



Raptors Read 2025-2026



<http://bit.ly/EHSRaptorsRead>

This is a list of suggested titles. If you would prefer, you may read a book that is not on this list, as long as it is of an appropriate level for a high school student. Also, please realize that in our attempt to suggest titles that would appeal to a wide range of students, some of the titles may be more appropriate for mature readers. Please use your best judgment when choosing a book and feel free to consult your parents, teachers, or the EHS teacher librarians. Happy reading!



Always Isn't Forever by J.C. Cervantes

Best friends and soul mates since they were kids, Hart and Ruby were poised to take on senior year together when Hart tragically drowns in a boating accident. Absolutely shattered, Ruby struggles to move on from the person she knows was her forever love. Hart can't let go of Ruby either, and thanks to some divine intervention, he's offered a second chance. Only it won't be as simple as bringing him back to life--instead, Hart's soul is transferred to the body of local bad boy, Jameson. Winning Ruby back will be more challenging than he'd imagined.



Blood at the Root by LaDarrion Williams

Ten years ago, Malik's life changed forever the night his mother mysteriously vanished, and he discovered he had uncontrollable powers. Since then, he has kept his abilities hidden, looking out for himself and his younger foster brother, Taye. Now 17, Malik is finally ready to start a new life for both of them, however, a daring act to rescue Taye reveals an unexpected connection with his long-lost grandmother: a legendary conjurer with ties to a hidden magical university that Malik's mother attended. In a unique saga of family, history, and community, Malik must embrace his legacy to save what's left of his old family and his new one.



Bomb: Graphic Novel – The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin

In December of 1938, a chemist in a German laboratory made a shocking discovery: When placed next to radioactive material, a Uranium atom split in two. That simple discovery launched a scientific race that spanned three continents. This is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon. This is the story of the atomic bomb.



Bright Red Fruit by Safia Elhillo

No matter how hard Samira tries, she can't shake her reputation as a "Bad Girl." She's never gotten the benefit of the doubt--not from her mother or the aunties who watch her like a hawk. But Samira is determined to have a perfect summer filled with fun parties, exploring DC, and growing as a poet--until a scandalous rumor has her grounded and unable to leave her house. When Samira turns to an online poetry forum for solace, she catches the eye of an older, charismatic poet. For the first time, Samira feels wanted. But this dangerous new relationship could threaten all her dreams.



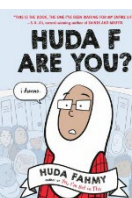
Everything We Never Had by Randy Ribay

Told from multiple perspectives, this is an emotionally charged novel about four generations of Filipino American boys grappling with identity, masculinity, and their fraught father-son relationships. Watsonville, 1930. Stockton, 1965. Denver, 1983. Philadelphia, 2020. Each Maghabol boy forges his own path amid heavy family and societal expectations, passing down his flaws, values, and virtues to the next generation, until it's up to Enzo to see how he can braid all these strands and men together.



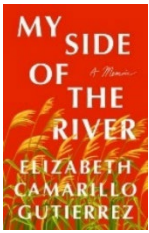
The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune

Linus Baker is a by-the-book case worker in the Department in Charge of Magical Youth. He's tasked with determining whether six dangerous magical children are likely to bring about the end of the world. Arthur Parnassus is the master of the orphanage. He would do anything to keep the children safe, even if it means the world will burn, and his secrets come to light. The House in the Cerulean Sea is an enchanting love story, masterfully told, about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place--and realizing that family is yours to make.



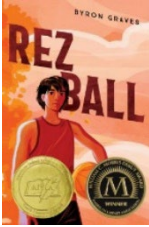
Huda F Are You? by Huda Fahmy

Huda and her family just moved to Dearborn, MI, a small town with a big Muslim population. But Huda doesn't fit in. She's just Huda, and she's not sure what that means. She tries on all kinds of identities and friends, but nothing fits quite right. Until she realizes she can get back to the basics.



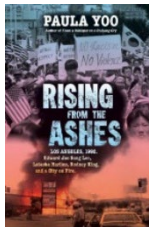
My Side of the River: A Memoir by Elizabeth Camarillo Gutierrez

Born to Mexican immigrants in Tucson, Arizona, Elizabeth had the world at her fingertips as she entered her freshman year of high school. But suddenly, as her parents' visas expired, they were forced to return to Mexico, leaving Elizabeth responsible for her younger brother and her education. Elizabeth became what her school would eventually describe as an unaccompanied, homeless youth. Armed with only her passport and sheer teenage determination, she knew that even though her parents couldn't stay, there was no way she could let go of the opportunities the U.S. could provide.



Rez Ball by Byron Graves

These days, Tre is happiest when he is playing basketball on the Red Lake Reservation high school team--even though he can't help but be constantly gut-punched with memories of his big brother, Jaxon, who died in an accident. When Jaxon's former teammates on the varsity team offer to take Tre under their wing, he sees this as his shot to represent his Ojibwe rez, but stepping into his brother's shoes means that Tre can't mess up. After decades of rez teams almost making it, Tre needs to take his team to state and live up to Jaxon's dreams.



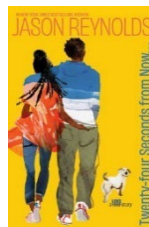
Rising From the Ashes by Paula Yoo

In 1992, after a jury returned not guilty verdicts in the trial of four police officers charged in the brutal beating of a Black man, Rodney King, Los Angeles was torn apart. Here are the stories of three lives and three families: those of Rodney King; Latasha Harlins, a Black teenager shot and killed by a Korean American storeowner; and Edward Jae Song Lee, a Korean American man killed in the unrest. Woven throughout and set against a minute-by-minute account of the uprising, are the voices of dozens of others: police officers, firefighters, journalists, business owners, and activists who recall the events and their lasting impact on the city.



Songlight by Moira Buffini

Elsa is used to hiding the most important parts of herself--her feelings for Rye, her distaste for a world ruled by men, and, most crucially, her gift of songlight. In Brightland, those with songlight are called Unhumans and are abhorred. On one desperate, heart-wrenching day a strange girl, Nightingale, seemingly appears before Elsa--her own songlight having been drawn to Elsa's frantic grief. Elsa lives in a remote seaside village; Nightingale lives in a city hundreds of miles away. When the two connect via songlight and when they realize the extent of their power, they'll be thrust into the middle of a war that threatens their very existence.



Twenty-Four Seconds From Now...: A Love Story by Jason Reynolds

In a series of moments spanning two years, seventeen-year-old Neon navigates the progression of his relationship with Aria, culminating in a case of the jitters just as the two are at a pivotal point. Readers learn of Neon's close ties with his family who he leans on for advice. Aria's family life is a bit more complicated, since she's the only non-musical household member, and her relationship with her mother is somewhat strained. This is a rich, tender story that captures the range of emotions surrounding emerging love and what they mean in the lives of young people.



The Unboxing of a Black Girl by Angela Shante

A memoir illuminating the places where Black girls are nurtured or boxed in using stories and poems about expectations, exploitation, love, loss, and self-realization. These poems center on pivotal moments of Black childhood, using footnotes that encourage you to listen to songs, watch movies, and even learn how to play Spades to further contextualize and celebrate Black culture in every aspect of life. In-between fond memories, Shante also explores the dark corners of childhood. Every piece in this memoir invites you to unpack the past - to find and transcend the expectations and boxes the world puts Black girls in.



Wild Tongues Can't Be Tamed: 15 Voices from the Latinx Diaspora edited by Saracicia J. Fennell

Featuring an all-star cast of writers, these fifteen original pieces delve into everything from ghost stories and superheroes, to memories in the kitchen and travels around the world, to finding love and speaking your truth. Full of both sorrow and joy, this collection is a celebration of the rich and diverse Latinx community. The bestselling and award-winning contributors include Elizabeth Acevedo, Cristina Arreola, Ingrid Rojas Contreras, Naima Coster, Natasha Diaz, Saracicia J. Fennell, Kahlil Haywood, Zakiya Jamal, Janel Martinez, Jasminne Mendez, Meg Medina, Mark Oshiro, Julian Randall, Lilliam Rivera, and Ibi Zoboi.