

Title, Author & Date	Summary	Main Themes	Major Symbols	Narrator & Setting	Major Characters	Books with Similarities
<i>True Grit</i> by Charles Portis (1968)	Frank Ross is murdered and his 14 year-old daughter, Mattie, hires a US Marshall to track down and bring in the murderer.	Revenge Life / Death Wild West Justice Idea of “grit” Children vs adults	Snakes Gold	Told from point of view of Mattie Ross, looking back 50 years later Arkansas in 1875 and continuing through Indian territory into Winding Stair mountains	Mattie Ross Rooster Cogburn Ranger LaBoeuf Frank Ross Tom Chaney Ned Pepper	<i>Hunger Games</i> (losing father at young age; assuming family responsibilities)
<i>Shelter</i> by Harlan Coben (2011)	Mickey Bolitar, a high school sophomore, starts a new school and has to solve the mysteries of his father’s car crash and his girlfriend’s disappearance	Secrets Revenge Children vs adults School stereotypes Good vs evil Heroes vs bullies	Butterflies Tattoos	Mickey is the main narrator Set in present day in a small town in New Jersey	Mickey The Bat Lady Ema Spoon Rachel Ashley Myron (uncle)	<i>Seconds Away</i> and <i>Found</i> by Harlan Coben (the next 2 books in the Mickey Bolitar trilogy) <i>Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer</i> by John Grisham (a 13 year old kid wants to see justice done); 4 books in this series

<p><i>Ender's Game</i> by Orson Scott Card (1985)</p>	<p>Ender Wiggin, a child genius, is chosen to save the world by helping the international military fight aliens</p>	<p>Good vs evil Playing games Children vs adults</p>	<p>Games Names (of people/armies)</p>	<p>Ender is the main narrator Set in the future, on Earth and elsewhere in the galaxy</p>	<p>Ender Valentine Peter Colonel Graff Mazer Rackham Major Anderson Bean</p>	<p><i>Insignia</i> by S.J. Kincaid (science fiction, set in the middle of a future war)</p>
<p><i>Power Forward: My Presidential Education</i> by Reggie Love (2015)</p>	<p>The true story of Reggie Love, a Duke University football and basketball team member, and the five years he spent working with Senator Obama and then President Obama.</p>	<p>Growing up Responsibility Character Determination Idea of "grit" Sports Politics Justice</p>	<p>Coaching Brotherhood Idea of a team</p>	<p>Reggie tells his story first-hand as the narrator Set in North Carolina, Illinois, Washington DC and in campaign stops across America</p>	<p>Reggie Love Mr. Love Mrs. Love Coach Krzyzewski President Obama</p>	<p><i>The Audacity to Win</i> by David Plouffe (tells story of Barack Obama becoming president) <i>Presidential Trivia</i> by The Smithsonian Institution (just a cool assortment of trivia about US presidents)</p>

<p><i>Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding (1954)</p>	<p>A plane full of young British boys from the same school is shot down during a war; they are stranded on an island and must learn to survive without adult rules or any supervision.</p>	<p>Order vs chaos Rules vs savagery Good vs evil Bullying Children vs adults Innocence</p>	<p>Conch Eyeglasses Fire Warpaint Spears</p>	<p>Book is told by 3rd party narrator but mainly gives Ralph's point of view Set on a deserted island during and after a war</p>	<p>Ralph Piggy Jack Simon Roger</p>	<p><i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen (NYC boy stranded after plane crash must survive alone) <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> by Daniel Defoe (man stranded on island must survive)</p>
<p><i>Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different</i> by Karen Blumenthal (2012)</p>	<p>Steve Jobs, the creator of Apple, lives an amazing life of invention and success but loses major battles in terms of his relationships and ultimately his health.</p>	<p>Talent vs luck Creation What we value Testing limits</p>	<p>Apple symbol Text / Font Style</p>	<p>Book is told by 3rd person narrator Set throughout Mr. Jobs' life</p>	<p>Steve Jobs Steve Wozniack Jobs Family Pixar</p>	<p><i>Hilary Rodham Clinton: A Woman Living History</i>, also young adult non-fiction by Karen Blumenthal <i>Alex Rider: Stormbreaker</i> by Anthony Horowitz (includes a Jobs-like character who creates a supercomputer, but for evil purposes)</p>

<p><i>Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief</i> by Rick Riordan</p>	<p>Percy, a 12-year old half-blood (half human, half god) goes to a camp for half-bloods and then must find Zeus' stolen lightning bolt and return it to Mount Olympus (at the top of the Empire State Building).</p>	<p>Identity Mortals vs gods Family vs friends Reality vs legend</p>	<p>Thunderbolt Games</p>	<p>Percy Jackson narrates the book Set in the United States, on Mount Olympus, in the Underworld and under the sea</p>	<p>Percy Percy's mom Annabeth Grover Chiron Luke Poseidon Zeus Hades</p>	<p><i>Maximum Ride</i> series by James Patterson (girl and her friends who are half-human, half-engineered mutants who can fly)</p>
<p><i>Alex Rider: Stormbreaker</i> by Anthony Horowitz (2000)</p>	<p>Alex, a 14-year old British kid, discovers that his uncle worked for a spy agency; Alex is recruited to join the agency and complete a mission about a supercomputer.</p>	<p>Growing up Abuse of power Truth vs lies Adults vs kids Bullying Revenge</p>	<p>Computers Spy devices Jellyfish</p>	<p>Book is told by 3rd party narrator but mainly gives Alex's point of view Set near a fictional fishing village near London called Port Tallon</p>	<p>Alex Mr. Blunt Mr. Grin Herod Sayle Yassen Jack Starbright Nadia</p>	<p><i>Point Blank</i> by Anthony Horowitz (the 2d Alex Rider book) <i>Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different</i> by Karen Blumenthal (teaching about Mr. Jobs who advanced technology for good not evil)</p>

<p><i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</i> by William Kamkwamba (2010)</p>	<p>William, a 14-year old boy from Malawi, builds a windmill out of tractor parts and a bicycle to save his village from famine in 2002.</p>	<p>Growing up Creativity Determination Education Life vs death Privilege vs poverty</p>	<p>Windmill Water</p>	<p>William is the narrator of this true story</p> <p>Takes place in Malawi (a republic in Southeast Africa)</p>	<p>William William's father William's mother Sisters & cousins Chief Wimbe President Muluzi Dr. Mchazime</p>	<p><i>Planting the Trees of Kenya</i> by Claire A. Nivola (story of Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai's restoration of Kenya)</p>
<p><i>The Boys of Winter</i> by Wayne Coffey (2005)</p>	<p>A team of U.S. Olympic hockey players build a winning team under the leadership of Coach Herb Brooks at the time</p>	<p>Self vs team Victory vs defeat Patriotism Grit US-Soviet relations</p>	<p>Ice Whistle Flag</p>	<p>Book is nonfiction and told by 3rd person narrator but gives lots of quotes from all characters.</p> <p>Set in different training facilities, Finland, Sweden and then Lake Placid in 1980</p>	<p>Herb Brooks Jim Craig Mike Eruzione Mike Ramsey Rob McClanahan Craig Patrick</p>	<p><i>Searching for Bobby Orr</i> by Stephen Brunt (another sportswriter)</p> <p><i>Throw Like a Girl</i> by Jennie Finch (former All-American college softball pitcher)</p>

<p><i>Rebel With a Cause: Chapter 6 of Originals</i> by Adam Grant (2015)</p>	<p>One chapter in a book about how non-conformists move the world; chapter focuses on sibling order, the best role models for kids and how to encourage kids to be more “original”</p>	<p>Self vs others Birth order Originality vs conformity Safety vs risk Discipline vs explanation Role models Heroes</p>	<p>Rebels Prizes Spotlight Books</p>	<p>Book is nonfiction and told by 3rd person narrator Set in present day with many historical reflections</p>	<p>Jackie Robinson Siblings Comedians Lizz Winstead</p>	<p>Certain chapters in Malcolm Gladwell’s books (<i>Tipping Point</i>, <i>Blink</i>, <i>Outliers</i> or <i>David & Goliath</i>) or some of the essays in Mr. Gladwell’s <i>What the Dog Saw</i></p>
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