



South Huntington UFSD

SUMMER READING 2025



Stimson Middle School/Silas Wood Suggested Reading List

The following list contains suggested titles to your reading pleasure! The librarians at the South Huntington Public Library are expecting you and would be happy to help you find these or other books for your enjoyment. Additionally, many downloadable books are available at the library for free using the **Libby** or **Hoopla** systems! You may also use **Sora** to find some of these great titles! **If you don't have a SHPL Library card, this would be a great time to get one!** Check out their website for more information. If you have any questions regarding the books listed please contact

Mrs. Teeter, Steeter@shufsd.org. Thank you.

Please note: *Other titles from these authors would also be acceptable

All books in a series, would also be acceptable



HISTORICAL FICTION

Ahn, Flora **A Spoonful of Time**

A middle grade novel in which time travel, family recipes, and family secrets collide. There's something almost magical about the way Maya's grandmother cooks.

Bradford, Chris **Young Samurai: The Way of the Warrior**

Rescued by the legendary sword master Masamoto Takeshi, Jack's only hope is to become a samurai warrior. And so his training begins.

Bruchac, Joseph* **Code Talker

After being taught in boarding school that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Bryant, Emily **Glow**

Lydia is thrilled to join the working girls in the factory, where they paint luminous watch dials for the soldiers fighting in World War I.

Cambria, Gordon **The Poetry of Secrets**

A historical fiction novel set in 15th-century Spain, specifically during the Spanish Inquisition.

Choldenko, Jennifer **Al Capone Does My Shirts**

A well-regarded historical fiction novel for young adults that follows 12-year-old Moose Flanagan as he and his family move to Alcatraz in 1935.

Cuevas, Adrianna **What Fell From the Sky**

All Pineda Matlage wants is to get through the school year and maybe pull an epic prank or two with his friends Junior, Ernesto, and Patsy

Curtis, Christopher Paul* **Elijah of Buxton

This middle-grade historical novel follows the journey of 11-year-old Elijah, born free in the Buxton settlement in Canada, a refuge for freed slaves.

Cushman, Karen **Catherine, Called Birdie**

A historical novel for young adults set in 13th-century England. It follows the life of Catherine, a clever and rebellious 14-year-old girl who navigates a world of societal expectations and a looming arranged marriage.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark **Shooting the Moon**

A poignant coming-of-age story centered on a young girl's journey through the Vietnam War era.

Falksen, G.D. **The Secret Life of Kitty Granger**

A thrilling adventure story set in 1967 London, following 16-year-old Kitty, a girl on the autism spectrum who has exceptional observational skills.

Gratz, Alan* **Grenade

A powerful and realistic novel set during the American invasion of Okinawa in World War II.

Hannigan, Kate **Detective's Assistant**

Eleven-year-old Nell Warne arrives on her aunt's doorstep lugging a heavy sack of sorrows. If her Aunt Kate rejects her, it's the miserable Home for the Friendless.

Hur, June **The Forest of Stolen Girls**

1426, Joseon (Korea). Hwani's family has never been the same since she and her younger sister went missing and were later found unconscious in the forest near a gruesome crime scene.

Lasky, Kathryn* **Night Witches

Sixteen-year-old Valya knows what it feels like to fly. She's a pilot who's always felt more at home soaring through the sky than down on earth. But since the Germans surrounded Stalingrad, Valya's been forced to stay on the ground and watch her city crumble.

Laybourne, Emmy **Berserker**

Her brother Stieg swears their powers are a gift from the old gods, but Hanne Hemstad knows she is truly cursed. It's not Stieg's fault that their father is dead, their mother has left, and their brother Knut has been accused of a crime he didn't commit.

Lester, Julius **Day of Tears**

On March 2 and 3, 1859, the largest auction of slaves in American history took place in Savannah, Georgia. More than 400 slaves were sold. On the first day of the auction, the skies darkened and torrential rain began falling. The simultaneity of the rain storm with the auction led to these two days being called "the weeping time."

Lowry, Lois **The Windeby Puzzle: History and Story**

Newbery Medalist and *New York Times* bestselling author Lois Lowry transports readers to an Iron Age world through the suspenseful dual narrative of a boy and girl both battling to survive.

Meyer, Carolyn **Beware, Princess Elizabeth**

A historical tale that reveals the deep-seated rivalry between a determined girl who became one of England's most powerful monarchs and the sister who tried everything to stop her.

Peck, Richard* **The River Between Us

The year is 1861. Civil war is imminent and Tilly Pruitt's brother, Noah, is eager to go and fight on the side of the North.

Toksvig, Sandra **Hitler's Canary**

Although he comes from a family of theater people who don't get involved in politics, ten-year-old Bamse and his Jewish friend Anton join Bamse's brother and participate in the Danish Resistance during World War II.

Wiseman, Eva **Puppet**

A heartbreaking episode in history, explained through the story of a young servant girl in the late 1800s.



ADVENTURE

Arden, Catherine **Small Spaces**

Eleven-year-old Ollie Adler turns to the comfort of books after suffering a tragic loss. She becomes distant and tries to keep to herself as much as she can.

Bradford, Chris **Bodyguard Recruit**

This suspenseful story follows Connor Reeves as he trains to become a bodyguard for teenage children of the elite, including protecting the President's daughter from terrorists.

Charbonneau, Joelle **Time Bomb**

Seven students trapped in their school after a bomb goes off must fight to survive while also discovering who among them is the bomber in this provocative thriller.

Collins, Suzanne **Gregor the Overlander**

The story of a boy who embarks on a dangerous quest in order to fulfill his destiny -- and find his father -- in a strange world beneath New York City.

Gibbs, Stuart **Charlie Thorne and the Last Equation**

A 12-year-old supergenius, Charlie Thorne, is recruited by the CIA to find Einstein's hidden equation, Pandora, which could save or destroy the world.

Griffin, Paul **Skyjacked**

Five high school students and one air-traffic intern will be severely tested as their private plane is Skyjacked.

Halpern, Jake **Edgeland**

Orphaned and alone, Wren dreams of escaping Edgeland, and her chance finally comes when furriers from the Polar north arrive with their dead, and treasure for their dead.

*Hiaasen, Carl **The Finisher**

When 14-year-old Vega Jane's mentor vanishes, leaving a map suggesting a way out of her home town Wormwood, Vega and her friend Delph embark on a dangerous journey to uncover the truth about Wormwood and her own identity.

Hiaasen, Carl **Flush**

Noah Underwood, a young boy, sets out to prove his father's actions were justified after his father is jailed for sinking a casino boat, the Coral Queen, for allegedly dumping sewage into the harbor.

Holt, Chris **The Last Dogs**

When all the humans in his world disappear, Max, a yellow Labrador Retriever, begins the search for his family.

Horowitz, Anthony* **StormBreaker

A young teenager named Alex Rider, after the suspicious death of his guardian, is thrust into the world of spycraft.

Key, Watt **Deep Water**

12-year-old Julie Sims leads a scuba dive with her father's clients, Mr. Jordan and his son Shane, off the coast of Alabama, but when the dive goes wrong they are left stranded in the ocean.

Nielson, Jennifer A. **The False Prince**

A divided kingdom seeks a way to prevent civil war by impersonating the king's long-lost son.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth **Life As We Knew It**

Sixteen-year-old Miranda finds her world thrown into chaos when an asteroid hits the moon and shifts it out of orbit, closer to Earth.

Ponti, James **Deadcity**

Molly Bigelow, a socially awkward, academically gifted 12-year-old, discovers a hidden world beneath New York City

Roland, Smith **Peak**

The physical and emotional challenges that face a fourteen-year-old as he climbs Mount Everest as well as tall buildings in New York City

Welch, Jenna Evans **Love & Gelato**

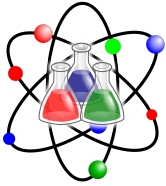
Follows Lina, a high schooler who's sent to spend her summer in Italy with her father, due to her mother's dying wish.

Yee, Lisa **The Misfits**

Olive Cobin Zang, a 12-year-old feeling unseen, is transferred to the Reforming Arts School of San Francisco (RASCH) and discovers her own unique abilities.

Young, Adrienne **Namesake**

The second book in a series, Fable, our protagonist finds herself once again, separated from the ones she loves and being used as a pawn in a rival's scheme for power.



SCIENCE FICTION

Acevedo, Kristy **Consider**

The holograms, claiming to be humans from the future, bring the promise of safety. But without the ability to verify their story, Alex is forced to consider what is best for her friends, her family, and herself.

Bacigalupi, Paolo **Ship Breaker**

Nailer, a teenage scavenger, finds a wrecked clipper ship with a surviving young woman, Nita, and must decide between stripping the ship or rescuing Nita.

Calonita, Jen **12 to 22: POV You Wake Up in the Future!**

12-year-old Harper uses a TikTok filter to jump to her 22-year-old self, only to find that her future isn't quite what she imagined.

Choldenko, Gennifer **No Passengers**

Siblings India, Finn, and Mouse are forced to move to Colorado with their uncle, they must work together to figure out how to get back to their real lives before their time runs out.

Forde, Patricia **The List**

After the death of her master, Letta is suddenly promoted to Wordsmith, uncovering a sinister plan to suppress language; she realizes that it's up to her to save not only words, but culture itself.

*Haddix, Margaret Peterson **Among the Hidden**

Luke, a 12-year-old "shadow child," must live in hiding due to a dystopian law limiting families to two children.

Hardigne, Frances **Deeplight**

Follows Hark and Jelt, scavengers on the island of Lady's Crave, who find themselves entangled in a web of secrets and dangers when they discover the heart of a Leviathan.

Hirsh, Jeff **The Eleventh Plague**

15-year-old Stephen Quinn, lives in the post-apocalyptic aftermath of a third world war that left America's population devastated by a flu-like plague.

Klass, David **Stuck On Earth**

An alien in the body of a teenage boy, Ketchvar III, is sent to Earth to assess humanity's worthiness of annihilation.

Lubar, David **Hidden Talents**

an angry boy sent to an alternative school discovers his own and his friends' powers and uses them to save the school from bullies and bureaucrats.

McBride, Amber **Gone Wolf**

This dystopian story follows a black girl, Inmate Eleven, who is created for a superior Clone and is imprisoned with a dog-wolf hybrid companion who sometimes "goes wolf" when he feels too confined, a feeling Inmate Eleven relates to.

Oppel, Kenneth **Bloom**

Follows three teens – Anaya, Petra, and Seth – who become mysteriously immune to a deadly alien plant invasion that takes over Earth.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth **Life As We Know It**

The novel is told through diary entries from Miranda Evans, a 16-year-old girl, who struggles to survive the harsh conditions of northeastern Pennsylvania with her mother and two brothers.

Poston, Ashley **Heart of Iron**

Ana, a scoundrel with a past, and the Ironblood boy, on a stolen voyage, become fugitives while seeking a way to fix a malfunctioning Metal and uncover lost secrets.

Richards, Justin **The Death Collector**

What starts as an ordinary picket-pocketing incident in Victorian London unites three teens against a madman

Smith, Clete Barrett **Aliens on Vacation**

13-year-old David discovers that his grandmother's inn is a portal for comical aliens from all over the universe

Walden, Mark **Earthfall**

From the Earthfall series, one boy discovers his crucial role in the resistance against the aliens who enslaved humanity through mind control.

Wells, H.G. **The Time Machine**

A Victorian scientist, the Time Traveller, constructs a time machine and journeys to the year 802,701 AD and discovers two distinct human races.



FANTASY

Alston, B.B. **Amari and the Night Brothers**

Amari Peters, a Black girl from the projects, discovers her missing brother, Quinton, was a renowned agent for the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs.

Little Badger, Darcie **Elatsoe**

Ellie, a Lipan Apache teenager with the ability to raise the ghosts of animals, investigates her cousin Trevor's suspicious death.

*Gaiman, Neil **The Graveyard Book**

Nobody "Bod" Owens is raised by the ghostly inhabitants of a graveyard after his family is murdered.

Lim, Elizabeth **The Gate, the Girl and the Dragon**

A lion cub and a girl who must open a portal for the spirits, based on Chinese folklore.

Mathuru, Taran **The Novice**

15-year-old orphan Fletcher, a blacksmith apprentice, discovers he's a summoner, able to conjure demons from another world

Mansy, Lauren **The Memory**

Follows a young thief tasked with stealing a map from someone's mind as she travels through this magical world.

Ness, Patrick **And the Ocean Was Our Sky**

Tells the story of a whale pod, led by Captain Alexandra, who hunts humans in the Abyss (the ocean).

Romero, R.M. **The Tear Collector**

Climate change culminated in the Flood, an enormous wave that wiped out entire countries. Malka and her younger brother Ezra survived and now live with Dr. Jonas Hollman on the Island, the only piece of land left on Earth.

Scott, Michael **The Alchemyst**

15-year-old twins Sophie and Josh Newman are caught in a centuries-old battle between alchemists Nicholas Flamel and John Dee.

Lim, Elizabeth **Six Crimson Cranes**

Princess Shiori of Kiata and her six brothers are cursed by their stepmother, Raikama, to become crimson cranes during the day.

Ibrahim, Maiya **Spice Road**

The story of 17-year-old Imani, who's a member of the elite Shield corp, charged with protecting their hidden city and its magical secrets from the outside world.

Jae- Jones, S. **Zhara**

Jin Zhara, a young apothecary's apprentice in a magic-fearing kingdom, discovers her own magical abilities while hiding them from those who would prosecute her.

Hoffman, Alice **The Foretelling**

Rain, the future queen of an Amazon warrior tribe, faces a prophecy that foretells a different path than her warrior destiny.

Pullman, Philip* **The Golden Compass

Lyra Belacqua lives in a parallel world in which human souls take the form of lifelong animal companions called daemons and dark forces are at work in the girl's world.

Saft A Fragile **Enchantment**

Niamh, a talented dressmaker with the ability to weave emotions into her work, is commissioned to design the wedding wardrobe for a royal wedding in the neighboring kingdom of Avaland.

Stead, Rebecca **When You Reach Me**

Sixth-grader Miranda receives a series of mysterious notes from an unknown sender who claims to be from the future and is attempting to save a life.

Sutherland, Tui* **The Wings of Fire

Follows the adventures of five dragonets who are part of a prophecy to end a war between the seven dragon tribes on the land of Pyrrhia.

Larbalestier, Justine **How to Ditch Your Fairy**

When Charlie unexpectedly gets her heart's desire, it isn't at all what she thought it would be like, and she'll have to resort to extraordinary measures to ditch her fairy.

Yolen, Jane **A Sending of Dragons**

Jakkin and Akki, bonded with the dragon Heart's Blood, continue their journey for freedom and spiritual enlightenment on the planet Austar IV.



MYSTERY

Barnes , Jennifer Lynn **The Inheritance Games Series**

Avery Grambs, a young woman who inherits a fortune from a billionaire she's never met, Tobias Hawthorne but to claim her inheritance, she must live in the secretive and dangerous Hawthorne House.

Bertman, Jennifer* **Book Scavenger

Just after twelve-year-old Emily and her family move to San Francisco, she teams up with new friend James to follow clues in an odd book they find.

Bowling, Dusti **Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus**

Finds 13-year-old Aven Green transplanted to Arizona, thanks to her dad's new job at a Western theme park. She's missing her friends, her home, and her old life.

Briner, Karen **Starry, Starry Heist**

Max has more important things to do than finishing sixth grade, like stopping the biggest art heist the universe has ever known.

Christie, Agatha **And Then There Were None**

Ten strangers are lured to a remote island under false pretenses, where they are each accused of murder by a mysterious, unseen host.

Colfer, Eoin **Half Moon Investigations**

A young detective named Fletcher Moon, nicknamed "Half-Moon" for his small stature, finds himself framed for arson and has to clear his name.

Davies, Jacqueline **The International House of Dereliction**

Quirky, tool-wielding Alice Cannoli-Potchnik begins to repair the dilapidated mansion next door—as well as the ghosts that inhabit it.

Day, Nicholas **The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity**

Tells the story of the famous painting's theft from the Louvre in 1911 and its subsequent fame.

Elston, Ashley **This is Our Story**

Five boys go on an early morning hunt after a late night of partying and drinking, but only four come out alive.

Ellison, Kate **The Butterfly Clues**

Explores the life of a girl who is consumed by her compulsions until the murder of a young girl in the wrong part of town becomes her biggest obsession.

Feinstein, John **Last Shot**

Tells the story of two young reporters, Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson, who stumble upon a plot to blackmail fictional Minnesota State basketball player Chip Graber.

Gibbs, Stuart* **Space Case, Belly Up

Focuses on two interconnected mysteries: a hippo murder and a missing hippo at FunJungle.

Grabenstein, Chris **Escape From Mr. Limoncello's Library**

Twelve-year-old Kyle Keeley wins a chance to spend the night in the newly renovated, technologically advanced library, funded by his hero, game maker Luigi Lemoncello.

Hogan, Edward **Daylight Savings**

When Daniel Lever is dragged to Leisure World Holiday Complex for some “time away” with his depressed dad, his expectations are low, until he spots a girl swimming in the fake lake.

Hoobler, Dorothy **The Ghost in the Tokaido Inn**

The novel follows Seikei, the son of a merchant who aspires to be a samurai, as he helps the judge investigate the theft of a ruby from a samurai lord.

Lekich, John **Murder at the Hotel Hopeless**

Follows Charlie Hope, more cheekily known as “Hopeless”, as he and his unlikely companion Penny band together to uncover the real cause of an eerie and suspicious death at Charlie's family hotel.

Lupica Mike **True*

Drew "True" Robinson, a highly talented high school basketball player who struggles with fame and the pressures of his burgeoning career.

*Mulligan, Andy **Trash Legend***

Three "dumpsite boys" named Raphael, Rat, and Gardo, who live in a shantytown on a landfill, scavenge through the trash to survive, and their lives take a dramatic turn when Raphael finds a bag containing clues and money.

*Ponti, James **Framed***

A 12-year-old boy, Florian Bates, joins the FBI and uses his unique "Theory of All Small Things" (TOAST) to solve mysteries.

*Rosoff, Meg **Picture Me Gone***

Twelve-year-old Mila and her father, Gil, travel from London to upstate New York to find Gil's friend Matthew, who has gone missing.

*Stevens, Court **The June Boys***

Tells the story of the Gemini Thief, a serial kidnapper, who takes three boys and holds them captive from June 1st to June 30th of the following year.

*Turnage, Sheila **Three Times Lucky***

11-year-old best friends Mo and Dale attempt to solve the mystery of a local murder and discover The Power of Unconditional Friendship along the way.

*Werlin, Nancy **And Then There Were Four***

When a building collapses around five teenagers—and they just barely escape—they know something strange is going on. Are their parents trying to kill them?



REALISTIC FICTION

*Bauer, Joan **Hope Was Here***

Tells the story of Hope Yancey, a witty and optimistic 16-year-old coping with the complexities of growing up amid financial difficulty, social upheaval, and change in her family.

*Bow, Erin **Simon Sort of Says***

Follows 12-year-old Simon O'Keeffe as he and his family move to the National Quiet Zone, a place where technology is banned, two years after a traumatic event.

Braden, Ann **Opinions and Opossums**

Agnes has been encouraged not to question authority by her mom—but that's especially hard in religion class, where it bugs her that so much gets blamed on Eve and that God's always pictured one way. Fortunately, Agnes' anthropologist neighbor, Gracy, gets Agnes thinking after they rescue an opossum together.

Cartaya, Pablo **The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora**

Arturo Zamora is determined to save his family's Cuban American restaurant, the decades-old hub of their Miami neighborhood, from an unscrupulous developer who seems to have bought city council approval for his land grab.

Dunlap, Sydney **Racing the Clouds**

If thirteen-year-old Sage had done one thing differently that day last November, everything would be fine. Only she didn't, so she and her dad had to leave Philadelphia for a new life in middle-of-nowhere Virginia.

Flinn, Alex **Girls of July**

Four different young women who independently decide to spend a month in the Adirondacks, away from city life, each seeking escape from their own challenges.

Goldblatt, Mark **Twerp**

Twerp is Julian's journal, in which he writes with a clear-eyed honesty about friendship, hopes, girls, doing favors, and all the everyday worries that come with being a sixth-grader.

Hautman, Pete **Slider**

A heartwarming and humorous story about a middle child who just wants to be able to do his own thing for once.

Khorram, Adib **Darius the Great Is Not Okay**

A coming-of-age story about a half-Persian, half-American teenager named Darius Kellner who travels to Iran to visit his dying grandfather.

Konigsberg, E.L. **From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler**

Tells the story of Claudia and Jamie, two children who run away to hide in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Lawson, Richard **All We Can Do Is Wait**

Centers on a group of teenagers in a Boston hospital waiting room after a tragic bridge collapse.

Lynne, Kelly **Song For a Whale**

It's a beautiful story about a deaf girl Iris who finds out about a whale called Blue 55, who sings at a different frequency to other whales and thinks he's the only whale in the world!

Lord, Emery **The Start of Me and You**

After shutting out the world for two years, Paige is finally ready for a second chance at high school . . . and she has a plan.

Lubar, David **Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie**

Follows the character of Scott Hudson as he attempts to survive high school and attract the attention of his crush Julia, a girl who recently became beautiful.

Millington, Allie **Once for Yes**

The Odenburgh , an old apartment building made of brick and blunt opinions is the last of its kind in a swiftly changing neighborhood.

Maldonado, Torrey **Hands**

A 12-year-old boy grapples with his ability to handle conflict without using his hands.

Moore, David **The Stars Beneath our Feet**

A boy tries to steer a safe path through the projects in Harlem in the wake of his brother's death.

Nasugraq Rainey **Eagle Drums**

A retelling, in story and pictures, of the origin story of the Iñupiaq Messenger Feast, a Native Alaskan tradition.

Sonnenblick, Jordan **Drum, Girls, and Dangerous Pie**

Steven Alper is a typical 13-year-old boy living in New Jersey until his world is turned upside down when his little brother Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia.

Vail, Rachel **Unfriended and Bad Best Friend**

13-year-old Truly leaves her best friend for the popular crowd and is beset by conflicts online and in the physical world.



SPORTS

Alexander, Kwame* **Booked

Follows eighth-grader Nick Hall as he navigates the challenges of his parents' separation, a soccer-related injury, and his initial dislike for books, while simultaneously discovering the power of words and the importance of family and friendship.

Deuker, Carl **Golden Arm**

Lazarus Weathers wants out of Jet City, the trailer park in Seattle where he lives. When he gets an offer to move in with a host family and pitch for a high-profile high school baseball team, he knows it is his last chance to impress major-league scouts.

Donnelly, Doreen **Love Double Dutch**

Brooklyn middle-schooler MaKayla can only think about one thing--taking her double Dutch team all the way to the National Jump-off at Madison Square Garden.

Feinstein, John **Cover Up : Mystery at the Super Bowl**

Teen sports reporters Stevie and Susan uncover a doping scandal at the Super Bowl.

Gerber, Allison **Taking Up Space**

A story about disordered eating, friendships, basketball, and a cooking competition.

Gratz, Alan* **The Brooklyn Nine

Follows the life of a German immigrant family through nine generations, starting in 1845, as they adapt to life in America and enjoy the game of baseball.

Graves, Byron **Rez Ball**

A story of a young Ojibwe man, who plays basketball for his parents, family, his tribe, the Rez and late brother Jaxon, who he is constantly compared to throughout the novel.

Korman, Gordon* **Pop

Marcus, a new student in high school, befriends Charlie, a former NFL linebacker suffering from Alzheimer's disease and the father of his rival quarterback, Troy.

Mackel, Kathryn **Boost**

A 13 year old girl named Savvy who is REALLY tall and REALLY good at basketball goes to live with her aunt because her father has lost his job. She decides to try out for league basketball and discovers it's very different from school basketball.

Monninger, Joseph **Game Change**

A seventeen year old boy, ends up getting a chance to play quarterback for the state championship game after the original quarterback gets injured.

Morrison, Laurie **Up for Air**

Thirteen-year-old Annabelle struggles in school, no matter how hard she tries. But as soon as she dives into the pool, she's unstoppable.

Rappaport, Doreen **42 Is Not Just a Number : The Odyssey of Jackie Robinson**

Chronicles the extraordinary courage and dignity of Jackie Robinson, who not only broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball but also changed white Americans' perceptions of black Americans.

Ribay, Randy **After the Shot Drops**

Bunny and Nasir have been best friends forever, but when Bunny accepts an athletic scholarship across town, Nasir feels betrayed and they both struggle with navigating friendships, opportunities and tough choices.

Roberts, Barbara Carol **Nikki On the Line**

A sweet story about an eighth grade girl trying to find her place in school, with her friends and on the basketball court.

Sampson, Natilie **No Girls Allowed**

The story takes place in a small town in Nova Scotia in 1977, and the main character is a ten year old girl named Tina who really wants to play hockey.

Shovan, Laura **Take Down**

This warmhearted, engaging novel by the author of the highly praised The Last Fifth Grade of Emerson Elementary explores competition among athletes.

Roberts, Barbara Carol **Nikki On the Line**

A sweet story about an eighth grade girl trying to find her place in school, with her friends and on the basketball court.

Weber, Rebecca **Loophole**

Maybelline "Maybe" Reed has stuck to a strict set of rules since Mama left five years ago: neatness matters, avoid boys at all costs, and absolutely no talking.

Woodson, Jacqueline **Remember Us**

A powerful story that delves deeply into life's burning questions about time and memory and what we take with us into the future.



GRAPHIC NOVELS

Andrews, Ryan **This Was Our Pact**

It's the night of the annual Autumn Equinox Festival, when the town gathers to float paper lanterns down the river. Legend has it that after drifting out of sight, they'll soar off to the Milky Way and turn into brilliant stars, but could that actually be true?

Broskol, Vera **Anya's Ghost**

Of all the things Anya expected to find at the bottom of an old well, a new friend was not one of them. Especially not a new friend who's been dead for a century.

Chanani, Nidhi **Pashmina**

For Pri, her mother's homeland can only exist in her imagination. That is, until she finds a mysterious pashmina tucked away in a forgotten suitcase.

Craft, Jerry **New Kid**

A graphic novel about starting over at a new school where diversity is low and the struggle to fit in is real.

Diaz, Christina **Invisible**

Five students meet in the school cafeteria when they're forced to complete their school community service hours.

Jablonski, Carla **Resistance**

Fighting on a secret front of World War II

Paul and Marie's bucolic French country town is almost untouched by the ravages of WWII, but the siblings still live in the shadow of war.

Krosoczka, Jarrett **Sunshine**

When Jarrett J. Krosoczka was in high school, he was part of a program that sent students to be counselors at a camp for seriously ill kids and their families.

Martin, Pedro **Mexikid**

Pedro Martín has grown up hearing stories about his abuelito—his legendary crime-fighting grandfather who was once a part of the Mexican Revolution! But that doesn't mean Pedro is excited at the news that Abuelito is coming to live with their family.

Nguyen, Trung Le **The Magic Fish**

Tiến loves his family and his friends...but Tiến has a secret he's been keeping from them, and it might change everything.

O'Connor, George **The Olympians Series**

Thrown from Mount Olympus as a newborn and caught by Thetis and Eurynome, who raised him on the island of Lemnos, Hephaistos had an aptitude for creating beautiful objects from a very young age.

Page, Tyler **Button Pusher**

A memoir-driven realistic graphic novel about Tyler, a child who is diagnosed with ADHD and has to discover for himself how to best manage it.

Rodriguez, Stephanie **Doodle from the Boogie Down**

A young Dominican girl navigates middle school, her strict mother, shifting friendships, and her dream of being an artist in this debut coming-of-age graphic novel inspired by the author's tween years.

Santat, Dan **A First Time for Everything**

Dan's always been a good kid. The kind of kid who listens to his teachers, helps his mom with grocery shopping, and stays out of trouble. But being a good kid doesn't stop him from being bullied and feeling like he's invisible, which is why Dan has low expectations when his parents send him on a class trip to Europe.

Sattin, Samuel **Buzzing**

An original exploration of living with mental illness. A middle schooler with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) navigates family, friendship, and role-playing.

Sheinkin, Steve **Bomb: The Race**

Tells the story of the race to develop and deploy the atomic bomb during World War II, focusing on the Manhattan Project.

Stirling, Danie **Crumbs**

Ray is a seer who always goes into a magical bakery to seek a bit of romance and pastries in Marigold's kitchen and to see her crush Laurie, an aspiring artist who is seriously cute. Ray is working on discovering what her future holds, as a seer who cannot see into the future, only into the present.

Tang, Betty **Parachute Kid**

A dream trip to America turns into a nightmare for Feng-Li when her parents return to Taiwan without her.

Wilson, Ker **Faint of Heart**

The Faint of Heart is a stellar, unique teen graphic novel about embracing the full spectrum of human emotions, no matter how hard it is.

NON-FICTION

Beccia, Carlyn **They Lost Their Heads**

A quirky and humorous collection of stories about the interesting and sometimes macabre fates of famous people's body parts.

Brown, Don **In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers**

A deeply moving account of the immediate aftermath and lasting effects of the largest terrorist attack on United States soil.

Cain, Susan **Quiet Power: The Secret Strengths of Introverts**

Empowers young introverts by highlighting their unique strengths and providing strategies for navigating school, social situations, hobbies, and home.

Fleming, Candace **The Enigma Girls:How Ten Teenagers Broke Ciphers, Kept Secrets, and Helped Win World War II**

Covers WWII from the perspective of 10 girls/teens who were enlisted into the British Navy to crack war time encrypted messages of the Nazis and Japanese.

Freedman, Russell **The Voice That Challenged**

Tells the story of Marian Anderson, a renowned African American contralto singer, and how her career intersected with the Civil Rights movement, highlighting her struggle against racial discrimination.

Freedman, Russell **The War To End All Wars**

Four years of bitter conflict from August 1914 to November 1918 which spread to involve more than 80% of the world, causing 37m casualties, military and civilian, and 16m deaths.

Hartfield, Claire **The Chicago Race Riot of 1919**

Details the violence that erupted after a white man killed an African American teenager with a rock, which resulted in 38 deaths and 537 injuries over the course of a week

Hillerbrand, Laura **Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive**

Tells the story of Louis Zamperini, a former Olympic runner who becomes a B-24 crewman during World War II.

Nelson, Peter **Left For Dead: A Young Man's**

It tells the true story of what happened to the men whose ship, the USS Indianapolis, sank during World War II in July 1945.

Anderson, Marian **Quest For Justice For the USS Indianapolis a Nation**

Recalls the sinking of the U.S.S. Indianapolis at the end of World War II, the navy cover-up and unfair court martial of the ship's captain.

Sheinkin, Steve **Impossible Escape: A True Story of Survival and Heroism in Nazi Germany**

Tells the true story of Rudolf Vrba (Rudi), a Slovakian Jewish teenager, and his daring escape from Auschwitz concentration camp during World War II.

Soontornvat, Christina **All Thirteen**

Tells the story of the 2018 Tham Luang cave rescue, where 12 boys and their soccer coach were trapped in a flooded cave in Thailand.

Sandler, Martin **Shipwrecked: Diving for Hidden Time Capsules on the Ocean Floor**

This enthralling and adventure-filled nonfiction book for young readers recounts some of the most captivating shipwrecks from history.

Zoboi, Ibi **Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler**

Explores the early life of groundbreaking sci-fi author Octavia E. Butler through poems and prose.



FOR THE 6TH GRADE

Arango, Andrea **It's All or Nothing, Vale**

After months away, Vale is finally cleared to fence again, but it's much harder than before. Her body doesn't move the way it used to. Vale just can't accept that. But the harder Vale fights to catch up, the more she realizes her injury isn't the only thing holding her back.

Baskin, Nora Raleigh **Consider the Octopus**

Based on an actual bloody dispute in 1880 between wheat farmers and the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Beasley, Cassie **Circus Mirandus**

Is a middle-grade fantasy/magical realism novel about a young boy named Micah Tuttle who is struggling to come to terms with the impending death of his grandfather.

Black, Holly **The Iron Trail**

Follows Callum "Call" Hunt, a 12-year-old boy who earns a place at a sinister magic school called the Magisterium. At the Magisterium, Call makes startling discoveries about his true identity and finds a sense of friendship and belonging for the first time.

Bowling, Dusti **Insignificant Events In the Life Of a Cactus**

finds 13-year-old Aven Green transplanted to Arizona, thanks to her dad's new job at a Western theme park. She's missing her friends, her home, and her old life.

Burg, Ann E. **All the Broken Pieces**

Tells the story of a Vietnamese American boy trying to adjust to life with his adoptive American family, after spending the first nine years of his life in war-torn Vietnam

Caprara, Rebecca **The Ripple Effect**

Sixth grader Zella's class prank flops, she's given a second chance to leave a lasting impression.

Cervantes, J.C. **The Storm Runner**

The Storm Runner is the first novel in a middle grade fantasy series that follows a boy's journey to defeat an evil god in a world in which Mayan mythology is real.

Clayton, Dhonielle **Marvellers**

Follows Ella Durand, the first Conjuror admitted to the Arcanum Training Institute (ATI), a school for Marvellers, who faces discrimination and suspicion as a Conjuror, while investigating the disappearance of her favorite teacher.

Cushman, Karen **Catherine, Called Birdy**

The novel follows the spirited and rebellious Catherine, nicknamed "Birdy" by her family, as she navigates the complexities of life in her father's manor.

Dowell, Frances O'Rourke **Shooting the Moon**

When 12-year-old Jamie's brother suddenly goes missing, she can only hope that her father, the Colonel, will be able to get him back home.

Feinstein, John **Vanishing Act**

Teen sports reporters Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson are assigned to cover the U.S. Open, where they uncover a kidnapping that involves Russian tennis phenom Nadia Symanova.

Gratz, Alan* **Grenade

Two young men, Hideki, an Okinawan boy, and Ray, a young American Marine, experience the brutal realities of war.

Gleitzman, Morris **Once**

A Jewish boy named Felix, living in a Catholic orphanage in Poland during the Holocaust, becomes determined to find his parents after witnessing Nazis burning books.

Hautman, Pete **Slider**

A middle child who just wants to be able to do his own thing for once. He is tired of being compared to his perfect older sister.

Jovanovi, Katerina **Cardboard City**

The young protagonists are faced with the impossible choice between a loving but impoverished community and a more comfortable future.

King, Amy **Attack of the Black Rectangles**

Mac is shocked when he and his friends find black rectangles over certain words in their classroom copy of *The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen. After investigating an unaltered copy at the local public library, Mac and his two friends decide to fight back against censorship.

Korman, Gordon **The Unteachables**

Follows a special class of "troubled" kids and their teacher at Greenwich Middle School as they learn what it means to be different, reform, and resolve a 27-year-old scandal.

Madden, Kerry **Werewolf Hamlet**

Creative fifth grader Angus is worried about his teenage brother's werewolf-like habits.

Maldonado, Torrey **Tight and What Lane?**

Hold on tight as Stephen swerves in and out of lanes to find out which are his—and who should be with him.

Marsch, Katherine **The Lost Year**

The novel follows 13-year-old Matthew, who is struggling to adjust to the 2020 COVID-19 lockdown. Stuck at home with his mom and 100-year-old great-grandmother, GG, he learns about GG's harrowing experiences in the Ukraine's Holodomor and begins researching his family history.

Mbalia, Kwame **Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky**

Tristan, a young boxer struggling with his best friend's death, accidentally opens a rift to the world of Alke, a place where African American mythology and folk heroes come to life.

Nayeri, Daniel **Everything Sad is Untrue**

An autobiographical novel telling the story of Daniel (formerly Khosrou), a refugee from Iran, as he navigates middle school in Oklahoma while grappling with his past and present.

Rodriguez, Oz **The Girl and the Robot**

When an alien robot crashes into her family's former e-repair shop, Mimi knows she has to help.

Sacher, Louis **Fuzzy Mud**

Fifth-grader Tamaya and her seventh-grade friend Marshall take a shortcut through the woods to avoid a bully, only to encounter a strange, fuzzy mud that soon leads to a global threat.

Schmidt, Gary D. **Pay Attention, Carter Jones**

A coming-of-age story about a middle schooler, Carter, whose life is turned upside down when a butler arrives as part of his grandfather's will.

Stead, Rebecca **Liar and Spy**

A novel about Georges, a seventh grader, who becomes involved in a mysterious investigation with his new friend, Safer, a self-proclaimed spy.

Hautman, Pete **Slider**

A heartwarming and humorous story about a middle child who just wants to be able to do his own thing for once and not be compared to his siblings!

Ponti, James **Framed!**

In this entertaining, fast-paced mystery, seventh-grader Florian Bates is surprised to find himself helping the FBI solve the theft of millions of dollars' worth of stolen paintings from the National Gallery.

Rivers, Karen **A Possibility Of Whales**

Twelve-year-old Natalia Rose Baleine Gallagher loves possibilities: the possibility that she'll see whales on the beach near her new home, that the boy she just met will be her new best friend, that the photographers chasing her actor father won't force them to move again.

Sampson, Natalie Corbett **No Girls Allowed**

An inspiring novel based on the true story of a girl who fought to play hockey in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia in the 1970s, when there was no team for girls in the city.

Smith, Cleve Barrett **Aliens on Vacation**

A boy being entrusted with a secret and trying to help his grandmother to keep this secret and save her business when the town starts to get suspicious.

Stead, Rebecca **Goodbye Stranger**

Follows three best friends, Bridge, Emily, and Tab, as they navigate the complexities of seventh grade and their evolving friendships.

Yelchin, Eugene **Breaking Stalin's Nose**

A young boy named Sasha, a devoted Stalinist, faces a disillusionment with his beliefs after his father is arrested.

Vail, Rachel **Well, That Was Awkward**

Being thirteen is hard enough, but Gracie has the extra baggage of an older sister who died before she was born. With her parents always trying to spare Gracie unhappiness, she has learned to pretend she's fine, even when that's far from the truth.

Woodson, Jacqueline **After Tupac & D Foster**

The first time Tupac is shot, foster child D Foster walks into the lives of sheltered Neeka and her best friend, together they explore the complexities of friendship, loss, and finding one's place in the world,

*Summaries provided by [Goodreads.com](https://www.goodreads.com)
Happy Reading!*