

| TITLE (note punctuation) | AUTHOR | CHARACTERS | BRIEF SUMMARY |
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| <u>A Long Walk to Water</u> | Linda Sue Park | Salva, Nya, Uncle Jewiir, Marial, | Dinka tribesman Salva's story is told in 1985. Sudan is engulfed in a civil war over religion. He walks several thousand miles over a span of years through refugee camps and ultimately to Rochester and freedom, only to return to Sudan to help bring potable water to his country after his father falls ill because of contamination. Nya's story is told in 2008. She is a Nuer who walks many miles every day to bring water to her family. Her story intersects with Salva's in 2009 when he returns to his native country to help bring clean water to his people. Even though the Dinka and Nuer are enemies, Salva and Nya bond when the new well produces fresh water. |
| <u>The Outsiders</u> | S.E. Hinton | Pony, Soda, Darry, Dally, Johnny, TwoBit, Steve, Cherry, Bob, Randy | Greaser and Socs clash due to economic factors, and serious and deadly consequences result. |
| "Rikki-tiki-tavi" | Rudyard Kipling | Rikki, Nag, Nagaina, Kurait, Darzee, Teddy, animals in the garden | A brave little mongoose battles deadly snakes in an effort to protect a garden and his family. |
| "The Monsters are due on Maple Street" | Rod Serling | Charlie, Les, Pete, Tommy, wives and neighbors | Strange electrical occurrences make people in a small neighborhood suspect that someone is an alien. Little do they know that actual aliens are making them turn against themselves. |
| "The Last Leaf" | O. Henry | Johnsy, Sue, Mr. Berhman, doctor | A young girl believes that she will die when the last leaf falls off the vine outside her window. An old painter paints a leaf on the wall so she will live; he dies in the process. |
| "After Twenty Years" | O. Henry | Jimmy, Bob | Two friends agree to meet in 20 years. After the years pass, they do meet, but one has to arrest the other for crimes committed during their time apart. |

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| "The Tell-Tale Heart" | Edgar Alan Poe | Narrator, old man | A man becomes is obsessed with the eye of an old man in his care. He kills the old gentleman, chops up the corpse, and buries him beneath the floorboards. When police arrive, he ends up confessing his crime due to incredible guilt that makes him hear the old man's heartbeat. |
| "The Black Cat" | Edgar Alan Poe | Narrator, his wife, Pluto the cat, another cat | A man's rage makes him abuse his cat, kill his wife and hide the evidence in the wall of his bedroom. His guilt is discovered when he talks to the police in a cocky manner. They tap on the wall and discover her body and that of the cat. |
| "The Other Foot" | Ray Bradbury | Willie, Hattie, the white man, the townspeople | The blacks who now inhabit Mars are being asked to be taken in by the whites who have destroyed Earth. At first, they want to retaliate and treat the whites as they were treated. But then, they decide to welcome them, since all of their hatred was destroyed on Earth. |
| "The Birthmark" | Nathaniel Hawthorne | Aylmer, Georgiana | A scientist becomes obsessed by a tiny birthmark on his wife's face. He decided to get rid of it chemically. He tries his potion on a plant which begins to thrive. When he gives it to his wife, the birthmark fades. As it does, the plant dies, and she slowly succumbs to the chemicals. THEME: Beauty comes from within. |
| "The Monkey's Paw" | W.W. Jacobs | Mr. and Mrs. White, Herbert, Sgt Major Morris | Morris visits the Whites and tells the story of an enchanted monkey's paw, whose 3 wishes have caused trouble on the previous owners. They wish for money and the get it as a compensation for the death of their son. The wife wants to wish the son back, and while that wish appears to be coming true, her husband makes a final wish, we assume, wishing her son away. |
| "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" | Mark Twain | Dan'l Webster, Smiley | A man who has a prized jumping frog gets conned by a stranger and loses his and other people's money. |

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| <u>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</u> | Mark Twain | Tom, Becky, Huck, Joe, Injun Joe, Muff Potter, Dr. Robinson, Widow Douglass, Judge Thatcher, Mary, Sid | This is the story of the adventures and misadventures of a 12-year old boy in mid-1800s Missouri. Tales of playing hooky, with ticks, attending one's own funeral and getting lost in the cave make up this classic. |
| <u>Nightjohn</u> | Gary Paulsen | | |
| <u>Bull Run</u> | Paul Fleischman | 16 characters | Bull Run is told from the points of view of many fictitious characters and one real Union general, McDowell. |
| "The Drummer Boy of Shiloh" | Ray Bradbury | Joby, the general | A frightened young drummer boy is having trouble sleeping the night before a battle. He is visited by the general who tells him he is the heart of the army, and expresses his importance to the war. |
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