



## nonfiction and biography

**Bodies from the Ash by James Deem** On the morning of August 24, AD 79, Mount Vesuvius began to erupt. Within 24 hours, the entire city of Pompeii and many of its 20,000 citizens were lost - until their remains were rediscovered hundreds of years later. Amazing photographs help illustrate this history of Pompeii.



**Children of Alcatraz: Growing Up on the Rock by Claire Rudolf Murphy** Yes, Al Capone called Alcatraz home – but so did many children. This is the story of the children of the lighthouse keepers, soldiers and prison authorities who lived on the island that was home to the famous prison. Read it with **Al Capone Does My Shirts**.



**Excelsior: the Amazing Life of Stan Lee by Stan Lee** Stan Lee's name is legendary in the history of comic books. This inspirational autobiography skillfully illustrates the rise of Marvel Comics. "*Excelsior*" depicts the development of the comic book industry, and his creation of super hero magazines titles such as: Fantastic Four, Incredible Hulk, Iron Man, and Spider Man, all created by Stan Lee.

**ER Vets: Life in an Animal Emergency Room by Donna Jackson**



Lucy, a ball python, has been stuck in a car dashboard overnight. Shelley, a border collie has been hit by a car. A premature foal cannot survive without help. These are the daily patients for ER vets at Colorado State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**The Greatest: Muhammad Ali by Walter Dean Myers**

An engrossing account of the life and times of one of boxing's most accomplished and colorful athletes. The reader will not only learn about his life, but also see him in his place in the history of America.



**Guinness Book of World Records, 2008** The weird, the amazing, the fantastic. Read about record winning achievements in this collection of extraordinary facts. This edition includes spectacular photos and a Sports Reference section.

**Masters of the Comic Book Universe Revealed! by Arie Kaplan** Kaplan, a writer for MAD Magazine, compiled this book for comic book artists and fans alike. Kaplan depicts the lives of legendary comic book artists such as: Will Eisner, Stan Lee (**Iron Man, Spiderman, Fantastic Four**), Neil Gaiman (**Sandman**), and Dwayne Duffie (**Static, Icon, and Damage Control**). This book is great for people who are interested in the history of comic books.



New Jersey - The Garden State

## local authors

**Benedict Arnold by Jim Murphy** The name Benedict Arnold is forever linked with the word TRAITOR! In this book, Jim Murphy tells the whole story of this man, whose treachery has overshadowed his many accomplishments. Did you know that there is a monument in Saratoga, New York that does not have Benedict Arnold's name on it?

**Heroes of the Negro League by Mark Chiarello and Jack Morelli** In 1990, comic artist and editor Chiarello painted portraits of baseball greats of the Negro Leagues. These were packaged as a set of trading cards celebrating these players, many of whom never appeared on cards before. These watercolors, plus several dozen new ones, are the illustrations for this book.

**Remix: Conversations with Immigrant Teenagers by Marina Budhos** In fourteen interviews with new Americans from Latin America, Asia, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean, the author found fourteen remarkable stories. Remix exposes the too-often hidden world of immigrants, and often reveals what it means to be a teenager today.

**Simon Bloom, the Gravity Keeper by Michael Reisman** How does an ordinary sixth grader wind up floating on the ceiling and hurling villains through a forest? Join Simon and his friends on their adventure, as they use their knowledge of science to fight off the evil sources, in a struggle over a book of formulas that will allow the Keeper to control the universe.



## in a series

**Bully by Paul Langan** It's bad enough that Darrell is getting beat up for his lunch money every day at Bluford High. He also has a bossy uncle and bickering cousins. What's a scrawny freshman to do? Some other titles in the **The Bluford Series** include: **Summer of Secrets**, **Blood is Thicker** and **Brothers in Arms**.

**Shadow Children by Margaret Peterson Haddix** Each title in this series reveals a different aspect of a dystopian future in which illegal "third children" are hunted by ruthless Population Police. Is true freedom really possible? Follow each title to the end to find out. Includes titles: (1) **Among the Hidden**, (2) **Among the Imposters**, (3) **Among the Betrayed**, (4) **Among the Barons**, (5) **Among the Brave**, (6) **Among the Enemy**, (7) **Among the Free**

**Three Girls in the City: Self-Portrait by Jeanne Betancourt** Three girls from different backgrounds are grouped together for a summer photography class in New York City. How can they possibly work together when they don't even like each other? Become friends, not likely. Find out more about them in the next 3 volumes, **Exposed**, **Black & White**, and **Close-up**.



## oldies but goodies

**Frankenstein by Mary W. Shelley** In this classic horror story a monster assembled by a scientist from parts of dead bodies develops a mind of his own as he learns to loathe himself and hate his creator.



**Watership Down by Richard Adams** An epic, adventurous tale of a group of rabbits who must abandon their home to save themselves and embark on a treacherous journey to make a new life



**Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley by Sally Walker** What happened to sink this early submarine, and why did it take over 130 years of searching to find the wreckage? Find out about the sub, its mission, and the recovery of its secrets in this fascinating tale of bravery, mystery, bones and gold.



**We Are the Ship: the story of the Negro Baseball League by Kadir Nelson** They barely got paid, they often didn't have matching uniforms, they couldn't afford to stay in hotels, and they couldn't get food in many places they traveled because they were Black. But, they loved the game and they were some of the best athletes of their day.



**Who's Better and Who's Best in Baseball? Also, ...in Basketball? by Elliott Kalb** *Mr. Stats* at ESPN, TNT and HBO has talked to players and coaches, and worked through the numbers to give you his opinion – and all of the stats to go with it – on the best players of all time.

**Wild World of the Future by Claire Pye** The earth and its creatures were very different 200 million years ago, and will be very different 200 million years from now. Hopping snails and wasps the size of crows are only two of the life forms that could exist 5, 100 and 200 million years in the future.

## Mystery/Adventure

**Down the Rabbit Hole: an Echo Falls Mystery by Peter Abrahams** Between soccer, school, admiration for Sherlock Holmes, and playing the role of Alice in Wonderland with her local theatre group, eighth-grader Ingrid has a lot on her mind. But when a local woman is murdered, and Ingrid's soccer cleats are found at the scene of the crime, can Ingrid face up to the danger and intrigue to solve the mystery on her own?



**The Case of the Left-Handed Lady by Nancy Springer** Fourteen-year-old Enola Holmes is being hunted by her brother, the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. While trying to elude her brother she tries to solve the kidnapping of sixteen-year-old Lady Cecily in nineteenth-century London. The first book of the Enola Holmes mystery series is **The Case of the Missing Marquess**.

**Snakehead by Anthony Horowitz** The action and adventure continues for teenage spy Alex Rider in this newest book in the series. In Southeast Asia and Australia Alex faces danger at every turn as he tries to stop ruthless gangs. Alex has the opportunity to work with his newly-found godfather and to learn more about his parents.



## historical fiction

**Bread and Roses Too by Katherine Paterson** Twelve-year-old Rosa and thirteen-year-old Jake form an unlikely friendship as they try to survive and understand the 1912 Bread and Roses strike of mill workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

**Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis** Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American South in 1859, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

**The Green Glass Sea by Ellen Klages** Dewey's the weirdest kid around. An inventor even. When Suze's mom suggests that she should get together with Dewey to work on homework, Suze agrees out loud. But she's thinking, "And maybe pigs will fly." It's 1944 and Dewey, Suze and a lot of other kids have been uprooted and sent to live in Los Alamos, New Mexico where their parents are working on a **TOP SECRET** project

**The Inventions of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick** Hugo spends his life in secret in the walls of the Paris train station, until he gets caught stealing and things begin to unravel. Hugo's adventure unfolds through both the text and the pictures in this exciting story.

**On the Wings of Heroes by Richard Peck** This story takes place in a time when the whole street played "hide and seek." And everyone knew each other. Davy's brother flies war planes and there are air raid drills at home as they wait for Bill's safe return to the family in this World War II story.



**Shadows of Ghadames by Joelle Stolz** 11-year-old Malika lives in the Libyan city of Ghadames and is preparing to enter the adult world of Muslim women of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, socializing only with women and spending her days secluded from the world on the rooftops of the city. When the women rescue an injured man and hide him on the rooftop of their home, Malika's life changes forever.

## audio books



**The Revenge of the Shadow King by Derek Benz** Max Sumner and his friends form a club called the Grey Griffins, after a popular card game, and when characters from the game start to appear, it is up to Max and his friends to stop the wicked creatures from destroying their town.

**Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow by Susan Campbell Bartolett** Hitler relied heavily on youth and teenagers to carry out his vision for Germany. This is the story of young people who took part in or bravely rebelled against the atrocities that occurred in Nazi Germany. The last CD contains a photo slideshow that can be viewed on a computer.

**Nightjohn by Gary Paulsen** Twelve-year-old Sarny's brutal life as a slave becomes even more dangerous when a newly arrived slave offers to teach her how to read. The adventures of Sarny continue in **Sarny, a life remembered.**

## graphic novels

**The Arrival by Shaun Tan** This wordless novel is a unique experience that captures what it's like to be a new person in a strange land. Odd creatures become pets, flying machines look like ships and castles have faces. It does end up like home. Find out how it happens!



**Indiana Jones by [various authors]** Hold onto your fedoras! This adventurer of film (and Disney) fame is now available in colorful graphic novel versions.

**More How to Draw Manga** Calling all Manga fans! Learn how to draw those characters for yourself, up close and in action. Step-by-step instructions and loads of illustrations make this fun and easy.



**Redwall by Brian Jacques** See Matthias and the other Redwall characters come to life in this graphic version of the classic book.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Greg Heffley's Journal** by Jeff Kinney Greg records his 6th grade experiences where he and his friend, Rowley, hope to survive amongst the bigger students and retain their friendship. Greg's experiences continue in **Rodrick Rules**.

**Middle School is Worse Than Meatloaf** by Jennifer L. Holm One girl's horrible (and sometimes wonderful) school year, told entirely through her stuff.

**My Nights at the Improv** by Jan Siebold Lizzie always has the perfect answer and the coolest comeback; *except* that it comes with a 30 second delay. Her timing improves as she secretly observes an improvisational theater class, which helps her to adapt in her new school and to find her true voice. You, too, could pick up some tips on how to think on your feet!



**Sleeping Freshman Never Lie** by David Lubar Scott Hudson's freshman year is not going well. The seniors pick on him, he's up all night with homework, and he's foolishly joined the school paper, student council, and stage crew in failed attempts to get close to his crush. Will he ever make it to sophomore year?



**The True Meaning of Smek Day** by Rex Aliens have taken over the Earth and re-located all humans to Arizona. They have captured Tip's mother and Tip and a renegade Boov named J. Lo set out to find her.

## short stories

**Best Shorts selected by Avi** This collection of short stories has something for everyone; classic stories, horror, biography, fantasy, etc. Choose a genre you like or read something different.

**Horowitz Horror** by Anthony Horowitz This book of short stories by the author of the Alex Rider series will leave you wanting even more. They are quick reads with unexpected endings, "stories you'll wish you'd never read." Also available is **More Horowitz Horror**.

**Invasion of the Road Weenies** by David Lubar Weird and wacky stories to make you laugh and shiver. **Warning:** Don't read right before bed!

## science fiction/fantasy

**Dr. Franklin's Island** by Ann Halam An airplane with a group of science students crashes into the ocean and only three survive stranded on a deserted island. While struggling to survive they become part of a science experiment involving animal genes being transferred into humans.

**Eldest** by Christopher Paolini Eragon and his dragon Saphira continue their adventures. Their training must be completed, the corrupt emperor of Alagaesia is searching for them, and they must help the Varden regroup for the next big battle. Action and excitement abound – but if you haven't read the first book yet, start with **Eragon**. The third book, **Brisinger**, will be available in August, 2008.



**The Extras** by Paul Westerfeld In a futuristic society one's popularity rating determines where and how one lives, the higher your rating the more you get. Like everyone else Aya Fuse is an extra. Follow her exploits as she strives to raise her popularity rank. This is the fourth book in **The Uglies** series which includes **The Pretties** and **The Specials**.

**Gossamer** by Lois Lowry Do you know where dreams come from? Tiny creatures that inhabit this story gather gentle bits and pieces of the past to create dreams for a young boy and old woman in this beautiful book.



**A Great and Terrible Beauty** by Libba Bray After her mother's suicide Gemma is sent to a boarding school in London. There she begins to have visions of her mother's death and learns about sorcery as well as proper deportment for Victorian ladies.

**Marvelous World, Marvelous Effect** by Troy Cle This fantasy novel is set in East Orange, New Jersey. Louis Proof, an African American, slips into a coma after accompanying his friend to an amusement park. He wakes up with super human powers in a different dimension and battles creatures in a fight against evil.



**Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac** by Gabrielle Zevin After a fall in which she hits her head, Naomi Porter has no memory of her life after sixth grade. When she returns to school the high school junior must deal with the people who were her friends, renew or create new friendships and accept the forgotten divorce of her parents. There are clues about her life and she has to decide what, if any, changes she wishes to make. If you could "re-invent" yourself what would you do?



**Quest by Angie Sage** In book 4 of the series, Septimus Heap must find the House of Foryx, where all time meets, to rescue Nikko and Snori. . If you like Harry Potter, you're sure to like Septimus Heap. Other **Septimus Heap** titles include **Magyk**, **Flyte**, and **Physik**.

## real life

**After Tupac and D Foster by Jacqueline Woodson** Two best friends who love rap music are looking for their “Big Purpose” in life. When “D” wanders on their street one day, two best friends become three. What’s it like out there? “D” knows. She’s cool! What happens when they roam off the block?

**Big Field by Mike Lupica** When fourteen-year-old baseball player Hutch feels threatened by the arrival of a new teammate named Darryl, he tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ball-player too.



**Click by David Almon, Eoin Colfer, et al** Maggie is left a box of 7 seashells and a note with an instruction from her photojournalist grandfather, George “Gee” Keane. Each of the 10 chapters is written by a different author who unfold the puzzle of the 7 shells.



**The Day Joanie Frankenhauser Became a Boy by Frances Lantz** Joanie’s always hated doing “girl” things and longs to be one of the guys. So, when her new school thinks her name is John, instead of Joanie, she lets them think it. Now she has to try to keep the biggest secret of her life – John Frankenhauser is really a girl.

**Eleven by Patricia Reilly Giff** Sam has very strange dreams with the number eleven. He can’t read and just before his eleventh birthday he finds a box with newspaper articles that provide a clue to his past.

**Getting Air by Dan Gutman** It’s summer vacation and three friends from New Jersey are on their way to California for an awesome skateboarding experience. But their plane is hijacked by terrorists and their plans take a dramatic change.



**Imani in Young Love and Deception by Jackie Hardrick** Imani is a 16-year-old girl who is fascinated with playing basketball at Westmore High School and she is ambitious about attending college. While trying to develop a friendship with a fellow basketball athlete named Tyler she is confronted with a series of social adversities with her rival, Brianna.

**Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life by Wendy Mass** Jeremy receives a box from his dead father inscribed with “The Meaning of Life – for Jeremy Fink to open on his 13<sup>th</sup> birthday”. So begins the adventurous search for 4 keys to fit the 4 different locks on the box and finding answers to more than the meaning of life.



**Leon and the Champion Chip by Allan Kurzwel** Through trial and error, Leon Zeisel, potato chip extraordinaire, and his buddies manage to get rid of the class bully with exploding results. This book includes playful drawings with a mix of science, voodoo dolls and big laughs. KABOOM!



**Rules by Cynthia Lord** This Newberry Honor Book is the story of Catherine and her family including her younger autistic brother. She makes up rules for David to follow like “you have to keep your pants on in public.” As Catherine teaches David how the world works she wonders what does normal mean.

**The Skin I’m In by Sharon G. Flake** “Maleeka, forgive and forget. That’s easier than dragging around anger like sacks of stone.” Maleeka wants to forgive and wants to stand up to Charlise, but her fear of being hurt and ridiculed keep her stuck. Join her in her struggle to accept herself in a world that judges others on looks alone.

**Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time by Lisa Yee** Sixth grader Stanford is great at basketball – but when he flunks English big time, he finds out he has to trade basketball camp for summer school. Lckkk! Then his mother hires him a tutor – know-it-all girl genius, Millicent Min – and unexpected things happen. Also try **Millicent Min, Girl Genius**, for the other side of the story.



**Wilderness by Roddy Doyle** Tom and Johnny head off for an action-packed vacation. Traveling by dogsled in the icy north is exciting till their mom gets lost in a storm. Determined to rescue her, the brothers go where no sleds have gone before. Will there be wolves and bears? Mom, where are you?



## humor

**Death By Eggplant by Susan Heyboer O’Keefe** Bertie has a secret; he loves to cook and wants to be a famous chef. First he needs to finish eighth grade with a passing grade. His teacher gives him a “flour sack baby” for extra credit. Will “Cleo,” his five pound bag of flour, survive or be turned into waffles for breakfast?

