

Responsibility

Character... It starts with me!

Vs. Unreliability

ROBIN'S READING LIST

SEPTEMBER 2013

I WILL:

- Keep my promises
- Not make excuses
- Do all my work to the best of my ability
- Make things right when I do wrong
- Know my duty and do my duty

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The 49 Character Qualities are adapted from Character First materials and are used with permission.

Knowing and doing what is expected of me.

Teacher Resource: Character Building Day by Day by Anne D. Mather and Louise B. Weldon

This great book is made up of short stories on character qualities. Responsibility stories are on pages 214 - 218.

Grades Pre. - 3

The Berenstain Bears and the Trouble with Chores by Stan Berenstain
Papa Bear and the cubs are having some trouble with chores-they don't want to do them! When they decide to take a break from cleaning, Mama Bear plays along, but what will happen when the mess builds up...and up...and up?

Emma Dilemma and the New Nanny by Patricia Hermes

Mishaps of one sort or another seem to find Emma O'Fallon. Quite often they center on her pet ferret, Marmaduke, who frequently escapes his care (or isn't put there) and disappears in the house. After finding the creature inside her mattress, Emma's mother threatens to take him back to the pet store unless her daughter shows more responsibility. Another worry for Emma is the possibility that her parents will not let her be on the Under Nine soccer team for the same reason. Then a new nanny, Annie O'Reilly, joins the household to help care for the five O'Fallon children, and Emma immediately knows she will have an ally in the lively young woman. The child accidentally burns Annie's passport, and the two of them have an adventure with a locked door.



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Lunch Walks Among Us by Jimmy Benton

Franny K. Stein, self-proclaimed mad scientist, has started at a new elementary school, and doesn't really fit in. At the suggestion of her teacher, Franny embarks on an experiment to make new friends. She studies what the other kids' play, what they wear, how they act, and tries to mimic them. When a giant monstrous fiend erupts from the garbage and wrecks havoc, Franny uses her mad skills to save the day. With the ability to create a monster out of lunchmeat, with bats and tarantulas in her room, and dolls named Chompolina and Oozette instead of Barbie, Franny is definitely different, but she learns that that might not be such a bad thing after all.

Grades 4 - 8:

Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner

Little Willy's Grandfather is sick, and it's up to Willy to save their farm from tax collectors. Their only hope is the prize money from the National Dogsled Race. But a lot of other people want to win the race, too, including Stone Fox, who has never lost a race in his life. Do Willy and his dog Searchlight stand a chance against the toughest racers around? Can they win the race to save the farm-and Grandfather-before it's too late? Little Willie hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the purse from a dog sled race he enters.

Remarkable by Elizabeth Foley

Everyone in the town of Remarkable, is...remarkable, except for Jane Doe. Ten-year-old Jane is woefully UN-remarkable. In fact, she is the only child in town who does not attend the school for gifted children. With genius parents and prodigy siblings, poor Jane feels helplessly ordinary. But things begin to change for Jane when the naughty Grimlet twins enroll in Jane's school. And then, a famous composer goes missing and the mysterious pirates come to town. Jane begins to get to the bottom of all the strangeness going on in her town, and in the process, she discovers that she has some rather remarkable talents of her own.



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The Emerald Atlas by John Stephens

After being whisked away from their parents' loving arms one unforgettable Christmas Eve, siblings Kate, Michael and Emma have spent the past ten years being shuttled from one orphanage to the next. Not even sure of their own last name, the one thing they do know for certain is that their parents will be back for them some day. But what they are about to discover is that they are the subject of a magical prophecy, making them very special children indeed. Soon the three siblings are transported back in time, courtesy of the Emerald Atlas—one of the three enchanted books with the power to change history. There, they embark upon an extraordinary adventure filled with evil villains, terrifying creatures, and surprising supporters. Can Kate, Michael, and Emma harness the power of the atlas and right the wrongs of the past?

Grades 9 - 12

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

Lupita, a budding actor and poet in a close-knit Mexican American immigrant family, comes of age as she struggles with adult responsibilities during her mother's battle with cancer in this young adult novel in verse.

When Lupita learns Mami has cancer, she is terrified by the possibility of losing her mother, the anchor of her close-knit family. Suddenly, being a high school student, starring in a play, and dealing with friends who don't always understand, become less important than doing whatever she can to save Mami's life.

Long Drive Home by Will Allison

Life can change in an instant because of one small mistake. For Glen Bauer, all it takes is a quick jerk of the steering wheel intended to scare a reckless driver—not kill him. But when Glen realizes no one saw the deadly accident, he impulsively lies to the police, to his wife,



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even to his six-year-old daughter, Sara, who was in the backseat at the time of the crash. In his efforts to avoid a lawsuit or prison, what Glen doesn't see coming is the reaction of his wife, Liz—a panicked plan that threatens to tear their family apart in the name of saving it. But what if the accident wasn't really Glen's fault? What if someone else were to blame? It's a question Glen can't let go of. And as he struggles to understand the extent of his own culpability, he finds himself on yet another collision course, different in kind but with equally terrible potential.

Reality Check by Peter Abrahams

Will Cody save Clea before it's too late? QB of the varsity football team, passing grades in all his classes, dating the hottest—and smartest—girl at school, summer job paying more than minimum wage. Things in Cody's world seem to be going pretty well. Until, that is, his girlfriend, Clea, is sent off to boarding school across the country, and a torn ACL ends his high school football career. But bad things come in threes—or in Cody's case, sixes and twelves—and the worst is yet to come. While limping through town one day, Cody sees a newspaper headline: "Local Girl Missing." Clea, now his ex, has disappeared from her boarding school in Vermont, and the only clue is a letter she sent to Cody the morning of her disappearance. With that as his guide, Cody sets out to find out what happened. Once in Vermont, he unearths the town's secrets—and finds out that football isn't the only thing he's good at.

