

Journeys, A Selected Bibliography
Pritzker Traubert Family Library – Fall 2021
English 1

FICTION

Albert, Melissa. The Hazel Wood, 2018.

When the scary, magical world in her grandmother's book of dark feminist fairy tales becomes real, seventeen-year-old Alice, partnered with Ellery, an obsessed fan of the fairy tales, must enter the world to rescue Alice's kidnapped mother.

Anderson, Natalie C. City of Saints & Thieves, 2017.

In this fast-paced murder mystery, 16-year-old Congolese refugee Tina has been living on her own for 5 years in Kenya, plotting revenge for the murder of her mother. While searching for the truth, she and two friends leave Kenya and slip into the Congo, where they uncover startling secrets.

Arnold, David. Mosquitoland, 2015.

When she learns that her mother is sick in Ohio, mentally unstable Mim confronts her demons on a thousand-mile odyssey from Mississippi to Cleveland that redefines her notions of love, loyalty, and what it means to be sane.

Banks, Russell. Rule of the Bone, 1995.

Fourteen-year-old American Chappie, later dubbed Bone (named for a tattoo that he gets), drops out of school and turns to the guidance of a Rastafarian Jamaican migrant worker. Contains adult content.

Bolden, Tonya. Crossing Ebenezer Creek, 2017.

Freed from slavery, Mariah and her young brother Zeke join Sherman's march through Georgia, where Mariah meets a free black named Caleb and dares to imagine the possibility of true love, but hope can come at a cost. This historical novel is based on a true story.

Butler, Octavia E. Parable of the Sower, 1993.

In 2025 California, an eighteen-year-old African American woman, suffering from a hereditary trait that causes her to feel others' pain as well as her own, flees northward from her small community and its desperate savages through a world that has become almost completely dehumanized.

Caletti, Deb. A Heart in the Body in the World, 2018.

Followed by Grandpa Ed in his RV and backed by her brother and friends, Annabelle, eighteen, runs from Seattle to Washington, D.C., becoming a reluctant activist as people connect her journey to her recent trauma.

Chambers, Becky. The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet, 2015.

When Rosemary Harper joins the crew of the Wayfarer, she isn't expecting much. The patched-up ship has seen better days, but it offers her everything she could possibly want: a spot to call home, a chance to explore the far-off corners of the galaxy, and some distance from her past. Life aboard is chaotic and crazy -- exactly what Rosemary wants. That is until the crew is offered the job of a lifetime, the risky adventure of tunneling wormholes through space to a distant planet.

Christopher, John. Tripods: the White Mountains, 1967.

Young Will Parker and his companions make a perilous journey toward an outpost of freedom where they hope to escape from the ruling Tripods, who capture mature human beings and make them docile, obedient servants.

Christie, Agatha. Death on the Nile, 1937.

This classic from the master of detective fiction tells the story of a murder on a cruise ship along the Nile. Linnet Ridgeway has almost everything: youth, beauty, style, and wealth. What she doesn't have, she takes – for instance, her best friend Jackie's fiancé. On their honeymoon cruise, a crime of passion results in a murder. Can the detective Hercule Poirot find the murderer in the face of the suspect's airtight alibi?

Clarke, Arthur C. 2001: A Space Odyssey, 1968.

Two astronauts find their journey into space and their very lives jeopardized by the jealousy of an extraordinary computer named Hal.

Coelho, Paul. The Alchemist, 1988.

Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy, sets out from his home in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of buried treasure, but through his encounters with a Gypsy woman, a man who calls himself a king, and an Alchemist, he learns the value of the treasures found within himself. This novel explores philosophical questions and provides hopeful answers.

Danticat, Edwidge. Breath, Eyes, Memory, 1994.

12-year-old Sophie is sent from her impoverished Haitian village to New York to be reunited with a mother she barely remembers. There she discovers a legacy of shame that can only be healed when she returns to Haiti.

De la Peña, Matt. The Living, 2013.

Taking a summer job on a Pacific luxury cruise liner to help his struggling family, Shy anticipates a season of lucrative tips and fun friends only to have everything radically transformed by a massive California earthquake that jeopardizes the survival of everyone he knows. Contains violent content.

Foley, Jessie Ann. Carnival at Bray, 2014.

When sixteen-year-old Maggie Lynch must relocate to a tiny seaside town in Ireland, she relies on care packages from her rocker uncle Kevin in Chicago. When she experiences first love and a death, Maggie seeks escape in the seedy side of Dublin, and then Rome.

Frazier, Charles. Cold Mountain, 1997.

Inman, a wounded Confederate soldier, leaves the hospital where he is being treated and determines to walk home to his sweetheart Ada, only to find the land and the girl he remembers as changed by the war as he.

Gaiman, Neil. The Ocean at the End of the Lane, 2013.

When a middle-aged man returns to his childhood home in Sussex, England, for a funeral, he remembers frightening childhood memories relating to the neighbor girl who promised to protect him from the darkness unleashed by a suicide at the pond at the end of their street.

Gratz, Alan. Refugee, 2017.

Three 13-year-old kids are thrown out of their homes and forced to find new ones. Each kid is from a different time and a different crisis: a Jewish boy escaping Nazi Germany; a Cuban girl escaping Castro's dictatorship in the 1990s; and a Syrian boy escaping Assad in 2015-16. The book artfully captures not only the crisis each child faces, but also, the raw humanity of it all.

Green, John. An Abundance of Katherines, 2006.

Having been recently dumped for the nineteenth time by a girl named Katherine, recent high school graduate and former child prodigy Colin sets off on a road trip with his best friend to try to find some new direction in life while also trying to create a mathematical formula to explain his relationships.

Greer, Andrew Sean. Less, 2017.

Receiving an invitation to his ex-boyfriend's wedding, Arthur, a failed novelist on the eve of his fiftieth birthday, embarks on an international journey that finds him falling in love, risking his life, reinventing himself, and making connections with the past. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Literature, this book contains adult content.

Hamid, Mohsin, Exit West, 2017.

In a country teetering on the brink of civil war, two young people meet--sensual, fiercely independent Nadia and gentle, restrained Saeed. They embark on a love affair, thrust into premature intimacy by the unrest roiling their city. When it explodes, turning familiar streets into a patchwork of checkpoints and bomb blasts, they begin to hear whispers about doors that can whisk people far away, if perilously and for a price. As the threat of violence escalates, Nadia and Saeed decide that they no longer have a choice. Leaving their homeland and their old lives behind, they find a door and step through. Contains adult content.

Hamilton, Alwyn. Rebel of the Sands, 2016.

Amani is desperate to leave the dead-end town of Dustwalk, and she's counting on her sharpshooting skills to help her escape. But after she meets Jin, the mysterious rebel running from the Sultan's army, she unlocks the powerful truth about the desert nation of Miraji...and herself. An exciting, romantic fantasy that combines the old west with the Arabian Nights.

Hunt, Laird. Neverhome, 2015.

She calls herself Ash, but that's not her real name. She is a farmer's faithful wife, but she has left her husband to don the uniform of a Union soldier in the Civil War. This historical fiction novel slowly unravels the reasons for Ash's disguise.

Kerouac, Jack. On the Road, 1957.

Kerouac wrote the quintessential road book, chronicling the semi-autobiographical tale of Dean Moriarty speeding across America, questioning everything, and getting into trouble. A classic introduction to the Beat Generation.

Khorram, Adib. Darius the Great Is Not Okay, 2018.

This humorous and award-winning novel tells the story of clinically-depressed Darius, a high school sophomore, who travels to Iran to meet his grandparents, but it is their next-door neighbor, Sohrab, who changes his life.

Le Guin, Ursula. A Wizard of Earthsea, 1968.

A boy grows to manhood while attempting to subdue the evil he unleashed on the world as an apprentice to the Master Wizard.

Lee, Mackenzi. The Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue, 2017.

A young bisexual British lord embarks on an unforgettable Grand Tour of Europe with his best friend/secret crush. An 18th-century romantic adventure for the modern age.

Lowry, Lois. Find a Stranger, Say Goodbye, 1978.

Beauty, intelligence, and a warm, loving family fail to sustain Natalie Armstrong, when, in her seventeenth summer, she decides to search out her birth mother.

Mandel, Emily St. John. Station Eleven, 2014.

In a future in which a pandemic has left few survivors, a disparate group travels together as a theater troupe, performing Shakespeare and protecting each other as a mobile community. They come upon a place ruled by a prophet who will not let anyone leave. A fantastic dystopian novel that feels strangely and sadly possible.

Martel, Yann. Life of Pi, 2001.

Pi Patel, having spent an idyllic childhood in Pondicherry, India, as the son of a zookeeper, sets off with his family at the age of sixteen to start anew in Canada, but his life takes a frightening turn when their ship sinks in the Pacific, leaving him adrift on a raft with a 450-pound Bengal tiger for company.

McCall, Guadalupe Garcia. Summer of the Mariposas, 2012.

In an adventure reminiscent of Homer's *Odyssey*, fifteen-year-old Odilia and her four younger sisters embark on a journey to return a dead man to his family in Mexico, aided by La Llorona, but impeded by a witch, a warlock, chupacabras, and more.

McCarthy, Cormac. The Road, 2006.

This beautiful and sad novel traces the journey of a father and son as they walk alone after a great fire has consumed the world and left everything in ashes. Contains adult content.

Mendoza, Paola. Sanctuary, 2020.

It's 2032, and in this near-future America, all citizens are chipped and everyone is tracked. It's almost impossible to survive as an undocumented immigrant. When undocumented Vali's mother is detained by the Deportation Forces, Vali must flee Vermont with her little brother, Ernie, hoping to reach their Tía Luna in the sanctuary state of California. Intense and fast-paced with some violent content.

Ness, Patrick. The Knife of Never Letting Go, 2009.

A dystopian thriller follows a boy and girl on the run from a town where all thoughts can be heard. Todd Hewitt is the only boy in a town of men. Ever since the settlers were infected with the Noise germ, Todd can hear everything the men think, and they hear everything he thinks. Todd is just a month away from becoming a man, but in the midst of the cacophony, he knows that the town is hiding something from him -- something so awful Todd is forced to flee with only his dog, whose simple, loyal voice he hears too.

Ondaatje, Michael. The Cat's Table, 2012.

Michael, now an adult, recalls the three-week long sea voyage he took as a boy in the early 1950s to meet his mother. During the trip across the Indian Ocean the boy meets a variety of quirky characters on board.

Park, Patricia. Re Jane, 2015.

Jane Re--a half-Korean, half-American orphan--takes a position as an au pair for two Brooklyn academics and their daughter, but a brief sojourn in Seoul, where she reconnects with family, causes her to wonder if the man she loves is really the man for her as she tries to find balance between two cultures. A modern retelling of Jane Eyre.

Portis, Charles. True Grit, 1968.

Fourteen-year-old Mattie Ross convinces one-eyed Marshall "Rooster" Cogburn to help her capture the outlaw who murdered her father. Set in the "wild west."

Pratchett, Terry. The Color of Magic, 1983.

A wizard named Rincewind is pursued, not by a deadly messenger, but by Death himself while guiding a tourist through the unique land of Discworld.

Sepetys, Ruta. Salt to Sea, 2016.

Frantically racing to freedom with thousands of other refugees as Russian forces close in on their homes in East Prussia, Joana, Emilia, and Florian meet aboard the doomed Wilhelm Gustloff and are forced to trust each other in order to survive. This historical novel takes place as World War II draws to a close and refugees try to escape the war's final dangers.

Shusterman, Neal. Unwind, 2007.

In a future world where those between the ages of thirteen and eighteen can have their lives "unwound" and their body parts harvested for use by others, three teens go to extreme lengths to uphold their beliefs--and, perhaps, save their own lives.

Steinbeck, John. The Grapes of Wrath, 1939.

The bleak and classic story of a farm family's Depression-era journey from the Dustbowl of Oklahoma to the California migrant labor camps in search of a better life.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. Kidnapped, 1886.

A sixteen-year-old orphan is kidnapped by his villainous uncle, but escapes and becomes involved in the struggle of the Scottish highlanders against English rule. Beautifully written, this exciting adventure has become a well-loved classic.

Tóibín, Colm. Brooklyn, 2009.

Eilis Lacey takes advantage of a sponsorship that will allow her to escape the troubled economy of Ireland and work in a Brooklyn neighborhood, and after leaving her family behind, Eilis gets a job in a department store and falls in love with Tony, a man with a big Italian family, but the serenity of her new life is shattered by bad news from Ireland.

Tolkien, J.R.R. The Hobbit, 1937.

This classic fantasy story chronicles the adventures of the inhabitants of Middle-earth and Bilbo Baggins, the hobbit who brought home to the Shire the One Ring of Power.

Weir, Andy. The Martian, 2014.

Astronaut Mark Watney is stranded and completely alone on Mars, with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive, but Mark isn't ready to give up and drawing on his engineering skills and determination, he faces each obstacle with resourcefulness, but will it be enough for him to survive?

L'Engle, Madeleine and Hope Larson. A Wrinkle in Time: the Graphic Novel, 2012.

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

NON FICTION

Hughes, Langston. I Wonder as I Wander: an Autobiographical Journey, 1956.

Hughes vividly recalls the most dramatic and intimate moments of his life in the turbulent 1930s. His wanderlust leads him to Cuba, Haiti, Russia, Soviet Central Asia, Japan, and Spain (during its Civil War), through dictatorships, wars, and revolutions. It is the continuously amusing, wise revelation of an American writer journeying around the often strange and always exciting world he loves.

Strayed, Cheryl. Wild: from Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail, 2012.

Cheryl Strayed recounts the impact of her mother's death on her life at age twenty-two and chronicles her experiences after she made the impulsive decision to hike the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mojave Desert all the way into Washington State. Contains adult content.

Tran, G.B. Vietnamerica: a Family's Journey, 2010.

A graphic memoir in which Gia-Bao "GB" Tran, a Vietnamese American artist who was born and raised in South Carolina, shares his family's history, and describes his relationship with his Vietnamese parents and his visit to Vietnam, where he gains a better understanding of his mother and father.

Bryson, Bill. A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail, 1998.

This hilarious true story of two friends determined to hike the Appalachian Trail will draw you into the struggles of the woods and the crazy people you meet along the way. A true metaphor for getting through life, their journey shows that sometimes the commitments you make to others will carry you farther than the promises you make to yourself.