Caprices**, by Sabina Murray. **RC 58726**

Nine stories about men and women affected by World War II's devastating Pacific campaign. In "Guinea," two American soldiers lost in the jungle--one Irish, one Italian--learn what bonds them together. The title piece portrays the fatal encounter of a young girl and a Japanese soldier. Violence and strong language. Pen/Faulkner 2003.

**Carolina Ghost Woods: Poems**, by Judy Jordan. **RC 53229**

Beauty of language transcends themes of death, grief, and privation set in southern landscape. This debut collection of poetry also won the 1999 Walt Whitman Award. NBCC 2000.

**Carolina Moon**, by Nora Roberts. **RC 49775**

As a child Tory Bodeen was deeply affected by her abusive father and the brutal murder of her best friend. Now the adult Tory returns home to South Carolina, where her psychic ability to "see" the past and the future puts her in mortal danger. Some descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Rita 2001.

**The Christmas Basket**, by Debbie Macomber. **RC 56364**

Noelle McDowell hasn't been home for the holidays in Rose, Oregon, in ten years because she didn't want to risk running into Thom Sutton. Once she had planned to elope with him, but Thom jilted her. Now she is home, it's Christmas, and miracles do happen. Rita 2003.

**Columbarium**, by Susan Stewart. **RC 59467**

Nearly forty poems expressing the bond between the living and dead in voices of parent to child, lover to beloved, and mortal to the gods. Verses explore universal human truths, classical and Biblical figures, and the natural elements air, fire, earth, and water. NBCC 2003.

**The Corrections**, by Jonathan Franzen. **RC 53073**

Because her husband, Alfred, has Parkinson's disease, elderly Midwestern housewife Enid Lambert seeks to gather her grown children for one last Christmas together. But unhappily married banker Gary, recently fired professor Chip, and bisexual chef Denise have other ideas. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. NBA 2001.

**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime**, by Mark Haddon. **RC 56893**

Fifteen-year-old Christopher, who exhibits behavioral problems associated with autism, investigates the murder of his neighbor's dog. His severely logical approach leads him down an unexpected path, bringing him face to face with the dissolution of his parent's marriage while providing insight into the workings of his mind. Some strong language. Whitbread 2003.

**Darwin's Radio**, by Greg Bear. **RC 50676**

Disgraced archaeologist Mitch Rafelson, geneticist Kaye Lang, and government epidemiologist Christopher Dicken are embroiled in researching a miscarriage-producing virus named SHEVA, which spontaneously generates replacement pregnancies of new evolutionary humans. The ensuing panic spreads worldwide. Then Kaye becomes pregnant. Nebula 2001.

**The Da Vinci Code**, by Dan Brown. **RC 55735**

Professor Robert Langdon from **Angels and Demons (RC 51799)** investigates the crime scene of the Louvre's murdered curator. Joining him is French cryptologist Sophie Neveu. The clues left behind pit two Catholic societies against each other in search of the Holy Grail. Some violence and some strong language. Book Sense 2004.

**Deepness in the Sky**, by Vernor Vinge. **RC 50698**

Thirty thousand years before the events in **A Fire upon the Deep (RC 35758)** the human starfleets Qeng Ho and Emergents head toward the planet Arachna to await the dormant Spider's awakening. While Qeng Ho's intentions are good, those of Emergents are sinister. Some violence and some strong language. Hugo 2000.

**Delights and Shadows**, by Ted Kooser. **RC 60382**

Some fifty verses by the U.S. poet laureate about simple but remarkable aspects of everyday life. Includes "Walking on Tiptoe," "A Winter Morning," "Old Lilacs," "Garage Sale," "A Jar of Buttons," and "Surviving," in which Kooser reflects on the ways his fear of death has illuminated life. Pulitzer 2005.

**Different Hours**, by Stephen Dunn. **RC 53212**

This eleventh collection of Dunn's poetry describes general events of daily life such as turning sixty, pretending to be happy when dining out with friends, and commenting on a perfect couple's divorce. Some strong language. Pulitzer 2001.

**Dirty Job**, by Christopher Moore. **RC 62451**

San Francisco secondhand dealer Charlie Asher becomes Death's helper after witnessing the Grim Reaper claim his wife, Rachel. Charlie balances duties of single father and soul collector as he prepares to battle forces of darkness for both Rachel's soul and all of humanity. Strong language. Quill 2006.

**Door in the Mountain**, by Jean Valentine. **RC 59592**

Gathers all of Valentine's previously published work together with more than seventy new poems. Her subjects include mysticism and experience, personal turmoil, and political unrest. Strong language. NBA 2004.

**Early Occult Memory Systems of the Lower Midwest**, by B.H.

Fairchild. **RC 57862**

Collection of prose poems from the American heartland. Author of **The Art of the Lathe (RC 48111)**, Fairchild continues celebrating machine workers and the Kansas landscape. In "The Blue Buick: A Narrative," a college boy tells of the couple who bequeath him their car. Some strong language. NBCC 2002.

**Early Stories**, by John Updike. **RC 57642**

More than one hundred short pieces originally published in the New Yorker and other magazines. Includes the Olinger and Tarbox sagas as well as "Pigeon Feathers," "The Family Meadow," and "The Witnesses." Pen/Faulkner 2004.

**Echo Maker**, by Richard Powers. **RC 64523**

Twenty-seven-year-old Nebraskan Mark Schluter flips his truck one night and suffers a head injury that makes his loved ones unrecognizable to him. His sister Karin enlists neurologist Gerald Weber to help Mark. As Mark searches for an accident witness, Gerald begins to fall apart. Strong language. NBA 2006.

**Eleven on Top**, by Janet Evanovich. **RC 60607**

New Jersey bounty hunter Stephanie Plum quits her job, tired of being mistreated. While trying her hand at various menial occupations, she receives threatening notes from a criminal who is supposed to be dead. Stephanie investigates with the help of former colleague Ranger. Strong language and some violence. Quill 2005.

**Empire Falls**, by Richard Russo. **RC 52601**

Empire Falls, Maine, was once a thriving town with three mills. But the owners, the Whitings, have allowed their vast holdings to become decrepit real estate. Miles Roby, who runs the Empire Grill for Mrs. Whiting, recounts the tale of this dying town with bemused regret. Some strong language. Pulitzer 2002.

**Everyman**, by Philip Roth. **RC 62522**

An aging advertising man confronts the loneliness of growing old, regrets his philandering and other faults, and ponders his failing sexual and physical self. He reviews his life chronologically and feels sorry for hurting those he loved, including his estranged sons and three ex-wives. Strong language. Pen/Faulkner 2007.

**Family Matters**, by Rohinton Mistry. **RC 56576**

Bombay, 1990s. Retired professor Nariman Vakeel suffers from Parkinson disease. When an injury leaves him bedridden, his stepchildren send him to recuperate with his daughter and her family. Relations and resources become strained as Nariman revisits his past and an unresolved love affair. Some descriptions of sex. Kiriya 2002.

**First Lady**, by Susan Elizabeth Phillips. **RC 50721**

First Lady Cornelia Case has always lived in the political spotlight, so when her husband is assassinated she looks forward to a more private life. But the new president has other ideas and when Cornelia attempts to escape the spotlight, the results surprise everyone. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2001.

**44 Cranberry Point**, by Debbie Macomber. **RC 59237**

In this sequel to **311 Pelican Court (RC 57922)**, bed-and-breakfast owner Peggy Beldon relates the continuing tale of life in Cedar Cove. The mystery of a guest's sudden death is solved, and several weddings are in the works. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Quill 2005.

**Gilead**, by Marilynne Robinson. **RC 59561**

1950s. Dying seventy-six-year-old Gilead, Iowa, minister John Ames writes a parting letter to his young son. John reflects on the tensions between his pacifist father and militant abolitionist grandfather (both preachers), the death of his first wife and child, the gospel, a friend's transgressions, and life's eternal mystery. NBCC 2004, Pulitzer 2005.

**Godless**, by Pete Hautman. **RC 59496**

Sixteen-year-old Jason Bock and his oddball friends Shin, Magda, and Henry create their own religion to worship the town's water tower. But what started out as a joke takes on a power of its own. Some strong language. NBA 2004.

**Great Fire**, by Shirley Hazzard. **RC 57098**

1947. Thirty-two-year-old British major Aldred Leith comes from China to Occupied Japan to report on Hiroshima conditions. Postwar loneliness haunts him and his friend Peter Exley, who saved his life in battle. Leith falls in love with teenaged Australian Helen Driscoll, who is also struggling to recover from personal trauma. NBA 2003, Franklin 2004.

**Half of a Yellow Sun**, by Chimamanda Adichie. **RC 63931**

As the Biafran war erupts in 1960s Nigeria, three people are caught up in the turbulence: a thirteen-year-old houseboy, Ugwu; his master's mistress, Olanna; and Richard, a shy young Englishman. Their ideals and loyalties are tested while they flee from advancing Nigerian troops. Some descriptions of sex. Orange 2007.

**The Harmony Silk Factory**, by Tash Aw. **RC 63719**

Chinese businessman Johnny Lim's rise to power in WWII Malaya unfolds from the perspectives of son Jasper, who labels Johnny a traitor; of Johnny's unfulfilled wife, Snow; and of his English friend, Peter, who secretly loved Snow. Some descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Whitbread 2005.

**Heavens to Betsy**, by Beth Pattillo. **RC 63801**

Beautiful and single, the Reverend Betsy Blessing of Nashville tends to her flock while contemplating leaving the ministry. Betsy discovers she feels more than friendship for her former divinity school classmate David, but she refuses to marry a fellow minister--even if he is perfect for her. Rita 2006.

**The Highlander's Touch**, by Karen Marie Moning. **RC 53836**

Lisa Stone, a twenty-first-century woman, is transported back to fourteenth-century Scotland after she touches a rare museum artifact. She meets the immortal laird Circenn Brodie, who has pledged to kill the bearer of the flask. Brodie instead falls in love with the beautiful stranger. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2001.

**The Historian**, by Elizabeth Kostova. **RC 60713**

1972. A young American woman living with her father in Amsterdam discovers an ancient book and a cache of faded letters in his library. Pursuing family mysteries leads her to seek the truth behind the Dracula legend of Vlad the Impaler. Some violence. Quill 2005, Book Sense 2006.

**The Human Stain**, by Philip Roth. **RC 50274**

Dean of faculty Coleman Silk retires in the scandal that ensues when he is accused of uttering a racial slur. He recruits a neighboring author to tell his story, and a long-hidden secret about Silk's heritage is revealed. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Pen/Faulkner 2001.

**The Hummingbird's Daughter**, by Luis Urrea. **RC 61312**

Teresita, illegitimate daughter of a Mexican landowner, learns healing from a medicine woman. After a near-death experience, her powers grow. She preaches self-reliance and is proclaimed a saint by the faithful, who begin an uprising. Based on the life of Saint Teresa de Cabora. Violence and strong language. Kiriama 2006.

**In America**, by Susan Sontag. **RC 49825**

In the opening chapter numbered "Zero," the unnamed protagonist--speaking for the author--chooses the characters for the novel. The remainder of the book revolves around the decision of Polish actress Maryna Zalezowska to leave the stage in 1876 and move to California with her husband and entourage. NBA 2000.

**In the Next Galaxy**, by Ruth Stone. **RC 57465**

Eighth collection from award-winning Virginia native born in 1915. In nearly one hundred poems, Stone provides an unsentimental personal glimpse of her life--from coping with her husband's suicide and the realities of her own aging to everyday observations of the world around her. Some strong language. NBA 2002.

**Inheritance of Loss**, by Kiran Desai. **RC 64261**

Himalayas, 1986. Retired judge Jemubhai Patel lives with his cook and sixteen-year-old granddaughter, Sai. An Indian-Nepalese insurgency makes Jemubhai confront his past and interrupts Sai's romance with her Nepali tutor. Meanwhile, the cook worries about his son in America. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Booker 2006, NBCC 2006.

**Interpreter of Maladies**, by Jhumpa Lahiri. **RC 50087**

Nine tales of brief encounters with lasting effects, set in India and America. Each emphasizes cultural transition and loss. In the title piece, while American-born Mr. and Mrs. Das and their three young children are tourists in India, Mrs. Das confides a disquieting secret to their guide. Pulitzer 2000.

**Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell**, by Susanna Clarke. **RC 58885**

In the early 1800s, with England embroiled in the Napoleonic Wars, Norrell reveals his skills as a practicing magician. Novice Jonathan Strange becomes Norrell's pupil and takes up England's cause on the battlefield. As Strange's powers grow, so does his obsession with the ancient, magical Raven King. World Fantasy 2005, Hugo 2005, Book Sense 2005.

**Kafka on the Shore**, by Haruki Murakami. **RC 59914**

After teenager Kafka Tamura runs away, his father, a famous sculptor, is murdered. This crime links Kafka and an elderly illiterate man in inexplicable ways. Both journey separately to a private library where their destinies overlap. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. World Fantasy 2006.

**Killer Instinct**, by Joseph Finder. **RC 62603**

Massachusetts electronics salesman Jason Steadman's career takes off after he helps ex-Special Forces soldier Kurt Semko get a job in the firm's security office. While Jason's ambitious wife, Kate, is happy about the newfound success, Jason worries that his colleagues' sudden misfortunes are not accidental. Violence and strong language. Thriller 2007.

**The Kite Runner**, by Khaled Hosseini. **RC 57457**

An Afghan in California recalls a fateful 1975 day in Kabul that seared his soul at age twelve--the day he won a kite tournament and abandoned a younger companion to rape. That cowardice keeps haunting him during exile in America until the opportunity for atonement arises--back in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan. Violence and some strong language. Orange 2007.

**The Known World**, by Edward P. Jones. **RC 56918**

Manchester County, Virginia; 1855. At his death Henry Townsend, a thirty-one-year-old former slave who maintains a relationship with his owner William Robbins, owns more than thirty slaves himself and fifty acres of land. But now his plantation begins to fall apart as slaves betray one another. NBCC 2003.

**Lady Luck's Map of Vegas**, by Barbara Samuel. **RC 63489**

India drives her mother, Eldora, from Colorado to Las Vegas to relive her youth after India's father dies. They also search for India's schizophrenic twin sister. Eldora burdens India with her sordid past, while India's pregnancy forces her to make decisions. Some descriptions of sex. Rita 2006.

**Lakeside Cottage**, by Susan Wiggs. **RC 63442**

Unemployed journalist Kate Livingston and her nine-year-old son are spending the summer at her family's Washington state cottage. Nearby, military medic J.D. Harris seeks refuge from the press after saving the president's life. The two meet and fall in love despite obstacles. Some strong language. Rita 2006.

**Life of Pi**, by Yann Martel. **RC 54950**

Pi Patel, the sole human survivor of a shipwreck, is in a lifeboat with an injured zebra, a hyena, an orangutan, and an adult Bengal tiger. Strangely, after 227 days in the Pacific, the boy and the tiger make landfall. Some violence. Booker 2002.

**The Line of Beauty**, by Alan Hollinghurst. **RC 59483**

1980s. After university, gay Nick Guest moves into the London mansion of his friend Toby, whose father is a conservative politician. Nick has relationships with a black clerk and later a Lebanese millionaire while enjoying a privileged lifestyle. Explicit descriptions of sex and strong language. Booker 2004.

**The Lovely Bones**, by Alice Sebold. **RC 54698**

Susie Salmon, a fourteen-year-old girl murdered by a neighbor, watches over her family and friends from heaven. While adjusting to a new habitat, she reaches out to them as she observes their struggle to survive their grief. Some descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. Book Sense 2003

**March**, by Geraldine Brooks. **RC 64617**

Reverend March, the husband and father from Louisa May Alcott's **Little Women (RC 58830)** leaves Connecticut to become an army chaplain during the Civil War. An assignment to teach freed slaves on a plantation changes March's view of humanity while hardship hurts his family. Strong language and some violence. Pulitzer 2006.

**The March**, by E.L. Doctorow. **RC 60676**

This Civil War saga portrays the complex nature of General William Tecumseh Sherman as he leads Union troops through Georgia and the Carolinas. Describes the carnage and destruction that occur as well as the tender feelings that arise as the soldiers proceed. NBCC 2005, Pen/Faulkner 2006.

**Me Talk Pretty One Day**, by David Sedaris. **RC 50514**

A comic essayist and public radio commentator recalls having speech therapy forced upon him (and other "future homosexuals" with lisps) as a child, acquiring his lifelong hatred of computers, failing in an attempt at teaching, and trying to learn French while living in France. Strong language. Thurber 2001.

**The Mermaid Chair**, by Sue Monk Kidd. **RC 60121**

When fortyish Jesse Sullivan returns to Egret Island to reconnect with her failing mother, she doesn't expect to be overwhelmed with passion for a Benedictine monk. Jessie confronts her present confusion while she probes her mother's past. Some descriptions of sex. Quill 2005.

**Middlesex**, by Jeffrey Eugenides. **RC 54934**

At forty-one, hermaphrodite Cal Stephanides examines the rare genetic mutation that has caused his gender to change since his birth as a girl in 1960. He describes his teenage revelations, his Greek grandparents' guilty secret, and his coming-of-age in Detroit. Explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Pulitzer 2003.

**My Lucky Star**, by Joe Keenan. **RC 62227**

Struggling playwright Philip Cavanaugh and his friends Gilbert and Claire visit Hollywood to develop a screenplay for actress Diana Malenfant and her secretly gay megastar son, Stephen. The job precipitates misadventures involving plagiarism, blackmail, and an illicit act caught on tape. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Thurber 2007.

**The Name of the Wind**, by Patrick Rothfuss. **RC 64855**

A wandering scholar recognizes an innkeeper as the legendary Kvothe and elicits his story. Kvothe reveals his youth in a family of traveling players, struggles as an orphan, entry into a school of magic, and exploits that earned him reputations as a magician, thief, hero, and assassin. Some violence. Quill 2007.

**Nell**, by Jeanette Baker. **RC 52069**

Two women, Nell Fitzgerald from the sixteenth century and Jillian Fitzgerald from the twentieth century, are united across time in their search for love. But, for both, the conflicts between England and Ireland, Catholics and Protestants, lead to tragedies that tear each from her beloved. Some descriptions of sex. Rita 2000.

**News from Paraguay**, by Lily Tuck. **RC 59770**

Paris, 1854. Francisco Lopez, Paraguay's future dictator, falls in love with Irish courtesan Ella Lynch. Following him to South America, Ella embraces her lover's doomed imperialistic dreams, but remains a stranger in a foreign land. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language. NBA 2004.

**Ombria in Shadow**, by Patricia McKillip. **RC 54915**

The death of the prince of Ombria forces a power struggle. The prince named his young son as his successor, but his evil aunt Domina Pearl becomes the boy's regent. The prince's former mistress, the prince's nephew, and a sorceress join together to fight the oncoming darkness. World Fantasy 2003.

**On Beauty**, by Zadie Smith. **RC 61204**

Philandering liberal Englishman Howard Belsey teaches art at a New England college. When Howard's biracial son Jerome falls in love with the daughter of the conservative Trinidadian Monty Kipps, Howard is dismayed. But Howard's and Monty's wives become friends. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Orange 2006.

**On the Way to the Wedding**, by Julia Quinn. **RC 63137**

London, 1827. Gregory Bridgerton unexpectedly falls in love with Lady Lucinda "Lucy" Abernathy after being jilted by Lucy's best friend Hermione. Lucy, engaged since childhood, finally succumbs to Gregory's advances but still feels obligated to marry her fiancé. Some explicit descriptions of sex. 2006. Rita 2007.

**Paladin of souls**, by Lois McMaster Bujold. **RC 57356**

Free of the madness imprisoning her in **The Curse of Chalion (RC 53074)**, widowed dowager Royina Ista of Chalion undertakes a pilgrimage of atonement. Accompanied by loyal followers, Ista contends with gods, demons, and soldier-bandits until she is rescued by the hero of her visions. Some descriptions of sex and some violence. Nebula 2005, Hugo 2004.

**Parable of the Talents**, by Octavia Butler. **RC 48070**

In **Parable of the Sower (RC 39777)**, Lauren Oya Olamina established the community of Acorn, inhabited by followers of her Earthseed religion. Now with the election of Christian fundamentalist Reverend Andrew Steele Jarret as U.S. president, the residents of Acorn are in grave danger, including Lauren's infant daughter. Strong language and some violence. Nebula 2000.

**The Patriot's Club**, by Christopher Reich. **RC 60753**

Successful Wall Street businessman Thomas Bolden, who grew up orphaned on the raw streets of Chicago, chases muggers who rob his girlfriend but is instead abducted by them. After escaping, Bolden investigates the group, a centuries-old organization of powerful men with a political agenda. Thriller 2006.

**Peace Like a River**, by Leif Enger. **RC 54212**

In early 1960s Minnesota, Davy, seventeen, takes flight from the law after he kills two thugs who have assaulted his girlfriend and menaced his nine-year-old sister. His miracle-worker father, poetry-writing sister Swede, and eleven-year-old Reuben, who tells the tale, set out across the Great Plains to find the boy. Book Sense 2002

**Poisonwood Bible**, by Barbara Kingsolver. **RC 46882**

An American missionary family lands in the village of Kilanga in the Congo in 1959, and the cultural confrontation begins immediately. The mother and four daughters react to their new environment, the villagers' respond to their new preacher, and the family dynamics change. All of this is intensified by the Congo's own political turmoil. Orange 2005, Book Sense 2000.

**The Proposition**, by Judith Ivory. **RC 50381**

London, 1898. On a bet, linguist Edwina Bollash has six weeks to transform a Cornish ratcatcher into a proper gentleman who can pass as a viscount at her cousin's annual ball. But the tall and handsome Mick Tremore charms his way into her heart. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2000.

**Quantum Rose**, by Catherine Asaro. **RC 56766**

To save her impoverished people, Kamoj Argali, young governor of Argali Province, marries Havyrl Lionstar, a powerful, dark, and mysterious stranger. When a rejected suitor fights to get her back, she discovers her husband's true identity. Sequel to **Ascendant Sun (RC 56756)**. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some violence. Nebula 2002.

**Quinn's Complete Seduction**, by Sandra Steffen. **RC 57094**

More than a year ago Nathan Quinn's wife died. As spring blossoms, he considers that it is time to find a new woman to help raise his daughter, Holly. Crystal Galloway, new to Jasper Gulch, South Dakota, is also searching for something, but not a husband. Rita 2002.

**Rainbow's End**, by Vernor Vinge. **RC 62400**

Southern California, twenty-first century. Seventy-five-year-old Robert Gu, renowned poet and former professor, survives a near-fatal battle with Alzheimer's. Physically well but mentally behind, Robert takes classes at a high school to retrain his brain and unwittingly becomes part of an international conspiracy to take over the world. Hugo 2007.

**The Red Tent**, by Anita Diamant. **RC 46859**

Dinah, the only daughter of Leah and Jacob in Genesis, departs from the biblical saga to recount her story and that of the women around her. The red tent is where women retreat for childbirth and their monthly cycle, and young girls learn about their role in society. But no one prepared Dinah for her brothers' cruelty toward her husband and herself. Some violence and some sedcriptions of sex. Book Sense 2001.

**Remember When**, by Nora Roberts. **RC 56898**

Laine Tavish discovers that a man killed outside her Maryland shop helped her father steal millions in diamonds. Max Gannon, investigating the theft, falls in love with Laine. Fifty years later, NYC police detective Eve Dallas assists their endangered granddaughter who unknowingly has the stones. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Rita 2004.

**Restless**, by William Boyd. **RC 65076**

England, 1976. Fearing for her life, Sally Gilmartin reveals her true identity as Eva Delectorskaya, a WWII British spy, to her adult daughter, Ruth. As Ruth pieces together the past, her mother asks for help with one final mission. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Costa 2006.

**The Road**, by Cormac McCarthy. **RC 63649**

A father and his young son journey south after the destruction of the civilized world. Their survival kit consists of a few blankets, a pistol, a cart of scavenged food, and their love for each other. Their values are tested by occasional encounters with other desperate survivors. Pulitzer 2007, Quill 2007.

**Saving Lives: Poems**, by Albert Goldbarth. **RC 63304**

Poetry exploring the many ways people try to save others' lives and their own. One way, through reading, is celebrated in the opening poem, "Library"--an homage to the variety and uses of books. Some strong language. NBCC 2001.

**The Sea**, by John Banville. **RC 61200**

Middle-aged Irish widower Max Morden retreats to the seaside where he spent his boyhood summers to mourn the loss of his wife, Anna. While his grown daughter tries to console him, he confronts the past and his relationship with the wealthy Grace family. Strong language. Booker 2005.

**Seeker**, by Jack McDevitt. **RC 62061**

Interstellar antiquities dealer Alex Benedict from **Polaris (RC 59625)** acquires a nine-thousand-year-old cup believed to be from the starship Seeker, which fled Earth in 2688 to establish a new colony, Margolia. Alex and his assistant Chase Kolpath look for the Seeker, hoping it will lead to Margolia. Some violence. Nebula 2007.

**Small Island**, by Andrea Levy. **RC 61558**

1948. Following the war, Jamaican Gilbert Joseph and his wife, Hortense, move to England. They lodge with Queenie, whose racially prejudiced husband, Bernard, eventually returns from overseas. The men have difficulty adjusting to England's size, which seems small after their wartime experiences. Some strong language. Orange 2004, Whitbread 2004.

**The Speed of Dark**, by Elizabeth Moon. **RC 58560**

Born with autism at the dawn of the twenty-first century, Lou Arrendale is an independent adult working at a pharmaceutical company. When his boss pressures him to receive an experimental treatment that could reverse his condition, Lou worries how he will change and how he will feel being "normal." Nebula 2004.

**Spies**, by Michael Frayn. **RC 54025**

Following one of their mothers around the neighborhood, two British schoolboys during World War II imagine that she is a German spy. Stephen and Keith soon enter the world of grownups and become entangled in events beyond their comprehension. Whitbread 2002.

**Spin**, by Robert Charles Wilson. **RC 64784**

Years ago, Tyler and his twin friends Jason and Diane watched the stars disappear as Earth was cocooned in an electromagnetic barrier. Now time differentials threaten Earth's complete annihilation. Tyler works as a doctor while scientist Jason tries to save humanity and Diane joins a hedonist cult. Some strong language. Hugo 2006.

**The Surgeon**, by Tess Gerritsen. **RC 54007**

Trauma surgeon Catherine Cordell left Savannah after escaping from a serial murderer whom she managed to kill. A copycat is now stalking her in Boston while finding other victims, and Catherine falls in love with the detective on the case. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex. Rita 2002.

**Survivor in Death**, by J.D. Robb. **RC 59821**

New York, 2059. Lieutenant Eve Dallas hides nine-year-old Nixie Swisher in her own secure mansion after the child witnessed her family's massacre. Eve seeks the killer while her husband Roarke and butler Summerset guard Nixie. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2006.

**Tempt Me Twice**, by Barbara Dawson Smith. **RC 56054**

Regency England. Lord Gabriel Kenyon returns to London from Africa to inform Kate Talisford of her father's death there. Kate holds a grudge against Gabriel, but needs him to help find her parent's treasure--and along the way they fall in love. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2002.

**The Texan's Reward**, by Jodi Thomas. **RC 61827**

Nell, the "wild child" from the Wife Lottery series, needs a husband to help run her ranch. Jacob Dalton, who keeps rescuing Nell, hopes to prevent her from making a big mistake, but instead falls in love. Sequel to **A Texan's Luck (RC 61638)**. Some descriptions of sex. Rita 2006.

**The Thirteenth Tale**, by Diane Setterfield. **RC 63418**

Cambridge antiquarian bookseller Margaret Lea is hired by legendary author Vida Winter to pen her life story before she dies. At Vida's decrepit estate out on the Yorkshire moors, Margaret listens to a family history of ghosts, incest, abandoned babies, and other secrets, but wonders, is it true? Quill 2007.

**Three Fates**, by Nora Roberts. **RC 54462**

Irish siblings Malachi, Gideon, and Rebecca Sullivan seek the return of a family heirloom--a small antique statue--and the whereabouts of its matching pieces. During their dangerous quest, they manipulate suspects but also fall in love. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Rita 2003.

**Three Junes**, by Julia Glass. **RC 55525**

The Scottish McLeods--father and three sons--grapple with family ties and love relationships in the summers of 1989, 1995, and 1999. Widowed Paul, traveling in Greece, reappraises the past in his bereavement; a son in Manhattan finds an outlet for repressed feelings; and his brothers learn accommodation. Some strong language. NBA 2002.

**Tom Thomson in Purgatory**, by Troy Jollimore. **RC 64848**

This award-winning debut poetry collection is introduced by Billy Collins, who says it "falls gracefully into the American tradition of the extended persona poem." Diverse poetic formats portray Tom Thomson, while others in *From the Boy Scout Manual* can stand alone. NBCC 2006.

**True Confessions**, by Rachel Gibson. **RC 56056**

L.A. tabloid reporter Hope Spencer recovers incognito from her tumultuous divorce in rural Gospel, Idaho. She falls in love with local sheriff Dylan Taber, a single father, who also conceals secrets from his past. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Rita 2002.

**True History of the Kelly Gang**, by Peter Carey. **RC 53638**

Australia, 1880; Ned Kelly is hanged for a series of crimes. Before his execution, Kelly writes letters to his daughter describing his life. Recalls how his mother apprenticed him to a highwayman and how, at age fourteen, he robbed rich Englishmen who despised the Irish. Strong language and some violence. Booker 2001.

**Twelve Sharp**, by Janet Evanovich. **RC 62872**

New Jersey. A woman claiming to be a bond enforcement agent's wife stalks bounty hunter Stephanie Plum. When someone kills the stalker, Stephanie helps the agent, known as Ranger, to locate his kidnapped daughter--and finds herself attracted to him. Strong language, some descriptions of sex, and some violence. Quill 2006.

**An Unquiet Grave**, by P.J. Parrish. **RC 64747**

The relocation of a Michigan sanitarium's graveyard unearths the empty coffin of Claudia DeFoe, a former patient and the youthful love of PI Louis Kincaid's foster father, Phillip. Louis searches for Claudia's remains, at Phillip's request, and uncovers a scandal--and a serial killer. Strong language and some violence. Thriller 2007.

**Vernon God Little**, by D.B.C. Pierre. **RC 58032**

After a Texas high school massacre, fifteen-year-old sole survivor Vernon Little becomes a suspect. Stalked by the media, Vernon flees to Mexico only to be apprehended and brought to trial for murder. A picaresque satire on America mores. Strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex, and some violence. Booker 2003, Whitbread 2003.

**Waiting**, by Ha Jin. **RC 49107**

In 1960s China, Manna Wu falls in love with married doctor Lin Kong. His tradition-bound wife Shuyu refuses to divorce him, but if Lin can forbear through eighteen years of separation, the court will dissolve the marriage. Pen/Faulkner 2000, NBA 1999.

**War Trash**, by Ha Jin. **RC 59844**

A novel in the form of a memoir by seventy-three-year-old Yu Yuan, who, as a young Chinese soldier captured by the Americans during the Korean War, was forced to become a prison-camp interpreter. He recalls perilous life-and-death power struggles between his fellow POWs' nationalist and communist factions. Violence and strong language. Pen/Faulkner 2005.

**Water for Elephants**, by Sara Gruen. **RC 62718**

1931. Veterinary student Jacob Jankowski's world comes crashing down when his parents die in a car accident. Broke, Jacob joins the circus, falls for Marlena, a married circus star, and cares for animals like Rosie the elephant. Strong language, some descriptions of sex, and some violence. Book Sense 2007.

**White Teeth**, by Zadie Smith. **RC 50261**

Set in London and spanning some twenty-five years, these are the misadventures of World War II buddies Archie Jones, an Englishman, and Samad Iqbal, a Bengali Muslim. Encompassing their marriages and offspring, their story explores religion, ethnicity, and gender. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Whitbread 2000.

**Worth Any Price**, by Lisa Kleypas. **RC 55731**

Unable to face a future with Lord Radnor, to whom she was betrothed as a child, Charlotte Howard runs away. Bow Street runner Nick Gentry is hired to find her, but isn't ready for what he encounters. Companion to **Lady Sophia's Lover (RC 54333)**. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Rita 2004.

## **Non-Fiction**

**Alexander Hamilton**, by Ron Chernow. **RC 58364**

Award-winning author chronicles the life of the foremost American founding father who never became president. Describes Hamilton (1757-1804) as self-pitying, cynically manipulative, yet compassionate. Documents his membership in the Constitutional Convention, service as Treasury secretary, and prolific authorship that helped shape U.S. political agendas and institutions. Washington 2005.

**American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer**, by Kai Bird. **RC 61087**

Biography of physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer (1904-1967)--"the father of the atomic bomb." Chronicles his New York City upbringing, marriage to Kitty Puening, work on the Manhattan Project, and life after the 1954 Atomic Energy Commission hearings which denied Oppenheimer his security clearance for questioning the ethics of nuclear weapons. Pulitzer 2006, NBCC 2005.

**Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age**, by Kevin Boyle. **RC 59602**

Historian Boyle uses the 1925 case of African American doctor Ossian Sweet, who shot a white man while defending his house against a racist mob, to explore race relations in jazz-era America. Portrays the sensationalized murder trial and Clarence Darrow's legal tactics. Strong language. NBA 2004.

**An Army at Dawn: The War in North Africa**, by Rick Atkinson. **RC 54939**

Pulitzer Prize-winning author of **Crusade (RC 41346)** and **The Long Gray Line (RC 30303)** analyzes the 1942-1943 Operation TORCH invasion of North Africa--the first joint Allied effort. Describes the action between the green U.S. troops and Rommel's battle-hardened Afrika Korps and the conflict between the British and American commands. Pulitzer 2003.

**The Assault on Reason**, by Al Gore. **RC 65009**

Former United States vice president denounces the unhealthy atmosphere of American politics and posits that democracy is in danger. Decries media consolidation, threats against the judiciary, and the denigration of science. Suggests restoring the "rule of reason." Quill 2007.

**Brunelleschi's Dome: How a Renaissance Genius Reinvented Architecture**, by Ross King. **RC 53639**

Discusses the intermittent construction during the 1300s of a cathedral in Florence that would require the largest dome in the world. Explains how this led to the 1418 competition for solving the architectural puzzle; how it was won by Filippo Brunelleschi, a clockmaker; and how he achieved engineering marvels. Book Sense 2001.

**Bury the Chains: Prophets and Rebels in the Fight to Free an Empire's Slaves**, by Adam Hochschild. **RC 60562**

The author of **King Leopold's Ghost (RC 48452)** chronicles the five-decade campaign that formally ended slavery in the British empire in 1838 and provided a framework for American abolitionists. Recounts the movement launched in 1787 and its personalities, economics, and moral philosophy. Violence. Gelber 2006.

**Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama, the Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution**, by Diane McWhorter. **RC 53239**

A journalist examines her hometown's role in the 1950s and 1960s civil rights movement. A member of a privileged Birmingham, Alabama, white family, McWhorter describes the police dog attacks, church bombings, and other horrors launched against blacks. She highlights the conspiracy among the city's public officials, elite citizens, and Klansmen. Pulitzer 2002.

**Charles Darwin: Voyaging**, by Janet Browne. **RC 59259 (v. 1)**

First of a two-volume biography revisits the naturalist's (1809-1882) privileged childhood, his five-year odyssey on the H.M.S. Beagle, and his marriage. Shows how observation and collection of biological specimens led Darwin to his theories on evolution and natural selection. Prequel to **Charles Darwin: The Power of Place (RC 59280 v.2)**. NBCC 2002.

**Chronicles, v.1**, by Bob Dylan. **RC 59429**

First of a three-volume memoir by music legend Bob Dylan. Describes his intellectual development, folk songs and blues he listened to in the 1960s, and the growth of his artistic conscience. Recalls early days in Greenwich Village, transient loves, lasting friendships, and experiences in New Orleans and Woodstock. Quill 2005.

**Decision at Sea: Five Naval Battles that Shaped American History**, by Craig Symonds. **RC 61299**

Historian illustrates how five pivotal naval battles shaped U.S. history, stimulated the development of new technology, and changed the nature of sea warfare. Analyzes the battles of Lake Erie (1813), Hampton Roads (1862), Manila Bay (1898), Midway (1942), and Operation Praying Mantis (1988). Roosevelt 2005.

**De Kooning: An American Master**, by Mark Stevens. **RC 60110**

Biography of Dutch-born artist Willem de Kooning (1904-1997), who became a major figure in the mid-twentieth-century New York abstract expressionism scene. Explores de Kooning's bohemian habits, friendship with Gorky, financial backing from Hirshhorn and Fourcade, only marriage, and passion for painting. NBCC 2004, Pulitzer 2005.

**Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight: An African Childhood**, by Alexandra Fuller. **RC 53942**

Recollections of growing up white in civil-war-torn 1970s Rhodesia. Fuller's affection for Africa and for her parents--despite their flaws--withstands her critical scrutiny. Recounts her family's tragedies, including the deaths of children and dispossession of their home, and their efforts to deal with racism, revolutionary politics, and the struggle for survival. Strong language. Book Sense 2003.

**Don't Make a Black Woman Take Off Her Earrings: Madea's Uninhibited Commentaries on Love and Life**, by Tyler Perry. **RC 62523**

Words of wisdom from Tyler Perry's comedic character Madea from the movie *Diary of a Mad Black Woman*. Topics covered include love, marriage, child-rearing, etiquette, finances, and church, among others. Dispenses advice in a straightforward, no-nonsense way. Strong language. Quill 2006.

**Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper**, by Nicholson Baker. **RC 52808**

Novelist and library activist Baker opposes the library practice of microfilming and then discarding old printed materials. He argues against the purported brittle-paper crisis and pleads for retaining old books and newspapers to be perused in their original format. NBCC 2001.

**Einstein: His Life and Universe**, by Walter Isaacson. **RC 64501**

Biography of Albert Einstein (1879-1955), who won the 1921 Nobel Prize for physics. Discusses Einstein's private and public life, including his years in America, work that led to the development of the atomic bomb, commitment to Zionism and pacifism, familial relationships, and love of playing the violin. Quill 2007.

**Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II**, by John W. Dower. **RC 49484**

In this companion to **War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War (RC 25306)** the author chronicles life in Japan during the American occupation, as seen through the eyes of the defeated. Focuses on social and cultural developments as an entire people had to start over. NBA 2000, Pulitzer 2000.

**Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation**, by Joseph Ellis. **RC 51469**

Author of **American Sphinx (RC 44729)** explains the importance of a few prominent leaders in the development of democracy after the American Revolution. Describes significant contributions to the new nation made by John Adams, Aaron Burr, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and George Washington. Pulitzer 2001.

**Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything**, by Stephen D. Levitt. **RC 60337**

Writer Stephen Dubner explains the offbeat issues that intrigue award-winning economist and coauthor Steven Levitt. Explores everyday riddles such as the link between legalized abortion and the crime rate, the effect of parents' income and ethnicity on naming babies, and the motivations of real estate agents. Strong language. Book Sense 2006.

**Freedom From Fear: The American People in Depression and War, 1929-45**, by David M. Kennedy. **RC 50809**

Surveys a period of crises, fears, and insecurities in American history. Includes the post-World War I years of poverty, the Great Depression and its subsequent social unrest, Herbert Hoover's attempts at economic reform, Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, isolationism, and the United States' entry into World War II. Pulitzer 2000.

**Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and bin Laden**, by Steve Coll. **RC 57940**

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and Washington Post managing editor Steve Coll describes how the United States became embroiled in the affairs of Afghanistan from 1979 to 2001. Chronicles the efforts to control the country by CIA spies, the former Soviet Union, local warlords, and Arab leaders. Pulitzer 2005, Gelber 2004.

**A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France, and the Birth of America**, by Stacy Schiff. **RC 59682**

Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer reconstructs Benjamin Franklin's seven-year sojourn in France. Chronicles the political and social intrigues of eighteenth-century Paris. Claims Franklin's negotiated French-American alliance led ultimately to the colonies' independence from Britain and a bond with France that lasted two centuries. Washington 2006.

**Gulag: A History**, by Anne Applebaum. **RC 58287**

Washington Post columnist documents the evolution of the Soviet Union's forced labor camp system--from its origins during the Bolshevik Revolution, expansion under Stalin, and its dissolution after the dictator's death. The chronicle also examines the lives of prisoners and the unique society they formed. Pulitzer 2004.

**Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan**, by Herbert P. Bix. **RC 52271**

Explores Emperor Hirohito's role in twentieth-century Japanese politics and developments. Asserts that the monarch helped advance the country's nationalistic agenda. Argues that he actively participated in developing policies guiding the Asia-Pacific war, including the Pearl Harbor campaign and negotiations when Russia attacked Manchuria. NBCC 2000, Pulitzer 2001.

**I Feel Bad About my Neck: And Other Thoughts on Being a Woman**, by Nora Ephron. **RC 63378**

In a series of humorous vignettes, author Nora Ephron obsesses about being a woman in her sixties. Discusses her expensive regimen to camouflage signs of aging, her purse and its contents, parenting, ex-husbands, and former presidents. In "Serial Monogamy: A Memoir," Ephron admits her infatuation with famous chefs. Book Sense 2007.

**In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex**, by Nathaniel Philbrick. **RC 50271**

Relying mainly on the cabin boy's journal discovered in 1960, the author recounts the disastrous 1819 voyage of the whaling ship Essex. He describes the attack of an eighty-five-foot bull sperm whale, and the ensuing starvation, dehydration, and cannibalism that befell the shipwrecked survivors. NBA 2000.

**An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming**, by Al Gore. **RC 64771**

Discusses the climate crisis and explains changes occurring in Earth's weather, temperatures, and water levels. Examines the impact of global warming, greenhouse gases, and technology's side effects on hurricanes, polar caps, and the spread of disease. Calls for scientific action to counter the problem. Quill 2006.

**James Tiptree, Jr.: The Double Life of Alice B. Sheldon**, by Julie Phillips. **RC 64102**

Biography of Alice B. Sheldon (1915-1987), who won Hugo and Nebula awards in the 1970s for science fiction short stories written under the pseudonym James Tiptree Jr. Discusses her marriages, her emergence as an author, and the gender-identity crisis she experienced when Tiptree was revealed to be a woman. NBCC 2006.

**John Adams**, by David McCullough. **RC 52275**

Award-winning author chronicles the life and times of America's second president, New Englander John Adams (1735-1826). Examines his pivotal role as revolutionary, diplomat, and politician as well as his friendship--and rivalry--with Thomas Jefferson. Primary sources detail his relationship with his wife, Abigail, four children, and notable contemporaries. Pulitzer 2002.

**John Maynard Keynes: Fighting for Freedom, 1937-1946**, by Robert Skidelsky. **RC 59306 (v.3)**

Last installment, following **John Maynard Keynes: Hopes Betrayed, 1883-1920 (RC 24871, v.1)** and **John Maynard Keynes: Economist as Savior, 1920-1937 (RC 39180, v.2)**, of the influential British economist's life and times. Focuses on the period between 1937 and 1946, when Keynes formulated plans for financing England's war effort. Skidelsky also explores the rivalry between Britain and America for postwar superiority. Gelber 2001.

**Khrushchev: The Man and His Era**, by William Taubman. **RC 56692**

Chronicles the life and times of Nikita Khrushchev (1894-1971), a Ukrainian peasant who rose through the Communist ranks to eventually succeed Joseph Stalin as party leader of the Soviet Union. Uses newly released archives and interviews with Khrushchev's contemporaries to explore the complexity and contradictions in the leader's character. NBCC 2003, Pulitzer 2004.

**Legacy of Ashes**, by Tim Weiner. **RC 65038**

Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter investigates the sixty-year legacy of the Central Intelligence Agency. Uses archival and interview evidence to illustrate that the agency's mission of gathering intelligence faltered due to political pressure. Posits that national security has been jeopardized by the CIA's inability to carry out its mission. NBA 2007.

**The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11**, by Lawrence Wright. **RC 63287**

Traces Islamic fundamentalism from 1948 to the 2001 attack on America. Highlights Al Qaeda leaders Osama bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri. Asserts a historical lack of concern from intelligence agencies except for FBI agent John O'Neill and Saudi prince Turki al-Faisal. Violence and strong language. Pulitzer 2007, Gelber 2007.

**The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million**, by Daniel Mendelsohn. **RC 64825**

Author of **The Elusive Embrace (RC 50368)** documents his quest to uncover details about six relatives killed during the Holocaust. Recounts his international journeys to interview witnesses to the victims' hiding, discovery, and murder. Describes the impact of their deaths on his family. NBCC 2006.

**Marley and Me**, by John Grogan. **RC 61561**

A columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer reminisces about the untrainable Labrador retriever that he and his wife acquired as Florida newlyweds. Recalls Marley's hilarious escapades and his capacity for love as the Grogans become the parents of three kids. Prequel to **Marley: A Dog like no Other (RC 65296)**. Quill 2006.

**Master of the Senate: The Years of Lyndon Johnson**, by Robert A. Caro. **RC 54174**

The third volume of a biographical study of the thirty-sixth president, following **The Path to Power (RC 18676)** and **Means of Ascent (RC 30837)**. Explains how Johnson, elected to the Senate in 1949, mastered the legislative system and maneuvered himself into the vice-presidency in 1960. Some strong language. NBA 2002, Pulitzer 2003.

**Metaphysical Club**, by Louis Menand. **RC 52665**

An English professor and journalist explores the origin and development of American pragmatism. Menand charts the lives and ideas of William James, Charles Sanders Peirce, Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., and John Dewey and explores the consequences for American culture of pragmatism's central tenet--that experience is the decisive test of truth. Pulitzer 2002.

**The Most famous man in America: the biography of Henry Ward Beecher**, by Debby Applegate. **RC 64278**

Biography of minister Henry Beecher (1813-1887), younger brother of Harriet Beecher Stowe. In his Brooklyn church and abroad, Henry deviated from the Calvinist theology of his evangelist father and preached about a loving God. Highlights his religious, social, and abolitionist views and his sensational trial for adultery. Pulitzer 2007.

**Nation Under our Feet**, by Steven Hahn. **RC 58775**

History professor chronicles the development of African American political culture during the last half of the nineteenth century. Extensive survey traces kinship, labor, and communication networking trends through slavery, emancipation, Radical Reconstruction, and the Great Migration north, discussing how grassroots movements transformed the South and the nation. Pulitzer 2004.

**Newjack: Guarding Sing-Sing**, by Ted Conover. **RC 52863**

A journalist's account of one year spent as a corrections officer in New York state. Conover's fascination with prisons led him to become a guard. He describes his training and his year on the job, with its moments of horror and grace. Includes a brief history of Sing Sing. Strong language and some violence. NBCC 2000.

**Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression**, by Andrew Solomon.  
**RC 53027**

Examines the mental illness depression from cultural, personal, and scientific viewpoints. Explores medical treatments and alternatives, addiction, suicide, and related topics refracted through the author's own experiences and the struggles of fellow sufferers whom he interviewed. Some violence and some strong language. NBA 2001.

**Polio: An American Story**, by David Oshinsky. **RC 60283**

Account of the twentieth-century search for a polio vaccine and the rivalries that developed between competing medical researchers, notably Jonas Salk, Albert Sabin, and Hilary Koprowski. Traces the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis campaigns and the public health experiment involving Salk's vaccine. Evokes the widespread panic over the disease. Pulitzer 2006.

**A "Problem from Hell": America and the Age of Genocide**, by Samantha Power. **RC 56325**

Former war correspondent analyzes the U.S. response to major genocides of the twentieth century. Using the Armenian murders in 1915, the Holocaust, and Saddam Hussein's destruction of the Kurds in the 1980s as examples, Power demonstrates the failure of political leaders to intervene against global atrocities. Pulitzer 2002, NBCC 2002.

**Queen of Scots: The True Life of Mary Stuart**, by John Guy. RC 64666

University of Cambridge history fellow reexamines the life of Mary, Queen of Scots (1542-1587), using original documents and archives. Guy lets Mary speak through her letters, details reasons her versions of events differ from the accounts of others, and presents her as an innocent victim. Whitbread 2004.

**The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation**, by Gene Roberts. RC 65007

The authors detail the role of journalists, both black and white, who documented the struggle for civil rights in the American south--often at risk to their lives. Chronicles coverage of the Emmett Till lynching case, the Selma march, the Montgomery bus boycott, and sit-ins. Some strong language. Pulitzer 2007.

**Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books**, by Azar Nafisi. RC 56459

Former professor of English literature in Iran relates her experiences, after resigning her university post in 1995, in continuing to teach seven female students who met secretly at her home each week to discuss literary classics. Nafisi describes how the women, reacting to the Islamic republic's intolerance, resisted oppression and embraced free thought. Book Sense 2004.

**River Town: Two Years on the Yangtze**, by Peter Hessler. RC 53238

Memoir of an American Peace Corps volunteer who taught English literature in a teachers' college in rural southern China from 1996 to 1998. Intersperses reminiscences of daily events with descriptions of local landscape, history, and people. Discusses the difficulties of a Westerner trying to understand Chinese culture. Kiriya 2001.

**Rough Crossings: Britain, the Slaves, and the American Revolution**, by Simon Schama. **RC 64394**

Chronicles the mass emancipation of slaves in the American colonies--by Britain--beginning in 1775, when Virginia governor Lord Dunmore promised freedom for slaves who bore arms against the rebels. Describes the flight of tens of thousands to British-controlled territory and their resettlement in Nova Scotia and later in Sierra Leone. NBCC 2006.

**Sea of Glory: America's Voyage of Discovery, the U.S. Exploring Expedition, 1838-1842**, by Nathaniel Philbrick. **RC 58902**

Recreates the adventures of the U.S. expedition commanded by lieutenant Charles Wilkes that set sail in 1838 to explore the southern hemisphere. Examines the mission's scientific and historical contributions and considers why the unprecedented naval operation has largely been forgotten. Roosevelt 2003.

**Sea of Thunder: Four Commanders and the Last Great Naval Campaign 1941-1945**, by Evan Thomas. **RC 64038**

World War II naval battles in the South Pacific from the perspectives of Americans Admiral William Halsey, fleet commander, and destroyer commander Ernest Evans; and Japanese admirals Takeo Kurita, a battleship commander, and Matome Ugaki, the kamikaze leader. Ends with the Battle of Leyte Gulf in October 1944. Violence. Roosevelt 2006.

**Seabiscuit: The True Story of Three Men, a Great Racehorse, and the Will to Win**, by Laura Hillenbrand. **RC 51968**

Recounts the rise of an "undersized, crooked-legged" thoroughbred horse who in 1938 was the year's number-one newsmaker over Franklin Roosevelt, Hitler, and Lou Gehrig. Hillenbrand tells Seabiscuit's story through the three men who made a true long shot into a winner: owner Charles Howard, trainer Tom Smith, and jockey Red Pollard. Book Sense 2002.

**Selkirk's Island**, by Diana Souhami. **RC 55499**

Portrait of the man who inspired Defoe's Robinson Crusoe-- Alexander Selkirk, from Fife, in Scotland, who was marooned on an uninhabited island west of Chile in 1704. Describes his four years of solitary survival, his primitive state at rescue, and his subsequent career. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language. Whitbread 2001.

**1776**, by David McCullough. **RC 60330**

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian chronicles the struggles of the Continental Army during the disastrous year of 1776. Highlights George Washington's failed New York campaign and the retreat across New Jersey. Assesses the political, economic, and social problems the young nation encountered during the turbulent months from August to December. Quill 2005.

**The Shadow Divers: The True Adventure of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of World War II**, by Robert Kurson. **RC 58650**

Journalist chronicles scuba divers John Chatterton's and Richie Kohler's 1991 discovery of a sunken World War II German U-boat off the New Jersey coast. Describes their perilous six-year search in the 230-foot-deep sunken wreck for clues to identify the submarine and its crew. Strong language. Book Sense 2005.

**Sons of Mississippi: A Story of Race and its Legacy**, by Paul Hendrickson. **RC 63265**

Using interviews, archival materials, and a thought-provoking 1962 Life magazine picture of seven white lawmen preparing for integration of the University of Mississippi, a prize-winning journalist examines the life of each photographed man and of his offspring to determine whose racial attitudes have changed and whose remain untouched. NBCC 2003.

**Special Providence: American Foreign Policy and How it Changed the World**, by Walter Russell Mead. **RC 54556**

Explains how America's rise to world power was guided by balancing four different schools of thought: the Hamiltonian, Jeffersonian, Jacksonian, and Wilsonian. Theorizes that American foreign policy will continue to be shaped by its "collisions and debates far into the future." Gelber 2002.

**Them: A Memoir of Parents**, by Francine DuPlessix Gray. **RC 61816**

Memoir about the author's mother and stepfather, Russian emigres who fled occupied Paris for New York City in 1941. Portrays Tatiana du Plessix Liberman's rise as a famous hat designer and Alexander Liberman's ascent at Conde Nast Publications. Describes the publishing and fashion scenes and her parents' glamorous lives. NBCC 2005.

**Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nations One School at a Time**, by Greg Mortenson. **RC 64285**

Award-winning journalist Relin describes the mission of American humanitarian Greg Mortenson, who established the Central Asia Institute and built schools throughout Taliban-ruled lands. Discusses his childhood in Tanzania and a failed 1993 attempt to climb K2, which resulted in a promise to the Pakistani villagers who saved his life. Kiriyaama 2007.

**Vera (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov)**, by Stacy Schiff. **RC 49299**

The biography of Vera is largely the portrait of her fifty-two year literary marriage with Russian author Vladimir Nabokov. Relates the main events of their relationship where she was wife, muse, editor, translator, and publishing agent. Notes her lifelong devotion to her husband's work and her preference for privacy. Pulitzer 2000.

**Waiting for Snow in Havana: Confessions of a Cuban Boy**, by Carlos Eire. **RC 57745**

A Yale historian recalls his privileged childhood in Cuba, where his eccentric father was a Havana judge. Author describes living through the revolution, losing everything, and escaping with his brother in 1962 to exile in Miami. Some violence and some strong language. NBA 2003.

**Washington's Crossing**, by David Fischer. **RC 58946**

Details George Washington's December 1776 campaign to lead the Continental Army from Pennsylvania and across the frozen Delaware River to attack a Hessian garrison at Trenton and a British brigade at Princeton. Examines strategic, operational, and tactical decisions and the crucial victory's significance to the Revolution. Pulitzer 2005.

**W.E.B. DuBois: Fight for Equality and the American Century, 1919-1963**, by David Lewis. **RC 51944**

Lewis narrates the story of DuBois's life between 1919 and 1963. Analyzes the competing racial, political, and cultural ideologies of the time and explains the interplay among events, DuBois's writings, and his fight for equality and justice for African Americans. Pulitzer 2001. Sequel to **W.E.B. DuBois: Biography of a Race, 1868-1919 (RC 40267)** Pulitzer 1994.

**Year of Magical Thinking**, by Joan Didion. **RC 61740**

Writer reflects on her emotional response to the unexpected death of her husband, John Gregory Dunne, after a visit to their comatose daughter. Discusses the shock of suddenly facing a crisis, the memory of their time together as a family, and the meaning of marriage. NBA 2005.

## Children/Teen

**The Amber Spyglass**, by Philip Pullman. **RC 50939**

In this continuation of **The Golden Compass (RC 44343)** and **The Subtle Knife (RC 45857)** Lyra is hidden in a cave by her mother, Mrs. Coulter. Two angels want Will and his magic knife to accompany them to Lord Asriel, but Will is determined to find Lyra first. Some violence. Whitbread 2001.

**An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793**, by Jim Murphy. **RC 57418**

Describes the horrific events in Philadelphia in 1793 when citywide illness prevented Congress from convening. Thousands of people were dying, many unattended, and physicians of the time were unsure of the cause or treatment of the yellow-fever outbreak. Horn Book 2004, Sibert 2004.

**The Art of Keeping Cool**, by Janet Taylor Lisle. **RC 53113**

In 1942 thirteen-year-old Robert, his cousin Elliot, and their families live with their grandparents in Rhode Island. The boys become involved with a German artist who is mistaken for a spy, watch for enemy ships, and stay out of their nasty grandfather's way. O'Dell 2001.

**Because of Winn-Dixie**, by Kate DiCamillo. **RC 50679**

Ten-year-old India Opal and her preacher dad move to a new town in Florida during the summer. Opal is lonely until she adopts a big stray dog she names Winn-Dixie. The two soon make friends with the local librarian, the pet store manager, and a nearly-blind elderly neighbor. Book Sense 2001.

**Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine, 1845-1850**, by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. **RC 54607**

Chronicles the disaster that occurred in Ireland when the potato crop failed for five years straight. Describes the heartbreaking plight of the peasants, who depended on potatoes for all their meals. A million died of starvation, and many more were forced to emigrate to America. Sibert 2002.

**The Book Thief**, by Markus Zusak. **RC 62431**

Death narrates the tale of nine-year-old Liesel from 1939 to 1943 in Nazi Germany. Liesel copes with a foster family, air raids, her friend Rudy, and a hidden Jew, sustained by the books she steals. Some strong language. Book Sense 2007.

**Bud, Not Buddy**, by Christopher Paul Curtis. **RC 49311**

During the Great Depression, ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy, runs away from his latest (bad) foster home in Flint, Michigan. He sets out to walk to Grand Rapids in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader Herman E. Calloway. Newbery 2000.

**Canning Season**, by Polly Horvath. **RC 56625**

Thirteen-year-old Ratchet's summer visit in Maine to her eccentric great-aunts, Tilly and Penpen, is filled with their strange stories from the past and unusual, colorful characters stopping by. Ratchet feels so at home that she stays for many annual cannings of blueberry jam. NBA 2003.

**Carver: A Life in Poems**, by Marilyn Nelson. **RC 53915**

Award-winning poet's series of poems portraying incidents in the life of multitalented George Washington Carver (1864?-1943), the botanist and inventor. Covers his start as an orphaned slave eager for education, his friendship with Booker T. Washington, and his career as a researcher at Tuskegee Institute. Horn Book 2001.

**Copper Sun**, by Sharon Draper. **RC 63855**

Amari is taken from her African village when she is fifteen and sold to a southern plantation owner in America. Amari and Polly, a white indentured servant, risk everything to escape. Descriptions of sex and violence. King 2007.

**Coram Boy**, by Jamila Gavin. **RC 54898**

In the mid-eighteenth century, an unscrupulous peddler who deals in abandoned children and orphans, Otis Gardiner, and his simpleton son, Meshak, become entwined in the life of a wealthy English family. Disinheritance, mistaken identity, madness, and true friendship are all involved. Whitbread 2000.

**Crispin: Cross of Lead**, by Avi. **RC 55295**

In 1377 England, the manor steward falsely accuses a thirteen-year-old orphan of murder. Before he runs away, the boy learns his name from the village priest. On the road with Bear, a juggler, Crispin learns who his father is--and the reason the steward wants him dead. Followed by **Crispin: At the Edge of the World (RC 63729)** Newbery 2003.

**Criss Cross**, by Lynne Rae Perkins. **RC 61389**

Debbie--first met in **All Alone in the Universe (RC 49604)**--wishes something good would happen to her. She and other young teens in her hometown experience new thoughts and feelings, question their identities, and connect and disconnect as they search for meaning in life and love. Newbery 2006.

**Day of Tears**, by Julius Lester. **RC 62709**

Savannah, Georgia; 1859. When Pierce Butler sells his slaves to cover gambling debts, he includes Emma, the daughter of his cook, beloved by his own daughters. Both families express thoughts and feelings while flashbacks and flash-forwards reveal the consequences of this act. King 2006.

**Eldest**, by Christopher Paolini. **RC 62496**

After evading an Urgal ambush, young Eragon and his dragon Saphira travel to the land of elves. Eragon trains in magic and swordsmanship, vital Dragon Rider skills that will assist him in the Varden struggle against the Empire. Sequel to **Eragon (RC 57232)** Book Sense 2004. Quill 2006.

**The Fire-Eaters**, by David Almond. **RC 58897**

England, 1962. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, adolescent Bobby Burns worries about his father's illness. He is friends with eccentric fire-eater Mr. McNulty, wonder-working Ailsa Spink, and classmate Daniel Gower. Bobby believes in miracles, finding hope amidst disillusionment. Whitbread 2003, Horn Book 2004.

**First Part Last**, by Angela Johnson. **RC 57618**

Sixteen-year-old Bobby's carefree teenage life changes forever when he becomes a father. After tragedy strikes, he must care for his adored baby daughter, Feather, by himself. Despite mistakes, Bobby's courage and love enable him to carry on with the aid of supportive adults and friends. Strong language. Printz 2004, King 2004.

**The Folk Keeper**, by Franny Billingsley. **RC 51788**

The orphan Corinna transforms herself into Corin because only boys are Folk Keepers, appeasers of the evil Folk. Her identity is further challenged at her new post near the sea when she discovers her heritage as a Sealm maiden, and she must draw upon all her gifts to stay alive. Horn Book 2000.

**The Game of Silence**, by Louise Erdrich. **RC 61109**

In this continuation of Omakayas's story from **The Birchbark House (RC 48991)**, she is nine years old. The rhythms of her Ojibwe life are interrupted when the white people insist that the Ojibwe leave their Lake Superior island home and move west. O'Dell 2006.

**Girls in Pants: The Third Summer of the Sisterhood**, by Ann Brashares. **RC 59737**

Following **Second Summer of the Sisterhood (RC 56256)** lifelong friends Carmen, Lena, Bridget, and Tibby graduate from high school and look forward to attending four different colleges. Over the summer amid family and boyfriend problems they treasure their friendship. Quill 2005.

**The Green Glass Sea**, by Ellen Klages. **RC 64564**

1943. Amateur inventor Dewey Kerrigan, who is almost eleven, takes a train to meet her scientist father in an undisclosed location. When she finally joins him in Los Alamos, New Mexico, she learns that he is working on a top-secret government program. O'Dell 2007.

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**, by J.K. Rowling. **RC 50228**

Now fourteen, the student wizard is eager to leave the Dursleys and join his friends Hermione and Ron for the Quidditch World Cup before beginning his fourth year at Hogwarts. But his enemies have not forgotten him. Sequel to **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (RC 48772)**. Hugo 2001.

**Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince**, by J.K. Rowling. **RC 60262**

Sequel to **Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (RC 56062)**

Harry and his friends return for their sixth year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Evil Voldemort's power increased daily, and Harry encounters a prince. Quill 2005.

**Higher Power of Lucky**, by Susan Patron. **RC 63864**

Hard Pan, California: population forty-three. Convinced that her guardian, Brigitte, wants to return to France, ten-year-old Lucky Trimble runs away during a sandstorm with her dog, HMS Beagle. Lucky encounters her five-year-old neighbor Miles, and the three of them have an adventure. Newbery 2007

**Homeless Bird**, by Gloria Whelan. **RC 50592**

When Koly turns thirteen, her parents arrange a marriage for her according to the custom in India. But Koly's young husband is seriously ill and may die. She hides a pair of silver earrings--her only possession of value--as a precaution against an uncertain future. NBA 2000.

**House of the Scorpion**, by Nancy Farmer. **RC 55927**

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt has special privileges as the young clone of El Patrón--the 140-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire. When Matt gets a glimpse of his fate, he rebels. Some violence and some strong language. NBA 2002.

**How I Live Now**, by Meg Rosoff. **RC 59908**

In the near future fifteen-year-old Daisy, an American, travels to England to visit relatives and falls in love with her cousin Edmond. After a world war breaks out, the family becomes separated. The two lovers are reunited years later. Printz 2005.

**Inkspell**, by Cornelia Funke. **RC 61571**

Brave young dragon Firedrake, his brownie companion Sorrel, and human boy Ben are on a quest to find the Rim of the World, where magical creatures live peacefully and safely. Their journey towards the Himalayas abounds with adventures as an enemy pursues them. Sequel to **Inkheart (RC 57116)** Book Sense 2006.

**The Jamie and Angus Stories**, by Anne Fine. **RC 57869**

Six adventures of Jamie and his stuffed bull, Angus, including a disastrous spin in the washing machine, a wedding celebration, a hospital stay, and a perfect day. Horn Book 2003.

**Kira-Kira**, by Cynthia Kadohata. **RC 59896**

Georgia, 1950s. Katie's close-knit Japanese American family puts up a brave front when Katie's older sister Lynn is diagnosed with a terminal illness. The family even goes into debt to buy a house, hoping Lynn's health will improve there. Newbery 2005.

**Kit's Wilderness**, by David Almond. **RC 51741**

When Kit Watson is thirteen, his family moves to the old mining town of Stoneygate to be with his grandfather. Kit finds a strange connection between his grandfather's tales of the mines, ghosts of old, and the eerie game called "Death," which takes Kit down into the pit. Printz 2001.

**The Land**, by Mildred D. Taylor. **RC 53538**

Mississippi, post-Civil War. Paul-Edward, the son of a white plantation owner and a slave of African-Indian heritage, follows his dream of owning his own land through hard work and determination. Prequel to **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (RC 50326)**, the story of Paul-Edward's granddaughter, Cassie Logan. O'Dell 2002.

**The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler**, by James Cross Giblin. **RC 56034**

Biography of the German political leader whose racial prejudice and personal ambition shaped World War II. Traces Hitler's life and career from his birth in Austria in 1889 to his death in Berlin in 1945. Briefly discusses this tyrant's legacy. Sibert 2003.

**The Longitude Prize**, by Joan Dash. **RC 52140**

A biography of John Harrison, the eighteenth-century British inventor of a seagoing clock for measuring longitude. Explains the importance of this device for marine navigation and Harrison's long struggle to gain recognition for his invention. Horn Book 2001.

**Lord of the Deep**, by Graham Salisbury. **RC 54410**

Thirteen-year-old Mikey is proud to be a deckhand for his stepfather's charter fishing boat in Hawaii. He enjoys the adventure of the fishing expeditions but finds that some clients are difficult to handle, especially if they won't follow the rules. Some violence. Horn Book 2002.

**Looking for Alaska**, by John Green. **RC 61873**

Entering boarding school in Alabama, sixteen-year-old Miles "Pudge" Halter encounters new experiences: challenging classes, extreme pranks, and Alaska Young, a moody, sexy girl whose death in a car crash might be a suicide. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Printz 2006.

**The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane**, by Kate DiCamillo. **RC 62599**

A proud toy rabbit named Edward, presented to Abilene Tulane on her seventh birthday, does not appreciate Abilene's love until he is lost at sea. As he passes from one owner to the next, he begins to open his heart and learns to love. Horn Book 2006.

**Monster**, by Walter Dean Myers. **RC 56569**

Sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon sits in jail accused of being a lookout in a deadly robbery. An aspiring filmmaker, Steve reviews his time in jail as a movie script. He wonders if he has become the monster that the prosecutor has made him out to be. Printz 2000.

**The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy**, by Jeanne Birdsall. **RC 61553**

A widowed father takes his four daughters, aged four through twelve, and the family dog on a three-week vacation at a Berkshire Mountain estate cottage. The girls make friends with the owner's son, much to his snobbish mother's dismay. NBA 2005.

**Postcards From No Man's Land**, by Aidan Chambers. **RC 56042**

Jacob's first trip to Holland from England is both a personal adventure and a family responsibility to visit his grandfather's grave from World War II. His contemporary travels are juxtaposed with the experiences of Geertrui--the young woman who loved his grandfather in 1944. Some descriptions of sex. Printz 2003.

**The Pox Party: The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation**, by M.T. Anderson. **RC 64106**

Eighteenth-century Boston. Sixteen-year-old slave Octavian, the son of an African princess, is educated as part of a scientific experiment researching the intelligence of African Americans. When the experiments change, Octavian escapes and joins the fight against the British. Some violence. NBA 2006, Horn Book 2007.

**The Race To Save the Lord God Bird**, by Phillip Hoose. **RC 59406**

Chronicles the history and habitat of the ivory-billed woodpecker, or "Lord God bird," in the United States and its gradual extinction due to logging and other environmental disasters. Discusses the necessity of preserving endangered species and their homes. Horn Book 2005.

**Remember: The Journey to School Integration**, by Toni Morrison. **RC 58483**

An account of the thoughts and feelings of children involved in school desegregation. Provides background to the 1954 groundbreaking *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision and the movement to eliminate racist laws. King 2005.

**The River Between Us**, by Richard Peck. **RC 57400**

Illinois, 1861. Tilly Pruitt's mother accepts two mysterious young women from New Orleans, Delphine and Calinda, as boarders in the early Civil War days. Fifteen-year-old Tilly finds them fascinating, but townspeople think they are Confederate spies. Their secrets emerge after Tilly's brother, a Union army soldier, is wounded. O'Dell 2004.

**Saffy's Angel**, by Hilary McKay. **RC 56168**

When she is three and her mother dies, Saffron "Saffy" Casson is adopted by her offbeat English kinfolk. She stows away to Italy at thirteen with a friend's family, hoping to recall her early childhood and try to claim her inheritance, a stone garden angel. Whitbread 2003.

**Schwa was Here**, by Neal Shusterman. **RC 59803**

Brooklyn eighth-grader Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who goes unnoticed by nearly everyone. Their friendship is strained when both develop a crush on the same girl, who is blind, and when Antsy reveals how the Schwa's mother disappeared. Horn Book 2005.

**Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley**, by Sally M. Walker. **RC 61080**

Recounts the history of the Confederate H.L. Hunley which, in 1864, became the first submarine to sink a ship but then seemingly vanished. Chronicles the search for the wreckage, its 1995 discovery, and efforts to determine the wreck's cause and the crew's fate. Sibert 2006.

**A Single Shard**, by Linda Sue Park. **RC 53670**

Tree-ear, an orphan in twelfth-century Korea, spends most of his time foraging for food for himself and Crane-man, an older companion. Tree-ear takes advantage of a mishap in master potter Min's yard to become his apprentice, learning a craft and gaining unforeseen rewards. Newbery 2002.

**Sir Walter Raleigh and the Quest for El Dorado**, by Marc Aronson. **RC 51920**

Biography of the adventurous English explorer and courtier of Queen Elizabeth I. Describes the numerous expeditions led by Raleigh--usually spelled Raleigh in America--to the New World in search of a golden kingdom and how court politics determined his fortunes. Horn Book 2000, Sibert 2001.

**Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants**, by Ann Brashares. **RC 53252**

Four fifteen-year-olds, "Bridget the athlete, Lena the beauty, Tibby the rebel, and Carmen...the one with the bad temper," have been friends since childhood. During this first summer apart, they share a pair of used jeans that magically fits each of them perfectly and helps them through tough times. Book Sense 2002.

**Sold**, by Patricia McCormick. **RC 63793**

Free verse poems tell the story of thirteen-year-old Nepalese schoolgirl Lakshmi who is sold into prostitution by her gambling stepfather. In India, Lakshmi discovers hope when an American comes to the brothel to rescue the girls. Some descriptions of sex and some violence. Quill 2007.

**Step from heaven**, by An Na. **RC 53115**

Young Ju and her parents move to California from Korea when she is small. They struggle with a strange culture, but Young Ju becomes a top student. Over the years her father becomes more and more abrasive. Some strong language. Printz 2002.

**The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread**, by Kate DiCamillo. **RC 57805**

Despereaux, a small mouse, is condemned to the dungeon for falling in love with human Princess Pea. Despereaux meets the rat, Roscuro, while Mig, an upstairs serving girl, wishes to be a princess, too. All four meet with near disastrous results. Newbery 2004.

**Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon**, by Catherine Thimmesh. **RC 63398**

Profiles the unsung heroes accountable for Apollo 11's launch, voyage, landing, and return, including engineers, computer technicians, and seamstresses who assembled the space suits. Discusses glitches that occurred and the quick thinking that resolved them. Conveys the team effort that made the mission a success. Sibert 2007.

**The Thief Lord**, by Cornelia Funke. **RC 55343**

Orphan brothers Prosper, age twelve, and Bo (Boniface), age five, have run away from their cruel aunt and uncle in Hamburg to Venice--their mother's favorite city. They join a band of urchins led by a mysterious Thief Lord who steals to support them. And then the complications begin. Book Sense 2003.

**This Land was Made for You and Me: The Life and Songs of Woody Guthrie**, by Elizabeth Partridge. **RC 55433**

Biography of Woody Guthrie (1912-1967), the Oklahoma singer, writer, and musician, who composed more than three thousand songs and ballads as he traveled around the United States, including "This Land Is Your Land" and "So Long, It's Been Good to Know Yuh." Horn Book 2002.

**Trouble Don't Last**, by Shelley Pearsall. **RC 55900**

In 1859, an aging slave forces eleven-year-old Samuel to run away with him at night from their harsh Kentucky master. They are hungry and frightened of being captured as they journey on the Underground Railroad towards the hope of freedom in Canada. O'Dell 2003.

**True Believer**, by Virginia E. Wolff. **RC 52298**

Now fifteen in this sequel to **Make Lemonade (RC 40705)**, LaVaughn clings to her main goal, to attend college. At the same time, she questions her religious beliefs, her friendship with Myrtle and Annie, and why it's so difficult to have a boy friend. NBA 2001.

**Two Suns in the Sky**, by Miriam Bat-Ami. **RC 50366**

A World War II refugee love story told in two voices: Adam Bornstein, a Yugoslavian Jew living in a refugee camp in Oswego, New York, and Christine Cook, a Catholic from Oswego. Both teenagers wish love could be enough to solve all their differences. O'Dell 2000.

**The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights**, by Russell Freedman. **RC 58728**

Recounts the life of African American singer Marian Anderson and her "once-in-a-hundred-years" voice. Describes her Philadelphia childhood, intense training, successful career in Europe, triumphant return to America, and setbacks caused by racial discrimination. Highlights Anderson's successful 1939 Lincoln Memorial performance for 75,000 fans. Sibert 2005.

**The White Darkness**, by Geraldine McCaughrean. **RC 63797**

Teen Symone Wates is both apprehensive and excited when her uncle Victor whisks her away to Antarctica. When his obsession to locate Symmes's Hole puts their lives at risk, Symone's favorite companion--an imaginary incarnation of explorer Titus Oates--helps her to survive. Some strong language. Printz 2008.

**Worth**, by A. LaFaye. **RC 64359**

Nebraska, late nineteenth century. After eleven-year-old Nate's leg is crushed in a barn accident, his father adopts "orphan train" boy John Worth to help with farm chores. Nate and John gradually overcome their mutual distrust, bonding during a feud between the farmers and ranchers. O'Dell 2005.

**A Year Down Yonder**, by Richard Peck. **RC 51259**

During the 1937 recession fifteen-year-old Mary Alice from Chicago is sent to live with feisty Grandma Dowdel in rural Illinois. There she learns about small-town ways and grows to love her grandmother. Sequel to **A Long Way from Chicago (RC 50305)**. Newbery 2001.

## **Book Award Descriptions**

**Book Sense:** The Book Sense Book of the Year Award (previously known as the [ABBY](#)) was established in recognition of a new era in bookselling, as well as the important role the Book Sense Picks List has played for independent booksellers in discovering and spreading the word about books of quality to all stores, and readers, nationwide.

**Booker:** The Man Booker Prize for Fiction is a [literary prize](#) awarded each year for the best original full-length [novel](#), written in the [English language](#), by a citizen of either the [Commonwealth of Nations](#) or the [Republic of Ireland](#).

**Costa:** The Costa Book Awards (formerly the Whitbread Awards), have five categories: First Novel, Novel, Biography, Poetry and Children's Book. It is the only prize which places children's books alongside adult books. The awards are among the [United Kingdom's](#) most prestigious literary awards. They are also open to writers from the [Republic of Ireland](#).

**Franklin:** The Miles Franklin Literary Award is an annual [literary prize](#) for the best [Australian](#) 'published novel or play portraying Australian life in any of its phases'.

**Gelber:** The Lionel Gelber Prize is a literary award for "the world's best non-fiction book in English that seeks to deepen public debate on significant global issues".<sup>[1]</sup> It is presented annually by The Lionel Gelber Foundation and the [Munk Centre for International Studies](#) at the [University of Toronto](#).

**Horn Book:** First presented in 1967, the Boston Globe–Horn Book Awards are among the most prestigious honors in the field of children's and young adult literature. Winners are selected in three categories: Picture Book, Fiction and Poetry, and Nonfiction. The winning titles must be published in the United States but they may be written or illustrated by citizens of any country.

**Hugo:** The Hugo Awards are given every year for the best [science fiction](#) or [fantasy](#) works and achievements of the previous year.

**King:** The Coretta Scott King Award is an annual award presented by the [American Library Association](#). Named for [Coretta Scott King](#), wife of [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#), this award recognizes outstanding [African American](#) authors and illustrators. The book must be about the African American experience, and be written for a youth audience (high school or below).

**Kiryama:** The Kiriyama Prize was established in 1996 to recognize outstanding books about the Pacific Rim and South Asia that encourage greater mutual understanding of and among the peoples and nations in one of the four Pacific Rim subregions: the North Pacific; Southeast Asia and the South Pacific; the Americas; and the Indian subcontinent. Books may be written in or translated into English from any other language. Prizes are awarded in both fiction and nonfiction categories.

**NBA:** The National Book Awards are among the most eminent literary prizes in the [United States](#). The awards are presented annually to American authors for literature published in the prior year. Awards are given in each of four categories: [fiction](#), [nonfiction](#), [poetry](#), and [young people's literature](#).

**NBCC:** The National Book Critics Circle Award is given to the best book in five categories : fiction, general nonfiction, biography/autobiography, poetry, and criticism.

**Nebula:** The Nebula Award is an award given each year by the [Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America](#) (SFWA), for the best [science fiction/fantasy](#) fiction published in the United States during the two previous years. There is no cash prize associated with the award, the award itself being a transparent block with an embedded glitter spiral [nebula](#).

**Newbery:** The John Newbery Medal is a literary award given by the [Association for Library Service to Children](#) of the [American Library Association](#) (ALA) to the author of the outstanding American [book for children](#). Together with the [Caldecott Medal](#), it is considered the most prestigious award for children's literature in the [United States](#).

**O'Dell:** The Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction is an [American](#) award established in 1982 to encourage authors to focus on [historical fiction](#). Eligibility for the award requires that a book be written in English for children or young adults, published by an American publisher, and the author must be a United States citizen.

**Orange:** The Orange Prize for Fiction (now the Orange Broadband Prize for Fiction) is one of the [United Kingdom](#)'s most prestigious literary prizes, awarded annually for the best original full-length [novel](#) by a female [author](#) of any nationality, written in [English](#) and published in the UK in the preceding year.

**Pen/Faulkner:** The PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction is awarded annually by the PEN/Faulkner Foundation to the author of the best American work of fiction that year.

**Printz:** The Michael L. Printz Award is an annual award in the [United States](#) for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in [young adult literature](#). The national award is administered by YALSA, a division of the [American Library Association](#).

**Pulitzer:** The Pulitzer Prize is an [American](#) award regarded as the highest national honor in [print journalism](#), literary achievements, and [musical composition](#). It is administered by [Columbia University](#) in [New York City](#). Prizes are awarded yearly in twenty-one categories.

**Quill:** The Quill Awards are selected through a two-part process involving nomination by industry experts and final selection by consumer votes. To be eligible for nomination, a book had to be published in English during the previous year and be included in at least one industry or sponsor listing. 2008 is the last year for the Quills.

**Rita:** Romance Writers of America sponsors the romance-publishing industry's award of distinction — the RITA Award. RITA awards are presented annually to the best published romance novels of the year.

**Roosevelt:** The Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Prize in Naval History is an annual prize given for the best book on American naval history published in the previous calendar year.

**Sibert:** The Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award, established by the Association for Library Service to Children in 2001., is awarded annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished informational book published in English during the preceding year.

**Thriller:** The International Thriller Writers Awards are awarded by [International Thriller Writers](#) at the annual Thrillerfest conferences for outstanding work in the field since 2006.

**Thurber:** The Thurber Prize for American Humor recognizes outstanding contributions in humor writing.

**Washington:** The George Washington Book Prize honors outstanding books that contribute to a greater public understanding of the life and career of George Washington and/or America's founding era.

**Whitbread:** The Costa Book Awards (formerly the Whitbread Awards), have five categories: First Novel, Novel, Biography, Poetry and Children's Book. It is the only prize which places children's books alongside adult books. The awards are among the [United Kingdom's](#) most prestigious literary awards. They are also open to writers from the [Republic of Ireland](#).

**World Fantasy:** The World Fantasy Awards are annual, international awards given to authors and artists who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of [fantasy](#). The awards are considered among the most prestigious in the speculative fiction genre, and can be awarded to any work falling within the realm of fantasy, although some media are restricted to certain categories.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Complete form and enclose in an envelope.
2. Do not seal envelope. Tuck the flap in.
3. Address envelope to the library (address on front page).
4. In place of stamp, write "Free Matter for the Blind and Physically Handicapped."

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