

# SPM's Summer Reading 2018

## SUMMER READING FOR ALL

Please peruse the wonderful books below. Each student must choose ONE of these books to enjoy over the summer break. You may not read a book that you read last summer. Each title has a limited number of available slots, the books will remain on the actual sign up list as long as it is still available. When school resumes in August students and teachers will meet in small groups to discuss the books and participate in reflective activities on their reading.

A written component must be completed by the first day of school in August and will be turned in during homeroom. The written assignment can be found in the link below at left. There is also an English summer reading book for all students. AP students may have additional books provided to you by your teacher.

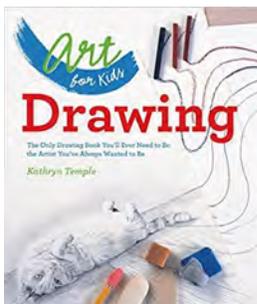
Check out all of the amazing titles and get lost in your reading adventures. Once you have decided the book you would like choose click on the link below and submit your selection. Once the slots for that book have reached the limit it will be taken off the list, so if you do not see it there that is why. If you do not select a book by the deadline of June 8, you will be assigned a book and that selection will be emailed or mailed to you. Enjoy!

Written Assignments for all students

[Book Choices for Grades 7 & 8](#)

[Book Choices for Grades 9-12](#)

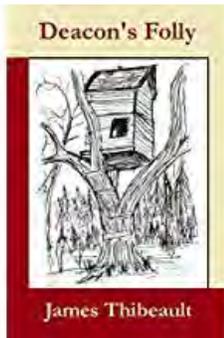
*\*\*All book descriptions are from Amazon.com*



*Art for Kids: Drawing: The Only Drawing Book You'll Ever Need to Be the Artist You've Always Wanted to Be* by Kathryn Temple

When children draw, they want to create an accurate likeness of the things they see. With this imaginative, informative, and amply illustrated guide, it's amazingly easy for kids to make their art

dreams come true. The entertaining, hands-on lessons begin with contour drawing techniques and feature numerous exercises that show budding artists how to make basic shapes and forms, create the illusion of volume with light, use perspective, and accurately draw people, animals, landscapes, and more. Grades 7-9



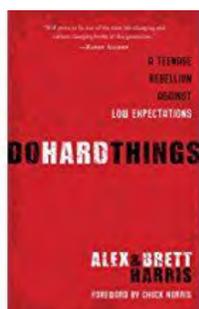
### ***Deacon's Folly* by James Thibeault**

When a backwoods town has a barbecue, it's to mock a teenage boy who nailed himself to a tree house. While Devon's not the brightest bulb and has no recollection of his childhood, he's a kind soul who seems friendly enough. Still, the whole town despises him. Only the new deacon in town takes sympathy towards the boy and is determined to discover Devon's forgotten past, and the reason why it is never discussed.

Everything about Devon's life is a mystery, from the whereabouts of his parents to Devon's own memories. In the town, he is treated more like an animal than a person. Forced to live outside, Devon is looked after by his alcoholic guardian, Mr. Audette. Besides the deacon, the only person who takes pity on Devon is Mr. Audette's daughter, Caroline, who has been running the household since her mother died years ago. Despite Caroline and Devon living next to each other, Mr. Audette forbids Caroline from socializing with him.

Few want to be near Devon. He spends most of his time alone and talking to the moon. At night, he suffers from dreams of people screaming. He doesn't understand what it means, but tries to ignore it as best he can. For years, all Devon has done is block the torments in his head, the mockery from the town, and even his own memories. The deacon is convinced it's time to know the truth.

At its core this book is about a young man who is forced by an entire town to come to terms with his disability and his efforts to learn to live in a community of individuals of lesser humanity than himself. Grades 7-12



### ***Do Hard Things* by Alex and Brett Harris**

**A generation stands on the brink of a "rebelution."**

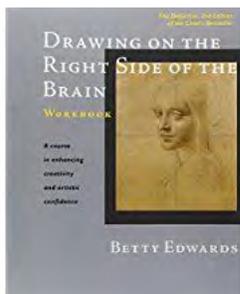
"Most people don't expect you to understand what we're going to tell you in this book. And even if you understand, they don't expect you to

care. And even if you care, they don't expect you to do anything about it. And even if you do something about it, they don't expect it to last. We do." – Alex and Brett

*Do Hard Things* is the Harris twins' revolutionary message in its purest and most compelling form, giving readers a tangible glimpse of what is possible for teens who actively resist cultural lies that limit their potential.

Combating the idea of adolescence as a vacation from responsibility, the authors weave together biblical insights, history, and modern examples to redefine the teen years as the launching pad of life. Then they map out five powerful ways teens can respond for personal and social change.

Written by teens for teens, *Do Hard Things* is packed with humorous personal anecdotes, practical examples, and stories of real-life rebelutionaries in action. This rallying cry from the heart of an already-happening teen revolution challenges a generation to lay claim to a brighter future, starting today. Grades 7-12

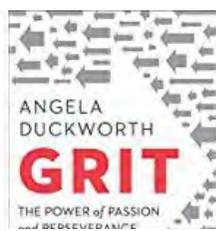


*Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain Workbook: The Definitive, Updated 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Spiral Bound)* by Betty Edwards

Millions of people around the world have learned to draw using the methods outlined in Dr. Betty Edwards's groundbreaking *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*. In this workbook, the essential companion to her international bestseller, Edwards offers readers the key to truly mastering the art of drawing: guided practice in the five foundational skills of drawing.

Each of the forty carefully constructed exercises in this updated second edition is accompanied by brief instruction, sample drawings, ready made formats and blank pages on which to draw, and helpful post-exercise pointers. You will explore wide-ranging subject matter—still life, landscape, imaginative drawing, portraits, and the figure—and gain experience with various mediums, such as pen and ink, charcoal, and Conte crayon.

Learning to draw is very much like mastering a sport or a musical instrument: once you understand the basic skills, you must practice, practice, practice. This brilliantly designed and practical workbook from a world-renowned art teacher offers the perfect opportunity to improve your skills and expand your repertoire. Grades 10-12



### **Grit by Angela Duckworth**

In this instant *New York Times* bestseller, pioneering psychologist Angela Duckworth shows anyone striving to succeed—be it parents, students, educators, athletes, or business people—that the secret to outstanding achievement is not talent but a special blend of passion and persistence she calls “grit.”

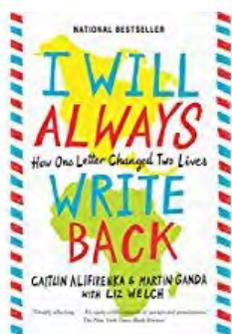
Drawing on her own powerful story as the daughter of a scientist who frequently noted her lack of “genius,” Duckworth, now a celebrated researcher and professor, describes her early eye-opening stints in teaching, business consulting, and neuroscience, which led to the hypothesis that what really drives success is not “genius” but a unique combination of passion and long-term perseverance.

In *Grit*, she takes readers into the field to visit cadets struggling through their first days at West Point, teachers working in some of the toughest schools, and young finalists in the National Spelling Bee. She also mines fascinating insights from history and shows what can be gleaned from modern experiments in peak performance. Finally, she shares what she’s learned from interviewing dozens of high achievers—from JP Morgan CEO Jamie Dimon to New Yorker cartoon editor Bob Mankoff to Seattle Seahawks Coach Pete Carroll.

Among *Grit*’s most valuable insights:

- \*Why any effort you make ultimately counts twice toward your goal
- \*How grit can be learned, regardless of I.Q. or circumstances
- \*How lifelong interest is triggered
- \*How much of optimal practice is suffering and how much ecstasy
- \*Which is better for your child—a warm embrace or high standards
- \*The magic of the Hard Thing Rule

Winningly personal, insightful, and even life-changing, *Grit* is a book about what goes through your head when you fall down, and how that—not talent or luck—makes all the difference. Grades 9-12



***I Will Always Write Back...How One Letter Changed Two Lives* by Martin Ganda and Caitlin Alifirenka**

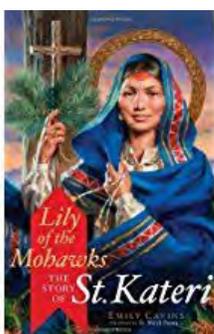
**The *New York Times* bestselling true story of an all-American girl and a boy from Zimbabwe and the letter that changed both of their lives forever.**

It started as an assignment. Everyone in Caitlin's class wrote to an unknown student somewhere in a distant place.

Martin was lucky to even receive a pen-pal letter. There were only ten letters, and fifty kids in his class. But he was the top student, so he got the first one.

That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives.

In this compelling dual memoir, Caitlin and Martin recount how they became best friends --and better people--through their long-distance exchange. Their story will inspire you to look beyond your own life and wonder about the world at large and your place in it. Grades 7-12



***Lily of the Mohawks: The Story of St. Kateri* by Emily Cavins**

Even before Kateri Tekakwitha's canonization on October 21, 2012, many had been inspired by the story of the young Native American mystic who lived in the Mohawk Valley during the seventeenth century. With Emily Cavins's skill for weaving together historical facts and a compelling story, readers will discover Kateri's path to sainthood against the backdrop of her life as a Native American in New York. These pages will reveal:

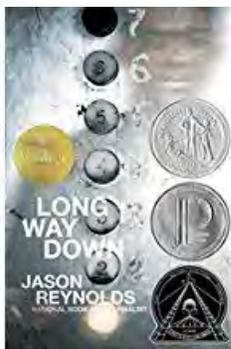
What led to Kateri's desire to become a Christian

Her piety and self-denial in the face of persecution and illness

Her impact on the Catholic Mohawk community

The long road to sainthood, including two miracles attributed to Kateri

More than just a compelling story of Kateri's short life, readers will also learn how to avail themselves of Kateri's intercession, why Kateri has become known as the patron saint of the environment, and of her connection to St. Francis of Assisi. Grades 9-12



***Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds**

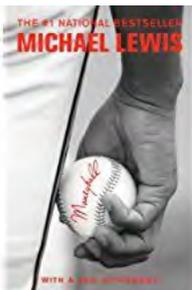
An ode to Put the Damn Guns Down, this is National Book Award finalist and *New York Times* bestseller Jason Reynolds's fiercely stunning novel that takes place in sixty potent seconds—the time it takes a kid to decide whether or not he's going to murder the guy who killed his brother.

A cannon. A strap.  
A piece. A biscuit.  
A burner. A heater.  
A chopper. A gat.  
A hammer  
A tool  
for RULE

Or, you can call it a gun. That's what fifteen-year-old Will has shoved in the back waistband of his jeans. See, his brother Shawn was just murdered. And Will knows the rules. No crying. No snitching. *Revenge*. That's where Will's now heading, with that gun shoved in the back waistband of his jeans, the gun that was his brother's gun. He gets on the elevator, seventh floor, stoked. He knows who he's after. Or does he? As the elevator stops on the sixth floor, on comes Buck. Buck, Will finds out, is who gave Shawn the gun before Will took the gun. Buck tells Will to check that the gun is even loaded. And that's when Will sees that one bullet is missing. And the only one who could have fired Shawn's gun was Shawn. Huh. Will didn't know that Shawn had ever actually USED his gun. Bigger huh. BUCK IS DEAD. But Buck's in the elevator? Just as Will's trying to think this through, the door to the next floor opens. A teenage girl gets on, waves away the smoke from Dead Buck's cigarette. Will doesn't know her, but she knew him. Knew. When they were eight. And stray bullets had cut through the playground, and Will had tried to cover her, but she was hit anyway, and so what she wants to know, on that fifth floor elevator stop, is, what if Will, Will with the gun shoved in the back waistband of his jeans, MISSES.

And so it goes, the whole long way down, as the elevator stops on each floor, and at each stop someone connected to his brother gets on to give Will a piece to a bigger story than the one he thinks he knows. A story that might never know an END...if WILL gets *off* that elevator.

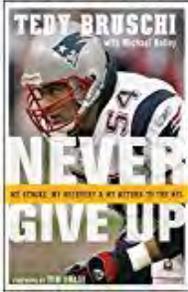
Told in short, fierce staccato narrative verse, *Long Way Down* is a fast and furious, dazzlingly brilliant look at teenage gun violence, as could only be told by Jason Reynolds. Grades 7-12



***Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game* by Michael Lewis**

*Moneyball* is a quest for the secret of success in baseball. In a narrative full of fabulous characters and brilliant excursions into the unexpected, Michael Lewis follows the low-budget Oakland

A's, visionary general manager Billy Beane, and the strange brotherhood of amateur baseball theorists. They are all in search of new baseball knowledge—insights that will give the little guy who is willing to discard old wisdom the edge over big money. Grades 9-12



*Never Give Up: My Stroke, My Recovery, and My Return to the NFL* by Tedy Bruschi

Tedy gives you something to believe in. Whether we're winning or losing, he holds his head high, and he knows himself and handles himself so well, others can't help but follow him. The way he practices and plays forces you to become a better teammate; the way he demands hustle and toughness forces you to become a better leader; and the way he carries himself inspires you to become a better person. This made his return to playing on October 30 against Buffalo all the more electrifying. The stadium was louder that night than the nights we had raised our Super Bowl banners. Our captain, our leader, our inspiration was back on the field doing what he loved to do. Tedy had spent months rehabbing, had countless doctor visits, and had undergone hundreds of tests trying to play again. Just eight months after our victory in Super Bowl XXXIX, here we were celebrating a much bigger victory on our home field. Sure it was great to win the game, but that night we were celebrating Tedy's return as he showed us teammates, fans, family, and friends what it takes to become victorious in life.

“You might be coming to this book as a fan of Tedy's football skills and, don't get me wrong, gaining the insights of one of the best defenders in Patriots history is worth the price of admission, but that's just part of the story. There are a lot of reasons to look up to him, and I promise you will finish this book with an admiration for him on a much deeper level.” --Tom Brady (from the Foreword) Grades 9-12



*Orphan Train Girl* by Christina Baker Kline

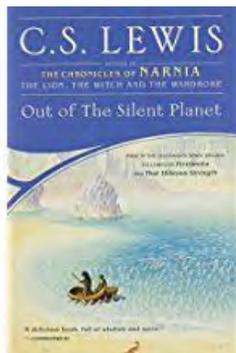
**This young readers' edition of Christina Baker Kline's #1 *New York Times* bestselling novel *Orphan Train* follows a twelve-year-old foster girl who forms an unlikely bond with a ninety-one-year-old woman.**

Adapted and condensed for a young audience, *Orphan Train Girl* includes an author's note and archival photos from the orphan train era. This book is especially perfect for mother/daughter reading groups.

Molly Ayer has been in foster care since she was eight years old. Most of the time, Molly knows it's her attitude that's the problem, but after being shipped from one family to another, she's had her fair share of adults treating her like an inconvenience. So when Molly's forced to help an a wealthy elderly woman clean out her attic for community service, Molly is wary.

But from the moment they meet, Molly realizes that Vivian isn't like any of the adults she's encountered before. Vivian asks Molly questions about her life and actually listens to the answers.

Soon Molly sees they have more in common than she thought. Vivian was once an orphan, too—an Irish immigrant to New York City who was put on a so-called "orphan train" to the Midwest with hundreds of other children—and she can understand, better than anyone else, the emotional binds that have been making Molly's life so hard. Together, they not only clear boxes of past mementos from Vivian's attic, but forge a path of friendship, forgiveness, and new beginnings. Grades 7-9

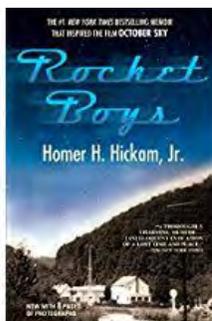


#### *Out of the Silent Planet* by C. S. Lewis

The first book in C. S. Lewis's acclaimed Space Trilogy, which continues with *Perelandra* and *That Hideous Strength*, *Out of the Silent Planet* begins the adventures of the remarkable Dr. Ransom. Here, that estimable man is abducted by a megalomaniacal physicist and his accomplice and taken via spaceship to the red planet of Malacandra.

The two men are in need of a human sacrifice, and Dr. Ransom would seem to fit the bill. Once on the planet,

however, Ransom eludes his captors, risking his life and his chances of returning to Earth, becoming a stranger in a land that is enchanting in its difference from Earth and instructive in its similarity. First published in 1943, *Out of the Silent Planet* remains a mysterious and suspenseful tour de force. Grades 11-12



#### *Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam

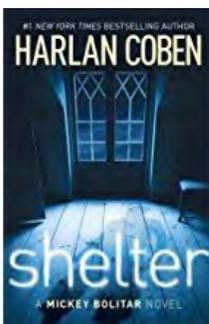
The #1 *New York Times* bestselling memoir **Rocket Boys** is a uniquely American memoir--a powerful, luminous story of coming of age at the dawn of the 1960s, of a mother's love and a father's fears, of a group of young men who dreamed of

launching rockets into outer space . . . and who made those dreams come true.

With the grace of a natural storyteller, NASA engineer Homer Hickam paints a warm, vivid portrait of the harsh West Virginia mining town of his youth, evoking a time of innocence and promise, when anything was possible, even in a company town that swallowed its men alive. A story of romance and loss, of growing up and getting out, Homer Hickam's lush, lyrical memoir is a chronicle of triumph--at once exquisitely written and marvelously entertaining.

One of the most beloved bestsellers in recent years, **Rocket Boys** is a uniquely American memoir. A powerful, luminous story of coming of age at the end of the 1950s, it is the story of a mother's love and a father's fears, of growing up and getting out. With the grace of a natural storyteller, Homer Hickam looks back after a distinguished NASA career to tell his own true story of growing up in a dying coal town and of how, against the odds, he made his dreams of launching rockets into outer space come true.

A story of romance and loss and a keen portrait of life at an extraordinary point in American history, **Rocket Boys** is a chronicle of triumph. Grades 9-12



### *Shelter* by Harlan Coben

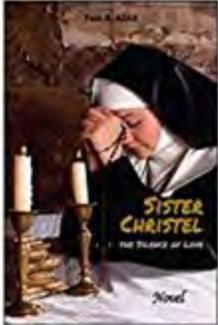
Mickey Bolitar's year can't get much worse. After witnessing his father's death and sending his mom to rehab, he's forced to live with his estranged uncle Myron and switch high schools.

A new school comes with new friends and new enemies, and lucky for Mickey, it also comes with a great new girlfriend, Ashley. For a while, it seems like Mickey's train-wreck of a life is finally improving - until Ashley vanishes without a trace. Unwilling to let another person walk out of his life, Mickey follows Ashley's trail into a seedy underworld that reveals that this seemingly sweet, shy girl isn't who she claimed to be. And neither was Mickey's father. Soon, Mickey learns about a conspiracy so shocking that it makes high school drama seem like a luxury - and leaves him questioning everything about the life he thought he knew.

First introduced to readers in Harlan Coben's latest adult novel, *Live Wire*, Mickey Bolitar is as quick-witted and clever as his uncle Myron, and eager to go to any length to save the people he cares about. With this new series, Coben introduces an entirely new

generation of fans to the masterful plotting and wry humor that have made him an award-winning, internationally bestselling, and beloved author.

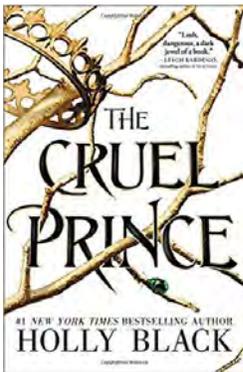
Grades 7-10



*Sister Christel: The Silence of Love by Fadi Azar*

A message of universal love beyond all borders. A proof that love may overcome all barriers.

With this novel, Fadi managed to transport me to an extraordinary human adventure with enduring characters and so real. The twists and especially the epilogue of this book have particularly moved me to tears; what emotions! This novel by its message of selflessness, innovates in the definition and the philosophy of the mythical word "LOVE." Grades 7-12



*The Cruel Prince by Holly Black*

*Of course I want to be like them. They're beautiful as blades forged in some divine fire. They will live forever.*

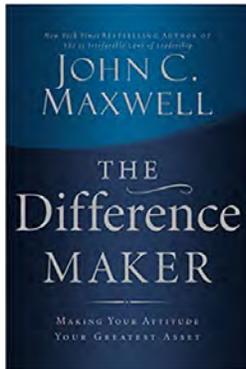
*And Cardan is even more beautiful than the rest. I hate him more than all the others. I hate him so much that sometimes when I look at him, I can hardly breathe.*

Jude was seven years old when her parents were murdered and she and her two sisters were stolen away to live in the treacherous High Court of Faerie. Ten years later, Jude wants nothing more than to belong there, despite her mortality. But many of the fey despise humans. Especially Prince Cardan, the youngest and wickedest son of the High King.

To win a place at the Court, she must defy him--and face the consequences.

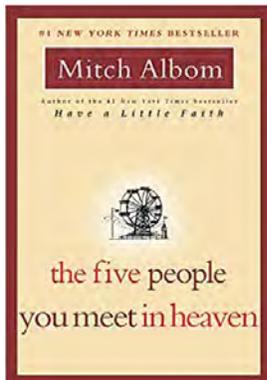
In doing so, she becomes embroiled in palace intrigues and deceptions, discovering her own capacity for bloodshed. But as civil war threatens to drown the Courts of Faerie in violence, Jude will need to risk her life in a dangerous alliance to save her sisters, and Faerie itself. Grades 9-12

## *The Difference Maker* by John C. Maxwell



Leadership expert John Maxwell believes attitude is one thing that can make all the difference in your life---and now shows you how you can make it your best asset.

John C. Maxwell is an internationally recognized leadership expert, speaker, coach, and author who has sold over 19 million books. Dr. Maxwell is the founder of EQUIP and the John Maxwell Company, organizations that have trained more than 5 million leaders worldwide. Every year he speaks to Fortune 500 companies, international government leaders, and organizations as diverse as the United States Military Academy at West Point, the National Football League, and the United Nations. A New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Business Week best-selling author, Maxwell has written three books which have each sold more than one million copies. Grades 9-12



## *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom

Eddie is a grizzled war veteran who feels trapped in a meaningless life of fixing rides at a seaside amusement park. His days are a dull routine of work, loneliness, and regret.

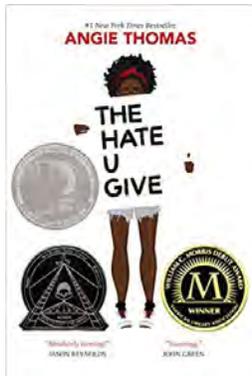
Then, on his 83rd birthday, Eddie dies in a tragic accident, trying to save a little girl from a falling cart. He awakens in the afterlife, where he learns that heaven is not a lush Garden of Eden, but a place where your earthly life is explained to you by five people.

These people may have been loved ones or distant strangers. Yet each of them changed your path forever.

One by one, Eddie's five people illuminate the unseen connections of his earthly life. As the story builds to its stunning conclusion, Eddie desperately seeks redemption in the still-unknown last act of his life: Was it a heroic success or a devastating failure? The answer, which comes from the most unlikely of sources, is as inspirational as a glimpse of heaven itself.

In *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, Mitch Albom gives us an astoundingly original story that will change everything you've ever thought about the afterlife--and the

meaning of our lives here on earth. With a timeless tale, appealing to all, this is a book that readers of fine fiction, and those who loved *Tuesdays with Morrie*, will treasure.  
Grades 9-12

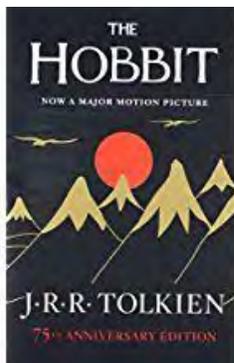


### *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what *really* went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.

But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life. Grades 8-12

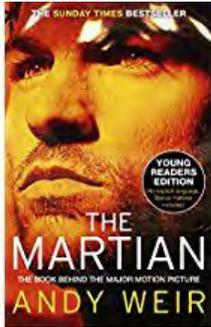


### *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

A great modern classic and the prelude to *The Lord of the Rings*.

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.

“A glorious account of a magnificent adventure, filled with suspense and seasoned with a quiet humor that is irresistible . . . All those, young or old, who love a fine adventurous tale, beautifully told, will take *The Hobbit* to their hearts.” – *New York Times Book Review* Grades 7-12



*The Martian, Young Readers Edition* by Andy Weir

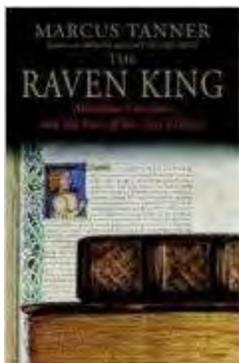
Six days ago, astronaut Mark Watney became one of the first people to walk on Mars.

Now, he's sure he'll be the first person to die there.

After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive—and even if he could get word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive.

Chances are, though, he won't have time to starve to death. The damaged machinery, unforgiving environment, or plain-old "human error" are much more likely to kill him first.

But Mark isn't ready to give up yet. Drawing on his ingenuity, his engineering skills—and a relentless, dogged refusal to quit—he steadfastly confronts one seemingly insurmountable obstacle after the next. Will his resourcefulness be enough to overcome the impossible odds against him? Grades 7-9



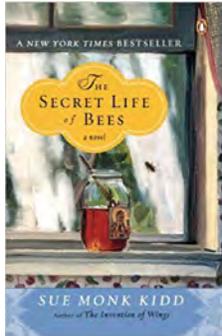
*The Raven King: Matthias Corvinus and the Fate of His Lost Library*  
by Marcus Tanner

Seizing the Hungarian throne at the age of fifteen, Matthias Corvinus, the "Raven King," was an effervescent presence on the fifteenth-century stage. A successful warrior and munificent art patron, he sought to leave as symbols of his strategic and humanist ambitions a strong, unified country, splendid palaces, and the most magnificent library in Christendom. But Hungary, invaded by Turkey after Matthias's death in 1490, yielded its treasures, and the Raven

King's exquisite library of two thousand volumes, witness to a golden cultural age, was dispersed first across Europe and then the world.

The quest to recover this collection of sumptuously illuminated scripts provoked and tantalized generations of princes, cardinals, collectors, and scholars and imbued Hungarians with the mythical conviction that the restoration of the lost library would seal their country's rebirth. In this thrilling and absorbing account, drawing on a wealth of original sources in several languages, Marcus Tanner tracks the destiny of the Raven

King and his magnificent bequest, uncovering the remarkable story of a life and library almost lost to history. Grades 9-12



### **The Secret Life of Bees** By Sue Monk Kidd

Set in South Carolina in 1964, *The Secret Life of Bees* tells the story of Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's fierce-hearted black "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three of the deepest racists in town, Lily decides to spring them both free. They escape to Tiburon, South Carolina--a town that holds the secret to her mother's past. Taken in by an eccentric trio of black beekeeping sisters, Lily is introduced to their mesmerizing world of bees and honey, and the Black Madonna. This is a remarkable novel about divine female power, a story that women will share and pass on to their daughters for years to come. Grades 9-12

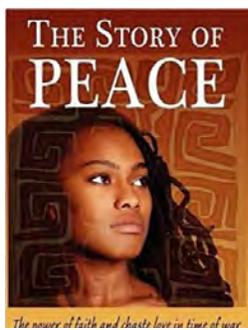


### **The Selection** by Kiera Cass

Prepare to be swept into a world of breathless fairy-tale romance, swoonworthy characters, glittering gowns, and fierce intrigue perfect for readers who loved *Divergent*, *Delirium*, or *The Wrath & the Dawn*.

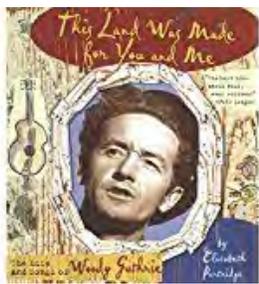
For thirty-five girls, the Selection is the chance of a lifetime. The opportunity to escape a rigid caste system, live in a palace, and compete for the heart of gorgeous Prince Maxon. But for America Singer, being Selected is a nightmare. It means turning her back on her secret love with Aspen, who is a caste below her, and competing for a crown she doesn't want.

Then America meets Prince Maxon—and realizes that the life she's always dreamed of may not compare to a future she never imagined. Grades 9-12



### **The Story of Peace** by Miriam Ezech

Peace is a young woman whose life is turned upside down after her parents are killed in a tribal war that leaves her to raise her younger brother, Lawrence. As Lawrence grows, so does his interest in avenging his parents' death. Peace, however, holds fast to her faith and trust in Christ and does her best to shield Lawrence from the tribal wars and his own drive for revenge. Peace's life is made all the more complicated by John, a young doctor from the states who has decided to make his mother's homeland his own. "The Story of Peace" is a story of right relationships, chaste love, and the Truth of Christ. It is a story that draws in readers of all ages and is a wonderful book for teens as well as adults. Grades 7-12

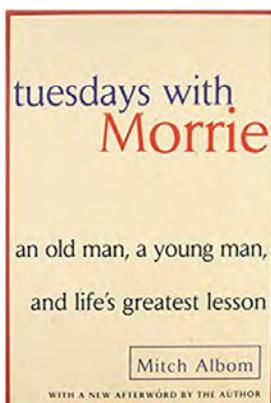


***This Land Was Made for You and Me: The Life and Songs of Woody Guthrie* By Elizabeth Partridge**

Before Springsteen and before Dylan, there was Woody Guthrie. With "This Machine Kills Fascists," scrawled across his guitar in big black letters, Woody Guthrie brilliantly captured in song the experience of twentieth-century America. Whether he sang about union organizers, migrant workers, or war, Woody took his inspiration from the plight of the people around him as well as from his own tragic childhood.

From the late 1920s to the 1950s, Guthrie wrote the words to more than three thousand songs, including "This Land Is Your Land," a song many call America's unofficial national anthem. With a remarkable ability to turn any experience into a song almost instantaneously, Woody Guthrie spoke out for people of all colors and races, setting an example for generations of musicians to come. But Woody didn't have the chance to find everything he was looking for. He was ravaged by Huntington's disease, just like his mother, and died in a mental institution at the age of fifty-five.

Award-winning author, **Elizabeth Partridge** has taken the life of this songwriting genius and woven in his lyrics, and other rich materials to create a touching and highly entertaining portrait of a true talent. Grades 7-12



***Tuesdays With Morrie* by Mitch Albom**

Maybe it was a grandparent, or a teacher, or a colleague. Someone older, patient and wise, who understood you when you were young and searching, helped you see the world as a more

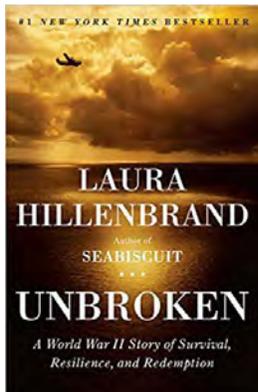
profound place, gave you sound advice to help you make your way through it.

For Mitch Albom, that person was Morrie Schwartz, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago.

Maybe, like Mitch, you lost track of this mentor as you made your way, and the insights faded, and the world seemed colder. Wouldn't you like to see that person again, ask the bigger questions that still haunt you, receive wisdom for your busy life today the way you once did when you were younger?

Mitch Albom had that second chance. He rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class": lessons in how to live.

*Tuesdays with Morrie* is a magical chronicle of their time together, through which Mitch shares Morrie's lasting gift with the world. Grades 9-12



### *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand

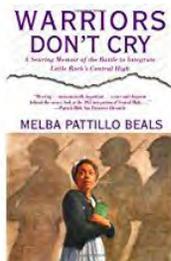
On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, the plane's bombardier, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. So began one of the most extraordinary odysseys of the Second World War.

The lieutenant's name was Louis Zamperini. In boyhood, he'd been a cunning and incorrigible delinquent, breaking into houses, brawling, and fleeing his home to ride the rails. As a teenager, he had channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics and within sight of the four-minute mile. But when war had come, the athlete had become an airman, embarking on a journey that led to his doomed flight, a tiny raft, and a drift into the unknown.

Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, a foundering raft, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the

limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion. His fate, whether triumph or tragedy, would be suspended on the fraying wire of his will.

In her long-awaited new book, Laura Hillenbrand writes with the same rich and vivid narrative voice she displayed in *Seabiscuit*. Telling an unforgettable story of a man's journey into extremity, *Unbroken* is a testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit. Grades 10-12

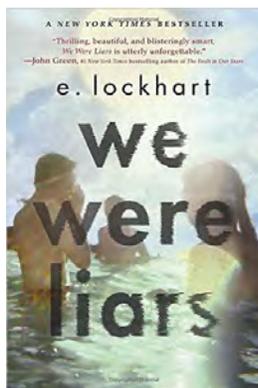


**Warriors Don't Cry** by Melba Pattillo Beals

In 1957, well before Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Melba Pattillo Beals and eight other teenagers became iconic symbols for the Civil Rights Movement and the dismantling of Jim Crow in the American South as they integrated Little Rock's Central High School in the wake of the landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling, *Brown v. Board of Education*.

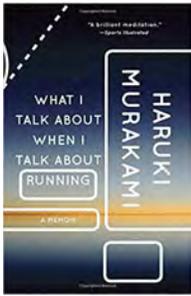
Throughout her harrowing ordeal, Melba was taunted by her schoolmates and their parents, threatened by a lynch mob's rope, attacked with lighted sticks of dynamite, and injured by acid sprayed in her eyes. But through it all, she acted with dignity and courage, and refused to back down. Grades 7-9

**We Were Liars** by E. Lockhart



A beautiful and distinguished family. A private island.  
A brilliant, damaged girl; a passionate, political boy.  
A group of four friends—the Liars—whose friendship turns destructive.  
A revolution. An accident. A secret.  
Lies upon lies.  
True love. The truth.

*We Were Liars* is a modern, sophisticated suspense novel from *New York Times* bestselling author, National Book Award finalist, and Printz Award honoree E. Lockhart. Read it. And if anyone asks you how it ends, just LIE. Grades 7-9



*What I Talk About When I Talk About Running* by Haruki Murakami

An intimate look at writing, running, and the incredible way they intersect, from the incomparable, bestselling author Haruki Murakami. While simply training for New York City Marathon would be enough for most people, Haruki Murakami's decided to write about it as well. The result is a beautiful memoir about his intertwined obsessions with running and writing, full of vivid memories and insights, including the eureka moment when he decided to become a writer. By turns funny and sobering, playful and philosophical, **What I Talk About When I Talk About Running** is rich and revelatory, both for fans of this masterful yet guardedly private writer and for the exploding population of athletes who find similar satisfaction in athletic pursuit. Grades 9-12