2009 Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award nominees

Atwater-Rhodes, Amelia. *Hawksong* (YA fiction)
In a land that has been at war so long that no one remembers the reason for fighting, the shapeshifters who rule the two factions agree to marry in the hope of bringing peace, despite deep-seated fear and distrust of each other.

Barry, Max. *Jennifer Government* (adult fiction; F B)
In a corporate-governed future world where people take the last names of the companies they work for, merchandising officer Hack Nike tries to get out of a contract that requires him to shoot teenagers, a situation that results in his unwitting involvement with an agent who is out to get Hack's employer. www.maxbarry.com

Bennett, Holly. *The Bonemender* (YA fiction)
Gabrielle DesChenes, gifted Healer and one of the royal family of Verdeau, finds herself falling in love with Feolan, an Elf who arrives at her castle seeking help for his wounded friend and who warns of imminent danger from invaders who threaten the freedom of all who live in the Krylian Basin.

Chima, Cinda Williams. *The Warrior Heir* (YA fiction)
After learning about his magical ancestry and his own warrior powers, sixteen-year-old Jack embarks on a training program to fight enemy wizards. www.cindachima.com

Donnelly, Jennifer. *A Northern Ligh*t (YA fiction)
Sixteen-year-old Mattie, determined to attend college and be a writer against the wishes of her father and boyfriend, takes a job at a hotel in 1906 where the death of a guest renews her determination to live her own life. www.jenniferdonnelly.com

Giles, Gail. *What Happened to Cass McBride?* (YA fiction)
After his younger brother commits suicide, Kyle Kirby decides to exact revenge on the person he holds responsible. www.gailgiles.com

Green, John. *Looking for Alaska* (YA fiction)
Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash. www.sparksflyup.com

Hopkins, Ellen. *Crank* (YA fiction)
Kristina Snow is the perfect daughter, but she meets a boy who introduces her to drugs and becomes a very different person, struggling to control her life and her mind. www.ellenhopkins.com

Jordan, Chris. *Taken* (YA fiction)
In a terrible instant, Kate Bickford's young son vanishes. Racing home hoping to find her son, Kate comes face-to-face with his abductor, who wants all the money she has. If she doesn't follow something he calls The Method, the consequences will be gruesome. www.rodmanphilbrick.com

Lansens, Lori. *The Girls* (adult fiction; F L)
"We've been called many things: freaks, horrors, monsters, devils, witches, retards, wonders, marvels. To most, we're a curiosity. In small-town Leaford, where we live and work, we're just 'The Girls.'"

Leitch, Will. *Catch* (YA fiction)
Teenager Tim Temples must decide if he wants to leave his comfortable life in a small town and go to college.

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Lipsyte, Robert. *Raiders Night* (YA fiction)
Matt Rydeck, co-captain of his high school football team, endures a traumatic season as he witnesses the rape of a rookie player by teammates and grapples with his own use of performance-enhancing drugs. www.robertlipsyte.com

McCormick, Patricia. *Sold* (YA fiction)
Thirteen-year-old Lakshmi leaves her poor mountain home in Nepal thinking that she is to work in the city as a maid only to find that she has been sold into the sex slave trade in India and that there is no hope of escape. www.pattymccormick.com

Mortenson, Greg. *Three Cups of Tea* (adult non-fiction; 371.822 M842)
Haji Ali, Korphe Village Chief, Karakoram mountains, Pakistan in 1993, after a terrifying and disastrous attempt to climb K2, a mountaineer called Greg Mortenson drifted, cold and dehydrated,into an impoverished Pakistan village in the Karakoram Mountains. This is the story of that promise and its extraordinary outcome. www.ikat.org

Murdock, Catherine. *Dairy Queen* (YA fiction)
After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her. www.catherinemurdock.com

Oates, Joyce Carol. *After the Wreck, I Picked Myself Up, Spread My Wings and Flew Away* (YA fiction)
Blaming herself for the car accident on the Tappan Zee Bridge that killed her mother, fifteen-year-old Jenna undergoes a difficult physical and emotional recovery. www.jco.usfca.edu

Picoult, Jodi. *The Tenth Circle* (adult fiction; F P)
Trixie Stone is only a freshman in high school when Jason, the junior she thinks she loves, dumps her. Then one night at a party, their paths cross again. A few hours later, a visibly shaken Trixie comes home to tell her father that Jason assaulted her. Daniel Stone has always done everything in his power to keep his daughter safe. But he never imagined anything so devastating could happen to Trixie--and now he's not sure how to help her. www.jodipicoult.com

Riordan, Rick. *The Lightning Thief* (YA fiction; 2 copies in youth fiction also)
After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods. www.rickriordan.com

Vizzini, Ned. *It's Kind of a Funny Story* (YA fiction)
A humorous account of a New York City teenager's battle with depression and his time spent in a psychiatric hospital. www.nedvizzini.com

Westerfeld, Scott. *Peeps* (YA fiction)
Cal Thompson is a carrier of a parasite that causes vampirism, and must hunt down all of the girlfriends he has unknowingly infected. www.scottwesterfeld.com

Wiess, Laura. *Such a Pretty Girl* (YA fiction)
Haunted by flashbacks, fifteen-year-old Meredith learns that three years in prison has not changed the abusive father who molested her. www.laurawiess.com

Zusak, Markus. *I am the Messenger* (YA fiction)
After capturing a bank robber, nineteen-year-old cab driver Ed Kennedy begins receiving mysterious messages that direct him to addresses where people need help, and he begins getting over his lifelong feeling of worthlessness.