

Dependability

Character... It starts with me!

ROBIN'S READING LIST

Vs. Inconsistency

I WILL:

- keep my word
- be careful what I promise
- correct my mistakes
- pull my share of the load
- not have a bad attitude

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Keeping my word even if it means unexpected sacrifice.

Grades Pre. – 3:

Love Your Heart by Tim McGraw, Tom Douglas and Abigail Marble

Katie has many talents, but she wonders which one will win her school's talent show. After several funny mishaps, depending on her Dad and faithful dog Palio, Katie finally chooses one talent using Palio. While at the talent show, she drops out of the contest so she can help her friend, showing that kindness is the best talent of all. Katie's proud dad reassures her that she did the right thing, and that while he loves many things about her, he loves her heart most of all.

Otis and the Tornado by Loren Long

Otis is an unusually sensitive tractor, who, with his calf buddy join a cow, some ducks, and a horse "for a grand game of follow-theleader". Otis is popular among the livestock, however he avoids the hulking rust-red bull. One stormy day, Otis senses danger "deep down in his pipes" and sees a tornado dipping from a slate-gray cloud. Leading the animals to safety, he remembers the bull, still locked in his corral, and chugs to the rescue.

Inger's Promise by Jami Parkison

Inger's white fur and mountain of antlers make him a standout in the reindeer herd, so he is chosen to pull the wedding sled, and to run in the Alta River Race. However, twice he disappoints fans who now believe maybe he isn't trustworthy. He proves them wrong when three reindeer are at risk during a spring snowstorm. Inger sticks by his word, even though doing so could be a matter of life and death.



Robin's Reading List



Grades 4 – 6:

Shine by Kate Maryon

Twelve-year-old Tiff loves her mom, Carla, who is glitzy and fun, always coming home with amazing stuff. The trouble is that Tiff's mom doesn't buy these things...she steals them. Tiff's life is ruined when Carla gets caught. She is sent to a remote island to live with Carla's family, a family her mom never talked about and that Tiff has never even met!! But the island of Sark isn't as awful as Tiff thought it would be. She enjoys spending time with the islanders who are kind and honest. Three months later, when it's time for her mom to join her, Tiff is feeling very worried.

The Klipfish Code by Mary Cassanova

Here is a riveting novel about risks taken, secrets kept, and questions about whom to trust. The year is 1942, and Norway is under Nazi occupation. Twelve-year-old Marit has decided to take action, even though grandfather gave her many warnings. Will her plan work to complete her part of a secret code? Would it make any difference to the Resistance? This book reveals what Norwegian people did to preserve their dignity and freedoms, and uncovers a startling statistic: the German secret police systematically rounded up one teacher in ten and sent them to concentration camps for their refusal to teach Nazi propaganda to Norwegian schoolchildren.

Willow King by Charles Platt

When thirteen-year-old Katie Durham learns that the owner of a thoroughbred farm is going to destroy a newborn colt, she rushes to his rescue. Willow King's legs are badly twisted, but Katie fights for his life, begging for the chance to train and raise him, promising Mr. Ellis that she will take good care of him. Through Katie's care and guidance, Willow King becomes a strong and talented racehorse. The horse's courage and perseverance inspire Katie to come to terms with her own physical handicap.

Grades 7 – 12:

If the Witness Lied by Caroline B. Cooney

This young adult thriller takes place in 24 hours, and explores how people, as well as the media, can exploit a situation with devastating results, especially when innocent children are involved. Jack Fountain knows that what's happened to his family sounds like the most horrible soap opera anyone could ever write, but it's all true. It happened to his parents; to his sisters, Smithy and Madison, and to his baby brother, Tris. The media wanted to know every detail, which just made things worse. It's almost Tris's third birthday, and everything is starting all over again. Aunt Cheryl, who is living with the Fountain children, has decided that they will heal only if they work through their pain...on camera. Jack and his sisters try to keep Tris's face off-screen, but quickly they realize that there is more at stake than their privacy. The very identities they've created for themselves are called into question. What really happened on the day of their father's accident?

Robin's Reading List

Oak Street Chronicles by Suzanne Cooper

This story is about three unlikely teenagers that become friends and help and support one another through difficulties. Maria struggles with an alcoholic parent and moves often, but the move to Oak Street is life changing for her. Millie is a girl who is just a bit different. She's very independent, resourceful, and rich. Millie could have anything she wants, but she's not interested; she wants to walk lightly through the world. The other girls at school think she is hopelessly weird, but when catastrophe strikes, they find that Millie's "weirdness" is exactly what is needed. Millie's spunkiness, inner strength, and ability to cope with hardships makes her a positive role model for all young readers.

Painting the Black by Carl Deuker

Ryan Ward was in his senior year in high school when he had just begun to feel the magic of baseball; the magic of throwing out a runner, catching a wicked slider, pushing the limits, and training hard. Ryan is faced with a heartbreaking dilemma when one of his teammates pushes the limits too far; he must choose between his integrity and his love for the game.

