



# kids at the westport public library 6th Grade Booktalk 2011



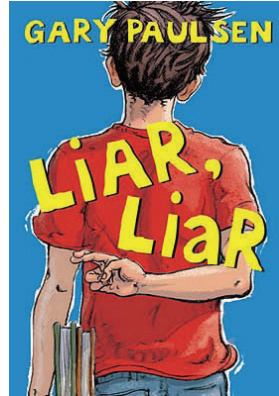
## Fiction



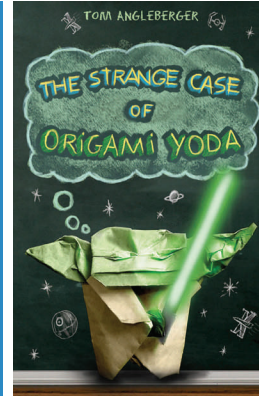
**Reckless** by Cornelia Funke  
Jacob and Will Reckless have looked out for each other ever since their father disappeared, but when Jacob discovers a magical mirror that transports him to a warring world populated by witches, giants, and ogres, he keeps it to himself until Will follows him one day, with dire consequences.



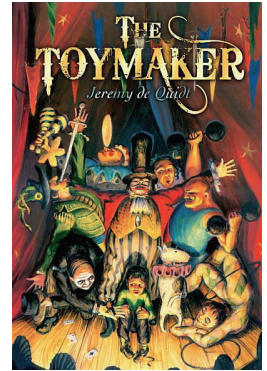
**Hero** by Mike Lupica  
Fourteen-year-old Zach learns he has the same special abilities as his father, who was the President's globe-trotting trouble-shooter until "the Bads" killed him, and now Zach must decide whether to use his powers in the same way at the risk of his own life.



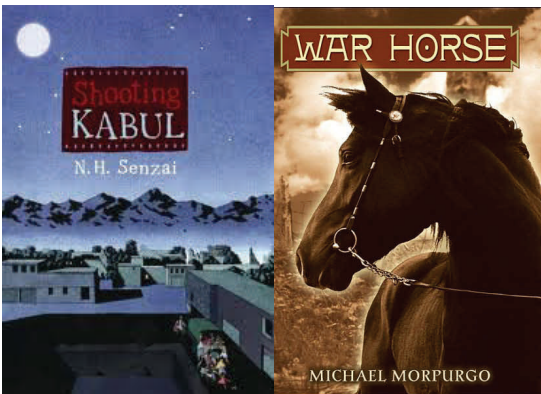
**Liar, Liar** by Gary Paulsen  
Fourteen-year-old Kevin is very good at lying and doing so makes life easier, but when he finds himself in big trouble with his friends, family, and teachers, he must find a way to end his lies forever.



**The Strange Case of Origami Yoda** by Tom Angleberger  
Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their weird classmate Dwight, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future. Includes instructions for making Origami Yoda.

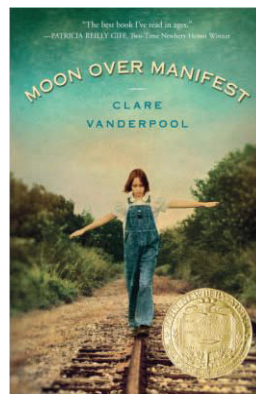


**The Toymaker** by Jeremy de Quidt  
What good is a toy that will wind down? What if you could put a heart in one? A real heart. One that beat and beat and didn't stop. What couldn't you do if you could make a toy like that? From the moment Mathias becomes the owner of a mysterious piece of paper, he is in terrible danger.

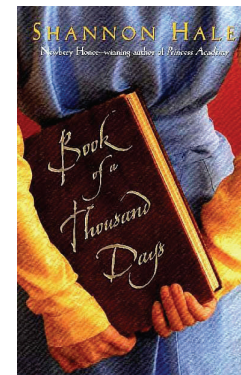


**Shooting Kabul** by N. H. Senzai  
Escaping from Taliban-controlled Afghanistan in the summer of 2001, eleven-year-old Fadi and his family immigrate to the San Francisco Bay Area, where Fadi schemes to return to the Pakistani refugee camp where his little sister was accidentally left behind

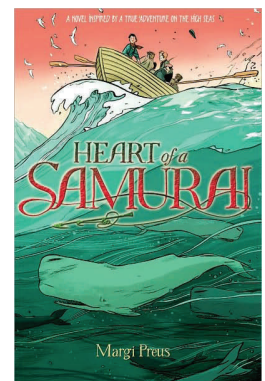
**War Horse** by Michael Morpurgo  
In 1914, a bay-red foal with a distinctive cross on his nose, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he witnesses the horror of the battles in France. Even in the desolation of the trenches, his courage touches the soldiers and he is able to find warmth and hope. But his heart aches for Albert, the farmer's son he left behind. Will he ever see his true master again?



**Moon Over Manifest** by Clare Vanderpool  
Twelve-year-old Abilene Tucker is the daughter of a drifter who, in the summer of 1936, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, Kansas, where he grew up, and where she hopes to find out some things about his past.

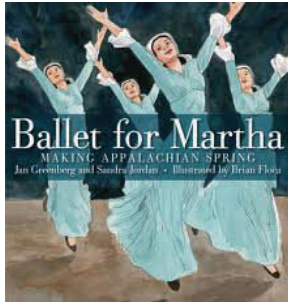


**Book of a Thousand Days** by Shannon Hale  
Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.

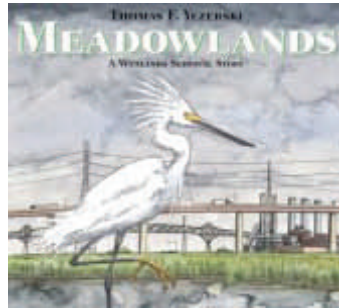


**Heart of a Samurai** by Margi Preus  
In 1841, rescued by an American whaler after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions castaways on a remote island, fourteen-year-old Manjiro, who dreams of becoming a samurai, learns new laws and customs as he becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

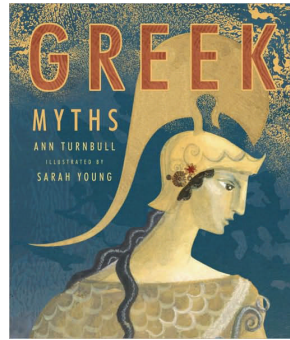
# Non-Fiction



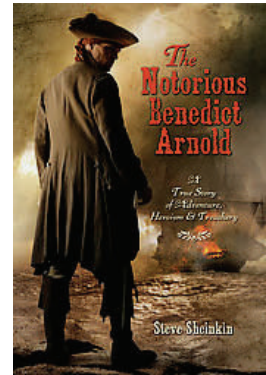
**Ballet for Martha** by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan  
Tells the story behind the creation of "Appalachian Spring," describing Aaron Copland's composition, Martha Graham's intense choreography and Isamu Noguchi's set design.



**Meadowlands** by Thomas F. Yezerski  
The 20,000 acres of wetlands in New Jersey now known as the Meadowlands were once home to hundreds of species of plants and animals. Here the history of these lands and the efforts to restore that which has been lost are told in an engaging account by a neighbor who has paddled through these waters.

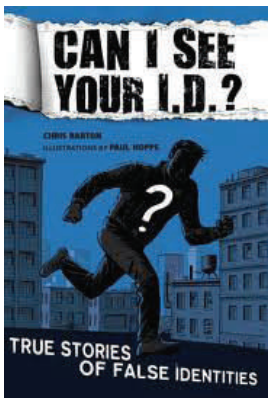


**Greek Myths** by Ann Turnbull  
A gorgeous collection of classic Greek myths welcomes readers into a legendary world of beauty, tragedy, and miracle. Compelling prose enlivens 16 of the most celebrated myths, from the sadness of Persephone to the ill-fated love of Orpheus and Eurydice.

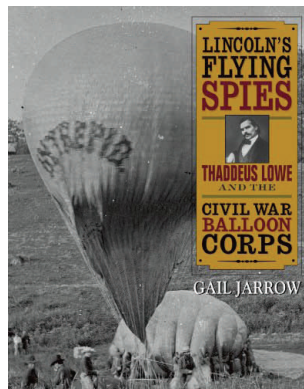


**The Notorious Benedict Arnold** by Steve Sheinkin  
Most people know that Benedict Arnold was America's first, most notorious traitor. Few know that he was also one of its greatest war heroes. This accessible biography introduces young readers to the real Arnold: reckless, heroic, and driven. Packed with first-person accounts, astonishing battle scenes, and surprising twists, this is a gripping and true adventure tale.

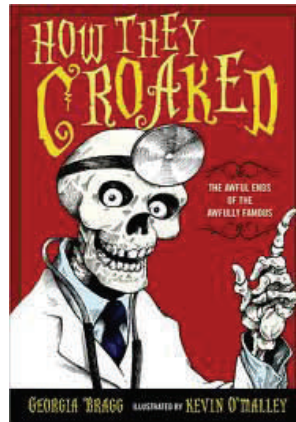
## More good ones!:



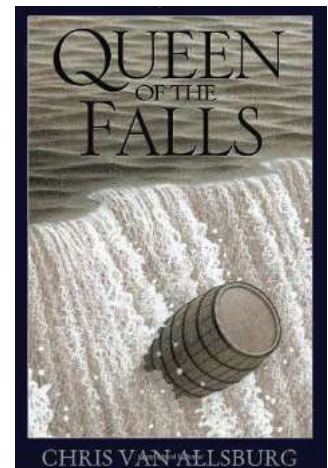
**Can I See Your I.D.?** by Chris Barton  
From the impoverished young woman who enchanted 19th-century British society as a faux Asian princess to the lonely but clever Frank Abagnale of "Catch Me if You Can" fame, these 10 vignettes offer riveting insight into mind-blowing masquerades.



**Lincoln's Flying Spies** by Gail Jarrow  
Describes the contributions made to the Union's efforts in the Civil War by Thaddeus Lowe and a corps of hot air balloonists who helped spy on the Confederate army, despite becoming targets in the war themselves.



**How They Croaked** by Georgia Bragg  
A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and the circumstances surrounding those deaths.



**Queen of the Falls** by Chris Van Allsburg  
She could remember standing in a park near the falls, hypnotized by the sight and sound, holding her father's hand as they took a walk that would lead them closer. That's what everyone wonders when they see Niagara . . . How close will their courage let them get to it? At the turn of the nineteenth century, a retired 62 year-old charm school instructor named Annie Taylor, seeking fame and fortune, decided to do something that no one had ever done before—she would go over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel. Come meet the Queen of the Falls and witness with your own eyes her daring ride!