1. Sold by Patricia McCormick, prose-poetry fiction, child sexual slavery
2. Looking for Alaska by John Green, fiction, prep school & friends & death
3. A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah, child soldier
4. Boot Camp by Todd Strasser, fiction, child abducted & sent to discipline camp
5. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, fiction, reality show in the future
6. The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom, fiction, life after
7. The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznic, fiction, art + story
8. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie, memoir
9. Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult, fiction, school shooting & back story
10. Couldn’t Keep it To Myself by Wally Lamb, short stories written by prisoners
11. Go Ask Alice by Anonymous, diary of honors student to drug addict
12. They Poured Fire On Us From the Sky: Stories from the Lost Boys of Sudan
13. The First Part Last by Angela Johnson, fiction, teen boy raises child alone
14. The Six M.I.T. Students Who Took Vegas by J.R.R. Tolkien, fiction, rock star in Britain as a teenager
15. North of Beautiful by Justina Headley, fiction, living with a port wine stain
16. A Thousand Splendid Suns by Kaled Hosseini, fiction, girls’ life in Afghanistan
17. The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein, fiction, told by the dog, a mystery
18. The Book Thief by Markus Zusak, fiction, holocaust, German life, Death
19. Prep by Curtis Sittenfeld, fiction, life inside an American prep school
20. 13 Reasons Why by Jay Asher, suicide leaves behind reasons why she did it
21. Guitar Girl by Sara Manning, fiction, rock star in Britain as a teenager
22. Vernon God Little by DBC Pierre, fiction, accused of school shooting, on the run
23. The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkien, fiction, hobbits fight evil
24. Maus: A Survivor’s Tale: My Father Bleeds History by Art Spiegelman, graphic novel
25. If I Stay by Gayle Forman, fiction, in a coma deciding to live or die
26. Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder, non-fiction, Paul Farmer/Haiti
27. Upstate by Kalisha Buckhanon, fiction, letters between prison & girlfriend back home
28. Catalyst by Laurie H. Anderson, senior meeting college deadlines
29. After the Wreck, I picked myself up spread my wings and flew away, J.C. Oates
30. Copper Sun by Sharon Draper, historical fiction, slave & indentured servant
31. The Rose that Grows from Concrete by Tupac Shakur, diaries & poetry
32. Deadline by Chris Crutcher, fiction, senior dying & telling no one
33. The Burn Journals by Brent Runyan, memoir, suicide attempt’s aftermath
34. The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls, memoir, poverty & survival
35. The Freedom Writers Diary by Erin Gruwell, letters from L.A. students
36. Running with Scissors by Anthony Burroughs, memoir, insanity & survival
37. Eats, Shoots & Leaves by Lynne Truss, entertaining grammar & usage guide
38. The Worst Hard Time by Timothy Egan, non-fiction, survive the Dust Bowl
39. American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang, graphic novel, fiction
40. The Attack by Yasmina Khadra, fiction, inside a suicide bomber’s life
41. Can’t Buy Me Love: The Beatles, Britain, and America by Jonathan Gould
42. The Kite Runner by Kaled Hosseini, fiction, Afghanistan boyhood & escape
43. Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen, fiction, life in the circus
44. True Stories: Guides to Writing from your Life by Rebecca Rule & Sue Wheeler
45. Three Cups of Tea by Greg Morgenstern, memoir, building schools in Pakistan
48. *The Places Inbetween* by Rory Steward, memoir, walk through Afghanistan
49. *Black Girl/White Girl* by Joyce Carol Oates, fiction, college roommates disaster
50. *Rules* by Cynthia Lord, fiction, a sister living with brother’s autism
51. *Twisted* by Laure H. Anderson, fiction, boy in love and in trouble with school
52. *Shark Girl* by Kelly Bingham, prose-poetry fiction, arm bitten off by shark
53. *Lies Across America: what our historic sites get wrong* by James Loewen
54. *The Double Bind* by Chris Bohjalian, fiction, Gatsby characters modern mystery
55. *The Rule of the Bone* by Russell Banks, fiction, young drug dealer on the run
56. *Educating Esme: Diary of a Teacher’s First Year* by Esme Codell, memoir
57. *It’s Not About the Bike* by Lance Armstrong, autobiography of cancer
58. *The Space Between* by Don Akers, boy goes to Mexico to lose his virginity
60. *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, condemned to die, what he’s learned
61. *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy, the end of the world survival of father & son
63. *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer, memoir, death on Mt. Everest
64. *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier, historical fiction, Civil War life
65. *Without a Map* by Meredith Hall, memoir, pregnant at 16, adoption, meeting up later
66. *All I Did Was Ask* by Terry Gross, interviews with famous folks, short stories
67. *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac, fiction, partying across the country & back
68. *Angela’s Ashes* by Frank McCourt, memoir, growing up poor in Ireland
69. *Before I Die* by Jenny Downham, fiction, a teenager’s bucket list
70. *The Cider House Rules* by John Irving, fiction, abortion & orphans & NE life
71. *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson, fiction, life for Japanese in WWII
72. *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan, fiction, life in America for immigrants
73. *Street Pharm* by Allison van Diepen, fiction, drug dealer on the streets
74. *My Sister’s Keeper* by Jodi Picoult, fiction, child used for bone marrow for sister
75. *Push: a Novel* by Sapphire, fiction, sexual abuse, poverty, ignorance
76. *Q & A: Slumdog Millionaire* by Vikas Swarup, fiction, life in India for poor
77. *The Stand* by Stephen King, fiction, good vs. evil at the end of the world
78. *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Julie Orringer, short fiction stories
79. *Keeping You a Secret* by Juliann Peters, fiction, lesbian relationship
80. *Fight Club* by Chuck Palahniuk, fiction, psychological thriller
81. *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver, fiction, life in Africa for missionaries
82. *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant, fiction set in Biblical times
83. *Women in the Material World* by Faith D’Aluisio & Peter Menzel, non-fiction
84. *Paper Towns* by John Green, fiction, girl disappears, friends try to find her
85. *Forever Changes* by Brendan Halpin, fiction, CF girl dying as a senior in HS
86. *Post Secret: Extraordinary Confessions from Ordinary Lives* by Frank Warren
87. *Ways to Live Forever* by Sally Nichols, fiction, 11-year-old dying
88. *The Hungry Planet: what the world eats* by Peter Menzel, non-fiction + photos
89. *How to Breathe Underwater* by Julie Orringer, short fiction stories
90. *50 50* by Dean Karnazes, memoir, marathon runner
91. *Skin* by Mariko Tamaki, graphic novel, fiction, goth at private girls’ school
92. *Willow* by Julia Hoben, fiction, accident, orphan, cutting and depression
93. *A Wreath for Emmett Hill* by Marilyn Nelson, epic sonnet on lynching of young boy
94. *The Last True Story I’ll Ever Tell* by John Crawford, memoir, Iraq War soldier
95. *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell, non-fiction, how successful people make it
Getting Guys to Read (and in the Flow)  
~Kaehny, Kittle & Mahan, NCTE 2009  
-a small selection of titles to hook reluctant male readers – student recommendations-

**Gritty City Life**
*Brothers in Arms (Bluford High) – Anne Schraff*  
*Brothers Torres – Coert Voorhees*
*Crank - Ellen Hopkins*  
*Dopesick – Walter Dean Myers*
*Homeboyz - Alan Lawrence Sitomer*  
*Kerosene – Chris Wooding*
*Paranoid Park – Blake Nelson*
*Pure Sunshine – Brian James*
*Response - Paul Volponi*
*Ten Mile River - Paul Griffin*
*Tweak – Nic Sheff*
*Tweaked - Katherine Holubitsky*

**Gangs, Crime, and Hard Time**
*A Place to Stand - Jimmy Santiago Baca*
*Always Running - Luis Rodriguez*
*Blue Rage, Black Redemption – Stanley Tookie Williams*
*Chameleon – Charles R. Smith Jr.*
*Cheating Life, Stealing Death - Eddie Guerrero*
*Do or Die – Leon Bing*
*If I Grow Up – Todd Strasser*
*Monster – Walter Dean Myers*
*Monster: Autobio of LA Gang Member – Sanyika Shakur*
*My Bloody Life…Latin King – Reymundo Sanchez*
*Prep – Jake Coburn*
*Snitch/Street Pharm – Allison van Diepen*

**Gotta’ Think a Little** (action/suspense)
*Freeze Frame – Heidi Ayarbe*
*Graveyard Book – Neil Gaiman*
*Maximum Ride - James Patterson*  
*Point Blank – Anthony Horowitz*
*Rat Life – Ted Arnold*
*Reality Check – Peter Abrahams*
*Runner - Carl Deuker*

**Headcases – Bitter and Out of Whack**
*Afterlife – Gary Soto*
*Breathing Underwater – Alex Flinn*
*Boy Toy - Barry Lyga*
*Carter Finally Gets It – Brent Crawford*
*Episodes – My Life as I See It – Blaze Ginsberg*
*Head Case – Sarah Aronson*
*Inside Out – Terry Trueman*
*Right Behind You – Gail Giles*
*Gospel According to Larry – Janet Tashjian*
*Stoner and Spaz – Ron Koertge*
*Thirsty – MT Anderson*
*Twisted – Laurie Halse Anderson*

**I’m a Smartass** (smart/witty)
*Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian – Sherman Alexie*
*Abundance of Katherines – John Green*
*Be More Chill - Ned Vizzini*
*Deadline - Chris Crutcher*
*Fat Kid Rules the World - K.L. Going*
*I Am a Genius…Class President - Josh Lieb*
*I Love You, Beth Cooper - Larry Doyle*
*King Dork - Frank Portman*
*Slam – Nick Hornby*
*Someday This Pain Will be Useful to You – Peter Cameron*
*Spanking Shakespeare - Jake Wizner*

**Life Sometimes Just Sucks**
*Bottled Up – Jaye Murray*
*First Part Last – Angela Johnson*
*Lockdown – Diane Tullson*
*Perks of Being a Wallflower - Steven Chbosky*
*Shattered Glass – Gail Giles*
*Sucker Punch – David Hernandez*
*Tyrell - Coe Booth*
**Man vs. Wild** (survival/adventure)
- *Alabama Moon* - Watt Key
- *Between a Rock and a Hard Place* – Aron Ralston
- *Enrique’s Journey* – Sonia Nazario
- *Into the Wild/Into Thin Air* – Jon Krakauer
- *La Linea* – Ann Jaramillo
- *Touching Spirit Bear* – Ben Mikaelson

**Picture This** (graphic novels)
- *American Born Chinese* - Gene Luen Yang
- *Bleach* – Tite Kubo*
- *Dramacon* – Svetlana Chmakova*
- *Into the Volcano* – Don Wood
- *Naruto* – Masashi Kishimoto*

**Sweaty Jocks** (sports books)
- *Ball Don’t Lie/Mexican Whiteboy* - Matt De La Pena
- *Black and White/Rucker Park Set Up* – Paul Volponi
- *Comfort* - Carolee Dean
- *Crackback* - John Coy
- *Drift* – Manuel Luis Rodriguez
- *Drift X* – Todd Strasser/Craig Phillips*
- *Goal! The Dream Begins* – Becker et. al*
- *Players* - Joyce Sweeney
- *Pop* - Gordan Korman
- *Racing Fear* – Jacqueline Guest
- *Raiders Night* - Robert Lipsyte
- *Why I Fight* – J. Adam Oaks

**Swords, Sorcerers, and Spaceships**
- *Cirque du Freak/Demonata* - Darren Shan*
- *Ender’s Game* - Orson Scott Card*
- *Eragon/Inheritance* – Christopher Paolini *
- *Halo* series – various authors*
- *House of the Scorpion* – Nancy Farmer
- *Hunger Games* – Suzanne Collins*
- *Lord of the Rings* - JRR Tolkein*
- *Ranger’s Apprentice* - John Flanagan*
- *Redwall* – Brian Jacques*

**War**
- *Fallen Angels/Sunrise Over Fallujah* – Walter Dean Myers
- *Purple Heart* – Patricia McCormick
- *Daniel’s Story* – Carol Matas
- *Search and Destroy* – Dean Hughes

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**GUY TALK – Dear Teachers:**

**Thoughts about guys and reading – quotes from urban and suburban HS**

A book has to make a movie in my head.

Guys like good events in a book, something that will lead one good event to another.

Reading isn’t fun if it is forced upon you.

Guys would rather stare at a rock than read.

Reading is not worth my time.

I hate anything teachers make me read.

If it doesn’t have cussing and action, I don’t want to read it.

Books tend to not keep our focus and they portray weird images and symbols we just don’t care about.

In my opinion most books corrupt the mind into false realities.

Books are only good if you put pictures in them.

If you give us boring books we will turn to internet or television for entertainment. I’m lucky my dad is a sci fi geek.

I hate it when teachers make us read books that are like 3000 years old.

I’ll read it if another guy says it’s a good book, and I’ll read it if a cute girl says it’s good – but if a teacher recommends it for the whole class to read, I get suspicious.

It’s true…

47% guys surveyed like to read
52% have read more than 10 books
100% say CHOICE MATTERS

*part of a series
Getting Girls to Read (and in the Flow)
~Hartman & Kittle, IRA 2010

A small selection of titles to hook reluctant female readers

**I Think I'm in Love**
*Confessions of a Not It Girl*—Melissa Kantor  
*Jason/Kyra*—Dana Davidson  
*North of Beautiful*—Justina Chen Headly  
*Perfect Chemistry*—Simone Elkeles  
*The Nature of Jade*—Deb Caletti  
*Vegan Virgin Valentine*—Carolyn Mackler

**Are Guys Worth It?**
*Boys, Girls & Other Hazardous Materials*—Rosalind Wiseman  
*Crushed*—Tom and Laura McNeal  
*heart on my sleeve*—Ellen Wittlinger  
*Honey, Baby, Sweetheart*—Deb Caletti  
*jumping off swings*—Jo Knowles  
*The Secret Life of Prince Charming*—Deb Caletti  
*Zig Zag*—Ellen Wittlinger

**I'm Gay and Okay**
*Far From Xanadu*—Julie Ann Peters  
*Girl 2 Girl*—Julie Ann Peters  
*Keeping You a Secret*—Julie Ann Peters  
*Love and Lies*—Ellen Wittlinger  
*Luna*—Julie Ann Peters  
*Rage*—Julie Ann Peters

**How Did I Get Into This Mess?**
*Close to a Killer*—Marsha Qualey  
*Fake ID*—Walter Sorrells  
*Finding Zola*—Marianne Mitchell  
*Heist Society*—Alley Carter  
*Jumped*—Rita Williams-Garcia  
*Spy Goddess: Live and Let Shop*—Michael P. Spradlin  
*What I Saw and How I Lied*—Judy Blundell

**Strong Girls**
*Burnning Up*—Caroline Cooney  
*Catalyst*—Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Define Normal*—Julie Ann Peters  
*Finding Miracles*—Julia Alvarez  
*Going, going*—Naomi Shihab Nye  
*Hunger Games*—Suzanne Collins  
*Lives of our own*—Lori Hewett  
*Margaux with an X*—Ron Koertge  
*Prom*—Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*—Ann Brashares  
*The Killing Sea*—Richard Lewis  
*The Legend of Buddy Bush*—Sheila Moses  
*Three Little Words*—Ashley Rhoades-Courter

**What Was I Thinking?**
*Bad*—Jean Ferris  
*boy proof*—Cecil Castellucci  
*Can't Get There From Here*—Todd Strasser  
*Cut*—Patricia McCormick  
*Glass*—Ellen Hopkins  
*Harmless*—Dana Reinhardt  
*Memoir of a Teenage Amnesiac*—Gabrielle Zevin  
*Not Like You*—Deborah Davis  
*Pure*—Terra Elan McVoy  
*Sandpiper*—Ellen Wittlinger  
*Story of a Girl*—Sara Zarr  
*The White Horse*—Cynthia Grant

**Do I Really Belong Here?**
*Call me Maria*—Judith Ortiz Cofer  
*Estrella’s Quinceanera*—Malin Alegria  
*Finding Miracles*—Julia Alvarez  
*Nothing Here But Stones*—Nancy Oswald  
*Return to Sender*—Julia Alvarez  
*Sofi Mendoza’s Guide to Getting Lost in Mexico*—Malin Alegria  
*Swimming to America*—Alice Mead  
*The Secret Story of Sonia Rodriguez*—Alan Sitomer

Go to the Colorado Writing Project website ([www.coloradowritingproject.org](http://www.coloradowritingproject.org)) for the past three years of Karen and Sheila’s annotated YAL book talking lists.
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