

# Mrs. Parsons Reading List

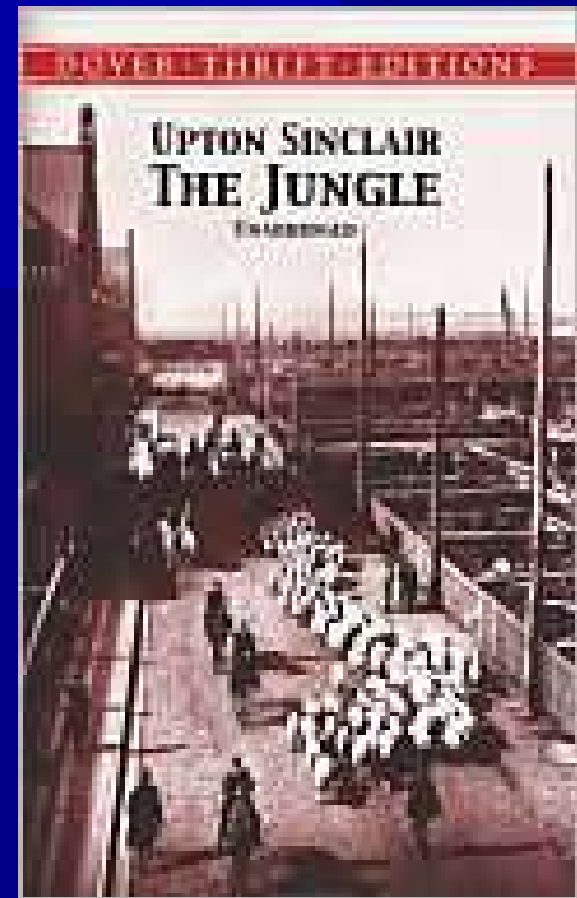
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

- 2010-2011

# The Jungle

## ■ By Upton Sinclair

Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* is a vivid portrait of life and death in a turn-of-the-century American meat-packing factory. A grim indictment that led to government regulations of the food industry, *The Jungle* is Sinclair's extraordinary contribution to literature and social reform.



<http://www.sfmuseum.org/hist1/sinclair.html>

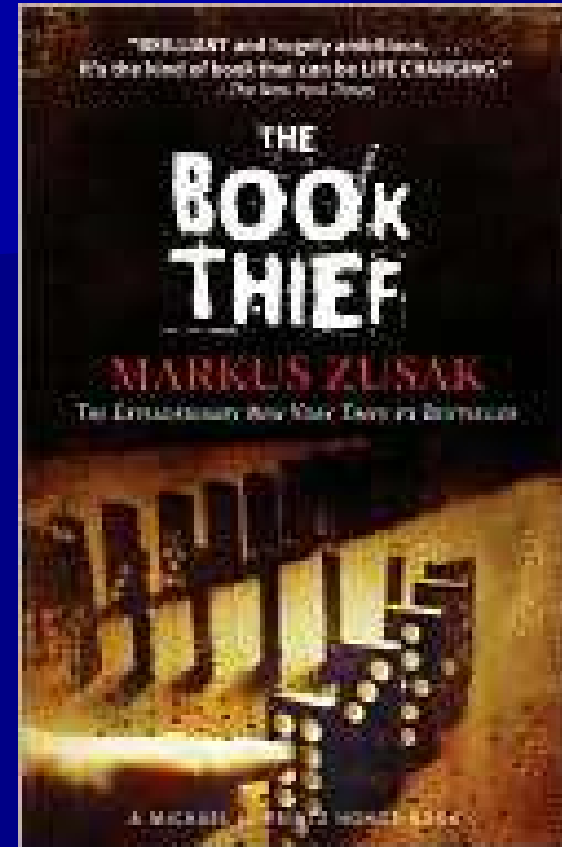
# The Book Thief

■ By Markus Zusak

It's just a small story really, about among other things: a girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist-fighter, and quite a lot of thievery. . .

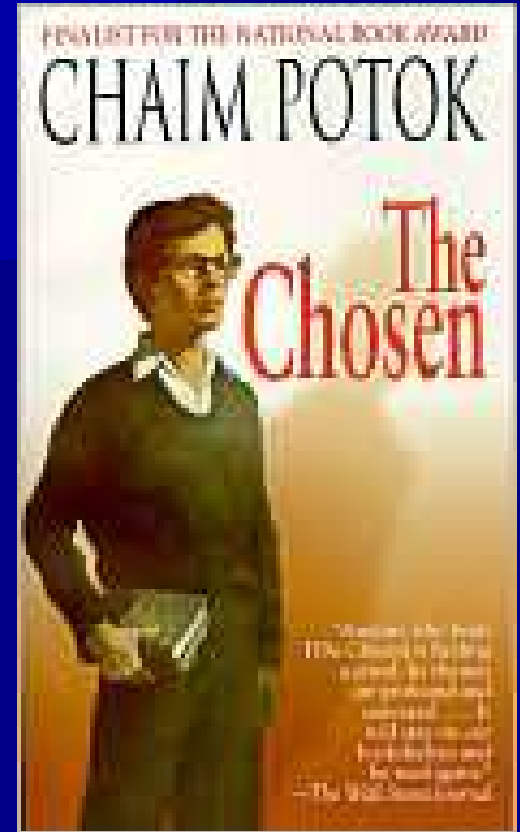


**Australian author Markus Zusak grew up hearing stories about Nazi Germany, about the bombing of Munich and about Jews being marched through his mother's small, German town. He always knew it was a story he wanted to tell**



# The Chosen by Chiam Potok

"From the time Danny was about six or seven until the end of his last year in college, Reb Saunders, Danny's father, had deliberately created a barrier of silence between himself and his son, except when they studied Talmud together. He was frightened of Danny's cold brilliance; he wanted to teach his son what it meant to suffer."

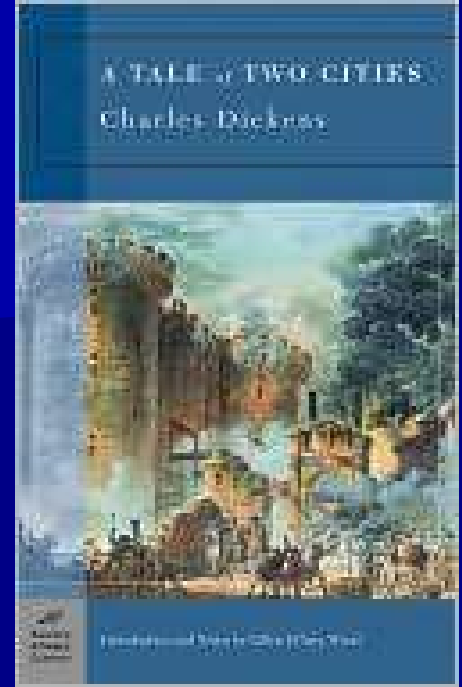


**Two life experiences have been major influences on the work of Chaim Potok. They are the world of Orthodox Judaism in which he was raised and the larger world he experienced when he served as an army chaplain during the Korean War**

# Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

It is a far, far better thing that I do,  
than I have ever done; it is a far, far  
better rest that I go to, than I have  
ever known.

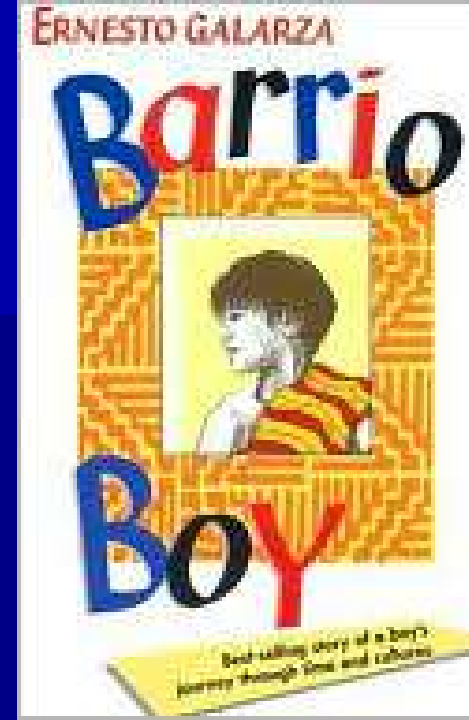
- **Charles Dickens,**
- *A Tale of Two Cities*  
*English novelist (1812 - 1870)*



**Charles Dickens (February 7, 1812-June 9, 1870) is often considered the finest English novelist of the 19th century. His enduring comic characters are part of the culture. He is known as well for exposing the wretchedness of the downtrodden, for his anger at their heartless oppression and for his contribution to the celebration of Christmas. An enormously successful author and performer of his own work, he was the conscience of Victorian England**

# Barrio Boy by Ernesto Galarza

The true story of a Mexican boy who, with his family, made the journey from his mountain village in Mexico to the barrio of Sacramento during the Mexican revolution.



**When Ernesto Galarza was eight, he and his parents migrated to Sacramento, California, where he worked as a farm laborer. Excelling at school, he became one of the first Mexican-Americans from a poor background to complete college. Galarza returned to California, where he organized unions for farm laborers, joining the effort to create the first multiracial farm worker union. While this effort failed, it created the foundation for the United Farm Workers Union of the 1960s. He wrote several books, most notably the 1964 *Merchants of Labor*, on the exploitation of Mexican contract workers, and the 1971 *Barrio Boy*, about his own childhood. He was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1976.**