

Rising 8th Grade | Summer 2019



The Last Voyage of Poe Blythe by Allyson Condie

A teen captain of her Outpost's last mining ship targets a band of thieving river raiders before the activities of an unknown traitor make her question how far she is willing to go for revenge.



Darius the Great Is Not Okay by Adib Khorram

A Persian-American youth who prefers pop culture to the traditions of his mixed family struggles with clinical depression and the misunderstandings of older relatives while bonding with a boy who helps him embrace his Iranian heritage.



Ebb & Flow by Heather Smith

After a horrible year in a new town, Jett returns to the coast to spend the summer with his grandmother. He reexamines his actions of the past year that led him to the betrayal of a friend and a shameful secret he hasn't forgiven himself for.



Field Notes on Love by Jennifer E. Smith

Embarking on what was supposed to be a romantic cross-country train journey with his girlfriend, a dumped boy sells his spare ticket to a girl devastated by a rejection from her college of choice, an arrangement that opens up new perspectives about

their futures.



The List by Patricia Forde

Letta, charged with collecting and saving words, uncovers a sinister plan to suppress language, robbing the people of Ark of the power of speech, and realizes she must also save the culture, itself.



Listen to Your Heart by Kasie West

When Kate Bailey let her best friend, Alana, talk her into joining their high school's podcast she did not expect to find herself as the host, or to enjoy answering calls and giving advice on the air, but she is actually pretty good at it. When she gets an anonymous call from a boy about his secret

feelings for a girl, she is faced with a problem.



Resistance by Jennifer A. Nielsen

After a smuggling mission to an isolated Jewish ghetto goes wrong and her colleagues are arrested, Chaya Lindner, a Jewish girl living in Nazioccupied Poland, decides to go to Warsaw, where an uprising is in the works.



After the Shot Drops by Randy Ribay

Bunny takes a basketball scholarship to an elite private school to help his family, leaving behind Nasir, his best friend, in their tough Philadelphia neighborhood.



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Live in Infamy by Caroline Tung Richmond

It has been eighty years since the Axis won World War II, and America was divided between the victors: the Nazis in the East and Imperial Japan in the West. Now resistance is growing in the Eastern territories and sixteen-year-old Chinese American Ren Cabot, who

has every reason to hate the Japanese who executed his mother, finds himself drawn into a resistance group and confronted with choices that could lead to freedom--or death.



Alice: From Dream to Dream by Giulio Macaione

When her family moves back to Ohio, Alice, who can enter other people's dreams, tries to get to the bottom of the secrets in her small hometown. This is an otherworldly trek into a spectacular world of dreams,

nightmares, and being a teenager. Graphic Novel



The Last Girl on Earth by Alexandra Blogier

An only surviving human on a nearfuture Earth taken over by supernatural aliens struggles to pass herself off as an alien and reconcile herself to life with her adoptive alien family before falling in love in potentially disastrous ways.



The Scorpio Races by Maggie Stiefvater

Returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, both trying to keep hold of their dangerous water horses long enough to make it to the finish line. Published 2011.



The Owls Have Come to Take Us Away by Ronald L. Smith

After something strange happens during a camping trip, twelve-yearold alien-obsessed Simon suspects he has been abducted, but was it real or just his overactive imagination?



Meet the Sky by McCall Hoyle

A prospective veterinary student determined to support her mother and sister in the aftermath of a disabling accident is separated from her family during a hurricane evacuation and trapped on the Outer Banks with a reckless boy who once broke her heart.





The Prince and the Dressmaker by Jen Wang

When Prince Sebastian confides in his dressmaker friend Frances that he loves to masquerade at night as the fashionable Lady Crystallia, Frances must decide if Sebastian's secret is worth a lifetime of living in the shadows. Graphic Novel

The Unteachables by Gordon Korman

A notorious class of misfits, delinquents and academic underachievers, isolated away from the rest of their school, embark on a year of unexpected changes with a burned-out teacher who has been shattered by a cheating scandal. By the author of *Restart*.

All books published 2018-2019 unless otherwise noted. Summaries written by publishers with modifications as needed.

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Five Feet Apart by Rachael Lippincott

A teen on the waiting list for a lung transplant faces an impossible choice when her infection risks prevent her from getting within five feet of the boy she loves, a fellow patient who is determined to experience life outside the hospital. Movie tie-in.



Swing by Kwame Alexander

Noah and his best friend Walt want to become cool, make the baseball team, and win over Sam, the girl Noah has loved for years. When Noah finds old love letters, Walt hatches a plan to woo Sam.



Not If I Save You First by Ally Carter

Six years ago Maddie lived in Washington D.C. with her father, a Secret Service agent assigned to the President's family, and her best friend was Logan, the President's son; but after her father was wounded in an attempted kidnapping the two of them moved

to a remote cabin in Alaska and Logan never replied to her letters.



Braced by Alyson Gerber

When Rachel learns that she will need to wear a back brace to keep her spine straight, she is afraid that she will not be able to play soccer and terrified that she will not be able to hide her condition from her friends and classmates.

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Love from A to Z by S. K. Ali

Suspended for standing up against a teacher's hate speech, a Muslim teen visits her aunt in Qatar, where she bonds with a motherless young man who is attempting to hide his multiple sclerosis diagnosis from his grieving father.





Chocolate: Sweet Science & Dark Secrets of the World's Favorite Treat by Kay Frydenborg

Fans of *The Omnivore's Dilemma* will savor this decadent exposé. Enjoy an indepth journey through chocolate's

earliest uses in Mesoamerica, its meteoric rise in Western society, the slave labor practices that have historically enabled (and continue to enable) the chocolate industry to thrive, and the modern science used to help sustain our chocolate habit.



The Elephant Whisperer: My Life with the Herd in the African Wild by Lawrence Anthony

by Lawrence Antnony Adapted for middle-grade readers, an

account of an acclaimed conservationist's efforts to save a rogue herd of elephants

in spite of his limited experience describes how he gave them a home in his South Africa reserve and endeavored to provide what was required for their survival.



Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, and Getting It Done by Andrea Gonzales

The two teens behind the video game "Tampon Run" share the story of their experience with the organization Girls Who Code and their rise to fame, sharing

insider perspectives into today's startups, the influence of women in technology, and the power of coding.



Americanized: Rebel without a Green Card

by Sara Saedi Learning as a teenager that her Iranian family is undocumented, 13-year-old, straight-A student Sara Saedi juggles the challenges of trying to obtain a green

card with the stressful realities of being an everyday American teen.



Shoe Dog: a Memoir by the Creator of Nike by Philip H. Knight

The founder and CEO of Nike shares the story of the company's early days as an intrepid startup and its evolution to one of the world's most iconic and profitable brands, offering insights into how he envisioned a company that

would be run in atypical ways.



The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie: a Doll's History and Her Impact on Us by Tanya Lee Stone

Examines how the Barbie doll became the icon that she is and the impact she has had on our culture through passionate anecdotes and

memories from a range of girls and women.



Boots on the Ground: America's War in Vietnam by Elizabeth Partridge

An exploration of the Vietnam War from many different perspectives including those of an American soldier, a nurse, and a Vietnamese refugee.



Spooked!: How a Radio Broadcast and "The War of the Worlds" Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America by Gail Jarrow

Describes the panic induced when listeners believed Orson Welles' radio

broadcast of "The War of the Worlds" to be news of an alien invasion, discussing the context in which the broadcast was aired and why it was so convincing.





It's Trevor Noah: Born a Crime Stories from a South African childhood; Adapted for Young Readers

by Trevor Noah The comedian traces his coming of age

during the twilight of apartheid in South Africa and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed, offering insight into the farcical aspects of the political and social systems of today's world.



Just Mercy: A True Story of the Fight for Justice; Adapted for Young Adults by Bryan Stevenson

Just Mercy shares stories from the author's work as a lawyer and social advocate to reveal how racial and class biases in America are leading to false

convictions and mass incarcerations.



(Don't) Call Me Crazy: 33 Voices Start the Conversation About Mental Health by Kelly Jensen

Essays, lists, poems and art explore the ways 33 best-selling authors and

celebrity contributors have coped with and thrived in the face of mental illness, in an anthology that includes entries by Kristen Bell, Nancy Kerrigan and Libba Bray.



The Beloved World of Sonia Sotomayor

by Sonia Sotomayor The first Hispanic Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court traces her childhood ambition to become a lawyer and judge, her battle with juvenile diabetes, the economic roadblocks that challenged

her goals, and the importance of how she learned to dream big.



Something Rotten: A Fresh Look at Roadkill by Heather L. Montgomery

A completely gross and wholly compelling look at the scientific, artistic and culinary uses of roadkill reveals how the author, a wildlife researcher, uses

roadkill to do medical studies, while others use it for trophies or even restaurant foods.



We Are Not Yet Equal: Understanding Our Racial Divide

by Carol Anderson

From the end of the Civil War to the tumultuous issues in America today, an acclaimed historian reframes the conversation about race, chronicling the

powerful forces opposed to black progress in America.



Proud: Living My American Dream

by Ibtihaj Muhammad

Shares the life story of the Olympic fencer, including how she overcame feeling out of place in her sport and how she became the first American woman to compete in the Olympics wearing a hijab.



Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen by Jazz Jennings

The author reccounts how her public experiences have influenced her attitude towards the transgender community, as she works to educate others about transgenderism while

navigating the challenges of being a teenager. Published 2016.





Teen Guide to Student Activism by Stuart A. Kallen

Looks at some of the best known student and youth movements changing the world, discussing how these groups organize, reach out, and find the balance between activism

and school.



Rising Water: The Story of the Thai Cave Rescue by Marc Aronson

An account of the incredible true story of the Wild Board soccer team's summer 2018 rescue from a flooded cave in Thailand.



Fearless and Fantastic!: Female Superheroes Save the World by Sam Maggs

Illustrated with stunning comic-book artwork and featuring inspiring

quotations, each short biography of 50 incredible female Super Heroes from the Marvel Comics universe is carefully curated to focus on the character's key abilities and achievements, inspiring girls and women of all ages to be powerful, passionate and persistent.



Marvel Studios 101: All Your Questions Answered by Adam Bray

If you've ever mixed up the different Thor movies, or you get confused by which Avengers villain is which, fear not! Whether you want to take your

very first steps into this pop-culture colossus, you have friends who are die-hard Marvel fans and seem to speak in another language, or you just want all the answers to Marvelous questions, this is the book for you!



Blacklisted!: Hollywood, the Cold War, and the First Amendment by Larry Dane Brimner

This is a vividly detailed account of the story of a courageous group of film

story of a courageous group of film industry writers who were investigated and blacklisted for suspected

communist ties and standing up for their First Amendment rights.



The Grand Escape: The Greatest Prison Breakout of the 20th Century by Neal Bascomb

At the height of World War I, a struggle for survival was being waged in the most notorious POW camp in all of Germany:

Holzminden. This was the home to the most troublesome Allied prisoners--and the most talented at escape. *The Grand Escape* tells the remarkable tale of a band of pilots who pulled off an ingenious plan and made it out of enemy territory in the biggest breakout of WWI.



Attucks!: Oscar Robertson and the Basketball Team That Awakened A City by Phillip M. Hoose

Traces the inspirational story of the Crispus Attucks High School Tigers

basketball team and how they broke the color barrier in segregated 1950s Indiana to become state champions.



The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler by John Hendrix

Presents the life of the German theologian and hero, who formed a breakaway church in opposition to the

Nazi regime, participated in an assassination plot that targeted Adolf Hitler, and was captured and executed by the Nazis.





Becoming Kareem: Growing Up On and Off the Court by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar An autobiography about Kareem

Abdul-Jabbar and his life growing up in New York, becoming a basketball star, and getting involved in the world as an activist for social change.



Popular a Memoir: Vintage Wisdom for a Modern Geek by Maya van Wagenen

Documents a high school student's year-long attempt to change her social status from that of a misfit to a member of the "in" crowd by following advice in a 1950s popularity guide, an experiment that triggered

embarrassment, humor and unexpected surprises. Published 2015.



Disaster Strikes!: The Most Dangerous Space Missions of All Time by Jeffrey Kluger

Disaster Strikes! chronicles 12 historic failures that have shaped the Russian and American space programs, sharing insights into the events of each disaster as well as the

contributions of heroic astronauts and cosmonauts.



The Lady Is a Spy: Virginia Hall, World War II Hero of the French Resistance by Don Mitchell

A vivid portrait of lesser-known American spy Virginia Hall describes how she relocated to occupied France during World War II to work as an undercover agent coordinating

resistance movements, assisting in Nazi sabotage, and rescuing downed allies.



Becoming by Michelle Obama

An intimate and uplifting memoir by the former First Lady chronicles the experiences that have shaped her remarkable life, from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago through her setbacks and achievements in the White House.



Butterfly: From Refugee to Olympian, My Story of Rescue, Hope, and Triumph by Yusra Mardini

Traces the author's life-changing rescue of a boatload of fellow refugees and how it inspired her to compete on the 2016 Refugee Olympic Team in Rio de Janeiro.



Eiffel's Tower for Young People by Rebecca Stefoff

Presents a history on the conception, building, and reception of the Eiffel Tower and its influence on emerging technology and ultimately the global economy. The book combines the behind-the-scenes history of the Eiffel

Tower with an account of the 1889 World's Fair in Paris, for which the tower was built.



Bad Boys of Fashion: Style Rebels and Renegades Through the Ages by Jennifer Croll

From Louis XIV to Kanye West, Jennifer Croll takes us on a tour of daring and different men throughout history who have all

used fashion to get what they want. Croll shows us the power of clothes and the links between fashion and politics, art, social movements, and more.



Rising 7/8 Series & Sequels | Summer 2019



The Inheritance Cycle by Christopher Paolini

Follow Eragon as he grows from a poor farm boy into an amazing swordsman, fighting alongside his dragon, Saphira, to help save the Empire from evil and darkness. Four books as of 2019 plus released January 1,

2019: The Fork, the Witch, and the Worm: Tales from Alagaësia.



Twisted Tale: Part of Your World by Liz Braswell

In a reimagining of what would have happened if Ariel had never defeated Ursula, 5 years have elapsed and Ariel is now the voiceless queen of Atlantica

while Ursula runs Prince Eric's kingdom on land. First book: *A Whole New World*. Five books as of 2019



Pandava: Aru Shah and the Song of Death by Roshani Chokshi

Twelve-year-old Aru stretches the truth to fit in at her private school, but when she is dared to prove an ancient lamp is cursed, she inadvertently frees an

ancient demon. First book: Aru Shah and the End of Time. Two books as of 2019.



Wildcard by Marie Lu

The thrilling sequel to Warcross finds Emika Chen learning the truth about Hideo's new NeuroLink algorithm and banding together with the Phoenix Riders to put a stop to Hideo's grim plans, only to find herself caught in a web of betrayal that forces her to turn

to Zero and his ruthless crew. First book: *Warcross*. Two books as of 2019.



The Reckoners Series by Brandon Sanderson

David joins the Reckoners who are trying to kill the Epics, humans with superhuman powers, and end their tyranny. He journeys to Babylon Restored to find the Epic with the answers he seeks and faces the most powerful High Epic of all. Final

book published 2016.



Lady Smoke by Laura Sebastian

A sequel to *Ash Princess* finds an escaped Theo working to build an army to free her enslaved people from the murderous Kaiser, an effort that requires her to join forces with her

pirate aunt and take a husband. First book: *Ash Princess*. Two books as of 2019.



Impostors by Scott Westerfeld

Frey disguised as her twin sister, Rafi, is sent as collateral in a precarious deal in order to protect Rafi from their father's enemies. Col, the son of a rival leader, begins to suspect that all is not what it seems, with dangerous

consequences. Set in the world of the mega-bestselling *Uglies* series. Book two released September 2019: *Shatter City*.



The Seeds of America Trilogy

by Laurie Halse Anderson

A Revolutionary War era epic about three slave children whose fight for freedom is entangled with America's battle for freedom from Great Britain. Three books as of 2019. Final book published 2017.



Rising 7/8 Series & Sequels | Summer 2019



The Golden Tower by Holly Black & Cassandra Clare

This is the final installment in the best-selling series that began with The Iron Trial. Callum Hunt and his friends prepare for an ultimate showdown against the evil Constantine in the magical world of the Magisterium. First book: *The Iron*

Trial. Five books as of 2019.



Wrath of the Dragon King by Brandon Mull

Seth and Kendra, newly appointed caretakers of Wyrmroost, soon find themselves in a fight for their lives when the dragons, led by Celebrant, rebel. First book: *Dragonwatch*. Book three will be released October 2019: *Master of the Phantom Isle*.



Still Me by Jojo Moyes

Louisa Clark arrives in New York to start a new life and a long-distance relationship with Ambulance Sam while working for the super-wealthy Gopniks. First book: *Me Before You.* Three books as of 2019.



The Hive Queen by Tui Sutherland

Rendered fugitives after stealing the Book of Clearsight, the SilkWings race to prevent a LeafWing attack while Cricket struggles to stay hidden and uncover the queen's deadly secret. First book: The Dragonet Prophecy. Twelve books as of 2019.



The Queen's Rising by Rebecca Ross

Wanting nothing more than to master her creative abilities and be chosen by a patron, 17-year-old Brienna of the southern kingdom of Valenia is rejected by all except a disgraced lord, whose big plans for her future embroil her in a

dangerous plot to overthrow the king and restore a rightful ruler. Two books as of 2019.

Summaries written by publishers with modifications as needed.



Rising 8th Grade Classics & Old Favorites | Summer 2019



The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (1978) by Douglas Adams

Seconds before Earth is demolished to make room for a galactic freeway, an earth man is saved by his friend. Together they journey through the galaxy. *Also a series



The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas

Presents the classic novel by Alexandre Dumas about Edmond Dantes, a young sailor who is falsely imprisoned, escapes, and assumes a new identity on the island of Monte Cristo.



Little Women (1868) by Louisa May Alcott

Chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young ladies in nineteenthcentury New England.



A girl Named Disaster (1996)

by Nancy Farmer

While journeying to Zimbabwe, eleven-year-old Nhamo struggles to escape drowning and starvation and in so doing comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits.

RAY BRADBURY

The Martian Chronicles (1950) by Ray Bradbury

The tranquility of Mars is disrupted by humans who want to conquer space, colonize the planet, and escape a doomed Earth.



DANIEL KEYES

Johnny Tremain (1943) by Esther Forbes

After injuring his hand, a silversmith's apprentice in Boston becomes a messenger for the Sons of Liberty in the days before the American Revolution.



2001: A Space Odyssey (1968) by Arthur C. Clarke

Sent to unravel the mystery of an enigmatic monolith left on the moon by an unknown alien intelligence, two astronauts aboard the spacecraft Discovery find their journey into space and their very lives jeopardized by the jealousy of

an extraordinary computer named Hal.





Flowers for Algernon (1966)

Charlie Gordon, a youth with limited mental capabilities, along with a laboratory rat named Algernon become the joint objects of a scientific alteration to see if Charlie can become "normal."

Summaries written by publishers with modifications as needed.



Rising 8th Grade Classics & Old Favorites | Summer 2019



The Chosen (1967) by Chaim Potok

The story of two fathers and two sons and the pressures on all of them to pursue the religion they share in the way that is best suited to each. And as the boys grow into young men, they discover in the other a lost spiritual brother, and a link to an unexplored world that neither had ever considered before.



The Golden Compass (British title: Northern Lights) (1995) by Philip Pullman

Living among scholars in the hallowed halls of Jordan College, Lyra hears rumors of a magical dust that supposedly possesses powers that can unite whole universes, and begins a difficult

and dangerous journey to find it. *Also a series



Midwinterblood

The King Must Die (1986) by Mary Renault

An adaptation of the legend of Theseus who masters the art of bull leaping and slays the Minotaur in the process of fulfilling his destiny.

Midwinterblood (2011)

Seven linked vignettes of passion

and love unfold on a Scandinavian

time periods by Vikings, vampires,

ghosts and a curiously powerful plant that resembles a dragon.

island inhabited throughout various

by Marcus Sedgwick









The Lord of the Rings (1955) by J. R. R. Tolkien

The epic depicting the Great War of the Ring, a struggle between good and evil in Middle-earth, following the odyssey of Frodo the hobbit and his companions on a quest to destroy the Ring of Power. *Also a series

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 3/4 (1982) by Sue Townsend

Adrian's diary documents his attempts to adjust to his parents' approaching divorce and his feelings about his first love, a new girl in school named Pandora. Reissue.

Homecoming (1981) by Cynthia Voigt

Abandoned in a parking lot by their mother, who leaves them with a bag of sandwiches and the address of a distant relative, Dicey, James, Maybeth, and Sammy Tillerman embark on an arduous and eventful journey.

The Sword In the Stone (part of The Once and Future King) (1938) by T. H. White

Before there was a famous king named Arthur, there was a curious boy named Wart and a kind old wizard named Merlyn. Transformed by Merlyn into the forms of his fantasy,

Summaries written by publishers with modifications as needed.





Rising 8th Grade Classics & Old Favorites | Summer 2019

RED BADC

OF COURAGE



The Swiss Family Robinson (1812)

by Johann David Wyss

When a Swiss couple and their four sons are shipwrecked on an isolated island, they adapt to their "New Switzerland" using many imaginative methods of farming and animal taming.



Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm (1903) by Kate Douglas Smith Wiggin

Talkative, ten-year-old Rebecca goes to live with her spinster aunts, one harsh and demanding, the other soft and sentimental, and spends seven difficult but rewarding years growing up in their company.



The Pigman (1968) by Paul Zindel

Two teenagers who lead unhappy lives at home form a close relationship with a lonely old man who has a terrible secret.



Beauty: A Retelling of the Story of Beauty & the Beast (1978)

by Robin McKinley Kind Beauty grows to love the Beast at whose castle she is compelled to stay, and through her love releases him from the spell which had turned him from a handsome prince into an ugly beast.

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The Red Badge of Courage (1895) by Stephen Crane

An innocent young soldier dreams of earning the "badge of courage" on the battlefields of the Civil War. But his dreams are soon shattered when he is confronted by the terrifying realities of war.