

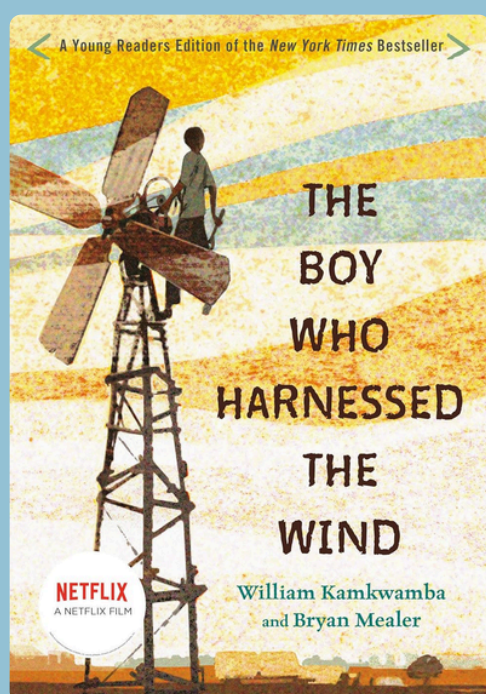
2026 MACLAY MIDDLE SCHOOL SEVENTH GRADE SUMMER READING

IMPACTING COMMUNITIES AND THE WORLD

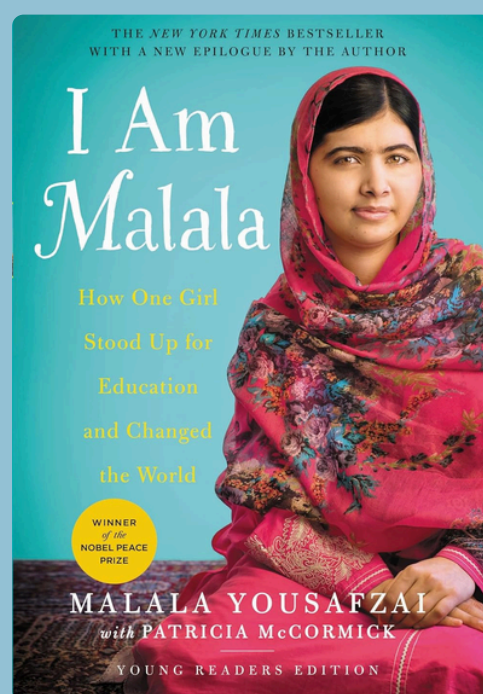
What does it mean to make an impact in a community? Our 7th grade theme works to answer this question through a shared ongoing discussion that culminates in a field trip to Washington D.C. To help students get ready for a year of impact, each student will read and respond to at least **two books** this summer. Students should be prepared to bring copies of both books with them to school once the year begins to assist them with assignments.

- 1 First, students should **choose one of the community books** listed below which tell the true story of a young person who made an impact in their community. These memoirs are designed to allow students to begin their year by connecting with other students in their class as they discuss their selected book. While students read their selected community book, they should respond to the prompt below in at least 250 typed words. ***Please note that students should read the Young Readers Edition for the first two options.***
- 2 Additionally, students should **select one book they have not read before from the free-choice list**. While reading the free-choice book, students should answer the prompt below about the book in at least 250 typed words. Students should be prepared to submit their responses for both prompts to their Language Arts teacher on the second day of their class.

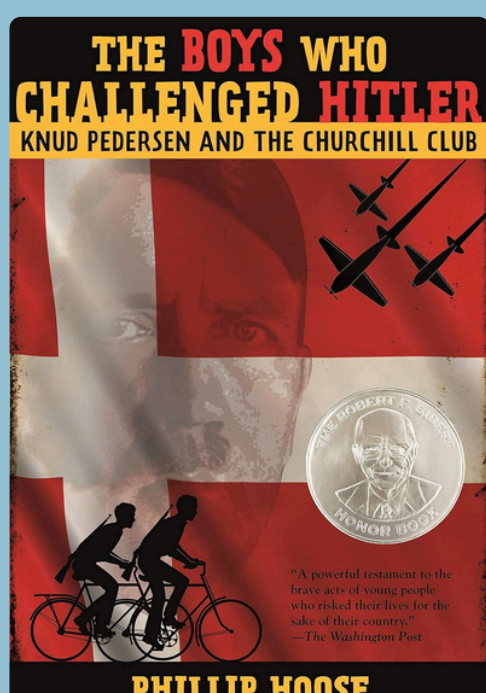
COMMUNITY BOOK OPTIONS (SELECT ONE)



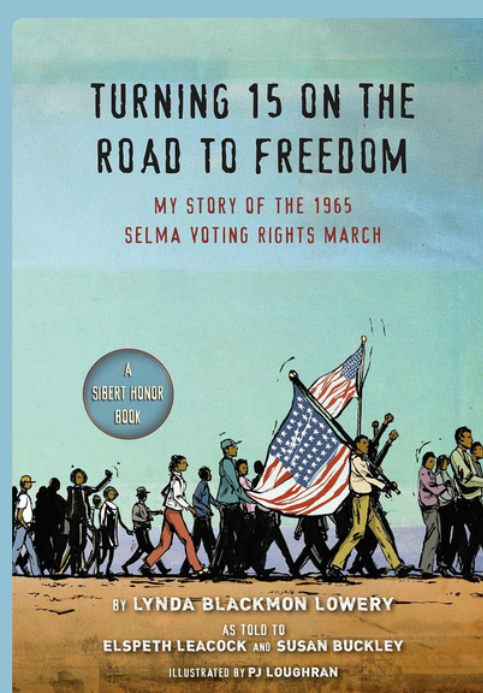
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
(Young Readers Edition)
by William Kamkwamba*



I am Malala
(Young Readers Edition)
by Malala Yousafzai and
Patricia McCormick*



The Boys Who Challenged Hitler
by Phillip Hoose*



Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom
by Lynda Blackmon Lowery*

ASSIGNMENT PROMPTS

- 1 **Community Book Prompt:**
In what ways does the main character from your community book positively impact their community and what did you learn from this impact? Use textual evidence to support your answer. Write at least 250 words.
- 2 **Free-Choice Book Prompt:**
Identify one character from your free-choice book who you relate to and explain the ways in which you and this character are similar. Use examples from the book and your life to support your answer. Write at least 250 words.

Note: While all summer reading book options are written for middle school students, there may be mature or challenging scenes in some books that prompt family conversation. We encourage you to use resources such as [CommonSenseMedia.org](https://www.commonsensemedia.org) to familiarize yourself with the book's content so you can approve your student's selections.

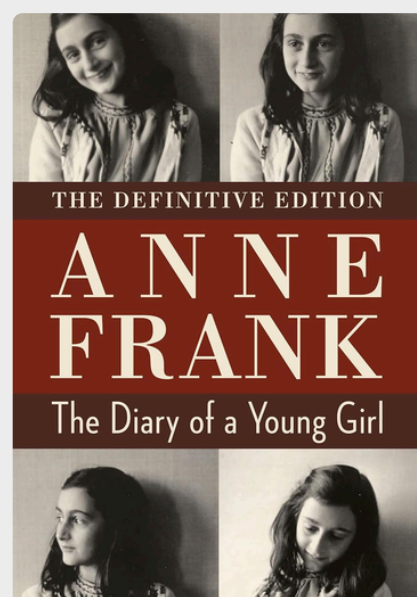
2026 MACLAY MIDDLE SCHOOL SEVENTH GRADE SUMMER READING

FREE-CHOICE BOOK OPTIONS (SELECT ONE BOOK THAT YOU HAVE NEVER READ)

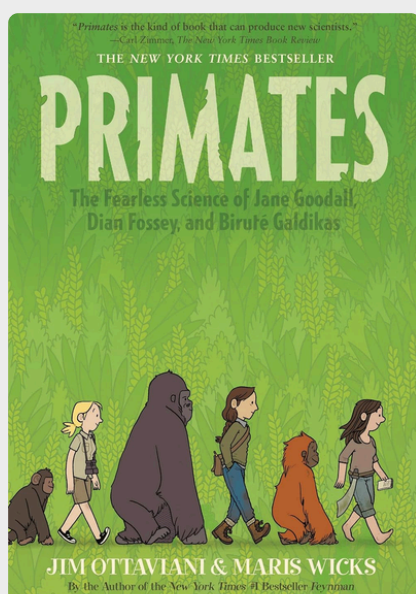
NONFICTION



The Finest Hours
(Young Readers Edition)
by Michael J. Tougias*



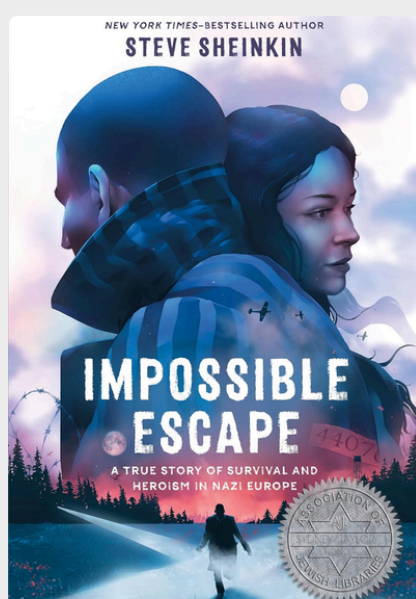
Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl
by Anne Frank*



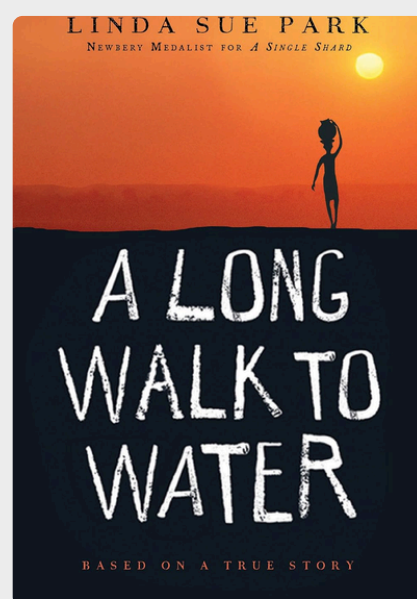
Primates: The Fearless Science of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Birute Galdikas
by Jim Ottaviani*



Red Scarf Girl
by Ji-li Jang*

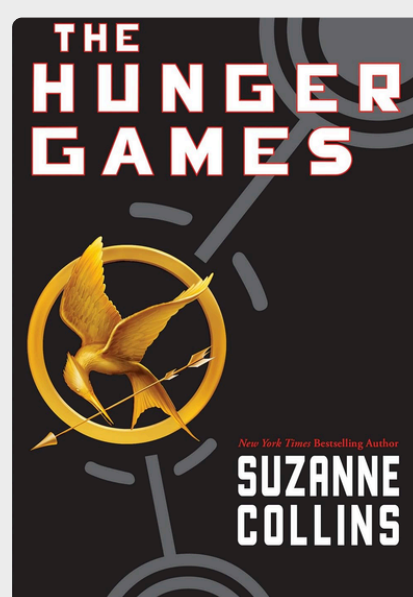


Impossible Escape: A True Story of Survival and Heroism in Nazi Europe
by Steve Sheinkin*

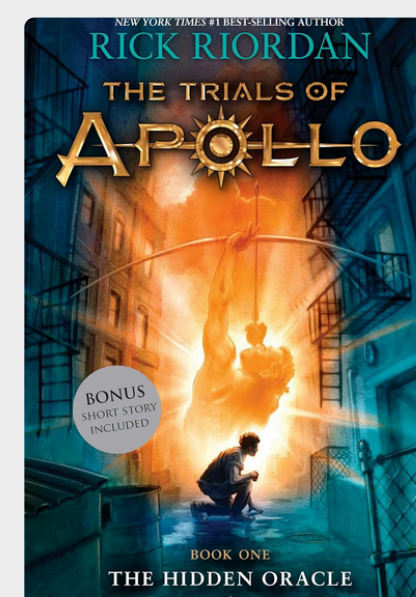


A Long Walk to Water
by Linda Sue Park*

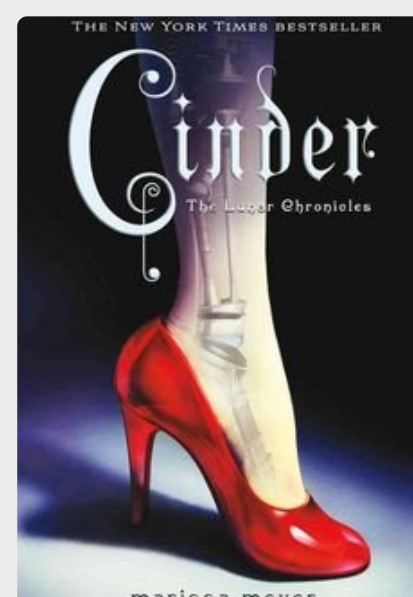
FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION



The Hunger Games series
by Suzanne Collins*



The Trials of Apollo series
by Rick Riordan*



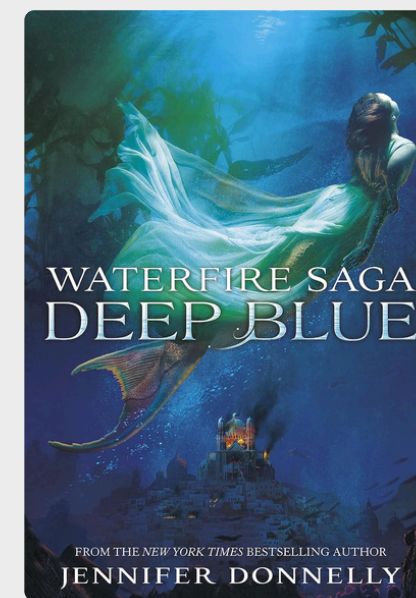
Cinder
by Marissa Meyer*



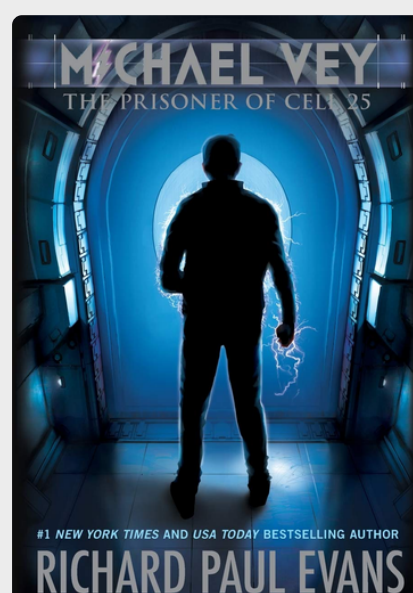
Scythe
by Neal Shusterman*



The House of the Scorpion
by Nancy Farmer*



Deep Blue
by Jennifer Donnelly*



Michael Vey
by Richard Paul Evans*

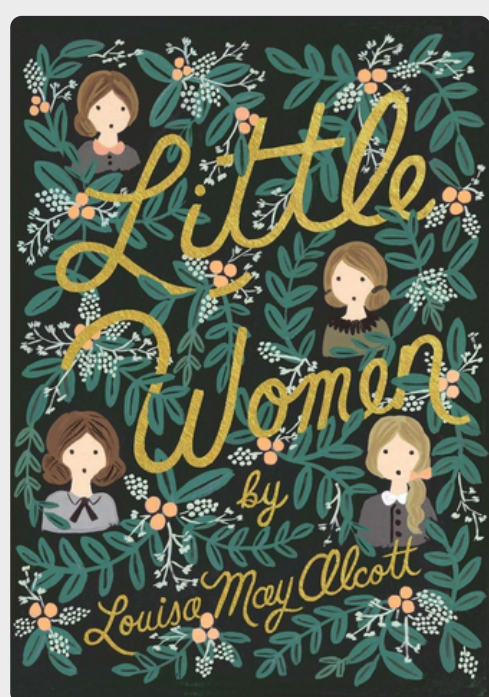


Ghost Boys
by Jewell Parker Rhodes*

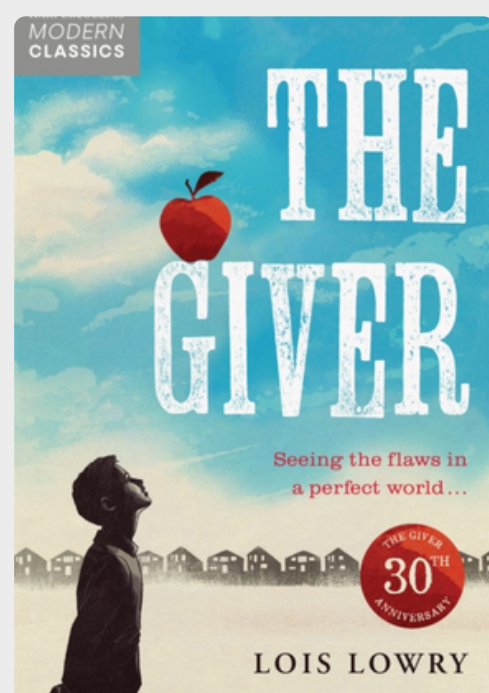
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FREE-CHOICE BOOK OPTIONS (SELECT ONE BOOK THAT YOU HAVE NEVER READ)

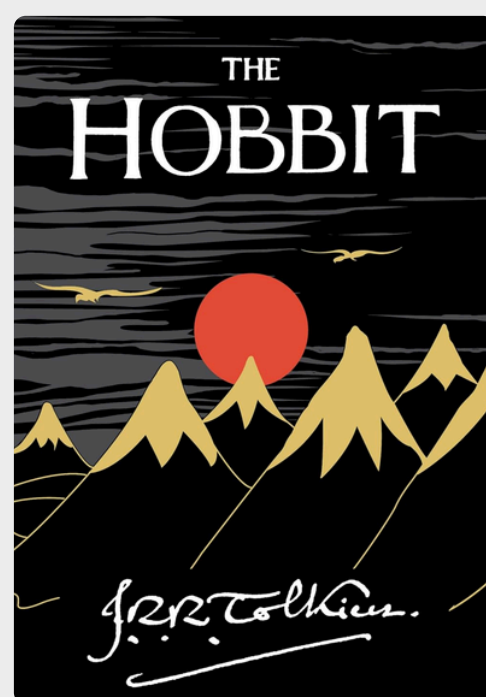
CLASSIC



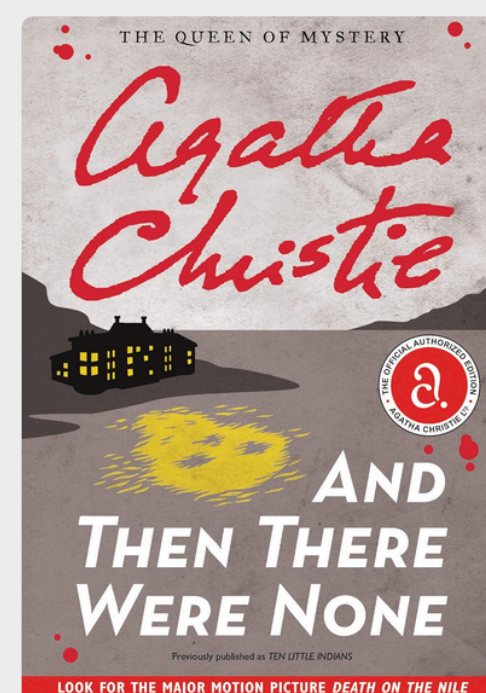
Little Women
by Louisa May Alcott*



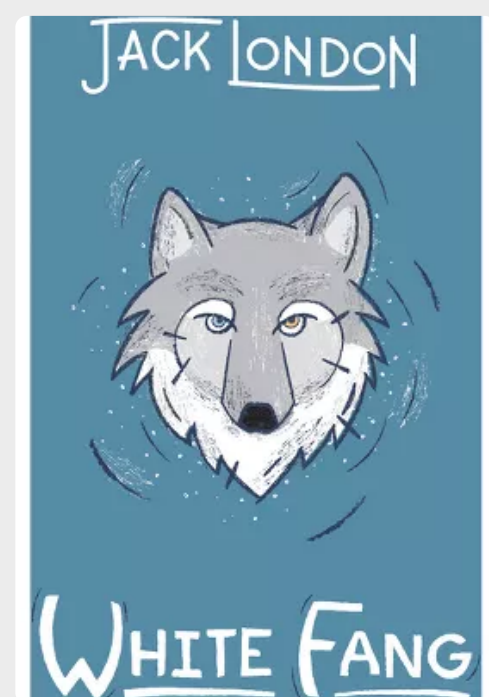
The Giver
by Lois Lowry*



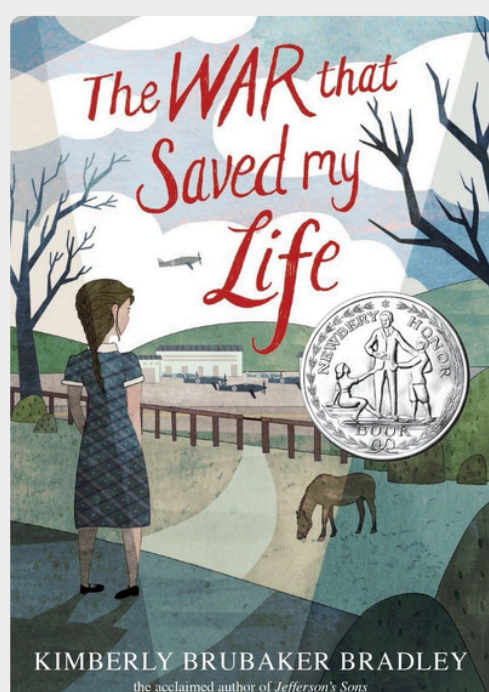
The Hobbit
by J.R.R. Tolkien*



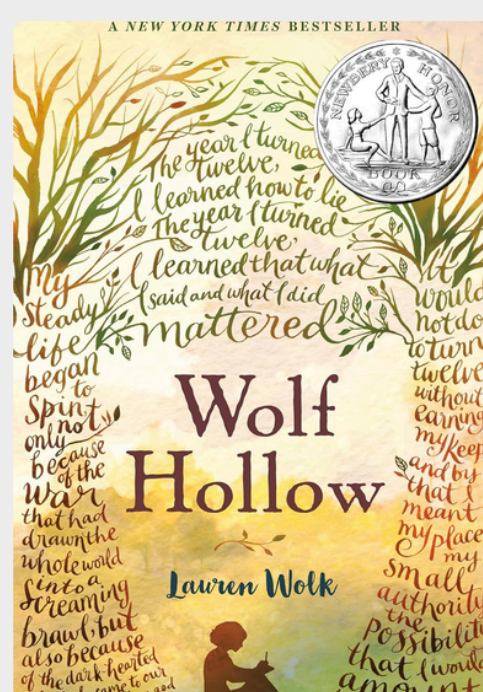
And Then There Were None
by Agatha Christie*



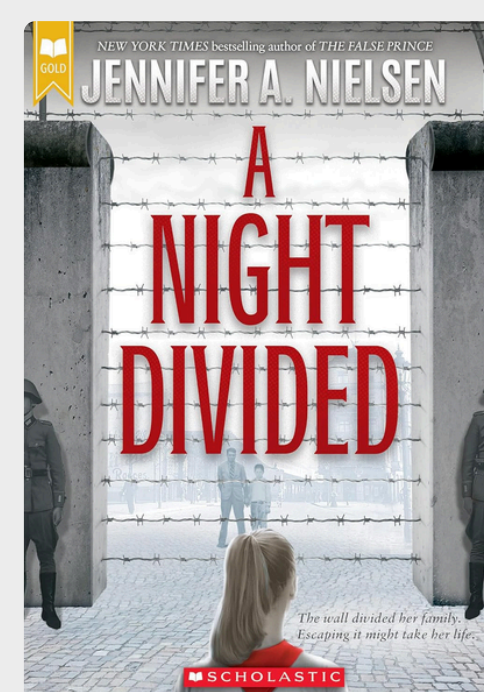
White Fang
by Jack London*



The War that Saved my Life
by Kimberly B. Bradley*

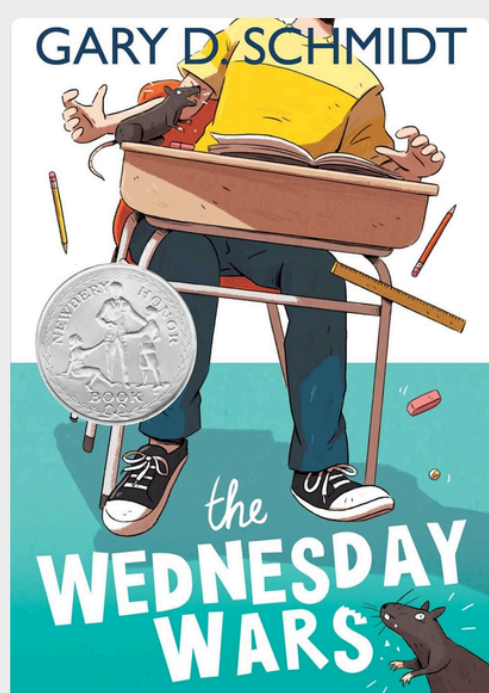


Wolf Hollow
by Lauren Wolk*

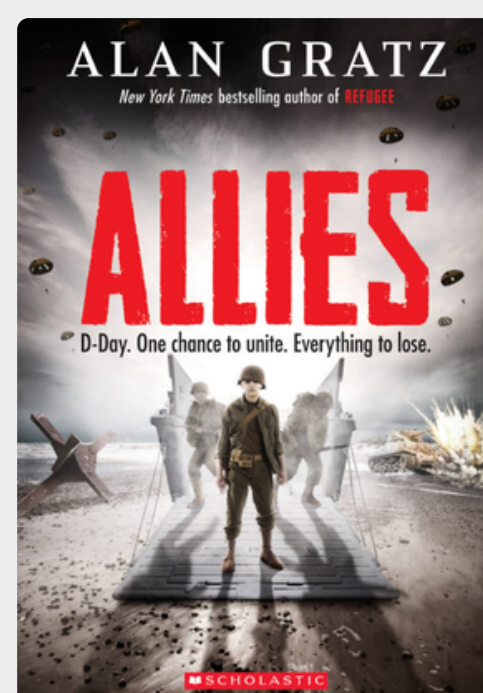


HISTORICAL FICTION

A Night Divided
by Jennifer Nielsen*



The Wednesday Wars
by Gary D. Schmidt*



Allies
by Alan Gratz*

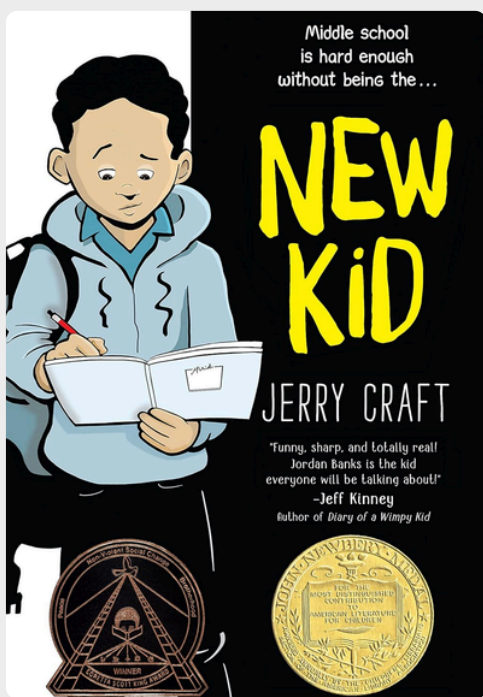


The Bluest Sky
by Christina Diaz Gonzalez*

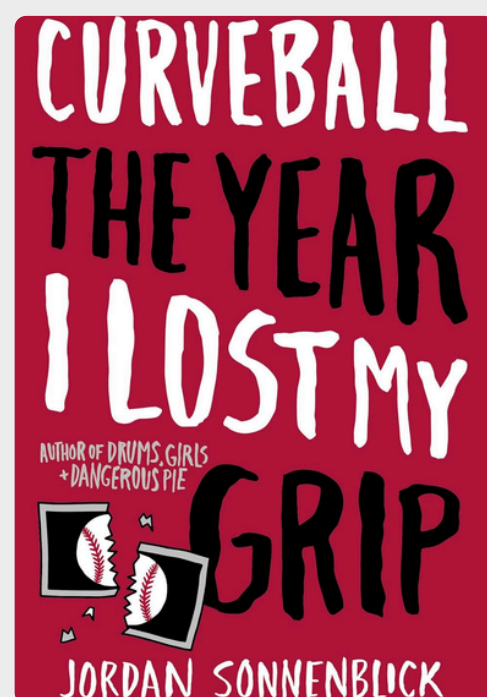
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FREE-CHOICE BOOK OPTIONS (SELECT ONE BOOK THAT YOU HAVE NEVER READ)

REALISTIC FICTION AND MYSTERY



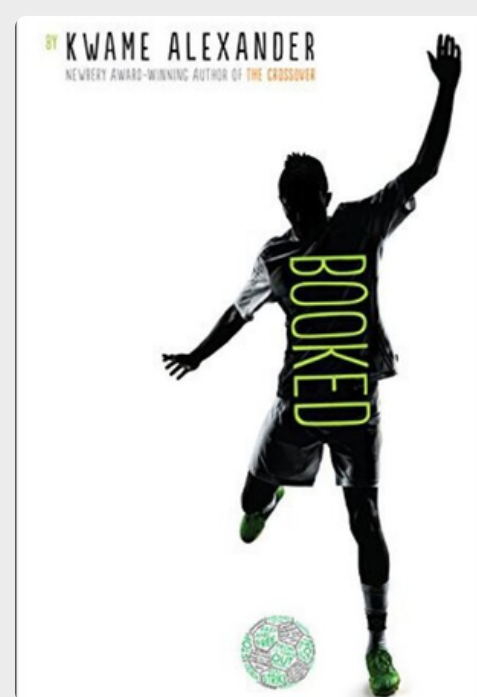
New Kid
by Jerry Craft*



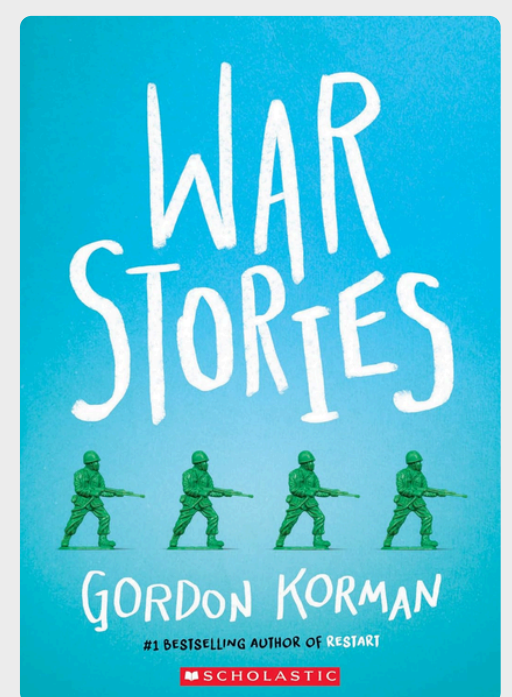
***Curveball: The Year I
Lost my Grip***
by Jordan Sonnenblick*



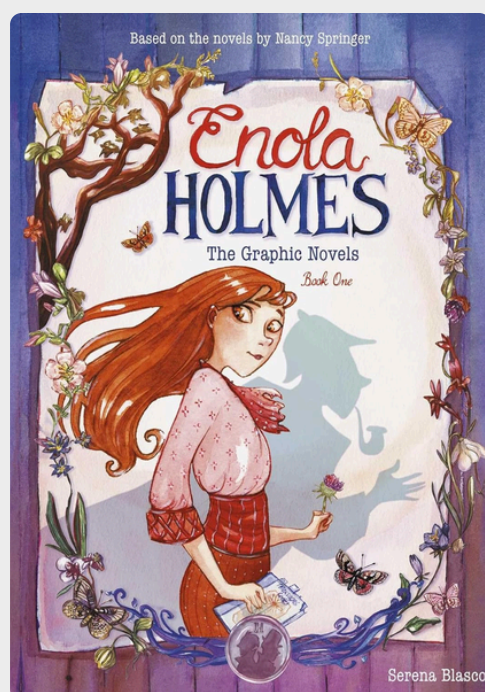
The Thing about Jellyfish
by Ali Benjamin*



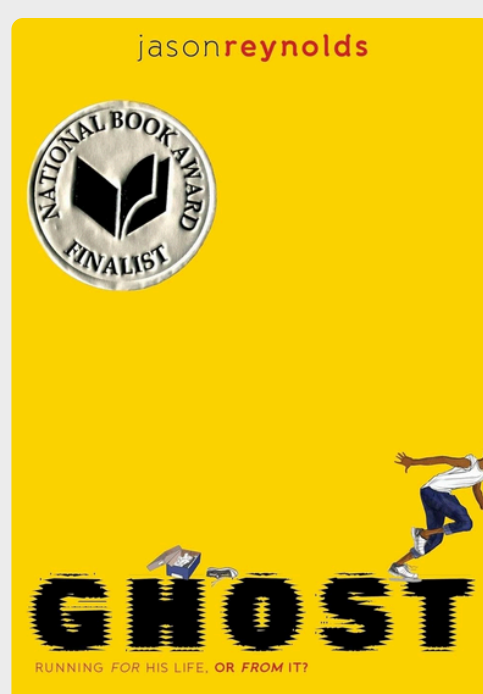
Booked
by Kwame Alexander



War Stories
by Gordon Korman



***Enola Holmes:
The Graphic Novels***
by Nancy Springer*



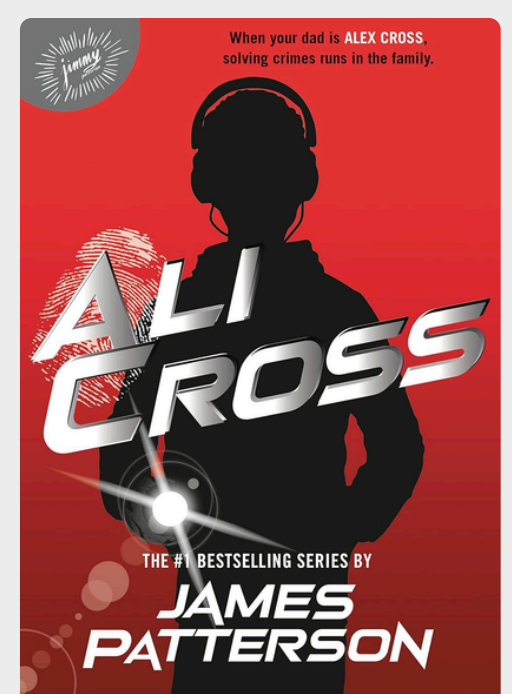
Ghost
by Jason Reynolds*



Wrecker
by Carl Hiaasen*



***The List of Things that
Will Not Change***
by Rebecca Stead*



Ali Cross
by James Patterson*

FREE E-BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS

Several of your reading choices are available on Maclay's digital library, Sora, for no additional cost. Students can read or listen on a phone, tablet, or computer. Titles that have an * are available for free on Sora.

To access these books, download the Sora app or go to soraapp.com and enter "Maclay" as your school. Then enter "**seventh**" for both the username and password to log into our shared grade level account. In contrast with your individual Sora account, the books in this community account will be available over the whole summer for multiple students to read the same book at the same time.

If you need any help with Sora, please contact the Maclay librarian, Mr. Low (dlow@maclay.org)

If you have any questions about summer reading, please contact Dr. Overstreet, the Language Arts department chair (roverstreet@maclay.org)