

**To Kill a Mockingbird**  
by Harper Lee

Scout Finch, daughter of the town lawyer Atticus, has just started school; but her carefree days come to an end when a black man in town is accused of raping a white woman, and her father is the only man willing to defend him.



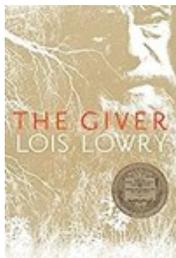
**A Wrinkle in Time**  
by Madeleine L'Engle

Thirteen-year-old Meg Murry, her little brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin are guided by unearthly strangers as they go on a journey through space and time to search for Meg's and Charles' scientist father who disappeared while experimenting with a new form of space travel.



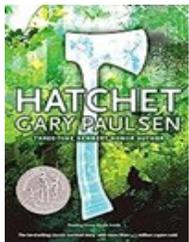
**The Call of the Wild**  
by Jack London

The story of Buck, a big-hearted dog, whose life is turned upside down when he is suddenly uprooted from his California home and transplanted to Alaska.



**The Giver** by Lois Lowry

Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers a terrible secret about his society.



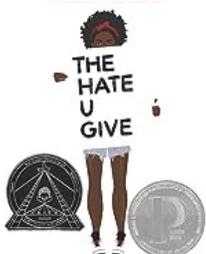
**Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen

After a plane crash, 13 year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive with only a hatchet.



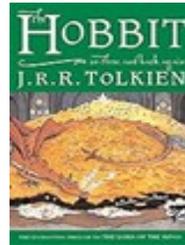
**The Lightning Thief**  
by Rick Riordan

Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea.



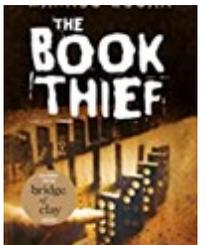
**The Hate U Give**  
by Angie Thomas

After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.



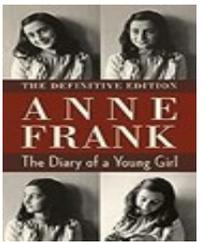
**The Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien

Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit enjoying a comfortable life, is suddenly thrust into a very dangerous journey with 13 dwarves and a wizard.



**The Book Thief**  
by Markus Zusak

Death narrates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding.

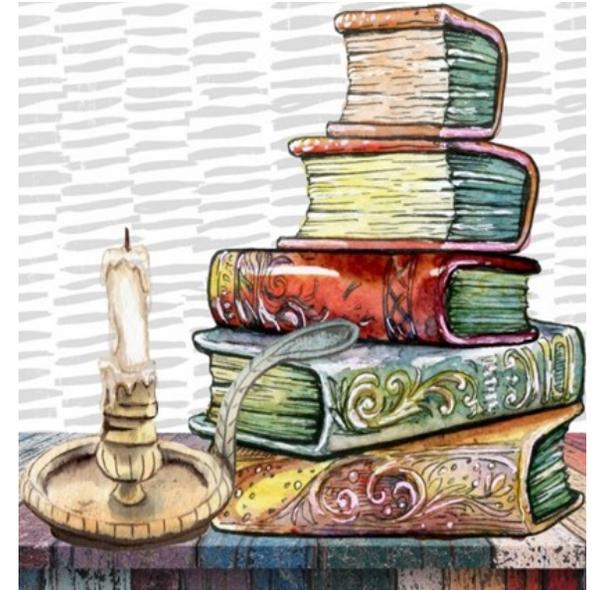


**BIOGRAPHY**  
**The Diary of a Young Girl**  
by Anne Frank

A young girl's diary that she wrote in an attic, while hiding from the Nazis during WWII.

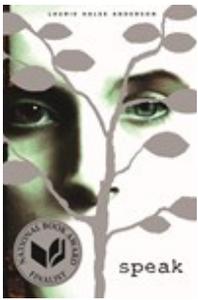
# Oldies but Goodies

## Classic Teen Reads



**Monroe County Library System**  
[www.libraryweb.org](http://www.libraryweb.org)

Compiled by Monroe County Library System  
Teen Services Librarians 2026



**Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson**

A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.



**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.



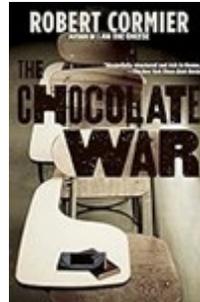
**Lord of the Flies by William Golding**

Following a world war, a group of school boys survive a plane crash on a deserted island and they create a hellish environment, leading to savagery and murder.



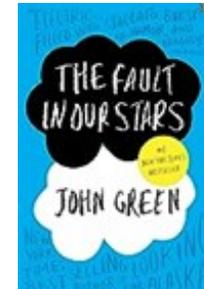
**Go Ask Alice by Anonymous**

Based on the diary of a fifteen-year-old drug user chronicling her struggle to escape the pull of the drug world.



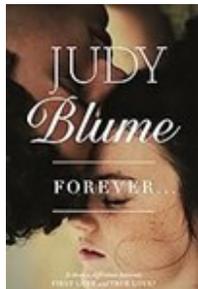
**The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier**

A high school freshman discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school's annual fund raising drive and arouses the wrath of the school bullies.



**The Fault in Our Stars by John Green**

Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life.



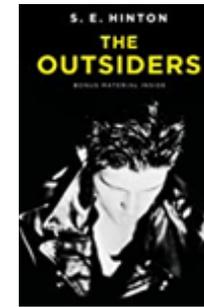
**Forever by Judy Blume**

Two high school seniors believe their love to be so strong that it will last forever.



**The Maze Runner by James Dashner**

Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.



**The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton**

Three brothers struggle to stay together after their parents' death, as they search for an identity among the conflicting values of their adolescent society in which they find themselves "outsiders."



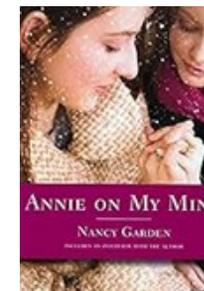
**Ender's Game by Orson Scott**

In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers.



**The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer**

In the country of Opium lives a boy named Matt, who is a clone of the powerful drug lord, El Patron. His purpose is to extend the life of El Patron when his own body fails him. It is impermissible for him to meet others, but when he sees a group of children outside the window, curiosity surrounds him.



**Annie on my Mind by Nancy Garden**

Liza puts aside her feelings for Annie after the disaster at school, but eventually she allows love to triumph over the ignorance of people.