

## 2024 Briarcliff Summer Reading List

This year our Annual Book Fair will be held from **June 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup>** in the Briarcliff Library and has an online component hosted by Scholastic. Click [HERE](#) to access the online Fair.

This Summer Reading List covers all grades and is “recommended” suggestions. In addition, **Scholastic provides quality titles that you may choose to read too!** Parents are encouraged to review, discuss, and decide with their children the best titles. Students should feel free to access [Sora](#), our eBook, audiobook, and magazine digital platform, for other pleasure reading choices.

**A limited number of Print copies of all the mandatory titles will be sold during the fair.** I will post all assignments associated with the mandatory reading on the Briarcliff [Summer Reading](#) Library webpage.

I appreciate your support,  
Mr. Posner.

### Mandatory Grade Level Summer Reading

#### Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade\*\*

##### For Mrs. Peifly

**Savvy** Lexile 1070 **Fantasy** by Ingrid Law

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

##### For Mr. Leshnowar

**Way of the Warrior Kid: From Wimpy to Warrior the Navy SEAL Way: A Novel (Bk 1)** Lexile: 610 by Jocko Willink  
Becoming a warrior isn't easy. It means a lot of pull-ups, sit-ups, pushups, squats, swimming, eating right, and studying harder than ever before! Can Marc transform himself into a warrior before school starts in the fall – and finally stand up to the King of the Jungle himself?

#### Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade\*\*

**Divergent** Lexile 700 **Science Fiction** by Veronica Roth

In a future Chicago, sixteen-year-old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she discovers that she is an anomaly who does not fit into any one group, and that the society she lives in is not perfect after all.

#### Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Crossover** Lexile 740 **Realistic** by Kwame Alexander

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

#### Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

**I Must Betray You** Lexile 500 **Historical** by Ruta Sepetys

In a country governed by isolation, fear, and a tyrannical dictator, seventeen-year-old Cristian Florescu is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer, but he decides to use his position to try to outwit his handler, undermine the regime, give voice to fellow Romanians, and expose to the world what is happening in his country.

In addition,

- **\*\*Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders** are to read 1 more title of their choice for a total of 3 titles – the 2 mandatory titles plus one more.
- **\*\*Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders** are asked to only read the mandatory book due to the length of this title, however, encouraged to read more.
- **Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders** are encouraged to read at least 2 more books of their choice. This is for a total of 3 books.

Again, Parents are encouraged to review, discuss, and decide with their child what titles would be best.

## **Realistic**

### ***Treasure Island: Runaway Gold***

by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Author Jewell Parker Rhodes reimagines the classic novel *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson in this thrilling adventure set in modern-day Manhattan, in which three children must navigate the city's hidden history, dodge a threatening crew of skater kids, and decide who they can really trust in order to hunt down a long-buried treasure.

### ***Walking the Dog***

by Chris Lynch

After years of homeschooling, laid-back Louis hopes he can stay under the radar when he starts regular high school in the fall, but when a favor for a neighbor and his stinky canine companion unexpectedly turns into a bustling dog-walking business, Louis finds himself meeting an unprecedented number of new friends--both human and canine.

### ***Just Lizzie***

by Karen Wilfrid

Feeling left behind since her friends became more interested in dating than dolls, eighth grader Lizzie, who has zero interest in boys, girls or even "flirting," learns about asexuality in science class, which leads her on a journey of self-discovery and self-advocacy.

### ***The Civil War of Amos Abernathy***

by Michael Leali

Through letters he writes in his journal, thirteen-year-old Amos finds a confidante in a queer historical figure from the Civil War.

### ***Finally Heard Bk 2. (Series)***

by Kelly Yang

Ten-year-old Lina wants to create a viral video to help her mom's business, but as she navigates the world of likes and views with her two best friends, Lina must find the courage to stay true to her authentic self.

### ***Maybe It's a Sign***

by E.L. Shen

Seventh grader Freya June Sun, obsessed with Chinese superstitions since her dad's death, wants to make a change in her life, but when she doesn't receive any signs from her dad, she learns that to be her own person, she has to make her own luck.

### ***Thanks A Lot, Universe***

by Chad Lucas

When his anxiety spirals into panic attacks after being placed in foster care, an increasingly desperate Brian is offered shy assistance by a basketball teammate Ezra, who is concealing a secret crush.

### ***Barley Floating***

by Lilliam Rivera

Channeling her rage into synchronized swimming dreams, 12-year-old Nat, who doesn't care what people think, fights for what she wants as she builds a community of those who lift her up and help her stay afloat when waters get rough.

### ***Keeping Pace***

by Laurie Morrison

Signing up for a half-marathon race, Grace discovers her friend-turned-rival Jonah is running it too and is determined to beat him on race day, but when they start training together, she starts to question what it means to win -- and what they mean to each other.

### ***When Butterflies Came***

by Kimberly Griffiths Little

Tara Doucet is grieving for her grandmother, and her family is falling apart around her, but it seems like her grandmother has preplanned an elaborate itinerary for her to follow which will lead her and her sister Riley from Louisiana to a South Pacific island and into danger--and everywhere she turns butterflies follow.

### ***Heart Finds***

by Jaime Berry

When her grampa, with whom she goes "extreme treasure hunting" to find items that call to her heart, suffers a stroke, 11-year-old Mabel learns that letting go of the past and embracing the future is her greatest find yet.

### ***The Many Fortunes of Maya***

by Nicole D. Collier

Always turning to her Wheel of Fortunes, a cardboard circle covered with wisdom she's collected from fortune cookies, for answers and a dose of luck, 12-year-old Maya must find the courage to write her own fortune to answer her deep-down questions.

***Hazel Hill Is Gonna Win This One*** by Maggie Horne

When she discovers her nemesis, Ella Quinn, is being harassed by golden boy Tyler Harris, seventh grader Hazel Hill is determined to prove it, since no one believes he would do such a thing, even if it means risking everything.

***The House Swap*** by Yvette Clark

Told in alternating chapters from each girl's point of view, this heartwarming and funny story follows polar opposites Allie and Sage, one American and one British, who become friends and confidantes when their families swap houses.

***Aniana Bel Mar Jumps In*** by Jasminne Mendez

Aniana del Mar belongs in the water like a dolphin belongs to the sea. But she and Papi keep her swim practices and meets hidden from Mami, who has never recovered from losing someone she loves to the water years ago. That is, until the day Ani's stiffness and swollen joints mean she can no longer get out of bed, and Ani is forced to reveal just how important swimming is to her. What follows is the journey of a girl who must grieve who she once was in order to rise like the tide and become the young woman she is meant to be.

***Wild Poppies*** by Haya Saleh

Trying to be the man of his Syrian refugee family after his father dies, bookish Oscar must rescue his brother Sufyan when he gets in too deep with an intense group of fighters and find courage in ways he had never dared to before.

***Call Me Adnan*** by Reem Faruqi

Twelve-year-old Adnan dreams of making it to the Ultimate Table Tennis championship, but when tragedy strikes his family, Adnan loses his passion for table tennis and must learn to channel his grief and heal.

***The Firefly Summer*** by Morgan Matson

For as long as Ryanna Stuart can remember, her summers have been spent with her father and his new wife. Just the three of them, structured, planned, and quiet. But this summer is different. This summer, she's received a letter from her grandparents—grandparents neither she nor her dad have spoken to since her mom's death—inviting her to stay with them at an old summer camp in the Poconos.

***Not An Easy Win*** by Chrystal D. Giles

Expelled from school after one too many fights, Lawrence spends his days at the rec center where he learns how to play chess, making moves that change everything as he finds himself still in the game.

**Action/Adventure**

***Heroes of the Water Monster*** by Brian Young

Edward and Nathan, two Navajo stepbrothers, work with a young water monster named Dew to confront their past and save the world from a monstrous, enormous Enemy that is stealing water from all of the Navajo Nation.

***Two Degrees*** by Alan Gratz

When three children endure separate climate change disasters—a wildfire in the California woods, a close encounter with a hungry polar bear in Canada, and a massive hurricane in Florida—they emerge from their experiences committed to changing the world.

***When Sea Becomes Sky*** by Gillian McDunn

Bex and Davey set out to save their beloved marsh from developers only to learn that sometimes progress happens whether you're ready or not, in this heartfelt summer story of love, family, and holding on as well as letting go.

**Science Fiction**

***I Am the Walrus Bk. 1 (Series)*** by Neal Shusterman

When strange things start happening to him, 14-year-old Noah discovers there are mysterious people who want him dead and only his friend Ogden, whose ideas are way out there, can help him.

***The Rhythm of Time: Questlove*** by S.A. Cosby

After accidentally traveling back in time and rewriting the future, twelve-year-old best friends Rahim and Kasia must work together to restore their timeline.

***Where the Lockwood Grows*** by Olivia A. Cole

In this dystopian tale, young Erie and her older sister, Hurona, leave the only home they've ever known and discover that the world is much larger and more complicated than they'd ever imagined.

***Alebrijes*** by Bonna Barba Higuera

When thirteen-year-old Leandro takes the fall for his sister and is exiled into an ancient drone, he embarks on a perilous journey beyond the city's walls where he encounters mutant monsters, wasteland pirates, and fellow outcasts as he tries to save his sister and fellow Cascabeles from the oppressive regime.

**Humor**

***The Greatest Kid in the World*** by John David Anderson

Selected as a contestant in an online competition to find the World's Greatest Kid, Zeke Stahls decides to give it his best shot but soon finds himself wondering what "great" really means and who gets to decide.

**Fantasy**

***Daughters of the Lamp*** Bk. 1 (Series) by Nedda Lewers

While in Egypt for her uncle's wedding, Sahara Rashad, who lives by logic and has never believed in magic, embarks on an adventure of a lifetime when her late mother's necklace leads her to Ali Baba's magical treasure and the discovery of her true legacy.

***The Selkie's Daughter*** by Linda Crotta Brennan

When someone in her village starts killing young seals, angering the king of the selkie clan, part human/part selkie Brigit must find a way to reach Sule Skerrie, the land of the selkies, to confront the Great Selkie and protect the young seals from harm.

***The Curse of Eelgrass Bog*** by Mary Averling

Dark secrets and unnatural magic abound when a twelve-year-old girl ventures into a bog full of monsters to break a mysterious curse.

***The Vanquishers: Secret of the Reaping*** Bk 2 (Series) by Kalynn Bayron

Boog and her best friends, Cedrick, Jules, and Aaron--aka the Squad--stick together, no matter what. Now that vampires are back, they'll need to take their Vanquisher lessons more seriously than ever. But who is behind this return of the undead?

***This Wicked Fate*** Bk.2 (Series) by Kalynn Bayron

Briseis has one chance to save her mother, but she'll need to do the impossible: find the last fragment of the deadly Absyrtus Heart. To locate the missing piece, she must turn to the blood relatives she's never known, learn about their secret powers, and take her place in their ancient lineage. But Briseis is not the only one who wants the Heart, and her enemies will stop at nothing to fulfill their own ruthless plans.

***Hamra and the Jungle of Memories*** by Hanna Alkaf

When Hamra steals a magical fruit from a tiger hoping to cure her grandmother, she must repay her debt to the tiger by going on an extraordinary journey with him to make him human again.

***The Witch of Woodland*** by Laurel Snyder

While preparing for her bat mitzvah--and trying to make sense of her own life--Zippy discovers she has magical abilities when she conjures up a beautiful girl with no memory and wings like an angel to whom she is connected.

***Boomi's Boombox*** by Shanthi Sekaran

After her dad dies of COVID, 12-year-old Boomi is given his old boombox and magically transported to Thumpton-on-Soar, England, 1986, where she meets her dad at age 12 and must figure out what she's supposed to do — save him or change her life.

***Serwa Boateng's Guide to Vampire Hunting*** by Roseanne A. Brown

Staying with her hippie aunt and cryptic-obsessed cousin in Nowheresville, Maryland, after a witch destroys her family's home, 12-year-old vampire slayer Serwa must prepare for the biggest battle of her life, while also dealing with mean girls and algebra.

***Speculation***

by Nisi Shawl

In 1962, ten-year-old Winna Cole discovers a pair of magical spectacles that reveal both the friendly ghosts of her African American ancestors and a dangerous family curse.

***The Notorious Scarlett and Browne*** Bk. 2 (Series) by Jonathan Stroud

When their notoriety spreads a bit too far, Albert, who can read minds, and Scarlett, who has a way with weapons, must save their friends who are being held hostage by their enemies, a situation that forces them to pull off an impossible mission to win their freedom.

***The Drama with Doomsdays*** by Scott Reintgen

Eighth grader Celia has a strange vision that foretells a doomsday scenario for her school and suggests another seer is nearby.

***Skin of the Sea*** by Natasha Bowen

Simi prayed to the gods, once. Now she serves them as Mami Wata--a mermaid--collecting the souls of those who die at sea and blessing their journeys back home. But when a living boy is thrown overboard, Simi goes against an ancient decree and does the unthinkable--she saves his life. And punishment awaits those who dare to defy the gods.

***Where the Black Flowers Bloom*** by Ronald L. Smith

Set in an alternate African world in which a Black girl finds her power, this intricately woven story follows Asha as she journeys through Alkebulan, searching for the truth about her family and the evil sorcerer stalking her every move.

***Hokey Pokey*** by Jerry Spinelli

An inventive fable of growing up and letting go, of leaving childhood and its imaginative play behind for the more dazzling adventures of adolescence, and of learning to accept not only the sunny part of day, but also the unwelcome arrival of night.

***The Astonishing Chronicles of Oscar from Elsewhere*** by Jaclyn Moriarty

Oscar is just skipping school and hanging out at the local skatepark when he suddenly finds himself transported into a world very different to his. And this is his own account of his adventures from Monday to Friday last week.

***Wolfish*** by Christiane M. Andrews

After forming a strange connection with a wolf, 12-year-old Rae, the adopted daughter of shepherds, crosses paths with Alba, an oracle's apprentice whose prophetic words unintentionally began a reign of terror, and together they embark on a magical adventure, in a fantasy inspired by the myth of Romulus and Remus.

***West of the Sea*** by Stephanie Willing

Infused with a deep love of fossils and Celtic mythology, *West of the Sea* is a lyrical, heart-filled coming-of-age story for fans of cryptozoology—and anyone who has struggled to find their place in the world when they feel different.

***Abeni's Song*** by P. Djéli Clark

Abeni, a reluctant magical apprentice, and a team of spirit kids set out to save their village from the evil Witch Priest who captured and marched off everyone toward ghost ships bound for distant lands.

***The Afterlife of the Party*** by Darcy Marks

Excited for seraph Cassandra's interdimensional mixer, which promises to be an event of a lifetime, Malachi soon starts to wonder if there's something at play other than a simple party when it looks like trouble is on the guest list.

***Don't Want to Be Your Monster*** by Deke Moulton

Two vampire brothers must set aside their differences to solve a series of murders in this humorous and delightfully spooky novel for young readers.

***Rook*** by William Ritter

Abigail Rook, the mortal bridge between the human and supernatural world of New Fiddleham, works to solve the disappearances of magical beings while also dealing with her visiting parents, who want to take her back to England.

### ***The Beast, The Queen, and the Lost Knight***

by Alexandria Rogers

Officially Knights of the Round Table in-training, best friends Ellie Bettlebump and Caedmon Tuggle must complete three quests to graduate to the next level, which prove quite difficult when Ellie loses her powers and Caedmon must make a life-changing decision to save the realm.

## **Classics**

### ***The Light in the Forest***

by Conrad Richter

John Cameron Butler was taken captive as a child and raised as a Lenne Lenape Indian, but when required to return to his white family at 15 years of age, adjustment is more than difficult.

### ***Murder on the Orient Express***

by Agatha Christie

When a wealthy American is found dead on the Orient Express train while traveling from Istanbul to Paris, Belgian Detective Hercule Poirot suspects that one of thirteen passengers may have committed the crime.

### ***The Red Badge of Courage***

by Stephen Crane

Henry Fleming, a young Union soldier, struggles with his conflicting emotions about violence, death, and the nature of bravery in this ironic, skeptical account of the Civil War.

### ***The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde***

by Robert Lewis Stevenson

A kind and well-respected doctor is transformed into a murderous madman by taking a secret drug of his own creation.

### ***Uncle Tom's Cabin***

by Harriet Beecher Stowe

Uncle Tom's master sells him, separating him from his wife, and he becomes attached to the gentle daughter of his new owner, but after her death, he is sold to the evil Simon Legree. (Mature Readers)

### ***Redwall* (Series)**

by Brian Jacques

When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.

### ***The Tower of Treasure* – Book 1(Series)**

by Franklin Dixon

After a dying criminal confesses that his loot has been stashed "in the tower," the Hardy boys make an astonishing discovery.

## **Mystery**

### ***The Misfits: A Royal Conundrum***

by Lisa Yee

An elite group of underdogs trained to fight crime must save their unique school from shutting down.

### ***The Carrefour Curse***

by Dianne K. Salerni

When twelve-year-old Garnet finally gets to meet her magical extended family she discovers they're all trapped in the ruins of their crumbling manor and Garnet must break a curse that has decimated three generations of Carrefours.

### ***The Ghosts of Rancho Espanto***

by Adrianna Curvas

Rafa would rather live in the world of The Forgotten Age, his favorite role-playing game, than face his father's increasing restrictions and his mother's fading presence. But when Rafa and his friends decide to take the game out into the real world and steal their school cafeteria's slushie machine, his dad concocts a punishment Rafa never could've imagined ...

### ***Murder, She Wrote***

by Stephanie Kuehn

Beatrice Fletcher is obsessed with unsolved murders in her small town of Cabot Cove, Maine like her great-aunt Jessica, the famous mystery writer. But when her best friend Jackson goes missing, this time the mystery is personal.

### ***Death Sets Sail* (Series)**

by Robin Stevens

Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are in Egypt, where they are taking a cruise along the Nile. They are hoping to see some ancient temples and a mummy or two; what they get, instead, is murder.

***The Night Raven: The Moonwind Mysteries***

by Johan Rundberg

It's 1880, and in the frigid city of Stockholm, death lurks around every corner. Twelve-year-old Mika knows that everyone in her orphanage will struggle to survive this winter. But at least the notorious serial killer the Night Raven is finally off the streets...or is he?

***The Improbable Tales of Baskerville***

by Alo Standish

While attending Baskerville Hall, a secret school for extraordinarily gifted children, Arthur Conan Doyle and his friends (and enemies) are invited into the Clover, an illustrious social club that requires them to pass three tests, an endeavor that leads them on a dangerous adventure.

**Horror & Suspense**

***Dread Detention***

by Jennifer Killick

While in Saturday detention, Hallie, Angelo, Gustav and Naira must work together to survive when unspeakable horrors emerge from the shadows and the evil grows stronger by the minute.

***The Doomsday Archives: The Wandering Hour***

by Zack Loran Clark & Nick Eliopoulos

New Rotterdam is no place for a kid—and that's what Emrys Houtman likes about it. Emrys obsessively documents his town's urban legends and cryptid sightings in a Wiki, along with his neighbors and fellow horror fans Hazel and Serena. It's all in good fun until one day, the trio stumbles upon the Doomsday Archives, a collection of relics with dazzling powers and dangerous consequences.

***Not Quite a Ghost***

by Anne Ursu

Everything seemed to be changing at once. But sometimes, Violet tells herself, change is okay. That is, until Violet sees her new room. The attic bedroom in their new house is shadowy, creaky, and wrapped in old yellow wallpaper covered with a faded tangle of twisting vines and sickly flowers. And then, after moving in, Violet falls ill—and does not get better. And soon, Violet starts to suspect that she might not be alone in the room at all.

***Field of Screams***

by Wendy Parris

Spending the summer in Iowa with family she barely knows, 12-year-old paranormal enthusiast Rebecca Graff is drawn into a dangerous supernatural dilemma as she races against time to recover a family legacy before it's lost forever and a horrifying history repeats itself.

***Where the Lost Ones Go***

by Akemi Dawn Bowen

Eliot is grieving Babung, her paternal grandmother who just passed away, and she feels like she's the only one. She...is searching for a sign, any sign, that ghosts are real. Because if ghosts are real, it means she can find a way back to Babung. When Eliot chases the promise of paranormal activity to the presumably haunted Honeyfield Hall, she finds her proof of spirits. But these ghosts are losing their memory, stuck between this world and the next, waiting to cross over.

***DeepHaven***

by Ethan M. Aldridge

Hoping for a fresh start at Deephaven Academy, Guinevere "Nev" Tallow instead finds something strange stalking its corridors and teams up with another first-year student to unravel the secrets of this exclusive boarding school and its forbidden east wing.

***The Ghost Job***

by Greg VBan Eekhout

Stuck in the afterlife after an unfortunate lab accident, Zenith and her friends set out to steal a machine that could return them to the land of the living, hoping to pull off the score of their deathtimes.

***Camp Sylvania***

by Julie Murphy

A hilarious and spooky middle grade summer-camp story that takes a bite out of fat camp as it follows Magnolia "Maggie" Hagen to Camp Rising Star, where the reputed "camp ghost" may be the least scary thing about the place.

**Historical**

***Amil and the After***

by Veera Hiranandani

In 1948, 12-year-old Amil, who is both Muslim and Hindu, struggles to find his place in Bombay, India, until his twin sister suggests he tell his story through drawings meant for their late mother as he tries to find hope and a sense of belonging in a chaotic world.

***Heroes: A Novel of Pearl Harbor***

by Alan Gratz

Aboard the battleship the USS Utah with their Navy pilot fathers during WWII when the ship is attacked by the Japanese, Frank and Stanley find their friendship — and dreams — in jeopardy when Stanley is seen as the “enemy” because his mother is Japanese American.

***Warrior on the Mound***

by Sandra W. Headen

In 1939 North Carolina, an all-Black baseball team "trespasses" on the whites-only baseball field, and the resulting racial outrage can only be resolved on the mound.

***V is for Victorine***

by Anne Nesbet

In 1915, "missing" heiress Victorine Berryman, aka "Bella Mae Goodwin," along with her film star best friend, arrives in Hollywood where she experiences the magic of the movie business as well as its dark side as she figures out who she truly wants to be.

***Cricket War***

by Tho Pham & Sandra McTavish

Escaping from Communist Vietnam by boat in 1980, 11-year-old Tho Pham tries to be brave as he sets out into the unknown without his family, in this gripping survival story drawn from real-life experiences.

***A Season Most Unfair***

by J. Anderson Coats

Set in medieval times, this coming-of-age story follows Scholastica, or "Tick," as she sets out to prove to her father that she deserves to be his candle-making apprentice despite being forbidden from helping because she's a girl.

***The Windeby Puzzle***

by Lois Lowry

Transporting readers to an Iron Age world, this suspenseful dual narrative follows Estrild, a female warrior, and Varick, who helps her train in spite of his twisted back, as they fight to survive in a place where differences are not tolerated.

***Max in the House of Spies***

by Adam Gidwitz

To find his way back home to his family in Germany during WWII, Max Bretzfeld, with a kobold named Berg on one shoulder and a dybbuk named Stein on the other, sets out to do the impossible--become a British spy.

**Sports**

***Riding Wild***

by Michelle L. Brown

A twelve-year-old girl learns to ride bulls in order to be close to the famous bull-riding father she lost long ago.

***Game Face***

by Shari Green

Thirteen-year-old Jonah is determined to prove that anxiety won't stop him from succeeding as his hockey team's goalie in this dynamic novel in verse.

***Slugfest***

by Gordon Korman

Forced to take Physical Education Equivalency, aka "Slugfest," in summer school so he can maintain his star spot on the JV football team, Yash recruits his fellow PE rejects to train with him and pass this course, an endeavor that turns into a summer he'll never forget.

***Marcus Stroman: The Grip***

by Marcus Stroman

Young Marcus Stroman is determined to make it to the highest playing level he can, despite every coach telling him he's not tall enough to become a “real” pitcher. He'll show them...with some struggling and a whole lot of learning.

***Skating on Mars***

by Caroline Huntoon

Catching the attention of a high school hot shot, who dares them to skate as a boy so they can compete head-to-head, nonbinary figure skater Mars finds their struggles in life complicating their performance and wonders if there's a place for them on the ice at all.



## **Graphic Novels**

### ***Misfit Mansion***

by Kay Davault

When a human boy breaks his foster home's sealing spell, monster girl Iris and her companions are set free upon the town of Dead End Springs, where they search for a home in this new world of human friends, danger and dark secrets.

### ***Next Stop***

by Debbie Fong

Pia is a soft-spoken middle schooler whose life is turned upside down after the loss of her younger brother, followed by her parents' decision to move to a new town. In an effort to get her mind off of the troubles at home, Pia goes on a bus tour with a family friend, stopping at weird and wacky roadside attractions. The final destination: a mysterious underground lake. The locals say it has magical powers; Pia won't admit she believes in it, but she's holding on to hope that the waters may hold the answer to mending her broken family.

### ***K is in Trouble***

by Gary Clement

K tries to get through his days, but is beset by talking fish, absurd adults, flocks of destructive crows, and detention.

### ***Saving Sunshine***

by Saadia Farugi

It's hard enough being a kid without being teased for a funny sounding name or wearing a hijab. It's even harder when you're constantly fighting your sibling--and Zara and Zeeshan really can't stand each other. During a family trip to Florida, when the bickering, shoving, and insults reach new heights of chaos, their parents sentence them to the worst possible fate--each other's company! But when the twins find an ailing turtle, it presents a rare opportunity for teamwork--if the two can put their differences aside at last.

### ***Break***

by Kayla Miller

For Spring Break, Olive is leaving her friends and their vacation plans behind to visit her dad at his new apartment in the city. Goober is thrilled to spend a week with their father and has a list of activities for their time together. Olive, on the other hand, still remembers the hurt of their dad moving halfway across the world. She would rather spend time with her friend Bree or scrolling through her phone to keep up with everything she's missing back home than catch up with him. As the week goes on, the normally easygoing Olive finds feelings of loneliness and resentment throwing her out of whack. Is there any hope of salvaging the visit—or will her Spring Break be a Spring Bust?

### ***Mabuhay!***

By Zachary Sterling

Struggling to fit in at school, first-generation Filipino siblings JJ and Althea find their world turned upside down when the witches, ogres and other creatures from Filipino folklore come to life, forcing them to embrace who they really are to save their family.

### ***Hazardous Tales: Above the Trenches*** by Nathan Hale

When the Great War began in 1914, America had plans to stay out of it. But some young men were so eager to fight, they joined the French Foreign Legion. From deep in the mud and blood of the Western Front, these young volunteers looked to the sky and saw the future—the airplane.

### ***Blue Stars: The Vice Principal Problem*** by Kekla Magoon & Cynthia Leitich Smith

Two everyday superheroes set out to save the world—starting with their school..

### ***Ghost Book***

by Remy Lai

July Chen sees ghosts. But her dad insists ghosts aren't real. So she pretends they don't exist. Which is incredibly difficult now as it's Hungry Ghost month, when the Gates of the Underworld open and dangerous ghosts run amok in the living world.

### ***Dear Rosie***

by Meghan Boehman & Rachael Briner

A group of animal friends navigates a new school year together as they grieve the loss of their friend, Rosie.

### ***Fox Point's Own Gemma Hopper*** by Brie Spangler

Gemma loves playing baseball, but with her mom gone and her dad working endless overtime, it's up to her to keep the house running. She's too busy folding laundry, making lunches, getting her younger twin brothers to do their homework, and navigating the perils of middle-school friendships to take baseball seriously. But every afternoon, Gemma picks up her baseball glove to pitch to Teddy during his batting practice. Could baseball be Gemma's ticket to the big leagues or will it mean the end of her family as she knows it?

***School Trip***

by Jerry Craft

Eighth grader Drew Ellis recognizes that he isn't afforded the same opportunities, no matter how hard he works, that his privileged classmates at the Riverdale Academy Day School take for granted, and to make matters worse, Drew begins to feel as if his good friend Liam might be one of those privileged kids and is finding it hard not to withdraw, even as their mutual friend Jordan tries to keep their group of friends together.

***Hoops***

by Matt Tavares

Inspired by a true story, this graphic novel about the ongoing battle of women striving for equality in sports follows the Wilkins Regional High School girls' basketball team in 1975 Indiana, as they push through to improbable victory after improbable victory despite their disadvantages.

***Crunch***

by Kayla Miller

Trying to stay on track with her jam-packed schedule, Olive needs to find time for herself before everything fizzles out, in this timely story about the importance of balance, effort and reaching out for help.

***Lo & Behold***

by Wendy Mass

When her dad's summer job takes her across the country, 12-year-old Addie gets caught up in an exciting project involving a virtual reality headset that helps her see the world in a whole new way.

**Non-Fiction/Biography/Autobiography*****A Kid's Guide to the Chinese Zodiac***

by Arron Hwang

A Kid's Guide to the Chinese Zodiac offers the history and lore behind this ancient classification system, along with practical advice for young readers on how to navigate relationships and apply oneself at school and at home, all based on the qualities associated with the twelve Zodiac animals.

***Animal Climate Heroes!***

by Alison Pearce Stevens

In our left corner we have the meanest villain that's ever existed. Responsible for rising seas and loss of biodiversity, it's climate change ready to wreak havoc on the Earth. But in our right corner? We have four superheroes ready to save the day!

***Pride: An Inspirational History of the LGBTQ+ Movement***

by Sella Cladwell

Take pride in who you are! This inspiring history of the LGBTQ+ community enlightens young readers on the true timeline of LGBTQ+ history around the world, the lives of important figures like Harvey Milk, and iconic events like Stonewall.

***The Museum of Odd Body Leftovers***

by Rachel Poliquin

This illustrated tour of our "leftover" body parts (like the appendix, or even goosebumps) introduces readers to the bizarre and fascinating science of evolution.

***Harboring Hope***

by Susan Hood

The inspirational true story of how twenty-two-year-old Henny Sinding courageously helped smuggle hundreds of Jewish families in occupied Denmark to safety in Sweden during the Holocaust

***Craig & Fred: A Marine, A Stray Dog, & how they Rescued Each Other*** by Craig Grossi

The uplifting and unforgettable true story of a US Marine, the stray dog he met on an Afghan battlefield, and how they saved each other and now travel America together, "spreading the message of stubborn positivity."

***Mountain of Fire: Into the Heart of Volcanoes*** by Julie Roberge

Take a trip around the world (and beyond) to discover the science, myths and stories behind iconic volcanoes. Krakatoa. Kilimanjaro. Vesuvius. The destructive power of volcanoes has claimed more than 250,000 lives since the beginning of civilization.

***Mighty Moe: The True Story of a Thirteen-Year-Old Women's Running Revolutionary*** by Rachel Swaby & Kit Fox

In 1967, a 13-year-old girl named Maureen Wilton set the women's world marathon record, running 26.2 miles in 3:15:23. Nicknamed "Little Mo" by her track teammates, Wilton was already a headline-making athlete. But her accomplishment was greeted with controversy and misogynistic accusations of cheating. Wilton receded into the background, left the sport, and kept her achievement secret.