

**Fiction and Nonfiction Trade and Picture Books  
for High School Content Areas**  
Compiled by Ishi Hayes, KHS Reading Specialist (Updated 5/18/2012)

Nuclear Holocaust

*Z for Zachariah* by Robert C. O'Brien  
*Children of the Dust* by Louise Lawrence  
*The Butter Battle Book* by Dr. Seuss

Slavery

*The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales* by Virginia Hamilton (includes slave tales of freedom)  
*The Middle Passage: White Ships, Black Cargo* by Tom Feelings (wordless picture book)  
*To Be a Slave* by Julius Lester (first-hand accounts)  
*Which Way Freedom?* By Joyce Hansen (enslaved boy during Civil War)  
*Night John* by Gary Paulsen (man teaches slaves to read in secret)  
*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson (enslaved girl during Revolutionary War era)

World Cultures/World Languages

*19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East* by Naomi Sihak Nye  
*Colors of Freedom: Immigrant Stories* by Janet Bode  
*First Crossing: Stories About Teen Immigrants* edited by Donald Gallo  
*Asphalt Angels* by Ineke Holtwijk (homeless kids in Rio de Janeiro)  
*Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind* by Suzanne Fisher Staples  
*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Tiger Soup: An Anansi Story from Jamaica* by Frances Temple (picture book)  
*Alphabet of Dreams* by Susan Fletcher  
*Anahita's Woven Riddle* by Meghan Nuttall Sayres  
*Before We Were Free* by Julia Alvarez  
*Born Confused* by Tanuja Desai Hidier  
*The Fattening Hut* by Pat Lowery Collins  
*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros (Latino-American coming of age story in vignettes)  
*Kiss the Dust* by Elizabeth Laird  
*Monsoon Summer* by Mitali Perkins  
*The Other Side of Truth* by Beverley Naidoo  
*Over a Thousand Hills I Walk With You* by Hanna Jansen  
*Parrot in the Oven: Mid Vida* by Victor Martines  
*Real Time: A Novel* by Pnina Moed Kass  
*Sammy and Juliana in Hollywood* by Benfamin Alire Saenz  
*Samurai Shortstop* by Alan Gratz  
*A Step From Heaven* by An Na (Korean immigrants, coming of age)  
*A Stone in My Hand* by Cathryn Clinton  
*When My Name Was Keoko* by Linda Sue Park  
*Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Latino in the United States* by Lori Marie Carlson, ed.  
*Red Hot Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Being Young and Latino in the United States* by Lori Marie Carlson, ed.  
*Broken Memory: A Novel of Rwanda* by Elisabeth Combres (Rwandan genocide, child refugee)  
*No Safe Place* by Deborah Ellis (child soldiers, human trafficking, refugees, adventure)  
*Never Fall Down* by Patricia McCormick (child soldiers, Cambodian boy under Khmer Rouge)

*Bamboo People* by Mitali Perkins (child soldiers, 2 Burmese boys)  
*The Shepherd's Granddaughter* by Anne Laurel Carter (Palestinian/Israeli conflict)

### Revolutionary War

*My Brother Sam Is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier (young male protagonist)

### U.S. Civil War

*The Boys' War: Confederate and Union Soldiers Talk about the Civil War* by J. Murphy  
*Behind Rebel Lines: The Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy* by Seymour Reit  
*Charley Skedaddle* by Patricia Beatty  
*Across Five Aprils* by Irene Hunt  
*Dear Ellen Bee: A Civil War Scrapbook of Two Union Spies* by Mary E. Lyons  
*Bull Run* by Paul Fleischman  
*Abraham's Battle: A Novel of Gettysburg* by Sara Harrell Banks (protagonist is 16)  
*Seen the Glory* by John Hough, Jr.

### Vietnam War

*Patrol: An American Soldier in Vietnam* by Walter Dean Myers  
*The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien  
*Okay for Now* by Gary D. Schmidt (parental abuse, wounded sibling in Vietnam war)

### World War I

*The First World War* by John Keegan  
*Lord of the Nutcracker Men* by Iain Lawrence  
*Pictures, 1918* by Jeanette Ingold (protagonist is 15)

### World War II/ Holocaust

*Rose Blanche* by Christophe Gallaz and Roberto Innocenti  
*Home of the Brave* by Say (Japanese Internment)  
*I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust* by L. Bitton-Jackson  
*The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler* by James Cross Giblin  
*Anne Frank: Beyond the Diary – A Photographic Remembrance* by Ruud van der Rol and Rian Verhoeven  
*Nisei Daughter* by Monica Itoi Sone (memoir - Japanese internment)  
*Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay (historical fiction – the Paris “round-ups” and deportations)  
*The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen  
*The Art of Keeping Cool* by Janet Taylor Lisle  
*The Last Brother: A Novel* by Nathacha Appanah  
*Tamar: A Novel of Espionage, Passion, and Betrayal* by Mal Peet (resistance fighters in Nazi-occupied Holland, 15-year-old protagonist)  
*Requiem: Poems of the Terezin Ghetto* by Paul B. Janeczko (Inspired by history of the Theresienstadt concentration camp)  
*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak (foster girl in Nazi Germany, hiding a Jew, censorship)

### War in Afghanistan

*Lone Survivor* by Marcus Luttrell

### Iraq War

*No Safe Place* by Deborah Ellis (child soldiers, human trafficking, refugees, adventure)

### African-American History/Civil Rights

*Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock* by Beals  
*The Help* by Katherine Stockett (civil rights novel, Black maids - early 1960s Mississippi)  
*My Mother the Cheerleader* by Robert Sharenow (school integration)  
*Walking to the Bus Rider Blues* by Harriette Gillem Robinet  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor  
*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose (nonfiction, segregation, bus boycotts)  
*One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia (Black Panther Party/ 1968/ "Black Power")

### American History/Miscellaneous

*Thomas Jefferson: A Picture Book Biography* by J. Giblin  
*Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence* by R. Freedman  
*We Were There, Too! Young People in U.S. History* by P.M. Hoose  
*Crossing the Delaware: A History in Many Voices* by Louise Peacock (picture book story)  
The *Dear America* series published by Scholastic, Inc.  
*So You Want to Be President?* by St. George  
*Lakota Woman* by Mary Crow Dog (growing up on a reservation, American Indian Movement)  
*Dragon's Gate* by Laurence Yep (Chinese-American Laborers)  
*Denied, Detained, Deported: Stories From the Dark Side of American Immigration* by Ann Bausum (Mistreatment of Chinese, Russian, Jewish, Japanese, & Mexican immigrants)  
*The Heretic's Daughter: A Novel* Kathleen Kent (historical fiction - Salem witch trials)  
*Children of the Dust Bowl: The True Story of the School at Weedpatch Camp* by Jerry Stanley  
*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse (protagonist is 14)  
*Lewis and Clark* by Nick Bertozzi (YA graphic novel)  
*I'll Be Watching* by Pamela Porter (novel, Great Depression)  
*11/22/63* by Stephen King (JFK Assassination/ "alternate history")

### Miscellaneous History/Social Studies

*First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers* by Loung Ung  
*Cartoon History of the United States* and *Cartoon History of the Modern World* by Larry Gonick  
*Peony in Love* by Lisa See (China 1662-1722, recommended for older high school students)  
*Snowflower* by Lisa See (China 1823-1864, appropriate for younger high school students)  
*Nothing But the Truth* by Avi (freedom of speech, patriotism, 9<sup>th</sup> grade protagonist)  
*Guantanamo Boy* by Anna Perera (15-year-old Pakistani boy in prison, terrorism, torture)

### European History

*Courage and Conviction: Chronicles of the Reformation Church* by Mindy & Brandon Withrow (esp. for younger and/or lower level readers)  
*Monks and Mystics: Chronicles of the Medieval Church* by Mindy & Brandon Withrow (esp. for younger and/or lower level readers)  
The *Young Royals Book* series by Carolyn Meyer (historical fiction with child & teenage protagonists: Mary Tudor, Elizabeth Tudor, Catherine of Aragon, Marie Antoinette, Catherine de' Medici, Anne Boleyn)

### Math

*G is for Googol* by Schwartz (network theory and probability)  
*Anno's Math Games II* by M. Anno  
The *Sir Cumference* series by Cindy Neuschwander (geometry)  
*A Grain of Rice* by Helena Clare Pittman (exponential growth)  
*One Grain of Rice* by Demi (exponential growth)  
*Esio Trot* by Roald Dahl (measurement/graphing)  
*The Cartoon Guide to Statistics* by Larry Gonick

## Science

*The Man Who Made Time Travel* by Lasky

*Genius: A Photobiography of Albert Einstein* by Delano

*Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science* by Fleischman

*Cool Stuff 2.0: And How It Works* by Jon Woodcock and Chris Woodford

*Reef* by Scubazoo

*Come Back, Salmon: How a Group of Dedicated Kids Adopted Pigeon Creek  
and Brought it Back to Life* by M. Cone and S. Wheelwright

*Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women* by C. Thimmesh

*To Space and Back* by Sally Ride and Susan Okie

*Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen (endangered species protection)

*Scat* by Carl Hiaasen (wildlife protection)

*Flush* by Carl Hiaasen (water pollution)

*Earthgirl* by Jennifer Cowan (environmental activism)

*Hurt Go Happy* by Ginny Rorby (animal testing, bond between chimps and humans)

## Poetry/ Classic Literature

*William Shakespeare's Macbeth* by Bruce Coville (picture book)

*Romeo and Drooliet* by Nina Laden (picture book)

*Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451* adapted by Tim Hamilton (graphic novel)

*Hip-Hop Poetry and the Classics* by Alan Lawrence Sitomer

*You Hear Me? Poems and Writing by Teenage Boys* by Betsy Franco, ed.

*Things I Have to Tell You: Poems and Writing by Teenage Girls* by Betsy Franco, ed.

*Paint Me Like I am: Teen Poems From WritersCorps* by Bill Aquado & Richard Newirth, ed.

*Picture This! Shakespeare* graphic novel series (Barron's Educational Series):

*Hamlet, Julius Caesar, Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Romeo and Juliet, &  
Twelfth Night*

*The Shakespeare Stealer, Shakespeare's Scribe, & Shakespeare's Spy* by Gary Blackwood  
(14-year-old protagonist, for very low readers)

*Love That Dog and Hate That Cat* by Sharon Creech (in blank verse, follows protagonist through  
academic study of great poems)

## Music

*Lives of the Musicians: Good Times, Bad Times (and What the Neighbors Thought)*  
by Kathleen Krull

*Mysterious Thelonious* by C. Raschka

*When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson* by P.M. Ryan

*Marsalis on Music* by Wynton Marsalis

*Birdland* by Tracy Mack

*Born Blue* by Han Nolan

*Born to Rock* by Gordan Korman

*Broken Chords* by Barbara Snow Gilbert

*Fat Kid Rules the World* by K.L. Going

*Gangsta Rap* by Benjamin Zephaniah

*Just Listen* by Sarah Dessen

*Mountain Solo* by Jeanette Ingold

*The Mozart Season* by Virginia Euwer Wolff

*Rock Star Superstar* by Blake Nelson

*Tribute to Another Dead Rock Star* by Randy Powell

*What a Song Can Do: 12 Riffs on the Power of Music* edited by Jennifer Armstrong

*'Scuse Me While I Kiss the Sky: Jimi Hendrix: Voodoo Child* by David Henderson

*The Rose That Grew From Concrete* by Tupak Shakur (poetry collection)

*Hip-Hop Poetry and the Classics* by Alan Lawrence Sitomer  
*Janis Joplin: Rise Up Singing* by Ann Angel

### Art

*Lives of the Artists: Masterpieces, Messes (and What the Neighbors Thought)* by Kathleen Krull  
*Leonardo da Vinci* by D. Stanley  
*Michelangelo* by D. Stanley  
*Chuck Close: Up Close* by Greenberg and Jordan  
*Art Attack: A Short Cultural History of the Avant-Garde* by M. Aronson  
*What Makes a Monet a Monet?* By R. Muhlberger  
*A Young Painter: The Life and Paintings of Wang Yani* by Z. Zhensun and A. Low  
*The Second Mrs. Gioconda* by E.L. Konigsburg (da Vinci and the Mona Lisa, historical fiction)  
*Pavement Chalk Artist: The Three-Dimensional Drawings of Julian Beaver*

### Sports/Physical Education

*Lives of the Athletes: Thrills, Spills (and What the Neighbors Thought)* by Kathleen Krull  
*Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman* by Kathleen Krull  
*It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life* by Lance Armstrong  
*Football Genius* by Tim Green  
*Gym Candy* by Carl Deuker (steroids)  
*Peak* by Roland Smith  
*Hoops, Slam, Game and The Outside Shot*, all by Walter Dean Myers  
*Chicken Soup for the Sports Fan's Soul* by Jack Canfield  
*Travel Team* by Mike Lupica (basketball)  
*The Batboy* by Mike Lupica  
*Heat* by Mike Lupica (baseball)  
*Mexican White Boy* by Matt de la Pena (baseball)  
*Keeper* by Mal Peet (novel about World Cup champion goalie El Gato)  
*Goal!: The Dream Begins* by Robert Rigby (novel of soccer & the pay-off of hard work)

### Health/Psychology/Teen Parenthood/Teen Sexuality/Bullying

*Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher (suicide)  
*Get Well Soon* by Julie Halpern  
*Chanda's Secrets* by Allan Stratton (Africa – AIDS, family relations)  
*The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson  
*Stuck in Neutral* by Terry Trueman  
*Make Lemonade* by Virginia Euwer Wolff (teen parenthood)  
*Damage* by A.M. Jenkins  
*Broken China* by Lori Aurelia Williams  
*Chill Wind* by Janet McDonald  
*Dancing Naked* Shelley Hrdlitschka  
*One Night* by Margaret Wild  
*Someone Like You* by Sarah Dessen  
*True Confessions of a Heartless Girl* by Martha Brooks  
*The White Horse* by Cynthia Grant  
*Annie on My Mind* by Nancy Garden  
*Am I Blue?: Coming Out from the Silence* edited by Marion Dane Bauer  
*Bermudez Triangle* by Maureen Johnson  
*Between Mom and Jo* by Julie Ann Peters  
*Boy Meets Boy* by David Levithan (teen homosexuality)  
*Empress of the World* by Sara Ryan  
*Pedro and Me: Friendship, Loss, and What I Learned* by Judd Winick

*Looks* by Madeleine George  
*It's Kind of a Funny Story* by Ned Vizzini (depression, suicide)  
*Crank* by Ellen Hopkins (drug addiction, rape, teen pregnancy)  
*Glass* by Ellen Hopkins (sequel to *Crank*)  
*Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson (bullying, anger)  
*Nothing But the Truth* by Avi (high school politics)  
*Stand Tall* by Joan Bauer (teen boy coping with divorced parents)  
*Death Be Not Proud* by John Gunther (memoir – terminal illness of a teen)  
*Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech (parent abandonment)  
*Tangerine* by Edward Bloor  
*Scorpions* by Walter Dean Myers (gang violence, peer pressure)  
*Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard*  
 by Liz Murray (homeless teen, drug-addicted parents)  
*Looks* by Madeleine George (eating disorders, revenge)  
*Cut* by Patricia McCormick (self-mutilation)  
*Scars* by Cheryl Rainfield (self-mutilation)  
*The Struggle To Be Strong: True Stories By Teens About Overcoming Tough Times* by Al  
 Desetta & Sybil Wolin, editors (drug addiction, inter-racial dating, parental abandonment,  
 raising siblings, homosexuality, and more)  
*Stay* by Deb Caletti (abusive relationships, stalking)  
*Bitter Melon* by Cara Chow (parental abuse, cultural identity)  
*Leverage* by Joshua C. Cohen (steroids, rape, suicide, bullying, stuttering)  
*Shine* by Lauren Myracle (homophobia, sexual abuse, bullying, hate crimes)  
*Kick* by Walter Dean Myers & Ross Workman (parental abuse, depression, soccer)  
*Clean* by Amy Reed (drug, alcohol, physical, and sexual abuse; rehab; anorexia)  
*Okay for Now* by Gary D. Schmidt (parental abuse, sibling in foreign war)  
*Mad Love* by Suzanne Selfors (mother with mental illness)  
*Bitter End* by Jennifer Brown (abusive relationships)  
*Dear Bully: Seventy Authors Tell Their Stories* by Megan Kelly Hall & Carrie Jones, ed.  
 (Bullying)  
*The Chamber of Five* by Michael Harmon (bullying)  
*Addie on the Inside* by James Howe (fitting in, acceptance – written in verse)  
*Crossing Lines* by Paul Volponi (homophobia, bullying)  
*Skim* by Mariko and Jillian Tamaki (graphic novel – suicide, homosexuality, self-identity)  
*I Kiss Girls* by Gina Harris (homosexuality)  
*Some Girls Are* by Courtney Summers (cliques, bullying)  
*The Dear One* by Jacqueline Woodson (teen pregnancy)  
*I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This* by Jacqueline Woodson (incest, parent abandonment)  
*Someone to Love Me* by Anne Schraff (relationship abuse, parental neglect and abuse)

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Letendre, Robin. "Building a Teacher's Toolbox." Vol. 2, Issue 13. Sept. 2010.  
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