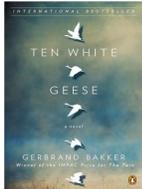


## Books on “Appeal Elements” by Cathleen Towey Merenda

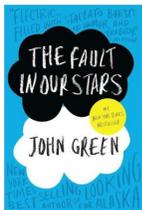
Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. **Americanah.** A powerful, tender story of race and identity about two Nigerian refugees caught in a dangerous situation. One of *The New York Times*' Ten Best Books of the Year.



Baker, Gerbrand. **Ten White Geese.** The protagonist is an Emily Dickinson scholar from Amsterdam calling herself Emilie and seeking anonymity in rural Wales. Winner of the *Independent Foreign Fiction Prize*.

Fink, Sheri. **Five Days at Memorial: Life and Death in a Storm-Ravaged Hospital.** This is a detailed recounting of what happened at Memorial Medical Center in New Orleans during and after Hurricane Katrina.

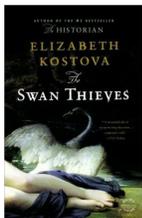
Florand, Laura. **The Chocolate Heart.** A page turner that pierces your heart with its poignancy and laughter, tempts your senses with delicious pastries and chocolates, and the city that is Paris.



Green, John. **The Fault in Our Stars.** Green's most ambitious and heartbreaking work yet, brilliantly exploring the funny, thrilling, and tragic business of being alive and in love.

Jansama, Kristopher. **The Unchangeable Spots of Leopards.** "F. Scott Fitzgerald meets Wes Anderson" in this inventive and witty debut about a young man's quest to become a writer and the misadventures in life and love that take him around the globe.

Koch, Herman. **The Dinner.** The darkly suspenseful, highly controversial tale of two families struggling to make the hardest decision of their lives—all over the course of one meal.



Kostova, Elizabeth. **The Swan Thieves.** Moving from American museums to the coast of Normandy, from the late nineteenth century to the late twentieth, from young love to last love, this is a story of obsession, the losses of history, and the power of art to preserve human hope.

Kuhns, Eleanor. **A Simple Murder.** The hero of this historical mystery set in the Shaker community in the days after the Revolutionary War finds himself launched into a complicated investigation where the bodies keep multiplying and a tangled web of family connections casts suspicion on everyone.



Lehman, Stephanie. **Astor Place Vintage.** Amanda Rosenbloom, proprietor of Astor Place Vintage, thinks she's on just another call to appraise and possibly purchase clothing from a wealthy, elderly woman. But after discovering a journal sewn into a fur muff, Amanda gets much more than she anticipated.

Marra, Anthony. **The Constellation of Vital Phenomena.** In a small rural village in Chechnya, eight-year-old Havaa watches from the woods as Russian soldiers abduct her father in the middle of the night and then set fire to her home. When their lifelong neighbor Akhmed finds Havaa hiding in the forest, he makes a decision that will forever change their lives.

McMahon, Jennifer. **The Winter People.** McMahon writes a psychological mystery that pits a young female with humanizing strength and vulnerability against old secrets posing present dangers, forcing her to confront mystery and legend in a creepily seductive setting.



Rieger, Susan. **The Divorce Papers.** This sometimes hilarious, sometimes heartbreaking novel tells the story of a very messy, very high-profile divorce and the endearingly cynical young lawyer dragooned into handling it, told entirely through personal correspondence, office memos, e-mails, articles, handwritten notes, and legal documents.

Tartt, Donna. **The Goldfinch.** The story begins with an explosion at the Metropolitan Museum that kills narrator Theo Decker's beloved mother and results in his unlikely possession of a Dutch masterwork called The Goldfinch. Shootouts, gangsters, pillowcases, storage lockers, and the black market for art all play parts in the ensuing life of the painting in Theo's care.