

Read for a Lifetime 2006-2007

The goal of this Illinois program, targeting high school students, is to promote the enjoyment of reading by encouraging students to read both classic and contemporary literature. Students participating in "Read for a Lifetime" must read at least four books from the designated titles list, prior to April 1. Upon completion of the program, the "Read for a Lifetime" coordinator will send a list of the participants to the Illinois State Library. Students completing the program requirements will receive a Certificate of Accomplishment from Secretary of State and State Librarian Jess White and a discount coupon from program co-sponsor, Waldenbooks.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. Prom. Eighteen-year-old Ash wants nothing to do with senior prom, but when disaster strikes and her desperate friend, Nat, needs her help to get it back on track, Ash's involvement transforms her life. **YA FIC AND; YA CD BOOK FIC AND**

Armstrong, Lance. It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life. Multiple Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong is a winner in the game of life itself: He has survived cancer, found love, and become a father. In the pages of his memoir, Armstrong tells his own moving and inspiring story, writing in his signature down-to-earth Texas style. This is an amazing tale of recovery in the face of tragedy and victory against overwhelming odds. **BIOGRAPHY 796.62 ARMSTRONG**

Blanco, Jodee. Please Stop Laughing at Me. This powerful, unforgettable memoir chronicles how one child was shunned-and sometimes physically abused-by her classmates from elementary school through high school. It is an unflinching look at what it means to be the outcast, how even the most loving parents can get it all wrong, why schools are often unable to prevent disaster, and how bullying has been misunderstood and mishandled by the mental health community. **305.235 BLA**

Bray, Libba. Great and Terrible Beauty. After the suspicious death of her mother in 1895, sixteen-year-old Gemma returns to England, after many years in India, to attend a finishing school where she becomes aware of her magical powers and ability to see into the spirit world. **YA FIC BRA; YA CD BOOK FIC BRA**

Choldenko, Gennifer. Al Capone Does My Shirts. A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister. **JH CHO**

Dash, Joan. Dangerous Engine: Benjamin Franklin, from Scientist to Diplomat. This biography explores Benjamin Franklin's evolution from scientist to diplomat before and during the Revolutionary War. **J B FRA**

Dessen, Sarah. Truth About Forever. The summer following her father's death, Macy plans to work at the library and wait for her brainy boyfriend to return from camp, but instead she goes to work at a catering business where she makes new friends and finally faces her grief. **YA FIC DES**

DiCamillo, Kate. Tale of Despereaux. The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin. **J DIC; LT J DIC; J CD BOOK DIC**

Hosseini, Khaled. Kite Runner. Taking us from Afghanistan in the final days of the monarchy to the present, *The Kite Runner* is the unforgettable and beautifully told story of the friendship between two boys growing up in Kabul. Raised in the same household, Amir and Hassan grow up in different worlds: Amir is the son of a prominent and wealthy man, while Hassan, the son of Amir's father's servant, is a Hazara — a shunned ethnic minority. Their intertwined lives, and their fates, reflect the eventual tragedy of the world around them. When Amir and his father flee the country for a new life in California, Amir thinks that he has escaped his past. And yet he cannot leave the memory of Hassan behind him. **YA FIC HOS; FIC HOSSEINI, K**

Koja, Kathe. Buddha Boy. Justin spends time with Jinsen, the unusual and artistic new student whom the school bullies torment and call Buddha Boy, and ends up making choices that impact Jinsen, himself, and the entire school. **YA FIC KOJ**

Levitt, Steven D. Freakonomics. Which is more dangerous, a gun or a swimming pool? What do schoolteachers and sumo wrestlers have in common? Why do drug dealers still live with their moms? How much do parents really matter? What kind of impact did Roe v. Wade have on violent crime? These may not sound like typical questions for an economist to ask. But Steven D. Levitt is not a typical economist. He is a much heralded scholar who studies the stuff and riddles of everyday life -- from cheating and crime to sports and child rearing -- and whose conclusions regularly turn the conventional wisdom on its head. **330 LEV; CD BOOK 330 LEV**

Lewis, C. S. Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: The Chronicles of Narnia. Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter. **J LEW; J PPB L; J CD BOOK LEW; CLASSIC L PB**

Mikaelsen, Ben. Petey. In 1922 Petey, who has cerebral palsy, is misdiagnosed as an idiot and institutionalized; sixty years later, still in the institution, he befriends a boy and shares with him the joy of life. **J MIK**

Necova, Petra and Jane Scovell. Love Always, Petra: A Story of Courage and the Discovery of Life's Hidden Gifts. This is more than a first-person account of the 2004 tsunami; it is the story of a working-class girl who went from a communist-controlled childhood in Czechoslovakia to the cover of *Sports Illustrated*; it is the story of a woman and a man falling in love amid the glittering world of high fashion. Most of all, it is a story that forcefully illustrates the power of nature to not only change our lives but teach us to treasure the gifts of love and life. **363.3495 NEC**

Nelson, Marilyn. Wreath for Emmitt Till. In 1955, people all over the United States knew that Emmett Louis Till was a fourteen-year-old African American boy lynched for supposedly whistling at a white woman in Mississippi. The brutality of his murder, the open-casket funeral, and the acquittal of the men tried for the crime drew wide media attention. Award-winning poet Marilyn Nelson reminds us of the boy whose fate helped spark the civil rights movement. This martyr's wreath, woven from a little-known but sophisticated form of poetry, challenges us to speak out against modern-day injustices, to 'speak what we see.' **YA 811.54 NEL**

Oppenheim, Jane. Dear Miss Breed: True Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration during World War II and a Librarian who Made a Difference. In the early 1940's, Clara Breed, children's librarian at the San Diego Public Library, was friend to dozens of Japanese American children and teens when war broke out in December of 1941. The story of what happened to these American citizens is movingly told through letters that her young friends wrote to Miss Breed during their internment. This remarkable librarian and humanitarian served as a lifeline to these imprisoned young people, and was brave enough to speak out against a shameful chapter in American history. **YA 940.531773 OPP**

Parrado, Nando. Miracle in the Andes: 72 Days on the Mountain and My Long Trek Home. Imagine a real-life *Lost* where personal survival replaces viewer suspense. On the morning of October 12, 1972, a plane crashed into an inaccessible region of the Argentine Andes. For 72 harrowing days, the survivors, most of them members of a top Uruguayan rugby team, fought to stay alive on a windy glacier without food, blankets, warm clothing, or means of communicating with the outside world. For more than two months, they struggled against hunger, forcing themselves to eat strips of leather and, eventually, human flesh stripped from their dead colleagues.

Paulsen, Gary. Harris and Me: A Summer Remembered. Sent to live with relatives on their farm because of his unhappy home life, an eleven-year-old city boy meets his distant cousin Harris and is given an introduction to a whole new world. **JH PAU**

Peters, Julie Anne. Define Normal. When she agrees to meet with Jasmine as a peer counselor at their middle school, Antonia never dreams that this girl with the black lipstick and pierced eyebrow will end up helping her deal with the serious problems she faces at home and become a good friend. **JH PET**

Picoult, Jodi. **My Sister's Keeper.** Conceived in vitro, 13-year-old Anna Fitzgerald has decided to sue her parents to stop them from using her as "spare parts" for her older sister, Kate, who suffers from leukemia. After years of having her bone marrow and blood used to keep Kate alive, Anna now refuses to donate a kidney and strives for her own personal freedom. She hires lawyer Campbell Alexander to represent her, even as her own mother, a former civil defense attorney, fights her in court. **YA PIC PIC; LT PICOULT, J; FIC PICOULT, J; CD BOOK PICOULT**

Preston, Richard. **Hot Zone.** The dramatic and chilling story of an Ebola virus outbreak in a suburban Washington, D.C. laboratory, with descriptions of frightening historical epidemics of rare and lethal viruses. More hair-raising than anything Hollywood could think of, because it's all true. **YA PPB P; TALK BK 614.57 PRE; LT 614.57 PRE; 614.57 PRE**

Reinhardt, Dana. **Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life.** In a moving first novel, Reinhardt uses a sure but gentle hand to explore the relationship that develops between an adopted teen and her biological mother. **YA FIC REI**

Rowling, J. K. **Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince.** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince takes up the story of Harry Potter's sixth year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry at this point in the midst of the storm of this battle of good and evil. **JH ROW; JH CD BOOK ROW; CD BOOK ROW; LT ROWLING, J**

Sparks, Nicholas. **Bend in the Road.** Miles's life seemed to end the day his wife was killed in a hit-and-run accident. He still rises each morning to take care of his young son and carries out his duties as deputy sheriff of New Bern, North Carolina, but it's all in a numb and hopeless haze. Then Miles meets Sarah Andrews, who is rebuilding her own life. **FIC SPARKS, N**

Weston, Carol. **For Teens Only: Quotes, Notes, and Advice You Can Use.** Sage advice, complete with relevant and inspiring quotes, is the main focus of this interesting and upbeat self-help book. Topics include mind, body, friends, relationships, school, family, and work, all presented in an understanding and straightforward manner. **YA 158.128 WES**