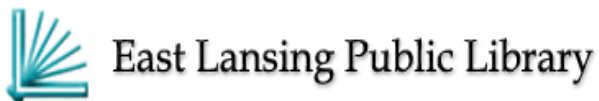


What's On Your Book Shelf?

Presented to Mr. Kabodian's 7th grade English classes at MacDonald Middle School, March 2013
Mary Jo Gallagher



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Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin [J 628.4 SHE]

(from book jacket) In December of 1938, a chemist in a German laboratory made a shocking discovery: When placed next to radioactive material, a Uranium atom split in two. That simple discovery launched a scientific race that spanned 3 continents. In Great Britain and the United States, Soviet spies worked their way into the scientific community; in Norway, a commando force slipped behind enemy lines to attack German heavy-water manufacturing; and deep in the desert, one brilliant group of scientists was hidden away at a remote site at Los Alamos. This is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon. This is the story of the atomic bomb. This historical nonfiction drama is a 2013 Newbery Honor book, 2013 winner of the YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults, 2013 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award winner, and 2012 National Book Awards finalist for Young People's Literature. Pair with: ***The Bomb*** by Theodore Taylor [YA FICTION TAYLOR], or ***Trinity: A Graphic History of the First Atomic Bomb*** by Jonathan Fetter-Vorm [GN 623.4 FET]

Cardboard by Doug TenNapel [J GN TENNAPEL]

(from book jacket) Cam's down-and-out father gives him a cardboard box for his birthday and he knows it's the worst present ever. To make the best of a bad situation, they bend the cardboard into a man – and to their astonishment, it comes magically to life. But the neighborhood jerk, Marcus, wraps the powerful cardboard into his own evil creations that threaten to destroy them all!

Chuck Close: Face Book by Chuck Close [J B CLOSE]

This is an autobiography of famous artist Chuck Close. Unlike other artists who use the same technique to draw different subjects, he uses the same subject – faces – and uses different techniques. The book is written in a question & answer format and the questions are from real kids. Mr. Close has a fascinating story, especially his struggles with dyslexia going through school, "face blindness," and his dealing with the aftermath of a collapsed spinal artery that left him paralyzed from the chest down. An interesting feature of the book is a hands-on mix-and-match Chuck Close self-portrait section. This book is the 2012 Boston Globe–Horn Book Nonfiction Award winner.

Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip by Jordan Sonnenblick [YA FICTION SONNENBL]

(from book summary) After an injury ends former star pitcher Peter Friedman's athletic dreams, he concentrates on photography which leads him to a girlfriend, new fame as a high school sports photographer, and a deeper relationship with the beloved grandfather who, when he realizes he is becoming senile, gives Pete all of his professional camera gear. Pair with: (***Popular Mechanics***) ***Why a Curveball Curves: The Incredible Science of Sports*** edited by Frank Vizard [507.8 VIZ]

Dodger by Terry Pratchett

[YA FICTION PRATCHETT] or available as an eBook on 3M Cloud Library or Woodlands Downloadable Library with your ELPL library card

(from amazon.com book description) A storm. Rain-lashed city streets. A flash of lightning. A scruffy lad sees a girl leap desperately from a horse-drawn carriage in a vain attempt to escape her captors. Can the lad stand by and let her be caught again? Of course not, because he's . . . Dodger. Seventeen-year-old Dodger may be a street urchin, but he gleans a living from London's sewers, and he knows a jewel when he sees one. He's not about to let anything happen to the unknown girl—not even if her fate impacts some of the most powerful people in England. From Dodger's encounter with the mad barber Sweeney Todd to

his meetings with the great writer Charles Dickens and the calculating politician Benjamin Disraeli, history and fantasy intertwine in a breathtaking account of adventure and mystery. A 2013 Printz Honor book.

Drama by Raina Telgemeier [J GN TELGEMEIER]

(from catalog summary) Callie rides an emotional roller coaster while serving on the stage crew for a middle school production of *Moon over Mississippi* as various relationships start and end, and others never quite get going. A 2013 Stonewall Award Honor Book (for LGBT fiction).

The Fairy Ring, or, Elsie & Frances Fool the World by Mary Losure [J 398 LOS]

(from catalog summary) This true story relates the story of Francis and Elsie, cousins who concocted a story and photographs about fairies because nobody believed Francis could see the tiny men and were surprised when their photographs were found by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who truly believed in fairies.

Pair with: **Hoaxed: Fakes & Mistakes in the World of Science** by editors of *YES Magazine* [J 500 HOA]

Jepp, Who Defied the Stars by Katherine Marsh [J FICTION MARSH]

(from author's website) Jepp left his countryside home on the empty promise of a stranger, only to become a captive in a strange and luxurious prison: Coudenberg Palace, the royal court of the Spanish Infanta. Nobody warned Jepp that as a court dwarf, daily injustices would become his seemingly unshakeable fate. If the humiliations were his alone, perhaps he could endure them, but it breaks Jepp's heart to see his friend Lia suffer. After Jepp and Lia attempt a daring escape from the palace, Jepp is imprisoned again, alone in a cage. Now, spirited across Europe in a henchman's carriage, Jepp fears where his unfortunate stars will lead him. But he can't even begin to imagine the strange, new world that he's about to discover. Inspired by real historical characters, this book is the tale of an unusual hero and his extraordinary quest to become the master of his own destiny.

Liar & Spy by Rebecca Stead [J FICTION STEAD] or available as an eBook on Woodlands Downloadable Library with your ELPL library card

(from catalog summary) Seventh-grader Georges adjusts to moving from a house to an apartment, his father's efforts to start a new business, his mother's extra shifts as a nurse, being picked on at school, and Safer, a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building.

Lincoln's Grave Robbers by Steve Sheinkin [J 973.7092 SHE]

(from amazon.com book description) The action begins in October of 1875, as Secret Service agents raid the Fulton, Illinois, workshop of master counterfeiter Ben Boyd. Soon after Boyd is hauled off to prison, members of his counterfeiting ring gather in the back room of a Chicago saloon to discuss how to spring their ringleader. Their plan: grab Lincoln's body from its Springfield tomb, stash it in the sand dunes near Lake Michigan, and demand, as a ransom, the release of Ben Boyd --and \$200,000 in cash. From here, the action alternates between the conspirators, the Secret Service agents on their trail, and the undercover agent moving back and forth between the two groups. Along the way readers get glimpses into the inner workings of counterfeiting, grave robbing, detective work, and the early days of the Secret Service. This is a true crime thriller!

My Name is Parvana by Deborah Ellis [YA FICTION ELLIS]

(from catalog summary) Fifteen-year-old Parvana recounts memories from the past four years of her life in post-Taliban Afghanistan as she awaits foreign military forces to determine her fate and wonders if she will ever be reunited with those she loves. Final book in the "Breadwinner" series: *The Breadwinner*, *Parvana's Journey*, and *Mud City*.

The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano by Sonia Manzano [J FICTION MANZANO]

(from catalog summary) It is 1969 in Spanish Harlem, and fourteen-year-old Evelyn Serrano is trying hard to break free from her conservative Puerto Rican surroundings, but when her activist grandmother comes to stay and the neighborhood protests start, things get a lot more complicated--and dangerous. Named a 2013 Pura Belpré Author Honor Book.

Seraphina by Rachel Hartman [YA FICTION HARTMAN]

(from catalog summary) In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce and dragons can assume human form, Seraphina, whose mother died giving birth to her, grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her

extraordinary musical talents. For fans of Paolini's "Eragon" series, this book is the 2013 Morris Award Winner (for debut teen fiction)

Son by Lois Lowry [J FICTION LOWRY] or available as an eAudiobook on Woodlands Downloadable Library with your ELPL library card

(from catalog summary) Unlike the other Birthmothers in her utopian community, teenaged Claire forms an attachment to her baby, feeling a great loss when he is taken to the Nurturing Center to be adopted by a family unit. This is the conclusion to The Giver Quartet: *The Giver*, *Gathering Blue*, and *The Messenger*

Sophia's War: A Tale of The Revolution by Avi [J FICTION AVI]

(from catalog summary) In 1776, after witnessing the execution of Nathan Hale in New York City, newly occupied by the British army, young Sophia Calderwood resolves to do all she can to help the American cause, including becoming a spy.

Splendors & Glooms by Laura Amy Schlitz [J FICTION SCHLITZ]

(from catalog summary) When Clara vanishes after the puppeteer Grisini and two orphaned assistants were at her twelfth birthday party, suspicion of kidnapping chases the trio away from London and soon the two orphans are caught in a trap set by Grisini's ancient rival, a witch with a deadly inheritance to shed before it is too late. This is a 2013 Newbery Honor book.

Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different by Karen Blumenthal [J B JOBS]

(from book jacket) From the start, his path was never predictable. Steve Jobs was given up for adoption at birth, dropped out of college after one semester, and at the age of twenty, created Apple in his parents' garage with his friend Steve Wozniack. Jobs pushed all boundaries and cultivated what became the hallmark of his genius – his perfectionism, taste and design style. Once fired from the top spot of his own company, he entered into one of the most creative periods of his life with Pixar, the iPod, the iPhone and the iPad. A 2013 finalist for the YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults.

Summer of the Mariposas by Guadalupe Garcia McCall [J FICTION MCCALL]

(from catalog summary) In an adventure reminiscent of Homer's Odyssey, fifteen-year-old Odilia and her four younger sisters embark on a journey to return a dead man to his family in Mexico, aided by La Llorona, but impeded by a witch, a warlock, chupacabras, and more.

Titanic: Voices from the Disaster by Deborah Hopkinson [J 910.9163 HOP]

(from amazon.com book description) Scheduled to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the tragic sinking of the TITANIC, this book by critically acclaimed author Deborah Hopkinson weaves together the voices and stories of real TITANIC survivors and witnesses to the disaster - from a stewardess to Captain Arthur Rostron of the CARPATHIA, who came to the rescue of the sinking ship. Packed with action, drama, fascinating historical details, loads of archival photographs on almost every page, this gripping story, which follows the TITANIC and its passengers from the ship's celebrated launch at Belfast to her cataclysmic icy end, is sure to thrill and move readers. A 2013 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Honor Book and 2013 finalist for the YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults.

We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March by Cynthia Levinson [J 323.1196 LEV]

(from catalog summary) *We've Got a Job* tells the little-known story of the 4,000 black elementary, middle, and high school students who voluntarily went to jail in Birmingham, Alabama, between May 2 and May 11, 1963. Fulfilling Mahatma Gandhi's and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s precept to fill the jails, they succeeded where adults had failed in desegregating one of the most racially violent cities in America. Focusing on four of the original participants who have participated in extensive interviews, this book recounts the astonishing events before, during, and after the Children's March. A 2013 finalist for the YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults

Wonder by R. J. Palacio [J FICTION PAL] or [J UCD FICTION PALACIO] or available as an eBook on 3M Cloud Library or Woodlands Downloadable Library with your ELPL library card

(from catalog summary) Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunts and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student. Check out choosekind.tumblr.com. Are you willing to sign the pledge?