



WASHINGTON STATE YOUNG ADULT REVIEW GROUP
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE: September 15, 2023

Issue: 141
May 2023

WASHRAG

Titles Taken: 3-13
Fiction Reviews: 14-30
Graphic Novel Reviews: 31-34
Nonfiction Reviews: 35-43

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

- *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

- September 15
- December 8

MEMBERSHIP FORM:



Name:

Title:

Email*:

Phone*:

Address*:

* Please indicate home or work for contact info.

Titles Taken for Review – Since March 2023

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 Black Queen</i> Emill, Jumata Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2023 9780593568552	\$18.99	400 p.
<i>Breakup from Hell</i> Cardinal, Ann Dávila Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library	HarperTeen, 2023 978-0-06-304530-9	\$18.99	292 p.
<i>Breathe and Count Back From Ten</i> Sylvester, Natalia Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Clarion Books, 2022 9780358536864	\$17.99	346 p.
<i>Burn Down, Rise Up</i> Tirado, Vincent Sara White, Washington State Library	Sourcebooks Fire, 2022 978-1-7282-4600-0	\$18.99	338 p.
<i>The Cartographers</i> Zhang, Amy JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library	Greenwillow Books, 2023 9780062383075	\$19.99	280 p.
<i>Children of Stardust</i> Adodo, Edudzi Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Independent Publisher, 2022 978-1-324-03077-5	\$18.95	265 p.
<i>City of the Dead</i>, City Spies #4 Ponti, James Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Aladdin, 2023 978-1665911573	\$18.99	400 p.
<i>Delicious Monsters</i> Sambury, Liselle Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School	Margaret McElderry Books, 2023 978-1665903493	\$21.99	512 p.
<i>Drizzle, Dreams, and Lovestruck Things</i> , Singh Sisters #1 Prasad, Maya	Hyperion, 2022 978-1-368-07580-0	\$17.99	455 p.

Izzy Torres, Centralia Timberland Library

<i>Echoes of Grace</i> McCall, Guadalupe Garcia Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School	Tu Books, 2023 9781643794259	\$21.95	375 p.
<i>The Enchanted Life of Valentina Mejía</i> Alessandri, Alexandra Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library	Simon & Schuster, 2023 9781665917056	\$17.28	224 p.
<i>Finally Seen</i> Yang, Kelly Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle Schools	Simon & Schuster, 2023 9781534488335	\$17.99	298 p.
<i>Friday I'm in Love</i> Garrett, Camryn Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2023 978-0593435106	\$18.99	288 p.
<i>The Grace of Wild Things</i> Fawcett, Heather Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School	Balzer+Bray, 2023 9780063142626	\$17.99	360 p.
<i>The Great Godden</i> Rosoff, Meg Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Candlewick Press, 2021 978-1536215854	\$17.99	221 p.
<i>The Grip #1</i> Stroman, Marcus Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School	Aladdin, 2023 9781665916141	\$17.99	194 p.
<i>Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute</i> Hibbert, Talia Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School	Joy Revolution, 2023 9780593482339	\$19.99	319 p.
<i>How to Date a Superhero (And Not Die Trying)</i> Fernandez, Cristina Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library	Katherine Tegen Books, 2022 9780063114302	\$18.99	416 p.
<i>Imposter Syndrome and Other Confessions of Alejandra Kim</i> Park, Patricia Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School	Crown, 2023 9780593563373	\$18.99	294 p.
<i>It's Boba Time for Pearl Li!</i> Chen, Nicole Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library	Harper Collins Childrens, 2023 9780063228610	\$19.99	368 p.

<i>The Jump</i>	Simon & Schuster, 2023		
Morris, Brittney	9781665903981	\$19.99	246 p.
Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School			
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library			
<i>The Labyrinth of Doom, Once Upon a Tim #2</i>	Simon & Schuster, 2022		
Gibbs, Stuart	9781534499287	\$12.99	150 p.
Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School			
<i>Lola at Last, companion to Being Mary Bennet</i>	HarperTeen, 2023		
Peterson, J.C.	978-0063060180	\$19.99	400 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			
<i>Lucha of the Night Forest</i>	Make Me a World, 2023		
Mejia, Tehlor Kay	9780593378366	\$18.99	358 p.
Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School			
<i>Mere Mortals</i>	HarperTeen, 2022		
Lange, Erin Jade	9780063219113	\$17.99	359 p.
Izzy Torres, Centralia Timberland Library			
<i>My Flawless Life</i>	Katherine Tegen Books, 2023		
Woon, Yvonne	978-0-06-300869-4	\$19.99	337 p.
Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library			
<i>My Mechanical Romance</i>	Holiday House, 2022		
Follmuth, Alexene Farol	978-0823450107	\$18.99	272 p.
Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School			
◆ <i>Never Coming Home</i>	Delacorte Press, 2022		
Williams, Kate	9780593304860	\$18.99	320 p.
Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School			
<i>Nine Liars, Truly Devious #5</i>	Katherine Tegen Books, 2022		
Johnson, Maureen	978-0-06-303265-1	\$19.99	445 p.
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School			
<i>On Air with Zoe Washington, Zoe Washington #2</i>	Katherine Tegen Books, 2023		
Marks, Janae	9780063212312	\$19.99	293 p.
Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School			
<i>One Last Shot: Based on a True Story of Wartime Heroism: The Story of Wartime Photographer Gerda Taro</i>	Versify, 2023		
Wilson, Kip	9780063251687	\$18.99	416 p.
Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School			

<i>The Pearl Hunter</i> Beck, Miya T. JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library	Balzer + Bray, 2023 9780063238190	\$17.99	302 p.
<i>Play the Game</i> Allen, Charlene Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Katherine Tegen Books, 2023 978-0-06-321279-4	\$19.99	291 p.
<i>Rain Rising</i> Comrie, Courtne Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School	HarperCollins, 2022 9780063159730	\$16.99	BFYA2024 336 p.
<i>Ravenous Things</i> Chow, Derrick Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School	Disney Hyperion, 2022 9781368077637	\$16.99	336 p.
<i>Reggie and Delilah's Year of Falling</i> Bryant, Elise Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School	Balzer + Bray, 2023 9780063212992	\$18.99	392 p.
<i>The Restless Dark</i> Waters, Erica Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School	HarperTeen, 2022 9780063115903	\$18.99	400 p.
<i>Retro</i> Lapuente, Sofia and Jarrod Shusterman Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Simon & Schuster, 2023 978-1665902755	\$19.99	400 p.
<i>Riven</i>, Riven #1 Arnett, Mindy Michael Fleming, Juanita High School	Balzer + Bray, 2023 978-0-06-305783-8	\$19.99	438 p.
<i>Royal Blood</i>, Royal Blood #1 Carter, Aimée Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library	Delacorte Press, 2023 978-0-593-48589-7	\$18.99	359 p.
<i>Snitchers</i> Dunn, Stephane Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School	Cinco Puntos Press, 2022 9781947627635	\$20.95	320 p.
<i>Song of Silver, Flame Like Night</i>, Song of the Last Kingdom #1 Zhao, Amélie Wen JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	Delacorte Press, 2023 9780593487501	\$19.99	455 p.

<i>Spice Road</i> , The Spice Road Trilogy #1 Ibrahim, Maiya Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Delacorte Press, 2023 9780593126967	\$19.99	451 p.
<i>A Spoonful of Time</i> (ARC) Ahn, Flora JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library	Quirk Books, 2023 9781683693185	\$16.99	272 p.
<i>The Storyteller</i> (ARC) Hobson, Brandon Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library	Scholastic Press, 2023 9781338797268	\$17.99	224 p.
<i>Three Strike Summer</i> Schrempp, Skyler Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2022 9781534499140	\$17.99	308 p.
◆ <i>Undercover Latina</i> de León, Aya Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School	Candlewick Press, 2022 1-53622-374-3	\$17.99	313 p.
<i>Whale Done</i> , FunJungle #8 Gibbs, Stuart Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School <u>Comments:</u> Grades 3-7	Simon & Schuster, 2023 978-1534499317	\$17.99	320 p.
<i>Where the Black Flowers Bloom</i> Smith, Ronald L. Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	Clarion Books, 2023 978-1328841629	\$16.99	240 p.
<i>The Wicked Bargain</i> Novoa, Gabe Cole Sara White, Washington State Library	Random House, 2023 978-0-593-37801-4	\$18.99	361 p.
<i>The Windeby Puzzle</i> Lowry, Lois Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle Schools	Clarion Books, 2023 9780358672500	\$16.99	186 p.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

<i>Ada Lovelace and the Start of Computers</i> Bayarri, Jordi Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School	Graphic Universe, 2023 9781728442914	\$9.00	40 p.
<i>Another Band's Treasure: A Story of Recycled Instruments</i> Xie, Hua Lin	Graphic Universe, 2022 9781728460376	\$29.32	128 p.

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

◆ ***Doodleville: Art Attacks***, Doodleville #2 Alfred Knopf, 2022
Sell, Chad 978-1-9848-9473-1 \$20.99 246 p.
Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School

Emma on Thin Icing, Cupcake Diaries Graphic Novels #3 Simon Spotlight, 2023
Simon, Coco 978-1665916554 \$20.99 160 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

The Love Report Hippo Park, 2023
BeKa & Maya 978-1662640407 \$12.99 192 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

◆ ***Maybe An Artist*** Random House Studios, 2022
Montague, Liz 978-0-593-30781-6 \$24.99 159 p.
Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School

Mia in the Mix, Cupcake Diaries Graphic Novels #2 Simon Spotlight, 2022
Simon, Coco 978-1665914154 \$17.99 160 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

PrestonPlayz: The Mystery of the Super Spooky Secret House HarperAlley, 2023
PrestonPlayz, illustrated by Dave Bardin 9780063065147 \$23.99 198 p.
JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Ready for a Scare?, You're Invited to a Creepover Graphic Novels #3 Simon Spotlight, 2022
Night, P.J. 978-1665915694 \$20.99 160 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Realm of the Blue Mist, The Rema Chronicles #1 (ARC) Scholastic, 2022
Kibuishi, Amy Kim 9781338115154 \$24.99 272 p.
Karen Kline, Beaver Lake Middle School

Sunshine (ARC) Scholastic, 2023
Krosoczka, Jarrett J. 978-338-35631-1 \$14.99 240 p.
Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School

Vaccines: A Graphic History, Medical Breakthroughs Graphic Universe, 2022
Polinsky, Paige V. 9781541583900 \$29.32 32 p.
Karen Kline, Beaver Lake Middle School

NON-FICTION

Better Than We Found It: Conversations to Help Save the World Candlewick Press, 2022

Joseph, Frederick and Porsche Joseph Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	9781536224528	\$19.99	499 p.
<i>Biased Science</i>	ReferencePoint Press, 2023		
Currie, Stephen Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	978-1-6782-0232-3	\$33.05	61 p.
<i>Boys Will Be Human: A Get-Real Gut-Check Guide to Becoming the Strongest, Kindest, Bravest Person You Can Be</i>	HarperCollins, 2022		
Baldoni, Justin Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School	9780063067189	\$14.99	304 p.
<i>Division, Intolerance, and Conflict: Can Public Civility Ever Be Restored?</i>	ReferencePoint Press, 2023		
Kallen, Stuart Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library	978-1-6782-0330-6	\$33.05	64 p.
<i>The Future of Food</i>	ReferencePoint Press, 2021		
Allman, Tony Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School	9781682829271	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Getting Help: Coping with and Overcoming Mental Illness</i>	ReferencePoint Press, 2023		
Mooney, Carla Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library	978-1-6782-0338-2	\$33.05	64 p.
<i>The Great Giraffe Rescue: Saving the Nubian Giraffes</i>	Millbrook Press, 2023		
Markle, Sandra Santee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School <u>Comments:</u> Upper elementary and middle school	9781728443218	\$24.99	40 p.
<i>The In-Between</i>	Aladdin, 2023		
Van Heidrich, Katie Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School	9781665920124	\$18.99	295 p.
<i>Information Glut: Sorting the Good from the Bad</i>	ReferencePoint Press, 2023		
Nardo, Don Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library	978-1-6782-0342-9	\$33.05	64 p.
<i>Ketanji Brown Jackson: First Black Woman on the US Supreme Court</i>	Lerner, 2023		
Schwartz, Heather E. Santee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School <u>Comments:</u> Upper elementary and middle school	9781728476599	\$23.00	48 p.
<i>The Medical Revolution: How Technology is Changing Health Care</i>	ReferencePoint Press, 2021		
Nardo, Don	978-1-68282-929-5	\$33.05	80 p.

Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library

- Mega-Predators of the Past*** Peachtree, 2022
Stewart, Melissa 978-1-68263-109-6 \$17.99 32 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School
Comments: Grades 2-5 Picture Book
- Meltdown: Discover Earth's Irreplaceable Glaciers and Learn What You Can Do to Save Them*** (ARC) Workman, 2022
Sanchez, Anita 9781523509508 \$19.99 120 p.
Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School
- ◆ ***Murder Among Friends: How Leopold and Loeb Tried to Commit the Perfect Crime***
Anne Schwartz Books, 2022
Fleming, Candice 9780593177426 \$19.99 355 p.
Karen Kline, Beaver Lake Middle School
- Nearer My Freedom: The Interesting Life of Olaudah Equiano by Himself***
Zest Books, 2023
Edinger, Monica and Lesley Younge 9781728450988 \$28.99 216 p.
Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School
- Race Against Death: The Greatest POW Rescue of World War II*** (ARC)
Scholastic Focus, 2023
Hopkinson, Deborah 9781338746167 \$19.99 287 p.
Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School
- Racial Bias: Is Change Possible*** ReferencePoint Press, 2023
Diggs, Barbara 978-1-6782-0350-4 \$33.05 64 p.
Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library
- Secrets of the Lost City: A Scientific Adventure in the Honduran Rain Forest***
Millbrook Press, 2023
Markle, Sandra 9781728436593 \$23.99 56 p.
Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School
Comments: Upper elementary and middle school
- The Sum of Us: How Racism Hurts Everyone*** Adapted for Young Readers
Delacorte Press, 2023
McGhee, Heather 9780593562628 \$17.99 221 p.
Sandee Stroup, Inglewood Middle School
- Teen Activists: Youth Changing the World*** ReferencePoint Press, 2022
Sheen, Barbara 9781678203566 \$32.95 64 p.
Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School

Walk Toward the Rising Sun: From Child Soldier to Ambassador of Peace

Make Me a World, 2020
Duany, Ger 978-1-5247-1940-1 \$18.99 306 p.
Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library

We Are Your Children Too: Black Students, White Supremacists, and the Battle for America's Schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia Simon & Schuster, 2023

Pearson, P. O'Connell 978-1665901390 \$17.99 288 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

NON-FICTION SERIES

- Exploring Social Injustice series BrightPoint Press, 2023

Climate and Environmental Justice

Terp, Gail 9781678203948 \$32.95 64 p.

Immigrant and Refugee Injustice

Boone, Mary 9781678203962 \$32.95 64 p.

Injustice Against Women

Gagne, Tammy 978167820396 \$32.95 64 p.

Racial Injustice

Boone, Mary 9781678204006 \$32.95 64 p.

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

- Gateway Biographies Lerner, 2022

Amanda Gorman: inspiring hope with poetry

Tyner, Dr. Artika R. 9781728441863 \$31.18 48 p.

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of Everett Public Library

- Money Basics Brightpoint Press, 2020

Living on a Budget

Huddleston, Emma 978-1-68282-797-0 \$33.05 80 p.

Saving and Investing

London, Martha 978-1-68282-801-4 \$33.05 80 p.

Credit Cards and Loans

Gagne, Tammy 978-1-68282-803-8 \$33.05 80 p.

Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library

- Our Solar System Brightpoint Press, 2023

Pluto and the Dwarf Planets

Terp, Gail 978-1-6782-0408-2 \$33.05 64 p.

The Asteroid Belt

LaPierre, Yvette 978-1-6782-0402-0 \$33.05 64 p.

The Gas Giants: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune

Mitchell, KS 978-1-6782-0404-4 \$33.05 64 p.

The Sun

Wolny, Philip 978-1-6782-0410-5 \$33.05 64 p.

<i>The Terrestrial Planets: Mercury Venus, Earth, and Mars</i>			
Thacher, Meg	978-1-6782-0412-9	\$33.05	64 p.
<i>Moons</i>			
Fraiser, Carolyn	978-1-6782-0406-8	\$33.05	64 p.
Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library			
• Scientists in the Field HarperCollins, 2022			
<i>The Lizard Scientists: Studying Evolution in Action</i>			
Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw	978-0-35-838140-2	\$18.99	76 p.
Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
• The Tech Effect ReferencePoint Press, 2021			
<i>Changing Lives Through Artificial Intelligence</i>			
Kallen, Stuart	978-1-68282-839-7	\$33.05	80 p.
<i>Changing Lives Through Virtual Reality</i>			
Roland, James	978-1-68282-849-6	\$33.05	80 p.
Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School Library			
• Teen Guide to Social & Emotional Skills series BrightPoint Press, 2022			
<i>Developing Relationship Skills</i>			
Gagne, Tammy	9781678204341	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Developing Responsible Decision-Making Skills</i>			
Nicks, Erin	9781678204365	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Developing Self-Awareness</i>			
Layton, Christine Marie	9781678204389	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Developing Self-Management</i>			
Kaul, Jennifer	9781678204402	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Developing Social Awareness</i>			
Nicks, Erin	9781678204426	\$32.95	80 p.
Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School			
• Thinking Critically series ReferencePoint Press, 2023			
<i>Thinking Critically: Addiction</i>			
Mooney, Carla	9781678203122	\$32.95	64 p.
<i>Thinking Critically: Mass Shootings</i>			
Currie, Stephen	9781678203184	\$32.95	64 p.
<i>Thinking Critically: Police and the Use of Force</i>			
Allen, John	9781678203207	\$32.95	64 p.
<i>Thinking Critically: The Black Lives Movement</i>			
Karson, Olivia	9781678203146	\$32.95	64 p.
<i>Thinking Critically: The COVID-19 Pandemic</i>			
Hulick, Kathryn	9781678203160	\$32.95	64 p.
Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School			
• Understanding Disorders series BrightPoint Press, 2022			
<i>What Are Developmental Disorders?</i>			
Sonneborn, Liz	9781678204440	\$32.95	80 p.

<i>What Are Eating Disorders?</i>			
Gagne, Tammy	9781678204464	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>What Are Learning Disorders?</i>			
Bradford Edwards, Sue	9781678204488	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>What Are Mood Disorders?</i>			
Pinto McCarthy, Cecilia	9781678204501	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>What Are Psychotic Disorders?</i>			
Phillips, Jennifer	9781678204525	\$32.95	80 p.
Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School			

Brockenbrough, Martha 9781338818581 \$17.99 256 p.
To Catch A Thief (ARC) Scholastic Press, 2023

Amelia, an almost-6th grader, is the oldest of 5 kids in the MacGuffin family. She lives in Urchin Beach, a PNW coastal town known for its famous Dragonfly Day Festival where for \$5 you can swing the famous wooden dragonfly staff around to bring you good fortune. Urchin Beach counts on this festival's tourism money to meet their city's budgetary needs. However, it's a week before the festival and someone has stolen that precious dragonfly staff which upsets the whole town. Amelia decides to solve the mystery with the help of her siblings and new neighbors. Tensions increase when the thief starts stealing other people's precious items too. Amelia and her siblings also have to juggle a lost dog they desperately want to keep—despite their parents' objections. Students will love this fun, quirky mystery story that's full of heart, love, and intriguing characters.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

Buxbaum, Julie 9780062393579 \$18.99 322 p.
Year on Fire Delacorte Press, 2022

A kiss has shaken the friendships of twins Immie and Arch and their best friend Paige. Immie tells Paige that she has kissed Paige's boyfriend Jackson, leading to their breakup, but really it was Arch. It's an impulsive move meant to protect her brother, who isn't ready to come out mostly because of a deep fear both siblings have of their father. Paige is trying to be okay with it and move on, but things aren't the same. So when a new boy, Rohan comes to town, and Paige jokingly calls dibs, Immie fights her own attraction to Rohan, even when it's clear he likes her as well. And another thing: the day that Rohan starts at their school, a fire started in the girls' bathroom burns down the east wing. *Year on Fire* follows the relationships of these characters: Immie, Arch, Paige, Jackson, and Rohan as they flirt and keep secrets, deal with family problems, and try to do the right thing by each other. It's messy and realistic. Paige's character in particular deals with rich absentee parents and high expectations. A flirtation with an adult security guard in her gated community almost goes too far and at one point she has a break that leads to her shaving her head, but in the end she seeks out help. Recommended for middle and high school.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Becky Standal, Longview Public Library

Cass, Kiera 978-0-06-266578-2 \$25.17 565 p.
A Thousand Heartbeats Harper Teen, 2022

Told from the perspective of two scions of their kingdoms, this dramatic story will fly off library shelves. Princess Annika is putting a brave face on the prospect of a loveless marriage to protect her kingdom, but spending time with her fiancé has her questioning his motives. Meanwhile, Lennox is doing all he can to help his father take back his throne, even

when it seems everyone, including his father, wants him to fail. In spite of a kidnapping, betrayals, many supporting characters to help or hinder, and the prospect of war, Annika and Lennox are destined for each other. Give this book to students in grades 7-10.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Amber Peterson, International Community School

Cerra, Kerry O'Malley 9780062393579 \$19.99 336 p.

Hear Me Carolrhoda Books, 2022

The progressive hearing loss experienced by twelve-year-old Rayne is powerfully represented in this story of self-acceptance, as Cerra uses asterisks to convey to the reader what Rayne is not able to fully hear. The text is still readable and most conversations can be followed with some effort. As the story progresses, more and more words are replaced by asterisks to help convey the increase in hearing loss that Rayne is experiencing, even with the use of hearing aids. Believing they know what is best for her, Rayne's parents schedule a cochlear implant surgery without her consent, and in a desperate last-ditch effort to not get the surgery, Rayne runs away to try to convince a doctor conducting stem cell research to accept her in a trial, despite the fact that she is too old. Rayne doesn't get accepted to the trial, but she also doesn't get forced into having cochlear implants. This #ownvoices story examines the pros and cons of cochlear implants, while driving home the point that while Rayne's ears may be broken, she is not.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Chima, Cinda Williams 978-0-06-301868-6 \$18.99 536 p.

Children of Ragnarok Runestone Saga #1 Balzer + Bray, 2022

MS/HS – Ragnarok is over, the human realm is magicless, and a lot of people want it to stay that way. Teen Eiric has taken over his parents' farm after they passed, and bad people want it, forcing a criminal case on them. It is enough to force him and his half-sister Liv, who is definitely different, to flee. They are given a deal, if they will go to a place of magic, difficult to get to, the Jarl will judge them innocent. There, they meet another young woman, named Reginn, who is under the control of a fire spirit. Together, they notice that new evil is coming, and it could be worse than Ragnarok was, if they cannot stop it together. Great, feels like Rick Riordan for slightly older kids, with Norse mythology.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

DeWitt, Amanda 9780062393579 \$17.99 345 p.

Aces Wild: A Heist PeachTree, 2022

Jack is running an illegal blackjack club at his elite prep school on the east coast when he finds out that his mom has been arrested for... illegal activities at their casino in Las Vegas. He invites his 3 best friends, who are all ace (asexual), to come to Vegas to help him get his mom out of jail and save the family casino. Many hijinks ensue. Give this to your students who are fans of *The Inheritance Games*. Lots of action, some mystery, also humor. Most characters are 17 and 18 but one of the friends is 14. Grades 7-12 CW: gambling, references to alcohol

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Doyle, Catherine and Katherine Webber 9780062393579 \$17.99 466 p.
Twin Crowns Twin Crowns #1 Balzer + Bray, 2022

Rose has been raised in the palace and will be crowned Queen on her eighteenth birthday. Even though her mother was a witch, she was taught that witches are evil because they betrayed and killed her parents. Wren has been raised with the witches because she is actually Rose's twin sister and their parents were betrayed by Rose's guardian and murdered. One night, Wren sneaks into Rose's room and trades places with her because Wren wants to be Queen and save the witches. However, a lot of twists happen and love interests are introduced. Rose's best friend is bisexual and her love interest is an Asian warrior witch.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Epstein, Linda 9780062393579 \$17.99 343 p.
Repairing the World Aladdin, 2022

The summer before she is set to enter middle school, Daisy Rubens's world is shattered when her best friend, Ruby, dies while vacationing with her own family. The reader is given a brief view into their friendship, as Ruby is alive at the beginning of the story, and memories of Ruby continually float to the surface over the course of the book. Over the summer, Daisy attends Hebrew school, where she meets a new student, Mo, who ends up attending the same middle school in the fall and is dealing with his own grief due to his mother's battle with cancer. While Mo views their friendship as bashert, or destiny, Daisy is unsure that she wants to befriend anyone, and she holds another potential friend, Avery, at arm's length, unwilling to disclose to Avery that her best friend died. Daisy's sadness often comes out as mad, and her constant ache and missing of her years-long best friend will be highly relatable to any reader who has suffered loss. Characters default to white, though there is some inclusivity in the realm of religion, as Daisy and her family are Jewish.

Recommended Age: Middle School, late elementary

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Florence, Debbi Michiko 9780062393579 \$17.99 304 p.
Sweet and Sour (ARC) Scholastic, 2022

Mai's mom is best friends with Zach's mom. So, for most of their lives, Mai's family and Zach's family have spent summers together at a vacation house. But the last time they were together, Zach did something that Mai cannot forgive. They skipped spending the summer together while Zach's family was living in Japan. But now they're back, and Mai is ready to take her revenge. The idea of spending a whole summer in a vacation home on a lake will feel a little like a fantasy for many readers, and Florence uses this capsule setting to focus on a small set of relationships. Florence shows Mai's inner struggle as she enjoys parts of being at the cabin with Zach's family, but can't let go of the thing that he did. Mai is learning how to interact with humans. With Zach, but also with her best friend back home, and new friends she meets this summer. She's also taking more of a role in caring for Zach's siblings. Recommended for Middle Schools and Public Library collections.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library

Gracia, Anna 9780062393579 \$17.99 342 p.
Boys I Know PeachTree, 2022

Boys I Know is a coming-of-age story that follows June, a Tawainese American from the Midwest during her senior year of high school. June's mother wants her to follow her older sister's footsteps to a full-ride violin scholarship at Northwestern, but June wants to find her own path, even if she doesn't know what it is yet. She starts with boys. First Rhys, her biology partner and first boyfriend who runs away when she tries to initiate sex and won't communicate with her. Then Brad, a hockey player who absolutely won't run away from sex. She likes how much he wants her, even if he calls her "China." But a pregnancy scare leads her to break it off. Then Gang, who she meets on a weekend college tour and has a fling with but ultimately leaves her feeling immature, "not Asian enough," and doubting her choice of college. Then maybe Rhys, again, during those last weeks of school. Ultimately, though, June learns that she has to make her own decisions about who she is and what she wants for her future. This book is well-written and relatable. Though none of the relationships end well, the book doesn't shame June for any of her decisions and I would consider it sex-positive. Recommended.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Becky Standal, Longview Public Library

Harrington, C.C. 978-1338803860 \$18.99 288 p.
Wildoak Scholastic, 2022

In 1960s England 12-year-old Maggie Stephens is so self-conscious about her stutter, she will do anything to avoid speaking in public, including harming herself. Her father wants to

send her for “treatment”, but her mother thinks the fresh air at her grandfather’s house near the ancient Wildoak Forest is the better answer. On a walk, Maggie discovers Rumpus, an abandoned snow leopard cub and as she heals his injured paw, they bond. Through the alternating voices of Maggie and Rumpus, the danger to the cub and the forest itself becomes evident as heartless neighbors and greedy land developers reveal their plans to destroy both. Maggie’s powerful connection to nature and especially Rumpus triumphs as she overcomes her fear to forcefully advocate for conservation, reforestation and animal rights. Beautifully written. Highly recommended.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Ireland, Justina 978-0-06-303822-6 \$18.99 439 p.
Rust in the Root Balzer + Bray, 2022

Laura Langston left rural Pennsylvania to follow her dreams in New York City. She wants to turn her skill as a Floramancer into being a world renowned baker, but to practice the mystical arts legally she needs a license. Being poor and black is making this impossible. When a unicorn tells her to go to the Bureau of the Arcane to sign up for the Colored Auxiliary, Laura gives it a try. She doesn’t like that the Bureau’s mission is to support Mechomancy (and, therefore, white supremacy) or that it has rules about practicing craft. She knows she is supposed to work only one area of the mystical arts, but how is it her fault that she’s “got a little extra”. Skylark, senior agent at the Bureau, doesn’t want to take on a new apprentice, but gets backed into a corner when told she’s leading a mission into the Ohio Blight. If Skylark can prepare Laura (now called Peregrine) at least a little for what’s to come, her “little extra” might be the only thing that saves them from utter disaster. This alternative 1937 is chock full of magic and racism. The magical system is a little confusing to understand at first, but, unfortunately, the racism is all too easy to understand. Fans of Ireland’s *Dread Nation* series will likely be interested in this as well. Starred reviews in SLJ, Kirkus, Booklist, Publishers Weekly. Recommend Grades 7+.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Ireland, Meredith 978-1-6659-0697-5 \$19.99 280 p.
Everyone Hates Kelsie Miller Simon & Schuster, 2022

Kelsie despises Eric, her school’s quarterback, because of things that happened in 5th grade. She is alone in that despising, because everyone else loves him as a golden boy. Forced together to go on a one-day road trip to UPenn, they finally explore her dislike of him and find it was not based on reality. Romance follows, but also a good subplot of Kelsie discovering why her former best friend ghosted her and how they fixed it. Strong romance and well-written. MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Jackson, Holly 9780062393579 \$19.99 388 p.
Five Survive Delacorte Press, 2022

Six friends in an RV on the way from Philly to somewhere warm for spring break. They get lost on their way to the campground where they were going to stop for the night. But that's only the beginning of things that start going terribly wrong. They quickly discover that someone is shooting at them and won't let them go until one of the six gives up a closely held secret. CW: swearing, teen drinking, gun violence Highly suspenseful, lots of bad decisions. Give this to your fans of McManus and McNeil. Grades 8 and up. If you have those in your collection, you'll be fine with this too.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Kennedy, Brian D. 9780062393579 \$17.99 339 p.
A Little Bit Country Balzer + Bray, 2022

This boot-stompin' gay romance is sure to delight young fans of Dolly Parton. Emmett and Luke meet when they both end up working at a Tennessee country-themed amusement park. Emmett is only 17 and has traveled to Jackson Hollow for the summer to sing and perform at the park. He dreams of becoming the next great country singer and songwriter. Luke is NOT a fan of country music. He dreams of going to culinary school and becoming a chef. Luke takes a job working at a restaurant in the park to help out with his mother's medical bills. As each boy discovers what their heart truly wants, a family secret of Luke's comes to light. The boys must work together to survive being just another sad country love song when tough decisions must be made. Dual points of view make this romance a gold record!

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Lewis, Britney S. 9780062393579 \$17.99 355 p.
The Undead Truth of Us Hyperion, 2022

Zharie Young is only 16 when her mother morphs into a zombie and dies on the kitchen floor. Now she seems to see zombies everywhere she looks - and only she can see them. Her aunt is taking care of her - but seems to want nothing to do with her. Everything changes when a handsome guy moves into her apartment building. Bo even agrees to go with her to find and confront her biological father. Although Bo may be exactly what Zharie needs, he also is part zombie with a past. Zharie must wrestle with her past and her present to confront all of the monsters in her life. Spectacular read!

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

McCurdy, Janelle 9780062393579 \$17.99 340 p.

Mia & the Lightcasters The Umbra Tales #1 Aladdin, 2022

Mia lives in one of the villages in her kingdom that is always dark. It wasn't always that way but it has been for her lifetime thanks to the Reaper King. Between the villages are the Plains which are filled with dangerous creatures. However, if you train, you can go out onto the Plains and call to a special creature of the umbra to be your companion and protector. Mia has just started that training when her village is attacked. her parents are taken hostage. Mia, her younger sister, another boy in the training, and one of the young trainers are the only ones from the village who escape and must now figure out how to save their village as well as the other villages that are under attack. Lots of action and adventure. A believable protagonist who is both strong and yet believably scared to have to undertake all this and would really rather somebody else did it. I love the relationship among Mia's family; it is loving and supportive. Similarities to Pokemon and Golden Compass. Also felt like there wasn't anything new in this storyline. If you have money to spend, definitely add it; if not, don't.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Nielson, Jennifer 9781338795028 \$17.99 353 p.

Iceberg (ARC) Scholastic Press, 2023

It's April 10, 1912, and 12-year-old Hazel Rothbury sets sail aboard the Titanic in order to work in a sweatshop in New York to send money back to her family since her father died. She has to stow away as she lacked money for her ticket but is befriended by a kind porter and two passengers. Hazel's secret dream is to be a journalist, so her plan is to write an article about the maiden voyage of the great ship Titanic. Hazel plans to earn enough to repay the kindness of her new friends, but also avoid having to work in that terrible factory. Amazingly, Hazel is able to explore this fancy ship in secret but finds herself involved in a mystery when she finds out secret information about the Titanic's finances and some of her fellow passengers. Her efforts to seek out the truth are often unbelievable and convenient. However, most readers will likely not notice and be caught up in this thrilling historical fiction that captures the dangerous struggle to survive when the Titanic hits an iceberg.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

Pancholy, Maulik 9780062393579 \$17.99 312 p.

Nikhil Out Loud Balzer + Bray, 2022

Nikhil Out Loud is an uplifting story that is recommended for grades 5-7. The main character, Nikhil, is a voice actor for the popular cartoon, Raj Reddy. Being Indian American, Nikhil loves playing the character Raj because Raj doesn't represent the Indian stereotypes

that Nikhil has seen in other television shows and movies. That's why Nikhil is nervous about losing his role when his voice changes with puberty. When Nikhil and his mom move to a new town and in with his grandparents, Nikhil has a lot to balance. Nikhil is gay but hasn't come out to his grandparents yet. He has stage fright but has been cast in the school musical's lead role just because of his successful voice acting career. Nikhil is put to the test when a hateful parent leads a protest trying to oust Nikhil from the musical's lead role because he is gay. While tackling tough topics like homophobia, the result of the story is life-affirming and makes for an enjoyable read. Nikhil is a lovable character that many middle schoolers will be able to relate to.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle Schools

Parsons, Mark H. 978-0-593-30975-9 \$18.99 369 p.
The 9:09 Project Delacorte Press, 2022

Jamison misses his mother so much since she died. She understood him like no one else (they share synesthesia) and helped him develop his love of photography (thanks to her Dorothea Lange is a huge inspiration to him). For the past year he's been honoring his mom through photography without letting anyone know. At 9:09pm (her time of death) he takes a photograph of whoever happens to be walking at the corner Fig & Gardena (a corner he could see from her hospital room). Meeting strangers and hearing their stories has an impact on J as does meeting a new girl at school who understands his grief due to her own loss. He realizes he can use his photography to connect, and possibly inspire, others. Jamison is a super likable main character. He has a sweet relationship with his little sister, Ollie, and it was fun to watch him learn to open up with friends and a romantic interest. There were also fun story details like the drive thru at Happy Jack's -- it's common knowledge that if someone buys you something you are stuck in a game of truth or dare until you finally get your food (they are notoriously slow). For readers interested in strong characters, this story about grief is ultimately hopeful. Recommend Grades 9+.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Parsons, Mark H. 978-0-5933-975-9 \$18.99 369 p.
The 9:09 Project Delacorte Press, 2022

I recommend this book for high school and up. The main character is Jamison and he and his family are grieving the loss of his mother to cancer. Jamison and his mother both had synesthesia and she was Jamison's main source of support for that condition and processing the loss of her is Jamison's situation. She had also given him a camera before she died and a book on Dorothea Lange and each chapter of the book starts with a Dorothea Lange quote. Jamison decides to take a picture of a street corner he could see from his mother's hospital room when she died at 9:09 and calls it The 9:09 Project ergo the book

title. As I read the book I was drawn in and the concept of the 9:09 project was a strong support for finishing the book but I have to admit while I was reading it I kept comparing this story to Jeff Zentner which is not fair to the author but I couldn't help it. The inclusion of the synesthesia had a tendency to pull me out of the story. I know that the main character and his mother had that in common so it should make sense but the delivery of those parts of the story were a bit jarring to me. So it wasn't really the concept I have a problem with, but the delivery. If I had never read anything by Jeff Zentner I would like this book a lot more so I will blame it on Zentner. At any rate, the concept is strong enough I think to interest high school students and it can be an easy sell with the 9:09 project and title. So I would get it but don't give it to any students who are Zentner fans.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School

Phillips, Tom 978-1645951056 \$18.99 352 p.

Egypt's Fire, The Curious League of Detectives and Thieves #1 Pixel+Ink, 2022

Twelve-year-old orphan, John Boarhog secretly takes up residence in one of his favorite places, the New York Museum of Natural History. He avoids being noticed until he's found passed out with the museum's rare Egyptian ruby in his pocket and no clue how it got there. When the infamous Inspector Toadius McGee arrives to investigate, he believes the crime was committed by a criminal he's been tracking for years, the "Mauve Moth." Toadius becomes John's foster father and as the black Sherlock Holmes and "Dr. John," they chase outrageous characters across New York City while John discovers he's more involved in the mystery than he could have imagined. The plot is full of double-crossing twists and turns culminating in a cinematic chase with an evil monkey riding a dog, a banana truck, and a cat burglar on a skateboard. It's a wild madcap adventure.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Podos, Rebecca 9780062393579 \$17.99 400 p.

From Dust, A Flame Balzer + Bray, 2022

Hannah, her brother Gabe, and their mom have moved around her entire life. Now that she is thinking about college, she has convinced her mom to settle in one place for longer than usual so that she can attend an elite school that will give her an edge on admissions. However, when she wakes up one morning with eyes slit like a snake, she realizes that no school is going to be enough; she has bigger issues to deal with. On top of that, their mom disappears and Hannah and Gabe receive a mysterious letter from a family that they have never had contact with before. There is a lot going on in this story: unknown family, Jewish heritage, queer relationships, golems, mom's disappearance and backstory, plus Hannah's unusual physical changes. Overall they are well-handled. Pacing varies at times but overall is engaging with interesting characters and plot.

Grades 8 and up, mostly for age of characters.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Shepard, Sara 978-1-4549-4577-2 \$18.99 303 p.

Wait for Me Union Square & Co., 2022

“You’ve been a bad girl.” Casey isn’t sure who whispered these words in her ear (could it have been her boyfriend, Marcus?), but they freaked her out and now she can’t stop hearing them inside her head. Then she has a vision of a woman being kidnapped along with the words. Scared, but hoping these weird occurrences are just from stress, Casey flees to the beach. But, things get even worse in Avon Shores. She’s hit with more and more visions and strangely feels like she knows this place and the people in it. Could she really be experiencing memories from a past life (that’s what the psychic says)? This feels possible when she meets Jake and is sure she already knows (and maybe loves) him. Before she can figure things out her family and boyfriend show up to drag her away to an in-patient psychiatric facility. They claim she suffers from multiple personality disorder and that they’ve been trying to protect her. Casey doesn’t know what or who to believe, but can’t help but feel there is something important she needs to learn. There are some interesting elements at work, especially the second person point of view of the visions. A decent romantic mystery, but nothing extra special. Grades 9+.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Shusterman, Neal 978-1-5344-9997-3 \$19.99 423 p.

Gleanings: Stories from the Arc of a Scythe Simon & Schuster, 2022

A bunch of short stories from the Scythe universe, by prominent authors. Stories are all fairly good, focusing on different aspects of the Scythe world, how certain Scythes came to prominence, difficulties with living with the Thunderhead, those that are Unsavory, those on Mars, those on spaceships with a mini-Thunderhead, the backstory of OverScythe Goddard, etc.... This will be desired by those who want more canon from Shusterman.

MS/HS

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Silvera, Adam 978-0-06-324080-3 \$19.99 550 p.

The First to Die at the End Quill Tree Books, 2022

Another sad book about death by Silvera here. Prequel to *They Both Die at the End*. Orion and Valentino, both gay teenagers in New York (Valentino just arrived that day) meet on the day Death-Cast begins, the service that tells you the day you will die with 100% accuracy. They meet by accident, in Times Square, and Valentino gets the call. There are several sub-

plots, and kind of funny humor about which action of Valentino's will cause his death and at what time that day. Meanwhile, Orion and Valentino are falling hard for each other. Some sex on page, muted. HS Only, sad, good

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Stamper, Vesper 978-0593428368 \$21.99 448 p.

Berliners Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2022

Berliners is a historical fiction novel featuring "twins against the world," Rudi and Peter, who live in East Berlin in 1961. Growing up, Peter has always held the upper hand to somber Rudi. Rudi grows up to be a solid communist while the "golden boy" of the family, Peter, longs to be the actor that makes his heart soar. After their parents divorce, they settle in different areas of Berlin, soon to be divided literally by the building of the Berlin Wall. Both brothers must make many tough decisions for themselves and relating to family while still making sense of the aftermath of World War II. Interesting character development and detailed settings told through dual points of view creates a winning take on the Cold War from young people in Germany. Over ten beautiful black and white drawings throughout the book. Meaty read that mature teens will appreciate.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Tintera, Amy 978-0-593-48617-7 \$18.99 342 p.

The Q Crown New York, 2022

I recommend this book for middle school and up. The Q stands for Quarantine zone which after a few pandemics resulted in a wall being built around Austin, Texas and no one being allowed to leave. The main character is Maisie and before he died her father was second in command of the southern part. When the story opens the son of an American senator, Lennon, is kidnapped and dropped from an airplane into the Q and is discovered by Maisie and her sister Hadley. The leader of the south is Dr. Lopez who is working on a vaccine. The CDC instructs Dr. Lopez to give Lennon a temporary vaccine and Lennon has 48 hours to make it to the North gate where he will be tested and if negative allowed to leave in a hazmat suit. This story moves at a nice pace, and I think students may get drawn into the suspense of seeing if Lennon can make it out. I know I kept reading it for that reason. The character development is okay, but I was not as invested in these characters as I was in Tintera's former novel *All These Monsters*. In the end this story left me wanting more but it is probably good enough for students to enjoy.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School

Van Vleet, Carmella 9780062393579 \$18.99 215 p.
Nothing is Little Holiday House, 2022

Felix, also known as “Short-Lock Holmes,” is an adorable 11 year old who is so tired of being the smallest kid in the school he’s taking shots to help himself grow. He’s also dealing with a new stepdad, a new little sibling on the way, and a role in the forensic science club. To top all of this off- Felix deeply wants to know who is his biological father after his mom slips up and lets Felix know he was short too. Now with the help of his detective friends and his new-found skills from the club, he is on the path to finding out where he gets his extra short ‘Growth Hormone Deficiency’ from. Felix is a likable character who students will connect with in many ways. His journey with making some great and some not-so-great decisions in middle school and at home will keep readers laughing and engaged.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Too young for YA

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Walden, Mark 9780062393579 \$17.99 324 p.
Bloodline H.I.V.E. #9 Simon & Schuster, 2022

In this final installment of the Higher Institute of Villainous Education (H.I.V.E.) series, Otto Malpence is once again facing enemies and working to keep his friends and possibility humanity from peril. The H.I.V.E. mind has been compromised and appears Otto’s sister, Anna, is pulling the strings. To make things worse, the Global League of Villainous Enterprises (G.L.O.V.E.) is in disarray and once again, genetic engineering for nefarious purposes is in play. Otto must use his abilities without compromising what makes him most human to thwart Anna. Give this series to your middle school students who like Anthony Horowitz’s Alex Rider Series or Roland Smith’s I.Q. series. Grades 5-8.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Amber Peterson, International Community School

Warga, Jasmine 9780062393579 \$17.99 294 p.
A Rover’s Story HarperCollins, 2022

This was a sweet middle grade book about the journey of a NASA robot to Mars. It is based on the author’s experience of watching the launch of the rover “Perseverance” to Mars in July, 2020, and her young daughter asking “Mama, do you think the robot is scared?” From there, she had an idea to write a book based on the perspective of a Mars rover and their beginnings in a lab, and subsequent launch and time spent on a mission to space. The other perspective in the book is through the letter writing of a girl named Sophia, who starts off as age 11, and goes to adult age as the rover named “Res” (short for Resilience) spends time on Mars. Sophia is the daughter of one of the NASA scientists who built Res and whose influence on the robot is significant. Kids who like The One and Only Ivan and The Wild Robot will like the anthropomorphization of Res, and how he struggles with human feelings

that some of the other robots around him feel is a weakness. The robots in the story, from a drone who goes to Mars with Res, and another backup rover built in the NASA lab can communicate with each other in the story. I recommend this book for middle schoolers.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

Wyatt, Merrill 9781665912327 \$17.99 259 p.

Tangled Up in Nonsense, Tangles Mysteries #2 McElderry Books, 2022

Students will enjoy this madcap mystery. Close friends Sloane and Amelia, (13 years old) need to spice up their YouTube channel on unsolved mysteries. They gained followers after solving their first case and formed their own detective agency. Sloane's grannies know about a great mystery that's around 100 years ago. They figure out a way for the two girls to spend the weekend at the Tangle Glen mansion which was home to one of the most infamous bootlegging gangsters from the 1920s and early 1930s—Ma Yaklin. In 1932 just before she was arrested, Ma withdrew \$2 million dollars from her bank but that money was never found as Ma died in prison without spilling her secrets. So now the girls want to find the missing money which will raise the spotlight on their detective agency. However, they soon realize that they're not the only detectives on the case and things turn dangerous. Students will enjoy Amelia's quirky 1920s slang and her family's over-the-top antics and sympathize with Soane's hatred of sleepovers and her concern about her dad's new girlfriends.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

Yang, Kelly 9780062393579 \$17.99 404 p.

Private Label HarperCollins, 2022

This is a YA book by the author of the *Front Desk* series and *Parachutes*. There is a lot going on in this book: sexting and cyberbullying, cancer and losing a parent, immigration and the American dream, and the world of high fashion and discrimination within it. At first I was very skeptical of the plot. It's about a Chinese-American senior in high school named Serene, who is an intern at her mother's popular, high fashion company, and when her mother is diagnosed with stage 3 pancreatic cancer, Serene basically is tapped to fill in for her mother. Does that seem implausible? It did to me. However, I quickly got into the book once the love story started. Lian is a recent immigrant to the U.S. from China, and he has been experiencing racism and discrimination at their mostly white high school. Serene, who was born in the U.S. also experienced racism when she was younger, but when her mother pulled strings to have a big party for her in middle school, her social status lifted, and people started being nicer to her. Lian starts a Chinese club after school, and Serene goes because another side plot is that she wants to find her missing father who resides in Beijing. Part of the immigration and American Dream plot is how Lian dreams of being a stand-up comic but his parents are pushing him into being an engineer and going to Harvard. Lian's family, though strict, were heartwarming to read about, compared to Serene

whose mom has built their life around her fashion company and barely cares about Serene's feelings about losing her mother so young. Overall, I liked the book. The love story is beautiful, but it has a few plot flaws. I think it's solidly a high school book because of the ages of the characters and there is some sex on the page, and other mature elements.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

FICTION – SHRUG

Alyse, Charity 978-1-5344-9771-9 \$19.99 431 p.
The Other Side of the Tracks Simon & Schuster, 2022

I recommend this book this a shrug for middle school and up. The story alternates points of view between Zach, Justin, and Capri. Justin and Capri are from Hamilton which is primarily African American, and Zach is from Bayside which is primarily white. Zach has just moved to Bayside from Philly and does not like the Leave it to Beaver ness of Bayside. Capri and Justin are brother and sister and they both live in Hamilton and have big dreams of doing something more with their lives. Zach and Capri are into each other but the connections they have seemed overly convenient to me for the sake of the plot. There were some moments in the first few chapters where I was captivated by the writing but as the story progressed, I got yanked out of it a few times by the pacing or the romance not being that believable to me. There were moments when I was like...I don't think guys really react that way...like it was a "Hallmark movie" version of teen romance. The other reaction I had with this book from start to finish was mainly that it doesn't really bring anything new to the social justice reality YA. Yes, it is ripped from the headlines and yes, it is an important message, but I have heard it before and have heard it told in a more effective way. That being said I think some students may get something out of this story so it is worth having in a teen YA collection, I just don't think it is a must read or must have.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School

Anderson, Jodi Lynn 9780062393579 \$17.99 238 p.
Each Night Was Illuminated Quill Tree Books, 2022

Each Night Was Illuminated is recommended with a shrug for middle and high schoolers. It tells the story of Cassie and Elias who witness a train crash together as kids and decide not to share what they saw with anyone. This decision shapes different paths for both characters. Cassie starts to question her faith, and Elias sees ghosts, which leads him to develop an interest in ghost hunting. Cassie and Elias reconnect as teenagers and grapple with their relationship to each other, the paranormal, religion, and the train crash they witnessed. This book defies categorization with an interesting mixture of themes including romance, friendship, the paranormal, religion, and climate change.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle Schools

Caletti, Deb 9780062393579 \$18.99 403 p.

The Epic Story of Every Living Thing Labyrinth Road, 2022

Harper Proulx spends her time taking photos for her popular Instagram account, where she pretends to be adventurous and outdoorsy, but really she obsessively worries about all the things going wrong – or that could go wrong – in the world, especially after living for a year in a pandemic. Also the subject of a secret fixation: the identity of her sperm donor father. When a comment on her Instagram, “You look just like my friend,” leads her to meet her half-brother Dario, she discovers she is one of 42 children fathered by the same donor. After a breakup with her boyfriend, Harper decides to spend the summer with Dario and two other half-siblings, Wyatt and Simone, in Hawaii to find and meet their biological father. Both Harper’s pandemic anxiety, doom scrolling, and her journey of self-discovery after she loses her phone in the ocean are well described, though the book overall is too long. Suspension of disbelief is needed repeatedly through the book as it describes just how many features all of Harper’s siblings have in common with each other and their bio dad and a dog travels with them to Hawaii without having to do any pre-planning or quarantine. Each chapter begins with an excerpt from a sailor’s wife’s 1854 journal that doesn’t come together with the main storyline until late in the novel and feels unnecessary. The length and interest-level of this book makes it better for high school than middle school; there is also swearing and some alcohol and marijuana use, though primarily by adults.

Recommended because of Deb Caletti’s fanbase and local interest. For me, just a shrug.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Becky Standal, Longview Public Library

Jackson, Holly 9780593374160 \$19.99 388 p.

Five Survive Delacorte Press, 2022

High schooler Red along with 5 of her friends are on a long road trip in an RV to meet friends for spring break. When they try to find a rest area, one of the RV’s tires blows out and the group realizes they’re in a pretty isolated area without cell service. They quickly realize they’ve been targeted when an unknown man shoots out the rest of their tires, the fuel tank, and windows. This sniper then demands that one of them reveal a secret. Not only is Red dealing with the trauma of basically being held hostage, but she’s also trying to handle her grief and guilt of her police mom’s death. Not all of Red’s friends are handling this situation well as their paranoia leads to violence and rash actions. I just wasn’t that invested with these characters so I quit. However, students might be more forgiving than me and enjoy it.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

Mann, Michael 9780062393579 \$17.99 307 p.
Ghostcloud Ghostcloud #1 PeachTree, 2021

This is a paranormal fiction book is set in London and is about Luke, who had been kidnapped and is shoveling coal with other kidnapped kids. Luke soon finds out that he can see ghosts because he is half a ghost (and also half Indian). He and his friends soon find out why they were kidnapped and why they are shoveling coal. They soon come up with a plan to escape and expose the evil overseer. It's a book that reminds me a bit of Matilda and is a fast read. There is a character who "doesn't like girls" but it doesn't play into the main story.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Potter, Ellen 9780062393579 \$18.99 408 p.
Hither and Nigh Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2022

Nell gets into trouble at school a lot, ever since her brother River went missing. When she's invited to an after-school club for supposed troublemakers, she finds out that the world around her is filled with magic. You don't find out what Hither and Nigh mean until halfway through the book (it's basically Hither is our dimension and Nigh is the fairy dimension), and there are a lot of twists and turns. Nell has a trans friend, who one of the troublemakers has a crush on. It's a dark book (way darker than what the cover portrays), but an interesting adventure fiction.

Recommended Age: Middle School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Scelsa, Kate 978-0062465030 \$17.99 320 p.
Improbable Magic for Cynical Witches Balzer + Bray, 2022

After a year of turmoil, 17-year-old Eleanor drops out of high school and takes a job at the kitschy Salem Gift Emporium to support her ill mother. Out of the blue she anonymously receives a handwritten guide to the Tarot, followed by a visit from a charming real-life "witch," Pix who invites her to a coven meeting. Eleanor is intrigued as she has been looking for a distraction from the traumatic break-up with her secret first love, Chloe. On the surface this is a light-hearted lesbian romance, but flashbacks reveal the depth of her dark baggage. Her obsession with Chloe resulted in predatory violence, and she developed a chronic dependence on marijuana to cope. All of these issues are largely left unresolved and create an overall discordant message. The reader is left thinking Eleanor needs a therapist, not a girlfriend.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Nancy R. Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

GRAPHIC NOVELS – RECOMMEND

Baker, Dave 9780062393579 \$21.99 224 p.
Forest Hills Bootleg Society Atheneum, 2022

This fast paced graphic novel features four teenage girls who attend the Forest Hills Christian Academy. Brooke, Kelly, Maggie, and Melissa all get into a heap of trouble that begins with a bootleg DVD of 'anime' they buy at a gas station as they are on a road trip. After they decide to sell copies to classmates things their dream of increasing their cash flow and own matching club jackets comes true. The DVD may be a little more R-rated than they first suspect and of course things get out of control as their customers need more DVDs. Lessons in life abound in this book - from friendship drama, queer romance, stealing automobiles, and OF COURSE burning and selling racy DVDs. Pictures are highly detailed and narrations are lengthy.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Galligan, Gale 9780062393579 \$12.99 272 p.
Freestyle (ARC) Graphix, 2022

Cory is on a break-dancing team who is about to split up because the team members are going to different high schools. They want to win the local competition, and their captain works them really hard. When Cory's parents discover his grades are low, they ground him and require him to get a tutor. This angers the captain, but the whole team is understanding. Cory's tutor is Sunna, a quiet Muslim American girl who doesn't have any friends at school. When Cory discovers how pro Sunna is with the yo-yo, he asks her to teach him how to yo-yo. A fun graphic novel about growing apart and finding new friends.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Gillman, Melanie 9780062393579 \$24.99 240 p.
Other Ever Afters: New Queer Fairy Tales Random House Graphic, 2022

This beautiful full-color graphic novel is filled with seven short retellings of fairy tales. Although many of these fairy tales might not be familiar to students, the author's take on centering queer characters with a fiery feminist focus will be enjoyable. All of the illustrations were drawn with colored pencils and create these pastel-filled pages that are breathtaking. I particularly loved the retelling of 'Hsthete,' the 'goddess of mishaps' who helps out a young girl in need of a mishap to help her out of a betrothal.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Lloyd, Megan Wagner, illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter 9780062393579 \$12.99 256 p.
Squished (ARC) Graphix, 2023

Avery is one of seven kids in her family. She has just graduated from 5th grade and so is hoping to get her own room. When her older brother gets his own room instead, Avery finds ways to get what she wants. This graphic novel is about growing up in a big family and shows that the older kids end up helping their parents a lot. It also becomes harder when the older kids transition to Middle School and want to be on their own. Avery also has two friends, one of whom befriends another classmate. It's a lot that Avery has to go through.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Montague, Liz 9780062393579 \$24.99 159 p.
Maybe an Artist Random House Studio, 2022

This graphic memoir starts with the author's own childhood and shows how she eventually became a New Yorker cartoonist. The author reflects on a time when art was simple, school was hard, and who knew what you wanted to be when you grew up. Soon major news events happen (9/11, recession, global warming), and it overwhelms the author. On top of that, she's debating what she should do in college (or even whether she should go). In the end, the author chooses a major, and writes to the New Yorker about having more inclusive cartoons. The author really shows her vulnerability, covering her experiences with the major events and talking about racism. She starts out anxious, but eventually has enough bravery to write to the New Yorker.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Sell, Chad 9780062393579 \$24 250 p.
Doodleville: Art Attacks Doodleville #2 Alfred A. Knopf, 2022

This graphic novel is the sequel to the first 'Doodleville' - which followed a young artist named Drew and her mischievous doodles. In the first book, Drew's got herself in a bit of a jam after two of her doodles jump off the page and steal items from artwork at the Art Institute of Chicago. Luckily in book two, she's still got her art club with her and her doodles may just hold the answer to fixing the masterpieces that were destroyed. This is a humorous look that takes a look at unlikely happenings with art and student relationships within a club. I loved that it was centered around the Art Institute and real art pieces - students may do a little research on their own and learn more about art history.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Too young for YA

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Soontornvat, Christina, illustrated by Joanna Cacao 9780062393579 \$12.99 272 p.

The Tryout (ARC)

Graphix, 2022

Based off of the author's own childhood, Christina is a Middle Schooler who lives in Texas. Even though her dad is Thai, her parents own a Chinese American restaurant. Christina goes through Middle School, knowing that her teachers will have a hard time pronouncing her last name and that some kids think she's from China (she was born in America!). When her friend Megan wants to try out for the cheerleading team, Christina is compelled to join. This is a great graphic novel for readers who like Shannon Hale and Raina Telgemeier. The author's note at the end explains what Christina's life was like growing up in a small Texas town. While she did change a few things, the main story is almost what she experienced.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Tang, Betty C.

9780062393579

\$12.99

288 p.

Parachute Kids (ARC)

Graphix, 2023

Parachute kids are children whose parents leave them with other family or friends in foreign countries while their parents go back to their home country. Feng-Li and her family go on vacation to California when they find out that their parents are leaving her and her siblings there while they go back to Taiwan. Feng-Li and her siblings have to cope without their parents for several months and face hardships that come up. The author tried to make light of the situation, but the siblings go through a lot. Feng-Li's older sister has to be the parent while trying to study for the SATs (so that she can get into a good college). Feng-Li's older brother got in trouble in Taiwan, and it looks like he's getting into trouble in America too (there is an LGBTQ element to this). Also Feng-Li is a young kid who has to go through school not knowing much English (thankfully she's got understanding teachers). The author's note at the end highlights what the author went through being a parachute kid.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

Walsh, Liam Francis

9780062393579

\$14.99

236 p.

Red Scare

Scholastic, 2022

This action-packed graphic novel is part historical fiction and part science fiction! The story centers around Peggy and takes place in 1953. Peggy is a middle schooler who is grappling with your typical sibling and school issues - but she is also struggling with polio, communist spies following her, and a strange object she's found that gives her the ability to fly! One of my favorite part of the book was actually the 'Note From the Author' - super concise and interesting information about what was 'The Red Scare,' the polio outbreak, and the increase of reported UFOs amongst Americans during this time period.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

GRAPHIC NOVEL - SHRUG

Bradford, Damon and David Sanchez 978-1-68112-306-6 \$17.99 80 p.
Algorithmic Reality NBM Graphic Novels, 2022

Sharp, graphic commentary on privacy and overwhelming corporations – especially Amazon. An example, in the first short story (there are 4-5 stories), a shoe-seller follows him in real life, just like “targeted ads” follow you online, just to show how ridiculous it would be. Well done, kind of a one-trick pony as far as theme, but shown well. HS/Adult, just for interest, not because of salacious content.

Recommended Age: High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Célérien, Chloé and Karim Nedjari 9780062393579 \$26.99 190 p.
Fists Raised: 10 Stories of Sports Star Activists NBM Graphic Novels, 2022

This graphic novel tells the stories of well-known activists like track-star Tommie Smith and boxing legend Muhammed Ali, as well as lesser-known athletes like Japanese female sumo wrestler Hiyori Kon. There are numerous depictions of smoking and drinking, which is why I hesitate to recommend the title for middle school, as there is no tempering of those behaviors or mention of the negative impacts they can cause (though perhaps one can read between the lines, since Socrates, the heavy drinking and smoking Brazilian soccer star, died at age 57). There is global representation of activist athletes and I can envision readers using this book as a launchpad for deeper dives into sports star activist heroes.

Recommended Age: High School, Adult

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

GRAPHIC NOVEL – NOT RECOMMENDED

Hicks, Josh 9780062393579 \$21.99 112 p.
Glorious Wrestling Alliance: Ultimate Championship Edition Graphic Universe, 2021

A humorous graphic novel about an imaginary wrestling company. The main headliner is a wrestler with a carp head, who seems to be greatly depressed (and an alcoholic). The other competitors are Gravy Train (an actual gravy boat with arms, legs and a head), Death Machine (who is terrifying and writes poetry), and Hyper Mask (who is actually Miranda Fury and can kick all the dudes’ butts). It’s an entertaining book but does talk about alcohol and drug abuse in a trying-to-be-funny way.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library

NON-FICTION - RECOMMENDED

Herman, Amy E. 978-1-66590-121-5 \$17.99 195 p.

smART: Use Your Eyes to Boost Your Brain Simon & Schuster, 2022

SmART: Use Your Eyes to Boost Your Brain by Amy E. Herman shows readers how art can help brain development by “expand[ing] the way we see the world” (p. 11) Readers are frequently asked to stop and observe or recall details about artwork displayed in each chapter, with opportunities to challenge others with same observation tasks. From basic observation, the author moves to the way our brains filter information, how to think and process what we see, and how the observer’s attitude or perspectives can change with careful observation techniques. There is a chapter on articulating what one is observing that leads the reader to understand the important role of communication in this process. The book concludes with a call to action for readers to engage with the world around them. While this book is very informative and engaging, I’m not sure if many teen readers would pick this up on their own. It would work well for a teacher to use with a class.

Recommended, grades 5 and up.

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

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Amber Peterson, International Community School

Holleran, Leslie 9781728441832 \$23.99 48 p.

Dolly Parton: Diamond in a Rhinestone World Lerner, 2023

This shorter biography will work well for my middle school students who struggle with reading sometimes, such as my ML and special education students. Information is broken up into 8 small sections that focus on Dolly’s childhood in the Smoky Mountains, her love of music and how she transformed that into the powerful success she is today. Plus, her charitable works are mentioned, including The Imagination Library that has given away more than 100 million books to children. Other interesting info covered includes her theme park Dollywood, her Nashville experiences, and her breakout movie 9 to 5. It also has interesting sidebars of info, such as the one about her husband, Carl Dean and her song, “I Will Always Love You.” The book ends with Important Dates in Parton’s life, Source Notes, a Selected Biography, Learn More (additional resources) and an Index. The attractive layout and use of color will be appealing to students. Plus, the short chunks of information spread throughout make the book easily accessible to reluctant readers.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, grades 4-8

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middles School

Kallen, Stuart A. 9780062393579 \$32.95 64 p.

The Power of Social Media Reference Point Press, 2023

The Power of Social Media is a nonfiction book that focuses on how people use social media influence for all different types of motives, including social movements, money, and to spread information, or misinformation. The book uses many relevant examples that will

resonate with middle and high school students such as TikTok, The Kardashians, and the Black Lives Matter movement. This book could act as a supplement to digital citizenship lessons, and some students may be interested it reading it for pleasure.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle Schools

Marcovitz, Hal 9780062393579 \$32.95 64 p.

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

Media Bias: What is it and Why Does it Matter? is a high-quality nonfiction book that explains the concept of media bias using current, real world examples. The book discusses many topics that students may have recently heard about in the news such as the trial of Kyle Rittenhouse, Covid vaccines, Alex Jones and Infowars, and Trump. The book discusses examples of bias from both the left and right and is careful not to show a leaning toward either side. This book would be a great supplement to lessons on media bias.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Micaela Gunderson, Rose Hill & Stella Schola Middle Schools

Miller, Sarah 9780062393579 \$18.99 333 p.

Hanged! Mary Surratt and the plot to assassinate Abraham Lincoln

Random House, 2022

When we think about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln these days, the first (and probably only) name to come to mind is John Wilkes Booth. However, there is a lot more to the story as he had a number of accomplices and there were also a lot more to the plot included other attempted assassinations that night. One person, who was among the most hated at the time of the event was Mary Surratt - a name most people have never heard of now. She was the mother of John Surratt Jr, a friend of Wilkes Booth. She ran a boarding house, was a known Confederate sympathizer, and was also deeply (Catholic) religious. After the assassination, a furious and grieving nation put 8 suspects on military (not civil court) trial. Mary was one of these and despite a lack of solid evidence ended up being the first woman to suffer capital punishment in the United States. Solidly researched. I found it engaging but students may struggle to get through the dense text. There is a spread of photographs in the middle. Extensive source notes.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Miller, Sarah 9780062393579 \$18.99 333 p.

Hanged! Mary Surratt and the plot to assassinate Abraham Lincoln

Random House Studio, 2022

Step back in time and follow the trial of Mary Surratt. The mother of a confederate messenger and the manager of a boarding house that John Wilkes Booth was believed to have visited, Surratt is an unlikely candidate for conspiring to kill Abraham Lincoln. It is no surprise that her trial by 'military tribunal' rather than a civil trial is unfair and severely in favor of the accusers. Surratt eventually is found guilty and winds up being executed by the government in 1865. Rich with detailed descriptions, photographs, court transcripts, and quotes make this book truly engaging.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Sarsour, Linda 9780062393579 \$17.99 229 p.

We're in This Together: A young readers edition of We are Not Here to be Bystanders

Salaam Reads, 2022

Born to and raised by Palestinian immigrant parents in Brooklyn, Linda Sarsour talks about her experiences growing up in a diverse community and her role in social justice movements like the Women's March on Washington, for which she was a co-chair. After 9/11, Sarsour made her voice heard and found strength in her Islamic beliefs, proudly wearing her hijab in a time when the Arab world was being viewed in a negative light. Mixed in with her stories and observations, Sarsour includes advice on how to be a "great activist and ally", what it means to be an upstander, and more. Included is a glossary of Islamic and Arabic terms and endnotes.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Kat Chin, Kamiakin Middle School

Walker, Sally M. 9780062393579 \$24.99 220 p.

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

Candlewick Press, 2022

This narrative nonfiction book is a page-turner! It is November, 1909, and the coal mine in Cherry, Illinois is filled to the brim with almost 500 coal miners, most of them new immigrants to the country. Some have lied about their age to work, but all are trying to earn money for their family. When a fire breaks out from a kerosene lamp, the shafts fill with smoke and trap most of the miners deep underground. In the end more than half of the workers died. This book follows through with many details on how the town supported the families left behind. The photos, diagrams, and substantial amount of research poured into this book will make it a must-read for learning more about this huge coal mining disaster.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Wilkerson, Isabel 9780062393579 \$18.99 338 p.

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (Adapted for Young Adults)

Delacorte Press, 2022

If you ask most Americans about the caste system, they would probably tell you about India - or just look at you in confusion. Unfortunately the caste system is alive and well here in the United States as well. Wilkerson does a brilliant job of explaining the background of caste, the ways it is still upheld today, and its consequences on our society and especially on the subdominant caste. The revelation that the 3 societies with a caste system are/were India, Nazi Germany, and the United States is (or should be) eye opening. Wilkerson's stories and facts that she presents are both from personal experiences and well documented incidents. They are hard hitting and can be graphic, so this book is best suited to a more mature audience (high school/ possibly a mature 8th grader and above). I highly recommend this book as it not only opens the readers eyes to a situation that needs to be recognized but Wilkerson also offers some thoughts on how we can move forward; how the dominant caste can make changes in their behaviors, how to stand up for the subdominant caste, etc.

This book is intense, thought-provoking, and so very important.

Recommended Age: High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? Yes

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Wilkerson, Isabel 978-0-593-42795-8 \$18.99 338 p.

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (Adapted for Young Adults)

Delacorte Press, 2022

Building on the premise that “Caste is the infrastructure of our division,” Isabel Wilkerson’s book, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (Adapted for Young Adults)* is an excellent explanation of the beginnings of racial inequality in America, it’s manifestations—past and present—and the possibilities for change. By showing readers the dehumanizing historical stratification by race in other cultures, it makes it easier for the reader to step back and examine the story of the United States more accurately. Like the YA adaptation of Bryan Stevenson’s *Just Mercy*, The YA adaptation of *Caste* is an accessible entry into sensitive and complicated topics. Recommend for grades 8 and up.

Recommended Age: Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Amber Peterson, International Community School

- Being Black in America series Reference Point Press, 2021
- Currie, Stephen 978-1-6782-0030-5 \$32.95 64 p.
- Systemic Racism and the African American Experience***
- Ghafoerkhan, Olivia and Hal Marcovitz 978-1-6782-0026-8 \$32.95 64 p.
- Police Defunding and Reform: What Changes Are Needed?***
- Kallen, Stuart J. 978-1-6782-0024-4 \$32.95 64 p.
- Black Lives Matter: Grassroots Movement to Global Phenomenon***

Marcovitz, Hal	978-1-67820-028-2	\$32.95	64 p.
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Racial Injustice: Rage, Protests, and Demands for Change

This is a series to introduce readers to racism, discrimination and bias based on being Black in the United States. It includes topics such as systemic racism towards African-Americans when it comes to housing, employment, health and policing. Also included are topics such as racial injustice and how it leads to protesting and demands for change, the history behind the BLM movement, and the demands for defunding the police and what that means. The Police Defunding book gives a broad view with researched data about the hot-button issue.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

- Bias in America series Reference Point Press, 2021

Gallagher, Jim	978-1-68282-893-9	\$32.95	30 p.
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Hispanic in America

Marcovitz, Hal	978-1-68282-891-5	\$32.95	30 p.
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Black in America

Sheen, Barbara	978-1-68282-895-3	\$32.95	30 p.
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Jewish in America

McGhee, Leanne Currie	978-1-68282-899-1	\$32.95	30 p.
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Muslim in America

Sheen, Barbara	978-1-68282-897-7	\$32.95	30 p.
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LGBTQ in America

This is a series to introduce readers to discrimination and bias based on identity in the United States. Five identities are discussed in these books, and the text gives an account of past history of discrimination, ways that each of the communities discussed in these books have been resilient, the different types of ways that each group has been targeted by racism, anti-semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia and Transphobia, and stereotypes about each group that are untrue. I would have liked to have seen the word “slaves” replaced with “enslaved people” in the Black in America book, but other than that, I thought it was a good series.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Erin O'Connor, Kellogg Middle School

- Black Americans of Distinction series Reference Point Press, 2023

Castillo, Kristina	9781678202842	\$32.95	64 p.
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Important Black Americans in Business and Commerce

Currie, Stephen	9781678202866	\$32.95	64 p.
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Important Black Americans in Civil Rights and Politics

Kallen, Stuart A.	9781678202828	\$32.95	64 p.
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Important Black Americans in Arts and Culture

Nardo, Don 9781678202880 \$32.95 64 p.

Important Black Americans in Science and Invention

This 5-book series presents biographies of important black Americans in these career groups: civil rights and politics, arts and culture, business and commerce, & science and invention. Each book starts with an introduction about that career area and the history of black Americans in that field—including some of the most famous ones. Each chapter presents a concise biography of how that black American impacted their topic area. Each book concludes with source notes, additional resources, an index, picture credits and author info. 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. These books are an important resource for all students and would be a welcome addition to any secondary library—even if the price is a bit much.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

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

Skilled Trades in the Military

This book series presents these types of military careers: STEM, service, skilled trades, medical careers, and intelligence & cybersecurity. Each book starts with an introduction about that STEM career and why this field is important. Then there are 6 different careers in that area profiled. Each job chapter includes a typical workday, education and training requirements, skills and personality info, working conditions, opportunities for advancement and employee prospects in the civilian world. Each book concludes with source notes, an interview, a list of other jobs in this field, an index, picture credits and author info. Also included are colorful photos and relevant sidebars with statistics and quotes. The colorful layout and short chapters are appealing and will keep teens reading. While the price tag is expensive, these books are a good resource for secondary students seeking out career information.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

- Dealing with Addiction series BrightPoint Press, 2023
- Hobbs Voss, Elizabeth 9781678203825 \$32.95 64 p.

Vaping Addiction

Kaiser, Emma	9781678203801	\$32.95	64 p.
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Smartphone Addiction

Llanas, Sheila	9781678203740	\$32.95	64 p.
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Drug and Alcohol Addiction

Roberts, Kizzi	9781678203764	\$32.95	64 p.
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Gaming Addiction

This series focuses on different addictions, such as vaping, smartphones, gaming, social media, and drugs and alcohol. Each book starts with quick facts and then someone's personal story with that addiction grabs your attention. Other chapters include the history of the addiction and the science and mental components of the addictions. Plus, the effects of each addiction is presented as well as treatment options for the addiction. All books end with a glossary, source notes, additional resources, an index, image credits, and author info. These books are visually appealing with all the colorful photos, sidebars, and useful information. Also, the larger font size and text spacing make it easily accessible for reluctant readers. While the price is a bit steep, these are quality research books.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

• Exploring Jobs in the Gig Economy series	BrightPoint Press, 2023		
Ayarbe, Heidi	9781678203887	\$32.95	80 p.

Gig Jobs in High-Tech

Buckey, A. W.	9781678203900	\$32.95	80 p.
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Gig Jobs in Social Media

Buckey, A. W.	9781678203924	\$32.95	80 p.
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Gig Jobs in Transportation Delivery

MacCarald, Clara	9781678203863	\$32.95	80 p.
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Gig Jobs in Gaming

MacCarald, Clara	9781678203849	\$32.95	80 p.
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Gig Jobs in the Creative Arts

This 5-book series focuses on 5 different career areas in the Gig Economy, such as gaming, social media, high-tech, creative arts and transportation & delivery. Each book starts with quick facts about that type of gig economy. Then someone's personal story grabs your attention. Other chapters include the history of those gig economy careers and what those careers look like on a daily basis and how they are paid, such as freelance or crowdfunding. Plus, the pros and cons of these careers are presented as well as the future outlook.

All books end with a glossary, source notes, additional resources, an index, image credits, and author info. These books are visually appealing with all the colorful photos, sidebars, and useful information. Also, the larger font size and text spacing make it easily accessible for reluctant readers. While the price is a bit steep, these are quality research books on important topics.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

• Skilled and Vocational Trades series	BrightPoint Press, 2023		
Edwards, Sue Bradford	9781678204143	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Become A Construction Equipment Operator</i>			
Lanier, Wendy Hinote	9781678204204	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Become A Physical Therapy Assistant</i>			
Murray, Tamika M.	9781678204167	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Become A Dental Hygienist</i>			
Normandeau, Sheryl	9781678204228	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Become A Web Developer</i>			
Normandeau, Sheryl	9781678204181	\$32.95	80 p.
<i>Become An IT Support Technician</i>			

This 5-book series focuses on 5 different careers found in the skilled and vocational trades, such as dental hygienist, IT support technician, web developer, construction equipment operator, and physical therapy assistant. Each book starts with quick facts about the career. Then someone's personal story grabs your attention. Other chapters describe why you should choose this career, what someone with that career does and the training needed. Another useful chapter describes what life is like in that career which includes a typical work schedule, tools used, safety precautions, important traits needed for the job (such as flexibility). The last chapter explains the future outlook for these jobs. All books end with a glossary, source notes, additional resources, an index, image credits, and author info. These books are visually appealing with all the colorful photos, sidebars, and useful information. Also, the larger font size and text spacing make it easily accessible for reluctant readers. While the price is a bit steep, these are quality research books on important topics.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School

NON-FICTION – SHRUG

Yasmin, Seema	9780062393579	\$19.99	352 p.
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What the Fact?: Debunking Disinformation to Detangle the Truth

Simon & Schuster, 2022

Is this topic relevant? Yes!! Is the information up to date, well researched, and correct? Yes! Is a student going to read through 358 pages of this book? Nope, not a chance. Basically, this is going to be a resource for information professionals (librarians) and a few random people who are interested in ensuring that what they are reading and spreading on the internet is accurate. More people than those do need to read this book but sadly I don't think they will. I also found myself skimming through it. It's dense and, despite the author's obvious best efforts, just not that engaging.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

- Healthy Living Library series Twenty First Century Books, 2023
Pedrick, Cherry, et al. 978-1-54158-893-6 \$28.04 104 p.

More Than Stress: Understanding Anxiety Disorders

A general reference source that would work well for students doing research on the topic of anxiety, *More Than Stress* covers the physiology in the body experiencing anxiety, anxiety triggers, types of anxiety, and treatment for anxiety. Conclusion has much encouragement for a reader experiencing anxiety symptoms and there are many other resources listed at the back of the book. Add to your collection as a reference title. Grade 8 and up.

Recommended Age: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Amber Peterson, International Community School

NON-FICTION – NOT RECOMMEND

- U.S. Military Branches series
Miller, Marie-Therese 9781728458298 \$21.99 24 p.
The U.S. Coast Guard in Action Lerner, 2023

With only 24 pages, this book is too small for my middle school, but it would work well for elementary students. The short chapters are essentially colorful, interesting pictures with one-sentence captions plus a term here or there. This book's chapters were Always Ready, Many Missions, Vehicle Close-Up, and Ships, Boats, and Aircraft. The book ends with the Military Mission (a one question quiz about the book), a Glossary, Check It Out! (additional online resources), and an Index and Photo Acknowledgements. The attractive layout and use of color will be especially appealing to younger students.

Recommended Age: Too young for YA

Recommend for Evergreen Award? No

Sherri Ashlock, Nelson Middle School