

# Fresh Fiction (and some non-fiction) 2009

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*Suggested Grade*      *Book Title*

**Grades 9-12**

**Graceling by Kristin Cashore**

In a world where some people are born with extreme and often-feared skills called Graces, Katsa struggles for redemption from her own horrifying Grace, the Grace of killing, and teams up with another young fighter to save their land from a corrupt king.\*

**The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins**

In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people from each of the twelve districts against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place.\*

**Nation by Terry Pratchett**

After a devastating tsunami destroys all that they have ever known, Mau, an island boy, and Daphne, an aristocratic English girl, together with a small band of refugees, set about rebuilding their community and all the things that are important in their lives.\*

**Pretty Monsters by Kelly Link**

**A collection of scary and suspenseful stories.**

**What the World Eats by Peter Menzel and Faith D'Aluisio**

A photographic collection exploring what the world eats featuring portraits of twenty-five families from twenty-one countries surrounded by a week's worth of food.\*

**Your Own Sylvia: A Verse Portrait of Sylvia Plath by Stephanie Hemphill**

The author interprets the people, events, influences and art that made up the brief life of Sylvia Plath.\*

\*Description courtesy of the SJA on-line catalog.

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*Suggested Grade*      *Book Title*

**Grades 9-10**

**After Tupac and D Foster by Jacqueline Woodson**

In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur's music, as together they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.\*

**Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson**

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.\*

**The Declaration by Gemma Malley**

In 2140 England, where drugs enable people to live forever and children are illegal, teenaged Anna, an obedient "Surplus" training to become a house servant, discovers that her birth parents are trying to find her.\*

**The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks by E. Lockhart**

Sophomore Frankie starts dating senior Matthew Livingston, but when he refuses to talk about the all-male secret society that he and his friends belong to, Frankie infiltrates the society in order to enliven their mediocre pranks.\*

**Fire from the Rock by Sharon Draper**

In 1957, Sylvia Patterson's life--that of a normal African American teenager--is disrupted by the impending integration of Little Rock's Central High when she is selected to be one of the first black students to attend the previously all white school.\*

**The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman**

After the grisly murder of his entire family, a toddler wanders into a graveyard where the ghosts and other supernatural residents agree to raise him as one of their own.\*

**Harmless by Dana Reinhardt**

When Anna, Emma, and Mariah concoct a story about why they are late getting home one Friday night, their lie has unimaginable consequences for the girls, their families, and the community.\*

**Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac by Gabrielle Zevin**

After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life.\*

\*Description courtesy of the SJA on-line catalog.

**Grades 11-12**

**The Good Thief by Hannah Tinti**

Growing up in a New England orphanage unaware of his family and of how he had lost his left hand as an infant, twelve-year-old Ren is terrified of the future, until a young man shows up claiming to be his long-lost brother, with whom he embarks on an adventure-filled odyssey of scam artists, petty criminals, and resurrection men.\*

**I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee by Charles J. Shields**

This biography tells the story of how Harper Lee struggled to become an author and created one of the most popular novels of the 20th century.\*

**Impossible by Nancy Werlin**

When seventeen-year-old Lucy discovers her family is under an ancient curse by an evil Elfin Knight, she realizes to break the curse she must perform three impossible tasks before her daughter is born in order to save them both.\*

**Keeping Corner by Kashmira Sheth**

In India in the 1940s, thirteen-year-old Leela's happy, spoiled childhood ends when her husband since age nine, whom she barely knows, dies, leaving her a widow whose only hope of happiness could come from Mahatma Gandhi's social and political reforms.\*

**The Oxford Project by Stephen G. Bloom**

**A small town in Iowa is presented in pictures and memoirs, first in 1984 and then again 20 years later.**

**What I Saw and How I Lied by Judy Blundell**

In 1947, with her jovial stepfather Joe back from the war and family life returning to normal, teenage Evie, smitten by the handsome young ex-GI who seems to have a secret hold on Joe, finds herself caught in a complicated web of lies whose devastating outcome change her life and that of her family forever.\*

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*For more information on these books and their availability visit your local public library.*

Cleveland Public Library: <http://www.cpl.org>

Cuyahoga County Public Library: <http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org>

Lakewood Public Library: <http://www.lkwdpl.org>

Rocky River Public Library: <http://www.rrpl.org>

Westlake Porter Public Library: <http://www.westlakelibrary.org>

Looking for even more books? Check out the booklists at: <http://ala.org/yalsa/booklists>

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