



6th into 7th Grade 2024 Summer Reading List

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Prepared by SFWS Grade School Librarian Liz Perry for Class Teacher Stacey Hubbard

I include here some valuable advice from former librarian, Ann Grandin: *This is the summer, if it hasn't happened already, when children show a natural interest in "those shelves around the corner." Known as the Young Adult section, the inventory is often housed on a different floor or a very separate area from Juvenile Fiction in public libraries, and, if space allows, is equally segregated in independent bookstores. This separation is created by children's literature specialists who recognize the need for children – roughly 12 through 14 – to avoid moral and social challenges in literature they may be unprepared to navigate. Topics might include harsh language, drugs, sex, mental illness, suicide, and/or domestic violence. Young adult literature can send powerful and beautifully crafted messages, but these pictures need to be received at the right time. You the parent, know your child and are the best judge of readiness; if there seems to be a special need for a particular topic, consider reading the book with your child so there can be a shepherded conversation about its content; in other words, make yourself "the wise elder" who is sometimes missing from the book. Remember, too, that your interpretation of a book will be decidedly different from that of your child's; be prepared to converse from his or her point of view to receive a privileged perspective on how he or she views the world.*

Alcott, Louisa May	<i>Little Women</i>	Grown-up Meg, tomboyish Jo, timid Beth, and precocious Amy. The four March sisters couldn't be more different. But with their father away at war, and their mother working to support the family, they have to rely on one another. Whether they're putting on a play, forming a secret society, or celebrating Christmas, there's one thing they can't help wondering: Will Father return home safely? [jFIC ALC]
Alcott, Louisa May	<i>Little Men</i>	With two young sons of her own, and twelve rescued orphan boys filling the unusual school at Plumfield, Jo March - now Mrs. Jo Bhaer - couldn't be happier. But the boys have a habit of getting into scrapes, and their mischievous antics call for the warm and affectionate support of the whole March family to help avoid disaster.
Alexander, Kwame	<i>Booked</i>	Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. [FIC ALE]
Alexander, Kwame	<i>The Crossover</i>	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. [FIC ALE]

Alexander, Lloyd	<i>The Chronicles of Prydain</i>	There are five books in this series: <i>The Book of Three</i> , <i>The Black Cauldron</i> , <i>The Castle of Llyr</i> , <i>Taran Wanderer</i> , and <i>The High King</i> . The novels follow the protagonist, Taran, from the time of his youth as assistant pig - keeper throughout many years of adventure. His companions are Princess Eilonwy, the bard Fflewddur Fflam, and others.
Barnhill, Kelly	<i>Ogress and the Orphans</i>	Stone-in-the-Glen, once a lovely town, has fallen on hard times. Fires, floods, and other calamities have caused the people to lose their library, their school, their park, and even their neighborliness. The people put their faith in the Mayor, a dazzling fellow who promises he alone can help. After all, he is a famous dragon slayer. (At least, no one has seen a dragon in his presence.) Only the clever children of the Orphan house and the kindly Ogress at the edge of town can see how dire the towns problems are. Then one day a child goes missing from the Orphan house. [F BAR]
Barnouw, Victor	<i>Dream of the Blue Heron</i>	When Tim discovers an environmental activist badly hurt on a beach, his sun-kissed relaxing holiday in the Seychelles takes on a more dangerous twist. He and Grk are the only ones, it seems, who want to know what happened. They find themselves speeding towards a well-guarded private island, and single-handedly foiling a dastardly plot threatening the local endangered giant tortoises.
Behar, Ruth	<i>Lucky Broken Girl</i>	In this unforgettable multicultural coming-of-age narrative—based on the author’s childhood in the 1960s—a young Cuban-Jewish immigrant girl is adjusting to her new life in New York City when her American dream is suddenly derailed. Ruthie’s plight will intrigue readers, and her powerful story of strength and resilience, full of color, light, and poignancy, will stay with them for a long time. [FIC BEH]
Cartaya, Pablo	<i>The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora</i>	Funny and poignant, <i>The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora</i> is the vibrant story of a family, a striking portrait of a town, and one boy's quest to save both, perfect for fans of Rita Williams-Garcia. [FIC CAR]
Clark, Ann Nolan	<i>Secret of the Andes</i>	An Indian boy who tends llamas in a hidden valley in Peru learns the traditions and secrets of his Inca ancestors. [jFIC CLA]
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Dark Is Rising Sequence</i>	Will Stanton’s ordinary life is shattered with the dreadful revelation that the Dark -- the source of all evil -- is rising in its last and greatest bid to control the world. He finds that he is no ordinary boy, but the last-born of the Old Ones, immortals dedicated to keeping mankind free from the Dark. Soon Will is swept up in the great battle, along with his ageless master, Merriman; the three Drew children, who are mortal but have their own vital part to play; and a strange boy named Bran. These six, fight fear and death in a quest through time and space interwoven with the most ancient myths of the islands of Britain, until, at last, Will and Bran find the weapon that will ultimately vanquish the Dark. One of the most celebrated fantasy sequences of all time, the collection includes: <i>Over Sea, Under Stone</i> ; <i>The Dark Is Rising</i> ; <i>Greenwitch</i> ; <i>The Grey King</i> ; and <i>Silver on the Tree</i> . [FIC COO]

Crossley-Holland, Kevin	<i>The Seeing Stone</i>	It is 1199 and young Arthur de Caldicot is waiting impatiently to grow up and become a knight. One day his father's friend Merlin gives him a shining piece of obsidian and his life becomes entwined with that of his namesake, the Arthur whose story he sees unfold in the stone. In this many-layered novel, King Arthur is seen as a mysterious presence influencing not just one time and place but many. The 100 short chapters are almost like snapshots not only of the mythic tales of King Arthur, but the earthy, uncomfortable reality of the Middle Ages.
Cushman, Karen	<i>Catherine, Called Birdy</i>	The thirteen-year-old daughter of an English country knight keeps a journal in which she records the events of her life, particularly her longing for adventures beyond the usual role of women and her efforts to avoid being married off. [F CUS]
Dairman, Tara	<i>The Girl from Earth's End</i>	To save her father, Henna, a gifted gardener, attends St. Basil's Conservatory, a botanical boarding school rumored to house a legendary, long-extinct plant with miraculous healing powers, and while searching for the seeds, Henna learns to flourish with a little help from her newfound friends. [J DAI]
Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee	<i>The Conch Bearer</i>	In a dingy shack in the less-than-desirable Indian neighborhood he calls home, twelve-year-old Anand is entrusted with a conch shell that possesses mystical powers. His task is to return the shell to its rightful home many hundreds of miles away. Accompanying him are Nisha, a headstrong but resourceful child of the streets, and a mysterious man of indeterminate age and surprising resources named Abadhyatta. His quest will take him farther from home than he's ever been and will teach him more than he ever imagined -- and it will force him to make a poignant decision that will change him forever. [FIC DIV]
Dorris, Michael	<i>Sees Behind Trees</i>	Young Walnut doesn't see very well; therefore he cannot hunt and prove to his indian tribe that he is ready to be an adult. By using his other senses, Walnut earns the respect of his people along with his new name: Sees Behind Trees. Still, he doesn't feel like a man, until he begins a journey with elderly artist Gray Fire to find the mysterious land of water. Here is where Sees Behind Trees begins to learn what it means to be a man when he faces the most difficult test -- to save himself and find his way home. A brilliant and deeply humane writer whose words can show you something you have never seen. [jFIC DOR]

Faruqi, Reem	<i>Golden Girl</i>	Aafiyah Quamar lives a charmed life with her family in Atlanta, spending days playing tennis, reading <i>Weird but True!</i> books, and hanging out with her best friend, Zaina. Aafiyah has a bad habit of "borrowing" things without asking. She knows it is wrong, but cannot help it. Her father is arrested and charged with a crime he did not commit. Aafiyah comes up with an idea to get money to help pay her father's legal fees,. Told in verse, <i>Golden Girl</i> is the tale of a young girl in crisis. In Aafiyah, Faruqi creates a relatable but flawed protagonist whose road to redemption makes for an engaging, warmhearted story. [F FAR]
Frank, Steven B.	<i>Armstrong & Charlie</i>	During the pilot year of a Los Angeles school system integration program, two sixth grade boys, one black, one white, become best friends as they learn to cope with everything from first crushes and playground politics to the loss of loved ones and racial prejudice in the 1970s. [FIC FRA]
Frazier, Sundee	<i>The Other Half of My Heart</i>	Twin daughters of interracial parents, eleven-year-olds Keira and Minna have very different skin tones and personalities, but it is not until their African American grandmother enters them in the Miss Black Pearl Pre-Teen competition in North Carolina that red-haired and pale-skinned Minna realizes what life in their small town in the Pacific Northwest has been like for her more outgoing, darker-skinned sister. [J FRA]
Frederick, Heather Vogel	<i>Absolutely Truly</i>	"Twelve-year-old Truly Lovejoy's family moves to a small town to take over a bookstore. Soon, she has to solve two mysteries involving a missing book and an undelivered letter. With two older brothers and two younger sisters clamoring for attention, her mother back in school, and everyone up to their eyebrows trying to keep Lovejoy's Books afloat, Truly feels more overlooked than usual. So, she pours herself into uncovering the mystery of an undelivered letter she finds stuck in a valuable autographed first edition of <i>Charlotte's Web</i> , which subsequently goes missing from the bookshop. What's inside the envelope leads Truly and her new Pumpkin Falls friends on a madcap treasure hunt around town, chasing clues that could spell danger. [jFIC FRE]
Gallico, Paul	<i>The Snow Goose</i>	The <i>Snow Goose</i> is a story about Philip Rhayader, an artist living in an abandoned lighthouse in the marshlands of Essex, who befriends a young local girl, Fritha. Together they nurse a wounded Canadian goose back to health.
George, Jean Craighead	<i>Julie of the Wolves</i>	Miyax, like many adolescents, is torn. But unlike most, her choices may determine whether she lives or dies. At 13, an orphan, and unhappily married, Miyax runs away from her husband's parents' home, hoping to reach San Francisco and her pen pal. But she becomes lost in the vast Alaskan tundra, with no food, no shelter, and no idea which is the way to safety. Now, more than ever, she must look hard at who she really is. Is she Miyax, Eskimo girl of the old ways? Or is she Julie (her "gussak"-white people-name), And when a pack of wolves begins to accept her into their community, Miyax must learn to think like a wolf as well. If she trusts her Eskimo instincts, will she stand a chance of surviving? [F GEO]

George, Jean Craighead	<i>Shark Beneath the Reef</i>	Like his father and grandfather before him, 14-year-old Tomás Torres dreams of catching a great shark in the Sea of Cortez -- and he will catch it, although there are other things he should be thinking about. With an education, her could someday become a marine biologist. Tomás's family want him to stay in school. But Tomás knows he will be more help to them if he leaves school now to become a fisherman. Should he drop out? The choice is Tomás' alone -- a difficult one for a boy just becoming a man. It is only underwater, in a confrontation with the fisherman's greatest prize and worst enemy, that Tomás finds the strength to make his decision.
George, Jean Craighead	<i>Summer of the Falcon</i>	A sensitive young girl trains a falcon during three summers in the country. The interrelatedness of nature is a thread that binds the book together and gives it depth. Set in the 1930's when it was legal to capture birds of prey to train and keep as pets. The story of June's coming of age takes readers across three summers, with only brief paragraphs to summarize her school years in the city.
George, Jean Craighead	<i>Water Sky</i>	"Nukik! Lincoln gasped, his skin tingling. Could this be happening! Had he just seen a whale with a white tail? Was it now going to give itself to him, as Vincent had said? Lincoln still could not believe it. He had had only one thing in mind when he made the long trip from Massachusetts to Barrow, Alaska, and that was to find his Uncle Jack. He thought Vincent Ologak, an Eskimo whaling captain, could tell him where to find him, for Vincent was the man Uncle Jack had planned to see when he went to Alaska to help save the bowhead whale from extinction. But Vincent Ologak cannot or will not give Lincoln a straight answer. As far as he is concerned, Lincoln is there for a very different purpose from the one he himself imagines: A whale is coming to Lincoln, a whale that will end two years of waiting and suffering for Vincent's people. [FIC GEO]
Henry, Marguerite	<i>King of the Wind: The Story of the Godolphin Arabian</i>	He was named "Sham" for the sun, this golden-red stallion born in the Sultan of Morocco's stone stables. Upon his heel was a small white spot, the symbol of speed. But on his chest was the symbol of misfortune. Although he was swift as the desert winds, Sham's pedigree would be scorned all his life by cruel masters and owners. This is the classic story of Sham and his friend, the stable boy Agba. Their adventures take them from the sands of the Sahara to the royal courts of France, and finally to England. For Sham was the renowned Godolphin Arabian, whose blood flows through the veins of almost every superior thoroughbred. Sham's speed -- like his story -- has become legendary. [Fic]

Higuera, Donna Barba	<i>The Last Cuentista</i>	A girl named Petra Pena, who wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita. But Petra's world is ending. Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred scientists and their children - among them Petra and her family - have been chosen to journey to a new planet. They are the ones who must carry on the human race. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet - and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. A sinister Collective has taken over the ship during its journey, bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past. They have systematically purged the memories of all aboard - or purged them altogether. Petra alone now carries the stories of our past, and with them, any hope for our future. Can she make them live again? [F HIG]
Keller, Tae	<i>Jennifer Chan is not Alone</i>	Mallory Moss knows the rules of middle school. The most important one? You have to fit in to survive. But then Jennifer Chan moves in across the street, and that rule doesn't seem to apply. Jennifer doesn't care about the laws of middle school . . . then Jennifer goes missing. Using clues from Jennifer's journals, Mallory goes searching. But the closer she gets, the more Mallory has to confront why Jennifer might have run . . . and face the truth within herself. [F KEL]
Kenny, Emily	<i>The Extraordinary adventures of Alice Tonks</i>	Alice Tonks desperately wants to make friends at boarding school but, being autistic, she's always found it hard to fit in. Then she discovers she is a 'switcher' and can talk to animals. As she starts to explore her newfound abilities, to her horror she learns that creatures are going missing. Only Alice holds the key to solving the mystery and finding the culprit, but she'll need to harness her full powers first. And to do that she'll need a bit of help from her new friends--both human and animal. [J KEN]
Lawrence, Caroline	<i>The Pirates of Pompeii And others in the series</i>	It is AD 79. The Roman world is reeling from the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Hundreds of refugees are living in a makeshift camp, trying to come to terms with what has happened. Then even more tragedy strikes: the camp's children begin to disappear. Flavia Gemina and her friends Jonathan, Nubia, and Lupus are determined to find out more and start to investigate a powerful and charismatic man known as the Patron. A dangerous trail leads them to the caves and grottoes of Sorrento, where they encounter pirates, slave dealers, and possible death. [FIC LAW]
Lee, Yoon Ha	<i>Dragon Pearl</i>	Min is shocked to hear her brother, Jun, has deserted the Space Force in search of the legendary Dragon Pearl. Eager to prove his innocence, she sets out to find him, and to do so, she'll need to use her family's ancestral magic—they're shape-shifting fox spirits who have preternatural charm—a skill that has not endeared them to others. Along the way, Min outthinks pesky space security, earns money at a gambling den, survives a laser fight with mercenaries, and breaks a planet-wide quarantine of the Fourth Colony to rid it of its vengeful ghostly inhabitants. Luckily, she has some new friends on her side, Haneul, a female dragon, and Sujun, a nonbinary goblin. Lee's written a unique space opera infused with elements of traditional Korean mythology. [F LEE]

Lloyd, Natalie	<i>Hummingbird</i>	When twelve-year-old Olive, who suffers from brittle bone disease and has been homeschooled all her life, finally attends school in person she soon discovers fitting in is not that easy, but if she can find the magical wish-granting hummingbird that supposedly lives nearby, and prove herself worthy, maybe her deepest wish will be granted. [L LLO]
Mansour, Haifaa al	<i>The Green Bicycle</i>	This Middle Eastern coming-of-age story is told with warmth, spirit, and a mischievous sense of humor. Spunky eleven-year-old Wadjda lives in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with her parents. She desperately wants a bicycle so that she can race her friend Abdullah, even though it is considered improper for girls to ride bikes. Wadjda earns money for her dream bike by selling homemade bracelets and mixtapes of banned music to her classmates. But after she's caught, she's forced to turn over a new leaf (sort of), or risk expulsion from school. Still, Wadjda keeps scheming, and with the bicycle so closely in her sights, she will stop at nothing to get what she wants. Set against the shifting social attitudes of the Middle East, <i>The Green Bicycle</i> explores gender roles, conformity, and the importance of family, all with wit and irresistible heart. [FIC ALM]
Morgan, G. A.	<i>The Five Stones Trilogy</i>	Five children are spending a pleasant summer day boating off the Maine coast when they suddenly find themselves lost in dense fog, only to wash ashore on a mysterious and forgotten island of ancient secrets and terrible history. Crackling with action and suspense, <i>The Fog of Forgetting</i> , the first volume of <i>The Five Stones Trilogy</i> , plumbs the rich territory between realism and fantasy by immersing the reader in an imaginative world that is also natural and recognizable. Powerful, gripping and above all compelling, <i>The Fog of Forgetting</i> brings together captivating characters, integrated narrative, myth, and mystery for the delight of all, be they a sophisticated ten-year-old boy or a fifty-year-old reader who still remembers what it's like to be young with the long days of summer ahead. [FIC MOR]
Mbalia, Kwame	<i>Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky</i>	. In this adventurous novel inspired by West African mythology and African-American folk tales, black seventh grader Tristan Strong is sent from Chicago to spend the summer on his grandparents' Alabama farm. His best friend has just died, and he's lost a boxing match (much to his boxing family's disappointment). Tristan accidentally tears a hole between the farm and the myriad lands of Alke. There, he encounters legendary folk heroes such as hammer-swinging John Henry and wily Brer Fox, whose people are being captured and enslaved by terrifying monsters. (2020) [F MBA]
Napoli, Donna Jo	<i>North</i>	Tired of his mother's overprotectiveness and intrigued by the life of African American explorer Matthew Henson, twelve-year-old Alvin travels north and spends a season with a trapper near the Arctic Circle. [FIC NAP]
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<i>Shiloh</i>	When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to mistreat his dogs.

Nesbit, E.	<i>Five Children and It</i>	The five children are Cyril, Anthea, Robert, Jane, and their baby brother. But what is 'It'? It is the Sand-fairy known as the Psammead, and it lives in the gravel pits where purple and yellow wildflowers grow. It is furry and fat with hands like a monkey's--and has the power to grant wishes. The children discover that wish-making is fun at first, but sometimes, when wishes come true, fun can turn into trouble...
Oh, Ellen	<i>Flying Lessons & Other Stories</i>	In a partnership with We Need Diverse Books, industry giants Kwame Alexander, Soman Chainani, Matt de la Peña, Tim Federle, Grace Lin, Meg Medina, Walter Dean Myers, Tim Tingle, and Jacqueline Woodson join newcomer Kelly J. Baptist in a story collection that is as humorous as it is heartfelt. This impressive group of authors has earned among them every major award in children's publishing and popularity as New York Times bestsellers. From these distinguished authors come ten distinct and vibrant stories. [FIC OH]
Paterson, Katherine	<i>The Sign of the Chrysanthemum</i>	Muna has never known his father -- a samurai, a noble warrior. But Muna's mother has told Muna how he will know him one day: by the sign of the chrysanthemum. When his mother dies, Muna travels to the capital of twelfth-century Japan, a bewildering city on the verge of revolution. He finds a haven there, as a servant to the great swordsmith, Fukuji. But Muna cannot forget his dream: He must find his father. Only then will he have power and a name to be reckoned with. Only then will he become a man. [Fic]
Paterson, Katherine	<i>The Master Puppeteer</i>	Who is the man called Sabura, the mysterious bandit who robs the rich and helps the poor? And what is his connection with Yosida, the harsh and ill-tempered master of feudal Japan's most famous puppet theater? Young Jiro, an apprentice to Yosida, is determined to find out, even at risk to his own life. Meanwhile, Jiro devotes himself to learning puppetry. Kinshi, the puppet master's son, tutors him. When his sheltered life at the theater is shattered by mobs of hungry, rioting peasants, Jiro becomes aware of responsibilities greater than his craft. As he schemes to help his friend Kinshi and to find his own parents, Jiro stumbles onto a dangerous and powerful secret.... [Fic]
Paterson, Katherine	<i>Of Nightingales That Weep</i>	The daughter of a samurai never weeps. But Takiko, whose warrior father was killed in battle, finds this a hard rule, especially when her mother remarries a strange and ugly country potter. To get away from her miserable home, Takiko eagerly accepts a position at the imperial Japanese court. There, her beauty and nightingale voice captivate the handsome young warrior, Hideo -- who also turns out to be an enemy spy. As war breaks out, Takiko flees the court and is forced to choose between loyalty to her people and her love for Hideo. She painfully learns that whatever choice she makes, she cannot run away from her samurai honor. [Fic]

Pearsall, Shelley	<i>The Seventh Most Important Thing</i>	In 1963, thirteen-year-old Arthur is sentenced to community service helping the neighborhood Junk Man after he throws a brick at the old man's head in a moment of rage, but the junk he collects might be more important than he suspects. Inspired by the work of American folk artist James Hampton. [FIC PEA]
Peck, Robert Newton	<i>A Day No Pigs Would Die</i>	Robert Newton Peck's novel of a Vermont farm boyhood has become a celebrated classic, captivating readers year after year with its quiet humor and poignant drama. It is the timeless story of one Shaker boy, his beloved pet pig, and the joys and hardships that mark his passage into manhood. <i>A Day No Pigs Would Die</i> , is told in a unique and compelling voice, one with all the unadorned power of a Shaker hymn. Once heard, it is not soon forgotten.
Peck, Richard	<i>The Best Man</i>	Archer Magill has spent a lively five years of grade school with one eye out in search of grown-up role models. Three of the best are his grandpa, the great architect; his dad, the great vintage car customizer, and his uncle Paul, who is just plain great. These are the three he wants to be. Along the way he finds a fourth—Mr. McLeod, a teacher. In fact, the first male teacher in the history of the school. But now here comes middle school and puberty. Change. Archer wonders how much change has to happen before his voice does. He doesn't see too far ahead, so every day or so a startling revelation breaks over him. Then a really big one when he's the best man at the wedding of two of his role models. But that gets ahead of the story. In pages that ripple with laughter, there's a teardrop here and there. And more than a few insights about the bewildering world of adults, made by a boy on his way to being the best man he can be. [FIC PEC]
Pyle, Howard	<i>The Story of the Champions of the Round Table</i>	Kings, queens, and great adventure await in the legendary land of Camelot It all began with a boy and a sword. When young Arthur pulls an enchanted sword from a stone, his destiny is sealed: He is to become the king of England. Full of powerful wizards and valiant knights, this is the timeless tale of King Arthur, Camelot, and the Knights of the Round Table. [FAC 398.2 PYL]
Pyle, Howard	<i>The Book of Pirates</i>	This book of rip-roaring adventures of swashbuckling pirates and buccaneers of the Spanish Main, includes "The Ghost of Captain Brand," "Tom Chist and the Treasure Box," "Jack Ballister's Fortunes," "The Ruby of Kishmoor," and other tales.
Reynolds, Jason	<i>Patina</i>	A newbie to the track team, Patina "Patty" Jones must learn to rely on her family and teammates as she tries to outrun her personal demons. [FIC REY] 3 others in this series: <i>Ghost, Lu and Sunny</i>

Roanhorse, Rebecca	<i>Race to the Sun</i>	In this fantasy inspired by Navajo legends, two siblings discover they're the latest incarnations of the famed Hero Twins, just in time to combat a devious monster who plans to unleash his brethren upon the world. In Albuquerque, N.M., 7th grader Nizhoni Begay can detect monsters disguised as regular people. And no one heeds her warnings, even when one monster—her father's new boss, Mr. Charles, an oil executive at a company that "people are protesting for putting in that pipeline"—shows interest in her Navajo heritage.(2020) [F ROA]
Ryan, Pam Munoz	<i>Solimar: the Sword of the Monarchs</i>	On the brink of her Quinceañera, and her official coronation, Princess Solimar is given a magical gift that sets her life on a new path. [F RYA]
Saeed, Aisha	<i>Amal Unbound</i>	Amal doesn't think she is brave. She's just a girl in a Pakistani village who loves to read and teach reading. As a 12-year-old girl, she is expected to stop focusing on her education and start learning her role as a woman in her village. Sulking after a trip to the market, she is justifiably rude the son of Khan Sahib, ruler of her village. To repay her "debt," her father allows her to become a servant to the Khans for an undetermined amount of time. As a servant, Amal begins to learn secrets of the Khan family; secrets that could possibly be her chance at freedom [F SAE]
Salazar, Aida	<i>A Seed in the Sun</i>	A farm working girl with big dreams meets activist Dolores Huerta and joins the 1965 protest for migrant workers' rights in this tender-hearted middle grade novel in verse, perfect for fans of Rita Williams-Garcia and Pam Munoz Ryan. [F SAL]
Sass, A.J.	<i>Ellen outside the Lines</i>	Ellen, an autistic thirteen-year-old, navigates a new city, shifting friendships, a growing crush, and her queer and Jewish identities while on a class trip to Barcelona, Spain. [F SAS]
Snyder, Laurel	<i>Orphan Island</i>	In the tradition of modern-day classics like Sara Pennypacker's <i>Pax</i> and Lois Lowry's <i>The Giver</i> comes a deep, compelling, heartbreaking, and completely one-of-a-kind novel about nine children who live on a mysterious island. [JFIC SNY]
Stevenson, Robert Louis	<i>Treasure Island</i>	The influence of <i>Treasure Island</i> on popular perceptions of pirates is enormous, including such elements as treasure maps marked with an "X," schooners, the Black Spot, tropical islands, and one-legged seamen bearing parrots on their shoulders.
Streit, Jakob	<i>Geron and Virtus: A Fateful Encounter of Two Youths, a German and a Roman</i>	Geron and Virtus, written by master Waldorf teacher Jakob Streit, is the remarkable story of two boys during the Roman campaign to conquer the Germanic tribes. That particular period in history is important, because the encounter between the Romans and Germans produced the birth of a new Europe and the transition to a new time. The story is about friendship, slavery, honor, and adventure. The text is rich with spiritual insights provided

by druid priests and their stories of Nordic mythology, the foundation of the Germanic folk soul.

Stroud, Jonathan	<i>Bartimoeus Trilogy</i>	In the first book, a boy, sold by his parents to a middle-ranking magician, ultimately gains the skills to summon a 5,000-year-old jinni to do his will and, consequently, exposes himself to a future of danger and suspense. Also read <i>The Screaming Staircase</i> (2013) by the same author. [FIC STR]
Sutcliff, Rosemary	<i>Warrior Scarlet</i>	In Bronze Age Britain, young Drem must overcome his disability-a withered arm-if he is to prove his manhood and become a warrior.
Svetcov, Danielle	<i>Parked</i>	Svetcov's debut novel is alternately narrated by two introspective 12-year-olds living radically different lives in San Francisco .Newly homeless Jeanne Ann and Cal form a vital friendship as they both search for stability and community, finding it through love of books, art, and food.(2020). [F SVE]
Verne, Jules	<i>Around the World In 80 Days</i>	Phileas Fogg of London and his newly employed French valet Passepartout attempt to circumnavigate the world in 80 days on a £20,000 wager set by his friends at the Reform Club.
Verne, Jules	<i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i>	An adventurous geology professor chances upon a manuscript in which a 16th-century explorer claims to have found a route to the earth's core. Professor Lidenbrock can't resist the opportunity to investigate, and with his nephew Axel, he sets off across Iceland in the company of Hans Bjelke, a native guide. The expedition descends into an extinct volcano toward a sunless sea, where they encounter a subterranean world of luminous rocks, antediluvian forests, and fantastic marine life -- a living past that holds the secrets to the origins of human existence
Verne, Jules	<i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea</i>	An American frigate, tracking down a ship-sinking monster, faces not a living creature but an incredible invention -- a fantastic submarine commanded by the mysterious Captain Nemo. Suddenly a devastating explosion leaves just three survivors who find themselves prisoners in Nemo's death ship on an underwater odyssey around the world, as Captain Nemo -- one of the most horrible villains ever created -- takes his revenge out on society. This novel, written in 1870, foretells with uncanny accuracy the inventions and advanced technology of the 20th century [FIC VER]
Vitalis, Jessica	<i>The Rabbit's Gift</i>	When the delicate balance between the mythical rabbits and the people of Montpeyroux breaks down, runt Quincy and twelve-year-old Fleurine learn to trust each other to ensure their respective community's survival. [F VIT]
Warga, Jasmine	<i>A Rover's Story</i>	Built to explore Mars, Resilience begins to develop human-like feelings as he learns from the NASA scientists who assembled him, and as he blasts off and explores Mars, Resilience must overcome different obstacles as he explores the red planet. [J WAR]

White, T.H.	<i>The Sword in the Stone</i>	In old Merry England weather behaves. In the Castle of Forest Sauvage, Wart (rhymes with Art for Arthur) follows Sir Ector's 'proper son' Kay, two years older. Wizard Merlyn, fewmets from talking owl familiar Archimedes, turns boy into perch, hawk, owl, stone, and badger for their lessons and stories - until King Uther dies without heirs.
William-Garcia, Rita	<i>One Crazy Summer</i>	In the summer of 1968, after traveling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp. [F WIL]
Woodson, Jacqueline	<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i>	Jacqueline Woodson, one of today's finest writers, tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse. Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child [BIO WOO]
Woodson, Jaqueline	<i>Harbor Me</i>	When six students are chosen to participate in a weekly talk with no adults allowed, they discover that when they're together, it's safe to share the hopes and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world.

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