



Books for Young Children

Fleming, Candice

Oh, no! / words by Candace Fleming ; pictures by Eric Rohmann.

New York : Schwartz & Wade Books, .

LCCN 2009045564. ISBN 9780375842719, hardcover, \$17.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 28 cm. PS-Grade 2.

Fic Rating: 3

Animals--Fiction.

Stories in rhyme.

"Help!" croaks Frog from the base of a deep hole. Mouse, Loris, Sun Bear, and Monkey each fall in trying to help, as hungry Tiger makes an ominous plan. Elephant saves the day with his long trunk...but now it's Tiger's turn to say, "Oh, no!"

With enchanting illustrations by Eric Rohmann and whimsical storytelling by Candace Fleming, *Oh, No!* has much to capture children's interest and attention. The facial expressions on the jungle characters are delightful. The animals tumble into the hole with fun sounds ("Ribbit-oops!", "Pippa-eeek!") and the repeated exclamation of "Oh, no!" just begs young listeners to shout along with the action. However, the ending is unsettling. The animals turn their backs on Tiger, who is left in the hole pleading, "please, please" for their help. Granted, Tiger had aimed to eat them all, but what may seem fair and true-to-nature to some children, may feel cruel and sad to others.

Suggested for ages 3-7 (inside book flap).

Nina Ditmar

Williams, Vera B.

A chair for always / Vera B. Williams.

New York : Greenwillow Books, 2009.

LCCN 2008027719. ISBN 9780061722790, hardcover, \$16.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 21 x 26 cm. Grades K-3.

E Rating: 3

Babies--Fiction.

Family life--Fiction.

Rosa and her mother are living with extended family, anticipating the home birth of her new cousin. She waits in a favorite chair and imagines the baby boy whom she will teach and nurture. Once he is born, she holds little Benji in the worn chair and protests when Grandma decides to recover the fading

cushions. She argues even harder against replacing the chair, recalling how hard they had saved to buy it after their home burned down. She is confident that their “lucky” chair with velvet roses will last for generations.

A Chair for Always is initially the story of Rosa waiting excitedly for a midwife to help Aunt Ida’s baby “get safely born” in the apartment upstairs. Everyone is happy when Benjamin arrives, especially Rosa who feels lucky to have a brand-new cousin. Then the focus shifts to the chair that is so important to Rosa. She believes the chair will endure, she tells her mother, “because my name is Rosa and there are things I just know.”

Details such as “our house burned down” and Aunt Ida “helps us with our band” seem to spring out of nowhere unless the reader is already familiar with the author’s much earlier book *A Chair for My Mother*. This story and the lively gouache illustrations capture the loving bonds within a multigenerational and multiethnic family. Suggested for ages 3-8 (inside front jacket), the lengthy text and roundabout storyline would be more appropriate for kindergarten and above.

Nina Ditmar

Farrar, Sid

The year comes round : haiku through the seasons.

Chicago: Albert Whitman, 2012.

LCCN 2011015478. ISBN 9780807581292, hardcover, \$16.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 26 cm. Grades 1-5.

811.6 Rating: *5

Months--Poetry.

Nature--Poetry.

From winter through fall and back to winter again, the change of seasons in a year is captured in 13 illustrated haiku, with brief explanatory notes about this 18th century Japanese poetry form and the cycle of life in the natural world. Who would think that so much imagery could be captured in just three lines of poetry?

The Year Comes Round: Haiku Through the Seasons is a wonderful tool for introducing readers of all ages to haiku. Sid Farrar’s thought-provoking pieces are delightfully clever, a perfect blend of witty and tender, and clearly reflecting the author’s appreciation for nature. Ilse Plume’s bright watercolors complement the prose with familiar scenes of each season, including jack o’lanterns. Readers new to poetry may wish to begin with the endnotes, which helpfully describe the intent and format of haiku. This special book would be a most enjoyable addition to a home or classroom library.

Nina Ditmar

Hoberman, Mary Ann

Forget-me-nots : poems to learn by heart / selected by Mary Ann Hoberman ; illustrated by Michael Emberley.

New York : Megan Tingley Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011025119. ISBN 9780316129473, hardcover, \$19.99.

143 p. : col. ill. ; 30 cm. Grades K-3 (all ages).

811.008 Rating: *5

Children's poetry, American.

From winter through fall and back to winter again, the change of seasons in a year is captured in 13 illustrated haiku, with brief explanatory notes about this 18th century Japanese poetry form and the cycle of life in the natural world. Who would think that so much imagery could be captured in just three lines of poetry?

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Nina Ditmar

Books for Upper Elementary Children

Rosenthal, Betsy R.

Looking for me / Rosenthal, Betsy R.

Boston : Houghton Mifflin, 2012.

LCCN 2011017124. ISBN 9780547610849, hardcover, \$15.99.

166 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 4-6.

Fic Rating: 3

Identity--Fiction.

Family life--Maryland--Fiction.

Looking for Me by Betsy R. Rosenthal is based on the memories of the author's mother. Edith Paul is the fourth child out of 12 children. With so many children, Edith feels that there's nothing special about her. She doesn't know where she fits in with her siblings. She doesn't understand why her friends love spending time at her house. She would love to trade places with them so she could have space and time to herself. When her teacher asks her to write a poem about her family, she mentions something special about everyone but herself. Her teacher wants to know where she is in the poem. This makes Edith start thinking about her place and what is so special about her. Edith earns herself the nickname of "The Good Little Mother." Sometimes this nickname doesn't bother her, but she can't help but be jealous of some of her older siblings who don't have to be responsible for the younger ones.

Even though Edith longs for her own space, she loves all of her brothers and sisters. She can't help but show favoritism to her younger brother, Melvin. When Melvin dies of bronchitis, the death hits the family very hard. She now feels like her family is one too small even with 11 children. After her last day of school, Edith is very happy to inform her teacher that her mom is going to give her money for college. This makes her realize that she will eventually be more than Edith "number four." This story shows the trials and closeness of a big family. The book is written in verse, but tells a very thorough and entertaining story of Edith and her family. In the Author's Note, Ms. Rosenthal states that she's very lucky to have such a big family.

Trina Chase

Eamer, Claire

The world in your lunch box / Claire Eamer ; artwork by Sa Boothroyd.

New York : Annick Press, 2012.

ISBN 9781554513932, hardcover, \$22.95.

121 p. : col. ill. ; 25 cm. Grades 4-7.

641.3 Rating: 5

Food--Juvenile literature.

Food--History--Juvenile literature.

The World in Your Lunch Box by Claire Eamer details the history and science of some everyday foods. The book starts with a Lunch Box Mission. The mission is to keep a lunch diary for a week. From this diary, the book tells fascinating facts about the foods listed for each day. The lunch diary assignment makes ordinary foods seem not so ordinary. There is also a top 10 list of the favorite, fantastic, and fun food facts. For example, who knows that honey is bee's vomit or that villagers in India use chili peppers to keep elephants away from their crops and homes? Everyone always seems to be curious, or scared to ask, about the ingredients in hot dogs. Day 3 of the lunch diary discusses this mystery meat.

It is interesting to read where some of the common foods originated from and how they played a part in history. For example, a German prisoner of war convinced King Louis XVI that potatoes were very valuable. Around the year 800, Emperor Charlemagne of France was encouraged to eat the mold from cheese by a bishop. The Emperor was so surprised that he enjoyed it, he ordered the bishop to deliver two cartloads of it to the imperial court every year. These are just a few fun facts that this book has to offer.

This book is very well-written and will capture the attention of children. The illustrations are great and humorous. There are also a few jokes sprinkled throughout the book. It makes learning the history and science of foods fun for kids and great for discussions.

Trina Chase

McHugh, Erin

National parks : a kid's guide to America's parks, monuments, and landmarks / Erin McHugh ; art by Neal Aspinall, Doug Leen, and Brian Maebius.

New York : Black Dog & Levanthal, 2012.

ISBN 9781579128845, hardcover, \$19.95.

128 p. : ill. (some col.), col. maps ; 29 cm. Grades 3-8.

333.72 Rating: 5

National parks and reserves--United States--Juvenile literature.

National Parks: a Kid's Guide to America's Parks, Monuments and Landmarks highlights parks in every U.S. state and territory. The book opens with a two page map of the states and territories with the national parks starred. It is organized alphabetically, focusing on one park/monument/landmark in each state. The colorful layouts include vintage posters and visually compelling sidebars and captions. For each park, Erin McHugh begins with a brief, interest-catching overview. She continues with a brief description, including special features visitors can expect to enjoy and traveling considerations. She also includes statistics (visitors, heights of mountains, etc.), birds, amazing facts, and other national parks in that state/territory. The book concludes with a glossary and websites for further research. As a bonus, the book includes a state quarter coin collection page at the end.

Children love books of facts. This book does not need to be read front to back, and perhaps is best read by just paging through until one's attention is drawn to a graphic, perhaps a curious animal or a state where the reader has visited. Once engaged, the reader will stop to read about the park. Although there is no index, the map and table of contents direct the reader to the state and park of interest. The warm, vivid colors and graphics make reading a pleasure, as do the skillfully arranged text boxes, enticing

wildlife photographs, and vintage poster art. There are few travel books written with children in mind; this particular one is outstanding. Teachers can use this resource together with others in many activities across curricular areas including trip planning, comparisons, research reports, etc. Adults will love it as much as children and may just become inspired to plan their next vacation. Highly recommended.

Kristine Wildner

Books for Middle Schoolers

Angler, Evan

Swipe / Evan Angler. (Swipe series ; 1)

Nashville : Tommy Nelson, 2011.

LCCN 2011026611. ISBN 9781400318360, paperback, \$9.99.

viii, 275 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Science fiction.

Government, Resistance to--Fiction.

Evan Angler writes a dystopian novel suitable for middle school students—one that is surprisingly engaging and features young teens as the main characters.

Swipe, the first of a trilogy, introduces the reader to a world where thirteen year olds are “marked” to participate in society, enjoy new freedoms, and become legal citizens. For Logan, who is approaching his thirteenth birthday, it is a time when he begins to wonder what really happened to his sister five years ago when she went for her Mark and never returned. Logan is afraid of the dark and fears he is being watched—and he is, but why?

Erin meets Logan after her dad moves them to Spokie to accept a job with DOME, a government agency responsible for tracking down a group rebelling against the system—the Dust. Erin is unaware of her dad’s actual work until she uncovers some documents. When Logan resists being Marked, Erin helps him by stealing classified information. Logan and Erin meet the Dust when they try to kidnap Logan. Do they want to harm him or protect him from being Marked?

Angler does a good job of creating suspense (with a dash of paranoia) in telling the story. Even his author’s note was written in the third person as if to warn the reader to be very careful in reading this book or talking about it. *Swipe* will appeal to reluctant and eager readers alike.

Unlike some dystopian novels, this one is not too dark for its target audience. There is some violence but nothing graphic or inappropriate. There is no obvious faith element (even though the publisher is Thomas Nelson)—the characters do not acknowledge God, but there is a struggle between good and evil, and between government and personal choice. *Swipe* is a thought-provoking novel.

Carol R. Gehringer

Angler, Evan

Sneak / Evan Angler. (Swipe series ; 2)

Nashville : Thomas Nelson, 2012.

LCCN 2012005919. ISBN 9781400318421, paperback, \$9.99.

275 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Science fiction.

Government, Resistance to--Fiction.

Evan Angler continues his dystopian series for middle school students, with Logan on the run after his best friend Erin betrayed him.

In *Sneak*, thirteen year old Logan follows a lead suggesting that his sister—who disappeared five years ago—was actually sent to Acheron, a secret prison. Because he is Markless, he has no means to pay for the things he needs. He travels via an underground Markless network to reach Acheron. A girl he meets gives him a banned book (the Bible) to read while he travels. Erin's father is demoted due to her actions to help Logan. They move back to New Beacon where Logan and Hailey, a school friend, are headed. Erin wants to find Logan and help him, especially after finding documents that reveal the government's true plan. Logan and Hailey meet up with Peck, who is also trying to rescue Logan's sister.

When Logan finds his sister, things are not quite what he expects. Peck comes up with a daring plan to rescue Logan after his sister betrays him, resulting in Logan's capture. In his despair, Logan cries out to God to give him strength to withstand the temptation to give in. The Markless rally to rescue Logan and to stand up against the government's plan. Can they succeed against a powerful enemy?

Angler creates engaging suspense in telling this story. Unlike some dystopian novels, this one is not too dark for its target audience. The faith element is light and probably would be missed by most readers. *Sneak* ends with several questions unanswered; no doubt they will be addressed in the third book, coming in 2013.

Carol R. Gehringer

Angler, Evan

Storm / Evan Angler. (Swipe series ; 3)

Nashville : Thomas Nelson, 2013.

LCCN 2013002300. ISBN 9781400321971, paperback, \$9.99.

xi, 266 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 4

Science fiction.

Government, Resistance to--Fiction.

Evan Angler returns with his third book in his dystopian series for middle school readers.

Set in the future, everyone over the age of thirteen gets "the Mark" except for those who are fighting back like Logan Langly and his friends, the Dust. Logan tries rescuing his sister Lily, only to find she is part of the government's military force.

In *Storm*, a deadly epidemic is spreading throughout the Marked, and the weather is becoming less stable, creating a major drought. While the Dust race to find a cure for this bioengineered disease, there are other problems. Some of their friends are captured and brainwashed. Who can they trust when friends become foes and no one knows who is really on their side? What about the "book" that knows all about their earlier adventures and warns of impending doom? What happens when sabotage is prevented but its prevention causes greater problems?

Angler builds a future world that is not too dark for his readers yet it will cause them to think. The technology, weather spinning out of control, biotechnology and growing government control contribute to the realistic possibilities. Though published by Zondervan, this series has a very subtle faith element.

There are allusions to biblical truth. Some could think “the Mark” as being the “Mark of the Beast” mentioned in the Book of Revelations but it is unclear if this is the author’s intention.

The book’s ending is weak, perhaps because the next book, *Spark*, is coming out in November 2013. The series is a good alternative to the *Hunger Games*, and suitable for younger readers. Older teens will also enjoy it.

Carol R. Gehringer

Carr, Patrick W.

A cast of stones / Patrick W. Carr. (The staff and the sword ; 1)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2013.

LCCN 2012035224. ISBN 9780764210433, paperback, \$14.99.

429 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-12.

Fic Rating: 5

Fantasy.

Christian fiction.

Patrick Carr makes his debut with an epic fantasy that will engage readers as they venture into the world Carr creates, one on the brink of destruction where adventure awaits a reluctant hero.

In *A Cast of Stones*, Errol is the village drunk, not the sort of person expected to do heroic deeds. Errol drowns his sorrows in ale, doing occasional errands to earn enough coin to buy more ale. He is hired by a church messenger to take an official communication to Pater Martin, a recluse priest living in a rustic area. A simple delivery becomes deadly as an assassin hunts him down. He scarcely makes it alive to Pater’s home, but the letters are too damaged to read. Errol and Pater Martin soon find themselves hunted by deadly assassins.

Pater learns that he has been summoned to meet with the others to cast the stones for the king’s successor. But they face danger along the way. Errol discovers he has a new talent that requires him to serve the church. Errol gives up his taste for ale and learns to read and fight, as he journeys to his new life. But his new calling makes him a target for the church’s enemies.

Carr’s debut novel is filled with strong characters and a tightly-woven plot. Errol’s story continues in *The Hero’s Lot* (summer 2013).

Highly recommended for teen collections in public libraries and school libraries.

Carol R. Gehringer

Gibbs, Stuart

Spy school / Stuart Gibbs.

New York : Simon & Schuster, 2012.

LCCN 2011015023. ISBN 9781442421820, hardcover, \$15.99.

290 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 4-7.

Fic Rating: 4

Spies--Fiction.

Schools--Fiction.

In *Spy School*, the C.I.A. asks twelve-year-old Ben Ripley to enroll in their Academy of Espionage. As a math genius and nerd, Ben expects his skills to lead him to a glamorous life of intrigue and high-tech weaponry. Instead, he discovers that the C.I.A. recruited him as bait to catch a double agent. With the

help of Erica Hale, a beautiful and talented fellow student, he begins uncovering the truth behind the spy school.

Stuart Gibbs has set up a fast-paced and humorous action story in *Spy School*. Gibbs, having worked on several Hollywood movies in the past such as *Anastasia* and Disney's *Three Musketeers*, has written a book as entertaining as an animated film. *Spy School* begins with immediate action and carries the pace through to the end. Gibbs combines plot twists, action, and humor so the story never gets boring. As a result, however, few of the characters have growth or development. Ben Ripley makes friends and succeeds in his quest, but by the end of the novel, he has grown more in intelligence than in character. Because there are so many characters in the book, Gibbs also paints many of them as caricatures, which makes for a light-hearted, humorous read.

Two notable points: *Spy School* presents an anti-authority view, though the set-up is not against all authority, but incompetent authority. Also, there are a few mild curse words in the book though they occur under appropriate situations. Overall, *Spy School* is comparable to a fun children's film, and a fast, entertaining read.

Faith Tsai

Samson, L.L.

Facing the Hunchback of Notre Dame / L. L. Samson. (The enchanted attic ; 1)

Nashville : Zonderkidz, 2012.

LCCN 2011048879. ISBN 9780310727958, paperback, \$7.99.

143 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 3

Space and time--Fiction.

Books and reading--Fiction.

Lisa Samson, author of numerous adult novels, tries her hand at children's fiction by presenting a classic story within a contemporary story framework.

In *Facing the Hunchback of Notre Dame*, fourteen year old Ophelia and Linus are sent to live with their aunt and uncle while their parents are on a research trip for five years. The best part of living with their aunt and uncle: they own an antique bookshop, and the twins are bookworms. The twins discover a hidden attic belonging to a mad scientist. In fact, Ophelia is reading *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, when its main character, Quasimodo, comes to life. They have sixty hours to find a way for Quasimodo to get back to his own world. A custodian, a priest, and a neighbor also help them. Ophelia and Linus introduce Quasimodo to their world while they are waiting. The mad scientist shows up and tries to prevent them from succeeding.

The book may be intended for upper elementary students, but the author's many references to literary works that they will study in high school and comments on the art of writing were distracting. It could be appropriate for nine to twelve year olds, especially as a way of introducing the classics to younger students.

The characters are somewhat stereotypical (absent parents allow the twins to embark on their own adventures). There was no visible faith element, despite being published by Zondervan. This book is the first of the series; its concept of a storybook character coming to life is engaging, but the execution is not smooth (too many asides and references to literature not suitable or age-appropriate). Hopefully later books will overcome this.

Carol R. Gehringer

Shank, Marilyn Sue

Child of the mountains / Marilyn Sue Shank.

New York : Delacorte Press, 2012.

LCCN 2011026174. ISBN 9780385740791, hardcover, \$16.99.

259 p. : map ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Secrets--Fiction.

Self-reliance--Fiction.

Child of the Mountains by Marilyn Sue Shank tells the story of Lydia Hawkins, a poor girl growing up in the 1950s with her mama, grandmother, and little brother. Lydia's brother, BJ, is very smart and always in good spirits despite having cystic fibrosis. Lydia's mama agrees to let BJ be treated at a hospital in Ohio, thinking this will be good for him. However, when BJ wants to go home to live out his last days, they respect his wishes, only to be prosecuted by the hospital. When BJ dies, Lydia's mama is arrested and sentenced to jail. Lydia is sent to live with her aunt and uncle, who don't want to discuss her mama. When her teacher and his lawyer fiancé show an interest in her mama's case, Lydia finally feels hopeful.

They set out to prove that Lydia's mama received an unfair trial. Her lawyer failed to properly defend her. The hospital staff did not take time to explain policies to her mama, assuming instead that a poor widow from West Virginia would go along with whatever they told her. While living with her uncle, Lydia learns a secret that her family has kept from her all of her life. Between missing her mama, learning the secret, and trying to prepare for her mama's retrial, Lydia is dealing with more than she can handle. However, she surprises herself when she finds inner strength she didn't know she had. Lydia has to grow up fast in a short period of time, but she's able to cope with her newfound strength and her family's love.

This story is very well-told from the perspective of a poor, young girl growing up in West Virginia. The characters and setting seem true to detail for this time period. Lydia's character shows tremendous growth. Although she and her family experience much sadness and unfair treatment, Lydia maintains loyalty to her family. She fights for justice for her mama. Lydia is grateful that her aunt and uncle welcomed her into their home and is respectful and appreciative even though she doesn't really want to live there. The story also illustrates that a person shouldn't let others define them by where they're from or their economic status.

Trina Chase

Hergenrather, John

Your guide to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks / John Hergenrather .. [et al.]. (True north series)

Green Forest, AR : Master Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011975528. ISBN 9780890516409, spiral hardcover, \$15.99.

188 p. : ill. (chiefly col.), col. maps ; 23 cm. Grades 5-9.

917.8 Rating: 5

Bible and geology.

Creationism.

The history, geology, ecology, and scenic beauty of Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks are explored in this True North Series volume that emphasizes creation theory. Information for travelers is organized into 11 sections on fold-out pages highlighted by annotated photographs, questions for

pondering, and “fast facts”. Several tables compare biblical and evolutionary worldviews as they relate to observing features of the natural world.

With creation and scriptural references throughout, *Your Guide to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks* encourages readers to experience these magnificent parks “through God’s eyes”. The four co-authors uphold a creation perspective and focus on God’s handiwork in nature. The small, spiral-bound format, concise explanations, and attention to specific areas within each park make this book a unique traveling (or even armchair traveling) companion for individuals or families. It would also be an intriguing book for students and homeschoolers (5th grade and up) learning about our national parks. The book is vibrant with a wonderful collection of photographs from various sources. A list of additional resources, guides, books, and DVDs is included, as well as a helpful glossary and index.

Nina Ditmar

Books for High Schoolers

Dickerson, Melanie

The fairest beauty / Melanie Dickerson. (Sequel to The healer's apprentice.)

Grand Rapids, Mich. : Zondervan, 2013.

LCCN . ISBN 9780310724391, paperback, \$9.99.

335 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 9-12 (Adult).

Fic Rating: 5

Middle Ages--Fiction.

Love stories.

Award-winning Melanie Dickerson pens her third young adult novel loosely based on the story of Snow White.

In *The Fairest Beauty*, Duchess Ermengard fakes the death of her stepdaughter Sophie, driving her husband, Duke Baldwin, to disappear in despair. For over fifteen years, she convinces everyone that Sophie, the scullery maid she torments, is only an orphan girl. Even Sophie is unaware of her true identity. A former nurse, the only one left with knowledge of the deception, fakes her own death and travels to Sophie’s betrothed, Valten. But Valten is laid up with a broken leg and unable to come. His impulsive younger brother, Gabe, decides to rescue Sophie on his own.

He tells Sophie of her true identity, and convinces Sophie to escape with him because her life is in danger. When Gabe is severely injured by pursuing guards, they take refuge in the Cottage of the Seven. While he recuperates, Sophie and Gabe discover they are falling in love, but they are both betrothed to others. News reaches Gabe that Sophie’s father is not dead but alive, and he leaves to find out the truth. While he is away, the Duchess, in the guise of an old woman, visits Sophie in the Cottage of Seven with the intent of killing her.

As in her earlier books, the faith element is clearly evident. Sophie prays for her stepmother instead of hating her. Both Gabe and Sophie struggle with past hurts needing God’s healing. They also struggle to seek God’s will and act honorably with others.

Dickerson is a masterful storyteller with a carefully crafted plot, richly drawn characters, and detailed medieval setting. The reader is pulled into the story, forgetting it is based on a familiar tale. All of her books are a delightful retelling, but this one is her best so far!

Carol R. Gehringer

Dickerson, Melanie

The merchant's daughter / Melanie Dickerson.

Grand Rapids, Mich. : Zondervan, 2011.

LCCN 2011034338. ISBN 9780310727613, paperback, \$9.99.

284 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 9-12 (Adult).

Fic Rating: 5

Middle Ages--Fiction.

Indentured servants--Fiction.

Melanie Dickerson returns with an inspired retelling of the Beauty and the Beast tale to delight teen and adult readers.

In *The Merchant's Daughter*, Annabel Chapman, a wealthy merchant's daughter, finds her life dramatically changed when her father dies, leaving the family in debt. Her mother and brothers defiantly ignore an order to pay their debt. They pressure Annabel to marry Baliff Tom so they can avoid working; otherwise, one of them must work as an indentured servant to Lord Ranulf le Wyse. Lord Ranulf is known for his beastly temper, making the villagers afraid of him. Annabel would rather work for him than marry the baliff. While the baliff continues to make advances toward her when he dines with Ranulf, Annabel is able to see past Ranulf's harsh exterior that hides his physical and emotional scars. Ranulf, scarred from a wolf attack, is embittered by memories of an unfaithful wife, now dead.

The faith element is evident but not overpowering. Annabel wonders why God has allowed her to be in this situation. She longs to read the Bible, but the local priest rebukes her when she asks to borrow a Bible to read. When Ranulf wants someone to read aloud to him, Annabel is the only servant able to do so. Imagine her surprise when he wants her to read the Bible! Discussing the passages she reads draws them closer to one another and to God.

Dickerson continues to grow as a writer, as she creates an exquisite medieval setting for this historical romance. Her characters are well-thought out and her plot tightly woven. Though one knows the story will probably end happily ever after, the reader is caught up in in the story as it unfolds.

The Merchant's Daughter, winner of the 2012 Carol Award, was also a 2012 Christy Award finalist. Highly recommended for public and high school libraries.

Carol R. Gehringer

McGee, Krista

Right where I belong / Krista McGee.

Nashville : Thomas Nelson, 2012.

LCCN 2012023813. ISBN 9781401684907, paperback, \$9.99.

312 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 8-12.

Fic Rating: 4

Fathers and daughters--Fiction.

Stepmothers--Fiction.

Krista McGee presents another well-written contemporary young adult novel, loosely based on the biblical story of Ruth and Boaz.

In *Right Where I Belong*, teenaged Natalia moves to the United States with Maureen, an American who married Natalia's dad while working in Madrid. Due to their closeness in age and shared faith, Maureen is more a friend than a stepmother. When her dad announces his divorce to Maureen, Natalia accompanies her back to America. Her dad supports the move because it will look good on her resume. Her parents want her to become a successful businesswoman. Natalia leaves behind her culture, her country, her best friend, but not her new faith.

As she encounters challenges, Natalia is tempted to return to Spain. Maureen begins looking for a job while Natalia enrolls in high school. Maureen's pastor and his son Brian help them get settled. Maureen struggles in her faith while trying to adjust to life as a divorced woman. Brian and Natalia become friends, even though wealthy Spencer tries to impress Natalia.

Addy (from McGee's *First Date*) befriends Natalia, and Brian invites the girls on a mission trip to Costa Rica. Spencer, Natalia, Brian, and Addy go on the mission trip together, and it has a significant impact on all of them, especially Spencer.

Teens will easily relate to Natalia and the other main characters. Natalia struggles with adapting to a new country, as well as learning more about the Christian life. Natalia has to balance what her parents want for her life and what she is discovering that God may want. As it becomes clear that her heart's desire is to be a teacher, she has to deal with her parents' expectations. Though there is an attraction between Natalia and Brian, they have a clean romance similar to those in McGee's earlier books—the teens recognize their attraction, but choose to move slowly in their relationship and let God lead them.

Carol R. Gehringer

Stengl, Anne Elisabeth

Moonblood / Anne Elisabeth Stengl. (Tales of Goldstone Wood ; 3)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2011044546. ISBN 9780764207815, paperback, \$14.99.

373 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 8-12.

Fic Rating: 4

Fantasy.

Christian fiction.

Anne Elisabeth Stengl continues her Tales of Goldstone Wood series with *Moonblood*. Rose Red serves Prince Lionheart in his palace, and everyone avoids her because she hides her face behind veils. People claim the prince is under her spell, but they are wrong. In exchange for his life, he made a bargain with the Dark Lady to avoid fighting the dragon that invaded his kingdom five years ago.

The crowds want to destroy Rose after she mistakenly lets a different dragon disguised as a woman into the city. Instead of death, Lionheart banishes her. Almost immediately she is captured by her goblin father, King Vahe. He plans to kill her to fulfill a prophecy on the Night of Moonblood. When Lionheart is removed from the throne, he goes in search of Rose, his friend. Will he find her in time?

This book is definitely plot-driven with unexpected twists. The story seems to drag occasionally. Because of this, one gets disenchanted with Lionheart as his lack of courage drags on and on. Lionheart must

learn to live up to his name. However, until that moment arrives, he is a somewhat annoying character. Others have suffered because of his decisions and indecisions.

While the Christian allegory is stronger in this book, it is not preachy and could be missed by most readers. There is Christian symbolism if one chooses to see.

Stengl pens a highly imaginative fantasy with intricate detail. However, much of the story will be confusing without the background in the earlier books, *Heartless* and *Veiled Rose*. The minor characters are more interesting than the major ones.

Recommended for middle and high school libraries, as well as teen collections in public libraries.

Carol R. Gehringer

Stengl, Anne Elisabeth

Starflower / Anne Elisabeth Stengl. (Tales of Goldstone Wood ; 4)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2012028885. ISBN 9780764210266, paperback, \$14.99.

349 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 8-12.

Fic Rating: 4

Fantasy.

Christian fiction.

Award-winning author Anne Elisabeth Stengl continues her Tales of Goldstone Wood series with *Starflower*, a prequel to her first three books. *Starflower* takes place more than sixteen hundred years earlier, but lays the foundation for the story in *Heartless*.

Starflower tells how Hri Sora the dragon loses her wings and dragon form. In order for her dragon father to restore her back to dragon form, she must find the Flowing Gold of Rudiobus, securely hidden by the queen of fairies. Hri Sora kidnaps the queen's cousin, Gleamdren, in an attempt to find the Flowing Gold. Meanwhile, Lady Gleamdren believes an army of suitors will follow in pursuit to rescue her when, to her dismay, only two of them make the attempt: the Bard Eanrin, and Glomar, the Captain of the Guard.

Glomar and Eanrin compete to rescue Gleamdren, knowing whoever reaches her first wins her favor. On the way, Eanrin comes across a deaf mortal woman, Starflower, under an enchantment. Eanrin takes her on his quest to Hri Sora's castle. Starflower (or Imraldera as she is called later) is pursued by the Beast (the Wolf Lord) and his Black Dogs, as well as by the Hound. Imraldera gains Gleamdren's freedom in exchange for assisting Hri Sora in her quest to complete her quest.

In her author's note, Stengl shares she was partially inspired by the poem *The Hound of Heaven* by Francis Thompson. Anyone familiar with this poem will be reminded of it. The Hound in *Starflower* pursues Imraldera, as do the Black Dogs, slaves to the Wolf Lord. One hounds her to life, the other to death.

Recommended for high school libraries, as well as teen collections in public libraries.

Carol R. Gehringer

Williamson, Jill

The new recruit : mission 1: Moscow / Jill Williamson. (Mission 1: Moscow)

Colorado Springs : Marcher Lord Press, 2012.

ISBN 9781935929703, paperback, \$15.99.

399 p. : ill. ; 21 cm. Grades 8-12.

Fic Rating: 4

Spy stories.

Christian fiction.

Award-winning author Jill Williamson delivers a contemporary book filled with spies and adventure, just the type of book to appeal to teens.

In *The New Recruit*, teenager Spencer Garmond has gotten in too many fights. His grandma gives him a choice: attend a military school where he would give up basketball or go on a summer trip with the Mission League. What Spencer doesn't know is that the Mission League is more of a Christian spy organization than a Bible club. Spencer is not a Christian, so neither choice appeals to him.

Once he decides to go with the Mission League, he begins training in espionage for his trip to Moscow. One of his new friends explains, "The Mission League takes on the forces of darkness to expose the truth" (p.43). He is bullied by one League member, and even faces a few near-death experiences.

Williamson does a good job of capturing the teen boy persona. He is "real" in his struggles with faith issues. He doesn't become a Christian by the end of the book, nor does everything work out. The book is filled with good and bad examples of teens, and it is usually clear which one is which.

The New Recruit is a good start to a new series with possibilities for more adventures. A cast of characters, a glossary of Russian terms, an author's note (which encourages the reader to study Bible references about spiritual gifts and might have been better included at the end of the book), and acknowledgements are included.

Recommended for teen collections in public libraries, church libraries, and school libraries.

Carol R. Gehringer

Books for Adults

Coble, Colleen

Safe in his arms / Colleen Coble. (Under Texas stars ; 2)

Nashville : Thomas Nelson, 2013.

LCCN 2012038219. ISBN 9781595549143, paperback, \$15.99.

308 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Love stories.

Christian fiction.

Written by master storyteller Colleen Coble, this romantic suspense novel features a rancher's daughter, a handsome stranger, and suspicious accidents that threaten her way of life.

In *Safe in His Arms*, Margaret lives with her father on their Texas ranch. She has been handling all the details of running the ranch, including riding with the hands. Her father surprises Margaret by

announcing a handsome stranger, Daniel, is the new foreman. Her father wants her to get married and raise a family, something she had given up years ago. She assumes she will inherit her father's ranch when he dies, but he informs her that he changed his will and her cousin Lewis will inherit it. Margaret is, of course, taken aback by this news.

But there is more to Daniel than meets the eye. She suspects he is part of a gang of bank robbers when Margaret overhears a conversation. He denies it but he has his own secrets. When her father suffers from two accidents, suspicions start to form in Margaret's mind. Daniel is attracted to Margaret, but she suspects Daniel is trying to take the ranch away from her. Margaret struggles with her self-image until she is finally able to accept her worth in God's eyes. Meanwhile, Daniel struggles with guilt over his own past.

Coble is a master at suspense. Just when the reader thinks they have identified the villain, there is a twist in the book's plot. Excellent storytelling, admirable characters (including a tall, strong woman instead of a petite, dainty one), and faith elements combine to make this a winning novel which includes a reading group guide.

Carol R. Gehringer

Cramer, Dale

The captive heart / Dale Cramer. (The daughters of Caleb Bender ; 2)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2011035593. ISBN 9780764208393, paperback, \$14.99.

348 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Amish--Fiction.

Mexico--History--1920-1946--Fiction.

In 1920, Caleb Bender moves his Amish family to the hills of Mexico to establish a colony where his wife and children can freely hold to their faith and lifestyles. Each daughter is expected to marry an Amish man. But when Miriam, the second oldest daughter, meets Domingo, a half-breed Mexican devoted to helping her family survive, she questions her Amish duty to marry a man from the colony. Despite harassment from bandits, the Bender family and other Amish who join the colony refuse to give into violence. Disease strikes, threatening the lives of a baby and a special needs daughter. The sick ones are rushed over the mountain to the nearest doctor. On their return, bandits led by the evil El Pantera attack, kidnapping the youngest daughter. The Bender family prays desperately for Gott to protect them.

Spell-binding twists and turns leave the reader on the edge of his or her seat with urgent questions that keep pages turning. Dale Cramer masterfully incorporates a few chapters from the point of view of a special needs girl and her escape. This unique and intriguing component creates a story rich in reality.

The Captive Heart by Dale Cramer is the second book in the Paradise Valley Series. The opening descriptions plunge one into the heart of rural Mexico and invite the reader into the Bender home. Even as a stand-alone book, this is a fantastic read.

This book is highly recommended and would serve as an excellent book club choice.

Mary Vee

Flower, Amanda

A plain scandal / Amanda Flower. (An AppleseedCreek mystery ; 2)

Nashville : B&H Books, 2013.

ISBN 9781433676987 , paperback, \$14.99.

ix, 324 p. ; 22 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Murder--Fiction.

Mystery fiction.

Amanda Flowers presents her second novel in the Appleseed Mystery series, featuring Chloe Humphrey, a young single computer professional, living in Amish country.

In *A Plain Scandal*, Chloe finds herself once again involved in a mystery as the Amish are victims of an unknown assailant. Cutting off men's beards and cutting the women's long hair are a scandal to the Amish. A local businessman is killed and his beard cut off, and four young women are attacked and their hair cut short. Chloe is concerned for her neighbors and friends. Becky and Timothy, former Amish with family still living in the area, help her to look for the murderer before he strikes again. Even Becky and Timothy's Grandfather Zook is a victim when his beard cut off during an attack. Although the police are on the trail, they value Chloe's input due to her relationships within the Amish community.

Meanwhile, one of Chloe's colleagues at the college where she works becomes her new landlord, causing problems for Becky and Chloe as he tries renovating their house. Chloe discovers that another one of her colleagues is connected to the attacks. Chloe's friendship with Timothy begins to develop into something more, but it moves at a slow rate as the book unfolds.

Flower engages the reader with a cozy mystery and her interesting (and likeable) characters, making it the perfect book to read for sheer enjoyment. *A Plain Scandal* is both plot- and character-driven. There are several twists and turns, as one would expect from a good mystery. The author introduces bits and pieces of Amish culture without letting it overpower the story.

Recommended to public and church libraries.

Carol R. Gehringer

Heitzmann, Kristen

The breath of dawn / Kristen Heitzmann. (Morgan Spencer series ; 3)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2012028884. ISBN 9780764210426, paperback, \$14.99.

437 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 3

Widowers--Fiction.

Single women--Fiction.

Hidden away in Juniper Falls, Colorado, Quinn Reilly attempts to build a normal life for herself while revealing nothing that would give away her whereabouts to Markham, a man she put in jail four years ago.

Buying and selling antiques from estate sales provides her a living through eBay, and while emptying out a house that was the site of a former insane asylum, Quinn meets the new owner, widower Morgan Spencer. She instinctively knows he is someone she can trust, and when the newly-released Markham

threatens Quinn's life, she asks Morgan to do the unthinkable: marry her, give her a new name, and provide her safety and un-traceability.

Morgan and Quinn attempt to create a marriage by working in reverse, beginning with a sudden marriage, a romantic honeymoon in Paris, and then learning to know each other well enough to love one another and provide a home for Morgan's daughter, Livie. Morgan continues to work through the grieving process for the death of his first wife, and Quinn gradually learns to trust Morgan with her life story.

Kristen Heitzmann's novel *The Breath of Dawn* is the follow-up to *The Still of Night*; however, the novel can be read as a stand-alone. Although well-written, this novel does not come together as well as Heitzmann's previous novels. The house/former insane asylum provides an unsettling presence of demonic oppression that is alluded to throughout the novel, but never really addressed, and thus comes to feel like a mere plot contrivance. Markham is not fully convincing in the threat he poses to Quinn, especially at the end. And even though Morgan is a consummate businessman and problem-solver, his marriage to Quinn seems a bit of a stretch, given the circumstances. For readers interested in contemporary suspense with little substance and only an incidental faith element, this book will serve.

Sherri Beeler

Henderson, Dee

Full disclosure / Dee Henderson.

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2012013122. ISBN 9780764210891, paperback, \$15.99.

473 p. ; 23 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 4

United States--Federal Bureau of Investigation--Officials and employees--Fiction.

Romantic suspense fiction.

Loosely related to her well-known O'Malley series, Dee Henderson's newest novel *Full Disclosure* provides an interesting twist by portraying the main character, Ann, as the "author" of the O'Malley novels. Ann, a serious introvert, writes these novels about her friends' lives, while also serving as the Midwest Homicide Investigator.

Happily single, Ann meets Paul Falcon when she hands off a case to him that is directly connected to a female killer he has been tracking for years. Intrigued by Ann, Paul determines to pursue a relationship with her as intentionally, methodically, and patiently as he pursues the new lead on his case with the lady shooter.

When the former Vice President of the United States asks Paul to examine the circumstances surrounding his attempted abduction, Ann is forced to determine whether, and to what extent, she is willing to trust Paul with information on how she was involved in this traumatic event—and ultimately to what extent she will trust him in a serious relationship.

Full Disclosure is a dense and intriguing novel, providing a fascinating "behind-the-scenes" look at the meticulous detail involved in tracking criminals and building cases that will stand up in a court of law. Ann and Paul's relationship is equally intense. True introverts will appreciate Henderson's accurate portrayal of what it costs an introvert to live in an extrovert-oriented world. The requirements Ann puts

on her marriage with Paul may seem extreme, but they allow her to survive and function as her uniquely God-given personality requires, and Paul's willingness to accept this about her is a wonderful example of the depth of love and trust the two of them come to share.

Sherri Beeler

Pettrey, Dani

Shattered / Dani Pettrey. (Alaskan courage ; 2)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2013.

LCCN 2012035226. ISBN 9780764209833, paperback, \$14.99.

364 p. ; 22 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Alaska--Fiction.

Serial murder investigation--Fiction.

Dani Pettrey returns with another contemporary suspense novel set in the Alaskan wilderness, continuing the story of the McKenna family.

In *Shattered*, Reef McKenna returns to Yancy, Alaska after an absence of five years. His sister Piper is delighted until he shows up on her doorstep covered in blood. While circumstantial evidence points to Reef as the one responsible for the murder of a fellow snowboarder, Piper believes her brother when he swears he is innocent.

Meanwhile, Deputy Landon Grainger, a lifelong friend to the McKenna family, is determined to find the facts, especially as the details of the snowboarder's life points to a life of mystery. While they try to sort out the leads, Reef is charged with the snowboarder's murder. As Landon and Piper race to find out the truth, they plunge headlong into Alaska's backcountry, their changing relationship, and the real killer who will do anything to bury the facts and possibly, them.

Pettrey has done it again, writing a cleverly-crafted mystery with romance, adventure, rich character development, and spine-tingling suspense. Her characters are imperfect-they struggle with faith and relationship issues, and yet, they endear themselves to the reader because of this. Hopefully, Ms. Pettrey will return with another book in this series.

Fans of Dee Henderson, Irene Hanson, and other Christian suspense writers will not be disappointed by this series. Recommended for high school libraries, as well as adult collections in public libraries.

Carol R. Gehringer

Whitson, Stephanie Grace

The key on the quilt. (The quilt chronicles ; 1)

Uhrichsville, OH: Barbour Pub., 2012.

LCCN 2011278845. ISBN 9781616264420, paperback, \$12.99.

318 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Prisons--Fiction.

Nebraska--Fiction.

The Key on the Quilt by Stephanie Grace Whitson is one of the books in the series *The Quilt Chronicles*. This book weaves a story of three women brought together in the Nebraska State Penitentiary in 1876. Jane Prescott is hiding a terrible secret while serving a ten-year prison sentence. Mamie Dawson feels it is God's plan for her to perform the job as a prison matron. Ellen McKenna doesn't know how to interact with the women even though she is the warden's wife. These women develop an unlikely friendship.

With the help of an old friend, Dr. Max Zimmer, the truth about Jane's case comes out. When everyone learns the real story, Mamie, Ellen, and even the warden, Ian McKenna, fight very hard for Jane's release. Jane is thankful to have so many people support her and to receive a second chance. Mamie presents ideas to the warden in hopes of creating activities for the women. These ideas include planting gardens, quilting, and even learning to read. The warden has a tough job of overseeing the prison, but he makes time to listen to all of Mamie's suggestions and encourages Ellen to participate in the new programs. With the help of Ellen, these women embrace their new opportunities. There are people that present obstacles in Mamie's plans for her girls. But these three headstrong women continue to pray and maintain their faith in God.

This work of fiction illustrates everyday life in the women's prison in 1876. The book is very well-written and shows a clear connection between the three women and their choices. Each of the women finds love, even when they least expect it.

Trina Chase

Lisle, Jason

The stargazer's guide to the night sky / Jason Lisle.

Green Forest, AR : Master Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011945896. ISBN 9780890516416, hardcover, \$34.99.

240 p. : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Adult (Grades 5-12).

522.2 Rating: *5

Astronomy--Observers' manuals.

Telescopes.

The Stargazer's Guide to the Night Sky / by Dr. Jason Lisle. INT, ages 10 and up, rating: 5+. Hardcover.

The Stargazer's Guide to the Night Sky is a comprehensive introduction to many aspects of astronomy, organized into 12 photo-filled chapters. Author Dr. Jason Lisle is a creation scientist who introduces his work with Psalm 19:1 (NKJ) on the title page ("The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork") and concludes with his assertion that only God could have created our orderly and beautiful universe. Written for the novice stargazer, the book offers an overview of celestial events, the moon, stars, sun and planets, how the human eye works, use of a telescope, deep sky objects, and astrophotography.

As the author proclaims in his afterword, "An understanding of the heavens can only deepen a person's appreciation for the Creator. " This handsome book certainly does that and more. Packed with intriguing photographs and helpful charts, *The Stargazer's Guide to the Night Sky* is for anyone who has ever gazed at the sky with wonder, amazement...and lots of questions. The explanation of each topic is "just right" for interested students and adults, making this an excellent book for a home or school library. Use of a small telescope is suggested but not required, and the book is most applicable-but not limited to-stargazers in the Northern Hemisphere.

Nina Ditmar

McCord, Kate

In the land of blue burqas / Kate McCord.

Chicago : Moody Publishers, 2012.

LCCN 2011048186. ISBN 9780802408143, paperback, \$14.99.

312 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

275.81 Rating: 5

Missions--Afghanistan.

Missionaries--Afghanistan.

In the Land of Blue Burqas by Kate McCord is a journal of faith. Challenged to present God's love to Muslims in war-torn Afghanistan, the author comes to grips with heartfelt issues that separate people of different faiths and cultures. She recounts experiences and discussions with her Afghan friends that yield new insight and better understanding of the chasms that separate eastern and western worldviews. To bridge these chasms, she relies on the Holy Spirit to provide her with words that will minister life to those around her.

The author shares from her biblical worldview and about her Lord in many loving ways. She aims to glorify Jesus by touching hearts rather than winning arguments, and there is much to be learned from her approach. Her humility, perseverance, love, and maturity in Christ are inspiring.

The world today needs to better understand the Muslim experience. This book provides clear insights into what some Muslims think and why they think it. It inspires respect and compassion for them and provides practical ways to share the love of Christ with them. Christians are reminded that they are called to love even their enemies.

Introducing the Prince of Peace to Afghans in any way she can strengthens her own faith and love for the Master. Her journal recounting her five years serving there becomes the amazing story of what God can accomplish through ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances.

A well-written, inspiring read and highly recommended for all types of libraries. It is a must read for anyone who desires to better understand the challenges of taking the Gospel to the more than 1.2 billion Muslims around the world.

Gail W.

Additions to the CLJ Core Collection April 2013

Books for Small Children

Anderson, C. W.

Billy and Blaze / by C.W. Anderson.

New York : Aladdin Books, 1992.

LCCN 91029882. ISBN 9780689716089, paperback, \$5.99.

48 p. : ill. ; 25 cm. Grades K-3.

E Rating: *5

Horses--Fiction.

Brown, Marcia

Stone soup : an old tale / told and pictured by Marcia Brown.

New York : Atheneum, 1975.

ISBN 9780684922966, hardcover, \$17.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 27 cm. Grades K-3.

E Rating: *5

Folklore--France.

Burton, Virginia Lee

Mike Mulligan and his steam shovel / story and pictures by Virginia Lee Burton.

Boston : Houghton Mifflin, 1999, 1939.

LCCN 77154507. ISBN 9780395169612, hardcover, \$16.99.

44 p. : col. ill. ; 23 x 25 cm. Grades PS-3.

E Rating: *5

Steam shovels--Fiction.

Dalgliesh, Alice

The bears on Hemlock Mountain / by Alice Dalgliesh ; illustrated by Helen Sewell.

New York : Aladdin Books, 1992.

LCCN 91040166. ISBN 9780689716041, paperback, \$4.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : colored ill. ; 19 cm. Grades 1-4.

E Rating: *5

Bears--Fiction.

Hills, Tad

Rocket writes a story / Tad Hills.

New York : Schwartz & Wade Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011041233. ISBN 9780375870866, hardcover, \$17.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 28 cm. Grades PS-2.

E Rating: 5

Dogs--Fiction.

Authorship--Fiction.

Review: Dec. 2012

Johnson, Crockett

Harold and the purple crayon / by Crockett Johnson.

New York : HarperCollins, 1983, 1955.

LCCN 55007683. ISBN 9780060229351, hardcover, \$16.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ; 16 cm. Grades PS-2.
E Rating: 5
Fantasy.
Adventure stories.

Rey, H. A.

Curious George / by H. A. Rey.

Boston : Houghton Mifflin, 1969, 1941.

ISBN 9780395159934, hardcover, \$16.00.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 27 cm. Grades PS-3.
E Rating: *5
Monkeys--Fiction.

Curious George takes a job, Curious George rides a bike, Curious George gets a medal, Curious George flies a kite, Curious George learns the alphabet, Curious George goes to the hospital

Alilki

My visit to the aquarium / Aliki.

New York : HarperCollins, 1993.

LCCN 92018678. ISBN 9780064461863, paperback, \$6.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades PS-3.
597 Rating: *5
Aquariums.
Marine animals.

Bateman, Donna M.

Out on the prairie / Donna M. Bateman ; illustrated by Susan Swan.

Watertown, Mass2011025782. : Charlesbridge, 2012.

LCCN 2011025782. ISBN 9781580893770, library binding, \$15.95.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 22 x 24 cm. Grades PS-3.
577.44 Rating: 5
Prairie animals--South Dakota--Badlands National Park.
Badlands National Park.

Review: Dec. 2012

Cole, Joanna

Magic School Bus and the science fair expedition / by Joanna Cole ; illustrated by Bruce Degen.

New York : Scholastic Press, 2006.

LCCN 2006283534. ISBN 9780590108249, hardcover, \$16.99.

45 p. : col. ill. ; 22 x 27 cm. Grades 2-4.
509 Rating: 5
Scientists.

Science--History.

Review: Sept. 2007

Hartland, Jessie

Bon appetit! : the delicious life of Julia Child / Jessie Hartland. (True north series)

New York : Schwartz & Wade Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011975528. ISBN 9780375869440, hardcover, \$17.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 28 cm. Grades 2-4.

B or 641.5 Rating: 5

Child, Julia.

Women cooks--United States--Biography.

Review: Feb. 2013

Hoberman, Mary Ann

Forget-me-nots : poems to learn by heart / selected by Mary Ann Hoberman ; illustrated by Michael Emberley.

New York : Megan Tingley Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011025119. ISBN 9780316129473, hardcover, \$19.99.

143 p. : col. ill. ; 30 cm. Grades K-3 (all ages).

811.008 Rating: *5

Children's poetry, American.

Forget-Me-Nots: Poems to Learn by Heart is a collection of 123 poems chosen by former Children's Poet Laureate Mary Ann Hoberman to encourage the reading and memorization of poetry. Grouped into 11 sections by topic, the poems cover a range of ideas, are

Markel, Michelle

The fantastic jungles of Henri Rousseau / by Michelle Markel ; illustrated by Amanda Hall.

Grand Rapids, Mich. : Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2012.

LCCN 2011035838. ISBN 9780802853646, hardcover, \$17.00.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 23 x 29 cm. Grades K-4.

B or 759.4 Rating: 5

Rousseau, Henri--1844-1910.

Painters--Biography.

Review: Feb. 2013

Morrison, Gordon

Nature in the neighborhood / Gordon Morrison.

Boston : Houghton Mifflin, 2004.

LCCN 2004002354. ISBN 9780618352159, hardcover, \$16.00.

32 p. : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades K-3.

508 Rating: *5
Natural literature--Juvenile literature.
Seasons--Juvenile literature.

Nivola, Claire A.

Life in the ocean : the story of oceanographer Sylvia Earle / Claire A. Nivola.

New York : Farrar Straus Giroux, 2012.

LCCN 2011016645. ISBN 9780374380687, hardcover, \$17.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades 2-5.

B or 551.46 Rating: 5

Earle, Sylvia A. -- 1935-

Marine biologists.

Review: Feb. 2013

Books for Upper Elementary Children

DeJong, Meindert

The wheel on the school / by Meindert De Jong ; pictures by Maurice Sendak.

New York : HarperCollins, 1954.

LCCN 54008945. ISBN 9780060215859, hardcover, \$18.95.

298 p. : ill. ' 21 cm. Grades 4-6.

Fic Rating: 5

Netherlands--Fiction.

Storks--Fiction.

Henry, Marguerite

Misty of Chincoteague / by Marguerite Henry ; illustrated by Wesley Dennis.

New York : Simon & Schuster, 1975.

ISBN 9780027436228, hardcover, \$19.99.

173 p. : ill. (some col.), map ; 25 cm. Grades 3-7.

Fic Rating: *5

Horses--Fiction.

Realistic fiction.

Hopkinson, Deborah

A boy called Dickens / Deborah Hopkinson ; illustrated by John Hendrix.

New York : Schwartz & Wade Books, 2012.

LCCN 2010048531. ISBN 9780375867323, library binding, \$17.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades 3-6.

Fic Rating: 5

Authors--Fiction.

London (England)--History--19th century--Fiction.

Dec. 2012

Johnson, Lois Walfrid

Escape into the night / Lois Walfrid Johnson. (Freedom seekers; 1)

Minneapolis : Bethany House Publishers, 1995.

LCCN 95018990. ISBN 9780802407160, paperback, \$8.99.

176 p. : ill., map ; 21 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Fugitive slaves--Fiction.

African Americans--Fiction.

Review: Sept. 1996

Corey, Shana

Here come the Girl Scouts! : the amazing all-true story of Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low and her great adventure / by Shana Corey ; illustrated by Hadley Hooper.

New York : Scholastic Press, 2012.

LCCN 2011008690. ISBN 9780545342780, hardcover, \$17.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : ill. (chiefly col.) ; 29 cm. Grades 3-5.

B or 369.463 Rating: 4

Girl Scouts of the United States of America--History--Juvenile literature.

Low, Juliette Gordon, 1860-1927--Juvenile literature.

Review: Dec. 2012

Levine, Shar

The ultimate guide to your microscope / Shar Levine & Leslie Johnstone.

New York : Sterling, 2008.

LCCN 2008. ISBN 9781402743290, paperback, \$9.95.

143 p. : ill. (some col.) ; 26 cm. Grades 4-6.

570.28 Rating: *5

Microscopes.

Microscopy.

Lewis, J. Patrick

Edgar Allan Poe's pie : math puzzlers in classic poems / J. Patrick Lewis ; illustrated by Michael Slack.

Boston : Harcourt, 2012.

LCCN 2011025735. ISBN 9780547513386, hardcover, \$16.00.

37 p. : col. ill. ; 25 cm. Grades 3-6.

811.54 Rating: 5

Children's poetry, American.

Mathematical recreations.

VanCleave, Janice Pratt

Janice VanCleave's guide to more of the best science fair projects / Janice VanCleave.

New York : Wiley, 2000.

LCCN 99025575. ISBN 9780471326274, paperback, \$14.95.

iv, 156 p. : ill. ; 28 cm. Grades 4-8.

507.8 Rating: *5

Science projects--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

Science fairs--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

Review: June 2009

VanCleave, Janice Pratt

Janice VanCleave's guide to the best science fair projects / Janice VanCleave.

New York : Wiley, 1997.

LCCN 96027512. ISBN 9780471148029, paperback, \$14.95.

iv, 156 p. : ill. ; 28 cm. Grades 4-8.

507.8 Rating: *5

Science projects--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

Science fairs--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

Review: June 2009

Food, faith & fun : a Faithgirlz! cookbook.

Grand Rapids : Zonderkidz, 2012.

LCCN 2011053067. ISBN 9780310723165, spiral, \$12.99.

151 p. : col. ill. ; 23 cm. Grades 5-9.

641.5 Rating: 5

Cooking.

Food--Religious aspects--Christianity--Juvenile literature.

Go out and play! : favorite outdoor games from Kaboom!

Somerville, Mass. : Candlewick Press, 2012.

LCCN 2011046634. ISBN 9780763655303, paperbackback, \$11.99.

vii, 96 p. : col. ill. ; 23 cm. All ages.

796.2 Rating: 4

Outdoor games.

Play.

Dec. 2012

Books for Middle Schoolers

Angler, Evan

Swipe / Evan Angler. (Swipe series ; 1)

Nashville : Tommy Nelson, 2011.

LCCN 2011026611. ISBN 9781400318360, paperback, \$9.99.

viii, 275 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Science fiction.

Government, Resistance to--Fiction.

Review: April 2013

Angler, Evan

Sneak / Evan Angler. (The Swipe series ; 2)

Nashville : Thomas Nelson, 2012.

LCCN 2012005919. ISBN 9781400318421, paperback, \$9.99.

275 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Science fiction.

Government, Resistance to--Fiction.

Review: April 2013

Armstrong, William H

Souder / by William H. Armstrong ; illustrations by James Barkley.

New York : HarperCollins, 1969.

LCCN 70085030. ISBN 9780060201432, hardcover, \$16.99.

116 p. : ill. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Dogs--Fiction.

Poverty--Fiction.

Review: Nov. 2004

Burg, Ann E.

All the broken pieces : a novel in verse / by Ann E. Burg.

New York : Scholastic Press, 2009.

LCCN 8012381. ISBN 9780545080927, hardcover, \$16.99.

218 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Vietnam War, 1961-1975--Psychological aspects--Fiction.

Vietnamese Americans--Fiction.

Review: Apr. 2011

Davis, Robert

That girl of Pierre's / Robert Davis ; illustrated by Lloyd Lózes Goff.

Bathgate ND : Bethlehem Books, .

LCCN 0. ISBN 9781932350142, paperback, \$11.95.

179 p. : ill. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: 5

Bordeaux (Aquitaine, France)--History--20th century--Fiction.

Coming of age--Fiction.

Review: June 2007

Field, Rachel

Calico bush / by Rachel Field ; with the original wood engravings by Allen Lewis.

New York : Simon & Schuster, 1987, c1931.

ISBN 9780027346107, paperback, \$19.99.

xi, 201 p. : ill. ; 24 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: *5

Indentured servants--Fiction

Maine--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775--Fiction.

Gipson, Fred

Old Yeller / by Fred Gipson ; drawings by Carl Burger.

New York : HarperCollins, 1956.

LCCN 56008780. ISBN 9780060115456, hardcover, \$23.00.

158 p. : ill. ; 22 cm. Grades 6-9.

Fic Rating: 5

Dogs--Fiction.

Boys--Fiction.

Holm, Anne

I am David / Anne Holm ; translated from the Danish by L.W. Kingsland.

Orlando, FL : Harcourt, 2004, 1965.

LCCN 2003057006. ISBN 9780152051600, paperback, \$6.99.

239 p. ; 20 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Refugees--Fiction.

Key, Watt

Alabama moon / Watt Key.

New York : Farrar Straus Giroux, 2006.

LCCN 0. ISBN 9780374301842, hardcover, \$16.00.

294 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Wilderness survival--Fiction.

Government, Resistance to--Fiction.

Michael, Jan

City boy / Jan Michael.

New York : Clarion Books, 2009.

LCCN 2008037418. ISBN 9780547223100, hardcover, \$16.00.

188 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Malawi--Fiction.

Country life--Malawi--Fiction.

Review: Aug. 2011

Paterson, Katherine

Bread and roses, too / Katherine Paterson.

New York : Clarion Books, 2006.

LCCN 2005031702. ISBN 9780618654796, hardcover, \$16.00.

275 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Strikes and lockouts--Fiction.

Labor unions--Fiction.

Peck, Richard

A season of gifts / Richard Peck ; [art by Brandon Dorman].

New York : Dial Books for Young Readers, 2009.

LCCN 2008048050. ISBN 9780803730823, hardcover, \$16.99.

164 p. : ill. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: *5

Neighbors--Fiction

Moving, Household--Fiction.

Shank, Marilyn Sue

Child of the mountains / Marilyn Sue Shank.

New York : Delacorte Press, 2012.

LCCN 2011026174. ISBN 9780385740791, hardcover, \$16.99.

259 p. : map ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: 5

Secrets--Fiction.

Self-reliance--Fiction.

Review: April 2013

Steele, William O.

The perilous road / William O. Steele ; with an introduction by Jean Fritz.

Orlando, FL : Harcourt, 2004, 1958.

LCCN 2004046560. ISBN 9780152052041, paperback, \$5.95.

156 p. ; 20 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: *5

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Fiction.

Prejudices--Fiction.

Tan, Shaun

The arrival / Shaun Tan.

New York : Arthur A. Levine Books, 2007.

LCCN 2006021706. ISBN 9780439895293, hardcover, \$19.99.

1 v. (unpaged) : chiefly ill. ; 31 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: *5

Emigration and immigration--Fiction.

Immigrants--Fiction.

Vining, Elizabeth Gray

Adam of the road / by Elizabeth Janet Gray ; illustrated by Robert Lawson.

New York : Viking, 1942.

LCCN 42010681. ISBN 9780670104352, hardcover, \$19.99.

317 p. : ill. ; 24 cm. Grades 5-8.

Fic Rating: *5

Middle ages--Fiction.

Great Britain--History--Plantagenets, 1154-1399--Fiction.

Review: Sept. 2005

Voigt, Cynthia

Homecoming / Cynthia Voigt. (The Tillerman cycle ; 1)

New York : Atheneum, 2012.

LCCN 2011287810. ISBN 9781442450615, hardcover, \$18.99.

312 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: *5

Survival--Fiction.

Family life--Fiction.

38504

Voigt, Cynthia

Dacey's song / Cynthia Voigt. (The Tillerman cycle ; 2)

New York : Atheneum, 2012.

LCCN 82003882. ISBN 9781442450608, hardcover, \$18.99.

247 p. : ill. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: *5

Brothers and sisters--Fiction

Families--Fiction.

Review: June 2005

Adams, Simon

The Kingfisher atlas of world history / Simon Adams ; cartography by Colin and Ian McCarthy.

New York : Kingfisher, 2010.

LCCN 2010015723. ISBN 9780753463888, hardcover, \$24.99.

1 atlas (190 p.) : ill. (some col.), col. maps ; 32 cm. Grades 4-8.

911 Rating: 5

Historical geography--Maps.

World history.

Hergenrather, John

Your guide to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks / John Hergenrather .. [et al.]. (True north series)

Green Forest, AR : Master Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011975528. ISBN 9780890516409, spiral hardcover, \$15.99.

188 p. : ill. (chiefly col.), col. maps ; 23 cm. Grades 5-9.

917.8 Rating: 5

Bible and geology.

Creationism.

The history, geology, ecology, and scenic beauty of Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks are explored in this True North Series volume that emphasizes creation theory. Information for travelers is organized into 11 sections on fold-out pages highlig

Books for High Schoolers

Lee, Harper

To kill a mockingbird / Harper Lee.

New York : HarperCollins, 2010, 1960.

ISBN 9780061743528, hardcover, \$25.00.

323 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 9-12.

Fic Rating: *5

Trials (Rape)--Southern States--Fiction.

Fathers and daughters--Southern States--Fiction.

Thrasher, Travis

Temptation : a novel / Travis Thrasher. (The solitary tales ; 3)

Colorado Springs : David C. Cook, 2012.

LCCN 2012930869. ISBN 9781434764171, paperback, \$9.99.

422 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 9-12.

Fic Rating: 5

Teenage boys--Fiction.

Suspense fiction.

Voigt, Cynthia

A solitary blue / Cynthia Voigt. (The Tillerman cycle ; 3)

New York : Atheneum, 2012.

LCCN 83006007. ISBN 9781442450622, hardcover, \$18.99.

249 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: *5

Divorce--Fiction.

Fathers and sons--Fiction.

Review: June 2005

Voigt, Cynthia

The runner / Cynthia Voigt. (The Tillerman cycle ; 4)

New York : Atheneum, 2012.

LCCN 84021663. ISBN 9781442450660, hardcover, \$18.99.

225 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: *5

Runners--Sports.

Sports stories.

Review: June 2005

Voigt, Cynthia

Come a stranger / Cynthia Voigt. (The Tillerman cycle ; 5)

New York : Atheneum, 2012.

LCCN 86003610. ISBN 9781442450639, hardcover, \$18.99.

248 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: *5

Clergy--Fiction.

African Americans--Fiction.

Review: June 2005

Voigt, Cynthia

Sons from afar / Cynthia Voigt. (The Tillerman cycle ; 6)

New York : Atheneum, 2012.

LCCN 2003577267. ISBN 9781442450653, hardcover, \$18.99.

225 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: *5

Fathers--Fiction.

Brothers--Fiction.

Review: June 2005

Voigt, Cynthia

Seventeen against the dealer / Cynthia Voigt. (The Tillerman cycle ; 7)

New York : Atheneum, 2012.

LCCN 2012418685. ISBN 9781442450646, hardcover, \$18.99.

233 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 7-10.

Fic Rating: *5

Family problems--Fiction.

Boatbuilding--Fiction.

Review: June 2005

Boyer, Rick

Take back the land : inspiring a new generation to lead America / Rick Boyer.

Green Forest, AR : Master Books, 2011.

LCCN 2011936603. ISBN 9780890516195, paperback, \$13.99.

253 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 9-Age 25.

973.93 Rating: 5

Christian teenagers--Religious life.

Christian teenagers--Conduct of life.

Chediak, Alex

Thriving at college : make great friends, keep your faith, and get ready for the real world! / Alex Chediak ; [foreword by Alex and Brett Harris].

Carol Stream, Ill. : Tyndale House, 2011.

LCCN 2010054362. ISBN 9781414339634, paperback, \$14.99.

xxxix, 327 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 11-College.
248.83 Rating: 5
Christian college students--Religious life.
College student orientation.

Review: June 2012

Freedman, Russell

Eleanor Roosevelt : a life of discovery / Russell Freedman.

: Clarion Books, 1993.

LCCN 92025024. ISBN 9780899198620, hardcover, \$17.95.

198 p. : ill. ; 27 cm. Grades 5-9.

B Rating: 5

First ladies.

Presidents' spouses--United States--Biography.

Review: Nov. 1996

Lenburg, Jeff

The Facts on File Guide to research / Jeff Lenburg.

New York : Facts on File, 2010.

LCCN 2009048200. ISBN 9780816081219, library binding, \$55.00.

xxxvi, 720 p. ; 24 cm. Grades 8-12.

25.5 Rating: 5

Information retrieval--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

Library research--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

Review: Sept. 2005

Manser, Martin H.

The Facts on File dictionary of foreign words and phrases / Martin H. Manser ; associate editors: David H. Pickering, Alice Grandison.

New York : Facts on File, 2008.

LCCN 0. ISBN 9780816070350, library binding, \$55.00.

xvii, 469 p. ; 24 cm. Grades 6-12.

422 Rating: *5

English language--Foreign words and phrases--Dictionaries.

100 best-loved poems / edited by Philip Smith.

New York : Dover Publications, 1995.

LCCN 95019647. ISBN 9780486285535, paperback, \$1.50.

x, 101 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 7-Adult.

821 Rating: 5

English poetry.
American poetry.
Review: Dec. 2004

Books for Adults

Alcorn, Randy

Safely home / Randy Alcorn.

Carol Stream, Ill. : Tyndale House, 2011.

LCCN 2012376644. ISBN 9781414348551, paperback, \$14.99.

xiii, 406 p. ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: *5

Americans--China--Fiction.

Persecution--China.

Review: Winter 2002

Austin, Lynn

All things new / Lynn Austin.

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2012028883. ISBN 9780764208973, paperback, \$14.99.

413 p. ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: *5

Plantations--Virginia--Fiction.

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)

Cramer, Dale

The captive heart / Dale Cramer. (The daughters of Caleb Bender ; 2)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2011035593. ISBN 9780764208393, paperback, \$14.99.

348 p. ; 22 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Amish--Fiction.

Review: April 2013

Cramer, W. Dale

Paradise Valley / Dale Cramer. (The daughters of Caleb Bender ; 1)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2011.

LCCN 2010036780. ISBN 9780764208386, paperback, \$14.99.

359 p. ; 22 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Amish--Fiction

Mexico--Fiction

Review: Nov. 2011

Cramer, W. Dale

Though mountains fall / Dale Cramer. (The daughters of Caleb Bender ; 3)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2013.

LCCN 2012034483. ISBN 9780764208409, paperback, \$14.99.

342 p. ; 22 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Amish--Fiction

Mexico--Fiction

Heitzmann, Kristen

A rush of wings / Kristen Heitzmann. (Morgan Spencer series ; 1)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2003.

LCCN 2002152592. ISBN 9780764226069, paperback, \$14.99.

380 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Women artists--Fiction.

Ranch life--Fiction.

Review: Aug. 2003

Heitzmann, Kristen

The still of night / Kristen Heitzmann. (Morgan Spencer series ; 2)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2003.

LCCN 2003014245. ISBN 9780764226076, paperback, \$14.99.

427 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Illegitimate children--Fiction.

Adopted children--Fiction.

Review: Oct. 2003

Heitzmann, Kristen

The breath of dawn / Kristen Heitzmann. (Morgan Spencer series ; 3)

Minneapolis : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2012028884. ISBN 9780764210426, paperback, \$14.99.

437 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Widowers--Fiction.

Single women--Fiction.

Review: Apr. 2013

Herman, Kathy

False pretenses / Kathy Herman. (Secrets of Roux River Bayou ; 1)

Colorado Springs, CO : David C. Cook, 2011.

LCCN 2010942617. ISBN 9780781403405, paperback, \$14.99.

376 p. ; 21 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Suspense fiction.

Louisiana--Fiction.

Review: Feb/Apr 2012

Herman, Kathy

Dangerous mercy / Kathy Herman. (Secrets of Roux River Bayou ; 2)

Colorado Springs : David C. Cook, 2011.

LCCN 2011934294. ISBN 9780781403412, paperback, \$14.99.

408 p. ; 21 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Older women--Fiction.

Louisiana--Fiction.

Review: Feb/Apr 2012

Herman, Kathy

Relentless pursuit / Kathy Herman. (Secrets of Roux River Bayou ; 3)

Colorado Springs, CO : David C. Cook, 2012.

LCCN 2012933224. ISBN 9780781403429, paperback, \$14.99.

392 p. ; 21 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Terrorism--Fiction.

Louisiana--Fiction.

Higgs, Liz Curtis

Grace in thine eyes / Liz Curtis Higgs. (Sequel to Lowlands of Scotland series)

Colorado Springs : Waterbrook Press, 2006.

LCCN 2005033536. ISBN 9781578562596, paperback, \$14.99.

447 p. : maps ; 21 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Dinah--(Biblical figure)--Fiction.

Scotland--History--19th century--Fiction.

Higgs, Liz Curtis

Here burns my candle / Liz Curtis Higgs.

Colorado Springs : Waterbrook Press, 2010.

LCCN 2010001907. ISBN 9781400070015, paperback, \$14.99.

467 p. : maps ; 21 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Nobility--Scotland--Fiction.

Family secrets--Fiction.

Review: Aug. 2011

Lewis, Beverly

The fiddler / Beverly Lewis. (Home to Hickory Hollow ; 1)

Minneapolis, Minn. : Bethany House, 2012.

LCCN 2011043956. ISBN 9780764209871, paperback, \$15.99.

325 p. ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Women violinists--Fiction.

Amish Country (Pa.)--Fiction.

Review: Feb. 2013

Litfin, Bryan M.

The sword / Bryan M. Litfin. (Chiveis trilogy ; 1)

Wheaton, Ill. : Crossway, 2010.

LCCN 2009033930. ISBN 9781433533723, paperback, \$15.99.

412 p. : map ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: *5

Fantasy.

Review: Nov. 2011

Litfin, Bryan M.

The gift / Bryan M. Litfin. (Chiveis trilogy ; 2)

Wheaton, Ill. : Crossway Books, 2011.

LCCN 2010042544. ISBN 9781433525162, paperback, \$15.99.

411 p. : map ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 4

Fantasy.

Review: Nov. 2011

Litfin, Bryan M.

The kingdom / Bryan M. Litfin. (Chiveis trilogy ; 3)

Wheaton, Ill. : Crossway Books, 2012.

LCCN 2012003083. ISBN 9781433525209, paperback, \$15.99.

447 p. ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: 5

Fantasy.

Musser, Elizabeth

Two crosses : a novel / Elizabeth Musser. (Secrets of the cross trilogy ; 1)

Colorado Springs, Colo. : David C Cook, 2012.

LCCN 2012930188. ISBN 9780781405003, paperback, \$14.99.

445 p. : maps ; 21 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Algeria--History--Revolution, 1954-1962--Fiction.

Students, Foreign--France--Fiction.

Musser, Elizabeth

Two testaments : a novel / Elizabeth Musser. (Secrets of the cross trilogy ; 2)

Colorado Springs, Colo. : David C Cook, 2012.

LCCN 2012930189. ISBN 97807814049903, paperback, \$14.99.

476 p. : maps ; 21 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Algeria--History--Revolution, 1954-1962--Fiction.

Orphans--France--Fiction.

Musser, Elizabeth

Two destinies : a novel / Elizabeth Musser. (Secrets of the cross trilogy ; 3)

Colorado Springs, Colo. : David C Cook, 2012.

LCCN 2012942044. ISBN 9780781405010, paperback, \$14.99.

452 p. : maps ; 21 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Muslims--Fiction.

Christian converts from Islam--Fiction.

Phillips, Michael R.

From across the ancient waters / Michael Phillips. (The green hills of Snowdonia ; 1)

Uhrichsville, OH : Barbour, 2012.

LCCN 0. ISBN 9781616265854, paperback, \$16.99.

472 p. : map ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).

Fic Rating: *5
Wales--History--19th century--Fiction.
Historical fiction.

Phillips, Michael R.

The treasure of the Celtic Triangle / Michael Phillips. (The green hills of Snowdonia ; 2)

Uhrichsville, OH : Barbour, 2012.

LCCN 0. ISBN 9781616265861, paperback, \$16.99.

437 p. : map ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).
Fic Rating: *5
Wales--History--19th century--Fiction.
Historical fiction.

Pura, Murray

The wings of morning / Murray Pura. (Snapshots in history ;1)

Eugene, Ore. : Harvest House, 2012.

LCCN 2011021815. ISBN 9780736948777, paperback, \$13.99.

297 p. ; 22 cm. Adult (HS).
Fic Rating: 5
World War, 1914-1918--Participation, Amish--Fiction.
World War ,1914-1918--Pennsylvania--Fiction

Tyers, Kathy

Daystar / Kathy Tyers. (Firebird ; 4)

Colorado Springs, Colo. : Marcher Lord Press, 2012.

ISBN 9781935929505, paperback, \$19.99.

638 p. : geneal. tables ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).
Fic Rating: 5
Genetic engineering -- Fiction.
Science fiction.

Review: Feb. 2013

Tyers, Kathy

Wind and shadow / Kathy Tyers.

Colorado Springs, Colo. : Marcher Lord Press, 2011.

ISBN 9781935929369, paperback, \$14.99.

348 p. : geneal. tables ; 23 cm. Adult (HS).
Fic Rating: 5
Genetic engineering -- Fiction.
Science fiction.

Review: Feb. 2013

Windle, Jeannette

Freedom's stand / J. M. Windle.

Carol Stream, Ill. : Tyndale House, 2011.

LCCN 2010051556. ISBN 9781414314761, paperback, \$13.99.

xviii, 434 p. ; 21 cm. Adult.

Fic Rating: 5

Americans -- Afghanistan -- Fiction.

Suspense fiction.

Review: Feb/April 2012

Les misérables : Victor Hugo's masterpiece / (Focus on the Family radio theatre)

Colorado Springs : Focus on the Family, 2001.

ISBN 9781589973947, CDR, \$14.97.

3 sound discs (ca. 169 min.) : digital ; 4 3/4 in. Adult (HS).

843.7 Rating: *5

Ex-convicts--France--Drama.

Paris (France)--Social life and customs--19th century--Drama.

Arnn, Larry P.

The founders' key : the divine and natural connection between the Declaration and the Constitution and what we risk by losing it.

: , 2012.

LCCN 2011041283. ISBN 9781595554727, hardcover, \$19.99.

vi, 217 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

320.1 Rating: 5

United States--Politics and government.

Natural law--Religious aspects.

Cunningham, Ted

Young and in love : challenging the unnecessary delay of marriage / Ted Cunningham.

Colorado Springs : David C. Cook, 2011.

LCCN 2011923887. ISBN 9780781404471, paperback, \$14.99.

222 p. ; 21 cm. Adult.

306.8 Rating: 5

Marriage age--Religious aspects--Christianity.

Marriage--Religious aspects--Christianity.

Kinlaw, Dennis F.

Let's start with Jesus : a new way of doing theology / Dennis F. Kinlaw.

Grand Rapids, Mich. : Zondervan, 2005.

LCCN 2005008718. ISBN 9780310262619, hardcover, \$17.99.

165 p. ; 23 cm. Adult.

230 Rating: *5

Theology.

Jesus Christ--Person and offices.

Lawrence of the Resurrection, Brother

The practice of the presence of God, with spiritual maxims.

Old Tappan, N.J. : Spire Books, 1967, c1958.

ISBN 9780800785994, paperback, \$5.99.

112 p. ; 18 cm. Adult.

248.282 Rating: *5

Christian life.

Lisle, Jason

The stargazer's guide to the night sky / Jason Lisle.

Green Forest, AR : Master Books, 2012.

LCCN 2011945896. ISBN 9780890516416, hardcover, \$34.00.

240 p. : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Adult (Grades 5-12).

522.2 Rating: *5

Astronomy--Observers' manuals.

Telescopes.

The Stargazer's Guide to the Night Sky is a comprehensive introduction to many aspects of astronomy, organized into 12 photo-filled chapters. Author Dr. Jason Lisle is a creation scientist who introduces his work with Psalm 19:1 (NKJ) on the title page (“

McCord, Kate

In the land of blue burqas / Kate McCord.

Chicago : Moody Publishers, 2012.

LCCN 2011048186. ISBN 9780802408143, paperback, \$14.99.

312 p. ; 22 cm. Adult.

275.81 Rating: 5

Missions--Afghanistan.

Missionaries--Afghanistan.

In the Land of Blue Burqas by Kate McCord is a journal of faith. Challenged to present God's love to Muslims in war-torn Afghanistan, the author comes to grips with heartfelt issues that separate people of different faiths and cultures. She recounts exper

Reid, Fiona

A field guide to mammals of North America / Fiona A. Reid. (The Peterson field guide series.)

Boston : Houghton Mifflin, 2006.

LCCN 2005037897. ISBN 9780310262619, paperback, \$20.

xx, 579 p. : ill. (chiefly col., col. maps ; 19 cm. Adult (HS).

599.097 Rating: 4

Mammals--United States--Identification

Mammals--Canada--Identification.

Review: Sept. 2007

Taylor, Howard

Hudson Taylor's spiritual secret / Dr. & Mrs. Howard Taylor.

Chicago : Moody Pub., 2009.

LCCN 2009004790. ISBN 9780802456588, paperback, \$7.99.

260 p. : map ; 18 cm. Adult.

B or 251 Rating: *5

China Inland Mission--Biography.

Missionaries--England--Biography.

Review: Feb/April 2012

Explore Mount St. Helens : with Noah Justice.

Green Forest, AR : Master Books, 2012.

ISBN UPC 713438102191, DVD, \$14.99.

1 videodisc (30 min.) : sd., col. ; 4 3/4 in. Grades 5-8.

917.97 Rating: 5

Volcanoes--Washington State.

Bible and geology.