

2025 HS Summer Reading Suggestions



Read It Before the Sun Sets: Novels Set in Summer from Mrs. Fawcett

A stack of can't-miss stories to devour before school's back.

List compiled by Mrs. Fawcett, Scotia-Glenville High School Library Media Specialist

Selections are based on recommendations from students and staff interest coupled with recommended reviews. All suggested titles are available on [Sora](#) as an ebook and/or audiobook.



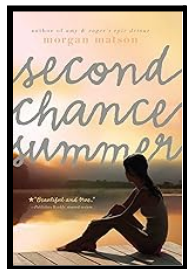
Contemporary Romance / Coming-of-Age



The Summer I Turned Pretty – Jenny Han

Belly spends every summer at a beach house with two brothers—and this year, everything changes as she comes of age and catches their attention.

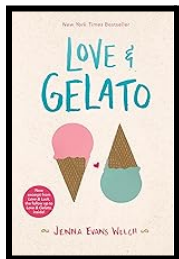
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Second Chance Summer – Morgan Matson

Taylor returns to her family's lake house for one last summer together after heartbreaking news—and reconnects with her first love and old friends.

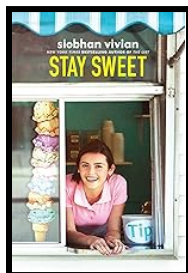
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Love & Gelato – Jenna Evans Welch

After her mother dies, Lina spends the summer in Italy, uncovering family secrets, eating gelato, and falling in love.

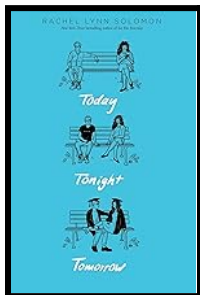
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Stay Sweet – Siobhan Vivian

Amelia takes over a historic ice cream stand for the summer and discovers the rich history of the women who ran it—and her own voice.

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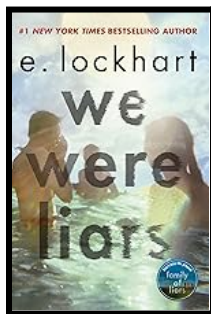


***Today Tonight Tomorrow* – Rachel Lynn Solomon**

Academic rivals team up during a 24-hour senior class game in Seattle—and discover there might be more than competition between them.

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 Mystery / Thriller

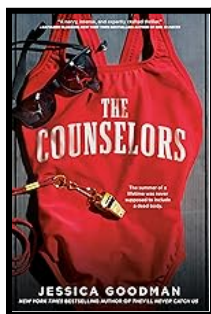


***We Were Liars* – E. Lockhart**

On a private island, a wealthy family's summer traditions unravel as Cadence uncovers a haunting truth about her past.

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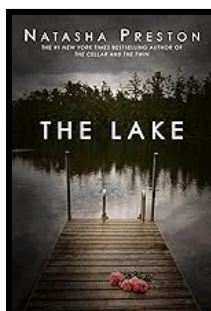
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***The Counselors* – Jessica Goodman**

Goldie returns to her elite summer camp as a counselor—but when a boy dies, buried secrets and class divides bubble to the surface.

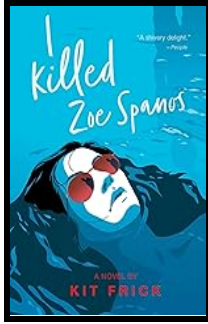
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***The Lake* – Natasha Preston**

Two girls return to summer camp hiding a dark secret—but someone knows the truth and wants revenge.

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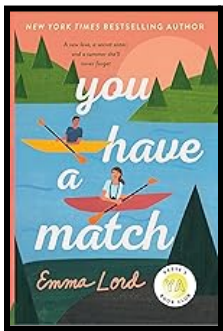
I Killed Zoe Spanos – Kit Frick

A summer nanny confesses to a murder she may not have committed. Inspired by *Rebecca*, it's full of twists and podcast drama.

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Adventure / Escape / Camp

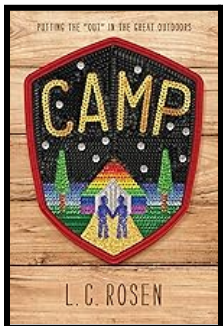


***You Have a Match* – Emma Lord**

A DNA test reveals a surprise sister, and the two meet at summer camp—where drama, romance, and self-discovery unfold.

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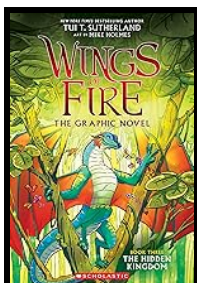
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***Camp* – L.C. Rosen**

Randy reinvents himself to impress his crush at queer summer camp—but learns love and identity aren't one-size-fits-all.

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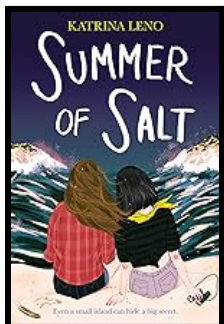


***Wings of Fire: The Hidden Kingdom (Graphic Novel)* – Tui T. Sutherland**

In the steamy rainforest, the dragonets uncover secrets about their destiny and hidden enemies. A fast-paced summer fantasy adventure.

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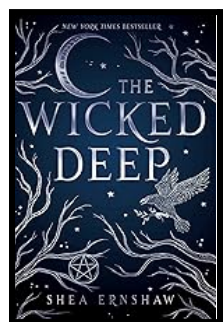
 Fantasy / Magical Realism



Summer of Salt – Katrina Leno

On a magical island, twin sisters await their family’s powers to awaken—until a mysterious death changes everything.

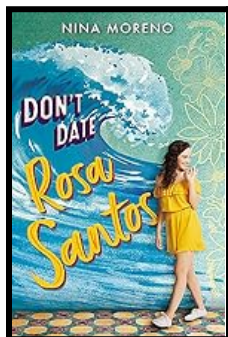
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The Wicked Deep – Shea Ernshaw

Every summer, three drowned witches return to drown boys in revenge—until one girl dares to end the curse.

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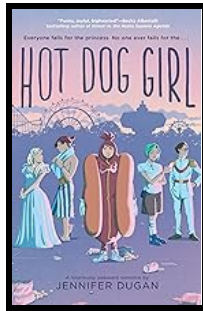


Don't Date Rosa Santos – Nina Moreno

Rosa is cursed by the sea—at least, that’s what her family says. A magical realist romance steeped in Cuban culture and coastal charm.

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 LGBTQ+ Reads



Hot Dog Girl – Jennifer Dugan

Elouise schemes to win over her crush while working at a kitschy amusement park in a hot dog costume—but her heart might want someone else.

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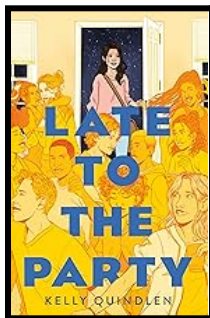


Cool for the Summer – Dahlia Adler

Lara had a secret summer fling with a girl. Now, back at school, her longtime crush is finally interested—so why can't she stop thinking about Jasmine?

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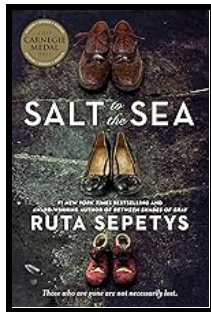


Late to the Party – Kelly Quindlen

Codi feels left out of teen life, until she befriends a popular gay boy and begins exploring parties, identity, and love for the first time.

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Historical Fiction / Literary



Salt to the Sea – Ruta Sepetys

Four teens from different countries flee war-torn Europe during WWII, ultimately boarding a doomed refugee ship. Poignant, powerful, unforgettable.

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This Time Will Be Different – Misa Sugiura

When CJ's family's flower shop is threatened, she must fight for her legacy while navigating love, activism, and a summer of reckoning with history.

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It is sometimes hard to find the right book for the right reader, so in addition to the nonfiction, graphic novel, and fiction suggestions above, we're also including a list of authors with multiple books or series that increase the opportunity of finding the best book for you, the reader.

Recommended Authors: Kwame Alexander, Laurie Halse Anderson, Joseph Bruchac, Bill Bryson, Meg Cabot, Rae Carson, Chris Crutcher, Sarah Dessen, Malcolm Gladwell, John Green, April Henry, A.S. King, Jon Krakauer, David Levithan, Marie Lu, Marissa Meyer, Walter Dean Myers, Jason Reynolds, Ruta Sepetys, Steve Sheinkin, Roland Smith, Todd Strasser, Raina Telgemeier, Angie Thomas, Terry Trueman, Paul Volponi, Cat Winters, Lawrence Wright, Jeannette Walls, and Gene Luen Yang, Markus Zusak