

Fort Collins Regional Library District

Short Cuts

Short but interesting books

Houston. **Bright Freedom's Song.** In the years before the Civil War, Bright discovers that her parents are providing a safe house for the Underground Railroad and helps to save a runaway slave named Marcus.

Lester. **Pharaoh's Daughter.** An Egyptian princess rescues a Hebrew baby who becomes a prophet of his people while his sister finds her true self as a priestess to the Egyptian gods.

McDonald. **Twists and Turns.** With the help of a couple of successful friends, Teesha and Keeba try to capitalize on their talents by opening a hair salon in the run-down Brooklyn housing project where they live.

Morgenstern. **Three Days Off.** During a 3-day suspension for insulting a teacher, an apathetic French high school student meets diverse people who give him new insights into education and life.

Namioka. **Ties that Bind, Ties that Break.** Ailin's life takes a different turn when she defies the traditions of upper-class Chinese society by refusing to have her feet bound.

Nixon. **Other Side of Dark.** When Stacy wakes up she feels like she's had a long dream; then she realizes that she is in a hospital room and that something is terribly wrong. She's been in a coma since her 13th birthday and now she's 17.

Norton. **Monster's Legacy.** Sarita expected to live her life in peace as an apprentice making surcoats and banners. That peace is interrupted by an attack and Sarita put in charge of the Earl's infant son.

Paulsen. **Tucket's Gold.** Francis and the two children he has adopted travel across the Old West, evade Comancheros, discover a treasure, and wind up rich beyond their wild-est dreams.

Rodowsky. **Spindrift.** Cassie sees her close-knit family life changing drastically as her older sister has a baby, reveals the true nature of her husband, and announces the breakup of her marriage.

Rylant. **Missing May.** After the death of the aunt who has raised her, Summer and her uncle Ob leave their West Virginia trailer in search of the strength to go on living.

Sleator. **Singularity.** Twins Harry and Barry stumble across a gateway to another universe where a distortion in time and space causes a dramatic change in their competitive relationship.

Soto. **Taking Sides.** Lincoln Mendoza, an aspiring basketball player, must come to terms with his divided loyalties when he moves from the Latino inner city to a white suburban neighborhood.

Strasser. **Give a Boy a Gun.** Gunshots echo through the gym. Two heavily armed students hold their classmates hostage at a high school dance. Their targets are the football players and teachers who have tormented them. They are ready for revenge.

Taylor. **Blue Lawn.** A teen boy acknowledges his attraction to an older rugby teammate as he also begins to break out of preconceived notions about him held by his family and others.

Taylor. **Cay.** Phillip is stranded on an island with only an old black man and a cat for company. He is totally dependent on the old man for survival since he was hit on the head during the shipwreck and now he is blind. His mother taught him that white people are superior to people of any other color, so he also must deal with his own prejudice.

Thesman. **In the House of the Queen's Beasts.** Emily finds refuge in a tree house in the yard of her new home in Seattle and develops a friendship with a troubled girl.

Wittlinger. **Long Night of Leo and Bree.** On the anniversary of his sister's murder, Leo, tormented by his mother's accusations and his own waking nightmares, kidnaps a wealthy girl intending to kill her, but instead their long night together helps them both face their futures.