The View from the Cherry Tree / Willo Davis Roberts (and others by this author)
Rob witnesses a murder, but no one believes him—except the murderer.

Holes / Louis Sachar
Cursed by bad luck, Stanley finds a true friend and a treasure at a correctional camp.

Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy / Gary D. Schmidt (and others by this author)
In turn-of-the-century Maine, a minister’s son befriends a girl from a poor island community founded by former slaves that his town wants to change into a tourist spot.

The Schwa was Here / Neal Shusterman
An eighth-grader befriends the Schwa, a boy who goes unnoticed by nearly everyone until he begins to believe he is invisible.

Interstellar Pig / William Sleator
Barney’s boring vacation improves when he joins three exotic neighbors who are addicted to a game they call “Interstellar Pig.”

The Trap / John Smelcer
17-year-old Johnny Least-Weasel, who is better known for brains than brawn, worries about his missing grandfather, and the grandfather, Albert Least-Weasel, struggles to survive, caught in his own steel trap in the Alaskan winter.

Sign of the Beaver / Elizabeth George Speare
Local Indians teach a boy how to survive when he is left alone to guard the family’s wilderness home in 18th-century Maine.

Maniac Magee / Jerry Spinelli
After the death of his parents, a boy’s life becomes legendary when he seems to accomplish awe-inspiring feats.

Deathwatch / Robb White
A college student left in the middle of the desert without clothes, food or water is hunted by an armed madman.

The Castle in the Attic series / Elizabeth Winthrop
An ancient Roman coin sends a young boy back to the Middle Ages.

Dragonwings / Laurence Yep
In 1909 San Francisco, a Chinese immigrant and his son build and fly a biplane.

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Gutsy Guys
–spend some time with the boys in these books–
Suggestions for older readers from the Mt. Lebanon Public Library

FAVORITE AUTHORS
Matt Christopher (sports)
James Lincoln & Christopher Collier (historical fiction)
Bruce Coville (humor)
Franklin Dixon (Hardy Boys mysteries)
Dan Gutman (humor)
Will Hobbs (adventure)
Gordon Korman (humor)
Iain Lawrence (historical fiction/adventure)
Mike Lupica (sports)
Gary Paulsen (adventure and humor)
Jon Scieszka (humor)
Al Slote (sports)

SELECTED TITLES
Westmark / Lloyd Alexander
In the kingdom of Westmark, a boy fleeing for his life joins forces with three mysterious companions. First in a trilogy.

Skellig / David Almond
Michael finds a mysterious stranger who is something like a bird and something like an angel living in the garage of his new home.

Crispin and the Cross of Lead / Avi
Falsely accused of murder, an orphaned peasant boy in 14th-century England flees his village and meets a juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

Nick of Time / Ted Bell
Nick McIver is no ordinary boy, fighting pirates, beating Nazis at their own game, and traveling through time.

The House with a Clock in its Walls / John Bellairs
Lewis and his uncle must stop the ticking doomsday clock hidden in the walls of their mansion.

Trouble River / Betsy Byars
Dewey and his grandmother flee from hostile Indians on a homemade raft.

Al Capone Does My Shirts / Gennifer Choldenko
12-year-old Moose moves to Alcatraz Island with his family in 1935 when his father gets a job as a prison guard.
Artemis Fowl / Eoin Colfer
A 12-year-old criminal mastermind plots to get some Fairy gold. First in a series.

Gregor the Overlander / Suzanne Collins
Eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange world beneath New York City where they trigger a battle that involves the people, bats, rats, and spiders that populate this underworld. First in a series.

The Dark is Rising series / Susan Cooper
Will Stanton must keep the world safe from evil. First in a series.

The Seeing Stone / Kevin Crossley-Holland
A magical stone helps a medieval boy see images of King Arthur, whose life his own strangely parallels. First in a series.

Bud, Not Buddy / Christopher Paul Curtis
During the Great Depression, Bud runs away to search for a famous bandleader who he believes to be his father.

Chicken Boy / Frances O Roark Dowell
After his mother’s death Tobin’s life seems to be more and more a mess until he befriends a boy and his brother who love raising chickens.

The House of the Scorpion / Nancy Farmer
In the future, the young clone of the 142-year-old leader of a drug empire is given special protections and privileges in order to prolong the leader’s life.

Stone Fox / John Reynolds Gardiner
A boy enters an important dog sled race.

My Side of the Mountain / Jean Craighead George
A New York City boy runs away to the mountains with only a penknife, a ball of cord, some flint and steel, and the clothes on his back.

Among the Hidden series / Margaret Peterson Haddix
In a future when the law limits a family to only two children, Luke—a third child—has lived all his life in isolation and fear, until another “third” convinces him that the government is wrong.

Tom Cringle series / Gerald Hausman
A 14-year-old lieutenant in the British Navy faces slave ships, sharks, battles, pirates, and a swampy wilderness in this historical adventure.

Hoot / Carl Haasen
In this suspenseful and funny book, two boys band together to save some endangered owls from a proposed construction site. Also Flush by this author.

Downriver / Will Hobbs
Rebellious teenagers daringly run the white water in the Grand Canyon.

Stormbreaker / Anthony Horowitz
A teenage secret agent works with Britain’s top secret intelligence agency MI6 to solve international mysteries. First in a series.

The Lives of Christopher Chant / Diana Wynne Jones
The boyhood adventures of Christopher Chant, who discovers that he is in training to become the head controller of magic in the world and that he also has nine lives.

The Wreckers / Iain Lawrence (and others by this author)
A 14-year-old boy discovers an evil secret about the town he is stranded in after being shipwrecked. First in a series.

Kite Rider / Geraldine McCaughrean
In 13th-century China, 12-year-old Haoyou has life-changing adventures when he takes to the sky as a circus kite rider.

Dog Friday / Hilary McKay
A 10-year-old boy finds an abandoned dog in this very funny book.

Shiloh / Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
When a boy finds an abused dog near his West Virginia home, he must decide whether to keep or return the animal. First in a series.

Midnight for Charlie Bone / Jenny Nimmo
At a school for the descendants of the Red King, Charlie Bone, who can hear voices in pictures, meets other students who have powers which they use for good or evil. First in a series.

Hatchet / Gary Paulsen
A boy is lost in the wilderness with only a hatchet to aid him. First in a series.

Harris and Me / Gary Paulsen
A city boy spends a memorable summer on his cousin’s farm.

The Teacher’s Funeral / Richard Peck (and others by this author)
In 1904, when his teacher “hauls off and dies,” a boy’s life is disrupted when his sister takes over his one room school. A funny story about turn-of-the-century rural life.

Soup series / Robert Newton Peck
Funny escapades in the life of a young boy and his friend Soup in 1920s Vermont.

The Young Man and the Sea / Rodman Philbrick (and others by this author)
In order to earn some money for himself and his father, 12-year-old Skiff undertakes a dangerous ocean voyage alone to try to catch a huge bluefin tuna.