

# SPRING 2010 TOP 10 LIST



**As Simple as It Seems**  
by Sarah Weeks

Harper Collins, Ages 8-11

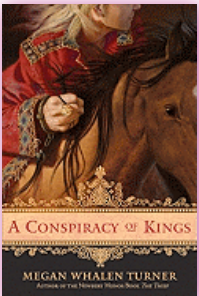
The dramatic events in this book may seem like the plot of any common juvenile pageturner, but in Sarah Weeks competent hands this book is anything but. It's a story of learning who you are and where you fit in the world.



**As Easy as Falling Off the Face of the Earth**  
by Lynne Rae Perkins

Greenwillow, Ages 12+

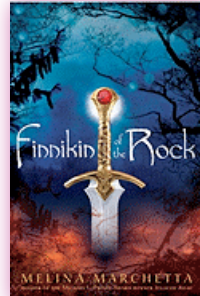
This wacky tale includes happenings both funny and harrowing, but Perkins keeps it light in tone. Determination, blind faith and stubbornness bring the story to a conclusion that will relieve readers hanging on for the ride of the year!



**A Conspiracy of Kings**  
by Megan Whalen Turner

Greenwillow, Ages 8+

Best read in order, the fourth book in this series complements and completes the characters introduced in earlier books. Filled with adventure, romance and complex characters, fans of medieval fiction will spend many delightful hours lost in its pages.



**Finnikin of the Rock**  
by Melina Marchetta

Candlewick, Ages 14+

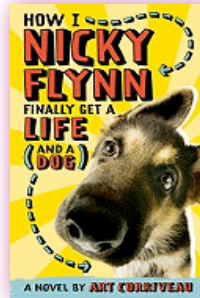
This is a riveting story that will appeal to readers who want excitement, mystery, and romance and don't mind violence. Recommended for fans of Kristin Cashore's *Graceling*.



**Cosmic**  
by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Harper Collins, Ages 8-12

This suspenseful, charming and funny story about a boy who "wins" a chance to be part of an amusement park ride into outer space, is even better than Boyce's *Millions* and *Framed*.



**How I, Nicky Flynn, Finally Get a Life (and a Dog)**  
by Art Corriveau

Abrams, Ages 9-12

Nicky, age 11  $\frac{3}{4}$ , narrates with a hilariously nervous internal monologue about getting his bearings in a tough Boston neighborhood after his parents split and left their affluent suburban life.



**Countdown**  
by Deborah Wiles

Scholastic, Ages 9-12

Against a backdrop of the Cuban Missile Crisis, this novel is unique in having a nonfiction component. Between each chapter are pages of images from the 1960s that serve to help the reader imagine life through the characters' eyes.



**Middleworld, Book 1: The Jaguar Stones**  
by J&P Voelkel

Egmont, Ages 8-12

Middleworld has an exuberance to it. We like the good guys, we loathe the bad guys, and we can't wait to find out about the Yellow Jaguar Stone in book two.



**Crunch**  
by Leslie Connor

Katherine Tegen Books, Ages 9-13

Readers may well want to move in with the Marris family long before the satisfying ending, though they might just as easily come to see adventure and opportunity in their own routines.



**Amelia Rules: The Tweenage Guide to Not Being Unpopular**  
by Jimmy Gownley

Atheneum, Ages 10-14

This is one of the best graphic novel series out there for kids - and for adults with vivid, funny memories of childhood.