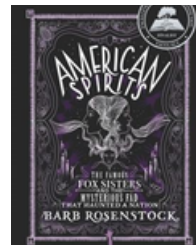


WEARING MY MOTHER'S HEART

By Sophia Thakur

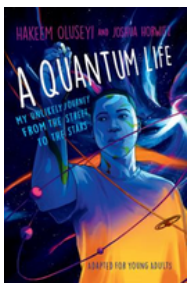
This collection of performance poetry connects the experiences of different generations of Black women while reflecting on how connecting through struggles of racism, politics, and self-love can build increasing freedom for generations to come.



AMERICAN SPIRITS

By Barb Rosenstock

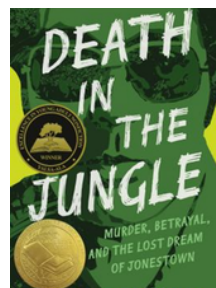
Can people speak with the dead? This is the true story of the Fox sisters, teenage mediums in the 1800s who became famous through claims that they could communicate with spirits—and who found themselves at the intersection of increasing interest in the supernatural and questions about women's roles in society.



A QUANTUM LIFE

By Hakeem Oluseyi and Joshua Horwitz

Born James Plummer, this memoir follows acclaimed astrophysicist Hakeem Oluseyi as he overcomes extreme poverty, violence, and addiction to pursue a career in physics.



DEATH IN THE JUNGLE: MURDER, BETRAYAL, AND THE LOST DREAM OF JONESTOWN

By Candace Fleming

This chilling true story explores how Jim Jones built the Peoples Temple from a hopeful movement into a dangerous, isolated community where trust and control went hand in hand—and led to unspeakable tragedy.



FLOWERS IN THE GUTTER

By K.R. Gaddy

As they grew up under Hitler's regime, a group of teenagers known as the Edelweiss Pirates carried out acts of defiance such as spreading anti-Nazi messages and helping persecuted people, despite the constant threat of arrest or death. This is their story.



MYSTERY ROYALE

By Kaitlyn Cavalancia

Sixteen-year-old Mullory Prudence follows a cryptic message from her mother and enters a mysterious mansion game where a massive inheritance is up for grabs. But when the contest turns into a real whodunit involving a dead heir and powerful secrets, Mullory must solve the mystery fast—before she becomes the next target.



IF WE WERE A MOVIE

By Zakiya N. Jamal

Rochelle is determined to be valedictorian and beat her academic rival—until she finds herself working under her at a historically Black-owned movie theater. When strange events start threatening its survival, they must ally to save the theater, all while their rivalry turns into something far more complicated.



WE'LL FLY AWAY

By Bryan Bliss

Two best friends, Luke and Toby, are determined to do anything to escape their struggling hometown and horrific home lives. As their choices spiral out of control, the story alternates between their final year together and letters Luke sends Toby—from death row.

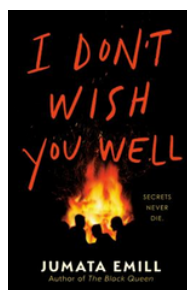




KUSUNOKI'S FLUNKING HER HIGH SCHOOL GLOW-UP. 1

By Mitsuki Mil

Keisuke Shizuki enters high school determined to reinvent himself and avoid the painful memories of being rejected by his first crush. But when he's reunited with his former outcast classmate, now a stunningly popular girl who asks for his help fitting in, his carefully built new identity starts to crack.



I DON'T WISH YOU WELL

By Jumata Emil

Eighteen-year-old Pryce returns to his hometown to launch an investigative podcast about a notorious murder spree—one which still has lingering questions. But as he digs deeper into the case, he uncovers dangerous secrets that suggest someone wants the truth to stay hidden.



WE COULD BE MAGIC

By Marissa Meyer

Tabitha lands her dream summer job at a magical theme park, hoping to become a princess performer and bring joy to guests the way the park once inspired her. But when she's placed at a food stand instead, she has to fight for her place in the spotlight while discovering that happily-ever-after might not look the way she expected.



SPACEWALKING WITH YOU

By Inuhiko Doronda

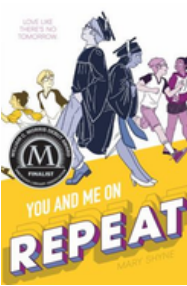
Kobayashi feels like he's falling behind in life until he meets Uno, a carefree new classmate who drifts through everything with surprising optimism. As their unlikely friendship grows, Kobayashi starts to rethink his own path.



ANGELICA AND THE BEAR PRINCE

By Trung Le Nguyen

When the overachieving Angelica hits burnout, she struggles to rebuild her life with the help of an online friendship with a theater mascot named Peri. When she takes an internship to uncover who's underneath the bear costume, she discovers a new version of herself who perhaps can have it all.



YOU AND ME ON REPEAT

By Mary Shyne

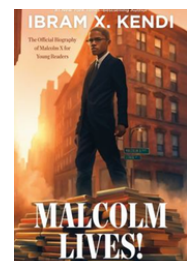
Chris and Alicia are stuck reliving their high school graduation day in a mysterious time loop, and Chris is convinced a perfect first kiss will break them free. As they clash over how to escape—and confront their messy shared past—the loop keeps resetting, forcing them to rethink what actually matters most.



FLIP

By Ngozi Ukazu

After a humiliating prom rejection, Chi-Chi suddenly swaps bodies with the most popular boy in school. As the swaps keep happening, they're forced into an unlikely alliance to survive senior year and figure out how to get their lives back.

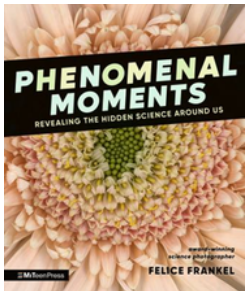


MALCOLM LIVES! : THE OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X FOR YOUNG READERS

By Ibram X Kendi

Celebrating 100 years after his birth, follow Malcolm X's journey to becoming a bold, influential voice for justice and change.





**PHENOMENAL MOMENTS :
REVEALING THE HIDDEN SCIENCE
AROUND US**

By Felice Frankel

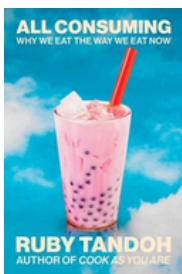
This visually stunning book from a world-renowned photographer invites readers to explore the hidden science behind everyday moments through breathtaking photographs and interactive challenges.



**LULLABIES FOR THE INSOMNIACS :
A MEMOIR IN VERSE**

By Ella Grace Foutz

This memoir in verse follows a teen's powerful and deeply personal experience living with bipolar disorder. Vacillating between depressive and manic episodes—often leading to insomnia—the poems showcase how to navigate a complex mental illness and understand where the self begins.



**ALL CONSUMING: WHY WE
EAT THE WAY WE EAT NOW**

By Ruby Tandoh

How much of what we love to eat is truly our own choice? Learn how food has transformed from everyday necessity into a cultural obsession shaped by the powerful forces of television and social media.



FINDING MY WAY : A MEMOIR

By Malala Yousafzai

Malala Yousafzai shares a deeply personal coming-of-age memoir about growing up in the spotlight after surviving the Taliban attack that made her famous worldwide. Can she define herself beyond the headlines, on her own terms?



**THE OCEAN WOULD PAINT ME
BLUE**

By Zoulfa Katouh

Seventeen-year-old Jihad loses her ability to see the color in her world after her mother's death. After being sent to a boarding school, where her hijab marks her for harassment, she finds solace in painting the story of her mother's journey to Syria in an old notebook—only for those paintings to pop up as graffiti all over New York.

Para asistencia con este documento en español, por favor llame a la línea nueve al 412-529-6463 y seleccione la opción #1.
 ॐ दूरभाषीत सहायता साधनेसाठी नविनी कृपया मादल नम्बर (१२२)२९-६४६३ मा फोन मधी ऑप # २ चयन करा।
 Kwa msaada kwa mwaraka(document) hii katika Swahili , tafadhali piga msitari wa tisa 412-529-6463 kisha chaguwe uchaguzi la #3.
 ॐ如需获得本文件的中文帮助, 请拨打电话412-529-6463致电九号线, 并选择选项 #4
 5# حصول على المساعدة باللغة العربية , إضغظوا على
 Чтобы получить помощь по этому документу на русском языке, пожалуйста

Pittsburgh Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, gender (including gender identity or expression), sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or disability in its programs, activities or employer and provides equal access to designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504/ADA Title II Coordinator at 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 or 412.529.HELP (4357).



Curated by Pittsburgh Public Schools Librarians, this Best of Books list features recommended reads—high-quality recreational books that connect to curricular themes and content. Each title was thoughtfully selected to inspire growth in thinking, learning, and curiosity.

