

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Official booklist for Young Readers Choice, 2008

Junior Division: GRADES 4-6

Listed below are the summaries for the Young Readers Choice titles. For additional information on Young Readers Choice visit the webpage at : <http://www.pnla.org/yrca/>

The Day Joanie Frankenhauser Became a Boy

By Fanness Lin Lantz
Summary: Fifth-grader Joanie Frankenhauser loves sports, but she feels that the boys in her school don't give her an even chance. After she moves to a new school and discovers that her first name has been misprinted as John, Joanie decides not to correct her teacher. She is delighted when she is invited to join in the boy's games. Things become complicated, though, after Joanie joins a group led by the school bully.

Dog's Life: Autobiography of a Stray

By Ann M. Martin
Summary: Squirrel, a stray puppy, tells her life story, from her nurturing mother and brother to making her own way in the world, facing busy highways, changing seasons, and humans both gentle and brutal.

Double Identity

by Margaret Peterson Haddix
Summary: Thirteen-year-old Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight with no explanation, leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself and her family.

Listening for Lions

By Gloria Whelan
Summary: Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1918, thirteen-year-old Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, where her only dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital.

Princess Academy

by Shannon Hale
Summary: While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

The Scarecrow and His Servant

By Phillip Pullman
Summary: A scarecrow and his boy servant, Jack, set off on a dangerous adventure as they try to outwit the crooked Buffaloni family and stake their claim to valuable Spring Valley.

Shakespeare's Secret

By Elise Broach
Summary: Named after a character in a Shakespeare play, misfit sixth-grader Hero becomes interested in exploring this unusual connection because of a valuable diamond supposedly hidden in her new house, an intriguing neighbor, and the unexpected attention of the most popular boy in school.

Whales on Stilts

By M. T. Anderson
Summary: Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.