

WASHINGTON STATE YOUNG ADULT REVIEW GROUP THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE: March 7, 2025

Issue: 147 December 2024

WASHRAG

Titles Taken: 3-14 Fiction Reviews: 15-27

Graphic Novel Reviews: 27-29 Nonfiction Reviews: 29-33

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.

Any questions? Contact Brenna Shanks – <u>bshanks@kcls.org</u> 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 Issaguah, 98027

2025 MEETINGS

- March 7
- May 2
- September 12
- December 5

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.

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.

2025 MEETINGS

- March 7
- May 2
- September 12
- December 5

MEMBERSHIP FORM:



Name

Address*:

Title:			
Email*:			
Phone*:			

^{*} Please indicate home or work for contact info.

Titles Taken for Review - September 2024

Please remember ARCs may not be added to your collection.

♦Already reviewed

FICTION

10 Things I Hate About PromGonzalez Rose, ElleStephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Joy Revolution, 2024 978-593-70517-9	\$19.99	295 p.
Adventures of Mary Jane Jahren, Hope Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Sch	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593484111 ool	\$19.99	434 p.
Amari and the Despicable Wonders, Sup Alston, B.B. Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	oernatural Investigations #3 978-0062975225	Storytide, 20 \$19.99	24 389 p.
An Impossible Thing to Say Shahi, Arya Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School Comments: Novel in verse	Allida, 2023 978-0-06-324835-9	\$19.99	410 p.
And Then, Boom! Fipps, Lisa Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	Nancy Paulsen Books, 2024 9780593406328	\$17.99	244 p.
Another First Chance Couch, Robbie Angela Sweeney, Cavalcade of Authors	Simon & Schuster, 2024 9781665935302	\$19.99	368 p.
Asking For A Friend Chen, Kara H.L. TuesD Chambers, Ballard High School	Quill Tree Books , 2024 9780063237889	\$19.99	325 p.
Better Must Come Hall, Desmond Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy I 9781534460744	Books, 2024 \$19.99	317 p.
A Bite Above the Rest	Aladdin, 2024		

Virnig, Christine Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	9781665946575	\$17.99	307 p.
Blackberry Fox Tordasi, Kathrin Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	Simon & Schuster Books for 9781665910194	Young Reade \$17.99	rs, 2024 340 p.
The Bletchley Riddle (ARC) Sheinkin, Steve and Sepetys, Ruta Sarah Hunt, Kirkland Library, KCLS	Viking, 2024 978-0-593-52754-2	\$18.99	400 p.
The Blonde Dies First Wellington, Joelle Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School	Simon & Schuster, 2024 978-1-6659-2245-6	\$19.99	325 p.
Blood & Fury , Chaos & Flame #2 Gratton, Tessa and Justina Ireland Nickie Travis, Retired	Razorbill, 2024 9780593353356	\$19.99	342 p.
Break to You Shusterman, Neal, Debra Young and Mich Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	Quill Tree Books, 2024 elle Knowlden 9780062875761	\$19.99	432 p.
Camp Twisted Pine Burch, Ciera Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School	Margaret K. McElderry Boo 9781665930574	ks, 2024 \$17.99	259 p.
The Chronicles of Viktor Valentine , #1 Brewer, Z Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Sch	Quill Tree Books, 2024 9780063245723 ool	\$18.99	262 p.
<i>The Color of a Lie</i> Johnson, Kim Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School	Random House, 2024 978-0-593-11880-1	\$19.99	318 p.
The Dare Preston, Natasha Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2024 978-0593704066	\$12.40	364 p.
Death at Morning House Johnson, Maureen Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School	HarperTeen, 2024 0063255952	\$19.99	370 p.

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

Exit Nowhere Brandt, Juliana Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Aladdin, 2024 9781665948289	\$17.99	309 p.
The Forest Demands Its Due Jackson, Kosoko Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School	Quill Tree Books, 2023 9780063260795	\$19.99	432 p.
Ghost Smith , House of the Dead #2 Pau Preto, Nicki Mike Fleming, Juanita High School	Simon & Schuster, 2024 9781665910620	\$21.99	433 p.
<i>Grow Up, Luchy Zapata</i> Alessandri, Alexandra Susan Haver, Skyview Middle School	Athenuem Books for Young 978-1-6659-3596-8	Readers, 2024 \$17.99	ł 242 p.
<i>Heir</i> , Heir Duology #1 (ARC) Tahir, Sabaa Aarene Storms, Everett Public Library	G.P. Putnam's Sons for Youn 978-0593616949	g Readers, 202 \$21.99	24 512 p.
Hemlock House, Liar's Beach #2 Cotugno, Katie Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593433324	\$19.99	226 p.
House of Thorns Strychacz, Isabel Amy Fields, Redmond Middle School	Simon & Schuster , 2024 9781665942591	\$19.99	304 p.
How to Lose a Best Friend Casomar, Jordan K. Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	MTV Entertainment Books, 978-1-66593-209-7	2024 \$19.99	324 p.
<i>I Will Never Leave You</i> Kennedy, Kara A. Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593707463	\$19.99	337 p.
In Nightfall Young, Suzanne Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2023 978-0-593-48758	\$12.99	373 p.
<i>It Watches in the Dark</i> , Eek #1 Strand, Jeff Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio	Sourcebooks, 2024 9781728277622 r High School	\$8.99	219 p.

Kicked Out Dassu, A. M. Amy Fields, Redmond Middle School Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Lee & Low, 2024 9781643796871	\$23.95	336 p.
The Labyrinth of Lost and Found , The W Lees, Jordan Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	hisperwicks #1 9781665950138	Puffin, 2024 \$19.99	375 p.
Legend of the White Snake (ARC) Lee, Sher Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	Quill Tree Books, 2024 9780063327191	\$19.99	352 p.
The Legendary Mo Seto Chan, A.Y. Susan Haver, Skyview Middle School	Aladdin, 2024 978-1-6659-3732-0	\$17.99	309 p.
<i>Lei and the invisible Island</i> , Lei and the Maunakea, Malia Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio	9780593522059	in Workshop, \$18.99	2024 332 p.
<i>Liar's Test</i> Kwaymullina, Ambelin Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	Knopf Books for Young Rea 9780593571781	ders, 2024 \$19.99	258 p.
<i>Lie Until It's True</i> , Like Me Block You #2 Weaver, Jessie Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School Comments: Sequel to Live Your Best Lie	Melissa de la Cruz St 9781368078412	tudio, 2024 \$18.99	320 p.
Lion of the Sky Hemnani, Ritu Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio Comments: Historical Fiction based on au	_	\$19.99	400 p.
Love Requires Chocolate, Love in Transla Stringfield, Ravynn K. Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	ation #1 Electric Postcard 9780593571454	Entertainmen \$12.99	t, 2024 267 p.
<i>Madsi the True</i> Taylor, S.J. Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	Atheneum, 2024 9781665938822	\$17.99	295 p.
A Magic Fierce and Bright Nayak, Hemant	Simon & Schuster Books for 9781665921817	r Young Reade \$19.99	rs, 2023 374 p.

Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library

Majestica Tolcser, Sarah Elizabeth Kalen, White Center Library, KC	Putnam, 2024 978-0-593-69654-5 LS	\$18.99	307 p.
The Midnight Game Murphy, Cynthia Krista Repp, Leota Middle School Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2023 9780593705568	\$12.99	320 p.
Mind Over Monsters Uhrig, Betsy Amy Fields, Redmond Middle School	Margaret K. McElderry Boo 9781665950534	ks, 2024 \$30.95	304 p.
<i>Mirror of Beasts</i> , Silver in the Bone #2 Bracken, Alexandra Nickie Travis, Retired	Knopf, 2024 9780593896587	\$20.99	484 p.
The Monstrous Kind Gregovic, Lydia Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593572375 r High School	\$19.99	384 p.
◆ The Moonlit Vine Santiago, Elizabeth Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio	Tu Books, 2023 9781643795805 r High School	\$24.95	347 p.
My Salty Mary, Mary #3 Hand, Cynthia, Broday Ashton and Jodi Mo Angela Sweeney, Cavalcade of Authors	Harper Collins, 2024 eadows 9780062930101	\$19.99	448 p.
The Mystery of Locked Rooms Currie, Lindsay Susan Haver, Skyview Middle School	Sourcebooks Young Reader 978-1-7282-5953-6	s, 2024 \$16.99	245 p.
Not About a Boy Hollis, Myah Angela Sweeney, Cavalcade of Authors	Harper Collins, 2024 9780063341982	BFYA 202 \$19.99	25 NOM 336 p.
Not If You Break Up With Me First Miller, G. F. Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	Aladdin, 2024 9781665950008	\$18.99	288 p.
Nox Winters and the Midnight Wolf, Nox Hassan, Rochelle	Winters Chronicles #1 9780-06-331457-3	Harper, 2024 \$19.99	351 p.

Elizabeth Kalen, White Center Library, KCLS

Our Wicked Histories Goldsmith, Amy Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593703953	\$19.99	367 p.
Poison in Their Hearts , Castles in Their I Sebastian, Laura JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library, KCLS	Bones #3 Delacorte Pre 9780593118245	ess, 2024 \$20.99	529 p.
Practical Rules for Cursed Witches Cottingham, Kayla Nickie Travis, Retired Elizabeth Kalen, White Center Library, KC	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593813973 LS	\$19.99	413 p.
Queerceañera Crespo, Alex Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	HarperTeen, 2024 9780063257405	\$19.99	292 p.
Rescue Nielsen, Jennifer A. Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Scholastic, 2021 978-1338620993	\$17.99	384 p.
Return to Sender Draper, Lauren Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	HarperTeen, 2024 978-0-06-334036-7	\$19.99	408 p.
Rosa by Starlight McKay, Hilary Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Sch	Margaret K. McElderry Boo 9781665958103 ool	ks, 2024 \$16.99	148 p.
<i>Scrimshaw</i> , Deephaven Mystery #2 Aldridge, Ethan M. Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Quill Tree Books, 2024 9780063283213	\$18.99	255 p.
The Search for the Shadowsoul , A Quest Miller, Callie C. Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	of Great Importance #2 9781665952323	Aladdin, 202 \$18.99	4 369 p.
Seasick Cast, Kristin and Pitip Dunn Mike Fleming, Juanita High School Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593649305	\$19.99	324 p.
The Second Death of Edie and Violet Box Glaze, Amanda	nd Union Square, 2022 9781454946793	\$10.99	361 p.

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Comments: Autographed copy - to "Grizzly Readers - Make Art" lol Not sure how we ended up with this?"

The Secret of the Bloodred Key, Stolen D		Simon & Schuster,	
Farr, David Amy Fields, Redmond Middle School	9781665922623	\$17.99	336 p.
The Shadow Prince, #1 Durham, David Anthony Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School Comments: Glossary of Egyptian Gods. Th		\$21.95 out (this is from 202	387 p. 21).
Silent Sister Davidhizar, Megan Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2024 978-0-593-70564-3	\$19.99	329 p.
Six of Sorrow Linsmeier, Amanda Amy Fields, Redmond Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2024 9780593707760	\$19.99	336 p.
The Smoke That Thunders (ARC) Kome, Erhu Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	Norton, 2024 9781324052654	\$18.99	304 p.
Something Maybe Magnificent Toalson, R.L. Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	Aladdin, 2024 9781665925525	\$17.99	402 p.
Songlight , The Torch Triology #1 Buffini, Moira Angela Sweeney, Cavalcade of Authors	Harper Collins, 2024 9780063358218	\$19.99	384 p.
Spilled Ink Hashimi, Nadia Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	Quill Tree Books, 2024 9780063060494	\$19.99	330 p.
Spin of Fate , The Fifth Realm #1 Vora, A.A. Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	Putnam, 2024 9780593617564	\$19.99	410 p.
The Sticky Note Manifesto of Aisha Agar Vohra, Ambika Susan Haver, Skyview Middle School	rwal Harper (978-0-06-334716-8	Collins, 2024 \$19.99	353 p.

Storm: Dawn of a Goddess Jackson, Tiffany D. Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Random House Books for Yo 978-0593308851	oung Readers, \$20.99	2024 293 p.
Such Charming Liars McManus, Karen M. Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior	Delacorte Press, 2024 059348505X r High School	\$20.99	386 p.
Sunrise Nights Zentner, Jeff and Brittany Cavallaro Angela Sweeney, Cavalcade of Authors	Harper Collins, 2024 9780063324534	\$19.99	400 p.
The Talent Thief Thayer, Mike Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior	Feiwel and Friends, 2023 9781250771025 r High School	\$18.99	283 p.
The Thirteenth Child Craig, Erin A. Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Scho	Penguin Random House, 20 9780593482582 ool	24 \$20.99	494 p.
<i>Trespass Against Us</i> Kemp, Leon Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	HarperTeen, 2024 9780063324855	\$19.99	304 p.
The Truth About Triangles Leali, Michael Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Harper, 2024 9780063337367	\$18.99	328 p.
Twenty-Four Seconds from Now (ARC) Reynolds, Jason Aarene Storms, Everett Public Library	Simon & Schuster, 2024 9781665961868	\$19.99	256 p.
Twin Flames Abtahi, Olivia Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library	Lee & Low, 2024 9781643790435	\$24.95	352 p.
A Two-Placed Heart (ARC) Nguyen, Doan Phuong Amy Fields, Redmond Middle School	Tu Books, 2024 9781643796420	\$24.99	352 p.
The Unfinished Isaacs, Cheryl Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Heartdrum, 2024 978-0-06-328738-9	\$19.99	320 p.

Wander in the Dark Emill, Jumata Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Delacorte Press, 2024 978-0593651858	BFYA 20 2 \$19.99	25 NOM 387 p.
Westfallen Brashares, Ann and Ben Brashares Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Sch	Simon & Schuster Books for 9781665950817 ool	r Young Reade \$18.99	rs, 2024 375 p.
What She Missed Tamani, Liara Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School	Greenwillow Books, 2023 978-0063093287	\$19.99	311 p.
When a Brown Girl Flees Qureshi, Aamna Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio	Tu Books, 2023 9781643795058 or High School	\$23.95	323 p.
When We Flew Away: A novel of Anne For Hoffman, Alice Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	rank Before the Diary (ARC) 9781338856941	Scholastic, 20 \$19.99)24 304 p.
Zombie Apocalypse Running Club Mac, Carrie Susan Haver, Skyview Middle School Krista Repp, Leota Middle School	Penguin Random House, 20 978-1-5247-7104-1)24 \$19.99	296 р.
GRAI	PHIC NOVELS		
Anang and the Ribbon Skirt (ARC) Mukwa Cameron Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio	Scholastic, 2024 9781338843255 or High School	\$12.99	192 p.
Anzu and the Realm of Darkness Nguyen, Mai K. Mike Fleming, Juanita High School	Viking, 2024 9780593525289	\$13.99	253 p.
The Awakening Storm, City of Dragons # Yogis, Jaimal and Vivian Truong Mike Fleming, Juanita High School	f1 Graphix, 2024 9781338660425	\$12.99	233 p.
Brownstone Teer, Samuel Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Sch	Versify, 2024 9780358394747 ool	\$18.99	317 p.
Camp Prodigy Palmer, Caroline	Atheneum Books for Young 9781665930383	Readers, 2024 \$22.99	4 249 p.

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Dungeon Club: Time to Party , Dungeon Ostertag, Molly Know and Xanthe Bouma Mike Fleming, Juanita High School			rAlley, 2	2024 \$24.99	207 p.
First Test, Protector of the Small #1 Pierce, Tamora; Adapted by Grayson, Dev	in and l	raphic, 2024 Becca Farrow 307931566		\$24.99	155 p.
Mike Fleming, Juanita High School					
Gamerville Christmas, Johnnie Mike Fleming, Juanita High School	•	erAlley, 2024 063056817		\$15.99	253 p.
How It All Ends Hunsinger, Emma Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Sch	97800	willow Books, 063158146	2024	\$15.99	293 p.
Jupiter Nettle and the Seven Schools of A Mandanna, Sangu; illus by Pablo Ballester JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library, KCLS	_	Viking, 2024 9780593464	196	\$12.99	175 p.
Knots Frakes, Colleen JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library, KCLS	•	erAlley, 2024 063247161		\$15.99	228 p.
<i>Lion Dancers</i> Tse, Cai JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library, KCLS		n & Schuster Bo 665927246	oks for	Young Reade \$23.99	ers, 2024 299 p.
Love Me Please: The Story of Janis Joplin	า	NBM Graphic	Novels	. 2021	
Finet, Nicolas Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School Comments: Adult Audience - Recommend	978-1	-68112-276-2		\$24.99	160 p.
Please Be My Star (ARC) Elliott, Victoria Grace JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library, KCLS	_	nix, 2024 338840407		\$15.99	240 p.
Ready or Not Poretta, Andi Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School		eum, 2024 665907033		\$24.99	330 p.
Rise of the Halfling King , Tales of the Fea	athered	Serpent #1	Cinco	Punto Press, 2	2020
Bowles, David		947627376		\$14.95	63 p.

Sam Carterby, Grandview Middle School Comments: Excellent graphic version of mesoamerican folktales

Safe Passage	Tu Books, 2024	GGN 2025 NO	
Neri, G.	9781643790343	\$20.95	219 p.
Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Sch	ool		
Sidekicks #1 (ARC)	Scholastic, 2024		
Santat, Dan	9781338879155	\$14.99	240 p.
Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senio	r High School		
Sunhead	HarperAlley, 2024		
Assan, Alex	9780063113572	\$18.99	254 p.
Michael Fleming, Juanita High School			
Woe: A Housecat's Story of Despair	Viking, 2024		
Knisley, Lucy	978-0-593-17763-1	\$18.99	208 p.
Sarah Hunt, Kirkland Library, KCLS			
♦ The Worst Ronin	HarperAlley, 2024	GGN 202	25 NOM
Tokuda-Hall, Maggie	9780358464945	\$18.99	334 p.
Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School			

NON-FICTION

◆ The Ballerina of Auschwitz (ARC) Eger, Edith Krista Repp, Leota Middle School Comments: YA Edition of The Choice	Atheneum Books for 9781665952552	Young Readers, 202 \$18.99	4 192 p.
Bite by Bite: American History through Feast, Foods, and Side Dishes			
	Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2024		
Aronson, Marc and Paul Freedman Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle Scho	9781665935500 ool	\$17.99	164 p.
Call the Bee Doctor: How Science is Saving Honey Bees Millbrook Press			25
Markle, Sandra Aarene Storms, Everett Public Library	9798765626795	\$32.74	48 p.
Diary of a Dying Girl	Penguin Random House, 2024		
Smith, Mallory Angela Sweeney, Cavalcade of Authors	9780593647479	\$19.99	384 p.
Grace Notes: Poems about Families Nye, Naomi Shihab	Greenwillow Books, 2 9780062691873	2024 \$19.99	207 p.

Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library Comments: Listed as ages 10+

Holocaust Atrocities: Nazi Death Camps ReferencePoint Press, 2025

Nardo, Don 9781678208004 \$33.95 64 p.

Krista Repp, Leota Middle School

The In-Between Aladdin, 2023

Van Heidrich, Katie 976-1665920124 \$16.11 304 p.

Samantha Carterby, Grandview Middle School

Comments: This memoir in verse is a first person POV account of living in extreme poverty

as a child. Middle School

K-Pop: The Music Sensation Sweeping the Globe ReferencePoint Press, 2024

Kallen, Stuart A. 9781678208066 \$33.95 64 p.

Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School

The Leadership Journey: How Four Kids Became President

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2024

Goodwin, Doris Kearns 9781665925723 \$18.99 342 p.

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High School

Comments: Great Illustrations, Bibliography

Susie King Taylor: Nurse, Teacher & Freedom Fighter, Rise. Risk. Remember.

Aladdin, 2023

Dunbar, Erica Armstrong and Candace Buford 9781665919944 \$19.99 271 p.

Wendy Poteet, Grandview Library

Teen Guide to the Supernatural ReferencePoint Press, 2024

Marcovitz, Hal 978-1678205942 \$34.05 64 p.

Stephanie Pender, Risdon Middle School

FICTION - RECOMMENDED

Anthony Durham, David 9781643796093 \$21.95 378 p.

The Longest Night in Egypt, The Shadow Prince #2

Tu Books, 2023

Book 2 in The Shadow Prince series came with a decent summary of the first book or what needed to be known. It was a very pleasant journey. Ash is a youth taken from his home to be the servant and protector of Prince Khufu, who does not make it easy for him. When Set, the god of chaos kidnaps Ra, the sun god, Egypt is thrown into unending darkness. This happens when the boys are on a journey and find themselves lost in the desert. A couple of friends join them on a quest to save Ra. They are a fun group of adventurers. No romance. Pretty innocent.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Badua, Tracy 978-0-06-321775-1 \$18.99 341 p.

This Is Not a Personal Statement Quill Tree, 2023

Perla is overwhelmed by what people expect of her. She's the youngest person in her graduating class, and her parents have always treated academics as the most important thing in her life. When she does not get accepted into any of the colleges she applies to, she decides to put her highly organized, spreadsheet-focused skills to good use – she'll tell her parents she did get accepted, and move onto the campus of her dreams anyway! There are elements of the story that feel like an everyday heist. Perla has to make friends while bearing an ulterior motive and the burden of secrecy. She has to talk her way into campus buildings, and find someplace to sleep. While some hurdles and personal revelations are easy to anticipate, the ending is difficult to predict. Perla shares the author's FilAm background, and some character elements are clearly drawn from lived experience. Recommended for high school and public libraries.

Recommended Audience: High School

Raina Sedore, Lacey & Hawks Prairie (Timberland Library)

Bright, Anna 978-0-06-308-357-8 \$19.99 389 p.

The Hedgewitch of Foxhall HarperTeen, 2024

Magic is fading from Wales thanks to Offa's Dyke, built by their enemy Mercia. Wales two princes, Taliesin, who hates magic and desires the throne, and Daffyd who fears the throne and magic, are forced into a rivalry when their father declares the next king will be whichever one of them destroys the dyke and returns magic to Wales. Ffion, a hedgewitch, is uninterested in politics. But the death of her familiar, forces her into an alliance with the princes, and the fate of Wales may rest upon the three of them. This historical fantasy set in Middle Ages Wales is perfect for fantasy fans and especially for those looking for cozy fantasy. The characters relationships with one another are the main drivers of the story, and we get chapters from all three of the main characters' points of view. The book is also a stand alone novel, so it might be appealing for those not interested in committed to a series. Fantasy typical violence. Middle and High School. Recommended.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Elizabeth Kalen, White Center Library (KCLS)

Carter, Caela 9780062996664 \$19.99 374 p.

The World Divided by Piper Quill Tree, 2024

Piper has been avoiding puberty since she was diagnosed with precocious puberty when she was 6. Now her doctor and seemingly everyone around her thinks it is time for Piper to grow up; everyone, that is, except for Piper. Piper has some very complex thoughts about womanhood that she can't quite seem to explain to anyone else other than she is not ready. Piper's struggle with puberty, growing up, and periods is set within a delightful celebration of neurodivergent excellence at her long awaited Academic Decathalon. I strongly recommend this period centered puberty book to middle school students.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle school

Con Morse, Catherine 978-0-593-71138-5 \$19.99 310 p.

The Notes Crown Books, 2024

Claire Wu is intrigued when Dr. Li arrives at Greenwood School for Performing Arts. It's the first time she's had a teacher who is Asian like her, and Dr. Li takes Claire under her wing, pushing her harder and making Claire dream bigger. Plus her crush on the ace pianist of the school, Rocky Wong, seems to be reciprocated. Maybe she'll even get accepted into the Asian Student Society who rejected her last time she applied for not being Chinese enough. Then Claire starts getting notes about her bond with Dr. Li, and as the pressure mounts, eventually something will have to give. This is an interesting exploration of identity, belonging, expectations, and mental health. It's more of a coming of age story than a mystery, though the situation with the notes originally led me to believe that it was more of a thriller than it was. The author is very good at making the reader feel the anxiety of the characters and ratcheting up the tension. This would be great for fans of realistic fiction as well as those who like dark academia vibes. Mental heath struggles, self harm, and suicide discussed. Off page suicide attempt. Recommended for high school.

Recommended Audience: High School

Elizabeth Kalen, White Center Library (KCLS)

Costa, Ben and Parks, James 978-166591073-6 \$13.99 280 p.

Quest for the Wishing Stone, Dungeoneer Adventures #3 Aladdin, 2024
Book 3 of a series of Coop and his teammates who are training at a school to become
Dungeoneers. When the school closes because of some rebels from the earlier book called
"the Exiles" who are trying to combine 3 shards of the wishing stone into a whole, which
will allow anything they want to become reality, the kids go after the missing dungeoneer
Shane Shandar, who can help them stop it. Pretty fast moving, mostly text, but a lot of good
pictures, especially of the creative monsters that populate the Abyss. Definitely middle
school.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Donnelly, Jennifer 9781338809442 \$18.99 323 p.

Beastly Beauty (ARC) Scholastic Press, 2024

A thief goes into an enchanted castle after midnight because someone let the bridge down. Thief and princess are both beauty (Beau & Belle) and beast, though one of them literally. A table full of old, bitter ladies in waiting (whose names are anagrams of "negative" feelings) have hidden hope, faith and love from her. The thief has to leave the castle to save his sickly brother. Can he save Belle? Who needs saving? Smoothly told, this is a very fun read that reaches to a very deep place regarding what must a woman feel and do to be a good woman, and can a man, who's stuck in his own stereotype set her free?

Recommended Audience: High School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Forman, Gayle 9781665943277 \$17.99 269 p.

Not Nothing (ARC) Simon & Schuster, 2024

12 year old Alex is forced to do community service in a retirement home, where all he sees are "Zombies". He's lost his mother, living with an aunt and uncle who don't want him and he can't forgive himself for something so horrible, he can't even admit to himself that he has done. At the retirement home, he somehow befriends "Josie", an old man who hadn't spoken for five years. As Joesie reveals his Holocaust survival story, the boy realizes that he can face the worst in his past and hope for a future.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Gemeinhart, Dan 9781250292773 \$17.98 275 p.

Coyote Lost and Found, Coyote Sunrise #2

Henry Holt and Company, 2024

I had my doubts about this follow-up book about Coyote Sunrise. Yes they go on another "quest" and pick up riders. You don't need to have read the first to enjoy the second, but I loved falling back into that world, Coyote's unique voice and the kind, loving atmosphere. Coyote, who is now 13 continues to deal with the loss of her mother and sisters, discovers her mother's ashes and must find the lost book that tells what her mother wants done with them. When Coyote invites her best friend, Salvador, her dad, Rodeo, decides he can invite his friend from the neighborhood. Could she be his girlfriend? A tale of loss, forgiveness, friendship and hope.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Gracia, Anna 9781682635803 \$18.99 352 p.

The Misdirection of Fault Lines (ARC) Peachtree Teen, 2024

Violetta is a social media tennis maven; it helps that her mother was a tennis pro. Alice is new to the tennis world but has a bit of talent. Leylah has been out of the tennis spotlight for two years after a suspicious suspension. When the three young teens end up as roommates at the prestigious Bastille Invitational, they start out as rivals but soon end up revealing more to each other. The young women have to deal with a variety of issues: racism, eating disorders, family obligations, grief, and inappropriate adult relationships.

There is use of weed, but other than that it's an interesting story about tennis written by someone who was a Division 1 athlete and a tennis coach.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS **Recommend to Evergreen? Yes**JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library (KCLS)

Hendrix, Isi 9780063266339 \$19.99 352 p.

Adia Kelbara and the Circle of Shamans, Adia Kelbara and the Circle of Shamans #1 (ARC)
Balzer and Bray, 2023

Adia lives with her uncle's family in the Swamplands, far from the busiest cities in Zaria. The Bright Father's missionaries have come and encouraged those who turn 13 to take Drops, a way to open themselves up to the Bright Father's messages (but is really a way to manipulate people). Adia does not want the Drops and wants to work at the Academy of Shamans. So when she gets the opportunity to apprentice with the Academy's chef, she's delighted, but her uncle's family disapproves. They and the missionaries try to stop her from going, which causes an earthquake. They think Adia is an ogbanje and let her go. Adia then starts a journey with lots of surprising twists. This was a fun fantasy that includes the gods, a found family, and destiny.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? YesJJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library (KCLS)

Jackson, Holly 9780593374207 \$20.99 448 p. **The Reappearance of Rachel Price** Delacorte Press, 2024 *BFYA NOM 2025

Holly Jackson, bestselling author of A Good Girl's Guide to Murder, returns with The Reappearance of Rachel Price, a gripping stand-alone mystery. Bel, 18, has spent her life haunted by her mother Rachel's disappearance when she was a baby. Rachel was presumed dead, with Bel the only witness—though she remembers nothing. When Bel's family agrees to a true-crime documentary, the impossible happens: Rachel reappears. Her story doesn't quite add up, sending Bel on a dangerous journey to uncover the truth. Is Rachel telling the truth, or is something darker at play? Fans of Jackson's previous works, as well as readers of April Henry and Karen M. McManus, will be hooked by the twists, tension, and genuine family dynamics. Bel's relationships with her parents and extended family are complex and realistic, showing moments of both toughness and vulnerability. While the description of Rachel's experience isn't graphic, the situation is disturbing. The book includes a bit of crude language but avoids sexually explicit content. Recommended for grades 8 and up.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School

Kagawa, Julie 9781368090308 \$17.99 329 p

Lightningborn, Storm Dragons #1 Disney Hyperion, 2024

Remy is poor and just trying to survive life in the slums. Gem is royalty, and wants to be a true mage. The world is ending, but there's a dragon! Fun action/adventure and heroic character arc. Recommended for middle grade readers. No sex, drugs, cussing, rock-and-roll. Lots of magic.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Aarene Storms, Everett Public Library

Kelly, Erin Entrada 9780063337312 \$19.99 272 p.

The First State of Being Greenwillow Books, 2024

The First State of Being by Erin Entrada Kelly blends time travel, self-discovery, and the challenges of adolescence. Set during the Y2K scare in August 1999, the story follows 12-year-old Michael Rosario, whose uneventful life at Fox Run Apartments in Delaware changes when he meets Ridge, a confident teen from the future and the world's first time traveler. Ridge's fascination with 1999's technology contrasts with Michael's growing obsession with Ridge's future-forecasting book, which holds the key to the next 20 years. As Michael yearns for control over his future, he faces tough questions about fate, friendship, and risk. While the time travel element adds excitement, the heart of the story is Michael's emotional journey. Readers who have ever felt unsure of themselves or longed for control will relate to him. Fans of When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead will enjoy this heartfelt coming-of-age story with a speculative twist. Kelly even dedicates the book to The Laughing Man from Stead's novel. Highly recommended for middle school, The First State of Being delivers an imaginative and touching story that will resonate with young readers.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School

Khan, Hena 978-1-5344-9765-8 \$17.99 130 p.

Zara's Rules for Living Your Best Life, Zara's Rules #3 Simon & Schuster, 2023 It's Spring Break, and Zara and her brother are spending the week with their grandparents. Naano recently retired and Zara is worried that he won't find stimulating hobbies and stay busy. Zara does her best to make the week fun and exciting for everyone involved. This is the third book of the series, however it was easy to pick up on the diverse array of characters and setting that populate Zara's life, even without having read any of the preceding titles. Occasionally the illustrations did not match the descriptions in the text, but this is a minor complaint. Khan's writing reflects Khan's Pakistani-American background and will engage the target audience. Recommended for Elementary and Public Libraries.

Recommended Audience: Too young for YA

Raina Sedore, Lacey & Hawks Prairie (Timberland Library)

Korman, Gordon 978-1-338-82675-3 \$17.99 224 p.

Faker (ARC) Scholastic Press, 2024

Trey, his father, and his younger sister move from town to town conning wealthy families. They have different names every time, but dad is always "Junior" and Trey is always "Trey." When it looks like they've been discovered, the codeword "Houdini" from dad means they drop everything and flee. After a pedigree show dog scam breaks down, instead of enrolling Trey in another ritzy private school to find likely victims, dad enrolls him into a public school with students from a wealthy neighborhood and a less-wealthy one. Junior knows a guy who builds him an eye-catching electric sports car and starts selling shares in the non-existent car company. Trey's always hated leaving behind all of his friends. Now some new friends whose families can't afford to be scammed and a class that forces him to think about the ethics of what he's doing have him questioning their life and his role in it. Korman is in

his usual fine form in a cinematic fast-moving story that still builds a world and characters you can care about.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes Sarah Hunt, Kirkland (KCLS)

Lee-Yun, Jenna 9781368099073 \$17.99 342 p.

Last Rhee Witch, The, The Last Rhee Witch #1 Disney Hyperion, 2024
On her 12th birthday, Ronnie starts speaking in rhyme. She can't help it, so her dad shipsher off to summer camp, hoping she'll get over it. At least her best friend, Jack is here; But who's this new kid trying to take him away from her? She goes into the woods and meets a ghost and her cat, her familiar. They warn her that an evil being is haunting her. Olivia, her new camp friend tries to help her, but Ronnie doesn't want to put her in danger. She meets three witches who know her from her past, and she starts remembering more and more and begins to understand her life isn't necessarily what she thought it was. The plot is compelling and the characters are easy to love. So many surprises all the way to the end. Recommended for middle school. Very clean.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Levithan, David 978-0-593-70697-8 \$19.99 263 p. **Wide Awake Now** Alfred A. Knopf, 2024

I recommend this book for high school and up. There is one on page spicy scene, but the descriptions are not detailed. It could be in middle school although I am not sure it would appeal. The story takes place in a not far off future but definitely in the somewhat future where things like a religious movement for tolerance and peace and disposal of the electoral college leads to a more inclusive society and the first gay Jewish president elect. The main character Duncan is Jewish and gay, and his boyfriend Jimmy is BIPOC, and their group of friends are supporters of Stein, the new president elect. My favorite sentence is on page 26 where Duncan and his boyfriend Jimmy are finding solace in their school's library because their librarian is the "...wonderful kind of librarian who loved her kids even more than she loved her books." I can relate to that on most days (but not days when the said kids are lying to my face or trying to eat Flaming Hot Cheetos in the corner). And right now with the election close at hand all our libraries could be havens of safety for students of all beliefs and identities, so this is a pretty important story for public educators to explore. The governor of Kansas challenges the results demanding a recount and that turns into a nation wide protest that brings millions, including Duncan, Jimmy, and their friends, to Topeka for the protest. While at the protest Jimmy's birthday is celebrated and that scene is very sweet. Levithan knows how to write those, ten out of ten. I like the idea that being live and in person is powerful and something more real than staring at a screen, and keeps people unified. After all we are not the divided states of america, DSA? That has no ring to it. Reading this book affirms the need for all of us to find common ground, kindness, and civility. After all that makes up the word civilization. Does it not?

Recommended Audience: High School Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School Matson, Morgan 9781481499019 \$19.99 388 p.

The Ballad of Darcy and Russell Simon & Schuster, 2024

Darcy is a romance girl. She believes in fate and love at first sight and the magical moment when you meet the right guy and just know that this is forever love. Darcy's current reality, however, is that she is stuck at a bus station with a dead phone after being abandoned by her kind of friend at a music festival. She saw her favorite band (she's named after one of their songs!) but at what cost now? She's supposed to be home in time to leave for college with her dad! Then she meets Russell. The next 24 hours are a whirlwind romance that hits our favorite genre beats and reads like an early 2000s Disney Channel original in the best way. Includes explicit discussion of virginity and consent, but no sex on the page.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

McGinnis, Mindy 9780063230415 \$19.99 323 p.

Under This Red Rock Katherine Tegen Books, 2024

Neely, her mother and her brother can hear voices. Mom died in a car crash and Neely watched her die. Brother committed suicide, leaving a note saying "I can't manage". There is no money for Neely to receive counseling for either of these things, or her mental illness. She is a loner, not being able to completely distinguish between what is real and what is not. She hovered with a knife over a sleeping girl when she was in 1st grade. She may have killed her pet cat. But when the girl she loves is brutally tortured and slain after their night together, she can't really be sure if she murdered her or not. She has no recollection. McGinnis reveals the torturous life of a person with untreated schizophrenia. Language, discrete and mostly off-page sex scenes, but many disturbing stories and images.

Recommended Audience: High School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Patel, Sajni 978-1-368-09268-5 \$18.99 393 p.

A Drop of Venom, Venom #1 Hyperion, 2024

Girl runs from slaughter during war, separated from her family. It turns out she is Nagini, from the snake people. An Assault on her makes her angry and she gains powers much like a Medusa. Meanwhile, the Slayer, a boy who was torn from his family is sent to kill her... HS for content

Recommended Audience: High School Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Potter, Ellen 9781665910422 \$17.99 255 p.

The Golden Imaginarium, Hither & Nigh #2 Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2023 Second in a Series, but was easy to read and follow as a standalone. Nell's brother has been missing for three years, and everyone wants her to give up on her. When she and a few other students are given the option of taking a class or getting expelled, she joins in, only to find out their teacher is a magician who wants to train them in the magical arts (using chop sticks). She knows somehow that this will lead her to finding her brother. It is a fun/safe fantasy adventure novel, which involves the students visiting a magical land (a little too

Alice in Wondery for my taste), although I really enjoyed the characters and the surprising twists the plot takes.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Reintgen, Scott 9781665961462 \$18.99 384 p.

The Last Dragons on Mars, The Dragonships #1 (ARC) Aladdin, 2024

Orphan Lunar Jones is a scavenger, working hard on the surface of Mars to earn enough to support himself and the other orphans. When he accidentally joins forces with a secret group of space-faring dragon riders, finding lunch money becomes the last of his worries. Excellent characters, action, betrayal, and dragons! Recommended for middle- and high school readers.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS **Recommend to Evergreen? Yes** Aarene Storms, Everett Public Library

Van Name, Sarah 9780593646175 \$19.99 318 p.

These Bodies Between Us Delacorte Press, 2024

Callie and her two best friends, Talia and Cleo have spent every summer together in their small coastal home town in North Carolina, and during each of their summers, they have spent their time learning a new skill like roller skating or scrapbooking. For this summer, their summer going into senior year, they are joined by Cleo's new friend Polly, and the girls decide to spend their summer together learning to be invisible. While at first, turning invisible helps the girls escape their problems like intense moms, abusive boyfriends, and the pressure of being a teenage girl with a body, it becomes harder and harder to resist the temptation of disappearing forever. While set in a nostalgic summer story, this book has some very heavy plot lines that include disordered eating, abusive relationships, and race. Recommended for high school.

Recommended Audience: High School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

Webb, Christine 9781682636015 \$18.99 311 p.

Shooting for Stars (ARC) Peachtree Teen, 2024

Skyler Davidson is determined to finish her mother's research on neutron stars and devoting her life to science. When NASA offers an internship open to teenagers, she sees her chance. There are some problems though, namely, her dad says no, and she needs to submit a video as her entry, something Skyler is really not prepared to do. A good scientist knows when it is time to seek out an expert, so she turns to a boy from the AV club to help her. Although Skyler really has only had her research subjects (they are NOT pet rats) as company, Skyler quickly bonds with Cooper and their bond begins to turn to more. With the help of Cooper and her dad's new beauty YouTuber girlfriend, will Skyler get to go to space? Or is space not all it is cut out to be both literally and figuratively?

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

Weymouth, Laura E. 9781665926836 \$19.99 320 p.

The Voice Upstairs Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2023

Wilhelmina Price has few friends in her small town of Thrush's Green. Since her mother's death, neighbors avoid her and her reputation for predicting deaths—she can see souls leaving just before someone dies. When a housemaid at the wealthy Summerfield estate drowns in the mill pond, just like Wil's mother, she takes a job there to investigate. Edison, the Summerfield's youngest son and Wil's childhood friend, confides that he believes he's being haunted by the ghost of his older brother, Peter, who died in the war. Together, Wil and Edison uncover dangerous secrets about the Summerfield family that could threaten their future. The Voice Upstairs is equal parts spooky and cozy—a quiet historical supernatural mystery with a sweet romance. It's a bit like Downton Abbey meets The Others. The relationship between Edison and Wil, rooted in close friendship, is tender and layered, with both characters feeling realistic and imperfect. While the book includes a couple of big twists, readers need to appreciate historical details to enjoy the story fully. Recommend this to those who enjoy turn-of-the-century romance mixed with séances and ghostly intrigue.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS Heather Goude, McKnight Middle School

Wilkinson, Lili 9780593562703 \$19.99 406 p.

Deep is the Fen Delacorte Press, 2024

Merry likes things the way they are in her small town. She likes that magic is illegal (her gift of seeing magic is definitely not magic). She likes her friends. She likes her school. She hates the witches. She hates the Toadmen and their weird traditions (even if they make her Da happy), and most of all she hates fancy rich boy Caraway Boswell (even if he is handsome). Merry's whole world is turned upside down when her best friend Teddy decides to join the Toadmen and she along with Caraway Boswell end up in a race to save Teddy, their town, and maybe even the whole world. Enemies to lovers, dark fantasy academia set in a muddy toad filled story.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

Yasmin, Seema 978166593440 \$19.99 327 p.

Unbecoming (ARC) Simon & Schuster, 2024

Laylah and Noor are two best friends who want to change the world. Laylah wants to be an OBGYN. Noor wants to be a journalist. They are working on a girl's guide to reproductive health including how to get an abortion if you need one. Except they are Muslim and also live in Texas where abortion access is illegal and also they could get in a huge amount of trouble for all of this. Laylah also has a secret. After their field trip to see the bluebells, the guide is now Laylah's lifeline to her own future, but time is running out. Meanwhile, Noor is getting to the bottom of something fishy that is going down at their mosque. At times funny, informative, and poignant, Unbecoming is a must read.

Recommended Audience: High School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

FICTION - SHRUG

Badua, Tracy 0063217805 \$15.99 320 p.

We're Never Getting Home Quill Tree, 2024

Tracy Badua, Filipino-American award-winning writer, has written mostly middle-grade books, but this one is solidly high school. After two best friends quarrel over time constraints due to boyfriends, Jana feels like senior year is ruined. With all this pressure at home to be "the responsible one" after her mother's car accident and her sister's struggles in college, Jana is looking forward to seeing her favorite band on a one-day pass to a nearby music festival. Nathan, her friend from church, has agreed to drive to the festival but when he arrives with Maddy and Tyler, the best friend and boyfriend who has ruined everything, Jana assumes the night will be a disaster. Her suspicions of disaster are confirmed when Nathan loses his car keys crowd surfing at the beginning of the concert destroying Jana's chances of getting home in time. As Jana and her group search for the keys throughout the night, they find one obstacle after another. From restricted cell service and a troublesome group of fellow concertgoers to interpersonal conflicts and tension, everything seems to stand in the way of their returning home. Despite these difficulties, this night of chaos might be just what Jana needs to confront her often pessimistic outlook and how this perspective influences her relationships with others. Content warnings for drugs and alcohol.

Recommended Audience: High School

Lindsay Ellsworth, North Bend Library (KCLS)

Cotter, Erin 9781665940719 \$21.99 456 p.

By Any Other Name Simon & Schuster, 2023

Set in Shakespeare's time, Actor Will Hughes is down on his luck. No money, no prospects, he's just gotten fired from his acting gig, and his days of playing girls may be well behind him. When his friend Christopher Marlowe is killed, Will finds out his believed friend was a spy for the queen and becomes tangled in the plot to kill her. Meanwhile, a cute lord named James has offered Will the chance to put on a play on the down low because the playhouses have been closed (again). Together the two must figure out the plot against the queen's life, clear the secrets between them, and maybe even fall in love.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

Dalton, Michelle 9781665953085 \$20.99 249 p.

Fifteenth Summer Simon & Schuster, 2024

A classic summer love story for younger teens. Chelsea and her sisters are returning to their family's lake house for the first time since the passing of their beloved grandma. Chelsea is not looking forward to a whole summer processing her feelings about her beloved grandma who gave her her hated red hair, but that all changes when a new bookstore opens in town and she meets the cute boy her age who works there. Will Chelsea and Josh be a love story that lasts forever or will they end in heartbreak at the end of the summer? Originally published in 2013, but rereleased with a cute cartoon cover in 2024.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Mariah Crosby, Cedar Heights Middle School

Dass, Sarah 978-1-368-09833-5 \$18.99 306 p.

It Waits in the Forest Hyperion, 2024

I wish I could recommend this book 100% for high school and up but sadly the most I can give is a shrug. Selina's detective father was murdered and her mother, a revered medium on the island of St. Virgil, is in a coma. Two dead bodies cause tension in the community, and a symbol that connects the recent murders to her father's death cause the police and Selina to start asking questions, and she is swept up in a web of secrets and unexplained phenomena. The writing started out very engaging for me, like with this quote on page 48 "I was beginning to think all ghosts were regrets, and we were the ones who haunted ourselves". The setting also adds to the mystery of the tale with enchanting flora and fauna that borderlines on scary, such as the fruit in a tree that when ripe resembles snake eyes and can cause hallucinations. I The middle of the story gets mired in relationship drama was drawn into the setting and the suspense but unfortunately that was not maintained. The story devolved into relationship drama and predictable plot outcomes so for me a disappointment. I have no idea if students would like it. I would need student feedback to recommend it. I liked this author's previous book which was a rom-com so maybe she should stick to that genre.

Recommended Audience: High School Kathleen Story, Eastlake High School

DeStefano, Lauren 97813680671517 \$18.99 330 p.

The Lost Ones, Dark Ascension #2 Disney Press, 2024

Origin story of Captain Hook. Twins James and Marlene accidentally (after a birthday wish) find themselves in Neverland. Marlene, adventurous and wild and James, thoughtful and careful, meet Peter, the Lost Boys, Cassius (a foil to Peter) and Tinkerbell and the fairies (who really don't like Marlene). The twins are separated between Peter (who definitely has a dark side) and Cassius, who thinks Peter has too much power, largely because Neverland causes them to forget their former selves and their former lives. The fighting can get brutal. The story is mostly fun, but can overstate and repeat the obvious.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Diacon-Furtado, Quinn 0063318199 \$19.99 336 p.

The Lilies (ARC) HarperTeen, 2024

At Archwell Academy, young women are prepared for successful futures. Among them, none are more esteemed than the legacy members of the Lilies Society. However, there is a troubling issue: Lilies often go missing. When four seniors find themselves trapped in a closet after the latest disappearance, they are forced to confront their darkest memories from the recent Founders' Day celebration. The story unfolds through alternating perspectives—those of the four trapped students caught in a time loop and a voice from the past. Drew, the newest legacy and the first non-binary student at Archwell, holds a Lilies ring inherited from her grandmother but struggles to gain acceptance from the group. Rory, the daughter of Chancellor Archwell, and Blythe are legacy students and former romantic partners. Vero, a Latinx legacy student who is pursuing artistic activism under the persona

of Malcriada, recently referred to the Chancellor as a TERF. Together, they must unravel the mystery of Charlotte's disappearance. As they relive the same day in this dark Groundhog Day-like time loop, they must uncover the past and reveal the secrets of the Lilies. Content warnings: death, drug use, outing, transphobia, and minor mentions of mass/school shootings.

Recommended Audience: High School

Lindsay Ellsworth, North Bend Library (KCLS)

Gratton, Tessa and Justina Ireland 9781368093811 \$18.99 454 p.

Lucasfilm Press, 2024

Defy the Storm, Star Wars: The High Republic

Set in the High Republic, before the fall of the Jedi, this book has characters from other High Republic novels, which make some of the details a bit confusing, but the familiar Star Wars attributes of friendship, loyalty and the struggle for good over evil, coupled with characters who may not be honest about which side they are on, make this a fun read. It might not be the best entry-level Star Wars novel, but you get caught up in the action right away. An evil civilization (the Nihil) destroys a star station and is trying to take over the galaxy. They have created a Convergence zone where they keep their captives, create evil beings and torment them. A rescue is attempted to rescue a lost padawan.

Recommended Audience: High School

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Wen, Abigail Hing 9780063297999 \$19.99 392 p.

Loveboat Forever, Loveboat, Taipei #3 HarperTeen, 2023

This third book in the Loveboat trilogy focuses on Pearl, the younger sister of the main character, Ever, from the first book. Pearl, a genius pianist, is headed to a famous musician summer camp when a social media fiasco gets her booted out of said camp. Her manager suggests she lays low, and Pearl decides to fly to Taipei for a cultural camp. Its nickname is Loveboat because so many of the campers "hook up" there. Pearl, however, just wants to fade in the background. She ends up befriending twins, who live across the dorm from her and encourage her to break out of her shell. She also meets handsome Ethan, a well-known violinist, and snobby Kai, a musician who used to play a pipa (peepa). This book can be a standalone, and has a lot packed into it (LGBTQ, consent, racism, family, friends, social media, new tech, and more!).

Recommended Audience: High School JJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library (KCLS)

FICTION - NOT RECOMMENDED

Portes, Andrea 975-0-06-242247-7 \$19.99 348 p.

Creeping Beauty HarperTeen, 2023

Bitsy may be a princess, but she's constantly hearing what a disappointment she is. What she is expected to do is sit around and wait for a prince to give her a happily ever after. When she pricks her finger on a spindle, she falls into a deep sleep and wakes up in another world. Now she's have to figure out how to fight for herself and make her way home. This fairy tale retelling falls flat. While it has a strong start, it quickly becomes haphazard in the

storytelling. While Bitsy has a strong voice as the narrator, she also can come across as extremely annoying at times. There is also the fact that the end of the book feels like a set up for a sequel when there is none, and it's supposed to be a stand alone novel. Not Recommended.

Recommended Audience: High School Elizabeth Kalen, White Center Library (KCLS)

GRAPHIC NOVELS - RECOMMENDED

De Pins, Arthur 978-1-68112-317-2 \$24.99 104 p.

Zombillenium - Black Friday (#5) and Sabbath Grand Derby (#6) NBM, 2023

There is an amusement park run by demons, two of which are exes of our main character. She is a witch and when the demons and zombies at the park stop scaring and begin actually killing visitors to the park to claim their souls, she steps in to compete to win a contest that will allow her to save them. Definitely high school, if not adult. Nothing explicit on page, so okay there, but people are dying left and right. OK, didn't have context of earlier stuff.

Recommended Audience: High School Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Good, David and Flux 1681123304 \$19.99 216 p.

Good: From the Amazon Jungle to Suburbia and Back NBM, 2024

A beautifully crafted graphic novel memoir that will appeal to high school students, adults, and mature middle-schoolers. Author David Good recounts his life as the son of an American anthropologist father and an indigenous Yanomami mother. Life begins for David and his siblings deep in the Amazonian rainforest. When his family relocates to the U.S. his mother intensely misses her tribal home. On the way home from a family vacation to visit the tribe, she runs back into the forest abandoning her husband and small children. David struggles into adolescence and adulthood with alcohol. Years later, with the help of his girlfriend Mary, he forgives his mother and goes to the Amazon to reunite. He is the founder and executive director of The Good Project, a nonprofit service organization dedicated to the education, health care, and preservation of indigenous groups in South and Central America. Co-authored by award winning artist and storyteller, FLuX, the book runs black and white until David is reunited with his mother in the Amazon rainforest. There is some debate about the ethics of David's father as an anthropologist who took an underage Yanomami wife.

Recommended Audience: High School

Lindsay Ellsworth, North Bend Library (KCLS)

Ostertag, Molly Knox 9781338839999 \$16.99 480 p.

The Deep Dark (ARC) Graphix, 2024

Mags works at a diner and is a teacher while taking care of her abuela. She has relationships but can't have anything deeper because of her secret: she was born with a monster who is locked in a cage in her abuela's basement. When her childhood friend Nessa comes back into town, Mags realizes maybe the monster isn't what it seems. Nessa is a

trans woman, and Mags is lesbian. There are some interesting twists, and the love story is sweet. There are hints of sex and under age drinking.

Recommended Audience: High School

Recommend to Evergreen? YesJJ Higgins, Kingsgate Library (KCLS)

Ostertag, Molly Knox 978-1-338-83999-9 \$16.99 480 p.

The Deep Dark (ARC) Graphix, 2024

Magdalena doesn't hang out with many people, staying to herself, because of a secret at her house. When her friend Nessa returns from being gone for years, they get close again and Mags' secret begins to weigh on her and threaten to come out. Good, MS/HS, artwork is cool and Mags is a fully fleshed out character.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS **Recommend to Evergreen? Yes** Michael Fleming, Juanita High School

Smith, Sherri L. 9781338029420 \$12.99 132 p.

Pearl (ARC) Graphix, 2024

Hawaii, 1941. 13-year-old Amy is sent to Japan to care for an ailing grandparent and gets stuck there when war is declared after Pearl Harbor Day. In Japan, Amy is conscripted into the Japanese radio translation service in Hiroshima, and is there on the day the bomb is dropped. Flashbacks and family stories of strong pearl-diving women help Amy survive and untangle her loyalties. Final artwork should be beautiful.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS **Recommend to Evergreen? Yes** Aarene Storms, Everett Public Library

GRAPHIC NOVELS - SHRUG

Booth, Molly Horton 978-1-36806463-7 \$14.99 158 p.

King Cheer, Arden High #2 Hyperion, 2024

This full-color graphic novel is the second in the Arden High series that follows up Twelfth Grade Night. Leah has it all going on during her senior year at Arden High School as captain of the Falcons cheerleading squad until she gets waitlisted for her dream college, Dover University. Deciding she needs to focus on getting into college rather than stress about cheerleading, Leah turns over the squad leadership to the twins, Gabe and Rae. A loose retelling of Shakespeare's King Lear, the plot follows many different typical high school hijinks with a side of fairies that can control the weather. The biggest plus for this novel is the representation of LGBTQIA+ characters who read very realistic albeit a bit stereotypical.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Bowers, Geneva 978-1-5476-1119-5 \$17.99 240 p.

HoverGirls (ARC) Bloomsbury, 2024

20-something cousins Kim and Jalissa move to LA (Los Aguaceros) to strike out on their own, then discover they have magic powers they can use to fight the mysterious ghostly floating sea creatures plaguing the city. The cousins' back stories are gradually revealed, though their characters remain poorly fleshed out. Jalissa is rich, cynical, and numbs her violent side with soap operas; Kim is poor, gratingly optimistic, and tries to fix everyone around her (including Jalissa) to her own detriment. It's a riff on the Magical Girl genre with black, Hispanic, and LGBTQ representation that might be more enjoyable if you've watched a ton of Sailor Moon (I haven't). Events, relationships, motivations, and ghostly sea creatures seem to appear out of nothing for no particular reason. Based on a webcomic that the promotional copy says was popular, so buy if you have existing fans. Otherwise a Shrug.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Sarah Hunt, Kirkland (KCLS)

NONFICTION - RECOMMENDED

Church, Dana L. 978-1338749229 \$19.99 320 p.

The Monarch Effect: Surviving Poison, Predators, and People (ARC)

Scholastic Focus, 2024

A fascinating narrative nonfiction book (part of the Scholastic Focus series) that hits the sweet spot of middle grade readers in topic, interest, and length. Monarch butterflies might be tiny insects, but they take a long and dangerous migration to Michoacán, Mexico. Following the work of scientists in Canada and the US, readers uncover the tremendous complexity of these orange and black beauties. The indigenous communities in Mexico along with citizen scientists help with tracking, monitoring, and observing the butterflies. This book is jam packed with photographs, maps, diagrams, glossary, and a giant reference section. In addition, the complex vocabulary is bolded and defined throughout the chapters.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Eger, Dr. Edith Eva 9781665952552 \$18.99 178 p.

The Ballerina of Auschwitz (ARC) Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2024 The Best thing about this Holocaust Memoir rewritten for a YA audience is how it rings true to adolescent perceptions of the world. It is gritty, but not gratuitous. The family is definitely dysfunctional, not saintly, but there are moments of great love between them. She has a boyfriend at 15 and they are seriously talking about fleeing to Palestine together. She has so many questions about her own body and what physical relations between a man and a woman are. Her experience in Auschwitz and her march as a prisoner is excruciating, yet gently told. The story doesn't end with her rescue. Her long recovery is detailed as well, peppered with love and courage.

Recommended Audience: High School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Fleming, Candace 978-1338749571 \$19.99 384 p.

The Enigma Girls: How Ten Teenagers Broke Ciphers, Kept Secrets, and Helped Win World War II (ARC) Scholastic Focus, 2024

Hundreds of teenage girls were called to England's Bletchley Park, code Name Station X, to help decode important messages in World War II. This narrative nonfiction book focuses on ten out of the thousands of women, known as the Wrens, who worked around the clock to operate Enigma Machines in secret - breaking ciphers and translating many encrypted messages to aid in defeating the Nazis. Short chapters with stunning photos, source notes, and an expansive index will make this a compelling read for young adults.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS **Recommend to Evergreen? Yes** Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Hakim, Joy 978-1536222937 \$22.99 192 p.

Biology's Beginnings, Discovering Life's Story #1 MITeen Press, 2023

Volume One of a 4-book series, this nonfiction book scratches the surface of major discoveries in life sciences, as well as insight into technology that aided these discoveries. Hakim highlights people, places, and fun facts that will captivate young readers. Spanning hundreds of years from the Islamic Golden Age to the late 1800's, readers will find detailed diagrams and primary source photographs in every chapter. A rich and stunning look at a field that influences our lives to this day.

Recommended Audience: Middle School

Recommend to Evergreen? YesHeidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Keith Jr., Tony 978-0063296008 \$19.99 352 p.

How the Boogeyman Became a Poet Katherine Tegen Books, 2024

This novel in verse was dubbed "A life-affirming masterpiece" by THE Jason Reynolds - and I couldn't agree more. Tony Keith's memoir begins in the spring of 1999 in Washington DC. Although his homelife is stressful with a single mom that works multiple jobs, Keith has friends, a girlfriend, a knack for writing poetry, and a boogeyman of self-doubt that has followed him for years. He begins to question his sexuality as he nears college and he finds writing and performing his poems helps him to uncover his authentic self. Short chapters interspersed with photographs and actual poems Keith wrote in a notebook, this is a page-turner that many young readers will relate with today.

Recommended Audience: High School **Recommend to Evergreen? Yes** Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Ogle, Rex 978-1324019923 \$18.99 272 p.

Road Home (ARC) Norton Young Readers, 2024

Ogle caps his three book series (following up Free Lunch and Punching Bag) with a haunting story of how he was thrown out on the streets of Alabama the summer after he graduated from high school by his abusive father. Armed with the dream of Ann Rices's Interview With a Vampire he heads out to New Orleans to see a cute boy he has just met on a vacation in Florida named Russell. Ogle's just got his truck, a bit of cash and a small duffle bag - so it isn't long before he has to shack up with Russell who happens to be much older

than him. When things turn toxic, he spends quite a bit of time on the streets. An honestly brutal look at Ogle's time in New Orleans where he struggles to find himself and find a home, readers will rejoice when they read the very hopeful ending. Highly recommended for high school.

Recommended Audience: High School

Recommend to Evergreen? Yes

Heidi Bush, Northshore Middle School

Ogle, Rex 1324019921 \$18.99 272 p.

Road Home (ARC) Norton Young Readers, 2024

The final chapter in Rex Ogle's memoir trilogy. At 17, Rex met a charming older boy in the ocean. Running into each other again at the Pensacola resort where they were staying, Rex leaves with his first kiss, Russell's number, and an open invitation to visit Russell in New Orleans someday. Then, while living with his father, finally away from his abusive mother and stepfather, and missing his caring abuela, Rex realizes he has been outed by his stepsister. At a lazy afternoon barbeque, his father suddenly gives him an ultimatum: Rex can remain at home if he agrees to go to therapy (and pay for it himself), attend church weekly, date a girl chosen by his dad, and avoid any "person of homosexual persuasion." He tries to explain his sexuality is not a choice, but he was 18 and his father had made up his mind. Terrified to face his highly religious abuela, Rex is forced to leave and heads toward the only other gay person he knows, Russell. Rex soon finds himself in a toxic and abusive relationship with the older man. So, he ends up on the streets of New Orleans unhoused and penniless. On the street, Rex navigates abuse and trauma and ultimately what it means to survive. Content warnings: homophobia, rape/sexual assault on page, homelessness, drug use, violence, suicidal thoughts, and abuse.

Recommended Audience: High School

Lindsay Ellsworth, North Bend Library (KCLS)

Roland, James 9781678207366 \$32.95 64 p.

Move: How Physical Activity Helps Maintain Mental Health Reference Point Press, 2024 Definitely a research book with index, suggestions for more research or help both written and electronic. Information is solid, but repetitive, if not preachy.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

Walker, Tracy Sue 979-8-7656-0912-5 \$11.83 32 p.

Bionic Animals Lerner Publication Group, 2024

Rescued animals receive bionic limbs, beaks and fins to help them survive. Animals with prosthetics include an elephant, bald eagle and dolphin, and of course, dogs and cats. This book will fly off the shelves of my junior high library. The pictures are compelling and the information is clear and sound. The reading level is lower, which will appeal to my struggling readers. I would really like to recommend it to the Evergreen Committee, but it would be a better fit for the Towner Award. Would be good for grades 3 through 8.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

NONFICTION - SHRUG

Nardo, Don 978-1-6782-0728-1 \$32.36 64 p.

Exploring Egyptian Mythology Reference Point Press, 2024

This is a very solid research book, with footnotes, endnotes, a glossary and index, as well as lists to tell where to look for more information on the subject. It does summarize some of the Egyptian myths, but with a scholarly air instead of a storytelling one. It explains a lot about Egyptian gods and some goddesses, but also in a flat, non provocative way. A great resource for your library, but not one many will flock to unless they have an assignment. It needs a graphic showing the pantheon, naming and stating what they are the god of.

Recommended Audience: Middle School Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High

NONFICTION - NOT RECOMMENDED

Scher, Amy B. 9781426223501 \$30.00 301 p.

Out in the World: an LGBTQIA+ (and friends!) travel guide to more than 120

*destinations around the world*National Geographic, 2024

An adult travel guide, not for teens.

Recommended Audience: Too old for YA Aarene Storms, Everett Public Library

SERIES NONFICTION - RECOMMENDED

Currie-McGhee, Leanne 9781678205546 \$33.95 64 p.

How Do I Get a Job? Guide to Financial Responsibility Reference Point Press, 2024 Very informative and easy to read. It told how jobs might be easy to get if you "know" somebody, but is hard work. It starts by helping students think about the kind of job they are skilled for and may enjoy, how to fill out an application and create a resume and cover letter. It offers many online resources for creating resumes and looking for work. Requires research in the company before applying, how to juggle multiple applications and interviews, even how to negotiate for pay or schedule after the student has been hired.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High Library

Currie-McGhee, Leanne 9781678205560 \$33.95 64 p.

How Do I Start a Business? Guide to Financial Responsibility Reference Point Press, 2024 This book had a lot of information, though some of it was necessarily vague due to different laws in different states. It starts out telling young people that they are the perfect age to start a business and tales of young people starting online, then becoming LLC's or official companies later. The rest of the book makes starting a business look really hard and complicated and a lot of work: writing a business plan, getting investors, marketing, etc. It is very thorough and offers many references for finding out more information.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High Library

Mooney, Carla 9781678205522 \$33.95 64 p.

How Do Credit Cards and Loans Work? Guide to Financial Responsibility Reference Point Press, 2024

Very thorough, again with great references. Clears up confusing ideas like simple interest vs. compound interest, open-end vs. closed end loans, secured vs. unsecured loans and debt to income ratios. It describes the reasons for and against using loans and strategies for paying down multiple loans.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High Library

Mooney, Carla 9781678205607 \$33.95 64 p.

Should I go to College? Guide to Financial Responsibility Reference Point Press, 2024 Exceptional information for a junior/senior in high school. Lots of good information about college versus other options, and other options are plentiful and weighed fairly against the traditional college route, including information about gap years, junior college, trade schools, military, online options, apprenticeships and more. The juniors and seniors I teach really need this information. Not great for a front to back read-through, but great to read a chapter at a time, then look at the resources provided under each topic, books, websites, organizations, very thorough,

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High Library

Streissguth, Tom 9781678205584 \$33.95 64 p.

How Does Investing Work? Guide to Financial Responsibility Reference Point Press, 2024 Students (and their parents, and even teachers!) should read this book. I've never had Bitcoin explained to me so clearly. And I have a much better idea of how stocks and bonds work. This book is thorough, clear, and not repetitive. Very good. Good for 5th grade and up (including adults!) Definitely a research book with index, suggestions for more research or help both written and electronic.

Recommended Audience: HS & MS

Melissa Menti, Mount Baker Junior/Senior High Library