



# The American School in London

## Rising 8th Grade Summer Reading Suggestions 2019-2020

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# Set up SORA

## Mellon Library's Audio & eBook Library (formerly Overdrive)

### GET THE APP!

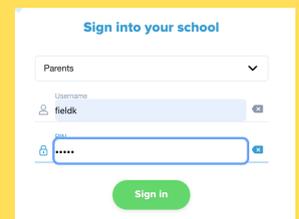
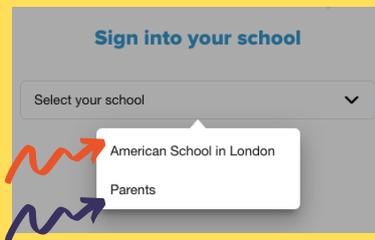
You will find the free SORA app in your App store. The little guy looks like this... Isn't he cute?!



Download to your device.  
You can also log in on a computer:  
<https://soraapp.com/welcome>

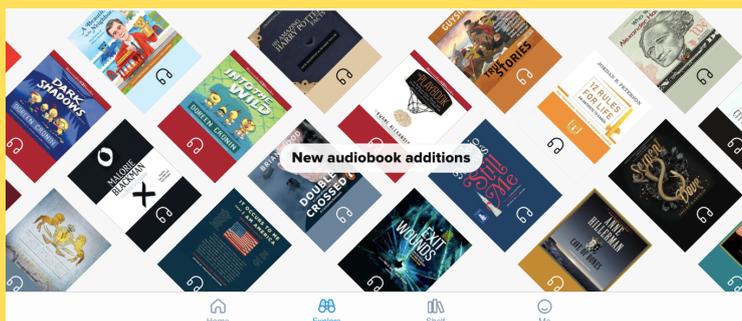
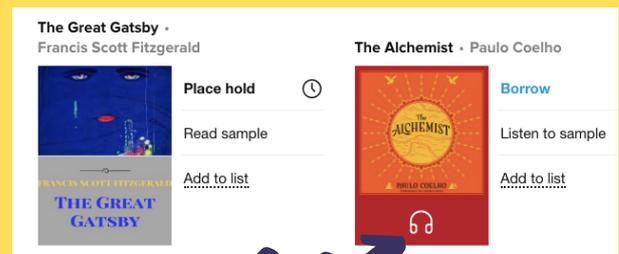
### FIND THE ASL LIBRARY & LOG IN...

When you launch the app you will be prompted to "Find my school." Click on the American School in London. From the pull-down menu, if you are a student or staff, click on "American School in London" and log in with your ASL account. If you are a parent, use the pulldown menu and select "Parents." You will log in using your ASL username & the last 5 digits on the back of your ASL ID.



### ONCE IN, BROWSE & CHECKOUT AUDIO & EBOOKS!

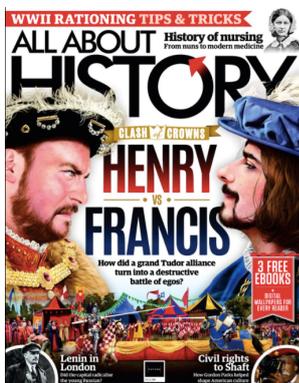
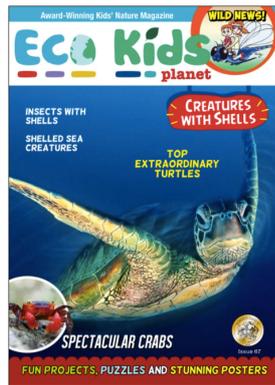
Explore our collection. Borrow or place a hold on books you want. The headphone symbol denotes audiobooks.



For help, stop by the Mellon Library or email [karen\\_field@asl.org](mailto:karen_field@asl.org)



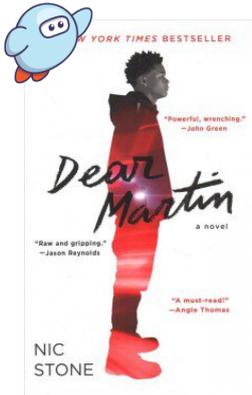
## Flipster Magazines ASL 2020



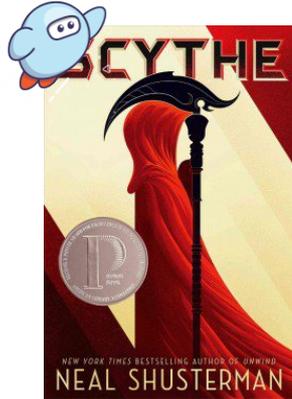
**Flipster**<sup>®</sup>  
<https://tinyurl.com/ASLmagazineLogin>



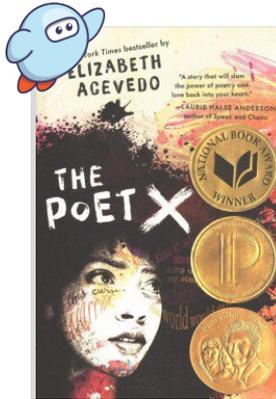
## Rising 8th Recommendations from Outgoing 8th 2020



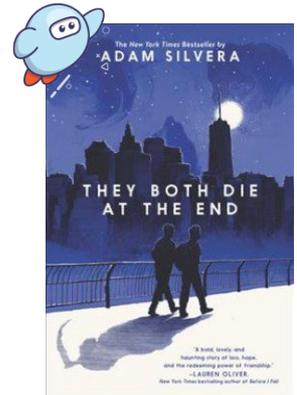
*Dear Martin*  
by Nic Stone



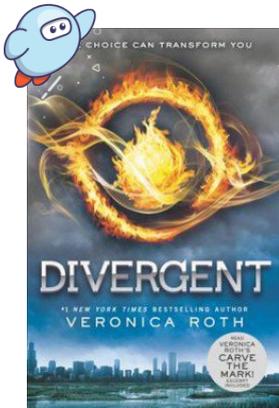
*Scythe*  
by Neal Shusterman



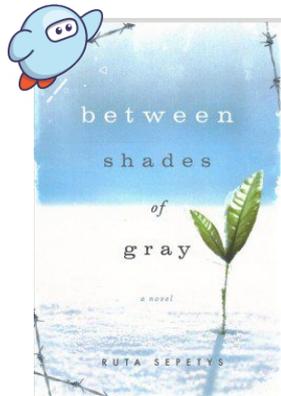
*The Poet X*  
by Elizabeth Acevedo



*They Both Die at the End*  
by Adam Silvera



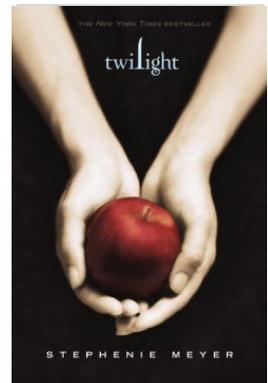
*Divergent* by  
Veronica Roth



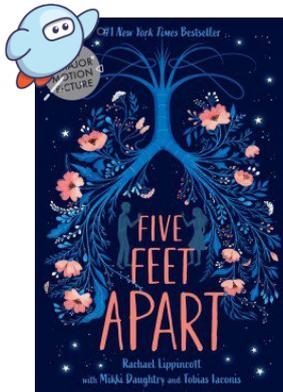
*Between Shades  
of Grey*  
by Ruta Sepetys



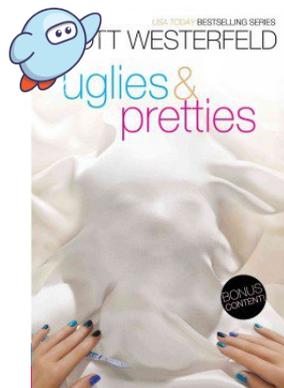
*Legend*  
by Marie Lu



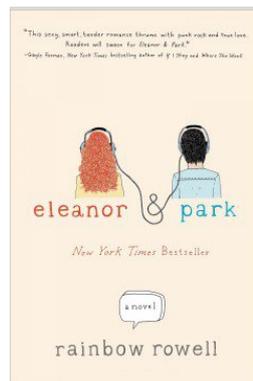
*The Twilight Saga*  
by Stephanie Meyer



*Five Feet Apart* by  
Rachael Lippencott



*Uglies* by Scott  
Westerfeld



*Eleanor & Park*  
by Rainbow Rowell



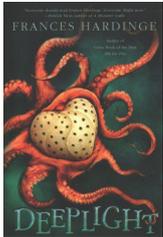
*Ready Player One*  
by Ernest Cline



Available in Sora



## Rising 8th Grade Fiction · 2020



### **Deeplight**

by Frances Hardinge

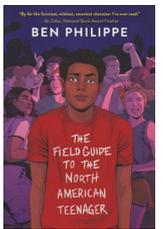
Discovering the still-beating heart of a formidable deity believed long dead, 15-year-old Hark races to keep the dangerous object out of the hands of smugglers, scientists, and cult fanatics in the hope of saving a best friend's life.



### **\*A Phoenix First Must Burn: Sixteen Stories of Black Girl Magic, Resistance, and Hope**

by Patrice Caldwell

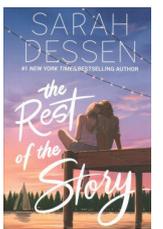
Featuring contributions by best-selling and award-winning authors, an anthology of 16 science-fiction and fantasy stories explores the black and gender nonconforming experience in worlds ranging from folktale environments to futuristic societies.



### **\*The Field Guide to the North American Teenager**

by Ben Philippe

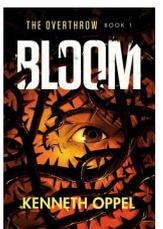
When Norris, a Black French Canadian, starts his junior year at an Austin, Texas, high school, he views his fellow students as clichés from "a bad 90s teen movie."



### **The Rest of the Story**

by Sarah Dessen

Emma Saylor is unexpectedly sent to spend the summer with her late mother's estranged relatives at scenic North Lake where she finds herself torn between her mother's working-class relatives and her father's wealthier associates.



### **Overthrow #1: Bloom**

by Kenneth Oppel

When the world is overtaken by monster alien plants that emit toxic pollens and swallow up people, three kids on a remote island look for clues in their unusual allergies to understand their immunity to the invaders.



### **\*Two Can Keep a Secret**

by Karen M. McManus

While true-crime aficionado Ellery and her twin brother are staying with their grandmother in a Vermont community known for murder, a new friend goes missing and Ellery may be next.



### **\*Allies**

by Alan Gratz

Dee, a young World War II soldier from America participates in a top-secret D-Day operation. He is not alone. Behind enemy lines in France, a girl named Samira works as a spy. James, a paratrooper, leaps from his plane to join a daring midnight raid. And, in the thick of battle, Henry, a medic, searches for lives to save.



### **\*The List of Things that Will Not Change**

by Rebecca Stead

Keeping a list in her notebook of the important things that remain the same after her parents' divorce, Bea is thrilled when her father is remarrying and that she will have a new sister.



### **\*On the Come Up**

by Angie Thomas

Set in the same neighborhood as *The Hate U Give*, an ambitious young rapper pours her frustrations into a first song only to find herself at the center of a viral controversy.



### **\*Jo & Laurie**

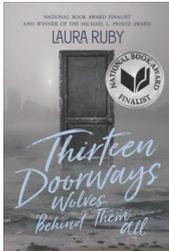
by Margaret Stohl and Melissa de la Cruz

The reimagining of a classic fictional love story finds Jo March navigating pressure to write a sequel to the best-selling *Little Women* during a trip to New York with her friend Laurie, who challenges her beliefs about romance and independence.

All books published 2019-2020 unless otherwise noted  
Summaries written by publishers with modifications as needed  
\*Indicates title available in Sora



## Rising 8th Grade Fiction · 2020



### **Thirteen Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All**

by Laura Ruby

A young woman is abandoned in a Depression-era Chicago orphanage with her sister. While enduring injustice, poverty and violence, she struggles to survive in the years leading up to World War II.



### **\*Clap When You Land**

by Elizabeth Acevedo

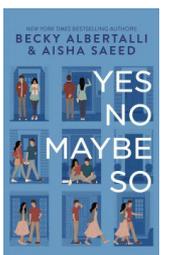
A novel in verse by the National Book Award-winning author of *The Poet X* follows the experiences of two grieving sisters who navigate the loss of their father and the impact of his death on their relationship.



### **Birdie and Me**

by J. M. M. Nuñez

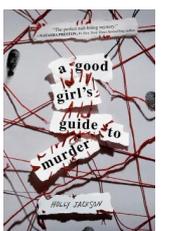
Losing their home when their mama dies, a girl named Jack and her gender-diverse little brother, Birdie, find unexpected healing and transformative family love in the homes of their eccentric uncles.



### **\*Yes No Maybe So**

by Becky Albertalli

Jamie Goldberg, who chokes when speaking to strangers, and Maya Rehrman, who is having the worst Ramadan ever are paired to work together on a campaign for a progressive state senate candidate in this unlikely love story.



### **A Good Girl's Guide to Murder**

by Holly Jackson

Five years after the shattering murder and suicide of two popular teens, a skeptical high school student reexamines the case.



### **\*Patron Saints of Nothing**

by Randy Ribay

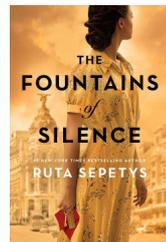
When seventeen-year-old Jay Reguero learns his Filipino cousin and former best friend, Jun, was murdered as part of President Duterte's war on drugs, he flies to the Philippines to learn more.



### **\*Again Again**

by E. Lockhart

An unexpected romantic upheaval and a near-fatal family catastrophe catapult a teen into a summer of wild possibilities that finds her falling in and out of love a thousand times before finally confronting the secrets she keeps and her perceptions about love.



### **\*The Fountains of Silence**

by Ruta Sepetys

Drawn back to his mother's homeland by the utopian promises of the Franco regime in 1957 Madrid, the photographer son of an oil tycoon bonds with a girl who raises his awareness about the lingering shadows of the Spanish Civil War.



### **\*Serpent & Dove**

by Shelby Mahurin

A young witch is forced into marriage with a church huntsman. This fantasy is set in a world where witches are burned at the stake and the church reigns supreme.



### **\*Say Yes Summer**

by Lindsey Roth Culli

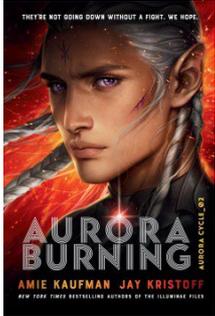
Graduating at the top of her class after years of following the rules, Rachel makes plans for a summer of saying yes to new experiences before big mistakes, rekindled friendships, and romance take her in unexpected directions.

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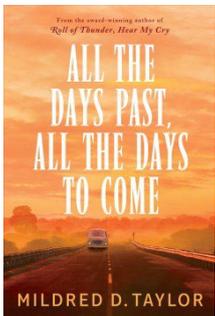
\*Indicates title available in Sora



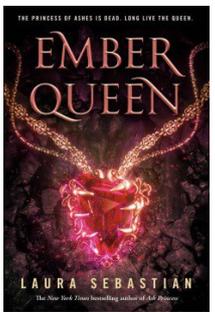
## Rising 7th/8th Series & Sequels . 2020



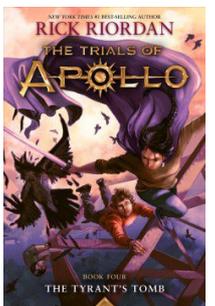
**\*Aurora Burning**  
by Amie Kaufman  
A sequel to Aurora Rising finds Squad 312's efforts to prepare for an imminent attack by an ancient evil force complicated by a mischievous clan of gremps, a cadre of illegitimate GIA agents, and the return of Kal's long-lost sister.



**\*All the Days Past, All the Days to Come**  
by Mildred D. Taylor  
A long-awaited conclusion to the story that began in the Newbery Medal-winning *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* finds young adult Cassie Logan searching for a sense of belonging before joining the Civil Rights Movement in 1960s Mississippi.



**\*Ash Princess #3: Ember Queen**  
by Laura Sebastian  
Imprisoned in her own country for more than a decade, Princess Theodosia leads a misfit army of rebels to overthrow a terrifying Kaiserin usurper who would use dark magic to enslave the kingdom. Books #1 & #2 available in Sora



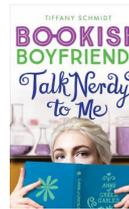
**The Trials of Apollo #4: The Tyrant's Tomb**  
by Rick Riordan  
On his path to restoring five ancient oracles and reclaiming his godly powers, Lester, also known as Apollo, offers his aid to the Roman demigods preparing for a desperate last stand against the Triumvirate of Roman emperors.



**\*One of Us is Next**  
by Karen M. McManus  
A sequel to the best-selling *One of Us Is Lying* finds the Bayview friends targeted by an anonymous adversary who uses an increasingly dangerous truth-or-dare app to keep the late Simon's gossip legacy alive.



**Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children #5: The Conference of the Birds**  
by Ransom Riggs  
The latest entry in the best-selling series continues the story of Jacob Portman, who takes a brave leap into The Conference of the Birds while pursued by dangerous enemies. Books 1-3 available in Sora



**\*A Bookish Boyfriend's Novel #3: Talk Nerdy to Me**  
by Tiffany Schmidt  
When Eliza Gordon-Fergus, daughter of famous scientists and expert rule-follower, is challenged by class-clown Curtis Cavendish, she realizes he makes her want to break all the rules.



**\*DC Icons #4: Superman: Dawnbreaker**  
by Matt de la Peña  
After learning that undocumented workers are going missing in Smallville, Clark Kent teams up with his best friend Lana Lang to find them.



**\*The Folk of the Air #3: The Queen of Nothing**  
by Holly Black  
Reeling from Cardan's betrayal, an exiled Jude risks her life to sneak back into the treacherous Faerie Court to save the life of her deceptive twin, only to become ensnared in Elfhame's violent political war and the fallout of a powerful curse.

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## Rising 7th/8th Series & Sequels · 2020

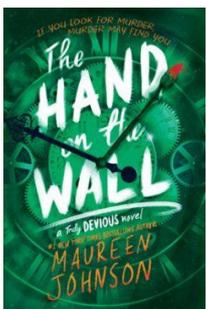


### \*Shadow Skye #1: The Good Hawk

by Joseph Elliott

Agatha patrols the sea wall with pride, despite those in her clan who question her right to be there, because of the condition she was born with. Jaime is a reluctant Angler, full of self-doubt and afraid of the sea. When disaster strikes, the pair must embark on a terrifying

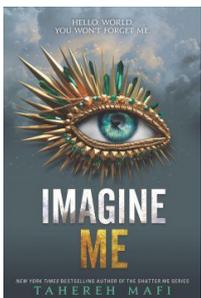
journey to a land where forgotten magic and dark secrets lurk in every shadow.



### \*Truly Devious #3: The Hand on the Wall

by Maureen Johnson

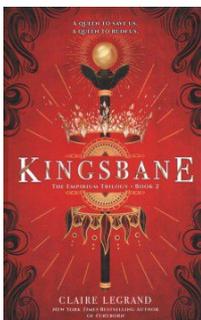
In the third sequel in *Truly Devious*, Stevie is compelled to navigate mysterious riddles and track down a missing friend at the same time a massive storm forces her to confront a killer.



### Shatter Me #6: Imagine Me

by Tahereh Mafi

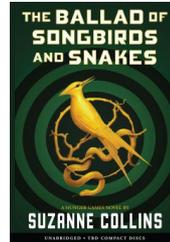
In this conclusion to the best-selling series, Juliette, using the identity of "Ella," teams up with Warner to secure their future together by bringing down the Reestablishment.



### \*The Empirium Trilogy #2: Kingsbane

by Claire Legrand

Eliana must choose whether to embrace the crown or reject it forever, and the Sun Queen Rielle faces new trials as she tries to maintain the Gate and is tempted by the angel Corien.



### \*Prequel to the Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes

by Suzanne Collins

Revisit the world of Panem sixty-four years before the events of *The Hunger Games*. This prequel begins on the morning of the reaping of the Tenth

Hunger Games.



### \*School for Good and Evil #6: One True King

by Soman Chainani

A conclusion to the series finds Sophie and Agatha preparing for an ultimate confrontation to determine the fate of their school, Camelot's crown and the Endless Woods.



### \*Alex Rider #12: Nightshade

by Anthony Horowitz

In the aftermath of Scorpia's explosive fall, Alex Rider arrives in Gibraltar to prevent the rise of Nightshade, a dangerous new criminal organization.



### Ashlords

by Scott Reintgen

Follows alchemists Imelda, Adrian, and Pippa as they reach for their dreams of glory riding phoenix horses at The Races, the modern spectacle that has replaced warfare within their empire.



### Legend #4: Rebel

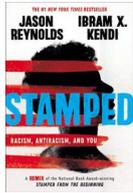
by Marie Lu

As Day and Eden struggle with who they've become since their time in the Republic, a new danger creeps into the distance between them, and Eden finds himself drawn into Ross City's dark side.

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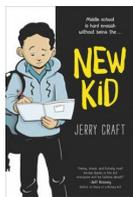
## Rising 7th/8th Nonfiction · 2020



### \*Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You

by Jason Reynolds

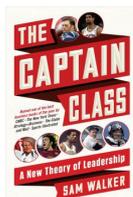
A timely reimagining of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's book *Stamped From the Beginning* reveals the history of racist ideas in America, and inspires hope for an antiracist future.



### \*New Kid

by Jerry Craft

Enrolled in a prestigious private school where he is one of only a few students of color, talented seventh-grade artist Jordan finds himself torn between the worlds of his Washington Heights apartment and the upscale circles of Riverdale Academy. Graphic novel



### \*The Captain Class: The Hidden Force That Creates the World's Greatest Teams

by Sam Walker

A former Wall Street Journal global sports editor reveals the essential contributions of unconventional players behind the

world's highest-performing sports teams.



### \*Where's My Stuff?: The Ultimate Teen Organizing Guide

by Samantha Moss

Learn to become more organized at school and at home with this guide that shares

step-by-step recommendations for decluttering, overcoming disorganized habits, and managing a schedule.



### \*Viral: The Fight Against AIDS in America

by Ann Bausum

A narrative account chronicling the history of the AIDS crisis in America is presented through the stories of victims and activists who transformed how AIDS is understood

and treated throughout the world.

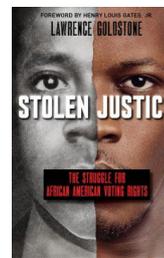


### \*On the Horizon

by Lois Lowry

This book is divided into three sections and told through sparse text and poetry. Lois Lowry explores the human stories behind World War II's Pearl Harbor attack and Hiroshima bombing to contemplate what victims share in common and the importance of

bridging cultural divides.



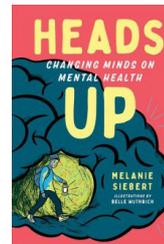
### \*Stolen Justice: The Struggle for African-American Voting Rights

by Lawrence Goldstone

In this vivid portrait of the systematic suppression of the African American vote, author Lawrence Goldstone traces the injustices of the Post-

Reconstruction era through the eyes of

incredible individuals, both heroic and barbaric, and examines the legal cases that made the Supreme Court a partner of white supremacists in the rise of Jim Crow.

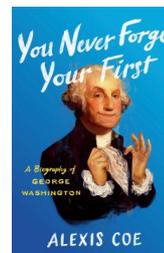


### Heads Up: Changing Minds on Mental Health

by Melanie Siebert

This nonfiction book is a guide to understanding mental health and coping with mental illness, trauma, and recovery. It features real-life stories of resilient teens and highlights innovative approaches to mental-

health challenges.



### You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George Washington

by Alexis Coe

A whimsically irreverent portrait of America's first President includes coverage of Washington's entitled upbringing, his numerous military defeats, and the partisan nightmares

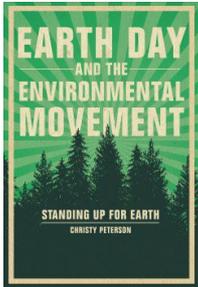
that spun from his back-stabbing cabinet.

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## Rising 7th/8th Nonfiction · 2020



### \*Earth Day and the Global Environmental Movement: Standing up for Earth

by Christy Peterson

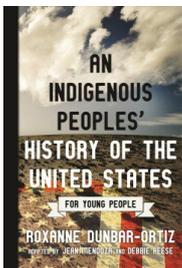
This is a cautionary report on the threatened state of earth protections citing the political divides and disinformation that are compromising urgently needed responses to climate change.



### \*Humble Pi: A Comedy of Maths Errors

by Matt Parker

This tour of real-world mathematical disasters reveals the importance of math in everyday life by exploring a litany of glitches, near misses, and mathematical mishaps.



### An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People

by Debbie Reese

Going beyond the story of America as a country "discovered" by a few brave men in the "New World," indigenous human rights advocate Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz reveals the roles that

colonialism and policies of American Indian genocide played in forming our national identity.



### \*One Earth: People of Color Protecting our Planet

by Anuradha S. Rao

This book presents the efforts of twenty environmental activists working to overcome the devastating effects of climate change around the world.

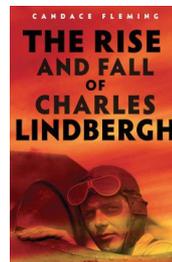


### Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir

by Robin Ha

Moving abruptly from Seoul to Alabama, a Korean teen struggles in a hostile blended home and a new school where she does not speak English before forging unexpected connections in a local comic drawing

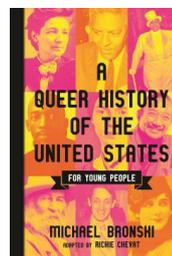
class. Graphic novel



### \*The Rise and Fall of Charles Lindbergh

by Candace Fleming

Read about the more complicated aspects of celebrated aviator Charles Lindbergh's life, from his Nazi sympathies and anti-Semitic beliefs to his support of controlled breeding and his advocacy of environmental causes.



### \*A Queer History of the United States for Young People

by Richie Chevat

Learn about queer history of the United States through engrossing narratives, letters, drawings, poems, and more. It becomes clear how LGBTQ people have been a part of the US national identity

for over 400 years.



### \*Flowers in the Gutter: The True Story of the Edelweiss Pirates, Teenagers Who Resisted the Nazis

by K. R. Gaddy

A photo-illustrated account documents the story of the Edelweiss Pirates, a group of working-class teens who

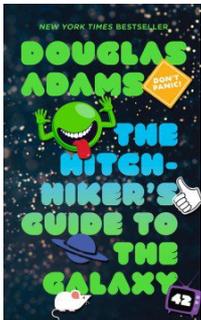
survived the Third Reich in their Cologne neighborhoods while resisting the Hitler Youth, helping POWs, and sabotaging Nazi factories.

All books published 2019-2020 unless otherwise noted  
Summaries written by publishers with modifications as needed

\*Indicates title available in Sora



## Rising 8th Grade Classics & Old Favorites 2020



### \*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (1978)

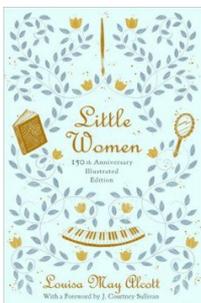
by Douglas Adams

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

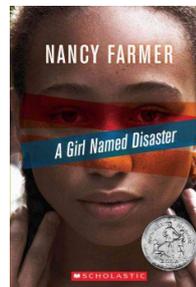
Presents the classic novel by Alexandre Dumas about Edmond Dantes, a young sailor who is falsely imprisoned, escapes, and assumes a new identity on the island of Monte Cristo.



### \*Little Women (1868)

by Louisa May Alcott

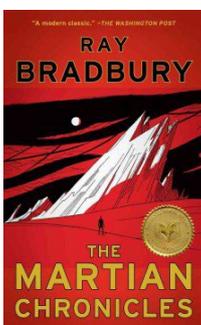
Chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young ladies in nineteenth-century New England.



### A Girl Named Disaster (1996)

by Nancy Farmer

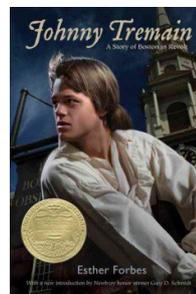
While journeying to Zimbabwe, eleven-year-old Nhamo struggles to escape drowning and starvation and in so doing comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits.



### \*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.



### \*Johnny Tremain (1943)

by Esther Forbes

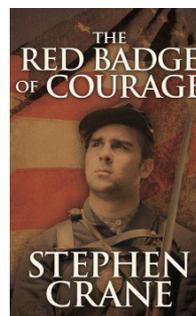
After injuring his hand, a silversmith's apprentice in Boston becomes a messenger for the Sons of Liberty in the days before the American Revolution.



### 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.



### \*The Red Badge of Courage (1895)

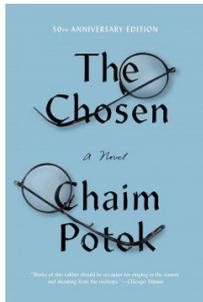
by Stephen Crane

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.

Summaries written by publishers with modifications as needed  
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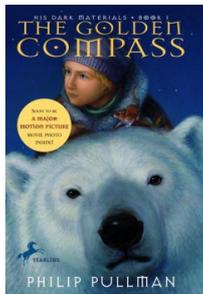
## Rising 8th Grade Classics & Old Favorites 2020



### **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.

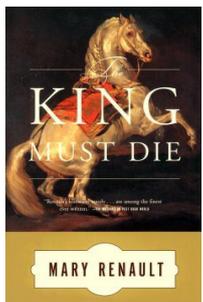


### **\*The Golden Compass (British title: Northern Lights) (1995)**

by Philip Pullman

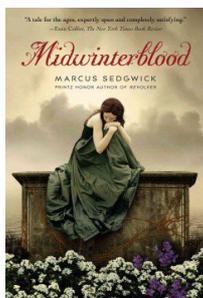
Living among scholars in the hallowed halls of Jordan College, Lyra hears rumors of a magical dust that supposedly possesses powers that can unite whole universes, and begins a difficult and dangerous

journey to find it. +Series



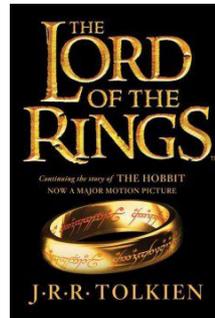
### **The King Must Die (1986)** by Mary Renault

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)** by Marcus Sedgwick

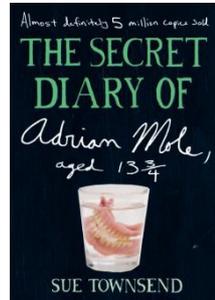
Seven linked vignettes of passion and love unfold on a Scandinavian island inhabited throughout various time periods by Vikings, vampires, ghosts, and a curiously powerful plant that resembles a dragon.



### **\*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. +Series



### **\*The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 3/4 (1982)**

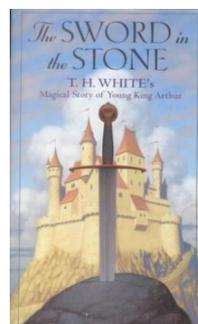
by Sue Townsend

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.



### **\*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, Wart learns the value of history from a snake, of education

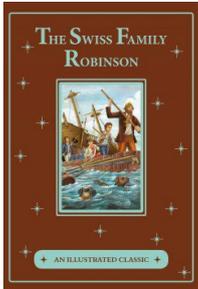
from a badger, and of courage from a hawk.

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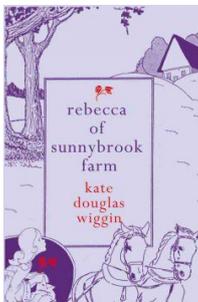
## Rising 8th Grade Classics & Old Favorites 2020



### \*The Swiss Family Robinson (1812)

by Johann David Wyss

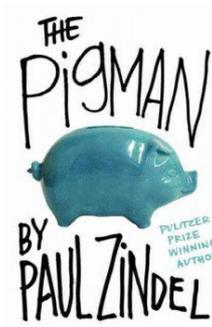
When a Swiss couple and their four sons are shipwrecked on an isolated island, they adapt to their "New Switzerland" using many imaginative methods of farming and animal taming.



### \*Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm (1903)

by Kate Douglas Smith Wiggin

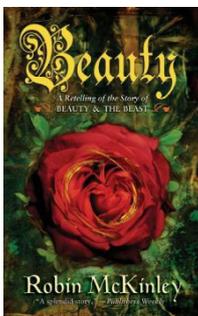
Talkative, ten-year-old Rebecca goes to live with her spinster aunts, one harsh and demanding, the other soft and sentimental, and spends seven difficult but rewarding years growing up in their company.



### 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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