

Young Adult Literature: Bridges to the Classics

Compiled by Barbara Campbell – September 2018

Selected Bridges to Classic Books in the ERL

What is a Classic?

For this bibliography, a classic is defined as “any work of literature (fiction and nonfiction, prose and verse) from times long past to the recent past that is acknowledged with some consensus – through the test of time, through literary and /or social review, or through the award-winning status of the work or its author – to be of exemplary merit for its form or style, its original or unique expression of enduring or universal concepts, or its unique reflection of the conditions or its people and times.” (*Classic Connections: Turning Teens on to Great Literature*. Holly Koelling. Libraries Unlimited, 2004. p. 9)

Why These Young Adult Titles?

The young adult titles suggested are related by theme, subject or genre to the frequently-taught pieces of classic literature which head each category. Selected graphic novel versions and novelizations of classic titles, which may be more accessible for some readers, are listed at the end of this bibliography. Suggested titles might be used as compliments or mentor texts, alternates within literature circles, as companion reading, or even as a substitute for students unable to manage the classic title. Young adult literature can provide students with contemporary, real-world connections and rich text-to-text experiences as they grow in literary analysis.

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

- F/Bro Brooks, Kevin. KISSING THE RAIN. Scholastic, 2004.
- F/Cru Crutcher, Chris. CRAZY HORSE ELECTRIC GAME. Harper Tempest, 1987.
- F/Cur Curtis, Christopher Paul. BUCKING THE SARGE. Wendy Lamb Books, 2004.
- F/Hen Hentoff, Nat. THE DAY THEY CAME TO ARREST THE BOOK: A NOVEL. Dell, 1982.
- F/Hob Hobbs, Will. JASON’S GOLD. Morrow Junior, 1999.
- F/Lev Levine, Kristin. THE BEST BAD LUCK I EVER HAD. G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 2009.

Animal Farm by George Orwell

- F/Tas Tashjian, Janet. THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LARRY. H. Holt, 2001.

Antigone by Sophocles

- F/Kri Krisher, Trudy. FALLOUT. Holiday House, 2006.

Beowulf

- F/Bar Barnhouse, Rebecca. THE COMING OF THE DRAGON. Random House, 2010.

- F/Bar Barnhouse, Rebecca. PEACEWEAVER. Random House, 2012.
F/Far Farmer, Nancy. SEA OF TROLLS. Atheneum, 2004.
F/Pav Paver, Michelle. WOLF BROTHER. HarperTrophy, 2004.

Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

Other dystopian classics include *1984* by George Orwell and *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.

- F/And Anderson, M. T. FEED. Candlewick, 2002.
F/Col Collins, Suzanne. THE HUNGER GAMES (TRILOGY). Scholastic, 2009-2010.
F/DuP DuPrau, Jeanne. CITY OF EMBER. Random House, 2003.
F/Far Farmer, Nancy. HOUSE OF THE SCORPION. Simon Pulse, 2002.
F/Hen Hentoff, Nat. THE DAY THEY CAME TO ARREST THE BOOK. Delacorte Press, 1982.
F/Low Lowry, Lois. THE GIVER. Houghton Mifflin, 1993.
F/Wes Westerfield, Scott. THE UGLIES (TRILOGY) Simon Pulse, 2005-2006.

Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger.

- F/Cor Cormier, Robert. THE CHOCOLATE WAR. Knopf, 1974.
F/Gre Green, John. AN ABUNDANCE OF KATHERINE'S. Dutton, 2006.
F/Gre Green, John. LOOKING FOR ALASKA. Dutton, 2005.
F/Koe Koerge, Ron. STONER & SPAZ. Candlewick, 2002.
F/Law Lawrence, Iain. GHOST BOY. Delacorte, 2000.
F/Lyn Lynch, Chris. FREEWILL. HarperCollins, 2001.

The Crucible by Arthur Miller.

- F/Dub Duple, Kathleen Benner. THE SACRIFICE. Margaret K. McElderry, 2005.
F/Hea Hearn, Julie. THE MINISTER'S DAUGHTER. Atheneum, 2005.
F/Kri Krisher, Trudy. FALLOUT. Holiday House, 2006.

Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller.

- F/Bau Bauer, Joan. RULES OF THE ROAD. Putnam's, 1998.
F/Mye Myers, Walter Dean. SOMEWHERE IN THE DARKNESS. Scholastic, 1992.
F/Paw Powell, Randy. RUN IF YOU DARE. Farrar, Straus Giroux, 2001.
F/Spi Spillbeen, Geert. KIPLING'S CHOICE. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

Diary of a Young Girl: Anne Frank

- F/Alv Alvarez, Julia. BEFORE WE WERE FREE. Knopf, 2002.
F/Kad Kadohata, Cynthia. WEEDFLOWER. Atheneum, 2006.
F/Nan Nanji, Shenaaz. CHILD OF DANDELIONS. Front Street, 2008.
F/Roy Roy, Jennifer Rosines. YELLOW STAR. Marchall Cavendish, 2006.
940.54/Hou Houston, Jeanne. FAREWELL TO MANZANAR. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.

Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway.

F/Dis Disher, Gary. THE DIVINE WIND: A LOVE STORY. A. a. Levine, 2002.
F/Mye Myers, Walter Dean. FALLEN ANGELS. Scholastic, 1988.

Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes.

F/Fli Flinn, Alex. FADE TO BLACK. Harper Tempest, 2005.
F/Had Haddix, Margaret Peterson. TURNABOUT. Simon & Schuster, 2000.
F/Mar Martin, Anne M. A CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE. Scholastic, 2002.
F/Rub Rubin, Susan Goldman. EMILY, GOOD AS GOLD. Harcourt Brace, 1993.
F/Tru Trueman, Terry. STUCK IN NEUTRAL. HarperCollins, 2000.

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley.

F/Alm Almond, David. CLAY. Delacorte, 2005.
F/Far Farmer, Nancy. HOUSE OF THE SCORPION. Simon Pulse, 2002.
F/Mye Myers, Walter Dean. MONSTER. HarperCollins, 1999.

Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck.

F/Hes Hesse, Karen. OUT OF THE DUST. Scholastic, 1997.
F/Jim Jimenez, Francisco. THE CIRCUIT:STORIES FROM THE LIFE OF A MIGRANT CHILD.
Houghton Mifflin, 1997.
F/Wol Wolff, Virginia Euwer. MAKE LEMONADE. H. Holt, 1993.

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens.

F/Avi Avi. THE TRUE CONFESSIONS OF CHARLOTTE DOYLE. Avon, 1990.
F/Cur Curtis, Christopher Paul. BUCKING THE SARGE. Wendy Lamb, 2004.
F/Pul Pullman, Phillip. RUBY IN THE SMOKE. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008.

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

F/Cru Crutcher, Chris. RUNNING LOOSE. Harper Tempest, 2003.

Hamlet by William Shakespeare.

F/Cor Cormier, Robert. I AM THE CHEESE. Pantheon, 1977.
F/Fie Fiedler, Lisa. DATING HAMLET; OPHELIA'S STORY. Holt, 2002.
F/Pet Peters, Julie Anne. LUNA: A NOVEL. Paw Prints. 2004.

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte.

F/Cus Cushman, Karen. THE MIDWIFE'S APPRENTICE. Harper Trophy, 1995.
F/Pul Pullman, Phillip. RUBY IN THE SMOKE. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008.

Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare.

- F/Cor Cormier, Robert. THE CHOCOLATE WAR. Knopf, 1974.
F/Dun Duncan, Lois. KILLING MR. GRIFFIN. Laurel-Leaf, 1978.
F/Pro Prose, Francine. AFTER. HarperCollins, 2003.

Lord of the Flies by William Golding.

- F/Sac Sachar, Louis. HOLES. Farrar Straus Giroux, 1998.
F/Spi Spinelli, Jerry. WRINGER. HarperCollins, 1997.
F/Str Strasser, Todd. GIVE A BOY A GUN. Simon Pulse, 2000.

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

- F/Coo Cooney, Carolyn. ENTER THREE WITCHES: A STORY OF MACBETH. Scholastic, 2007.
F/Gra Gratz, Alan. SOMETHING WICKED. Dial, 2008.
F/Moo Moore, Peter. CAUGHT IN THE ACT. Viking, 2005.

Night by Elie Wiesel.

- B/Lob Lobel, Anita. NO PRETTY PICTURES. Greenwillow, 1998.

The Odyssey by Homer.

- F/All Allende, Isabel. CITY OF THE BEASTS. Trans. Margaret Sayers Peden. HarperCollins, 2002.
F/Bel Bell, William. ZACK. Simon & Schuster, 1999.
F/Bus Buss, Fran Leeper with Daisy Cubias. JOURNEY OF THE SPARROWS. Puffin, 1991.
F/Far Farmer, Nancy. A GIRL NAMED DISASTER. Orchard Books, 1996.
F/Fle Fleischman, Paul. WHIRLIGIG. H. Holt, 1998.
808.8/Des Gallo, Donald R., Ed. DESTINATION UNEXPECTED. Candlewick Press, 2003.

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck.

- F/Bru Brugman, Alyssa. WALKING NAKED. Delacorte, 2002.
F/Cru Crutcher, Chris. STAYING FAT FOR SARAH BYRNES. Greenwillow, 1993.
F/Geu Geus, Mireille. PIGGY. Trans. Nancy Forest-Flier. Front Street, 2005.
F/Mar Martin, Ann M. CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE. Scholastic, 2002.

Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway.

- B/Pau Paulsen, Gary. CAUGHT BY THE SEA: MY LIFE ON BOATS. Delacorte, 2001.
F/Mik Mikaelson, Ben. RED MIDNIGHT. HarperCollins, 2002.
F/Phi Philbrick, W. R. YOUNG MAN AND THE SEA. Blue Sky Press, 2004.
F/Sal Salisbury, Graham. LORD OF THE DEEP. Delacorte, 2001.

Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane.

- F/Avi Avi. THE FIGHTING GROUND. Lippincott, 1984.
F/Cri Crist-Evans, Craig. MOON OVER TENNESSEE: A BOY'S CIVIL WAR JOURNAL.
Houghton Mifflin, 1999.
F/Mye Myers, Walter Dean. FALLEN ANGELS. Scholastic, 1988.
F/Ryl Rylant, Cynthia. I HAD SEEN CASTLES. Harcourt, Brace & Co, 1993.

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare.

- F/Cai Caine, Rachel. PRINCE OF SHADOWS: A NOVEL OF ROMEO AND JULIET. New
American Library, 2014.
F/Mey Meyer, Carolyn. LOVING WILL SHAKESPEARE. Harcourt, 2006.
F/Mye Myers, Walter Dean. STREET LOVE. Amistad, 2006.
F/Ran Randle, Kristen D. BREAKING RANK. Morrow Junior, 1999.
F/Woo Woodson, Jacqueline. IF YOU COME SOFTLY. Putnam's, 1998,

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

- F/Ker Kerr, M.E. DELIVER US FROM EVIE. HarperCollins, 1994.
F/Sta Staples, Suzanne Fisher. DANGEROUS SKIES. HarperTrophy, 1998.
F/Wen Whelan, Gloria. HOMELESS BIRD. Scholastic, 2000.

A Separate Peace by John Knowles.

- F/Gre Green, John. LOOKING FOR ALASKA. Dutton, 2005.
F/Mye Myers, Walter Dean. THE BEAST. Scholastic, 2003.

Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut.

- F/Mye Myers, Walter Dean. SUNRISE OVER FALLUJAH. Scholastic, 2008.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee.

- F/Cro Crowe, Chris. MISSISSIPPI TRIAL, 1955. P. Fogelman Books, 2002.
F/Seb Sebestyen, Ouida. WORDS BY HEART. Little Brown, 1979
F/Tay Taylor, Mildred. LET THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN. Puffin, 1981.

References

This list was compiled including suggestions from the following books:

Herz, Sarah K. **FROM HINTON TO HAMLET : BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE AND THE CLASSICS.** Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2005.

Kaywell, Joan F., ed. **ADOLESCENT LITERATURE AS A COMPLEMENT TO THE CLASSICS.** Norwood, Massachusetts: Christopher-Gordon, 1993.