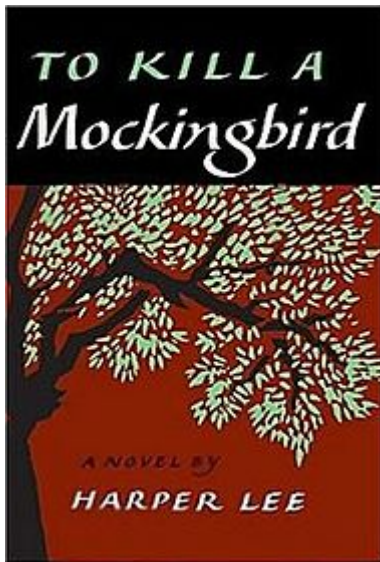


Literature

Uplifting positive reinforcing music

Most Popular books recommended by students from connections 2013

***To Kill a Mockingbird*- Harper Lee, 1960**

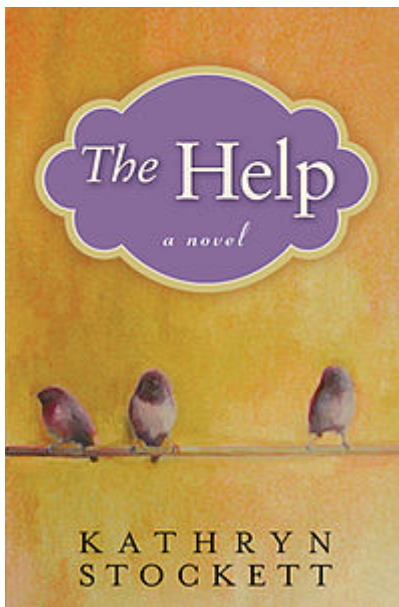


As a Southern Gothic novel and a *Bildungsroman*, the primary themes of *To Kill a Mockingbird* involve racial injustice and the destruction of innocence. Scholars have noted that Lee also addresses issues of class, courage, compassion, and gender roles in the American Deep South.

'This novel is about the exploration of the morals of human beings (good vs. evil). A white lawyer is seen defending a black man in a time when racism was a prominent part of society.' –*Connections Student 2013*

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/To_Kill_a_Mockingbird

***The Help*- Kathryn Stockett, 2009**

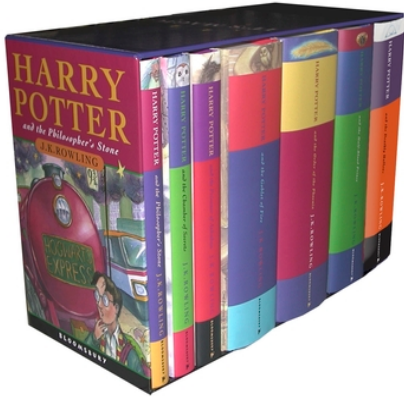


The story is about African-American slaves working in white households in Jackson, Mississippi, during the early 1950s. It revolves around three different characters: Aibileen Clark, Minny Jackson, and Skeeter Phelan as they document their lives on the different side of the racial barrier.

'Kathryn Stockett manages to merge fact and fiction perfectly, exploring different emotions ranging from sadness to happiness - sometimes all in the same paragraph'

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Help

Harry Potter- J.K. Rowling, 1997-2007

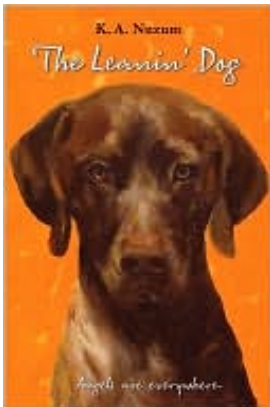


Themes such as normality, oppression, survival, and overcoming imposing odds have all been considered as prevalent throughout the series. Similarly, the theme of making one's way through adolescence and "going over one's most harrowing ordeals- and thus coming to terms with them" has also been considered. Rowling has stated that the books comprise "a prolonged argument for tolerance, a prolonged plea for an end to bigotry" and that also pass on a message to "question authority and not assume that the

establishment or the press tells you all of the truth".

'...throughout the series Harry Potter is a positive leader and always tries to make the best decisions that can benefit everyone. He listens to people's ideas and is very active in discussions.' -*Connections Student 2013*

The Leanin Dog- K. A. Nuzum, 2010



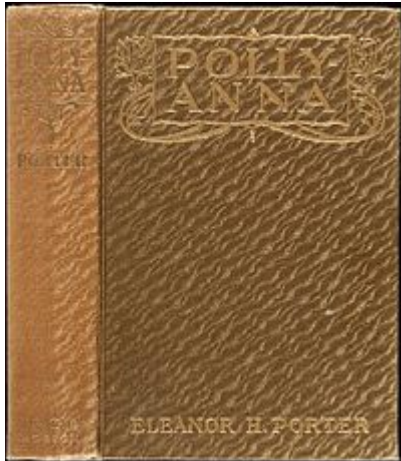
More than anything, Dessa Dean needed a friend. A friend to love and confide in, a friend with whom she could share her heart. A friend who would delight in all the beauty and joy and fun of Christmas, only four days away.

Hope had just about run out, but then . . . there came a scratchin' at the door and Dessa Dean's life was forever changed.

The story line was captivating and I immediately fell in love with the main character. My heart went out to her and her father. When she befriends the dog, I could see the dog and the girl as they interacted with each other. The author's description of the dog as she plays with the girl is perfect (I am especially thinking of the pinecone scene...this dog must be a lab mix!) The ending is completely satisfying.

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/book/leanin-dog>

***Pollyanna*- Eleanor H. Porter, 1913**



Pollyanna is a best-selling 1913 novel by Eleanor H. Porter that is now considered a classic of children's literature, with the title character's name becoming a popular term for someone with the same optimistic outlook.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pollyanna>

***Torn Thread*- Anne Isaacs, 2002**

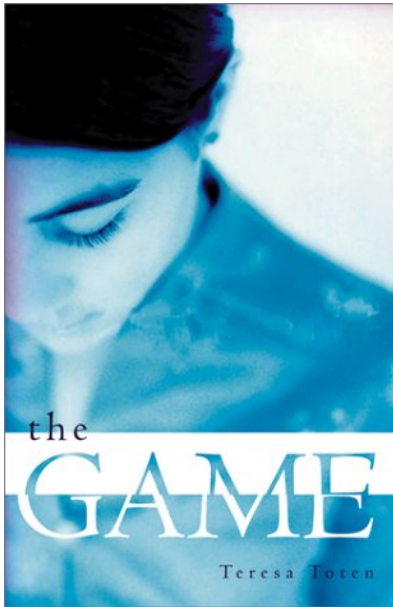


Twelve-year-old Eva and her sister have been forced to leave their home in Poland and are imprisoned in a Nazi labor camp in Czechoslovakia. There they must spin thread on treacherous machinery to make clothing and blankets for the German army. As Eva struggles amid ever worsening dangers to save her life and that of her sick sister, readers witness how two teenagers strive to create home and family amidst inhumanity and chaos. Written in exquisite prose, this is a story of heartbreak and hope that is rich in detail and symbolism. It will deeply move readers of all ages.

<http://www.amazon.ca/Torn-Thread-Anne-Isaacs/dp/0590603647>

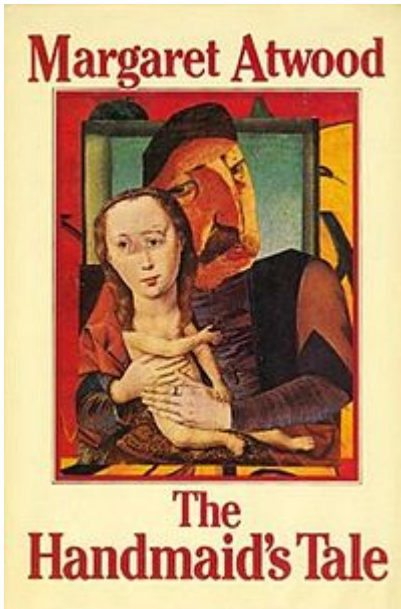
The Rest of the List

The Game- Teresa Toten



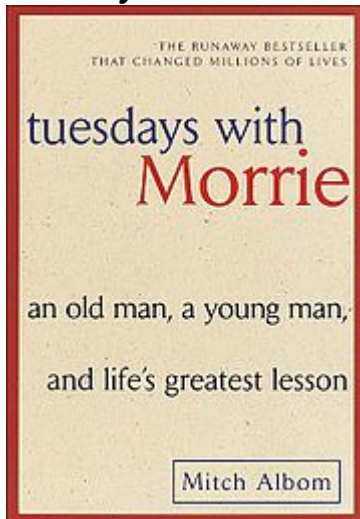
<http://www.amazon.ca/The-Game-Teresa-Toten/dp/0889952329>

The Handmaid's Tale- Margaret Atwood, 1985



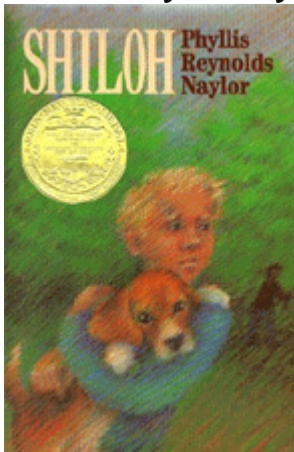
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Handmaid's_Tale

***Tuesdays with Morrie*- Mitch Albom, 1997**



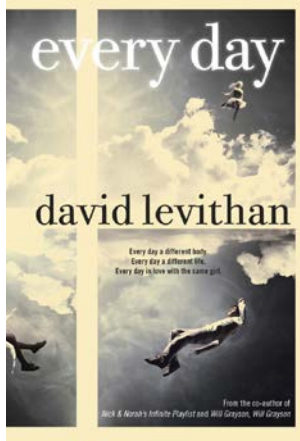
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuesdays_with_Morrie

***Shiloh*- Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, 1991**



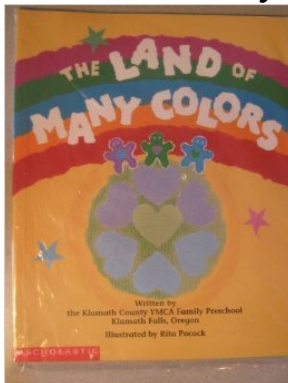
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shiloh_\(Naylor_novel\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shiloh_(Naylor_novel))

Everyday- David Levithan, 2012



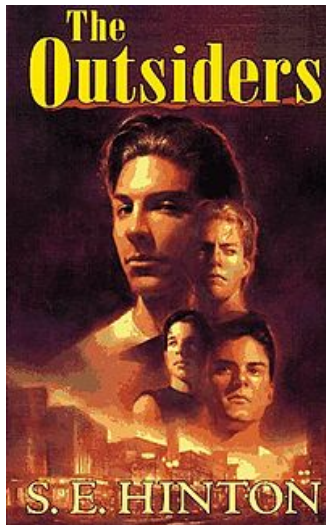
<http://www.amazon.ca/Every-Day-David-Levithan/dp/0307931889>

The Land of Many Colors- Rita Pocock



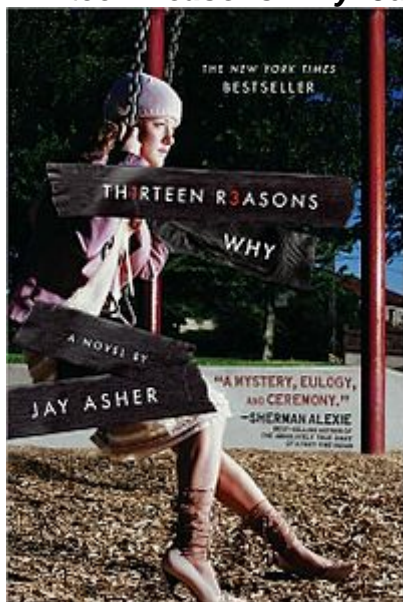
<http://www.amazon.com/Land-Many-Colors-First-Library/dp/0590492489>

***The Outsiders*- S.E. Hinton**



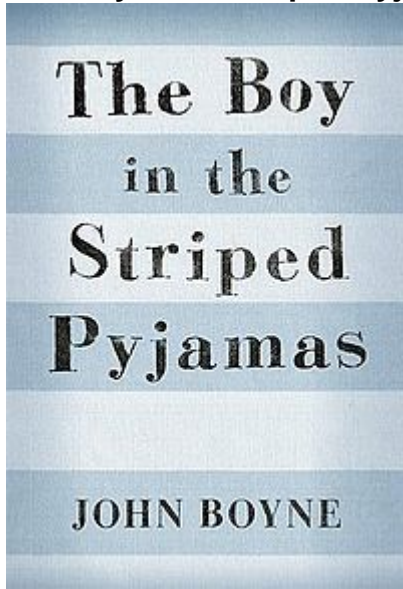
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Outsiders_\(novel\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Outsiders_(novel))

***Thirteen Reasons Why*- Jay Asher**



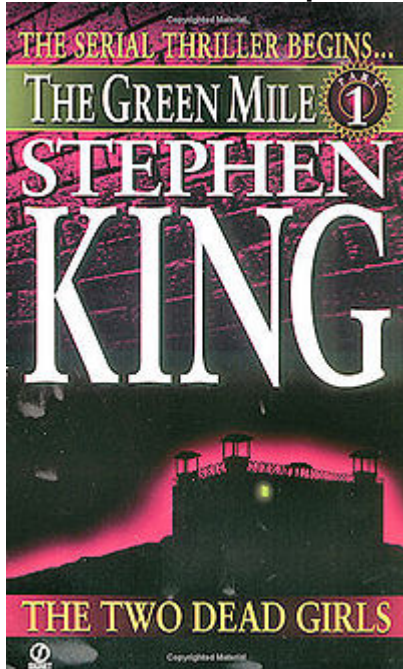
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteen_Reasons_Why

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteen_Reasons_Why

***The Green Mile*- Stephen King**



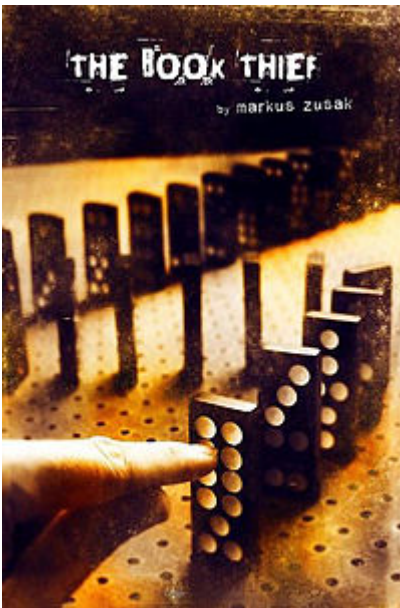
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Green_Mile_\(novel\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Green_Mile_(novel))

Collected Poems- Emily Dickinson



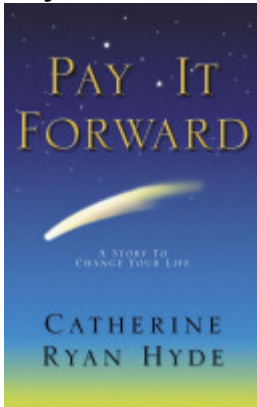
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emily_Dickinson

The Book Thief- Mark Zusak



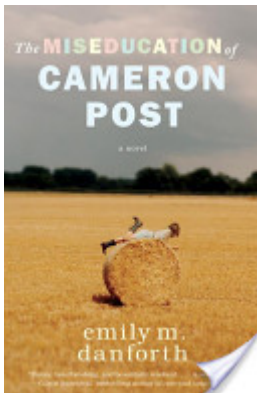
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Book_Thief

***Pay It Forward*- Catherine Ryan Hyde**



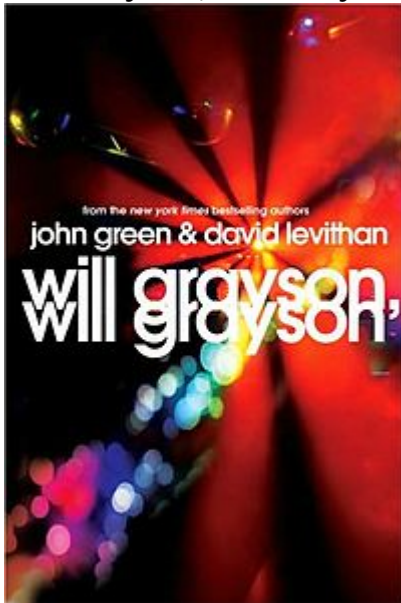
http://books.google.ca/books/about/Pay_It_Forward.html?id=EJxuiOm_c1EC&redir_esc=y

***The Miseducation of Cameron Post*- Emily M. Danforth**



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Miseducation_of_Cameron_Post

Will Grayson, Will Grayson- John Green & David Levithan



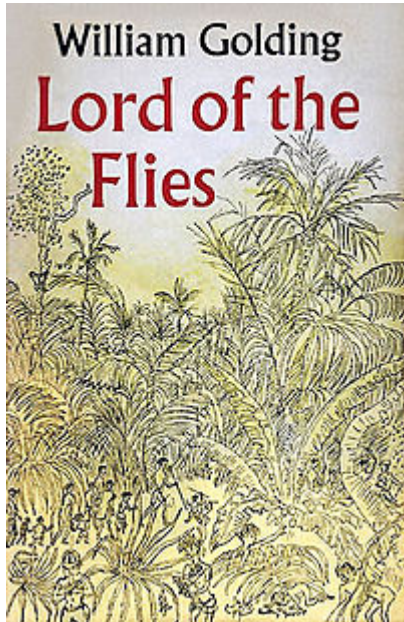
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Will_Grayson,_Will_Grayson

Speak- Laurie Halse



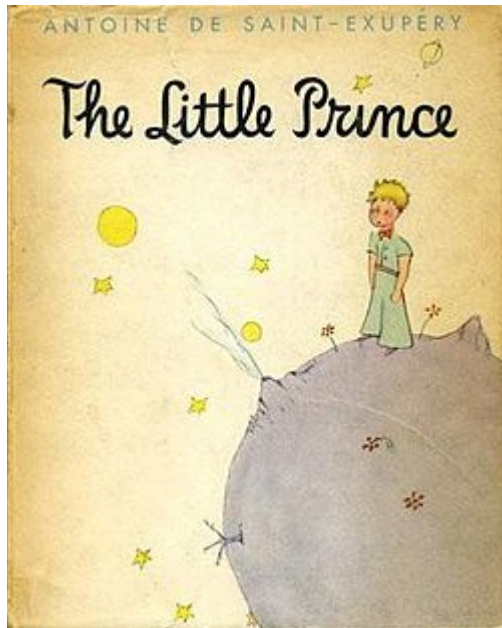
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speak_\(novel\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speak_(novel))

***Lord of the Flies*- William Golding**



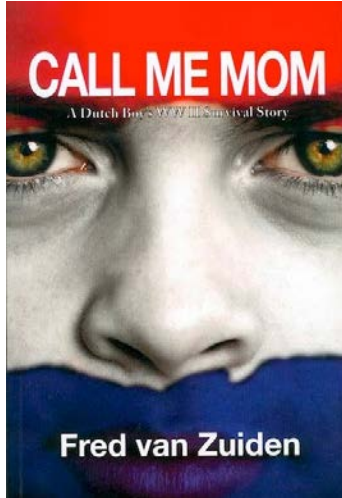
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord_of_the_Flies

***The Little Prince*- Antoine de Saint- Exupery**



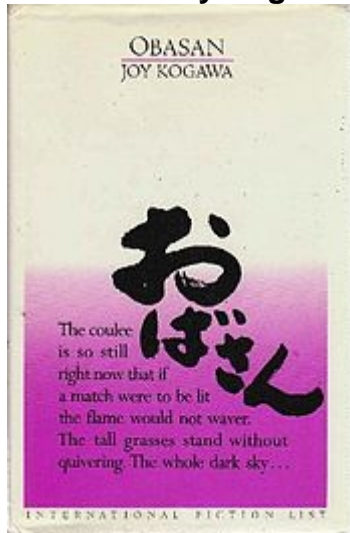
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Little_Prince

Call Me Mom- Fred Van Zuiden



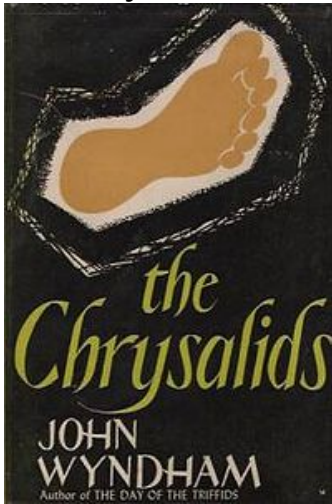
<http://www.callmemom.ca/>

Obasan- Joy Kogawa



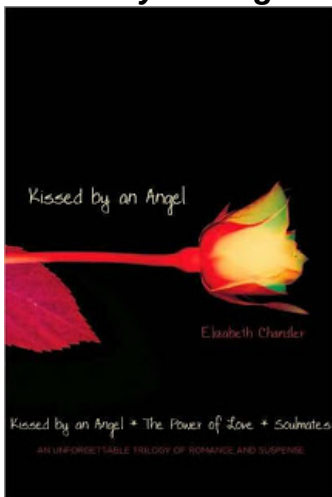
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***The Chrysalids*- John Wyndham**



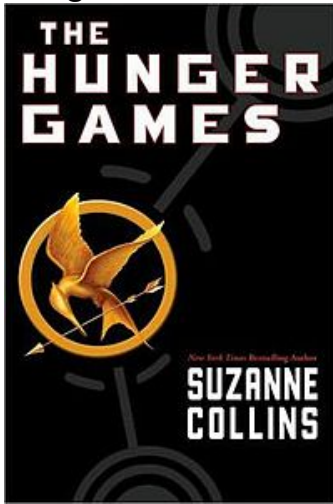
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Chrysalids

***Kissed by an Angel*- Elizabeth Chandler**



<http://www.goodreads.com/series/42025-kissed-by-an-angel>

Hunger Games- Suzanne Collins



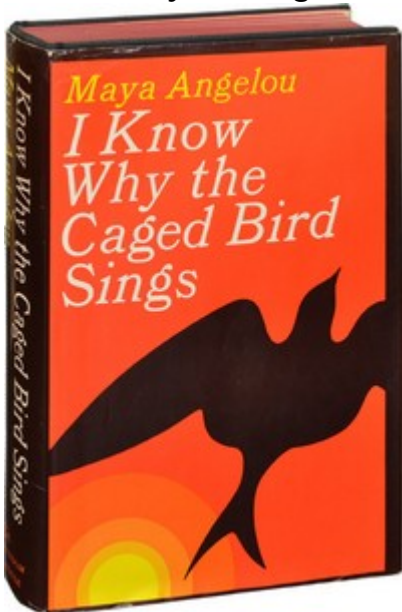
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Hunger_Games

Rainbow Boys- Alex Sanchez



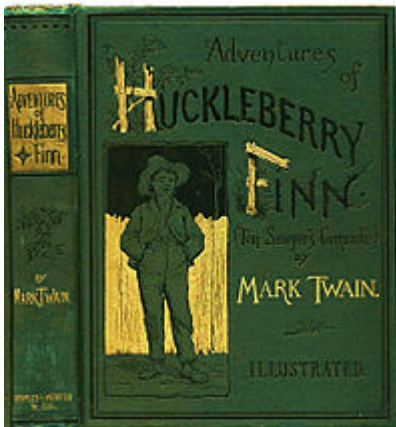
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainbow_Boys

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings- Maya Angelou



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Know_Why_the_Caged_Bird_Sings

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn- Mark Twain



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adventures_of_Huckleberry_Finn