

## Staff Favorites 2016

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*Banned and Challenged Books Loved by Staff*

### Staff Favorite Banned & Challenged

#### [Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#)

by Carroll, Lewis

##### **J Fiction**

*Banned in 1931 in Hunan, China for its depiction of animals behaving like humans. I adore this book because of its whimsy, its witty use of English, its playful lampooning of politics, and its promise of the wonders of other worlds so close to our own that one can merely step into them. Oh, and for its depictions of animals behaving like humans.*

#### [And Tango Makes Three](#)

by Richardson, Justin

##### **JEASY**

*Who doesn't like an adorable picture book about penguins? The fact that it's a true story is, in my opinion, an added bonus.*

#### [The Awakening](#)

by Chopin, Kate

##### **Large Type Fiction**

*Another great work about overcoming dis-empowerment that is also beautifully written and evocative of place, time, and culture. Another haunting story of pain and beauty, choice, death, and a life worth living.*

#### [The Color Purple](#)

by Walker, Alice

##### **Fiction**

*Beautifully written account of overcoming dis-empowerment; evocative of place, time, and culture. One of my favorite haunting stories of pain and beauty, choice, death, and a life worth.*

#### [Dragonball](#)

**Series Title:** [Dragonball](#)

by Toriyama, Akira

##### **YA GN Fiction**

*These Graphic Novels have been the source of controversies over the years, but the stories are anywhere from classic to progressive. Dragonball is a graphic novel I read as a kid, and it definitely molded me into who I am today.*

#### [Drama](#)

**Series Title:** [Drama](#)

by Telgemeier, Raina

##### **J GN Fiction**

*This graphic novel has been the source of controversies over the years as well. Drama, which has LGBT characters, which is exceedingly important in the more tolerant modern age.*

### [East of Eden](#)

by Steinbeck, John

#### **FICTION STE**

*An epic story of good vs evil taking place from coast to coast and over generations. Through rich description the characters come alive as does the landscape. Steinbeck's description of Salinas and the surrounding areas is breathtaking and I gain something new from every read.*

### [Harry Potter and the sorcerer's stone](#)

by Rowling, J. K.

#### **J FICTION ROW**

*It's been widely challenged for violence, glorification of witchcraft, and for having a main character who breaks rules and is insubordinate to his elders. My favorite part about this being a "banned" book is that, if you read the book, it's really a story about the perseverance of love and friendship. Harry wouldn't be alive if it weren't for the love of his parents and he wouldn't have made it through the trials of the first book without the aid of his loyal friends (and a little rule-breaking.) People who try to ban Harry Potter have obviously never read it or else they would know that they're trying to deprive the world of such a wonderful and rich story.*

### [Harry Potter \(series\)](#)

**Series Title:** [Harry Potter](#)

by Rowling, J. K.

#### **J Fiction ROW**

*A Genre blending favorite of young people and adults alike. The series is so important [as a banned and challenged book] because an entire generation of people grew and matured along with Harry. As kids got older, the books introduced more complex problems and emotional dilemmas. Harry Potter taught a generation of children how to do the right thing when doing so is difficult, how to believe in oneself, and the power of friendship.*

### [Julie of the Wolves](#)

by Jean Craighead, George

#### **J Fction**

*This book gave me the opportunity to experience an adventure story with a female protagonist set in the Arctic tundra. I loved learning about how the wolves lived and how Julie became part of their pack.*

### [The Satanic Verses](#)

by Rushdie, Salman

#### **Fiction**

*It is funny, thoughtful, and I love the way the author plays with language.*