

# Mr. Bundy's Book List

*Started in 2010 ... read on for later years!*

## Book.

(Author)

### *The Devil's Arithmetic.*

☺☺☺☺

(Jane Yolen)

Deals with the banality of evil that encompasses the Holocaust. Interesting study in human nature and discrimination. Through the power of fiction, we are able to insert ourselves into history.

### *Nobody Comes Back.*

☺

(Donn Pearce)

Story about a young paratrooper pressed into service during the Battle of the Bulge. Quick read, not impressive.

### *The Watson's: Go to Birmingham 1963.*

☺☺☺

(Christopher Paul Curtis)

Very interesting young adult novel about the civil rights movement and racial tensions of the early 1960's. Historical fiction.

### *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas.*

☺☺☺

(John Boyle)

Told from the perspective of a young German boy who befriends a Jewish boy at a WWII concentration camp. Unexpected ending!

### *MY LIFE IN BASEBALL: The True Record.*

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(Ty Cobb with Al Stump)

If you like baseball, you will love this one! Ty Cobb does make himself quite lovable, but what the heck....it is an autobiography!

### *Checkpoints.*

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(Marilyn Levy)

Excellent story about an Arab girl and a Jewish girl that become friends in Jerusalem. Good insight into Middle East conflict.

### *The Last Valentine.*

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(James Michael Pratt)

I hate to admit it, but it is a great love story with WWII as the back drop. Highly recommend!

### *Playing the Enemy. Nelson Mandela and the Game That Made a Nation.*

☺☺☺☺☺

(John Carlin)

A book that deals with Rugby and the end of Apartheid in South Africa. Excellent study in leadership with Nelson Mandela as the focal point.

### *Maikäfer flieg.* (in German: June bug fly away)

☺☺☺☺☺

(Christine Nöstlinger)

A family in Vienna befriends a cook in the Russian army at the end of WWII. Fascinating work!

### *Patton in His Own Words.*

☺☺☺

(Edited by, Dennis Showalter)

Patton could really motivate. He was actually quite fair with his direct subordinates; he did not want them to develop a fear of failure.

### *Know the Sport: Rugby*

☺

(Compiled by: The Rugby Football Union)

After watching the movie *Invictus*, I wanted to know more about the game. Rugby seems a bit brutish.

### *Think Better Baseball.*

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(Bob Cluck)

Great descriptions of various baseball strategies. Able to really think through pitch selection and defenses.

**Albert Einstein.**



(Elma Ehrlich Levinger)

Written in 1948 when Einstein was 70 years old. Fascinating discussion on the man. My favorite chapter is a simple discussion of the Theory of Relativity. Einstein was almost more of a poet than a scientist. He embodies the genius of a person who can think thoughts that no one else has had. I found the book in a stack of old library books at school.

**Secrets of Big League Play**



(Robert Smith)

Cool old baseball book from the Little League Library. It was fun to read a strategy book written in 1965 and compare all the similarities (a few differences) with today's game. Great look at the history of baseball instruction. Good stuff for my Team!

**The Whipping Boy**



(Sid Fleischmann)

A Newberry Award Winner. The ending was predictable, but it was a fun journey. Excellent youth novel (with a medieval time period setting) dealing with self worth, friendship, and perceptions. Read and spend an hour reflecting on personal relationships

**Die Schildbürger** (in German: The Citizens of Schild)



(Erich Kästner)

A classic youth novel about a make believe city in Germany. The stories are clever little essays on behavior and logic. The stories are kind of an early 1900's version of a German *Simpson's* family. Very funny.

**Strange but True Baseball Stories**

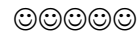


(Furman Bisher)

I got a little carried away getting old books from the Little League Library. But, there were some cool stories about obscure baseball personalities. My favorite was about the Boston Braves improbable 1914 National League pennant winning year. They then beat the Philadelphia Athletics for the Series! Fun baseball history.

## *Mr. Bundy's Book List of 2011*

**The Fall of Berlin 1945**



(Anthony Beevor)

One of the best history books I have ever read. Very engrossing story of the German army retreat and the events that surrounded their loss of the war, territory and power.

**Die Mauer ist Gefallen** (German: The Wall has Fallen)



(Suzanne Frisch)

Funny little history book about the former East Germany. The author was 12 when the wall fell and she does a neat job of tying her experiences to the greater historical story of 1989 and the events immediately preceding and immediately following "Die Wende."

**The Firm; The Inside Story of the Stasi**



(Gary Bruce)

Very academic in nature. Not a flowing story, mostly academic research and interviews. Interesting because the subject fascinates me. The Stasi (East German Secret Police) do not seem to be the intimidating group they pretended to be. That said, they were pretty ruthless, but not to the extent of the Soviet KGB.

**The Door in the Wall**



(Marguerite de Angeli)

I really liked it. Cool story about the son of a Knight who was crippled and how he comes to accept his infirmity and actually saves the day through ingenuity and bravery. Great young adult novel.

**The Holy Land: Crossroads of Faith and Conflict**



(National Geographic)

Very readable history of the Holy Land and the three major religions that sprang from that area.

**Great No-Hit Games of the Major Leagues**

☺☺

(Frank Graham Jr.)

**Harry Potter und der Stein der Weisen** (German: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone)

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(Joanne K. Rowling)

**The Crusades: The Authoritative History of the War for the Holy Land**

☺☺☺(Thomas Asbridge)

**The Byzantines**

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(Thomas Caldecott Chubb)

**Wenn die Sterne Sprechen Könnten**

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(Batesheva Dagan)

## *Mr. Bundy's Book List of 2012*

**If We Must Die: A Novel of Tulsa's 1921 Greenwood Riot** ☺☺☺☺

(Pat Carr)

Expertly handles a very dark episode in American history, the Tulsa Race Riots. Superbly told story behind this blatantly racially motivated destruction of a prominent African-American neighborhood in Tulsa. This is a great read and highly recommended for anyone wanting to understand early 20<sup>th</sup> century history.

**Ukraine: A New Independence**

☺☺

(Rebecca Clay)

An interesting little book that gives a very broad historical and sociological overview of Ukraine. Very Readable. Learned the *Pysanka* originated in Ukraine. Painted Easter Egg.

**Chess**

☺☺

(Gareth Williams)

Learned that Rook comes from old Persian word for chariot and that the white square is always in right hand corner.

**Ukraine: Lonely Planet**

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**The Road to Jerusalem; Book one of the Crusades Trilogy**

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(Jan Guillou)

One of the best books I have read in quite a while. Cool recreation of a Middle Age Cloister. Portrayed a very pious Father Henri and his new charge Arn. Very good job of showing life in the time and specifically in church.

**The Templar Knight; Book two of the Crusades Trilogy**

☺☺☺☺☺

(Jan Guillou)

Interesting look at the Crusades and the fall of Christian Jerusalem. The Templar Knights and Saldin and the Saracens described in great detail. Even better than the first book.