

SUMMER
READING FOR
INCOMING 9TH
GRADERS

SUMMER OF 2023



BOOK CHOICES FOR CURRENT 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

When Stars Are Scattered (Jamison, Mohamed)

Scythe
(Shusterman)

Run Book 1 (Lewis, Aydin, Powell, Fury)



RUN, BOOK ONE

- John Lewis served in the House of Representatives for Georgia's 5th District from 1987 to his death in 2020. But before that, Lewis was a civil rights activist.
- Lewis marched with Martin Luther King and hundreds of others in Selma, AL, on Bloody Sunday, March 7, 1965, where he and others were beaten by police.
- He went on to fight for passage of the Voting Rights Act and then he ran for Congress. This graphic memoir tells that story.

WHEN STARS ARE SCATTERED

- Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed collaborated on this graphic memoir about Omar's life growing up in a refugee camp.
- Omar Mohamed and his brother Hassan grew up in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. They are the only family left. Their father was killed in the civil war in Somalia, and they don't know what happened to their mother.
- Life is hard, and Hassan, who is nonverbal, lacks the medical care he needs. There is not enough food. Omar feels lucky that he is able to go to school.
- After 15 years in Dadaab, Omar and Hassan are among the few refugees chosen to emigrate to the United States. Now living in Arizona, Omar has told his story. Victoria Jamieson, creator of *Roller Girl*, partners with him in this National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature.





SCYTHE

BY NEAL SHUSTERMAN

- In the future, human beings have found a way to eliminate disease, war, hunger, and, finally, even death. One problem that remains as a result: overpopulation. Scythes are the only ones in society capable of ending human life, and they must do so by law.
- Two young people, Citra and Rowan, must take on the role of apprentice to a Scythe. Reluctant to do so, they have no choice. They must learn how to take a human life, or risk losing their own.
- Shusterman's work raises questions: Is a world without suffering really a perfect world? What is cost of that perfection?