

Virginia Reader's Choice
Elementary Selections 2011-2012

The 100-Year-Old Secret Tracy Barrett
Henry Holt @ 2008
ISBN 9780312-602123

(Mystery)Xena and Xander Holmes, an American brother and sister living in London for a year, discover that Sherlock Holmes was their great-great-great grandfather when they are inducted into the Society for the Preservation of Famous Detectives. They given his unsolved casebook, from which they attempt to solve the case of a famous missing painting.

11 Birthdays Wendy Mass
Scholastic @2009
ISBN 978-0545052399

(Fantasy)Amanda and Leo have always had their birthdays together ever since they were born in the hospital on the same day, but sometimes things have to change. When Amanda overhears Leo say mean things about her, she just can't forgive him and they plan separate parties. Little do they know that because of an ancient feud between their ancestors, until they can resolve their problems, Amanda and Leo are doomed to relive their birthday over and over again.

All the Lovely Bad Ones Downing Mary Hahn
Sandpiper, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt @2008
ISBN 978-0-547-24878-3

(Fantasy: ghost story)Twelve-year-old Travis and his younger sister, Corey, are spending the summer with their grandmother at her Vermont bed-and-breakfast. They decide to boost business by staging a few "hauntings" that soon draw tourists from across the country, but when their antics awaken a dark force, they must find a way to put to rest the ghosts they have disturbed.

Annie Glover Is NOT a Tree Lover Darleen Bailey Beard
Farrar Straus Giroux @2009
ISBN 978-0-374-30351-8

(Realistic Fiction)When Annie's grandmother chains herself to a tree that is across from her school, Annie can't believe her rotten luck or how embarrassed her grandmother is making her just to save a tree from being cut down. Only when Annie finds out how important the tree is to the town does she realize that what her grandmother is doing is worthwhile.

Captain Nobody Dean Pitchford
G.P. Putnam and Sons @2009
ISBN 978-0-399-25034-7

(Realistic Fiction)Newt Newman has always been in his big brother's shadow. When a football injury sends his brother into a coma, Newt is noticed even less by his too-busy parents. Along with some quirky friends, Newt creates a Halloween costume that creates an alter ego for him – Captain Nobody – the defender of the little guy.

Colonial Voices: Hear them speak Kay Winters

Dutton @2008

ISBN 978052547-8720

(Poetry)Ethan, the printer's errand boy makes deliveries to a variety of people in different occupations in colonial times – on the eve of the Boston Tea Party. One page (non-rhyming) poems tell something of the jobs and the varying thoughts about the rebellion against English rule.

Dog Days of Charlotte Hayes Marlane Kenedy

Greenwillow Books @2009

ISBN 978-0061452413

(Realistic Fiction)Charlotte is not a dog person, but when her family pet, a Saint Bernard, is being neglected - what can she do? Charlotte starts scheming and thinks up a fail-proof plan to find the dog a new home, but in the process might find she's a dog person after all.

Drita, My Homegirl Jenny Lombard

Putnam Juvenile @2006

ISBN 978-0399243806

(Realistic Fiction)Maxie, an urban African-American girl who struggles to stay out of trouble, reluctantly accepts the assignment of working with Drita, a Kosovo refugee who speaks no English, on a school project. Their developing friendship is revealed through alternating chapters/voices of the two girls.

How Oliver Olson Changed the World Claudia Mills

Farrar, Straus and Giroux @2009

ISBN 978-0374334871

(Realistic Fiction)Oliver has a problem...his parents are way too protective and to top it off, they won't let him even do school projects by himself. When his teacher proclaims that anyone can change the world with a good idea - Oliver is skeptical - but hopeful that it's true.

Wild Girl Patricia Reilly Giff

Wendy Lamb Books @2009

ISBN 0-375-83890-2

(Realistic Fiction)Lidie lives in Brazil with her grandparents while her father and brother make their way in New York. When they finally send for her after years of being apart, she has a hard time adjusting to America and her family that she's been separated from for years.