

Humility

Character... It starts with me!

Vs. Arrogance

ROBIN'S READING LIST

JULY 2014

I WILL

- praise my parents, teachers, teammates and coaches
- not think more highly of myself than I ought
- take responsibility for all my actions
- try again after each defeat
- give credit to those who have made me successful

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Acknowledging that achievement results from the investment of others in my life.

Pre – Grade 3:

Princess Rainbowdash: The Reward of Humility by Nicole C. Choque and Nancey S. Kolb

Bobbie Shop Bobbie-Babies presents Rainbowdash in The Reward of Humility. In this children's short story, Rainbowdash plays a princess who learns the value of humility when she is put to the test in a sudden event that could become a disaster. As a princess, she is an example to her people. What kind of example are you to your friends and family? Remember, humility is like "power under control" - use humility instead of anger and you could find favor in most any situation.

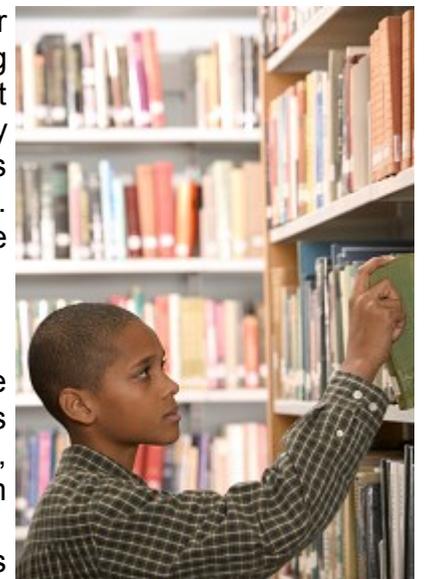
Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery

As soon as Anne Shirley arrived at the snug, white farmhouse called Green Gables, she knew she wanted to stay forever... but would the Cuthberts send her back to the orphanage? Anne knows she's not what they expected -- a skinny girl with decidedly red hair and a temper to match. If only she could convince them to let her stay, she'd try very hard not to keep rushing headlong into scrapes or blurt out the very first thing she had to say. Anne was not like anybody else, everyone at Green Gables agreed; she was special -- a girl with an enormous imagination. This orphan girl dreamed of the day when she could call herself Anne of Green Gables.

Humble Pie by Jennifer Donnelly

Only Theo's grandmother sees the truth about the boy: He's as spoiled as a rotten old apple! That is why, on one of Theo's naughtiest, grabbiest, mouthiest days, Grandmother decides to bake him a pie.

Young Theo has never seen the like. Its crust is



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as big as a bed sheet. It's filling of plums, cherries, peaches, pears, apples, and quince is as tempting as any sweet feast ever set before a boy. But when he greedily reaches out for a taste, little Theo bites off a lot more than he can chew!

Grades 4 -8:

Flora and Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo

A cynic meets an unlikely superhero in a genre-breaking new novel by master storyteller Kate DiCamillo. It begins, as the best superhero stories do, with a tragic accident that has unexpected consequences. The squirrel never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman, who has read every issue of the comic book *Terrible Things Can Happen to You!*, is the just the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses (the squirrel) has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry—and that Flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise of a capacious heart.

Navigating Early by Clare Vanderpool

The year is 1945, and after the unexpected death of his mother, thirteen-year-old Jack Baker finds himself navigating life at a boy's boarding school in Maine, a far cry from his home in Kansas. Reeling from his loss, Jack feels like he has lost his bearings in this unfamiliar place. Then he meets Early Auden, a boy unlike any he has ever known. Early always says what's on his mind, is an expert on the number pi, and only listens to Billie Holiday when it's raining. When Jack and Early are left behind at school during a holiday break, the two embark upon a quest to find the Great Appalachian bear, and hopefully, Early's brother, who everyone knows was lost in the war. Along the way, they meet some remarkable characters, many with curious similarities to those in the story of pi told by Early. What starts out as a dubious plan becomes an amazing adventure, where even the impossible can become true.

Heat by Mike Lupica

Michael Arroyo has a pitching arm that throws serious heat along with aspirations of leading his team all the way to the Little League World Series. But his firepower is nothing compared to the heat Michael faces in his day-to-day life. Newly orphaned, after his father led the family's escape from Cuba, Michael's only family is his seventeen-year old brother Carlos. If Social Services learned of their situation, they will be separated in the foster-care system—or worse, sent back to Cuba. Together, the boys carry on alone, dodging bills and anyone who asks too many questions. But then someone wonders how a twelve-year-old boy could possibly throw with as much power as Michael Arroyo throws. With no way to prove his age, no birth certificate, and no parent to fight for his cause, Michael's secret world is blown wide open, and he discovers that family can come from the most unexpected sources.

Troublemaker by Andrew Clements

There's a folder in Principal Kelling's office that's as thick as a



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phonebook and it's growing daily. It's filled with the incident reports of every time Clayton Hensley broke the rules. There's the minor stuff like running in the hallways and not being where he was supposed to be when he was supposed to be there. But then there are also reports that show Clay's own brand of troublemaking, like the most recent addition: the art teacher has said that the class should spend the period drawing anything they want and Clay decides to be extra "creative" and draw a spot-on portrait of Principal Kellings...as a donkey. It's a pretty funny joke, but really, Clay is coming to realize that the biggest joke of all may be on him. When his big brother, Mitchell, gets in some serious trouble, Clay decides to change his own mischief making ways...but he can't seem to shake his reputation as a troublemaker.

Grades 9 – 12:

Fearless: The Undaunted Courage and Ultimate Sacrifice of Navy SEAL Team SIX Operator Adam Brown by Eric Blehm

When Navy SEAL Adam Brown woke up on March 17, 2010, he didn't know he would die that night in the Hind Kush Mountains of Afghanistan—but he was ready. In a letter to his children, not meant to be seen unless the worst happened, he wrote, "I'm not afraid of anything that might happen to me on this earth, because I know no matter what, nothing can take my spirit from me."

Fearless is the story of a man of extremes, whose courage and determination were fueled by faith, family, and the love of a woman. It's about a man who waged a war against his own worst impulses, including drug addiction, and persevered to reach the top tier of the U.S. military. In a deeply personal and absorbing chronicle, *Fearless* reveals a glimpse inside the SEAL Team SIX brotherhood, and presents an indelible portrait of a highly trained warrior whose final act of bravery led to the ultimate sacrifice.



Tell My Sons: A Father's Last Letters by Lt. Col. Mark Web

At the pinnacle of a soaring career in the U.S. Army, Lt. Col. Mark M. Weber was tapped to serve in a high-profile job within the Afghan Parliament as a military advisor. Weeks later, a routine physical revealed stage IV intestinal cancer in the thirty-eight-year-old father of three. Over the next two years he would fight a desperate battle he wasn't trained for, with his wife and boys as his reluctant but willing fighting force.

When Weber realized that he was not going to survive this final tour of combat, he began to write a letter to his boys, so that as they grew up without him, they would know what his life-and-death story had taught him—about courage and fear, challenge and comfort, words and actions, pride and humility, seriousness and humor, and viewing life as a never-**ending** search for new ideas and inspiration.

This book is that letter. And it's not just for his sons. It's for everyone who can use the best advice a dying hero has to offer.

Weber's stories illustrate that in the end you become what you are through the causes to which you attach yourself—and that you've made your own along the way.