FICTION

FIC Abbott
How far will you go to achieve a dream? That's the question a celebrated coach poses to Katie and Eric Knox after he sees their daughter Devon, a gymnastics prodigy and Olympic hopeful, compete. For the Knoxes there are no limits--until a violent death rocks their close-knit gymnastics community and everything they have worked so hard for is suddenly at risk.

FIC Anderson
Growing up, Lia and Cassie are best friends. One of the main things that binds them together is their quest to be skinny. After a conflict, they stop hanging out, but that doesn’t make it any less traumatic when Lia learns that Cassie was found dead in a motel room. Lia starts to go a little mad, and the darkness of the book makes you feel like you’re in the depths of winter.

FIC Avasthi
Corey, Holly, and Savitri are closer than family until a random act of violence shatters their world. A gunman shoots at their car, leaving Corey dead, Holly in a coma, and Savitri the sole witness to the crime. When Holly wakes up, she is changed--determined to hunt down Corey's killer, whatever the cost, while Savitri fears that Holly is running wild, losing her grip on reality.

FIC Bradbury
A carnival rolls in sometime after the midnight hour on a chilly Midwestern October eve, ushering in Halloween a week before its time. A calliope's shrill siren song beckons to all with a seductive promise of dreams and youth regained. In this season of dying, Cooger & Dark's Pandemonium Shadow Show has come to Green Town, Illinois, to destroy every life touched by its strange and sinister mystery.

FIC Cain
Cain, James. The Postman Always Rings Twice, 1934.
This novel would remind you of an early film noir: tough characters, gritty material, and sharp and sparse writing. It tells the story of a drifter who embarks on a course of destruction when he falls for the wife of Nick, the genial owner of a roadside cafe where he’s just been hired.
FIC Cokal
In the Scandinavian city of Skyggehavn, a mysterious illness plagues the royal family, threatening the lives of the throne's heirs, and a courtier's wolfish hunger for the king's favors sets a devious plot in motion. As they navigate a tangled web of palace intrigue, power-lust, and deception, seamstress Ava and nursemaid Midi must carve out their own survival any way they can.

FIC Cormier
A high school freshman discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school's annual fund raising drive and arousing the wrath of the school bullies.

FIC Dostoyevsky
This classic 19th-century Russian novel about poverty and hopelessness in prerevolutionary Russian society tells the story of a young student who murders two women for their money and then struggles to live with his crime.

FIC Egan
Two cousins, irreversibly damaged by a childhood prank whose consequences changed their lives, reunite twenty years later to renovate a medieval castle in Eastern Europe, a castle steeped in blood lore and family pride. In an environment of extreme paranoia, cut off from the outside world, the men reenact the signal event of their youth, with even more catastrophic results.

FIC Foden
Idi Amin, the real-life dictator of Uganda, hires a Scottish doctor as his personal physician in this fictional account of Amin’s twisted, violent reign. As the doctor awakens to his patient's baroque barbarism – and his own complicity in it – the book dives into the themes of guilt, charisma, and the slow corruption of the human heart.

FIC Gardner
Elliot, a victim of bullying, invents a calmer, cooler self when he changes schools freshman year, but he soon attracts the wrong kind of attention from the Guardians who "maintain order" at the new school.

FIC Garland
Richard, backpacking through Southeast Asia, joins a French couple in search of a utopian beach rumored to be a communal Eden only to discover that the beach and its culture are not the idyllic setting they hoped for. An amazing fast-paced story of how an isolated situation can breed madness.
Clay Carter, a young Washington D.C. public defender wishing for a better career, is seduced by the lure of big money – and thrown into the midst of a dangerous conspiracy – when he is offered a position negotiating settlements for powerful drug companies.

Hardy, Thomas. *Tess of the d’Urbervilles*, 1891.
Hardy's classic novel tells the story of a young woman who attempts to restore her family's fortunes. She is seduced by a heartless aristocrat and punished by society's double standards when she gets a chance at real love.

When sixteen-year-old Jason Bock and his friends create their own religion to worship the town's water tower, what started out as a joke begins to take on a power of its own.

One of Hawthorne's defining works, this book is a vivid depiction of traditional American life and values replete with brilliantly etched characters. Hawthorne tells a tale of a cursed house with a mysterious and terrible past and the generations of two families that are linked to it.

Tom Ripley, sent to Italy to coax American playboy Dickie Greenleaf to return home, decides instead that he wants to be exactly like Greenleaf and will stop at nothing to reach his goal.

This prophetic novel describes the socialized horrors of a futuristic utopia devoid of individual freedom and the effects of the corruption of power.

Jackson, Shirley. *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*, 1962.
Taking readers deep into a labyrinth of dark neurosis, this is a deliciously unsettling novel about a perverse, isolated, and possibly murderous family and the struggle that ensues when a cousin arrives at their estate.

Lockhart, E. *We Were Liars*, 2013.
Spending the summers on her family's private island off the coast of Massachusetts with her cousins and a special boy named Gat, teenaged Cadence struggles to remember what happened during her fifteenth summer.
FIC Lynch
High school senior and football player Keir sets out to enjoy himself on graduation night, but when he attempts to comfort a friend whose date has left her stranded, things go terribly wrong.

FIC Mantel
Henry VIII, anxious about the consequences of dying without a male heir, is denied permission to annul his marriage of twenty years and marry Anne Boleyn. The power struggle between the Church and the Crown is mediated by astute politician Thomas Cromwell, who manages to get the king what he wants while keeping his eye on the prize of a free England.

FIC Marchetta
Now on the cusp of manhood, Finnikin, who was a child when the royal family of Lumatere was brutally murdered and replaced by an imposter, reluctantly joins forces with an enigmatic young novice and fellow-exile, who claims that her dark dreams will lead them to a surviving royal child and a way to regain the throne of Lumatere.

FIC Martin
Lacey Yeager, having arrived on the New York art scene as an intern at Sotheby's, uses her charm, wit, and ambition to move quickly up the cultural ladder, not caring whose heart she breaks and which laws she ignores in the process.

FIC Maxwell
A fictional account of the life of Anne Boleyn, a young woman who must depend upon her own intelligence and wit to survive the intrigues of the sophisticated world of Francois I after being sent to the French court, along with her sister, in order to further the ambitions of their ambassador father.

FIC McCarthy
The tale of a dispossessed young man and the band of bloodthirsty mercenaries he joins up with in Mexico in the 1800s.

FIC Minato
Originally published in Japan, this intriguing and unusual novel tells the story of a middle school teacher Yuko who believes her child has been murdered. She resigns from her job and on her last day, delivers one final lecture. She tells a story that upends everything her students ever thought they knew about two of their peers, and sets in motion a maniacal plot for revenge.
FIC Nielsen
In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war.

FIC Pessl
When the daughter of a cult horror film director is found dead in an abandoned Manhattan warehouse, investigative journalist Scott McGrath, disbelieving the official suicide ruling, probes into the strange circumstances of the young woman's death.

FIC Pratchett
A talking cat, intelligent rats, and a strange boy cooperate in a Pied Piper scam until they try to con the wrong town and are confronted by a deadly evil rat king.

FIC Puzo
Mafia leader Vito Corleone uses his power to influence all aspects of his Long Island society and will stop at nothing to see that his twisted vision of justice is carried out.

FIC Schwab
Victor and Eli started out as college roommates—brilliant, arrogant, lonely boys who recognized the same sharpness and ambition in each other. In their senior year, a shared research interest in adrenaline, near-death experiences, and seemingly supernatural events reveals an intriguing possibility: that under the right conditions, someone could develop extraordinary abilities. But when their thesis moves from the academic to the experimental, things go horribly wrong.

FIC Schulberg
Schulberg, Budd. What Makes Sammy Run, 1941.
A Jewish boy born to lowly means uses deception and betrayal to climb to the upper echelons of Hollywood during the 1930s. A tale of vaulting ambition, What Makes Sammy Run also shows a dark side of the early film industry.

FIC Sedgwick
Seven stories separated by centuries but mysteriously intertwined, this is a tale of horror and beauty, tenderness, sacrifice, and perhaps fate. An archaeologist who unearths a mysterious artifact, an airman who finds himself far from home, a painter, a ghost, a vampire, and a Viking: the seven stories in this compelling novel all take place on the remote Scandinavian island of Blessed.
FIC Stiefvater
Though she is from a family of clairvoyants, Blue Sargent’s only gift seems to be that she makes other people’s talents stronger, and when she meets Gansey, one of the Raven Boys from the expensive Aglionby Academy, she discovers that he has talents of his own—and that together their talents are a dangerous mix.

FIC Talley
Maria and Lily are their school’s ultimate power couple—but one thing stands between them and their perfect future: campus superstar Delilah. Golden child Delilah is a legend at their exclusive southern boarding school, and the presumptive winner of the distinguished Cawdor Kingsley Scholarship. But Delilah doesn’t know that Lily and Maria are willing to do anything—absolutely anything—to unseat her. The story is a modern retelling of Macbeth and incredibly spooky.

FIC Tartt
Richard Papen becomes embroiled in a society of brutal and deadly secrets from which he is unable to escape when an elite group of students from the prestigious Hampden College accept him into their group.

FIC Thackeray
This satirical look at Victorian money grubbers recounts the experiences of two finishing school graduates, Becky Sharp, a social climber, and Amelia Sedley. Very witty, this moral tale is lengthy but rewarding.

FIC Warren
Willie Stark, a well-intentioned, idealistic, back-country lawyer is unable to resist greed for power and lust for politics during his rise and fall as an American demagogue.

FIC Waters
Dr. Faraday, a country physician, is called to see a patient at Hundreds Hall, the dilapidated residence of the Ayres family, but Faraday begins to wonder, as he spends time in the house, if the Ayres could be haunted by more than family conflicts and the changes of society.

FIC Werlin
After being acquitted of murder, seventeen-year-old David goes to stay with relatives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he finds himself forced to face his past as he learns more about his strange young cousin Lily.
FIC Williams
Williams, Carol Lynch. The Chosen One, 2010.
In a polygamous cult in the desert, Kyra, not yet fourteen, wonders if being chosen to be the seventh wife of her uncle is just punishment for having read books and kissed a boy in violation of Prophet Childs' teachings. She’s torn between facing her fate and running away from all that she knows and loves.

FIC Wolfe
Sherman McCoy, a young investment banker with a fourteen-room apartment in Manhattan becomes involved in a freak accident. Prosecutors, politicians, press, police, clergy, and assorted hustlers close in on him.

FIC Wright
Wright, Richard. Native Son, 1940.
Trapped in the poverty-stricken ghetto of Chicago's South Side, a young African-American man finds release only in acts of violence.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

G-HS FIC Feiffer
Taking place from the Depression to World War II, this noir graphic novel centers on five tough women and their connections via a hard-drinking private detective.

G-HS FIC Vaughan
Yorick Brown, geneticist Allison Mann, and agent 355 continue their search for a cure to the plague that killed every man, boy, and mammal with a Y chromosome on Earth except Yorick, all while being pursued by the man-hating Daughters of the Amazon.

NON-FICTION

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William E. Dodd becomes the American ambassador to Germany, where he witnesses the atrocities of Hitler's regime and watches his daughter fall in love with a Nazi officer.

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Mar, Alex. Witches of America, 2015.
Mar chronicles her immersive five-year trip into the occult, charting modern Paganism from its roots in 1950s England to its current American mecca in the San Francisco Bay Area; from a gathering of more than a thousand witches in the Illinois woods to the New Orleans branch of one of the world's most influential magical societies.
**B Farmer**  
**Kidder, Tracy. Mountains Beyond Mountains, 2003.**  
This biography chronicles the life of Paul Farmer, a radical public health reformer devoted to providing medical care to the poor, mainly in Haiti. His unshakable moral imperative, ardent imagination, and limitless energy, compassion, and chutzpah, allowed him to create Partners in Health, a renegade yet hugely influential organization. The author shares his puzzlement over and occasional discomfort with this charismatic and tirelessly giving man who eschews personal comfort to care for the "underdogs of the underdogs."

**B Jobs**  
**Isaacson, Walter. Steve Jobs, 2011.**  
Based on more than forty interviews with Jobs conducted over two years, Walter Isaacson has written a riveting story of the roller-coaster life and intense personality of a creative entrepreneur whose passion for perfection and ferocious drive revolutionized multiple industries. Driven by demons, Jobs could drive those around him to fury and despair.