CHAPTER 12

Young Adult Novels/Classics for Pairing

1. *Catherine Called Birdy* by Karen Cushman with *Canterbury Tales/Medieval Literature*; early American diaries/journals of Sarah Kemble Knight

2. *Gentlehands* by M.E. Kerr with *The Great Gatsby* by F. S. Fitzgerald or themes of the seemingly good person who has done evil or of the rich and privileged versus the middle class and “common.” Could be used with *An American Tragedy* or *Sister Carrie* by Theodore Dreiser; the book also fits with Holocaust Literature.

3. *Let the Circle Be Unbroken* and *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor with *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *Native Son* or *Black Boy* by Richard Wright; with non-fiction about racism and civil rights; with *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*; with *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck or other literature of the Great Depression; Two other books which could be paired with the above are *Nightjohn* and *Sarny* by Gary Paulsen.

4. *A Formal Feeling* by Zibby O’Neal with the poetry of Emily Dickinson; with the themes of parent deaths and remarriages; with mother/daughter or father/son relationships

5. *Autumn Street* by Lois Lowry, *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick, and *The Friendship* by Mildred Taylor with *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain or other works building on the theme of interracial friendship or friendships among those who seem unlikely to build a relationship.

6. *Wolf by the Ears* by Ann Rinaldi and *Absalom, Absalom* by William Faulkner highlighting the theme of identity and being known and accepted for who we are, the conflict of mixed parentage and racial issues

7. *The Devil’s Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen, *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry, with *The Diary of Anne Frank* or with *Night* by Elie Wiesel or with other Holocaust literature.

8. *The Bumblebee Flies Anyway* by Robert Comier, *A Summer to Die* by Lois Lowry with *Flowers for Algernon* (Charlie), *The Elephant Man*


10. *Broken Days* by Ann Rinaldi with *The Trail on Which They Wept* by Dorothy Hoobler, and with *The Far Off Land* by Rebecca Caudill with Native American Literature--by Momaday, Michael Dorris, Louis Erdrich


15. Intertextuality in *The Tempest* by Shakespeare, *Morning Girl* by Michael Dorris, *Lizard* by Dennis Covington, and *In Summer Light* by Zibby O’Neal


18. Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte with the following YA Lit.: The Midwife’s Apprentice by Karen Cushman, Nobody’s Daughter by Susan Beth Pfeffer, Walking Up a Rainbow by Theodore Taylor, Keeping the Good Light by Kathryn Kirkpatrick, and The Ruby in the Smoke by Philip Pullman

19. Don Quixote by Miguel Cervantes with the following YA Lit.: For the Life of Laetitia by Merle Hodge, Imagining Isabel by Omar S. Castaneda, Juanita Fights the School Board by Gloria Velasquez

20. A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens with Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes by Chris Crutcher, Changes in Latitude by Will Hobbs, No Kidding by Bruce Brooks, The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Patterson, Midnight Hour Encores by Bruce Brooks, Mama, Let’s Dance by Patricia Hermes, Nothing But the Truth by Avi, The Giver by Lois Lowry


22. Teaching The Odyssey and using YA texts focusing on heroes and journeys

**Ninth Grade recommended titles:**
Sounder by William Armstrong
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi
Children of the River by Linda Crew
Checking on the Moon by Jenny Davis
Monkey Island by Paula Fox
The Big Wander by Will Hobbs
For the Life of Laetitia by Merle Hodge
The Brave by Robert Lipsyte
Somewhere in the Darkness by Walter Dean Myers
My Name is Not Angelica by Scott O’Dell
Canyon by Gary Paulsen  
Missing May by Cynthia Rylant

**Twelve Grade recommended titles:**  
*Midnight Hour Encore* by Bruce Brooks  
*2001: A Space Odyssey* by Arthur C. Clarke  
*I Am the Cheese* by Robert Cormier  
*Lizard* by Dennis Covington  
*The Crazy Horse Electric Game* by Chris Crutcher  
*A Yellow Raft in Blue Water* by Michael Dorris  
*The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver  
*A Wizard of Earthsea* by Ursula K. Le Guin  
*Fallen Angels* by Walter Dean Myers  
*Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind* by Suzanne Fischer Staples  
*The Road to Memphis* by Mildred D. Taylor  
*Homecoming* by Cynthia Voigt

23. *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane with the following YA novels:  
*Fallen Angels* by Walter Dean Myers  
*The Fighting Ground* by Avi  
*Gentle Annie: The True Story of a Civil War Nurse* by Mary Frances Shura  
*I Had Seen Castles* by Cynthia Rylant  
*My Brother Sam Is Dead* by James and Christopher Collier  
*The Winter Hero* by James and Christopher Collier

**Accompanying Children’s Literature for Pre-reading:**  
*The Dove’s Letter* by Keith Baker  
*The Wall* by Eve Bunting  
*Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr  
*Drummer Hoff* by Barbara Emberley  
*The Lotus Seed* by Sherry Garland  
*The Butter Battle Book* by T. S. Geisel (Dr. Seuss)  
*The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf  
*Potatoes, Potatoes* by A. Lobel  
*Faithful Elephants: A True Story of Animals, People, and War* by Yukio Tsuchiya  
*Waiting for the Evening Star* by Rosemary Wells

**Short Stories:**  
“Ambush” by Tim O’Brien  
“In Another Country” and “Soldier’s Home” by Ernest Hemingway  
“A Horseman in the Sky” by Ambrose Bierce  
“The Old Demon” by Pearl Buck  
“The Sniper” by Liam O’Flaherty  
“Survival” by John Hersey

**Other YA Literature worth considering:**  
*Jayhawker* by Patricia Beatty  
*Toliver’s Secret* by Esther Wood Brady  
*I’m Deborah Sampson: A Soldier in the War of the Revolution* by Patricia Clapp
The Tamarack Tree by Patricia Clapp
The Bloody Country by James and Christopher Collier
War Comes to Willy Freeman by James and Christopher Collier
The Forgotten Heroes: The Story of the Buffalo Soldiers by Clinton Cox
Undying Glory: The Story of the Massachusetts 54th Regiment by Clinton Cox
April Morning by Howard Fast
Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes
Early Thunder by Jean Fritz
Which Way Freedom? by Joyce Hansen
Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt
Rifles for Watie by Harold Keith
Touchmark by Mildred Lawrence
Carlota by Scott O'Dell
Sarah Bishop by Scott O'Dell
Sing Down the Moon by Scott O'Dell
The Slopes of War by N. A. Perez
Shades of Gray by Carolyn Reeder
Behind Rebel Lines: The Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy by
Seymour Reit
A Ride into Morning: The Story of Tempe Wick by Ann Rinaldi
War Spy by Seymour Reit
Time Enough for Drums by Ann Rinaldi
Children of the Fire by Harriette Robinet
The Killer Angels by Michael Shaara

24. Teaching Fredrick Douglass’ Narrative of the Life of Fredrick Douglass: An
American Slave, Written by Himself

Selected Nonfiction
Black Odyssey: The Case of the Slave Ship Amistad by Mary Cable
Great Slave Narrative by Arna Bontemps
The Slave’s Narrative by Charles T. Davis and Henry Louis Gates Jr., eds.
The Classic Slave Narratives by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., ed.
To Be a Slave by Julius Lester
The Black Americans: A History in Their Own Words 1619-1983 by Milton Meltzer
American Slavery as It Is: Testimony of a Thousand Witnesses by Theodore Weld
The Underground Railroad: First Person Narratives of Escapes to Freedom in the North
by Charles L. Blockson
Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad by Ann Petry
Black Abolitionists by Benjamin Quarles
The Underground Railway from Slavery to Freedom by Wilbur H. Siebert
The Underground Railroad by William Still
Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave by Virginia Hamilton
“Escape from Slavery: Five Journeys to Freedom: by Doreen Rappaport
Lincoln: A Photobiography by Russell Freedman
The Boys' War: Civil War Letters to Their Loved Ones from the Blue and Gray by Jim Murphy

Behind Blue and Gray: The Soldier's Life in the Civil War by Della Ray

All for the Union: The Civil War Diary and Letters of Elisha Hunt Rhodes by Robert Hunt Rhodes

Dry Victories by June Jordan

This Strange New Feeling by Julius Lester

Young and Black in America by Rae Pace Alexander & Julius Lester, eds.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Black Ice by Lorene Carey

Growing Up Black by Jay David, ed.

Paul Robeson: The Life and Times of a Free Black Man by Virginia Hamilton

Black Dance in America: A History Through Its People by James Haskins

Black Music in America: A History Through Its People by James Haskins

One More River to Cross by James Haskins

The Story of Stevie Wonder by James Haskins

Witchcraft, Mysticism and Magic in the Black World by James Haskins

A Pictorial History of Black Americans by Langston Hughes

Black People in the Old West by William Katz

Now is Your Time! The African-American Struggle for Freedom by Walter Dean Myers

Selma, Lord, Selma Girlhood Memories of the Civil Rights Days by Sheyann Webb & Rachel West Nelson

Selected Fiction related to the unit

The Slave Dancer by Paula Fox

Middle Passage by Charles Johnson

A Girl Called Boy by Belinda Hamilton

Tancy by Belinda Hamilton

The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman by Ernest J. Gaines

The Mystery of Drear House by Virginia Hamilton

The House of Dies Drear by Virginia Hamilton

Runaway to Freedom: A Story of the Underground Railroad by Barbara Smucker

Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

Black Thunder by Arna Bontemps

Eben Tyne, Powdermonkey by Patricia Beatty and Phillip Robbins

Which Way Freedom? by Joyce Hansen

Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt

Rifles for Watie by Harold Keith

Gentle Annie: The True Story of a Civil War Nurse by Mary Frances Shura

A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl’s Journal by Joan Blos

Jump Ship to Freedom by James L. & Christopher Collier

War Comes to Willy Freeman by James L. & Christopher Collier

Who is Carrie? by James L. & Christopher Collier

Freedom Road by Howard Fast

Beloved by Toni Morrison

Wolf by the Ears by Ann Rinaldi

Amos Fortune, Free Man by E. Yates
And I Heard a Bird Sing by Rosa Guy
The Disappearance by Rosa Guy
Edith Jackson by Rosa Guy
The Friends by Rosa Guy
My Love, My Love or the Peasant Girl by Rosa Guy
Ruby by Rosa Guy
A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry
A White Romance by Virginian Hamilton
Junius Over Far; A Little Love; The Magical Adventures of Pretty Pearl; Sweet Whispers, Brother Rush; Justice and Her Brothers; Arilla Sun Down; and The Planet of Junior Brown; Zeely; and M.C. Higgins, the Great -- all by Virginia Hamilton
I Be Somebody by Hadley Irwin
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Somewhere in the Darkness; Mop, Moondance, and the Nagasaki Knights; Fallen Angels; Crystal; Motown and Did: A Love Story; Hoops; The Young Landlords; It Ain't All for Nothing; Fast Sam, Cool Clyde, and Stuff; The Mouse Rap; Scorpions; and Mojo and the Russians -- all by Walter Dean Myers
Words by Heart by Ouida Sebesteyen
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry; Let the Circle Be Unbroken; The Road to Memphis; The Song of the Trees -- all by Mildred Taylor
The Color Purple by Alice Walker

Resources You Should Review

Adolescent Literature as a Complement to the Classics Volume One, Joan F. Kaywell, ed.

Volume One discusses the following works:

To Kill a Mockingbird – and the YA novels related to it
The Diary of a Young Girl - Anne Frank and WW II literature
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn – prejudice and YA Lit.
Catcher in the Rye
Death of a Salesman (Arthur Miller) and The Runner (Cynthia Voight)
Romeo and Juliet (and YA Lit.)
Great Expectations and 3 YA novels about “leaving home to come home”
A Doll’s House (Ibsen) and Permanent Connections (Sue Ellen Bridgers)
The Great Gatsby (F. Scott Fitzgerald) and six YA Lit. novels related to the
American Dream
Their Eyes Were Watching God and Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry
The Scarlet Letter and The Chocolate War (alienation from society)
The Lord of the Flies, The Chocolate War, and other readings on “the Beast within” and using/abusing power

1984 and The Chocolate War

Adolescent Literature as a Complement to the Classics Volume 2, Joan F. Kaywell, ed.
Adolescent Literature as a Complement to the Classics Volume 3, Joan F. Kaywell, ed.
Adolescent Literature as a Complement to the Classics Volume 4, Joan F. Kaywell, ed.