

2009 Family Booklist of Champions

All lists are arranged alphabetically by author's last name. The number at the end indicates how many people included this title on their list if there was more than one.

FICTION (List of champions)

Watership Down, Richard Adams (4)
Little Women, Louisa May Alcott (3)
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou
The Clan of the Cave Bear, Jean Auel
Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen
The Mezzanine, Nicholson Baker
Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury (2)
Angels and Demons, Dan Brown
The Da Vinci Code, Dan Brown
Mists of Avalon, Marion Zimmer Bradley
Rubyfruit Jungle, Rita Mae Brown
The Metaphysical Touch: A Novel, Sylvia Brownrigg
The Stranger, Albert Camus
Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card (4 + 1 HM)
The Teachings of Don Juan: A Yaqui Way of Knowledge, Carlos Castañeda
The Amazing Adventures of Cavalier and Clay, Michael Chabon
Shogun, James Clavell
The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho
The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins (2)
Microserfs, Douglas Coupland
Jurassic Park, Michael Crichton
Timeline, Michael Crichton (2)
The Secret of Santa Vittoria, Robert Crichton
Ironman, Chris Crutcher
House of Leaves, Mark Danielewski (+1 HM)
Andy and the Lion, James Daugherty
The Little Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens (2)
Great Expectations, Charles Dickens
Hans Brinker or The Silver Skates A Story of Life in

Holland, Mary Mapes Dodge
The Brothers Karamazov, Fyodor Dostoevsky
Crime and Punishment, Fyodor Dostoevsky
The Count of Monte Cristo, Alexandre Dumas (2)
The Lymond Chronicles, Dorothy Dunnett (series)
The Name of the Rose, Umberto Eco
As I Lay Dying, William Faulkner
The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, Jonathan Foer
The Key to Rebecca, Ken Follett
The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett (10)
Night Sky, Clare Francis (2)
Anansi Boys, Neil Gaiman
Sandman, the Complete Series, Neil Gaiman
Looking for Alaska, John Green
Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen (2)
Dr. Franklin's Island, Ann Halam
The Choring of the Trees, Donald Harington
Stranger in a Strange Land, Robert Heinlein (3)
Catch-22, Joseph Heller
Dune, Frank Herbert (2)
Siddhartha, Herman Hesse
Someone Knows My Name, Lawrence Hill (3)
Gentleman's Agreement, a Novel, Laura Z. Hobson
Smilla's Sense of Snow, Peter Høeg
The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini (3)
The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker (6)
Ramona, Helen Hunt Jackson
The Last Temptation of Christ, Nikos Kazantzakis
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Ken Kesey
Sometimes a Great Notion, Ken Kesey
The Gunslinger, Stephen King (series)
The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver (8)

Fiction List of Champions, cont'd

On the Run, Gordon Korman (series)
I Know This Much is True, Wally Lamb
The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, Stieg Larsson
Sons and Lovers, D.H. Lawrence
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee (6)
A Wrinkle in Time, Madeleine L'Engle (2)
The Chronicles of Narnia, C.S. Lewis (series)
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, C.S. Lewis
The Call of the Wild, Jack London
Put Me in the Zoo, Robert Lopshire
One Hundred Years of Solitude, Gabriel García Márquez
Life of Pi, Yann Martel (6)
The Road, Cormac McCarthy (2 + 1 HM)
The Thornbirds, Colleen McCullough
Centennial, James Michener
Chesapeake: A Novel, James Michener
The Covenant, James Michener
The Source: A Novel, James Michener
A Fine Balance, Rohinton Mistry
Gone with the Wind, Margaret Mitchell (2)
Watchmen, Alan Moore
Beloved, Toni Morrison
The Time Traveler's Wife, Audrey Niffenegger
Blonde, Joyce Carol Oates
Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell
Hatchet, Gary Paulsen (series)
Club Dumas, Artur Pérez-Reverte
Life As We Knew It, Susan Beth Pfeffer (series)
His Dark Materials, Philip Pullman (series) (5)
The Godfather, Mario Puzo
Ishmael, Daniel Quinn
The Westing Game, Ellen Raskin
Jitterbug Perfume, Tom Robbins
how i live now, Meg Rosoff
Harry Potter, J.K. Rowling (series)
Goodbye, Columbus, Philip Roth

The Great American Novel, Philip Roth
The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy (3)
The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger (3)
Les Jeux Sont Faits, Jean-Paul Sartre
How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, Dr. Seuss
Hyperion, Dan Simmons (2)
The Terror, Dan Simmons
The Jungle, Upton Sinclair
Joy in the Morning, Betty Smith
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
Heidi, Johanna Spyri
East of Eden, John Steinbeck
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck (5 + 1 HM)
Sophie's Choice, William Styron
The Hobbit: Or There and Back Again, J.R.R. Tolkien (2)
The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien (5)
Television: A Novel, Jean-Philippe Toussaint
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Mark Twain
Kristen Lavransdatter, Sigrid Undset
La Maravilla, Alfredo Vea, Jr.
Mother Night, Kurt Vonnegut
Slaughterhouse-Five, Kurt Vonnegut
The Color Purple, Alice Walker
Jubilee, Margaret Walker (2)
All the King's Men, Robert Penn Warren
The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit, Sloan Wilson and Jonathan Franzen
The Once and Future King, T.H. White
Leaves of Grass, Walt Whitman (poetry)
Night, Elie Wiesel
The Winds of War, Herman Wouk (2)
The Book Thief, Markus Zusak (4 + 1 HM)

FICTION (Honorable Mentions)

Feed, M.T. Anderson
Evolution, Me & Other Freaks of Nature, Robin Brande
Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card
House of Leaves, Mark Danielewski
Copper Sun, Sharon Draper
The Ember Series, Jeanne DuPrau (series)
The Sound and the Fury, William Faulkner
White Darkness, Geraldine McCaughrean
The Road, Cormac McCarthy
Lonesome Dove, Larry McMurtry
Lolita, Vladimir Nabokov
Ahab's Wife: Or the Star-gazer, Sena Jeter Naslund
Devil's Footsteps, E.E. Richardson
Endymion, Dan Simmons
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck
Anna Karenina, Leo Tolstoy
Flipped, Wendelin Van Draanen
The Little House Collection, Laura Ingalls Wilder (series)
The Book Thief, Markus Zusak
I Am the Messenger, Markus Zusak

NON-FICTION (List of champions)

Paula, Isabel Allende
All the President's Men, Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward
The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith, Marcus Borg (nonfiction)
Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders, Vincent Bugliosi and Curt Gentry
Barbarians at the Gate: The Fall of RJR Nabisco, Bryan Burrough and John Helyar
In Cold Blood, Truman Capote
The Measure of Our Success: Letter to My Children and Yours, Marian Wright Edelman
The Sea is so Wide and My Boat is so Small: Charting a Course for the Next Generation, Marian Wright Edelman

Non-fiction, cont'd

Conspiracy of Fools: A True Story, Kurt Eichenwald
The Informant: A True Story, Kurt Eichenwald
Relativity: The Special and the General Theory, Albert Einstein
Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank
In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development, Carol Gilligan
The Innocent Man, John Grisham
Seabiscuit, Laura Hillenbrand (2)
Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster, Jon Krakauer (2 + 1 HM)
Riding Outside the Lines: International Incidents and Other Misadventures with the Metal Cowboy, Joe Kurmaskie
The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America, Erik Larson
Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game, Michael Lewis
When Genius Failed: The Rise and Fall of Long Term Capital Management, Roger Lowenstein
The Smartest Guys in the Room: The Amazing Rise and Scandalous Fall of Enron, Bethany McClean and Peter Elkind
Angela's Ashes, Frank McCourt (2)
1776, David McCullough
Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software, Charles Petzold
In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto, Michael Pollan
900 Days: The Siege of Leningrad, Harrison Salisbury
I Did What I Could, Gilbert Schroerlucke (3)
Me Talk Pretty One Day, David Sedaris
A Man Called Intrepid, William Stevenson
Enola Gay: The Bombing of Hiroshima, Gordon Thomas and Max Morgan-Witts
The Glass Castle: A Memoir, Jeannette Walls
A People's History of the United States: 1492 to Present, Howard Zinn

2009 Family Booklist of Champions

Appendix 1: The Big Winners—grouped according to the number of people who had this title on their list (*includes both fiction and nonfiction*)

GOLD MEDAL (named by 10 people!)

The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett (10)

SILVER MEDAL (named by 5-8 people)

The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver (8)

The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker (6)

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee (6)

Life of Pi, Yann Martel (6)

His Dark Materials, Phillip Pullman (series) (5)

The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck (5 + 1 HM)

The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien (5)

BRONZE MEDAL (named by 2-4 people)

Watership Down, Richard Adams (4)

Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card (4 + 1 HM)

The Book Thief, Markus Zusak (4 + 1 HM)

Little Women, Louisa May Alcott (3)

Stranger in a Strange Land, Robert Heinlein (3)

Someone Knows My Name, Lawrence Hill (3)

The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini (3)

The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy (3)

The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger (3)

I Did What I Could, Gilbert Schroerlucke (nonfiction) (3)

Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury (2)

The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins (2)

Timeline, Michael Crichton (2)

A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens (2)

The Count of Monte Cristo, Alexandre Dumas (2)

Night Sky, Clare Francis (2)

Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen (2)

Dune, Frank Herbert (2)

Seabiscuit, Laura Hillenbrand (nonfiction) (2)

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster, Jon Krakauer (nonfiction) (2 + 1HM)

A Wrinkle in Time, Madeleine L'Engle (2)

The Road, Cormac McCarthy (2 + 1 HM)

Angela's Ashes, Frank McCourt (nonfiction) (2)

Gone with the Wind, Margaret Mitchell (2)

Hyperion, Dan Simmons (2)

The Hobbit: Or There and Back Again, J.R.R. Tolkien (2)

Jubilee, Margaret Walker (2)

The Winds of War, Herman Wouk (2)

House of Leaves, Mark Danielewski (+ 1 HM)

2009 Family Booklist of Champions

Appendix 2: The Individual Lists

BRUCE

Current Top 20 Favorite Fiction Books, In Order

1. *The Winds of War*, Herman Wouk
2. *The God of Small Things*, Arundhati Roy
3. *East of Eden*, John Steinbeck
4. *Sometimes a Great Notion*, Ken Kesey
5. *The Poisonwood Bible*, Barbara Kingsolver
6. *The Chirping of the Trees*, Donald Harington
7. *The Call of the Wild*, Jack London
8. *His Dark Materials*, Phillip Pullman (series)
9. *The Lord of the Rings*, J.R.R. Tolkien
10. *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee
11. *The Pillars of the Earth*, Ken Follett
12. *The Hobbit: Or There and Back Again*, J.R.R. Tolkien
13. *All the King's Men*, Robert Penn Warren
14. *As I Lay Dying*, William Faulkner
15. *The Secret of Santa Vittoria*, Robert Crichton
16. *Watership Down*, Richard Adams
17. *Hyperion*, Dan Simmons
18. *Shogun*, James Clavell
19. *Ender's Game*, Orson Scott Card
20. *Dune*, Frank Herbert

Five Close Misses (alphabetically by author)

The Sound and the Fury, William Faulkner
The Road, Cormac McCarthy
Lonesome Dove, Larry McMurtry
Endymion, Dan Simmons
The Book Thief, Markus Zusak

Current Top 10 Nonfiction Books, In Order

1. *In Cold Blood*, Truman Capote
2. *The 900 Days: The Siege of Leningrad*, Harrison Salisbury

3. *A Man Called Intrepid*, William Stevenson
4. *The Informant: A True Story*, Kurt Eichenwald
5. *When Genius Failed: The Rise and Fall of Long Term Capital Management*, Roger Lowenstein
6. *Barbarians at the Gate: The Fall of RJR Nabisco*, Bryan Burrough and John Helyar
7. *Conspiracy of Fools: A True Story*, Kurt Eichenwald
8. *Enola Gay: The Bombing of Hiroshima*, Gordon Thomas and Max Morgan-Witts
9. *The Smartest Guys in the Room: The Amazing Rise and Scandalous Fall of Enron*, Bethany McClean and Peter Elkind
10. *All the President's Men*, Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward

GRANNY

Most Memorable Books (that I could remember)

Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens
Hans Brinker or The Silver Skates A Story of Life in Holland, Mary Mapes Dodge
The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett
Someone Knows My Name, Lawrence Hill
The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini
The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker
Ramona, Helen Hunt Jackson
The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
A Fine Balance, Rohinton Mistry
Heidi, Johanna Spyri
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Mark Twain
The Book Thief, Markus Zusak

JEANNE

All-Time Favorite Books

Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
Timeline, Michael Crichton
Crime and Punishment, Fyodor Dostoevsky
The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett
Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen
Someone Knows My Name, Lawrence Hill
Seabiscuit, Laura Hillenbrand (nonfiction)
The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini
The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver
I Know This Much is True, Wally Lamb
Sons and Lovers, D.H. Lawrence
Life of Pi, Yann Martel
The Thornbirds, Colleen McCullough
The Godfather, Mario Puzo
The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy
The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger
How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, Dr. Seuss
The Jungle, Upton Sinclair
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck
The Book Thief, Markus Zusak

JENNIFER

All-Time Favorites (that I can think of off the top of my head...first thing in the morning...most are far too cliché and I'm scrunching my face up as I type)

The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho
Les Jeux Sont Faits, Jean-Paul Sartre
The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger
Television: A Novel, Jean-Philippe Toussaint
Leaves of Grass, Walt Whitman (poetry)

JIM

Top 20 Books* of my Life

* When I say "books" I use the term broadly and inclusively in this case. Here I have chosen single volumes to represent a series of books, such as *The Gunslinger* and *Dune*. I have also chosen a graphic novel and a collected series of comic books, or sequential art. Finally, most of these books represent their authors as much as themselves. Works like *Mother Night*, *Stranger in a Strange Land*, and *La Maravilla* represent the influence all of these author's works have had on my life.

20. *Club Dumas*, Artur Pérez-Reverte
 19. *The Amazing Adventures of Cavalier and Clay*, Michael Chabon
 18. *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury
 17. *Mother Night*, Kurt Vonnegut
 16. *La Maravilla*, Alfredo Vea, Jr.
 15. *His Dark Materials*, Philip Pullman (series)
 14. *The Lord of the Rings*, J.R.R. Tolkien
 13. *Watership Down*, Richard Adams
 12. *The Great American Novel*, Philip Roth
 11. *The Once and Future King*, T.H. White
 10. *Watchmen*, Alan Moore
 9. *Stranger in a Strange Land*, Robert Heinlein
 8. *The Brothers Karamazov*, Fyodor Dostoyevsky
 7. *The Count of Monte Cristo*, Alexandre Dumas
 6. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Gabriel García Márquez
 5. *The Name of the Rose*, Umberto Eco
 4. *The Gunslinger*, Stephen King (series)
 3. *Dune*, Frank Herbert (series)
 2. *Sandman, the Complete Series*, Neil Gaiman
 1. *Ender's Game*, Orson Scott Card
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KATHY

All-Time Favorite Books

The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett
The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker

KEITH S.

The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith, Marcus Borg (nonfiction)

Angels and Demons, Dan Brown

The Measure of Our Success: Letter to My Children and Yours, Marian Wright Edelman (nonfiction)

The Sea is so Wide and My Boat is so Small: Charting a Course for the Next Generation, Marian Wright Edelman (nonfiction)

The Little Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett

Stranger in a Strange Land, Robert Heinlein

Gentleman's Agreement, a Novel, Laura Z. Hobson

The Last Temptation of Christ, Nikos Kazantzakis

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

The Chronicles of Narnia, C.S. Lewis (series)

1776, David McCullough (nonfiction)

Centennial, James Michener

Chesapeake: A Novel, James Michener

The Covenant, James Michener

The Source: A Novel, James Michener

Goodbye, Columbus, Philip Roth

I Did What I Could, Gilbert Schroerlucke (nonfiction)

Jubilee, Margaret Walker

Night, Elie Wiesel

A People's History of the United States: 1492 to Present, Howard Zinn (nonfiction)

KAYE

The Metaphysical Touch: A Novel, Sylvia Brownrigg

House of Leaves, Mark Danielewski

A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, Jonathan Foer

The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett

Night Sky, Clare Francis

The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker

The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

Life of Pi, Yann Martel

The Time Traveler's Wife, Audrey Niffenegger

Blonde, Joyce Carol Oates

I Did What I Could, Gilbert Schroerlucke

The Terror, Dan Simmons

The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck

Kristen Lavransdatter, Sigrid Undset

The Winds of War, Herman Wouk

The Book Thief, Markus Zusak

KIM

Top Twenty

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou

Rubyfruit Jungle, Rita Mae Brown

The Stranger, Albert Camus

The Teachings of Don Juan: A Yaqui Way of Knowledge, Carlos Castañeda

Timeline, Michael Crichton

Andy and the Lion, James Daugherty

The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett

Night Sky, Clare Francis

Siddhartha, Herman Hesse

Someone Knows My Name, Lawrence Hill

Seabiscuit, Laura Hillenbrand (nonfiction)

The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini

The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker

The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver

Put Me in the Zoo, Robert Lopshire

Life of Pi, Yann Martel

I Did What I Could, Gilbert Schroerlucke (nonfiction)

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck

The Book Thief, Markus Zusak

NADINE

Current All-Time Favorite Novels

Watership Down, Richard Adams
Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
Mists of Avalon, Marion Zimmer Bradley
Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card
The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins
Jurassic Park, Michael Crichton
Great Expectations, Charles Dickens
The Count of Monte Cristo, Alexandre Dumas
The Lymond Chronicles, Dorothy Dunnett (series)
The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett
The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
A Wrinkle in Time, Madeleine L'Engle
The Road, Cormac McCarthy
Gone with the Wind, Margaret Mitchell
Beloved, Toni Morrison
His Dark Materials, Philip Pullman (series)
Harry Potter, J.K. Rowling (series)
The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy
Hyperion, Dan Simmons
The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien

Six Honorable Mentions

House of Leaves, Mark Danielewski
Lolita, Vladimir Nabokov
Ahab's Wife: Or the Star-gazer, Sena Jeter Naslund
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck
Anna Karenina, Leo Tolstoy
The Little House Collection, Laura Ingalls Wilder

Current Ten All-Time Favorite Works of Nonfiction

Paula, Isabel Allende
Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders, Vincent Bugliosi and Curt Gentry
Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank

In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development, Carol Gilligan

The Innocent Man, John Grisham

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster, Jon Krakauer

The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America, Erik Larson

Angela's Ashes, Frank McCourt

In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto, Michael Pollan

Me Talk Pretty One Day, David Sedaris

SANDRA

The Clan of the Cave Bear, Jean Auel

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen

The Da Vinci Code, Dan Brown

The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald

The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett

Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen

Catch-22, Joseph Heller

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Ken Kesey

The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, C.S. Lewis

Gone with the Wind, Margaret Mitchell

The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger

Joy in the Morning, Betty Smith

The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck

Sophie's Choice, William Styron

The Hobbit: Or There and Back Again, J.R.R. Tolkien

The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien

The Color Purple, Alice Walker

Jubilee, Margaret Walker

The Glass Castle: A Memoir, Jeannette Walls (nonfiction)

SALLY

Favorite Books

Essentially, my criteria are nothing special. I have chosen 21 books that for whatever reason have touched me, either personally, professionally or some other -ly. I decided not to include picture books because that is an entirely different set of parameters and personally I don't like mixing picture books with chapter books of any reading level. For the same reason, I decided not to include graphic novels. That would be an entirely different list. I did, however, include children's chapter books and teen books. Also, I put series as one entry. Because I am a Librarian. So I can.

Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury

The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins

Ironman, Chris Crutcher

The Key to Rebecca, Ken Follett

Anansi Boys, Neil Gaiman

Looking for Alaska, John Green

Dr. Franklin's Island, Ann Halam

The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker

The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver

On the Run, Gordon Korman (series)

Riding Outside the Lines: International Incidents and Other Misadventures with the Metal Cowboy, Joe Kurmaskie (nonfiction)

Life of Pi, Yann Martel

Angela's Ashes, Frank McCourt (nonfiction)

Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell

Hatchet, Gary Paulsen (series)

Life As We Knew It, Susan Beth Pfeffer (series)

His Dark Materials, Phillip Pullman (series)

Ishmael, Daniel Quinn

The Westing Game, Ellen Raskin

Jitterbug Perfume, Tom Robbins

how i live now, Meg Rosoff

VERY close runners-up (I know, it's cheating . . . but I couldn't resist)

Feed, M.T. Anderson

Evolution, Me & Other Freaks of Nature, Robin Brande

Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card

Copper Sun, Sharon Draper

The Ember Series, Jeanne DuPrau (series)

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster, Jon Krakauer (nonfiction)

White Darkness, Geraldine McCaughrean

Devil's Footsteps, E.E. Richardson

Flipped, Wendelin Van Draanen

I Am the Messenger, Markus Zusak

ROGER

Favorite Books

Watership Down, Richard Adams

The Mezzanine, Nicholson Baker

Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card

Microserfs, Douglas Coupland

Relativity: The Special and the General Theory, Albert Einstein (nonfiction)

The Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett

Stranger in a Strange Land, Robert Heinlein

Smilla's Sense of Snow, Peter Høeg

The Cowboy and the Cossack, Clair Huffaker

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster, Jon Krakauer (nonfiction)

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, Stieg Larsson

A Wrinkle in Time, Madeleine L'Engle

Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game, Michael Lewis (nonfiction)

Life of Pi, Yann Martel

The Road, Cormac McCarthy

Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software, Charles Petzold (nonfiction)

His Dark Materials, Philip Pullman (series)

The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien

Slaughterhouse-Five, Kurt Vonnegut

The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit, Sloan Wilson and Jonathan Franzen