



WASHINGTON STATE YOUNG ADULT REVIEW GROUP

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE: May 5, 2023

Issue: 140
March 2023

WASHRAG
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WASHYARGers:

Welcome to WashYARG, the oldest and largest Young Adult Review Group of its kind! While we all come to WASHYARG because it is a great place to learn about new books, we also enjoy the opportunity to network with other teen-serving professionals.

We are now in hybrid mode! Please join us in person if you are comfortable and able. Doors open at 8:30am. Or, join via Zoom. The link will open by 8:45am with a meeting start time of 9:00am.

<https://kcls.zoom.us/j/81386969228?pwd=ZFhSV3V2REdSSkkvbXdNZnk4NmF5UT09>

Meeting ID: 813 8696 9228

Passcode: 828216

Any questions? Contact Brenna Shanks – bshanks@kcls.org or 425-369-3331

DUES

Members/reviewers may pay dues at any time during the year, but we appreciate prompt payment in September for the forthcoming year. Dues are \$25 and a dues sheet is included in the newsletter.

Dues can be paid online at:

<https://givebutter.com/StQMvU>

Or mailed to:

Anne Dame
Einstein Middle School
19343 3rd Ave NW
Shoreline WA 98177

REMINDERS

IN PERSON MEETING LOCATION:

King County Library System Service Center
960 Newport Way NW
Issaquah, 98027

2023 MEETINGS

- *March 3*
- *May 5*
- *September 15*
- *December 8*

REVIEWS

Please submit your delivered reviews and current “books taken” after the meeting. You may submit them at:

<https://evergreenbookaward.org/washyarg/>

- Please be as accurate as possible.
- When submitting series non-fiction, please enter each book separately.

WHAT IS WASHYARG?

The Washington State Young Adult Review Group is a regional reviewing organization of school and public librarians and other individuals interested in books, magazines, and other media appropriate for teenagers.

WHY BELONG TO WASHYARG?

We are the largest Teen Services library specialist group in the Northwest, and have a national reputation as a credible review source.

Besides hearing firsthand reviews from frontline people, the meetings are an opportunity for networking, problem-solving, passionate debate, laughter and cookies.

Even if you cannot attend the meetings, WashYARG is an excellent source for local professional reviews.

WHAT DOES WASHYARG DO?

WashYARG receives materials from diverse publishers. Selected items are presented orally at the quarterly meetings and written reviews of all materials are published in the WashRag newsletter and mailed to all members following the meetings. WashYARG also sponsors the annual Evergreen Young Adult Book Award, a statewide teen readers' choice prize.

WHAT WOULD I DO?

Agree to review at least two books a year.
Attend as many of the meetings as possible.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

All interested folk are invited to attend for free the first time. The normal dues are \$25.00 for a school year, and entitle one to review books and receive the WashRag, a quarterly compilation of written reviews.

HOW DO I JOIN?

Fill out the form below and bring it to the next meeting with your \$25.00 membership dues.

Please make checks payable to WashYARG.

2023 MEETINGS

- March 3
- May 5
- September 15
- December 8

MEMBERSHIP FORM:



Name:

Title:

Email*:

Phone*:

Address*:

** Please indicate home or work for contact info.*

Titles Taken for Review – Since December 2022

All titles and reviews are now being submitted online at:
<https://evergreenbookaward.org/washyarg/>
 Please be as accurate as possible when entering your information.
 When entering series non-fiction, please enter each book separately. Thanks!

Please remember ARCs may not be added to your collection.

◆Already reviewed

FICTION

<i>The 9:09 Project</i> Parsons, Mark H. Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	Delacorte Press, 2022 978-0-593-30975-9	\$18.99	369 p.
<i>Aces Wild: A Heist</i> DeWitt, Amanda Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	Peachtree Publishing Co, 2022 9781682634660	\$17.99	345 p.
<i>Anne of Greenville</i> (ARC) Tamaki, Mariko Monica Smith, Tumwater Timberland Library	MDLC Studio, 2022 9781368078405	\$18.99	294 p.
<i>Aurora's End</i> , Aurora Cycle #3 Kaufman, Amie and Jay Kristoff Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School	Alfred A. Knopf, 2021 9781524720889	\$18.99	493 p.
<i>Berliners</i> Stamper, Vesper Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	Alfred A. Knopf, 2022 9780593428368	\$21.99	428 p.
<i>Big Tree</i> (ARC) Selznick, Brian Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library	Scholastic, 2023 9781338856149	\$32.99	525 p.
<i>Bloodline</i> , H.I.V.E. #9 Walden, Mark Amber Peterson, International Community School	Simon & Schuster, 2022 9781442494732	\$17.99	324 p.
<i>Children of Ragnarok</i> , Runestone Saga #1 Chima, Cinda Williams Michael Fleming, Juanita High School	Balzer + Bray, 2022 978-0-06-301868-6	\$18.99	536 p.

<i>Delphine and the Dark Thread</i> , Delphine #2	Disney Hyperion, 2022		
Moon, Alyssa	978-1-368-04833-0	\$16.99	305 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
◆ <i>The Dragon's Promise</i> , Six Crimson Cranes #2	Alfred A. Knopf, 2022		
Lim, Elizabeth	9780593300954	\$19.99	482 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			
<i>Each Night Was Illuminated</i>	Quill Tree Books, 2022		
Anderson, Jodi Lynn	9780062393579	\$17.99	
Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School			
<i>Egypt's Fire</i> , The Curious League of Detectives and Thieves #1		Pixel + Ink, 2022	
Phillips, Tom	978-1-6459-5105-6	\$17.99	344 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>Everyone Hates Kelsie Miller</i>	Simon & Schuster, 2022		
Ireland, Meredith	978-1-6659-0697-5	\$19.99	280 p.
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School			
<i>The First to Die at the End</i> , prequel <i>They Both Die at the End</i>	Quill Tree Books, 2022		
Silvera, Adam	978-0-06-324080-3	\$19.99	550 p.
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School			
<i>Five Survive</i>	Delacorte Press, 2022		
Jackson, Holly	9780593374160	\$19.99	388 p.
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School			
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School			
<i>Friends Like These</i>	Delacorte Press, 2022		
Alvarez, Jennifer Lynn	978-0-593-30967-4	\$18.99	373 p.
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School			
<i>From Dust, a Flame</i>	Balzer + Bray, 2022		
Podos, Rebecca	9780062699060	\$17.99	400 p.
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School			
<i>Ghostcloud</i> , Ghostcloud #1	Peachtree Publishing Co, 2021		
Mann, Michael	9781682635186	\$17.99	307 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>Gleanings: Stories from the Arc of a Scythe</i> , Arc of a Scythe #3.5	Simon & Schuster, 2022		
Shusterman, Neal	978-1-5344-9997-3	\$19.99	423 p.
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School			

♦ <i>Harley Quinn: Reckoning</i> , DC Icons #6	Random House, 2022		
Allen, Rachael	9780593429860	\$14.49	391 p.
Monica Smith, Tumwater Timberland Library			
<i>Haven Jacobs Saves the Planet</i>	Aladdin, 2022		
Dee, Barbara	9781534489837	\$17.99	286 p.
Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School			
<i>Hear Me</i>	Carolrhoda Books, 2022		
Cerra, Kerry O'Malley	9781728420745	\$19.99	336 p.
Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School			
<i>Hither & Nigh</i>	Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2022		
Potter, Ellen	9781665910385	\$18.99	408 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>How to Live Without You</i>	Clarion Books, 2022		
Everett, Sarah	9780358256229	\$11.99	389 p.
Monica Smith, Tumwater Timberland Library			
<i>I Am the Ghost in Your House</i>	Delacorte Press, 2022		
Romasco-Moore, Mar	978-0-593-1772-1	\$18.99	417 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>I Rise</i>	Versify, 2022		
Arnold, Marie	9780358449041	\$18.99	305 p.
Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library			
<i>Iceberg</i> (ARC)	Scholastic, 2023		
Nielsen, Jennifer A.	9781338795028	\$17.99	352 p.
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School			
<i>Improbable Magic for Cynical Witches</i>	Balzer + Bray, 2022		
Scelsa, Kate	978-0-06-246503-0	\$17.99	306 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>Katzenjammer</i>	Greenwillow Books, 2022		
Zappia, Francesca	978-0-06-316165-8	\$17.99	290 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>The Last Fallen Moon</i> , Gifted Clans #2	Disney, 2022		
Kim, Graci	9781368073141	\$16.99	371 p.
Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School			
<i>A Little Bit Country</i>	Balzer + Bray, 2022		
Kennedy, Brian D.	9780063085657	\$17.99	339 p.

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Love From Mecca to Medina, Love From A to Z #2 Salaam Reads, 2022
Ali, S. K. 9781665916073 \$19.99 344 p.

Teresa Jensen, North Creek High School

Mia and the Lightcasters, The Umbra Tales #1 Aladdin, 2022
McCurdy, Janelle 9781665901277 \$17.99 340 p.

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

My Nest of Silence Atheneum, 2022
Faulkner, Matt 9781534477629 \$18.99 373 p.

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Nikhil Out Loud Balzer + Bray, 2022
Pancholy, Maulik 9780063091924 \$17.99

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School

Nothing Is Little Holiday House, 2022
Van Vleet, Carmella 9780823450114 \$18.99 215 p.

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Nothing Sung and Nothing Spoken Harper Teen, 2022
Tyndall, Nita 9780063087446 \$17.99 305 p.

Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School

Once There Was (ARC) Simon & Schuster, 2023
Monsef, Kiyash 9781665929011 \$18.99 402 p.

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Other Side of the Tracks Simon & Schuster, 2022
Alyse, Charity 978-1-5344-9771-9 \$19.99 430 p.

Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School

Padawan, Star Wars Disney, 2022
White, Kiersten 9781368023498 \$18.99 410 p.

Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School

The Parasite, Michael Vey #8 Simon Pulse, 2022
Evans, Richard Paul 9781665919524 \$19.99 336 p.

Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School

Private Label Katherine Tegen Books, 2022
Yang, Kelly 9780062941107 \$17.99 414 p.

Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

<i>The Q</i> Tintera, Amy Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School	Crown, 2022 987-0-59348617-7	\$18.49	352 p.
<i>Reader, I Murdered Him</i> Cornwell, Betsy Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School	Clarion Books, 2022 978-0-35-830664-1	\$17.99	291 p.
<i>Repairing the World</i> Epstein, Linda Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School	Aladdin, 2022 9871534498556	\$17.99	343 p.
<i>A Rover's Story</i> Warga, Jasmine Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School	HarperCollins, 2022 9780063113923	\$17.99	294 p.
<i>Rust in the Root</i> Ireland, Justina Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	Balzer + Bray, 2022 9780063038226	\$18.99	*BFYA2023 439 p.
<i>The Secrets We Keep</i> Gustafson, Cassie Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Simon & Schuster, 2022 9781665906944	\$19.99	340 p.
<i>The Sky We Shared</i> Vernick, Shirley Reva Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School	Cinco Puntos Press, 2022 9781947627529	\$22.95	233 p.
<i>The Storyteller</i> Williams, Kathryn Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	Harper Teen, 2022 9780063049390	\$17.99	352 p.
<i>The Summer of Bitter and Sweet,</i> Ferguson, Jen Genesee Rickel, Kirkland Library	Heartdrum, 2022 9780063086166	\$17.99	*BFYA2023 374 p.
<i>Sweet and Sour</i> (ARC) Florence, Debbi Michiko Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library	Scholastic, 2022 9781338671599	\$17.99	304 p.
<i>Tangled Up in Nonsense,</i> Tangled Mysteries #2 Wyatt, Merrill Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	McElderry Books, 2022 9781665912327	\$17.99	259 p.
<i>A Thousand Heartbeats</i>	Harper Teen, 2022		

Cass, Kiera Amber Peterson, International Community School	978-0-06-266578-2	\$25.17	565 p.
<i>To Catch a Thief</i> (ARC) Brockenbrough, Martha Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Scholastic, 2023 9781338818581	\$17.99	256 p.
<i>Torch</i> Miller-Lachmann, Lyn Teresa Jensen, North Creek High School	CarolrhodaLAB, 2022 9781728415680	\$19.99	318 p.
<i>Twin Crowns</i> , Twin Crowns #1 Doyle, Catherine and Katherine Webber JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library	Balzer + Bray, 2022 9780063116139	\$17.99	466 p.
<i>The Undead Truth of Us</i> Lewis, Britney S. Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	Disney Hyperion, 2022 9781368075831	\$17.99	355 p.
<i>Undercover Latina</i> De León, Aya Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School	Candlewick Press, 2022 9781536223743	\$18.99	*BFYA2023 320 p.
<i>Wait For Me</i> Shepard, Sara Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	Union Square, 2022 9781454945772	\$18.99	336 p.
◆ <i>Well, That Was Unexpected</i> Sutanto, Jesse Q. Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2022 9780593433973	\$18.99	339 p.
<i>Who I Was With Her</i> Tyndall, Nita Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Harper Teen, 2020 978-0-06-297838-7	\$17.99	335 p.
<i>Wildoak</i> Harrington, C.C. Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Scholastic, 2022 978-1-338-80386-0	\$18.99	321 p.
<i>The Year the Maps Changed</i> Binks, Danielle Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School	Quill Tree Books, 2022 9780063211605	\$17.99	351 p.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

<i>Algorithmic Reality</i>	NBM Graphic Novels, 2022		
Bradfield, Damien and David Sanchez	978-1-68112-306-6	\$17.99	80 p.
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School			
<i>Doodleville: Art Attacks, Doodleville #2</i>	Alfred A. Knopf, 2022		
Sell, Chad	9781984894731	\$20.99	250 p.
Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library			
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			
<i>Fists Raised: 10 Stories of Sports Star Activists</i>	NBM Graphic Novels, 2022		
Celerien, Chloe and Karim Nedjari	9781681123035	\$26.99	190 p.
Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School			
<i>Forest Hills Bootleg Society</i>	Atheneum, 2022		
Baker, Dave and Nicole Goux	9781534469495	\$21.99	224 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			
<i>Freestyle</i> (ARC)	Graphix, 2022		
Galligan, Gale	9781338045802	\$12.99	272 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>Glorious Wrestling Alliance: Ultimate Championship Edition</i>	Graphic Universe, 2021		
Hicks, Josh	9781541589797	\$21.99	112 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>Maybe an Artist</i>	Random House Studio, 2022		
Montague, Liz	9780593307816	\$24.99	159 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
◆ <i>Other Ever Afters: New Queer Fairy Tales</i>	RHKidsGraphic, 2022		*GGN2023
Gillman, Melanie	9780593303191	\$24.99	240 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			
<i>Parachute Kids</i> (ARC)	Graphix, 2023		
Tang, Betty C.	9781338832686	\$12.99	288 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>Red Scare</i>	Scholastic, 2022		
Walsh, Liam Francis	9781338167085	\$14.99	236 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			
<i>Squished</i> (ARC)	Graphix, 2023		
Lloyd, Megan Wagner, illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter			

	9781338568936	\$12.99	256 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>The Tryout</i> (ARC)	Graphix, 2022		
Soontornvat, Christina, illustrated by Joanna Cacao	9781338741261	\$12.99	272 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>Unretouchable</i>	Graphic Universe, 2022		
Szamosi, Sofia	9781728401669	\$29.32	151 p.
Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library			

NONFICTION

<i>Addiction: A Problem of Epidemic Proportions</i>	Reference Point Press, 2021		
Lundquist-Arora, Stephanie	978-1-68282-921-9	\$32.95	80 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>Attention Deficit: How Technology Has Hijacked Our Ability to Concentrate</i>	Reference Point Press, 2023		
Kallen, Stuart A.	978-1-6782-0454-9	\$32.95	80 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>Billie Eilish: Global Pop Sensation</i>	Reference Point Press, 2023		
Allison, Amy	9781678203269	\$43.93	64 p.
Teresa Jensen, North Creek High School			
<i>Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (Adapted for Young Adults)</i>	Delacorte Press, 2022		
Wilkerson, Isabel	9780593427941	\$18.99	338 p.
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School			
Amber Peterson, International Community School			
Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School			
<i>Exploring Careers in the Gaming Industry</i>	Reference Point Press, 2023		
McCarty, Celia	978-1-6782-0334-4	\$32.95	80 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>Hanged! Mary Surratt & the Plot to Assassinate Abraham Lincoln</i>	Random House, 2022		
Miller, Sarah	9780593181560	\$18.99	333 p.
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School			
Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School			
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			
<i>Luminary: A Magical Guide to Self-Care</i>	Simon & Schuster, 2022		

Scelsa, Kate 9781665902342 \$18.99 360 p.
Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Media Bias: What Is It and Why Does it Matter? Reference Point Press, 2023

Marcovitz, Hal 9781678203627 \$32.95
Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School

Murder Among Friends: How Leopold and Loeb Tried to Commit the Perfect Crime

Anne Schwartz Books, 2022
Fleming, Candace 978-0593177426 \$19.99 368 p.
Sara White, Washington State Library

A Path to the World

Caitlyn Dlouhy, 2022
Carlson-Hijuelos, Lori Marie editor 9781481419758 \$18.99 90 p.
Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Screen Addiction: A Teen Epidemic

Reference Point Press, 2023
Steffens, Bradley 978-1-6782-8 \$32.95 64 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Smart: Use Your Eyes to Boost Your Brain

Simon & Schuster, 2022
Herman, Amy E. 978-1-66590-121-5 \$17.99 195 p.
Amber Peterson, International Community School

Social Media's Star Power: The New Celebrities and Influencers

Reference Point Press, 2021
Kallen, Stuart A. 978-1-68282-931-8 \$32.95 80 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

The Impeachment of Donald Trump

Reference Point Press, 2021
Allen, John 978-1-68282-901-1 \$32.95 80 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

The Lady and the Octopus: How Jeanne Villepreaux-Power Invented Aquariums and Revolutionized Marine Biology

Lerner, 2022
Staff, Danna 9781728415772 \$27.99 136 p.
Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School

The Power of Social Media

Reference Point Press, 2023
Kallen, Stuart A. 9781678203481 \$42.59
Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School

Underground Fire: Hope, Sacrifice, and Courage in the Cherry Mine Disaster

Candlewick Press, 2022
Walker, Sally M. 9781536212402 \$24.99 220 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

What the Fact: Finding the Truth in all the Noise Simon & Schuster, 2022
 Yasmin, Dr. Seema 9781665900034 \$19.99 358 p.
 Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

NONFICTION SERIES

• Being Black in America Reference Point Press, 2021
Black Lives Matter: Grassroots Movement to Global Phenomenon
 Kallen, Stuart A. 978-1-6782-0024-4 \$32.95 64 p.
Police Defunding and Reform: What Changes are Needed?
 Ghafoerkhan, Olivia 978-1-6782-0026-8 \$32.95 64 p.
Racial Injustice: Rage, Protests, and Demands for Change
 Marcovitz, Hal 9781678200282 \$32.95 64 p.
Systemic Racism and the African American Experience
 Currie, Stephen 978-1-6782-0030-5 \$32.95 64 p.
 Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

• Bias in America Reference Point Press, 2021
Black in America
 Marcovitz, Hal 978-1-68282-891-5 \$32.95 80 p.
Hispanic in America
 Gallagher, Jim 9781682828939 \$32.95 80 p.
Jewish in America
 Sheen, Barbara 978-1-68282-895-3 \$32.95 80 p.
LGBTQ in America
 Sheen, Barbara 978-1-68282-897-7 \$32.95 80 p.
Muslim in America
 Currie McGhee, Leanne 978-1-68282-899-1 \$32.95 80 p.
 Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

• Black Americans of Distinction Reference Point Press, 2023
Important Black Americans in Arts and Culture
 Kallen, Stuart A. 9781678202828 \$32.95 64 p.
Important Black Americans in Business and Commerce
 Castillo, Kristina 9781678202842 \$32.95 64 p.
Important Black Americans in Civil Rights and Politics
 Currie, Stephen 9781678202866 \$32.95 64 p.
Important Black Americans in Science and Invention
 Nardo, Don 9781678202880 \$32.95 64 p.
 Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Important Black Americans in Sports
 Allen, John 978-1-6782-0290-3 \$32.95 64 p.

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

- Careers in the Military Reference Point Press, 2023
 - Intelligence and Cybersecurity Careers in the Military***
Currie-McGhee, Leanne 9781678202927 \$32.95 64 p.
 - Medical Careers in the Military***
Snyder, Gail 9781678202941 \$32.95 64 p.
 - Service Careers in the Military***
Currie-McGhee, Leanne 9781678202965 \$32.95 64 p.
 - Skilled Trades in the Military***
Streissguth, Tom 9781678202989 \$32.95 64 p.
 - STEM Careers in the Military***
Currie-McGhee, Leanne 9781678203009 \$32.95 64 p.
- Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

- Challenges for Democracy Reference Point Press, 2023
 - Media Literacy: Information and Disinformation***
Hullick, Kathryn 978-1-6782-0304-7 \$32.95 64 p.
- Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

- Dealing with Addiction BrightPoint Press, 2023
 - Drug and Alcohol Addiction***
Llanas, Sheila 9781678203740 \$32.95 64 p.
 - Gaming Addiction***
Roberts, Kizzi 9781678203764 \$32.95 64 p.
 - Smartphone Addiction***
Kaiser, Emma 9781678203801 \$32.95 64 p.
 - Vaping Addiction***
Hobbs Voss, Elizabeth 9781678203825 \$32.95 64 p.
- Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

- Social Media Addiction***
Miller, Marie-Therese 978-1-6782-0378-8 \$32.95 64 p.
- Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

- Exploring Jobs in the Gig Economy BrightPoint Press, 2023
 - Gig Jobs in Gaming***
MacCarald, Clara 9781678203863 \$32.95 80 p.
 - Gig Jobs in High-Tech***
Ayarbe, Heidi 9781678203887 \$32.95 80 p.
 - Gig Jobs in Social Media***
Buckey, A. W. 9781678203900 \$32.95 80 p.
 - Gig Jobs in the Creative Arts***
MacCarald, Clara 9781678203849 \$32.95 80 p.
 - Gig Jobs in Transportation and Delivery***

Buckey, A. W. Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	9781678203924	\$32.95	80 p.
• Gateway Biographies <i>Dolly Parton: Diamond in a Rhinestone World</i> Holleran, Leslei Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Lerner, 2023 9781728441832	\$23.99	48 p.
• Greatest of All Time Players <i>G.O.A.T. Basketball Power Forwards</i> Lowe, Alexander Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School <u>Comments:</u> Grades 2-5	Lerner, 2023 978-1-7284-5805-2	\$20.22	32 p.
• Healthy Living Library <i>More Than Stress: Understanding Anxiety Disorders</i> Pedrick, Cherry, et al. Amber Peterson, International Community School	Twenty First Century Books, 2023 978-1-54158-893-6	\$28.04	104 p.
• In The Spotlight (UpDog Books) <i>Olivia Rodrigo: Hit Singer-Songwriter</i> Schwartz, Heather E. Teresa Jensen, North Creek High School	Lerner, 2023 9781728458366	\$29.32	24 p.
• Mythology Around the World <i>Gods of Creation in World Mythology</i> Nardo, Don <i>Gods of Death in World Mythology</i> Nardo, Don <i>Gods of Love in World Mythology</i> Nardo, Don <i>Gods of War in World Mythology</i> Nardo, Don Teresa Jensen, North Creek High School	Reference Point Press, 2023 978-1-6782-0264-4 978-1-6782-0266-8 978-1-6782-0268-2 978-1-6782-0272-9	\$32.95 \$32.95 \$32.95 \$32.95	64 p. 64 p. 64 p. 64 p.
<i>Gods of Nature in World Mythology</i> Nardo, Don Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	978-1-6782-0270-5	\$32.95	64 p.
• Skilled and Vocational Trades <i>Become a Construction Equipment Operator</i> Edwards, Sue Bradford <i>Become A Dental Hygienist</i> Murray, Tamika M. <i>Become A Physical Therapy Assistant</i>	BrightPoint Press, 2023 9781678204143 9781678204167	\$32.95 \$32.95	80 p. 80 p.

Lanier, Wendy Hinote <i>Become a Web Developer</i>	9781678204204	\$32.95	80 p.
Normandeau, Sheryl <i>Become An IT Support Technician</i>	9781678204228	\$32.95	80 p.
Normandeau, Sheryl Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	9781678204181	\$32.95	80 p.
• Sports VIPs <i>Meet Giannis Antetokounmpo</i>	Lerner, 2023		
Stabler, David Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School <u>Comments:</u> Grades 2-5	978-1-7284-5817-5	\$29.32	32 p.
• U.S. Military Branches <i>The U.S. Coast Guard in Action</i>	Lerner, 2023		
Miller, Marie-Therese Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School <u>Comments:</u> Elementary	9781728458298	\$21.99	24 p.

FICTION – RECOMMENDED

Acker, Ben 9781665917001 \$17.99 186 p.
Stories to Keep You Alive Despite Vampires Simon & Schuster, 2022

This group of "scary" stories is framed by a scheherazade-like narrator who keeps vampires at bay by telling them ghost stories. Some stories are silly, some are a little spooky. But will they keep you (or the narrator) alive? Uneven writing, but some of the stories are creepy and more than one made me laugh. If you need another copy of *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark*, buy that, but if your readers have read those to death, go ahead and buy this.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, Too young for YA

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Badua, Tracy 9780358612896 \$16.99 250 p.
Freddie vs. The Family Curse (ARC) Clarion Books, 2022

Freddie is a Filipino American Middle Schooler, who wants to do so many things (like join his cousin Sharkey's break-dancing group). However, his family is cursed. He can't join the group because he trips over himself and is an overall klutz. He soon finds out that his great-granduncle is trapped in an amulet and may be the only way to break the curse. This is a funny, supernatural story filled with Filipino food and superstitions (I've heard my mom spout the same superstitious stuff as Freddie's parents). A quick and hilarious read.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Baker, Kylie Lee 978-1-335-40566-1 \$18.99 393 p.
The Keeper of Night, The Keeper of the Night #1 Inkyard Press, 2022

Ren is a British Reaper, but not accepted fully because of her half Shinigami (Japanese Soul Harvester) heritage. After letting her magic out inappropriately, she is on the run, and in Japan, trying to become a full Shinigami, find her mother, and complete a task to kill 3 Yokai for the Japanese Goddess of death. Really interesting mythology and a compelling book.
 MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Benway, Robin 978-0-06-285443-8 \$18.99 335 p.
A Year to the Day HarperTeen, 2022

It's been a year since Leo's sister, Nina, died. As her family, friends, and Nina's (ex)boyfriend, East, gather to remember her, Leo is still frustrated she cannot remember the accident and that East won't tell her the details. The novel takes the reader backwards in time (from 365 days after to the day of the accident) as Leo experiences her grief and how to engage with her family and relationships without her sister. The structure and jumps in time may be challenging for some readers (it reads more like linked vignettes than

a traditional novel), but the emotional payoff is worth it. In a time where many people in the world have experienced loss, this novel feels like a testament that there will be light at the end of the dark tunnel. Recommend. Grades 9+.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Burgos, Hilda Eunice 978-1643790657 \$18.95 304 p.
Miosotis Flores Never Forgets Tu Books, 2021

When Miosotis turns 12, she wants nothing more than to have a dog of her own but her Dominican-American papi says she has to improve in two classes first. Although Mio has a passion for dog rescue and makes everyone at the shelter happy, she's not such a good student. She enlists her older sister/surrogate mother's help to do her science work. But when she learns her sister's rich fiancé is an abuser, she's not sure what to do. She is reluctant to confront her sister or her papi because she knows how much they like him.

This is a nice, heartwarming middle-school story. It touches on single parent homes, domestic violence, racism, and classism. The cover seems a little young and belies the seriousness of the issues.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Grades 4th-6th

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Butler, Caron and Justin A. Reynolds 978-0063069596 \$16.99 304 p.
Shot Clock Katherine Tegen Books, 2022

13-year-old Tony loves basketball and dreams of playing on a AAU team. When his close friend Dante, the star of the neighborhood team that won two championships, is killed by a policeman it doesn't seem like justice will be served. That motivates Tony to try out for the team himself. He doesn't make it but the former NBA coach invites him to be the statistician. Although Tony doesn't know anything about statistics or strategy he had spent lots of time with Dante talking over plays. He accepts the position and together with the coach's daughter, they scout teams and players and through their efforts the team starts winning games without Dante. The pacing is a little uneven and the settings aren't always clear, but the "dream come true" ending is rewarding and there is lots of basketball play to appeal to middle school players.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Cohen, Jennieke 9780063047532 \$17.99 324 p.
My Fine Fellow: A Delicious Entanglement HarperTeen, 2022

Helena Higgins and Penelope Pickering join forces to elevate guttersnipe Elijah Little to the social elite. This is gender-swapped "My Fair Lady" retelling tackles classism, sexism, racism, micro-aggression, white privilege, romance, and haute cuisine. The resulting gumbo is sufficiently tasty, but it's no show-stopper, and lacks the humor of the original.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Dilloway, Margaret 9780063047242 \$16.99

Where the Sky Lives Balzer + Bray, 2022

Tuesday Beals is a twelve-year-old experiencing a unique upbringing. She lives in Zion National Park, where Dana, her mother whom she calls by first name, works as an archaeologist, and her late Uncle Ezra was an astronomer. The reader becomes emersed in Tuesday's world, as she is schooled by nature, and privately grieves for the absence of her uncle while Dana also processes the grief from losing her brother. The story is driven by a conflict of developers wanting to build a residential community right on the border of Zion, which would prevent the area from being a designated dark zone, free of light pollution. With the help of her friend Carter, a discarded camera, and lessons in developing photographs, Tuesday launches a social media campaign to keep Zion pristine. I appreciated the platonic boy-girl friendship, and the environmental activism in this book would make it pair nicely with the nonfiction "Girls who green the world." Above all else, I really liked how this book tackled the topic of grief, helping to show how the path and progress can look very different for everyone. Characters default to white.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Edgmon, H.E. 978-1-335-21279-5 \$18.99

The Witch King, The Witch King #1 Inkyard Press, 2022

Wyatt, a transgender teen witch, is promised to marry the prince of the Fae, but has since changed sexes, and does not live with the fae after an incident when he left. But, he is pulled back into that life, and into politics of the Fae, despite not wanting to. With his friend Brier, he must navigate the Fae, survive physical attacks, and decide whether to marry Emyr, the prince. Queer fantasy - MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Fajardo, Anika 1534495908 \$17.99

Meet Me Halfway Simon & Schuster for Young Readers, 2022

Meet Me Halfway is a heart-warming story about two girls who meet in middle school and have a striking resemblance to each other. They discover that they share a father, who lives in Columbia and whom neither of the girls has met. There is tension between the girls at the beginning, because they each have something that the other envies. Mercedes is popular, athletic, and successful at school, but feels a lack of love at home due to her mom constantly traveling for work. Mattie is new at school and struggling socially, but is fortunate to have the supportive and loving family that Mercedes craves. The girls start to bond, however, when they decide to team up on their quest to meet their dad. Their goal of meeting their dad leads them on an adventure when they sneak away from their classmates and teachers on a field trip at the local college. *Meet Me Halfway* is highly recommended for middle school readers. Students will enjoy the intriguing plot, rebellious adventures, and ever-changing sister relationship.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School

Ferruolo, Jeanne Zulick 9780374309091 \$16.99 328 p.

A Galaxy of Sea Stars Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2020

Izzy is just getting ready to enter middle school. She is looking forward to spending more time with her two best friends. She'll need them as her parents are dealing with some issues of their own, such as dad's PTSD from his military missions to Afghanistan. Things get complicated when dad invites a Muslim family to move into the upstairs apartment of their home at the marina. They have a daughter named Sitara who is Izzy's age. There are few Muslims in their small east coast community so Sitara tends to stand out in her hijab and her refusal to eat some of the food offered in the cafeteria at school. More complications arise when hate notes start arriving and also when Izzy's two best friends no longer act like best friends should. This is an excellent middle grade novel about doing hard things even when you are scared. Characters feel like authentic middle school students trying to figure out who they are, who they want to be; who their friends are, who they want their friends to be. Unfortunately, the bullying of someone who is different is also all too authentic. The author's note at the end talks about her work at a refugee and immigrant services organization and had several people from that center read the book and edit the Muslim family's portion for authenticity. She also has a brother in the military who edited those details and her grandmother is Czech and was the inspiration for that part of the story.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, Grades 5-7

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Forna, Namina 978-1-984848-72-7 \$17.99 464 p.

***The Merciless Ones*, The Gilded Ones #2** Delacorte Press, 2022

When she freed the goddesses of the Kingdom of Otra in book one, *The Gilded Ones*, Dekla learned her true identity and purpose. As *The Merciless Ones* opens, Dekla is now on a mission to free the remaining goddesses. In carrying out this mission she finds there are new foes over whom she has no power and, more importantly, the kingdom and the humans within are in even greater peril than ever before. As she delves into this mystery, Dekla's powers seem to change, and just who the enemy is and what her role in an epic battle against these foes becomes less clear--especially when she discovers a betrayal that has her questioning the truths and the gifts she received from the goddesses. Pacing gets a bit bogged down with dream sequences that pull Dekla away from the action. However, readers of book one who have been clamoring for this sequel since they finished *The Gilded Ones* will not be disappointed! Grades 7 and up.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Amber Peterson, International Community School

Fullerton, Alma 9781682633663 \$16.99 144 p.

Flipping Forward Twisting Backward Peachtree, 2022

Giles, Lamar 978-1-338-75201-4 \$19.99 400 p.
The Getaway (ARC) Scholastic, 2022

Jay feels lucky to work at Karloff Country. Before his family got hired to work and live there, they didn't always get enough to eat. But the megarich owners of Karloff Country have plans, and Jay and his friends and his family are going to suffer the consequences. Giles brings his lived experience of working at a theme park to this horrifying dystopic story. Jay and his three friends are vivid characters who occasionally take turns telling this epic story. The terrifying elements build slowly, and most readers will be sucked in by this imagining of the future. Highly recommended for libraries serving teens, especially high school students.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library

Glasgow, Kathleen and Liz Lawson 9780593431115 \$18.99 405 p.
The Agathas Delacorte Press, 2022

This debut YA novel by a writing duo was a thrilling joy to devour: teen female detectives, twisting plot lines, captivating characters, and the relevant references to and quotes from Agatha Christie. The whole town of Castle Cove has been wondering what really happened last summer when popular teen Alice disappeared for days after her boyfriend dumped her. Alice hasn't spoken about it, but she just might have to. It turns out that Steve's current girlfriend, Brooke, has now disappeared. All eyes are suspiciously on Alice as Brooke used to be her best friend. When evidence lines up against Steve, Alice turns to her peer tutor, Iris, for help. With Alice's love of Agatha Christie, and Iris's intelligence, this unlikely duo might just be able to solve this case. But can they solve it without becoming the killer's next target? Teens who love mysteries, plucky heroines and Agatha Christie will love this one!

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Gonzalez, Christina Diaz 978-1-338-64720-4 \$17.99 304 p.
Concealed Scholastic Press, 2021

13 year old Katrina (her current name) and her parents are in the Witness Protection Program after her father, a research scientist, testifies against a cartel triggering a hit order on the family. That's the story she was given but she feels that's not the whole story. From her latest home in a run-down trailer park where she meets Parker, a foster child who is good with computers, she is anxious to figure out what is really going on. When the family's location is leaked, her dad leaves to get new IDs, and she finds her mother has been kidnapped by men with badges. With Parker's help she finds the safe house in Atlanta and meets "X," her father's contact who takes them to meet her father on a boat. She discovers the secrets behind her father's research, a shocking family secret, and devises a plan for a way out. Although it has some plot holes and some abrupt plot shifts, all-in-all it's entertaining.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Gratz, Alan 978-1-338-73567-3 \$17.99 365 p.
Two Degrees (ARC) Scholastic Press, 2022

Two degrees follows 4 different characters around the world, as they each struggle to survive three climate disasters. We follow Akira, struggling to survive a California wildfire, Owen and George in Churchill, Canada, running away from a Polar bear who got too close to home, and Natalie Torres in Miami, Florida, fighting to survive a hurricane deemed the Big One. It's a fast-paced, action-packed, very quick read that gives the reader a simple understanding of climate change and hope for the future. Recommended for middle school readers, 6th-8th grade.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Izzy Torres, Centralia Timberland Library

Heaney, Katie 9780593118290 \$24.99 256 p.
The Year I Stopped Trying Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2021

Mary is a straight 'A' student and a classic overachiever. So, when she forgets to do her history homework and the world doesn't end, it makes her wonder why she's putting so much effort into it. This attitude starts to bleed into her personal life too, and she decides to prioritize getting a boyfriend. She chooses her elementary school boyfriend, Mitch, a boy she was an online girlfriend with for a few days in 5th grade. Mitch, once a sweet and innocent kid, now has a reputation as a drug dealer. When she asks him for a ride home one day, he agrees. While her relationship with Mitch is developing, so is her friendship with coworker Elise, whom she goes to for advice on love. Elise tells Mary she is gay so she isn't sure how to advise Mary about boys. When Mary starts to develop interest in Elise, she starts to question her own sexuality. This book is about self-discovery and shedding others' expectations when making life decisions.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Katy Olson, Mark Morris High School

Heaney, Katie 978-0593-11828-3 \$18.99 243 p.
The Year I Stopped Trying Alfred A. Knopf, 2021

Mary's always been the kind of student who turns in assignments on time, raises her hand in class and does all the extra credit. Until she accidentally forgets to do her AP US History homework and absolutely nothing happens -- no disappointed teacher, no detention, nothing. She wonders what all her stress and worry has been for and maybe there are other things she doesn't really need to do. She also wonders how much of what she thought was true about herself was built on misconceptions -- how do you tell what you desire to do vs. what you feel like is your duty. As Mary figures herself out she's open to experiencing the people around her differently too, including her new co-worker, Elyse. Mary's journey to find herself is very relatable and could inspire folks to look inside for their own truth. Recommend for readers interested in self-reflection more than action. Grades 9+.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Isabelle, S. 9781338758962 \$18.99 384 p.
The Witchery (ARC) Scholastic Press, 2022

Logan is a new student at Mesmortes Coven Academy in Haelsford, Florida where the Red Three rule the school—three infamous witchy teens: Iris is a deathwitch who can release souls; Thalia is a greenwitch with legendary talents with plants, and lastly there is Jailah who is a necromancer. The town of Haelsford is known for the annual Haunting Season that begins around Halloween where Monstrous Wolves rise from the neighboring swamp to kill. While non-witches (called mundanes) are usually wary of their witch neighbors, this time of year the two groups band together to survive the annual horror. Two mundane teens, Mathew and Trent, are tasked with presenting this year’s town sacrifice to the witches in exchange for their protection. The Red Three ask Logan to join them as they try to outspell the town’s deadly hex. Soon the witchy girls and the two boys are off on a race against time to save the town (and themselves). Having all six teens take turns narrating the story is challenging, but those who love the dark witchy vibe will be rewarded by this thrilling, twisty tale that hints at a sequel. The author’s goal was to write an “inclusive magical world” of witches and she succeeded. Most main characters are Black, Mathew and Logan are white while Trent and Jailah are queer.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Keating, Lucy 9780358468318 \$18.99 312 p.
Ride with Me Clarion Books, 2022

Ride With Me, by Lucy Keating is an interesting coming of age romance. Charlotte (Charlie) Owens can’t wait to leave her small New England town and study architecture anywhere but near home. She drives her car as a Uber to make money and works at a tea shop besides keeping her grades up. But Charlie really doesn’t have time for anyone. Not for boyfriends or her long-times friends. She has her life planned out and nothing is going to de-rail them. Then, while driving a drunk senior home from a party, Charlie backs into Andre’s car. She convinces him to not contact the insurance company because she knows she will lose her job driving. Charlie agrees to drive Andre anywhere he wants to go until he gets his car back from the repair shop. These two opposites help each other see their faults and strengths and eventually are able to go in the same direction which turns out to be different than either suspected. Recommended for 8 and up because of drinking and sex off the page.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School

King, Wesley 9781665902618 \$17.99 261 p.
Butt Sandwich & Tree Simon & Schuster, 2022

Grades 5-8 - Green not only got a crazy name, but he also got a diagnosis of Asperger’s, which sounds like another name for Butt. Green knows that he is nothing like his popular, basketball playing brother Ceder, but together they are quite the team, a Butt sandwich (because Green can only eat cheese sandwiches) and a tree. Ceder has big plans for his brother to make friends and get popular by joining the basketball team, but when Green gets cut and the coach’s ring go missing on the same day, Coach is convinced that it is

Green's fault. When Green and Ceder decide to prove the Coach wrong, what might they find out instead about the people in their school. This is a perfect middle school mystery; complete with a list of suspects, clues and the perfect crime. However, I liked that the author included a neuro-divergent character and addresses the fact that sometimes we accuse those that are the easiest to pick on. Both Green and Ceder's voices shine through this book. Recommended.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Bethany Steirer, Pacific Cascade Middle School

Kuehn, Stephanie 978-1368064101 \$17.81 320 p.

We Weren't Looking to be Found Disney Hyperion, 2022

I recommend this book for high school and up. Dani and Camila meet each other at Peach Tree Hills recovery and the story is told in flashback mode. When it starts out they are cleaning out a storage area as a consequence for running away. Then we get a look at their back stories and struggles with substance abuse, self harm, and attempted suicide. There are hints that the recovery place isn't what it seems to be especially when they find a pile of letters from a mysterious person named the letter K. I liked the character development and representation for both main characters. I was hoping for something like *Nine Perfect Strangers* but sadly for me that didn't happen. Others reading this book, however, might be pleased that it focuses on authentic transformation through hard work and acceptance. I think teens will find this accessible and it has a positive message for people struggling with addiction.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School Library

Lang, Heidi 1665903341 \$17.99

Out of Range Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2022

Out of Range tells the story of three sisters who get lost and separated in the wilderness while at camp. The girls are each trying to survive while simultaneously reflecting on the recent sibling battles they were having back at home. The story is told from perspectives of all three of the girls, with most of the book alternating chapters between the "now" (lost in the wilderness) and the "before" (the girls' struggles at home). This is a survival story, of the life and death kind, and also of sibling relationships. I think students in grades 5-7 would like this story because it's fast paced, and nearly every chapter ends on a cliff-hanger. There are positive messages in the ways that the girls reckon with having hurt their sisters. The authors note at the end mentions that the story was inspired by the author's own experience of getting lost in the wilderness, which was a surprising conclusion to the book and made it feel more authentic.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School

Lee, Lyla 9780062936936 \$17.99 291 p.

Flip the Script Katherine Tegen Books, 2022

Lyla Lee has written another fun story with strong Asian characters. Hana was born in the States, but travels to Korea with her parents when she is scouted for a Korean drama. She's just sixteen when she lands her first lead role across from Bryan, a K-pop idol, who has turned to drama as a career option. The ratings for the drama tank and as a publicity stunt, Hana and Bryan pretend to have a relationship in real life. But Hana has a crush on Minjee, her best friend and fellow actress. When the two girls are outed, they have to decide if they will stand up for who they are, or let the powers that be rule their lives and their love. A wonderful, clean, heartwarming LGBTQIA+ novel.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School

Lockhart, E. 9780593485859 \$19.99 298 p.
Family of Liars We Were Liars prequel Delacorte Press, 2022

This story of the Sinclair family takes place 27 years BEFORE the events from *We Were Liars*. This book focuses on Carrie Sinclair's 17th summer that also occurs on Beechwood Island. Carrie and her sisters Penny and Bess are the parents of the teens from the first book. Carrie's third sister, Rosemary, drowned the previous summer when she was 10. That tragedy's weight is still on Carrie as no one ever mentions Rosemary. Carrie also feels pressure to live up to the Sinclair name, including having jaw surgery to get that strong Sinclair jawline. But she ends up with a life-threatening infection and more surgery. This causes Carrie's addiction to prescription pain pills. Soon she's also using alcohol and sleeping pills to diminish her pain. Carrie also starts seeing the ghost of Rosemary. Also on island for the summer are her sister Penny's friend Erin, her cousin Yardley, Yardley's boyfriend George, and two of George's male friends. All these teens together on an island full of free time and alcohol leads to all the drama that changed Carrie's life forever—there's broken-hearted romances and betrayal between lovers and family. And murder. Teens who loved the first book will be immediately compelled to finish this prequel ASAP!

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Lockhart, E. 593485858 \$19.99 320 p.
Family of Liars We Were Liars prequel Delacorte Press, 2022

This was a pretty good prequel to *We Were Liars*. If you're familiar with the first book, E. Lockhart likes to write psychological thrillers with a twisty ending. This one wasn't as unsettling as the first book. But, perhaps I had gotten used to the messed up ways of the Sinclair family by the time I read this one. It did pull me in, though, and I believe teens who like the Mystery/Suspense genre, or who liked reading *We Were Liars* will be invested in this book. It's a YA book but doesn't have anything too controversial so it's fine for middle schoolers.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School, 8th grade and up

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

McManus, Karen M. 978-0-593-17590-3 \$19.99 356 p.

Nothing More to Tell

Delacorte Press, 2022

Brynn's dream of journalism school in Chicago is ruined when her carelessness combined with a horrible prank goes viral -- no one wants to be connected to the girl who supposedly posted a series of dick pics to their high school online newspaper. Looking for a second chance, Brynn leans into the scandal to score an interview for an internship with Motive, a true-crime show. She even manages to pitch a story idea to the show creator -- the murder of Mr. Larkin, Brynn's middle school English teacher. Four years ago, three of Brynn's classmates (including estranged friend Trip) found Mr. Larkin bludgeoned to death in the woods behind St. Ambrose School. No one was ever prosecuted for the crime and Brynn's positive there is more to the story than the kids ever said. Returning to St. Ambrose after four years away, Brynn uses the planning of a memorial garden for Mr. Larkin as a way to poke and prod at the case. As she reconnects with Trip, long held secrets begin to unravel in unexpected, and potentially dangerous ways. A solid mystery with some interesting twists and turns along the way. Better than some of McManus' recent offerings.

Recommend. Grades 8+. Some drinking and swearing. Starred SLJ, Kirkus and Pub Weekly.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Neri, G.

9781536207118

\$17.99

278 p.

Polo Cowboy companion to *Ghetto Cowboy*

Candlewick Press, 2021

Cole is ready to settle into a calm life with his dad, Hap, and his horse Boo, and the Black urban cowboys at the stables in Philadelphia. Then he gets a job as a stable hand at a posh (mostly White) private school, and he meets Ruthie--the first girl to play polo on the elite team. Cole's journey into polo--including teaching his friends in the 'hood how to play the game--includes good characters and action sequences based on the actual urban polo players in North Philly. Sequel to *Ghetto Cowboy* (movie title *Concrete Cowboy*).

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Patrick, S.A.

9781682633762

\$17.99

390 p.

A Darkening of Dragons, Songs of Magic #1

Peachtree, 2022

A boy cast out from the Piper's Guild, a girl ensorcelled as a rat, and a dracogriff join forces to recapture the wicked Piper of Hamelyn. Helped along the way by other magical people and creatures, they discover the Piper's terrible secret, but not before each of them must reveal their own secrets (terrible and not-so-terrible). The writing skims along the not-too-deep-or-scary quest, with twists at every possible junction in the story. It reads young, but middle-schoolers seeking a non-challenging read will enjoy the magic. Cliffhanger ending, this book does not stand alone.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, Too young for YA, grades 4-7

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Puckett, Lindsay

9781338803426

\$17.99

224 p.

The Glass Witch (ARC)

Scholastic Press, 2022

Adelaide Goode, 12, struggles to find her way as she is the weakest Goode witch in centuries and has a plump, curvy body and frizzy, wild, red hair. Adelaide blames herself for driving a wedge between her mom, aunt, and grandma. Because of an ancient curse, no more than 3 Goode witches can be inside the town lines at the same time—which means that Adelaide is now witch #4 so they can never all be together in town. It’s been 5 years since Addie and her mom visited Cranberry Hollow where Addie’s grandma and aunt live. They’re only in town so Addie can get dropped off at her grandma’s since her mom has to work out of town for 3 months. Addie’s anger, sadness, and resentment boil over just as her mom’s leaving town and she impulsively activates the curse by dragging her mom over the townline. This means that all the witches are trapped in the town, Addie’s bones have turned to glass, and the witch hunter has until midnight to steal Adelaide’s soul. Luckily, there’s more magic when there’s more witches and Adelaide has two sidekicks to help her fight the witch hunter—a childhood friend Fatima who’s obsessed with monsters and her loyal red-eyed bunny, Rosie. Addie tells her tale with humor and heart and you can’t help but sympathize with her and cheer her on as she battles her own personal insecurities and an ancient witch hunter.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Rowe, Kelis	978-0-593-42925-9	\$24.99	316 p.
<i>Finding Jupiter</i>	Crown Books for Young Readers, 2022		

I recommend this book for 9th grade and up. This is a slow burn romance with Ray and Orion. They both have histories of death in the family and so you know early on that they will most likely bond over this shared hardship. Orion also has a sensitivity to too much stimulus and that is why he has always been a swimmer which helps him cope with his condition. Ray is very independent, and she makes found poetry out of weeded library books. I think she identifies with Daisy in Gatsby and Janie from *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. She is afraid to fall in love and always avoids it, but with Orion they have too much chemistry. This book was not my jam personally but I think teens will dig it.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School Library

Rutherford, Mara	978-1-335-40565-4	\$19.99	373 p.
<i>Luminous</i>	Inkyard Press, 2021		

Girl, a mage in a society where the King’s man – Darius- has been chasing and using mages for years, finally lets her secret slip and gets caught. To get out, she must complete a task that will require her to master her powers and undertake a perilous task. Cool world-building and interesting villains make this a pretty darn good book. MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Senf, Lora	9781665902670	\$17.99	274 p.
<i>The Clackity</i> , Blight Harbor #1	Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2022		

This book continues Princess Merida’s story from the movie, *Brave*. Princess Merida is now around 20 and longs for excitement, a purpose, and maybe love. However, she’s still as hot-tempered as ever. As time has passed, Castle DunBroch has fallen into a state of disrepair which catches the attention of the ancient God Ferdadach, who is the God of Ruin. He roots out stagnation and rot and appears in DunBroch on Christmas Eve with the intention of destroying the realm. But the ancient Scottish Goddess of Creation, Cailleach, intervenes and lets Princess Merida make a deal. Merida must convince her entire family to show they’ve changed within a year or they will suffer eternal consequences at the hand of Ferdadach. The entire family includes King Fergus, Queen Elinor, the triplet princes of Harris, Hamish, and Hubert and Leezie Muieall—the practically ‘adopted’ sister of Merida. Under the watchful eyes of the two Gods, Princess Merida undertakes three epic journeys—each during a different season. She learns important lessons. Students who loved *Brave*, will enjoy this epic fantasy.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Stout, Shawn K. 9781682633205 \$16.99 322 p.

The Impossible Destiny of Cutie Grackle Peachtree, 2022

Cutie Grackle lives at the top of a mountain with her uncle, who has some... issues. Even though she's only in the 5th grade, Cutie has had to shoulder some adult responsibilities because of this. In addition, there seems to be a curse on her family - and maybe even the whole town. When some crows start following her and she starts seeing visions, Cutie starts to believe that maybe the curse is real. Books like this are why I am not a cataloguer. It is an interesting blend of action, mystery, fantasy, and realism - put that in your genrified collection. It is also a story of a girl who refuses to give up on her family despite all the challenges in her way. Grades 4-7

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Strong, Karen 9781665904476 \$17.99 261 p.

Eden's Everdark Simon & Schuster, 2022

Twelve-year-old Eden and her father, both still grieving the loss of her mom, travel to Safina Island, off the coast of Georgia, where her mom grew up as a child, to connect with her extended family. On her first day there, Eden comes across some of her mother’s old sketchbooks. While most of them contain drawings of exotic plants and island landscapes (mom was a botany artist by trade), one sketchbook was very different, with drawings of a creepier nature: dark beaches, night skies, creatures with sharp teeth, children with screaming countenances, and a beautiful woman with sharp, black nails called the Witch of Everdark. That night, Eden has nightmares of these things. When she asks her great-aunt about Everdark the next day, Aunt Susanna chalks it up to mom’s wild stories of a spiritual world. But Eden soon learns that the spiritual world does exist when she accidentally finds her way to it through a rift between worlds in the woods. Once on the other side, she is held captive by the witch, who fancies Eden as an eternal daughter. Everdark is a magical world of darkness and mystery, inhabited by the ghosts portrayed in her mother’s sketchbook,

and Eden must find her way out before she succumbs to the darkness and becomes one of them. Eden's Everdark is a beautiful, haunting story of grief, family, and personal growth that will appeal to most readers, but especially tweens who like a bit of creepiness with their paranormal.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School

Sutanto, Jesse Q. 9780593433973 \$18.99 352 p.
Well, That Was Unexpected Delacorte Press, 2022

A romantic comedy where a teen Indonesian American girl is caught by her mother about to have sex with her boyfriend. So what does the mother do? Whisks her away to Indonesia, where the girl has never been. Her mother then catfishes an Indonesian teen boy, who happens to be the sole male heir to a billion-dollar empire (*Crazy Rich Asian* vibes anyone?), to date her daughter. But there's a twist: the rich boy's father and sister were trying to catfish the girl! The girl and boy do end up fake dating only because it's great publicity for a new app that the family's company has created. This is a hilarious book, and while it does discuss sex, the author makes it a funny thing that happens to every teenager. So to recap: there's *Crazy Rich Asian* vibes, fake dating, embarrassing sex episodes, a food trip through Indonesia, and a romance.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Tandon, Nancy 9781534486119 \$17.99 330 p.
The Ghost of Spruce Point Aladdin, 2022

Parker lives with his parents and his younger sister at the Home Away Inn on the Maine coast. It has been in their family for generations and even though it has always been rumored to be haunted, that has never stopped the family friendly guest house/hotel from doing well. Until this summer. Parker is determined to do whatever he can to help his parents keep the Home Away and figure out the mysterious happenings around the inn. Luckily he has his best friend Frankie to help him plus cousins who live on a nearby island. The descriptions of family, especially the close relationship between the cousins, is especially endearing, reminding me of how close I was to my cousins growing up. Descriptions of the Maine coast and delicious food will make you want to visit. The level of suspense and mystery is just right for a middle grade novel. Give this to fans of *Whispering Pines*, *Scratch Scratch*, and *Small Spaces*. Grades 6-8

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Uhrig, Betsy 9781665916103 \$17.99 275 p.
The Polter-Ghost Problem McElderry Books, 2022

Best friends and middle schoolers Aldo, Pen, and Jasper don't know what to write for their summer journal assignment, but that changes the day they follow a ghost boy through the woods and find an abandoned haunted mansion that housed orphans. The three boys meet

young ghosts who are trapped on the orphanage's grounds and are frequently terrorized by a cranky poltergeist who loves throwing things during ferocious temper tantrums. The boys need to be careful to not get into trouble—again. If they get caught at the orphanage, their parents' punishment will be severe. It's not easy when they keep getting attacked by that angry poltergeist and have to cover up or lie about their injuries. Even more strange, it turns out that most of the ghosts only appeared at the orphanage a year ago and they returned as the age they were when they lived there—not the age in which they died. Can Aldo, Pen, and Jasper figure out what's enraging the poltergeist before they get seriously wounded, die or their parents kill them when they find out what's been happening? Students looking for a funny mystery story filled with moments of pure terror will love this book!

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Valentino, Serena	9781368025294	\$17.99	252 p.
<i>Never Never</i> , Villains #9	Disney Hyperion, 2022		

This book presents the origin story of the notorious pirate who was Peter Pan's nemesis, but does so from Captain Hook's perspective. James Hook was born to a Lord and Lady. His fascination with Never Land and Peter Pan began when he was very young and fell out of his stroller in London. Any boy who does this ends up in Never Land. Any child not claimed within 7 days becomes a Lost Boy. Unfortunately for James, he was found after six days. James loved dearly his time on that island and he made it his life quest to return to Never Land. He learned all he could about pirates who sailed to mysterious and magical places—hoping Neverland was one of those places. Hook ends up working for Capt. Blackbeard and that's where his real adventures begin—adventures that involve the Many Kingdoms, the Odd Sisters, secret treasure boxes, the Jolly Roger, Davy Jones, and much much more. Students will love this adventurous and twisted tale that puts a whole new spin on Captain Hook—you just might end up feeling a little bit sorry for him.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Weiser Strout, Allison	978082345086	\$17.99	184 p.
<i>Next Door to Happy</i>	Margaret Ferguson Books, 2022		

Only child Violet Crane lives with her anxiety-ridden mother, who works from home and rarely leaves the house. The summer before she starts middle school, a family of seven move in next door. Violet quickly immerses herself in the world of the Walkers, spending days playing soccer in their yard and hanging out in their home. She develops a tenuous friendship with Reggie, the Walker child that is in her same grade. As middle school begins, Violet finds her friend group changing as boys and girls start to transition from being friends to being potential romantic interests. Just as Violet and Reggie's friendship begins to solidify and they make plans to build their own secret treehouse, Violet overhears some hurtful comments from Mrs. Walker and distances herself from the family. A heroic act from Violet helps to change the Mrs. Walker's opinions, and as middle grade stories are wont to do, there is a happy ending. The characters default to white, and there is not a lot of

diversity in regard to ability, nationality, or gender expression. Aside from that dearth, the story is relatable for anyone who has ever wished for a different family than the one into which they were born.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

White, Kiersten 9780593379042 \$16.99 232 p.

Wretched Waterpark, Sinister Summer #1 Delacorte Press, 2022

Woken up in the middle of the night, the Sinister-Winterbottoms siblings were surprised to find out they would be spending the summer with their Aunt Saffronia. Twins Alexander and Theodora, age 12, and their 16-year-old sister Wilhemina had never even heard of their Aunt Saffronia who mysteriously tells them that their first task is at the Fathoms of Fun waterpark. With no other information, the siblings are confused. This waterpark is dark and eerie and an ominous stranger warns them not to run as that's how kids vanish. Even creepier, the pool cabanas look like mausoleums and the water rafts look like coffins. Older sister Wil is no help as she's self-absorbed with her phone. The twins investigate the waterpark and find out that one of the owners is missing. This darkly humorous book will appeal to readers who like a side of gothic with their mysteries. The deathlike descriptions of the waterpark are funny and entertaining, such as the water slides named Abandon Hope and Mortal Coil. You'll root for Alexander and Theo to figure things out before they become the latest victims of the deadly wave pool. This is a rollicking fun start to a new series.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

White, Kiersten 978-0593379042 \$16.99 256 p.

Wretched Waterpark, Sinister Summer #1 Delcorte Press, 2022

Twin 12-year-olds, Theo and Alexander, and their 16 year-old sister Wil are inexplicably dropped off at their Aunt Saffronia's house for the summer with no explanation and no way to get back home. She doesn't seem up to the task of caring for children and buys them a week-long pass for the Fathoms of Fun Waterpark, a gothic horrorland, telling them to find what's lost. The waterslides look like gargoyle tongues and the employees are dressed as undertakers. The rafts are coffins and all the attractions have ominous names like the River Styx and the Cold Unfathomable Sea. Things get more mysterious when both Alfred, one of the park employees, and Mr. Widow, the park owner, both go missing. But when Wil goes missing, the twins set out to find out what is going on. Fun, creepy.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Zahler, Diane 9780823450817 \$17.99 228 p.

Goblin Market Holiday House, 2022

Lizzie and Minka are sisters. despite their differences, they get along very well. Minka is extroverted and so she is the one who goes to the market. Lizzie is introverted and is sensitive to noise plus sees colors and auras when she looks at people so she is content to

certain destruction. This is a strange book. Some parts were intriguing but I think the author was trying to juggle too much which ultimately impacted the quality of the world building and my investment in the various relationships. Not sure who I would recommend this too. Shrug. Grades 9+.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Caletti, Deb 978-0593485507 \$18.99 416 p.
The Epic Story of Every Living Thing Labyrinth Road, 2022

For years Harper Proulx' life has been focused on her social media presence but it becomes all-consuming when covid hits. She has been without a father from birth and her preoccupied, overprotective mother has told her he's a sperm-donor but little else. When Harper accidentally discovers she has 42 half-siblings, she travels to Hawaii to meet them and her father who turns out to be a beach bum with an obsession for shipwrecks. She finds out there's more to the story than just a donor relationship her mother had claimed. The main plot is interesting but there is a lot of narration and many subplots including a shipwreck and the loss of Harper's phone which serve to slow the book down. It's also a little disconcerting the references to covid, social distancing, and/or masks are dropped early in the book and not mentioned again even though the siblings are traveling to see their new grandmother.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Cho, Kat 9781368064644 \$18.99 336 p.
Once Upon a K-Prom Disney Hyperion, 2022

Elena Soo is more interested in saving the local community center than she is in going to prom. So when her best childhood friend, a now famous K-pop star, comes to fulfill a promise they made to each other when they were young, Elena isn't sure how to react, and if Robbie is sincere or just seeking publicity. They will have to work together if they have any hope of saving the community center and discovering if the friendship they had as children can develop into something more. This is a fun romance story about Asian-American characters. It is perfectly appropriate for middle school through HS. I thought is read a little young, but it's circulating in my HS library.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School

Edwardson, Debby Dahl 9781643795768 \$16.00 232 p.
Blessing's Bead Tu Books, 2022

Published in 2009, released with new cover in 2022. There are two story lines here. One is of sisters Nutaaq and Aaluk who live in their indigenous village in Alaska in 1917. Aaluk leaves the village to marry a man from Siberia but she gives her sister Nutaaq a precious blue bead from her new husband's people. The other story is also in Alaska but in the year 1989. It also features a girl named Nutaaq but she is also called Blessing. Blessing's mom is

an alcoholic, so she goes to live with her grandmother that she barely knows in a remote village. While there she discovers a blue bead. Blessing does not fit in with the other girls in the village but somehow the bead helps her find her way. It was a bit difficult to track the different characters but eventually both story lines do tie together and the story is partially based on true events. The author is not indigenous but is married to an indigenous person and has lived in Alaska with the indigenous tribe for 40 years. Grades 6-9

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Hawes, Louise 9781682632529 \$16.99 261 p.

Big Rig Peachtree Publishing, 2022

Hazel, 11.5, and her dad travel across the country together in a semi-truck delivering all kinds of cargo. They've spent 7 years on the road together. Even though Hazel's mom died shortly after she was born, her cremated remains travel in a box on the dashboard where both Hazel and her dad will talk to her. But life on the road for truckers might be changing as talks increase of robo-trailers and driverless trucks. Hazel's dad wants to provide more stability for his daughter and give her an actual house with a fenced yard. But Hazel doesn't want her way of life to change and decides to write a movie screenplay about a daddy-daughter trucking duo. She has lots of action scenes to include as they encounter a lying runaway, a crashed plane, her dad teaching her about human reproduction, an orphaned kitten, and much more. Students who are interested in the trucking life will enjoy this realistic tale and probably not notice that there's more telling than showing. Also, some of the events seem highly improbable but it was an enjoyable tale that the right reader will enjoy.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Lee, Emery 978-0063038837 \$17.99 391 p.

Meet Cute Diary Harper Collins, 2021

16-year-old Noah Ramirez, a mixed-race boy plans to spend his summer vacation searching for his first transgender romance. He writes a "meet cute" blog and represents his "love at first sight at the cute bookstore or cafe" fantasies as real meetups that end with the couple living happily ever after. His following drops significantly when it becomes known Noah has made up all the stories. To save his blog he (serendipitously) meets Drew, a white cis boy who agrees to fake date him but they spend a lot of time making out. Why Noah thinks that will restore his credibility is not clear but a lot of those kinds of questions permeate the book. The characters are diverse and there's a sweet, non-binary character who is very focused on clarifying the correct labels and pronouns for everyone. Noah on the other hand, is so spoiled, entitled and selfish, it's hard to see why anyone, including his parents, put up with him. On the surface this a light fun rom-com but it begs the question, if you pretend transgender relationships exist where they don't, does that really give hope to transgender people looking for real romantic love? The many plot holes, unlikeable main character and unresolved fairy-tale expectations collide with reality and derail the well-intended objective.

Recommended Age: High School
Recommend for Evergreen Award? No
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Lim, Elizabeth 9780593300954 \$19.99 484 p.
The Dragon's Promise, Six Crimson Cranes #2 Alfred A. Knopf, 2022

This is the second book of the duology. In the first, *Six Crimson Cranes*, Shiori is a princess with 6 brothers. Her father, the emperor, and her stepmother have arranged her marriage to one of the lords' sons. Shiori discovers her stepmother is a sorceress, is soon cursed with a bowl on her head and told not to speak or one of her brothers will die (her stepmother turns her brothers into cranes). Shiori goes on a journey to clear the curse and there's a huge twist that happens. In the second book, her stepmother dies and gives Shiori a dragon pearl. Shiori is charged with returning the pearl, and she discovers that she has powers. Because of those powers, her blood can release a portal that will free demons. There's a lot happening in these books, which I really see as tiny adventure stories. It has a sweet romance that doesn't play a huge role in the story. Also, you may wonder why it's called *The Dragon's Promise*, and I think it really should be called *The Dragon's Curse*.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School
Recommend for Evergreen Award? No
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Olson, Jessica S. 978-1-335-14794-3 \$19.99 325 p.
Sing Me Forgotten Inkyard Press, 2022

Isda, a young girl, is a gravoir, marked with facial deformities, that lives beneath an opera house. She meets a young man that is a singer and emerges from her basement to have a relationship with him. Her "helper" is a man who runs the opera house and has nefarious plans for her and her power. She discovers this and goes on a rampage of revenge. Weird retelling of Phantom, or at least inspired by Phantom. OK, MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School
Recommend for Evergreen Award? No
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Oseman, Alice 978-1-338-83093-4 \$18.99 384 p.
I Was Born For This (ARC) Scholastic, 2022

The power of music and the challenges of fame take center stage in *I Was Born For This*. Angel is over the moon to have the chance to meet "her boys" at The Ark meet and greet. The Ark, and its fandom, are what keep her going in a life that feels doomed to be disappointing. Jimmy Kaga-Ricci, member of the world famous The Ark, struggles with the required meet and greets thanks to anxiety that is getting harder and harder to control. He loves playing music with his bandmates, but the pressures of superstardom and the obsessiveness of their fans have him questioning his future with the band. When violence breaks out at the meet and greet, Angel and Jimmy end up trapped in a bathroom together. Jimmy isn't the cool, collected icon Angel expects, and Angel isn't the grabby, needy fan Jimmy fears. Their chance meeting just might help them both reevaluate how they engage with the world, the expectations they place on themselves and how to prioritize what's

important. Although I appreciated the overall message in this novel and the diversity represented by the characters, the author may have been trying to handle too much at once leading to some uneven storytelling especially with the various secondary characters. I'd hoped it would be better. Shrug. Grades 9+ Some swearing and drinking. Characters feel older since not in school.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Comments: Published on May 3, 2018 in the UK, by HarperCollins and will also be published on October 18, 2022 in the US, by Scholastic Inc.

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Penney, Mary	9780062696939	\$16.99	436 p.
<i>Green Eyes and Ham</i>	Harper, 2022		

Abraham "Ham" lives with his mom who is the pastor of a church in a small town. He is adopted and everyone knows the story of his unusual adoption. Ham has always been homeschooled but he is starting 8th grade at the local public school. He is understandably nervous but manages to make a few friends. One of them however, encourages Ham to make bad decisions. Very bad decisions. I liked: how Ham had such a great relationship with his neighbor as well as the church ladies and he would help them with errands and their hair, etc. I also appreciated how the author handled Ham's questioning of his sexuality - it seemed authentic. (However, neither she nor I is a queer 13 y.o boy). I also liked that the church had a female pastor and that the religion part was not overbearing. What I didn't like: it was a small town - how did Ham really have no interactions with other kids. I get that he was homeschooled but there must have been a youth group at church or summer camps or something! It feels like a book with a message to pass along; it's just a bit heavy handed.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Romero, R.M.	1682633381	\$18.99	
<i>The Ghosts of Rose Hill</i>	Peachtree Teen, 2022		

The Ghosts of Rose Hill is a novel in-verse about a Jewish girl, Ilana, living in Poland with her aunt for the summer. She starts working on clearing out the old Jewish cemetery near her aunt's house, which leads to her creating friendships with ghosts in the area, including a bit more than a friendship with one particular boy ghost, Benjamin. Ilana learns from Benjamin that him and the other ghosts are being held by the folklore figure, Wasserman, or the Vodnik, as Ilana's aunt calls him. Wasserman is slowly eating the souls of the young ghosts and sees Ilana as his next victim. Ilana ultimately creates a plan to save herself, and free Benjamin and the other ghosts. I appreciated the merging of folklore, fantasy, magical realism, and paranormal, as well as the main characters connection to her Jewish roots. Despite this, the mixture of lyrical prose and regular conversation, and the human-ghost love story made this one a shrug for me. Students who enjoy poetry and the paranormal might enjoy this story.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School

Williams, Kate 9780593304860 \$18.99 304 p.
Never Coming Home Delacorte Press, 2022

Ten influencers under the age of 21 have accepted invitations to the soft opening of Unknown Island, a new luxury tropical destination. Excited to have been chosen, the influencers are eager to share their adventures with their millions of followers. However, when they arrive on the island, things are not what they expected. No one is there to greet them, and nothing about the island matches the photos and videos they were shown. Everything is run down and the Wi-Fi is out. When they happen upon letters from their host, accusing each of them of murder, they quickly realize that something more sinister is afoot. "Gotcha. Murder follows back," the letters threaten, and sure enough, one by one, they wind up dead in an homage to "And then there were none." Will any of them make it off the island? Will they figure out who is behind the murders before it's too late? Only time will tell... I like a good murder mystery, but this one fell a little flat for me. It was difficult to keep all the characters straight without flipping to the cheatsheet in the front, and none of them were particularly likable. Maybe that's why I didn't quite care who died or how. However, teens will likely want to read it and the social media aspect will resonate with them.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School

FICTION – NOT RECOMMENDED

Johnson, Anna Rose 9780823450404 \$17.99 274 p.
The Star That Always Stays Crown Books for Young Readers, 2022

This is a middle grade historical fiction that I DO NOT recommend and will not be putting on my shelves. Norvia Nelson is a native-in-hiding, forced to not speak of her Ojibwe roots when her Ojibwe French mother marries a "good Christian" White man, referred to as Uncle Virgil by the stepchildren. For the flashback episodes of the book, Norvia, her mother Angèlique, and her siblings (Herman, Elton, Casper, and Dicta) are all made to feel guilt and shame for their "Indian" blood from their Pa, while simultaneously being regaled with tales of Native lore from the Marys (the children's Ojibwe grandmother and great-grandmother). For the contemporary portions of the book, Norvia expresses both intense shame about being the daughter of a divorcee, and heightened anxiety about her peers discovering her Ojibwe heritage. I cannot see students being able to relate to the trivial dramas in this book, even if they were accurate for the times (1910s). There were multiple biblical references throughout, and the final third of the novel repeatedly spoke of a need to have faith in God. There was no tempering of this with any other belief systems, particularly that of Creator. The author's note at the conclusion of the story indicates that this work of historical fiction is based off Johnson's family history. While I can claim no tribal affiliation, this novel read as a Christian fiction debut from an author who is still finding her Native voice and roots.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

stories' rebellious spirit. This book is recommended for middle and high school. Students will enjoy the unique perspectives and voices included in these new fairy tales.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle School

Horowitz, Anthony 9781536207330 \$14.99 166 p.

Ark Angel: An Alex Rider Graphic Novel #6 Candlewick Press, 2020

A wonderful adaptation of the novel by the same name. The graphics are well done in full color and the tension builds as Alex tries to defeat Eco Terrorists in this installment.

Readers have to suspend their disbelief that a 14-year-old can do all the amazing feats that Alex accomplishes, but they will want him to triumph in the end. There is no sex on the page, but plenty of violence. I still think this is appropriate for MS and up.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School

Kirsch, T.J. 978-1-68112-262-5 \$16.99 92 p.

Willie Nelson: A Graphic History NBM Graphic, 2022

Willie Nelson goes from a willful boy, to a saloon playing teen, to a thrice divorced dad trying to make it before hitting it big and then going through a house fire, and IRS judgment, and stardom. Good, MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Nikolavitch, Alex and Felix Ruiz 978-1-68112-266-3 \$19.99 106 p.

The Disney Bros. NBM Graphic, 2022

Who knew that Walt and Roy Disney were in financial straits at times early in the Disney animation experience, or that Walt testified about communists in his art department?

Graphic novel about the founding of Disney animation, the building of the parks, and the brothers' relationship. Good, MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Pastis, Stephan 978-1-5344-9614-9 \$22.99 282 p.

The Why-Why's Gone Bye-Bye, Trubble Town #2 Aladdin, 2022

One of the craziest books I have ever read. Comic/Graphic novel, with a rotating cast of wild characters speaking of Trubble Town and how poorly run it is, until the aliens come. Giant bananas, flaming dolphins and more zaniness (including funnily named chapter heading that get worse and worse all book). Recommended for fans of his comic strip, Pearls Before Swine. Age range: 4th-9th grades

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Pimienta, Jose 9780593180631 \$20.99 248 p.
Twin Cities RH Graphic, 2022

When Teresa decides to attend middle school in the United States, crossing the border every weekday with a carpool of fellow students, her twin Fernando acts out, annoyed with his sister's decreasing time for him. As Teresa experiences success in her school, Fernando begins hanging out with a classmate who pushes the boundaries of what Fernando knows to be acceptable and expected behavior. The siblings reestablish their close connection as they bond over the realization that they have both missed the other. I loved that this was centered on a family living on the US/Mexico border. The struggles of the twelve-year-old twins are highly relatable as they tackle standing up for themselves and establishing boundaries with friends and family. The author was raised in Mexicali, Baja California, contributing to the authenticity of the story. The graphics are vivid and beautifully illustrated, and the presentation of characters is highly inclusive.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Shammas, Nadia and Sara Alfageeh 9780062945853 \$21.99 305 p.
Squire Quill Tree, 2022

Aiza wants to see the world. So, even though she's a member of an oppressed, colonized people, she decides to join the colonizing empire's military as a squire. To maintain her safety, she hides her identity by covering up the tattoo on her forearm, which marks her as one of them. Shammas and Alfageeh bring their Jordanian- and Palestinian-American perspectives to this story, which in other hands might have been a redundant medieval Knights-and-Castles tale. The squires train in a fortress that recalls Petra, and the setting and clothing is distinctly Middle Eastern. The characters' have a wide variety of skin tones and sizes, and gender is expressed in many different ways. Aiza and her co-trainees have vivid personalities, and the story pulls the reader along with urgency. Highly recommended for middle schools, high schools, and public libraries.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library

Tak, Tobias 9781681122748 \$24.99 160 p.
Canciones: Federico Garcia Lorca NBM Graphic Novels, 2021

The poetry of the Spanish master, with each line presented in Spanish and English and visually interpreted by Tobias Tak. This is a beautiful book with illustrations making the poetry more accessible to non-Spanish speakers and youth. Recommended for collections of poetry.

Recommended Age: High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Vittori, Ariel and Marwan Kahil 978-1-68112-259-5 \$19.99 125 p.
Leonardo Da Vinci :The Renaissance of the World NBM Graphic Novels, 2022

Good graphic novel that covers well the different stages of Da Vinci's life. He was recognized from the beginning as a talent, but had to work under others, until on his own, with a patron. He was used as a toy by others, for years, until he was an old man, but he definitely always wrote and painted. Art is pleasing and notes at the end make it clear which paintings and works are referenced in the novel.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

GRAPHIC NOVELS – SHRUG

Bowles, David and Raul the Third 978-1-62014-592-0 \$17.95 100 p.

Clockwork Curandera - The Witch Owl Parliament Tu Books, 2022

A curandera in training is killed by witch owls, then brought back to life by her alchemical magician brother, making her a pariah to her Catholic nun friends. She learns to use her new, clockwork parts that were appended on to her to fight the owl witches. Cool artwork, but not quite enough action. MS/HS okay

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

compiled by Marcy Kaye & Joshua Sinel 9780063057937 \$19.99 195 p.

Storybooth HarperTeen, 2022

Skillful pairing of stories shared by real-life teens with vibrant illustrations and poignant word-art quotes make this an engaging compilation of teen drama. Best-friend betrayal, racial profiling, teen pregnancy, peer pressure, COVID super-spreader parties, and many more topical issues are touched upon in this book that reads like an extended teen-magazine confessional. Readers will identify with many of the struggles faced by the anonymous teens, and hopefully it will help them empathize with peers who may be facing some of these issues. There is little to no resolution to the stories told in this book, leaving the reader to ponder how they might handle the same, or a similar, situation. The final pages of the book list multiple resources, such as The Trevor Project, Planned Parenthood, RAINN and more.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Night, P.J. 978-1-6659-1564-9 \$20.99 149 p.

Truth or Dare...The Graphic Novel You're Invited to a Creepover #1 Simon Spotlight, 2022

During a round of Truth or Dare at her friend's sleepover, Abby confesses to a crush on Jake. During the night she receives a text telling her to stay away from him or else. But when Jake invites her to the school dance, she has no plans to stay away. As the dance approaches creepy things start to happen and she wonders if it is someone from the slumber party or maybe a ghost when she finds a picture of a girl killed in a tragic car accident who was in love with Jake. Colorful inviting pictures. A little creepy.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

GRAPHIC NOVELS – NOT RECOMMENDED

Alarcon, Franckie 9781681122786 \$19.99 112 p.

The Secrets of Chocolate NBM Graphic Novels, 2014 (French), 2021 (English)

The author/illustrator tells the story of following an elite chocolatier for a year, explaining types and processes along the way. This is an adult title with limited teen appeal.

Recommended Age: Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

Simon, Coco 9781665914031 \$20.99 149 p.

Katie and the Cupcake Cure Cupcake Diaries #1 Simon Spotlight, 2022

Cute story, but too young for middle school. The struggles and advice have little nuance, and I would recommend it for entrepreneurial elementary students.

Recommended Age: Too young for YA

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

NONFICTION – RECOMMEND

Gallagher, Jim 9781678200442 \$32.95 80 p.

Policing and Race: The Debate Over Excessive Use of Force Reference Point Press, 2021

This book also continues the well-researched and presented tradition of Reference Point Press books. This stand-alone title opens with examples of discriminatory policing and the history of violent encounters between police and people of color, especially Black Americans. Then the following topics are each covered in their own chapters: when police use force, the militarization of police, filming the police, holding police accountable, and defunding the police. These chapters use specific examples, cases and other pertinent information that makes it accessible. The book concludes with source notes, organizations and websites related to this topic, and books and online articles to read for further research. Also included are an index, colorful photos, relevant sidebars with statistics and quotes on crucial, related topics, such as “How Americans View Police Defunding And Other Reform Proposals.” While this book is pricey for its few pages, it does contain valuable, easily accessible information for tweens and teens.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Grann, David 978-0593377345 \$18.99 336 p.

Killers of the Flower Moon (Adapted for YA) Crown Books for Young Readers, 2021

In the 1920s when the Osage Indians finally found a plot of land in Oklahoma that the U.S. government would let them buy, no one knew they were sitting on a lot of oil. When they did, each of the native Osage were each given a portion of the profits which made them the richest people in the world and targets of white man jealousy. Nearly all of the Osage had a white lawyer who “managed” their profits. One by one they started dying. Nearly all of one Osage family, in particular, were murdered before the nearly minted F.B.I. led by J. Edgar Hoover started an investigation which included Native Indians as part of their team. It took a long time to bring anyone to justice because the attitude of the white men controlling the money was “so what, they’re just Indians.” Grann continues to follow leads that lead to more information. This is full of interesting research and new discoveries. There are notes, bibliographies, a glossary and an index. It’s well-researched and is a fascinating, horrific story to read.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Kapp, Diana 9780593428054 \$19.99 305 p.

Girls Who Green the World: 34 Rebel Women Out to Save Our Planet Delacorte, 2022

This collection of biographies is an inspirational compilation of women who are doing amazing things in a variety of ways to help make the world a better place - from Varshini Prakash the cofounder and executive director of the Sunrise Movement (a youth movement to stop climate change) to Daniela Fernandez the founder and CEO of Sustainable Ocean Alliance to Saba Gray the cofounder and CEO of BioGlitz (biodegradable glitter). These are 34 women whose names are probably not familiar to anyone who are working in so many different aspects of the environment and climate change, to make a difference, a big difference. Each women was personally interviewed by the author. There are a few interesting factoids at the beginning of her story, such as what they are oddly good at, oddly bad at, their greatest fear, a guilty pleasure, and something they used to do before they realized how bad it was for the environment. This book will inspire you to make changes in your lifestyle, maybe even write an email or two, and possibly do some further reading and research on these highly accomplished women.

Grades 6-12

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Kapp, Diana 9780593428054 \$19.99 305 p.

Girls Who Green the World: 34 Rebel Women Out to Save Our Planet Delacorte, 2022

“I am oddly good at:”, “I am oddly bad at:”, and a variety of other prompts are among the slate of questions that open the passage for each of the incredible environmental activists who comprise this work of non-fiction. I got to learn more about some of my favorite heroes, like Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, who helped to bring the water crisis in Flint, Michigan into the public eye, and Tara Houska, a tribal attorney and activist who fights to keep water clean and treaty lands pipeline-free. Myths are dispelled and crucial facts are shared as the reader not only discovers frontline fighters in the climate crisis, but also learns actionable

steps they can take today and going forward. From the opening infographic that gives a detailed visual representation of how we got here, to the closing section titled “Now what?”, the reader will be left with an overwhelming sense of need to do something to help our planet. While the featured women are primarily from the United States, there is representation of a variety of nationalities.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Magoon, Kekla 978-1536214185 \$24.99 400 p.

Revolution in Our Time: The Black Panther Party’s Promise to the People

Candlewick Press, 2021

Very comprehensive, well researched, and readable narrative nonfiction about the Black Panther Party. Author Kekla Magoon starts with the history of Black people in the US as slaves and the subsequent legacy of discrimination to set the stage for the birth of the Black Panther movement. The majority of the book describes the rise of the movement, the key players, struggles, events and the impact on society then and today. Illustrations, photographs, posters, news articles, etc. are distributed throughout the book to support the text. There are extensive notes and further reading suggestions at the conclusion.

Recommended for middle and high school, a superb addition to a school collection.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Amber Peterson, International Community School

Makos, Adam 9780593481462 \$21.99 368 p.

Devotion: An Epic Story of Heroism and Friendship (Adapted for Young Adults)

Delacorte Press, 2022

Devotion follows the story of several young soldiers serving as pilots with the Navy during the Korean War. It zooms in on the lives of 2 pilots: Jesse LeRoy Brown, an African American husband/father born a share-cropper in Mississippi and Tom Hudner, a privileged white New England pilot. These two become friends through the military at a time when racial inequality is prevalent. The book covers their experiences from youth, going into the service, and then their missions in the Korean War. There are several other servicemen’s stories included to provide a broad picture of what life was like for military men. The story peaks when an unexpected accident calls for a tender act of heroism. This is a great book for those interested in first-hand accounts of military life during the Korean War.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Katy Olson, Mark Morris High School

Makos, Adam 978-0-593-48146-2 \$21.99 347 p.

Devotion: An Epic Story of Heroism and Friendship (Adapted for Young Adults)

Delacorte Press, 2022

Devotion is an important chronicle of two American naval pilots Tom Hudner, a White man from a well-off Massachusetts family and Jesse Brown, a Black man whose father was a

sharecropper in Mississippi. The story delves into the men's backgrounds, their families, what brought them to become navy pilots during the Korean war and most of all the friendship that developed between them, without shying away from the racial discrimination of the time. The author used extensive interviews with Hudner, Brown's family, and others involved to provide the reader with vivid descriptions of the time and events surrounding the heroism of both men. This is narrative non-fiction at it's best—students will find *Devotion* to be a compelling read. Includes pictures and notes from the author. Recommended grades 7 and up.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Amber Peterson, International Community School

Nardo, Don 9781678200428 \$32.95 80 p.

COVID-19 and Other Pandemics: A Comparison Reference Point Press, 2021

This book continues the well-researched and presented tradition of Reference Point Press books. This stand-alone title begins with a graphic of the top 20 major world pandemics, beginning in 165 A.D. up to the present-day. The first chapter introduces readers to what a pandemic is and what has been learned about those in the past. Then each chapter describes in detail one of the major world pandemics: the ancient era, the Black Death, the Columbian Plagues, Influenza, Polio, HIV/AIDS and ends with COVID-19. Students will be drawn into the colorful pages full of pictures, illustrations, sidebars of relevant info and lots of "by the numbers" pull facts that show the devastation of pandemics. The book ends with source notes, books, online articles, and organizational websites to pursue for future research, an index, picture credits and author info. Although the price is a bit steep for only 80 pages, it is an excellent resource.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Reynolds, Jason and Jason Griffin 9781534478237 \$19.99

My name is Jason. Mine too. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2022

This collaborative effort of art and poetry is extremely engaging. With its creation spanning "about 25 years", this collection of artistic expression is a fun peek into the mind of a successful YA author and his college-roommate-turned-friend. I can picture readers lingering over pages, and rotating the book to properly orient the scene. Highly recommended, especially in libraries where Jason Reynolds' books are in high circulation. This would appeal to an adult readership as well.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Schrefer, Eliot 978-0-06-306949-7 \$17.99 230 p.

Queer Ducks (and Other Animals): The Natural World of Animal Sexuality

Katherine Tegen Books, 2022

Queer Ducks is a serious and humorous look at animal sexuality with a focus on "queer" animal sexuality. Teens are the audience and the author's goal is to demonstrate the

diversity and complexity of sexuality. *Queer Ducks* is an amusing, informative and needed look at sexuality in animals as a way to show how non-straight sex and relationships are natural and normal. Particularly amusing and provocative chapters are "Bottlenose Dolphins, are dolphins just gay sharks?: and "Deer: are there trans animals? Recommended for all teens and their families.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Andy Berkbigler, Shorecrest High School

Steffens, Bradley 978-1682829257 \$29.95 80 p.

E-Sports and the New Gaming Culture Reference Point Press, 2021

This covers the history and important events in the gaming culture of esports noting the explosion of world-wide participation and financial interest in the last ten years. It explains the different types of games: esports, racing, battle arena, strategy, and shooter games as well as details of the top games in each category. There are profiles of top players and a "day in the life" of a "pro-gamer" including information on managing a career in esports. Steffens covers how to start and build a school esports team as well as the educational benefits of e-sports and academic tie-ins. There are source notes, an index, and further research notes. It's informative and the bios are interesting.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

NONFICTION – SHRUG

Blumenthal, Karen 9781665919749 \$24.99 168 p.

Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX, the Law that Changed the Future of Girls in America

Atheneum, 2022

It's been 50 years since the Title IX bill has passed and much has changed in that time. But what did it take to get that bill passed and how did things change? That's what Blumenthal explores in the book "Let Me Play". While this is an important topic and continues to have impacts on school sports and policies, there are places where this text gets bogged down by all the political maneuverings (just like the bill itself did). The graphs that show the gains made by girls playing sports over the years and pursuing various degrees are fascinating, however. This is a worthwhile addition to your collection if you have money in the budget, especially if any part of your curriculum covers these topics. Grades 6-12

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

NONFICTION SERIES RECOMMEND

• Cutting Edge STEM Careers	Reference Point Press, 2021		
Currie-McGhee, Leanne	9781682828694	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Cutting Edge Careers in Info Tech</i>			
Kallen, Stuart A.	9781682828731	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Cutting Edge Careers in Robotics</i>			
Kosloski, Julie	9781682828717	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Cutting Edge Careers in Medicine</i>			
Mooney, Carla	9781682828670	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Cutting Edge Careers in Engineering</i>			
Nardo, Don	9781682828755	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Cutting Edge Careers in Science</i>			

This typical Reference Point Press book focuses on career exploration. This series name truly reflects the focus of this series: Cutting Edge STEM Careers. The series has books on engineering, robotics, medicine, info tech and (just) science. Each book starts with an introduction about that STEM career, the recent innovations connected to it and why that field might be appealing. Then there are 8 different careers in that field profiled and given their own chapter. Each job chapter includes specifics about what each career entails, a typical workday, education and training requirements, skills and personality info, working conditions, employers and pay, the future outlook for that career and websites to find out more info. Each book concludes with source notes, an interview, a list of other jobs in this field, and an index. Also included are colorful photos and relevant sidebars with statistics and quotes about the different careers. The colorful layout and short chapters are appealing and will keep teens reading. While the price tag is expensive, these books will be a good resource for secondary students seeking out career information.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

• Gateway Biographies	Lerner Publications, 2021		
Schwartz, Heather E.	9781728427829	\$23.99	48 p.
<i>Kamala Harris: Madam Vice President</i>			

This biography of Kamala Harris is divided into short, informative chapters that focus on key formative events in her life from her childhood all the way up to Biden and Harris winning the 2020 election. Harris is the first Black woman and first Asian woman to become a vice-presidential nominee and then win that position. Also, she is the third woman in U.S. history to be nominated for vice president by a major U.S. political party and the first female vice president which makes her the highest-ranking female official in U.S. history. Students will be drawn in by the attractive and colorful layout which includes a lot of colored pictures and sidebars. The book ends with a key timeline of events in Harris's life, Source Notes, Selected Biography, Learn More (websites), and an Index. While this book is pricey for its few pages, it does contain valuable, easily accessible information for tweens and teens.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

• Teen Problems	Reference Point Press, 2021		
Bryan, Bethany	97816682829653	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Teens and Sexual Violence</i>			
Gagne, Tammy	97816682829592	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Teens and Anxiety</i>			
Lundin, Martha	97816682829639	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Challenges for LGBTQ Teens</i>			
Miller, Marie-Therese	97816682829615	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Teens and Cyberbullying</i>			
Quirk, Mary	97816682829677	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Teen Suicide</i>			

This 6-book series focuses on teen problems: cyberbullying, anxiety, depression, suicide, sexual violence and LGBTQ challenges. Each book's introduction presents the story of one young adult and their personal experience with the teen problem. It grabs the reader's attention immediately. Then each book presents four chapters that (1) defines and explains the teen problem, (2) describes how that specific challenge affects teens, (3) tells how that specific challenge affects society, and (4) discusses how that issue can be treated and/or prevented. Each book ends with source notes, for further research, index, image credits, and about the author. The attractive colorful layout and short chapters are appealing and will keep teens reading as the pull quotes and sidebars of facts keep the topics easily accessible. While the price tag is expensive, these books are a good resource for secondary students seeking out info on these important issues.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School