The background of the entire page is a vibrant green color with a complex, repeating geometric pattern of overlapping triangles and polygons, creating a textured, crystalline effect.

WRA SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2019



Western Reserve Academy Leisure Summer Reading 2019

Most members of the Reserve community find pleasure in reading. For those of us tied to the academic calendar, summers and holidays give us what we need most—time. With that in mind, we offer students this list of recommended books for summer reading.

This list is intended for student **LEISURE** reading. We hope the variety piques student interest and provides the opportunity to expand horizons, satisfy curiosity, and/or offer an enjoyable escape. Titles include: “classics” to recently published titles, relatively easy to challenging reading levels, and a variety of genres covering diverse subjects. Also included is a list of recommended websites to locate further suggestions for award-winning books and titles of interest.

This list is updated annually by members of the John D. Ong library staff. Titles are recommended by members of the WRA community or by respected review sources including the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association. A few titles have frank passages that mirror some aspects of life explicitly. Therefore, we urge parents to explore the titles your teenagers choose and discuss the book as well as the choice with them.

All the books on this list should be available in libraries and/or bookstores. The Ong Library will also arrange for a special “summer checkout” for anyone interested. Just ask at the library front desk.

Enjoy your summer and your free time, and try to spend some of it reading! Your feedback about any title on this list is welcome—and we also welcome your recommendations for titles to add in the future.

The John D. Ong Library Staff

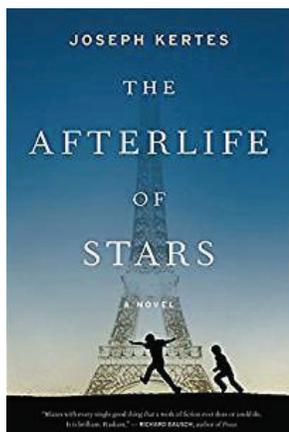
PLEASE NOTE: This list should not be confused with the English Department’s Required Reading summer program. Please go to [Summer Reading](#) and click on “Required Reading” for that information.

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Summer Reading for Ninth/Tenth Graders

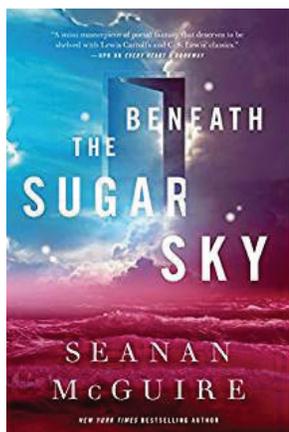
Fiction:



Afterlife of Stars (The) (Joseph Kertes, 2017) As Russian tanks roll through the cobblestone streets of Budapest and shots ring out, young Robert and Attila Beck, inseparable brothers, peer from the boot of a toppled statue of Stalin at the first grisly signs of revolution. The year is 1956. That October day, Russian soldiers will storm their family home, prompting the boys' hurried escape from the city with their parents, grandmother, and two cousins. Not all will survive.*



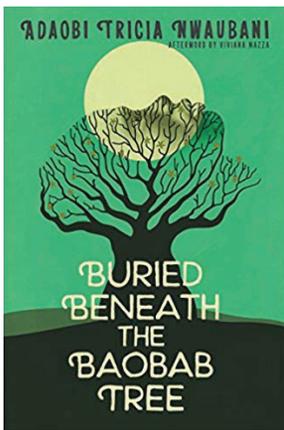
Beasts Made of Night (Tochi Onyebuchi, 2017) In the walled city of Kos, corrupt mages can magically call forth sin from a sinner in the form of sin-beasts—lethal creatures spawned from feelings of guilt. Taj is the most talented of the aki, young sin-eaters indentured by the mages to slay the sin-beasts. But Taj's livelihood comes at a terrible cost.*



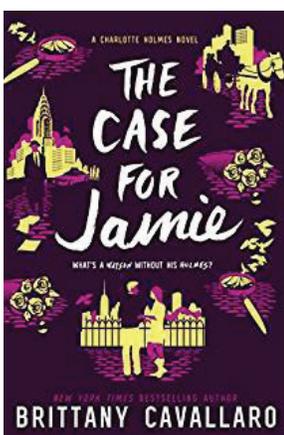
Beneath the Sugar Sky (Seanan McGuire, 2018) [Book 3] in this series returns to Eleanor West's Home for Wayward Children. At this magical boarding school, children who have experienced fantasy adventures are reintroduced to the "real" world.* Check out the other standalone books in the *Wayward Children* series: Book 1: *Every Heart a Doorway* (2016) and Book 2: *Down among the Sticks and Bones* (2017).



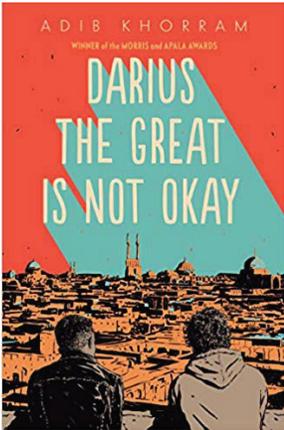
Between Before and After (Maureen Doyle McQuerry, 2018) Fourteen-year-old Molly worries about school, friends, and her parents' failed marriage, but mostly about her mother's growing depression. Molly knows her mother is nursing a carefully-kept secret. A writer with an obsession for other people's life stories, Elaine Donnelly is the poster child of repressed emotions.*



Buried Beneath the Baobab Tree (Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani, 2018) A new pair of shoes, a university degree, a husband—these are the things that a girl dreams of in a Nigerian village. And with a government scholarship right around the corner, everyone can see that these dreams aren't too far out of reach. But the girl's dreams turn to nightmares when her village is attacked by Boko Haram, a terrorist group, in the middle of the night.*



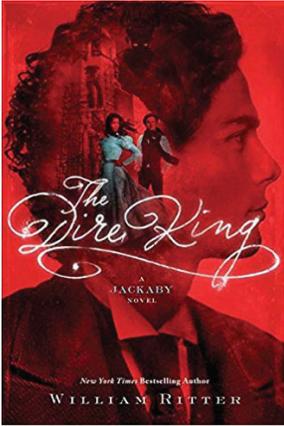
Case for Jamie (The) (Brittany Cavallaro, 2018) It's been a year since the shocking death of August Moriarty, and Jamie and Charlotte haven't spoken. Holmes and Watson may not be looking to reconcile, but when strange things start happening, it's clear that someone wants the team back together.* The third installment in the *Charlotte Holmes* series featuring the teen descendants of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson in *A Study in Charlotte* (2014) and *The Last of August* (2017).



Darius the Great is Not Okay (Adib Khorram, 2018) Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones. He’s a Fractional Persian—half, his mom’s side—and his first-ever trip to Iran is about to change his life.*



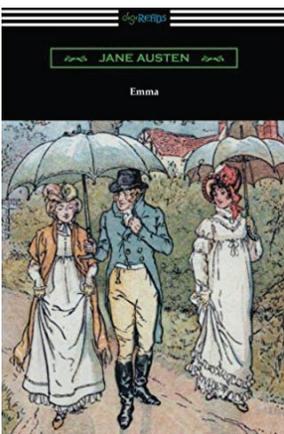
Detective/Crime/Mystery Writers: Try any book by the following mystery writers: **Donna Andrews** (featuring blacksmith Meg Langslow in a humorous series); **Nancy Atherton** (featuring amateur sleuth Lori Shepard with help from her ghostly Aunt Dimity); **Jennifer Lynn Barnes** (featuring 17-year-old Cassie Hobbes in the *Naturals* series); **Stephanie Barron** (featuring 19th century author Jane Austen as an amateur sleuth); **Heather Blake** (featuring “Wishcrafter” —a witch who can grant wishes—Darcy Merriweather); **Mary Daheim** (featuring amateur detective Judith McMonigle in the *Bed and Breakfast* series and Emma Lord as the protagonist in the *Alpine* series); **Joanna Fluke** (featuring bakery owner and amateur sleuth Hannah Swensen); **Laurie R. King** (featuring Mary Russell, former protégé to Sherlock Holmes); **Edward Marston** (the *Railway Detective* series, featuring Scotland Yard detectives Inspector Robert Colbeck and Sergeant Victor Leeming, set in the 1850s); **Alexander McCall Smith** (featuring Mma Precious Ramotswe, owner of Botswana’s #1 Ladies Detective Agency); **Spencer Quinn** (featuring down-on-his-luck private investigator Bernie and his faithful canine companion—and series narrator, Chet); **Kathy Reichs and Brendan Reichs** (*Virals* series featuring teen sleuth Tory Brennan); or **Les Roberts** (featuring Cleveland private detective Milan Jacovich).



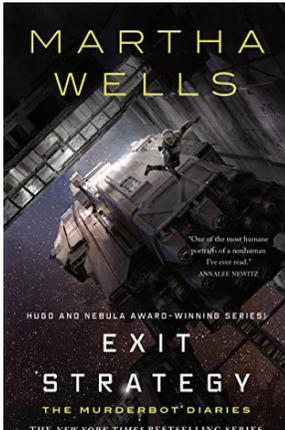
Dire King (The) (William Ritter, 2017) The fate of the world is in the hands of detective of the supernatural R. F. Jackaby and his intrepid assistant, Abigail Rook. An evil king is turning ancient tensions into modern strife, using a blend of magic and technology to push the earth and the otherworld into a mortal competition.* Final book in the *Jackaby* series following *Jackaby* (2014), *Beastly Bones* (2015), and *Ghostly Echoes* (2016).



Dry (Neal Shusterman, 2018) The drought—or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it—has been going on for a while now. Everyone’s lives have become an endless list of don’ts: don’t water the lawn, don’t fill up your pool, don’t take long showers. Until the taps run dry.*



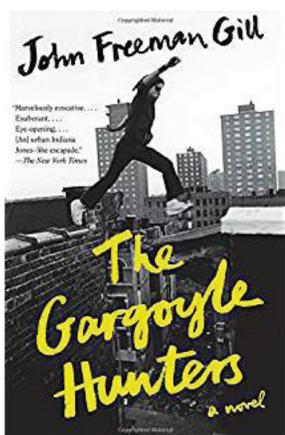
Emma (Jane Austen, 1815) Beautiful, clever, rich—and single—Emma Woodhouse is perfectly content with her life and sees no need for either love or marriage. Nothing, however, delights her more than interfering in the romantic lives of others. But when she ignores the warnings of her good friend Mr. Knightley and attempts to arrange a suitable match for her protégée Harriet Smith, her carefully laid plans soon unravel and have consequences that she never expected.*



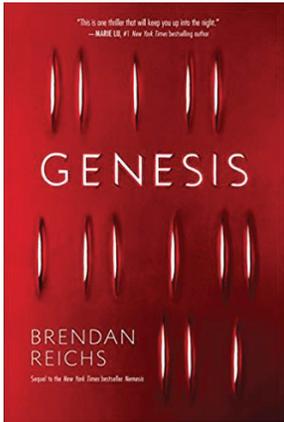
Exit Strategy: The Murderbot Diaries (Martha Wells, 2018) Murderbot wasn't programmed to care. So, its decision to help the only human who ever showed it respect must be a system glitch, right?* The final entry in *The Murderbot Diaries* following *All Systems Red* (2017), *Artificial Condition* (2018), and *Rogue Protocol* (2018).



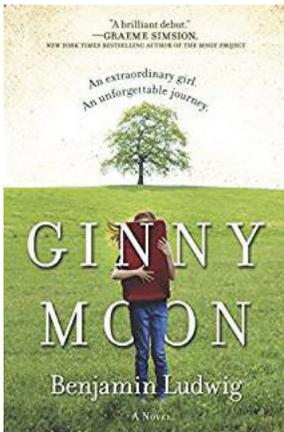
Forgotten Book (The) (Mechthild Gläser, 2018) Emma is used to things going her way. Her father is headmaster of her prestigious boarding school, her friends take her advice as gospel, and she's convinced that a relationship with her long-time crush is on the horizon. As it turns out, Emma hasn't seen anything yet. When she finds an old book in an abandoned library, things really start going Emma's way: anything she writes in the book comes true.*



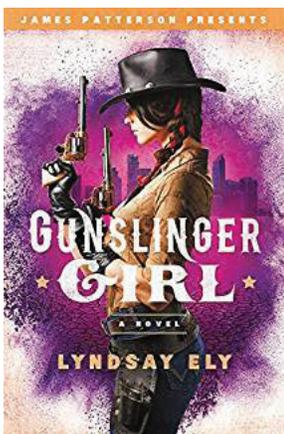
Gargoyle Hunters (The): A Novel (John Freeman Gill, 2017) With both his family and his city fracturing, thirteen-year-old Griffin Watts is recruited into his estranged father's illicit and dangerous architectural salvage business. Small and nimble, Griffin is charged with stealing exuberantly expressive nineteenth-century architectural sculptures—gargoyles—right off the faces of unsung tenements and iconic skyscrapers all over town.*



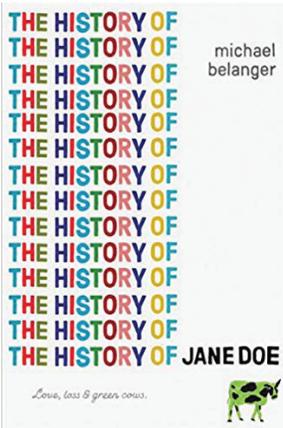
Genesis (Brendan Reichs, 2018) The 64 members of Fire Lake's sophomore class are trapped in a place where morals have no meaning and zero rules apply. But Noah's deaths have trained him—hardened him—to lead the strongest into the future...whatever that may be. And at any cost.* Sequel to *Nemesis* (2017) in the planned series *Nemesis Project*.



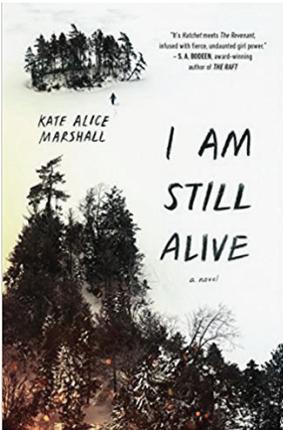
Ginny Moon: A Novel (Benjamin Ludwig, 2017) Ginny Moon is exceptional. Everyone knows it—her friends at school, teammates on the basketball team, and especially her new adoptive parents. They all love her, even if they don't quite understand her. They want her to feel like she belongs. What they don't know is that Ginny has no intention of belonging.*



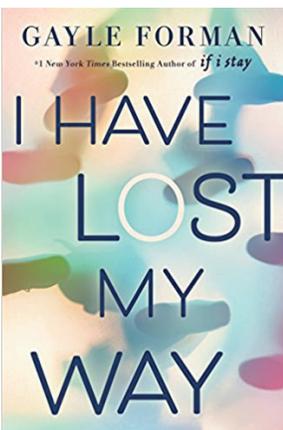
Gunslinger Girl (Lyndsay Ely, 2017) Seventeen-year-old Serendipity "Pity" Jones inherited two things from her mother: a pair of six shooters and perfect aim. She's been offered a life of fame and fortune in Cessation, a glittering city where lawlessness is a way of life. But the price she pays for her freedom may be too great...*



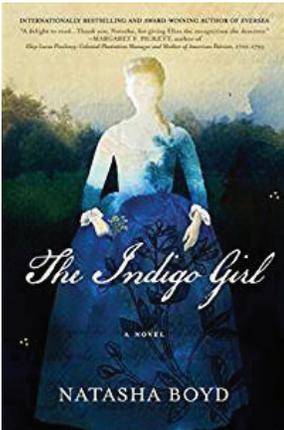
History of Jane Doe (The) (Michael Belanger, 2018) History buff Ray knows everything about the peculiar legends and lore of his rural Connecticut hometown. Burgerville's past is riddled with green cow sightings and human groundhogs, but the most interesting thing about the present is the new girl—we'll call her Jane Doe.*



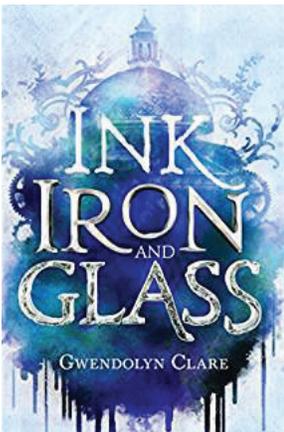
I Am Still Alive (Kate Alice Marshall, 2018) Jess hadn't seen her survivalist, off-the-grid dad in over a decade.... Just as Jess was beginning to get to know him, a secret from his past paid them a visit, leaving her father dead and Jess stranded. With only her father's dog for company, Jess must forage and hunt for food, build shelter, and keep herself warm. Some days it feels like the wild is out to destroy her, but she's stronger than she ever imagined.*



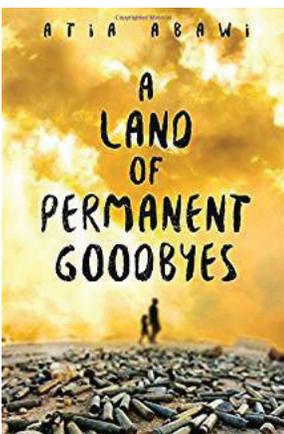
I Have Lost My Way (Gayle Forman, 2018) A fateful accident draws three strangers together over the course of a single day.... As the day progresses, their secrets start to unravel and they begin to understand that the way out of their own loss might just lie in helping the others out of theirs.*



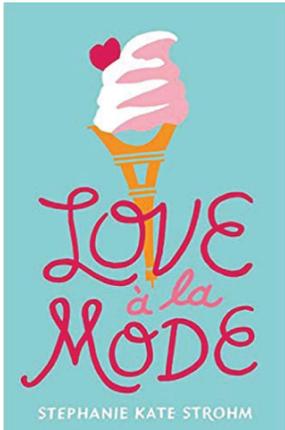
Indigo Girl (The) (Natasha Boyd, 2017) The year is 1739. Eliza Lucas is sixteen years old when her father leaves her in charge of their family's three plantations in rural South Carolina and then proceeds to bleed the estates dry in pursuit of his military ambitions.... Upon hearing how much the French pay for indigo dye, Eliza believes it's the key to their salvation. But everyone tells her it's impossible, and no one will share the secret to making it.* Based on historical documents.



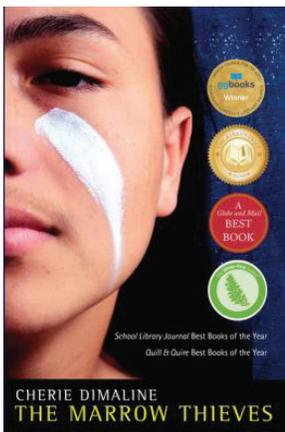
Ink, Iron, and Glass (Gwendolyn Clare, 2018) A certain pen, a certain book, and a certain person can craft entirely new worlds through a branch of science called scriptology. Elsa comes from one such world that was written into creation, where her mother—a noted scriptologist—constantly alters and expands their reality. But when her home is attacked and her mother kidnapped, Elsa is forced to cross into the real world and use her own scriptology gifts to find her.* First entry in a new series.



Land of Permanent Goodbyes (A) (Atia Abawi, 2018) In a country ripped apart by war [Syria], Tareq lives with his big and loving family...until the bombs strike. His city is in ruins. His life is destroyed. And those who have survived are left to figure out their uncertain future.*



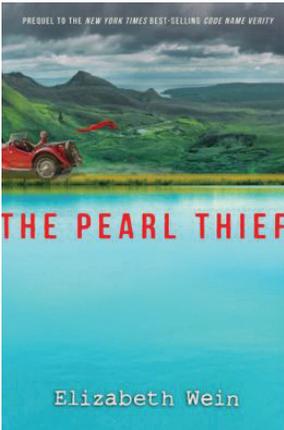
Love à la Mode (Stephanie Kate Strohm, 2018) Rosie Radeke firmly believes that happiness can be found at the bottom of a mixing bowl. But she never expected that she, a random nobody from East Liberty, Ohio, would be accepted to celebrity chef Denis Laurent's school in Paris, the most prestigious cooking program for teens in the entire world.*



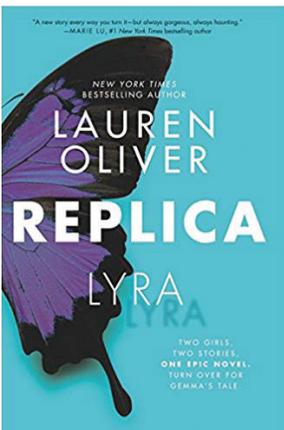
Marrow Thieves (The) (Cherie Dimaline, 2017) In a futuristic world ravaged by global warming, people have lost the ability to dream, and the dreamlessness has led to widespread madness. The only people still able to dream are North America's Indigenous people, and it is their marrow that holds the cure for the rest of the world.*



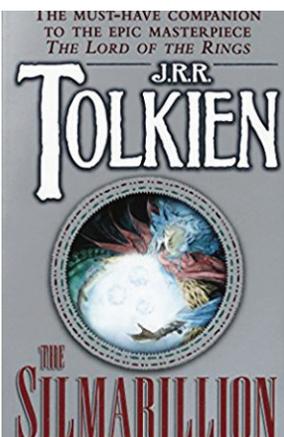
Midnight Star (The) (Marie Lu, 2015) Adelina Amouteru is done suffering. She's turned her back on those who have betrayed her and achieved the ultimate revenge: victory. Her reign as the White Wolf has been a triumphant one, but with each conquest her cruelty only grows.* Final entry in the *Young Elites* series: *The Young Elites* (2014) and *The Rose Society* (2015).



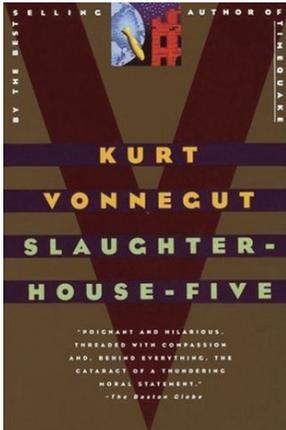
Pearl Thief (The) (Elizabeth Wein, 2017) When fifteen-year-old Julia Beaufort-Stuart wakes up in the hospital, she knows the lazy summer break she'd imagined won't be exactly what she anticipated. And once she returns to her grandfather's estate, a bit banged up but alive, she begins to realize that her injury might not have been an accident.*



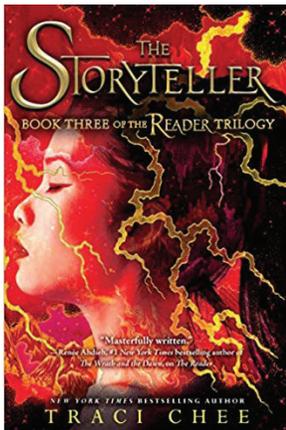
Replica (Lauren Oliver, 2016) Two girls, two stories, one epic novel...an epic, masterful novel that explores issues of individuality, identity, and humanity.*



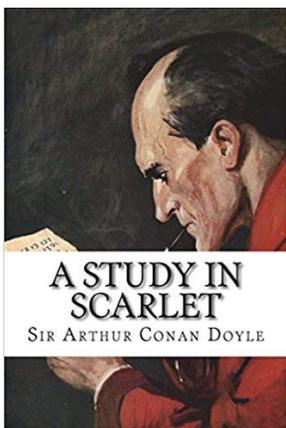
Silmarillion (J.R.R. Tolkien, 1977) This is the story of the creation of the world and the happenings of the First Age, the ancient drama to which the characters in *The Lord of the Rings* look back and in whose events some of them, such as Elrond and Galadriel, took part.*



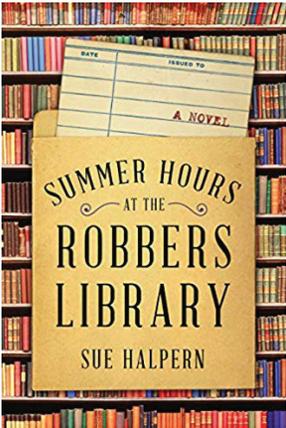
Slaughter House-Five (Kurt Vonnegut, 1969) Centering on the infamous firebombing of Dresden, Billy Pilgrim’s odyssey through time reflects the mythic journey of our own fractured lives as we search for meaning in what we fear most.*



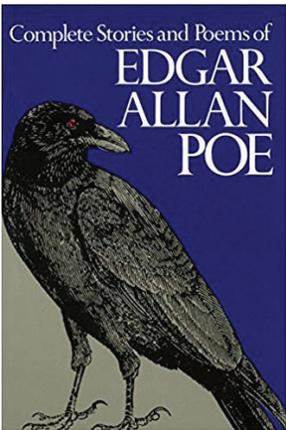
Storyteller (The) (Traci Chee, 2018) Sefia is determined to keep Archer out of the Guard’s clutches and their plans for war between the Five Kingdoms.... But escaping the Guard and the Book’s prophecy is no easy task. After all, what is written always comes to pass. Full of magic, suspense, and mystery, Traci Chee brings her *Sea of Ink and Gold* trilogy to a close in this spellbinding final installment.*



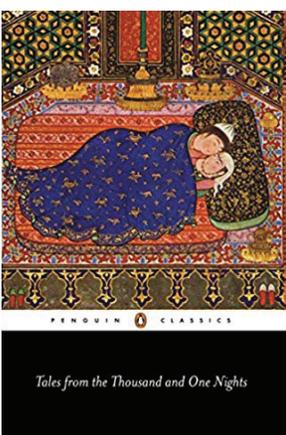
Study in Scarlet (A) (Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 1887) The classic mystery with the first appearance of legendary detective Sherlock Holmes and his assistant, Dr. John Watson.



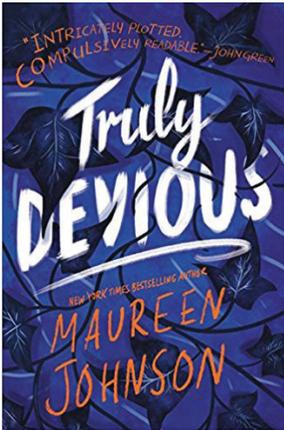
Summer Hours at the Robbers Library: A Novel (Sue Halpern, 2018) For head librarian Kit, the public library in Riverton, New Hampshire, offers what she craves most: peace.... But that changes when fifteen-year-old, home-schooled Sunny gets arrested for shoplifting a dictionary. The judge throws the book at Sunny—literally—assigning her to do community service at the library for the summer.*



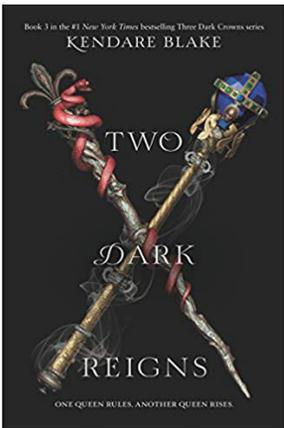
Tales and Poems (Edgar Allan Poe) Look for one of the many compilations of tales from the master of horror—mysterious, complex, sometimes horrifying, occasionally psychotic, and always suspenseful.



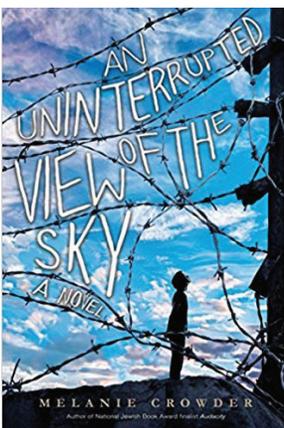
Tales from the Thousand and One Nights (Unknown) The tales told by Scheherazade over a thousand and one nights to delay her execution by the vengeful King Shahryar have become among the most popular in both Eastern and Western literature.* Look for them also under the title *The Arabian Nights*.



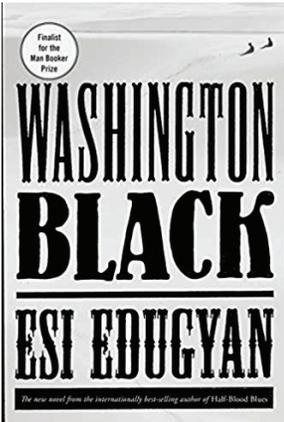
Truly Devious (Maureen Johnson, 2018) Ellingham Academy is a famous private school in Vermont...founded by Albert Ellingham, an early twentieth century tycoon.... Shortly after the school opened, his wife and daughter were kidnapped. The only real clue was a mocking riddle listing methods of murder, signed with the frightening pseudonym "Truly, Devious." It became one of the great unsolved crimes of American history. True-crime aficionado Stevie Bell is set to begin her first year at Ellingham Academy, and she has an ambitious plan: She will solve this cold case.*



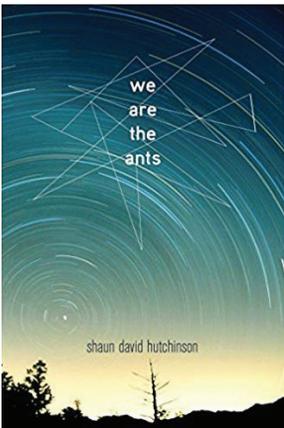
Two Dark Reigns (Kendare Blake, 2018) Queen Katharine has waited her entire life to wear the crown. But now that she finally has it, the murmurs of dissent grow louder by the day. There's also the alarming issue of whether or not her sisters are actually dead—or if they're waiting in the wings to usurp the throne....* This is the third installment in the *Three Dark Crowns* series begun in *Three Dark Crowns* (2016) and *One Dark Throne* (2017). Readers may also look for *Queens of Fennbirn* (2018) containing the series prequels: *The Young Queens* and *The Oracle Queen*.



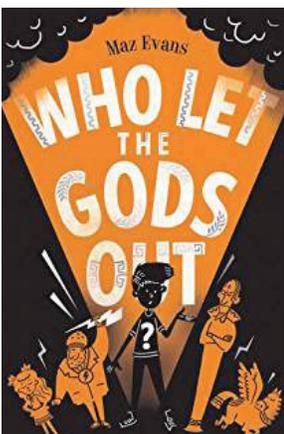
Uninterrupted View of the Sky (An) (Melanie Crowder, 2017) It's 1999 in Bolivia and Francisco's life consists of school, soccer, and trying to find space for himself in his family's cramped yet boisterous home. But when his father is arrested on false charges and sent to prison by a corrupt system that targets the uneducated, the poor, and the indigenous majority, Francisco and his sister are left with no choice: They must move into prison with their father.*



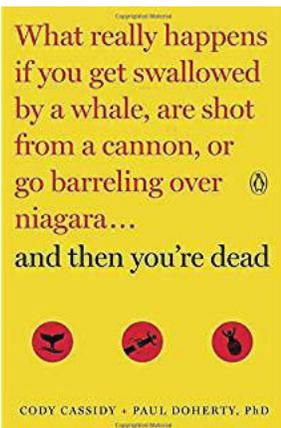
Washington Black: A Novel (Esi Edugyan, 2018) George Washington Black, or "Wash," an eleven-year-old field slave on a Barbados sugar plantation, is terrified to be chosen by his master's brother as his manservant. To his surprise, the eccentric Christopher Wilde turns out to be a naturalist, explorer, inventor, and abolitionist. Soon Wash is initiated into a world where a flying machine can carry a man across the sky, where even a boy born in chains may embrace a life of dignity and meaning....*



We Are the Ants (Shaun David Hutchinson, 2016) Henry Denton has spent years being periodically abducted by aliens. Then the aliens give him an ultimatum: The world will end in 144 days, and all Henry has to do to stop it is push a big red button. Only he isn't sure he wants to.*

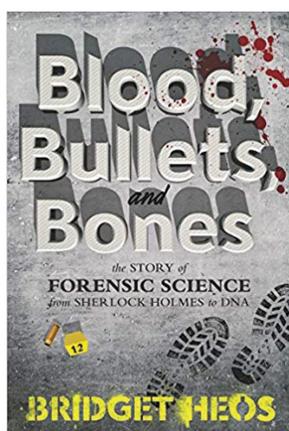


Who Let the Gods Out? (Maz Evans, 2017) After centuries of cushy retirement on earth, are Zeus and his crew up to the task of saving the world...?*

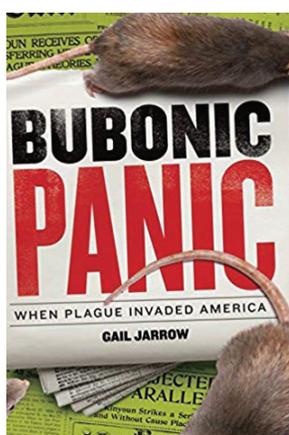


Non-fiction:

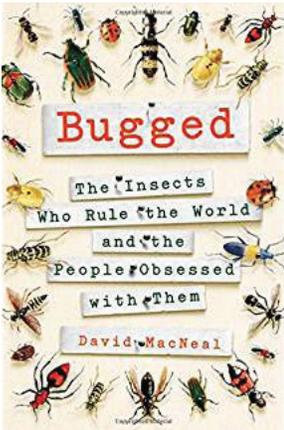
And Then You're Dead: What Really Happens If You Get Swallowed by a Whale, Are Shot from a Cannon, or Go Barreling over Niagara (Cody Cassidy and Paul Doherty, 2017) A gleefully gruesome look at the actual science behind the most outlandish, cartoonish, and impossible deaths you can imagine.*



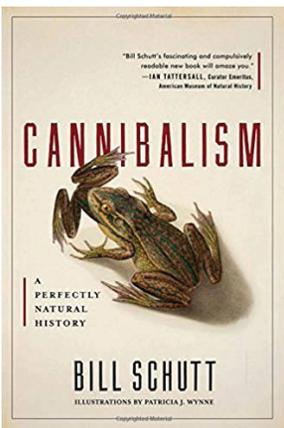
Blood, Bullets and Bones (Bridget Heos, 2016) Bridget Heos uses real-life cases to tell the history of modern forensic science, from the first test for arsenic poisoning to fingerprinting, firearm and blood spatter analysis, DNA evidence, and all the important milestones in between. By turns captivating and shocking, *Blood, Bullets, and Bones* demonstrates the essential role forensic science has played in our criminal justice system.*



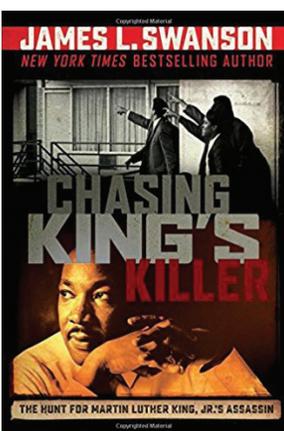
Bubonic Panic: When Plague Invaded America (Gail Jarrow, 2016) *Bubonic Panic* tells the true story of America's first plague epidemic—the public health doctors who desperately fought to end it, the political leaders who tried to keep it hidden, and the brave scientists who uncovered the plague's secrets.*



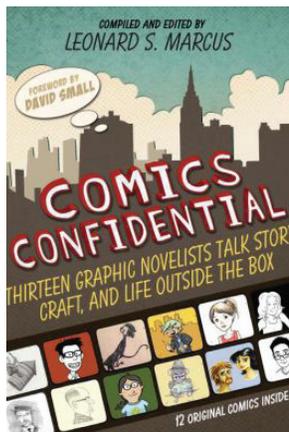
Bugged: The Insects Who Rule the World and the People Obsessed with Them (David MacNeal, 2017) Insects have been shaping our ecological world and plant life for over 400 million years. In fact, our world is essentially run by bugs—there are 1.4 billion for every human on the planet. In *Bugged*, journalist David MacNeal takes us on an off-beat scientific journey that weaves together history, travel, and culture in order to define our relationship with these mini-monsters.*



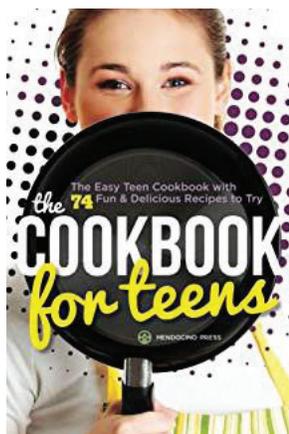
Cannibalism: A Perfectly Natural History (Bill Schutt, 2017) For centuries scientists have written off cannibalism as a bizarre phenomenon with little biological significance. Its presence in nature was dismissed as a desperate response to starvation or other life-threatening circumstances, and few spent time studying it... But the true nature of cannibalism—the role it plays in evolution as well as human history—is even more intriguing (and more normal) than the misconceptions we've come to accept as fact.*



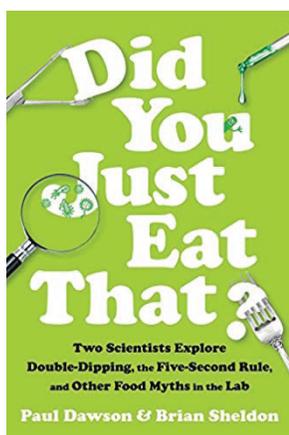
Chasing King's Killer: The Hunt for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Assassin (James L. Swanson, 2018) In his meteoric, thirteen-year rise to fame, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led a mass movement for Civil Rights—with his relentless peaceful, non-violent protests, public demonstrations, and eloquent speeches. But as violent threats cast a dark shadow over Dr. King's life, Swanson hones in on James Earl Ray, a bizarre, racist, prison escapee who tragically ends King's life.*



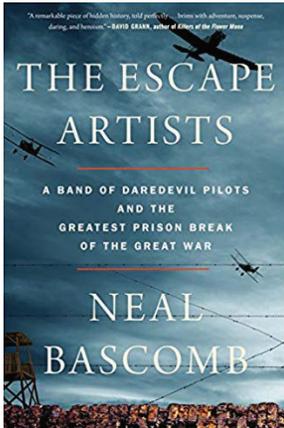
Comics Confidential: Thirteen Graphic Novelists Talk Story, Craft, and Life Outside the Box (Leonard S. Marcus [ed.], 2017) Powerful influences from manga to the movies to underground comix have influenced the thirteen artists and writers interviewed in these pages to create their own word-and-picture narratives. Here are their moving, funny, inspirational stories: true tales from the crucible of creative struggles that led each to become a master of one of today's most vibrant art forms.*



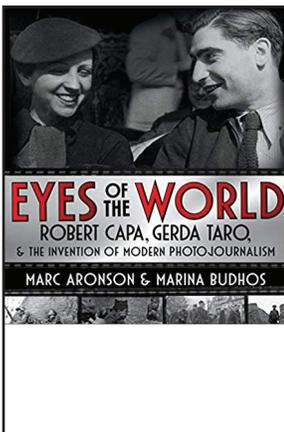
Cookbook for Teens: The Easy Teen Cookbook with 74 Fun & Delicious Recipes to Try (Mendocino Press, 2014) This teen cookbook the perfect introduction to the art of cooking, even for teenagers who have never cooked more than a slice of toast. With this teen cookbook you will learn introductory preparation and cooking techniques, how to read recipes, and how to shop for groceries.*



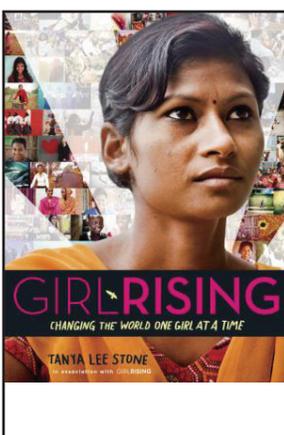
Did You Just Eat That? Two Scientists Explore Double-Dipping, the Five-Second Rule, and other Food Myths in the Lab (Paul Dawson and Brian Sheldon, 2018) Is the five-second rule legitimate? Are electric hand dryers really bacteria blowers? Am I spraying germs everywhere when I blow on my birthday cake? How gross is backwash? When it comes to food safety and germs, there are as many common questions as there are misconceptions. And yet there has never been a book that clearly examines the science behind these important issues—until now.*



Escape Artists (The): A Band of Daredevil Pilots and the Greatest Prison Break of the Great War (Neal Bascomb, 2018) The spellbinding story of the downed Allied airmen who masterminded the remarkably courageous—and ingenious—breakout from Germany’s most devilish POW camp.*



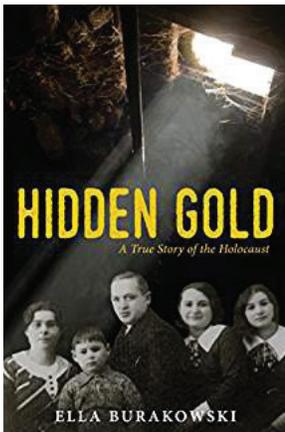
Eyes of the World: Robert Capa, Gerda Taro, and the Invention of Modern Photojournalism (Marc Aronson and Maria Budhos, 2017) Robert Capa and Gerda Taro were young Jewish refugees, idealistic and in love. As photographers in the 1930s, they set off to capture their generation's most important struggle—the fight against fascism. Among the first to depict modern warfare, Capa, Taro, and their friend Chim took powerful photographs of the Spanish Civil War that went straight from the action to news magazines....*



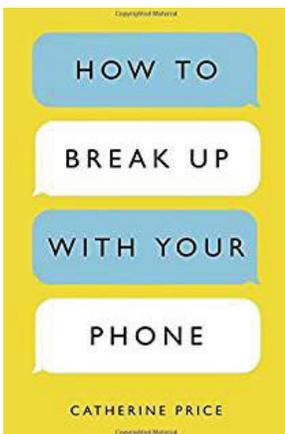
Girl Rising: Changing the World One Girl at a Time (Tanya Lee Stone, 2017) Girl Rising, a global campaign for girls’ education, created a film that chronicled the stories of nine girls in the developing world, allowing viewers the opportunity to witness how education can break the cycle of poverty. Now, award-winning author Tanya Lee Stone deftly uses new research to illuminate the dramatic facts behind the film, focusing both on the girls captured on camera and many others.*



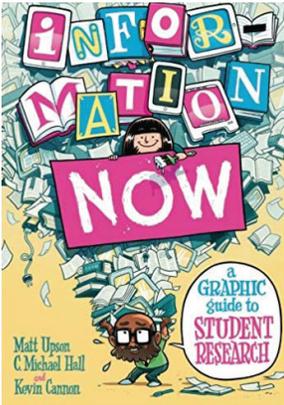
Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race (Margot Lee Shetterly, 2016) Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Among these problem-solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation.*



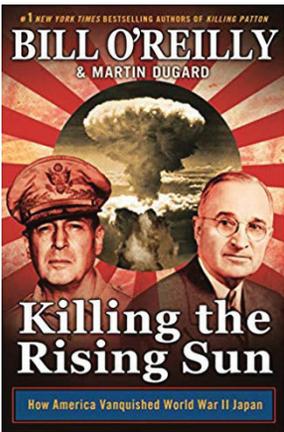
Hidden Gold: A True Story of the Holocaust (Ella Burakowski, 2015) The Gold family lived an idyllic life in pre-war Poland, each doing their part to run the family grocery store and tobacco concession.... But that life is shattered in 1939 when Germany invades Poland and Jewish people are forced into the streets; their homes, schools, and businesses burned.*



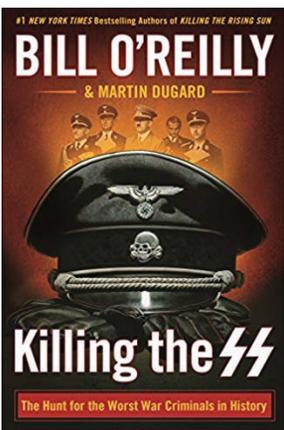
How to Break Up with Your Phone: The 30-Day Plan to Take Back Your Life (Catherine Price, 2017) Is your phone the first thing you reach for in the morning and the last thing you touch before bed? Do you frequently pick it up “just to check,” only to look up forty-five minutes later wondering where the time has gone? Do you say you want to spend less time on your phone—but have no idea how to do so without giving it up completely? If so, this book is your solution.*



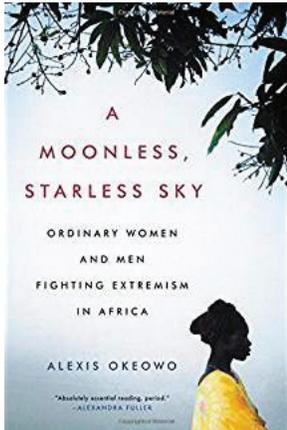
Information Now: A Graphic Guide to Student Research (Matt Upson, C. Michael Hall, and Kevin Cannon 2015) Thoroughly researched and highly engaging, *Information Now* offers the tools that students need to become powerful consumers and creators of information.*



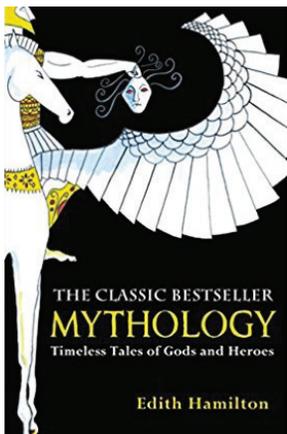
Killing the Rising Sun: How America Vanquished World War II Japan (Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard, 2016) Autumn 1944. World War II is nearly over in Europe but is escalating in the Pacific, where American soldiers face an opponent who will go to any length to avoid defeat.*



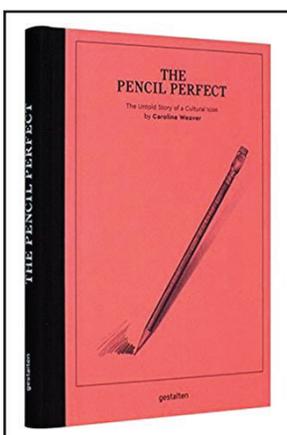
Killing the SS: The Hunt for the Worst War Criminals in History (Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard, 2018) *Killing the SS* is the epic saga of the espionage and daring waged by self-styled "Nazi hunters." Over decades, these men and women scoured the world, tracking down the SS fugitives and bringing them to justice, which often meant death.*



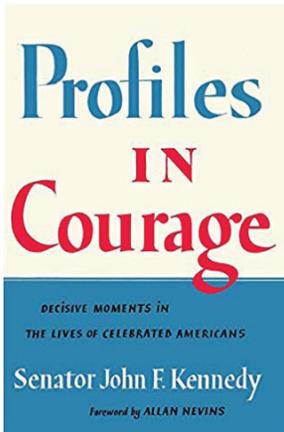
Moonless, Starless Sky (A): Ordinary Women and Men Fighting Extremism in Africa (Alexis Okeowo, 2017) Okeowo weaves together four narratives that form a powerful tapestry of modern Africa: a young couple, kidnap victims of Joseph Kony's LRA; a Mauritanian waging a lonely campaign against modern-day slavery; a women's basketball team flourishing amid war-torn Somalia; and a vigilante who takes up arms against the extremist group Boko Haram.*



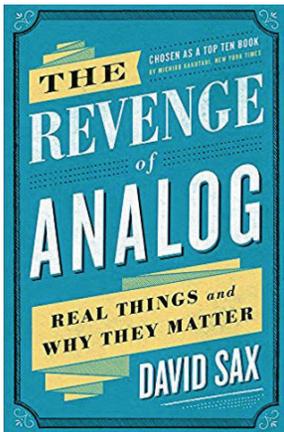
Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes (Edith Hamilton, 1942) Mythology succeeds like no other book in bringing to life for the modern reader the Greek, Roman, and Norse myths and legends that are the keystone of Western culture—the stories of gods and heroes that have inspired human creativity from antiquity to the present.*



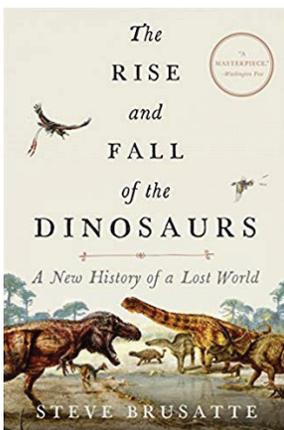
Pencil Perfect (The): The Untold Story of a Cultural Icon (Caroline Weaver, 2017) This book features profiles of pencil crafters, anecdotes about famous writers and their favorite pencils, and essays about the surprising role of pencils in world history and culture.*



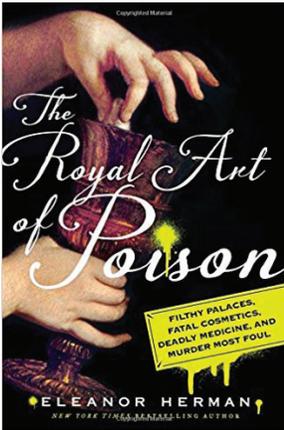
Profiles in Courage (John F. Kennedy, 1956) The inspiring true accounts of eight unsung heroic acts by American patriots at different junctures in our nation's history....*



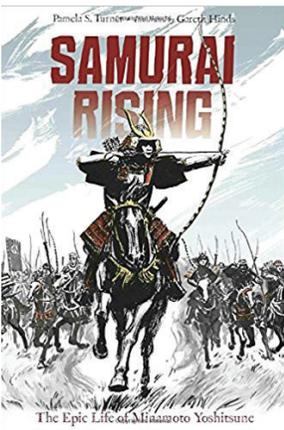
Revenge of Analog (The): Real Things and Why They Matter (David Sax, 2016) Sax's work reveals a deep truth about how humans shop, interact, and even think. Blending psychology and observant wit with first-rate reportage, Sax shows the limited appeal of the purely digital life—and the robust future of the real world outside it.*



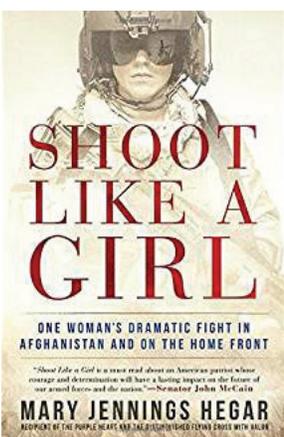
Rise and Fall of Dinosaurs (The): A New History of a Lost World (Steve Brusatte, 2018) Steve Brusatte, a young American paleontologist who has emerged as one of the foremost stars of the field—naming fifteen new species and leading groundbreaking scientific studies and fieldwork—masterfully tells the complete, surprising, and new history of the dinosaurs....*



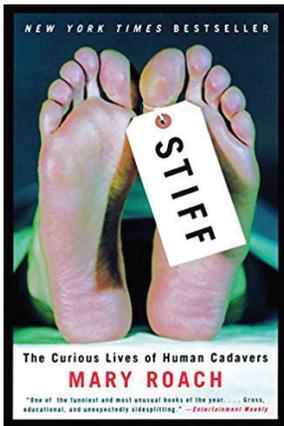
Royal Art of Poison (The): Filthy Palaces, Fatal Cosmetics, Deadly Medicine, and Murder Most Foul (Eleanor Herman, 2018) Eleanor Herman combines her unique access to royal archives with cutting-edge forensic discoveries to tell the true story of Europe's glittering palaces: one of medical bafflement, poisonous cosmetics, ever-present excrement, festering natural illness, and, sometimes, murder.*



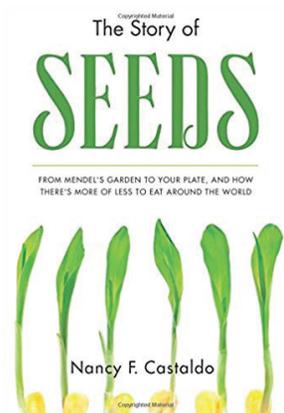
Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune (Pamela S. Turner, 2016) Minamoto Yoshitsune should not have been a samurai. But his story is legend in this real-life saga. This epic warrior tale reads like a novel, but this is the true story of the greatest samurai in Japanese history.*



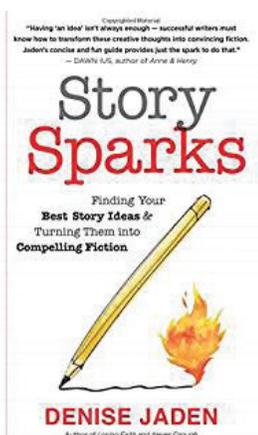
Shoot Like a Girl: One Woman's Dramatic Fight in Afghanistan and on the Home Front (Mary Jennings Heger, 2017) MJ Heger was selected for pilot training by the Air National Guard, finished at the top of her class, then served three tours in Afghanistan...that would earn MJ the Purple Heart as well as the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor Device. But it was on American soil that Heger would embark on her greatest challenge—to eliminate the military's Ground Combat Exclusion Policy, which kept female armed service members from officially serving in combat roles...*



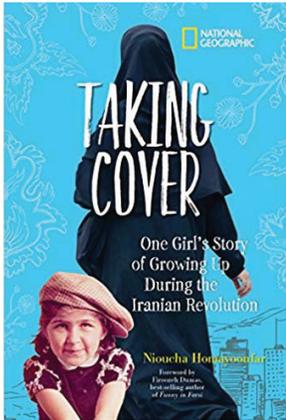
Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers (Mary Roach, 2003) For two thousand years, cadavers—some willingly, some unwittingly—have been involved in science's boldest strides and weirdest undertakings.... In this fascinating, ennobling account, Mary Roach visits the good deeds of cadavers over the centuries.*



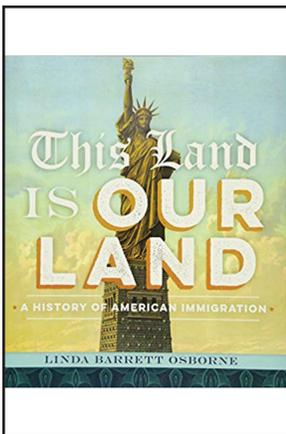
Story of Seeds (The): From Mendel's Garden to Your Plate, and How There's More of Less to Eat Around the World (Nancy Castaldo, 2018) Something as small as a seed can have a worldwide impact.... With the growth of genetically modified foods, the use of many seeds is dwindling—of 80,000 edible plants, only about 150 are being cultivated. Nancy Castaldo chronicles where our food comes from, and more importantly, where it is going as she digs deeper into the importance of seeds in our world.*



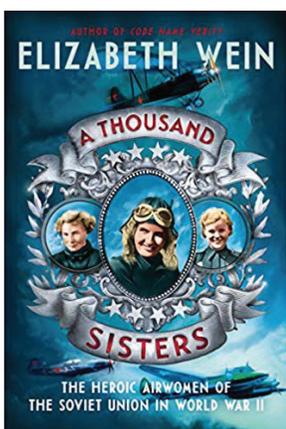
Story Sparks: Finding Your Best Story Ideas and Turning Them into Compelling Fiction (Denise Jaden, 2017) Practical and inspiring, Jaden's approach celebrates the imaginative sparks that make innovations of all kinds possible while pinpointing the precise tools writers need to fan their unique creative flames.*



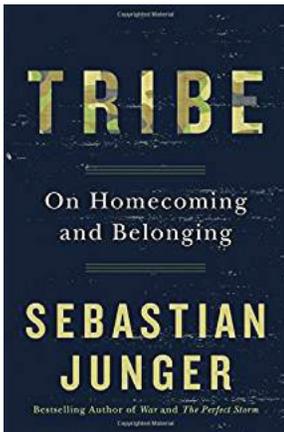
Taking Cover: One Girl's Story of Growing Up During the Iranian Revolution (Nioucha Homayoonfar, 2019) When five-year-old Nioucha Homayoonfar moves from the U.S. to Iran in 1976, its open society means a life with dancing, women's rights, and other freedoms. But soon the revolution erupts and the rules of life in Iran change.... Will she ever get used to this new culture? Can she break the rules without consequences?*



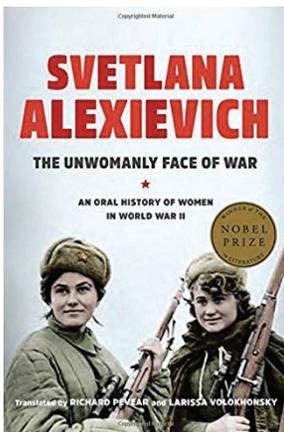
This Land Is Our Land: A History of American Immigration (Linda Barrett Osborne, 2016) This book explores the way government policy and popular responses to immigrant groups evolved throughout U.S. history, particularly between 1800 and 1965.*



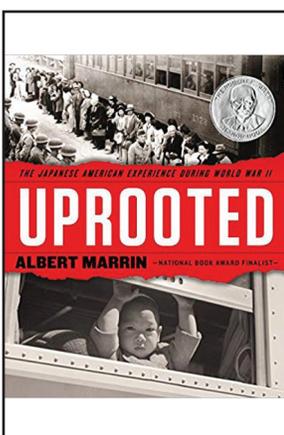
Thousand Sisters (A): The Heroic Airwomen of the Soviet Union in World War II (Elizabeth Wein, 2019) In the early years of World War II, Josef Stalin issued an order that made the Soviet Union the first country in the world to allow female pilots to fly in combat. Led by Marina Raskova, these three regiments...faced intense pressure and obstacles both in the sky and on the ground.*



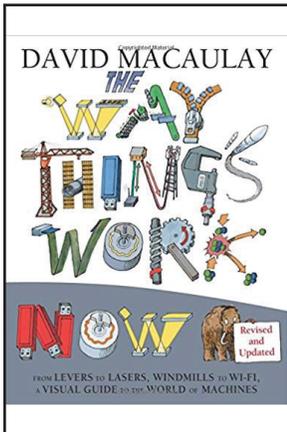
Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging (Sebastian Junger, 2016) Tribal society has been exerting an almost gravitational pull on Westerners for hundreds of years, and the reason lies deep in our evolutionary past as a communal species. Combining history, psychology, and anthropology, *Tribe* explores what we can learn from tribal societies about loyalty, belonging, and the eternal human quest for meaning.*



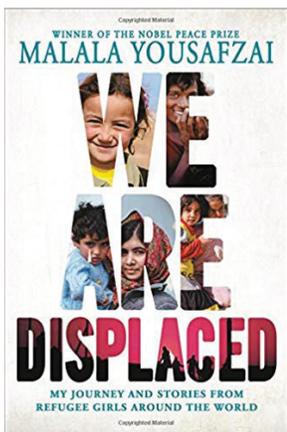
Unwomanly Face of War (The): An Oral History of Women in World War II (Svetlana Alexievich, 2017) Alexievich chronicles the experiences of the Soviet women who fought on the front lines, on the home front, and in the occupied territories. These women—more than a million in total—were nurses and doctors, pilots, tank drivers, machine-gunners, and snipers. They battled alongside men, and yet, after the victory, their efforts and sacrifices were forgotten.*



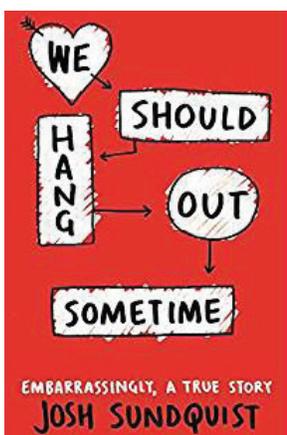
Uprooted: The Japanese American Experience During World War II (Albert Marrin, 2016) Just seventy-five years ago, the American government did something that most would consider unthinkable today: it rounded up over 100,000 of its own citizens based on nothing more than their ancestry and, suspicious of their loyalty, kept them in concentration camps for the better part of four years. How could this have happened?*



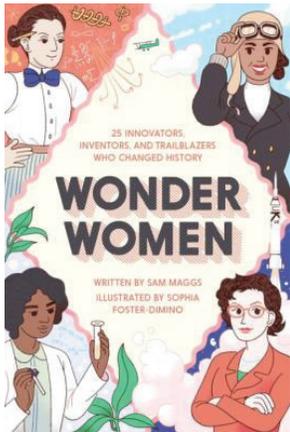
Way Things Work Now (The) (David McCauley, 2016) Famously packed with information on the inner workings of everything from windmills to Wi-Fi, this extraordinary and humorous book both guides readers through the fundamental principles of machines, and shows how the developments of the past are building the world of tomorrow.*



We Are Displaced: My Journey and Stories from Refugee Girls Around the World (Malala Yousafzai, 2019) Nobel Peace Prize winner and *New York Times*-bestselling author Malala Yousafzai introduces some of the people behind the statistics and news stories about the millions of people displaced worldwide.*

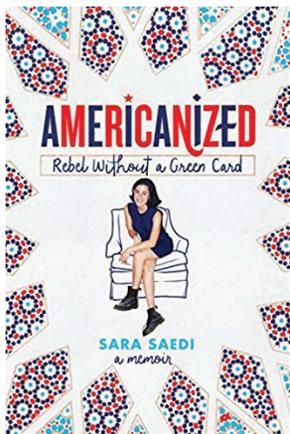


We Should Hang Out Sometime: Embarrassingly, a True Story (Josh Sundquist, 2014) Josh Sundquist only ever had one girlfriend. For twenty-three hours. In eighth grade. Why was Josh still single? To find out, he tracked down the girls he had tried to date and asked them straight up: What went wrong?*

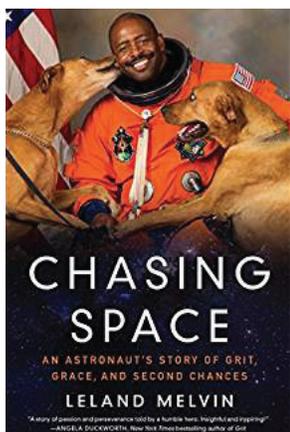


Wonder Women: 25 Innovators, Inventors, and Trailblazers Who Changed History (Sam Maggs, 2016) In *Wonder Women*, author Sam Maggs tells the stories of the brilliant, brainy, and totally rad women in history who broke barriers as scientists, engineers, mathematicians, adventurers, and inventors.*

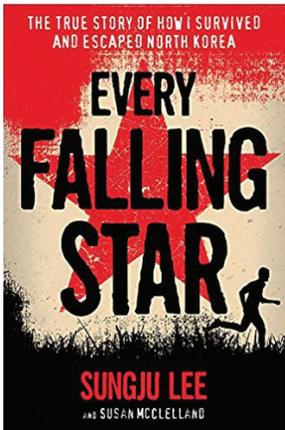
Biographies/Memoirs:



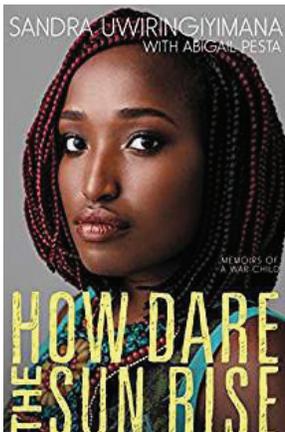
Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card (Sara Saedi, 2018) At thirteen, bright-eyed, straight-A student Sara Saedi uncovered a terrible family secret: she was breaking the law simply by living in the United States.*



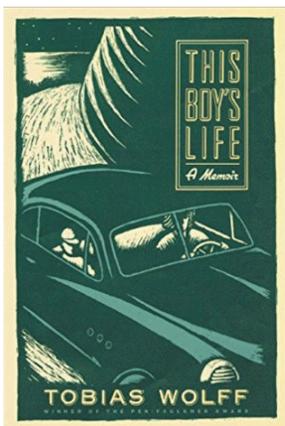
Chasing Space: An Astronaut's Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances (Leland Melvin, 2017) As a chemist, athlete, engineer and space traveler, Leland's life story is a study in the science of achievement. His personal insights illuminate how grit and grace, are the keys to overcoming adversity and rising to success.*



Every Falling Star: The True Story of How I Survived and Escaped North Korea (Sungju Lee and Susan Elizabeth McClelland, 2017) *Every Falling Star...* is the intense memoir of a North Korean boy named Sungju who was forced at age twelve to live on the streets and fend for himself. To survive, Sungju creates a gang and lives by thieving, fighting, begging, and stealing rides on cargo trains.*

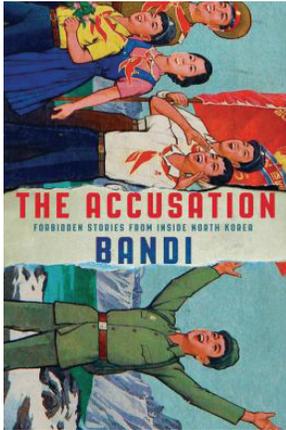


How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child (Sandra Uwiringiyimana, 2017) This profoundly moving memoir is the remarkable and inspiring true story of Sandra Uwiringiyimana, a girl from the Democratic Republic of the Congo who tells the tale of how she survived a massacre, immigrated to America, and overcame her trauma through art and activism.*



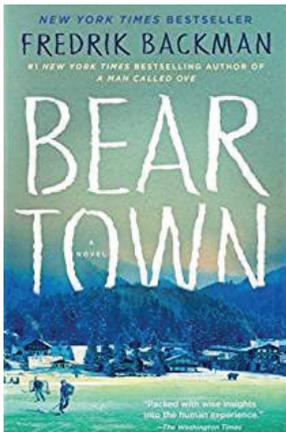
This Boy's Life: A Memoir (Tobias Wolff, 1989) In and out of trouble in his youth, this charter member of the "Bad Boys' Club" survives a boyhood that stretches from Florida to the Pacific Northwest.*

Summer Reading for Eleventh/Twelfth Graders

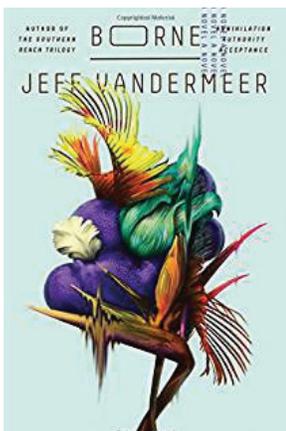


Fiction:

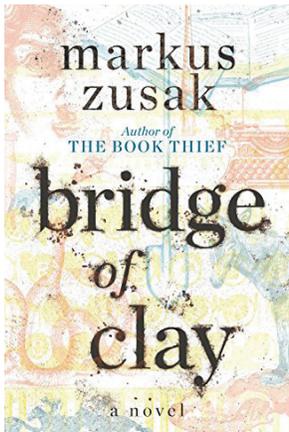
Accusation (The): Forbidden Stories from Inside North Korea (Bandi, 2017)
The Accusation is a deeply moving and eye-opening work of fiction that paints a powerful portrait of life under the North Korean regime. Set during the period of Kim Il-sung and Kim Jong-il's leadership, the seven stories that make up *The Accusation* give voice to people living under this most bizarre and horrifying of dictatorships.*



Beartown (Fredrik Backman, 2017) People say Beartown is finished. A tiny community nestled deep in the forest, it is slowly losing ground to the ever encroaching trees. But down by the lake stands an old ice rink, built generations ago by the working men who founded this town. And in that ice rink is the reason people in Beartown believe tomorrow will be better than today.*



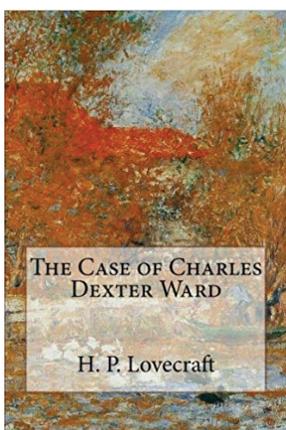
Borne (Jeff VanderMeer, 2017) In *Borne*, a young woman named Rachel survives as a scavenger in a ruined city half destroyed by drought and conflict. The city is dangerous, littered with discarded experiments from the Company—a biotech firm now derelict—and punished by the unpredictable predations of a giant bear.*



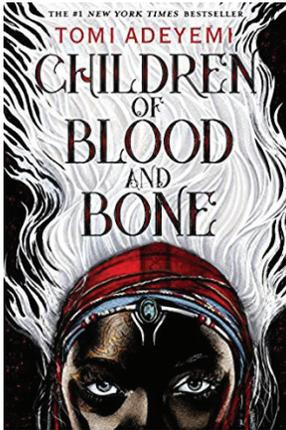
Bridge of Clay (Marcus Zusak, 2018) The breathtaking story of five brothers who bring each other up in a world run by their own rules. As the Dunbar boys love and fight and learn to reckon with the adult world, they discover the moving secret behind their father's disappearance.*



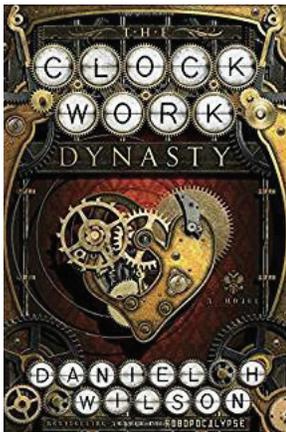
Broken Things (Lauren Oliver, 2018) Everyone thinks Mia and Brynn killed their best friend. That driven by their obsession with a novel called *The Way into Lovelorn* the three girls had imagined themselves into the magical world where their fantasies became twisted, even deadly. The only thing is: they didn't do it.*



Case of Charles Dexter Ward (The) (H.P. Lovecraft, 1943) Charles is a young man, a young man with a passion, a driving passion, a love of the past. What starts as the curious interest of a young boy, grows up with the youth to become the obsession of the man. His friends turn their back on him, he becomes reclusive. His few new friends are dark and mysterious, ominous even. And then...Charles starts to change.*



Children of Blood and Bone (Tomi Adeyemi, 2018) Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orisha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tiders beckoned waves, and Zélie's Reaper mother summoned forth souls. But everything changed the night magic disappeared.*



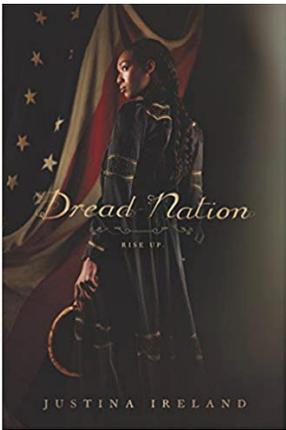
Clockwork Dynasty (The) (Daniel Wilson, 2017) When June Stefanov, a young anthropologist specializing in ancient technology, uncovers a terrible secret concealed in the workings of a three-hundred-year-old mechanical doll, she finds herself in the middle of a hidden war that has raged for centuries.*



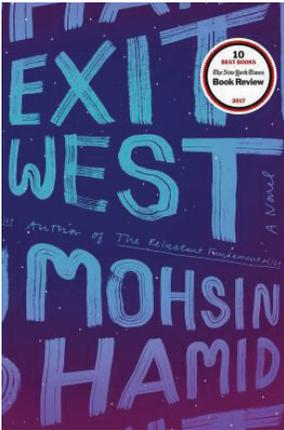
Darkest Star (The) (Jennifer L. Armentrout, 2018) Seventeen-year-old Evie Dasher knows firsthand the devastating consequences of humanity's war with the aliens. When she's caught up in a raid at a notorious club known as one of the few places where humans and the surviving Luxen can mingle freely, she meets Luc, an unnaturally beautiful guy she initially assumes is a Luxen...but he is in fact something much more powerful.* First book in a new series: *Origin*.



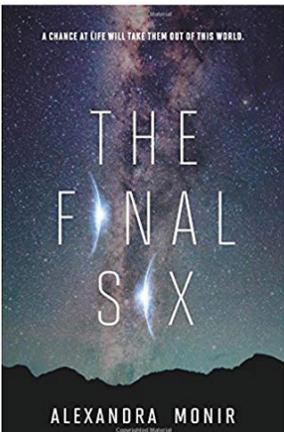
Detective/Crime/Mystery Writers: Try any book by the following mystery writers: **Nevada Barr** (featuring National Park Ranger Amanda Pigeon; novels are set in various U.S. National Parks); **C. J. Box** (featuring Wyoming game warden Joe Pickett); **Agatha Christie** (featuring detective Hercule Poirot); **Janet Evanovich** (featuring bail bondswoman Stephanie Plum in an outrageously funny series set in the “Burg” in New Jersey); **Dick Francis** (featuring a variety of sleuths and locations); **Sue Grafton** (featuring female sleuth Kinsey Millhone); **Charlaine Harris** (featuring a variety of sleuths and locations, including the *Midnight, Texas* series); **Lisa Lutz** (featuring P.I. Izzy Spellman who works in her family’s detective agency in this humorous series); **Thomas Perry** (featuring Native American Jane Whitefield, a guide who helps people disappear); **Dana Stabenow** (set in Alaska, featuring native Alaskan ex-DA investigator Kate Shugat); **Will Thomas** (featuring “enquiry agent” Cyrus Barker and his young assistant Thomas Llewelyn in Victorian England); **Jacqueline Winspear** (featuring Maisie Dobbs, a psychologist and investigator, in post-First World War London).



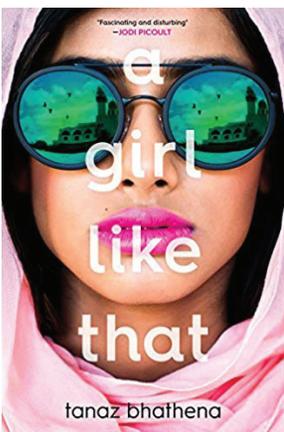
Dread Nation (Justina Ireland, 2018) Jane McKeene was born two days before the dead began to walk the battlefields of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania—derailing the War Between the States and changing the nation forever. In this new America, safety for all depends on the work of a few, and laws like the Native and Negro Education Act require certain children attend combat schools to learn to put down the dead.*



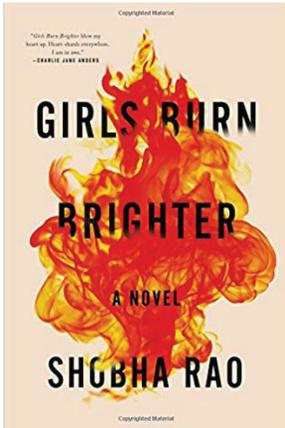
Exit West (Mohsin Hamid, 2017) When Nadia and Saeed fall in love in a distant unnamed city, they are just like any other young couple. But soon bullets begin to fly, fighter jets streak the sky, and curfews fall. As the spell of violence spreads, they flee their country, leaving behind their loved ones.*



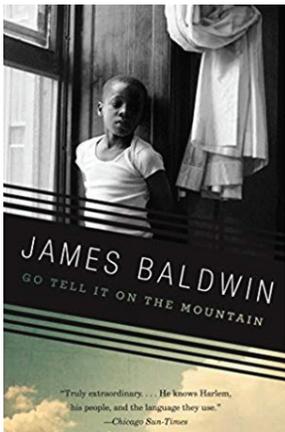
Final Six (The) (Alexandra Monir, 2018) When Leo and Naomi are drafted, along with twenty-two of the world's brightest teenagers, into the International Space Training Camp, their lives are forever changed. Overnight, they become global celebrities in contention for one of the six slots to travel to Europa—Jupiter's moon—and establish a new colony, leaving their planet forever. With Earth irreparably damaged, the future of the human race rests on their shoulders.*



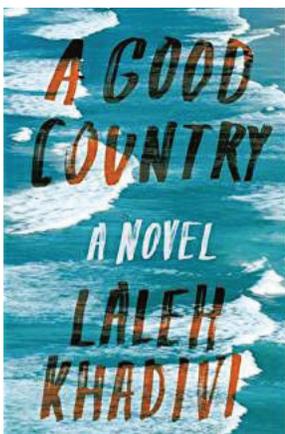
Girl Like That (A) (Tanaz Bhathena, 2018) Sixteen-year-old Zarin Wadia is many things: a bright and vivacious student, an orphan, a risk taker. She's also the kind of girl that parents warn their kids to stay away from: a troublemaker whose many romances are the subject of endless gossip at school... So how is it that eighteen-year-old Porus Dumasia has only ever had eyes for her? And how did Zarin and Porus end up dead in a car together, crashed on the side of a highway in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia?*



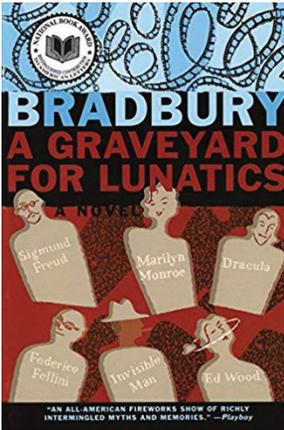
Girls Burn Brighter: A Novel (Shobha Rao, 2018) Poornima and Savitha have three strikes against them: they are poor, they are ambitious, and they are girls. After her mother's death, Poornima has very little kindness in her life. She is left to care for her siblings until her father can find her a suitable match. So when Savitha enters their household, Poornima is intrigued by the joyful, independent-minded girl. Suddenly their Indian village doesn't feel quite so claustrophobic, and Poornima begins to imagine a life beyond arranged marriage.*



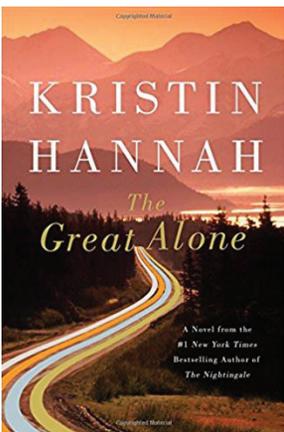
Go Tell It on the Mountain (James Baldwin, 1953) Baldwin chronicles a fourteen-year-old boy's discovery of the terms of his identity as the stepson of the minister of a storefront Pentecostal church in Harlem one Saturday in March of 1935.*



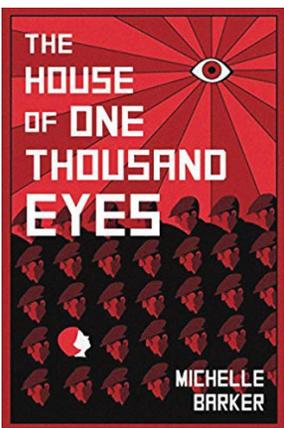
Good Country (A) (Laleh Khadivi, 2017) A timely novel about the radicalization of a Muslim teen in California—about where identity truly lies, and how we find it.*



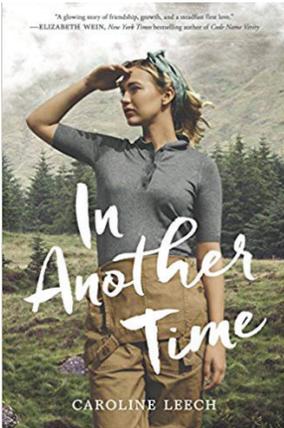
Graveyard for Lunatics (A): Another Tale of Two Cities (Ray Bradbury, 1990) Halloween Night, 1954. A young, film-obsessed scriptwriter has just been hired at one of the great studios. An anonymous investigation leads from the giant Maximus Films backlot to an eerie graveyard separated from the studio by a single wall. There he makes a terrifying discovery that thrusts him into a maelstrom of intrigue and mystery—and into the dizzy exhilaration of the movie industry at the height of its glittering power.*



Great Alone (The) (Kristin Hannah, 2018) Ernt Allbright, a former POW, comes home from the Vietnam war a changed and volatile man. When he loses yet another job, he makes an impulsive decision: he will move his family north, to Alaska, where they will live off the grid in America's last true frontier.*



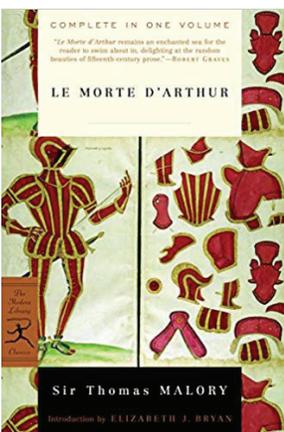
House of One Thousand Eyes (The) (Michelle Barker, 2018) Life in East Germany in the early 1980s is not easy for most people, but for Lena, it's particularly hard. After the death of her parents in a factory explosion and time spent in a psychiatric hospital recovering from the trauma, she is sent to live with her stern aunt, a devoted member of the ruling Communist Party. Visits with her beloved Uncle Erich, a best-selling author, are her only respite. But one night, her uncle disappears without a trace.*



In Another Time (Caroline Leech, 2018) It's 1942, and as the war rages in Europe, Maisie McCall is in the Scottish Highlands swinging an axe for the Women's Timber Corps. Maisie relishes her newfound independence working alongside other lumberjacks—including the mysterious John Lindsay.*



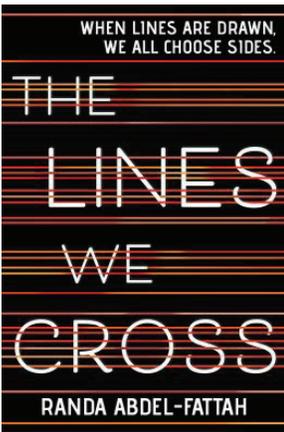
Kite Runner (The) (Khaled Hosseini, 2003) An epic tale of fathers and sons, of friendship and betrayal, that takes us from Afghanistan in the final days of the monarchy to the atrocities of the present.*



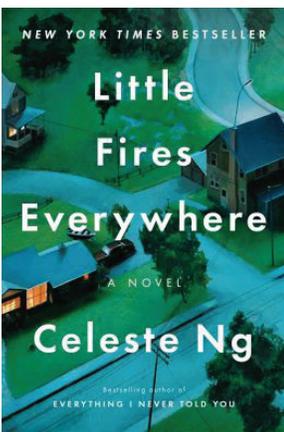
Le Morte D'Arthur: King Arthur and the Legends of the Round Table (Sir Thomas Malory, 1485) From the incredible wizardry of Merlin to the passion of Sir Lancelot, these tales of Arthur and his knights offer epic adventures with the supernatural as well as timeless battles with our own humanity.*



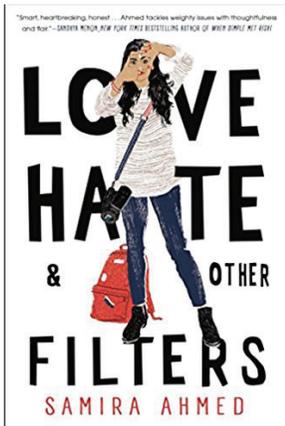
Lilac Girls (Martha Hall Kelly, 2017) New York socialite Caroline Ferriday has her hands full with her post at the French consulate and a new love on the horizon.... Kasia Kuzmerick, a Polish teenager, senses her carefree youth disappearing as she is drawn deeper into her role as courier for the underground resistance movement.... For the ambitious young German doctor, Herta Oberheuser, an ad for a government medical position seems her ticket out of a desolate life.... The lives of these three women are set on a collision course when the unthinkable happens and Kasia is sent to Ravensbrück, the notorious Nazi concentration camp for women.*



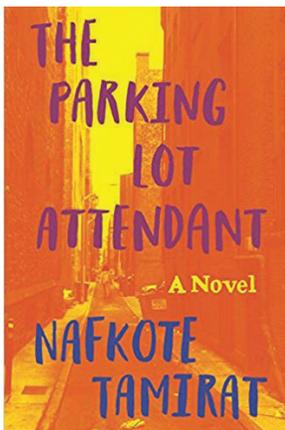
Lines We Cross (The) (Randa Abdel-Fattah, 2017) Michael likes to hang out with his friends and play with the latest graphic design software. His parents drag him to rallies held by their anti-immigrant group, which rails against the tide of refugees flooding the country. And it all makes sense to Michael. Until Mina, a beautiful girl from the other side of the protest lines, shows up at his school, and turns out to be funny, smart—and a Muslim refugee from Afghanistan.*



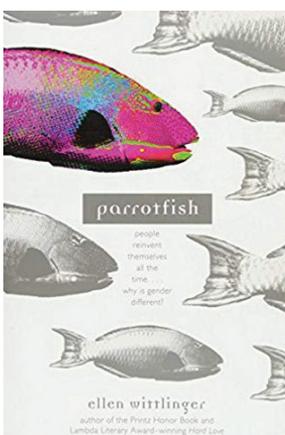
Little Fires Everywhere (Celeste Ng, 2017) A riveting novel that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives.*



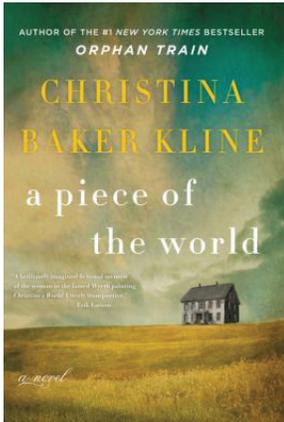
Love, Hate and Other Filters (Samira Ahmed, 2018) American-born seventeen-year-old Maya Aziz is torn between worlds. There's the proper one her parents expect for their good Indian daughter: attending a college close to their suburban Chicago home, and being paired off with an older Muslim boy her mom deems "suitable." And then there is the world of her dreams: going to film school and living in New York City.... There's also the real world, beyond Maya's control. In the aftermath of a horrific crime perpetrated hundreds of miles away, her life is turned upside down.*



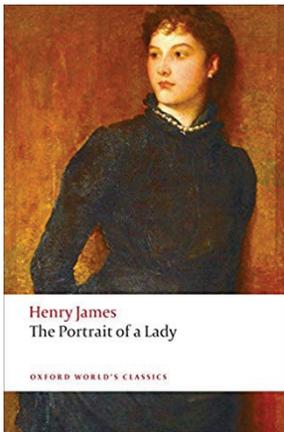
Parking Lot Attendant (The): A Novel (Nafkote Tamirat, 2018) The story begins on an undisclosed island where the unnamed narrator and her father are the two newest and least liked members of a commune that has taken up residence there.... After immersing us in life on the island, our young heroine takes us back to Boston to recount the events that brought her here....*



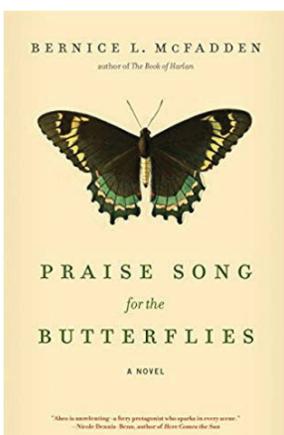
Parrotfish (Ellen Wittlinger, 2007) Angela Katz-McNair has never felt quite right as a girl. Her whole life is leading up to the day she decides to become Grady, a guy. While coming out as transgendered feels right to Grady, he isn't prepared for the reaction he gets from everyone else.*



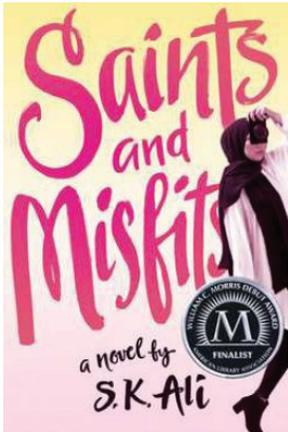
Piece of the World (A) (Christina Baker Kline, 2017) To Christina Olson, the entire world is her family farm in the small coastal town of Cushing, Maine. The only daughter in a family of sons, Christina is tied to her home by health and circumstance, and seems destined for a small life. Instead, she becomes Andrew Wyeth's first great inspiration, and the subject of one of the best-known paintings of the twentieth century, *Christina's World*.*



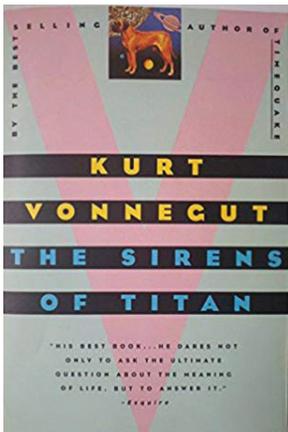
Portrait of a Lady (The) (Henry James, 1881) *Portrait of a Lady* is at once a dramatic Victorian tale of betrayal and a wholly modern psychological study of a woman caught in a web of relations she only comes to understand too late.*



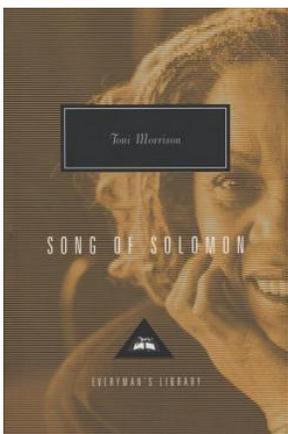
Praise Song for the Butterflies (Bernice McFadden, 2018) Abeo Kata lives a comfortable, happy life in West Africa as the privileged nine-year-old daughter of a government employee and stay-at-home mother. But when the Katas' idyllic lifestyle takes a turn for the worse, Abeo's father, following his mother's advice, places the girl in a religious shrine, hoping that the sacrifice of his daughter will serve as atonement for the crimes of his ancestors.*



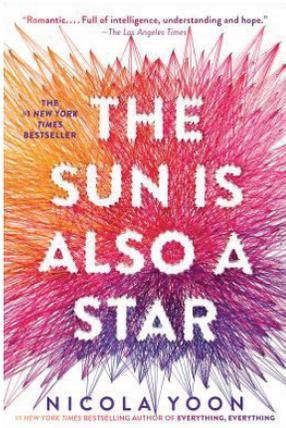
Saints and Misfits (S. K. Ali, 2017) A nuanced story about a young [Muslim] woman exploring her identity through friendship, family, and faith.*



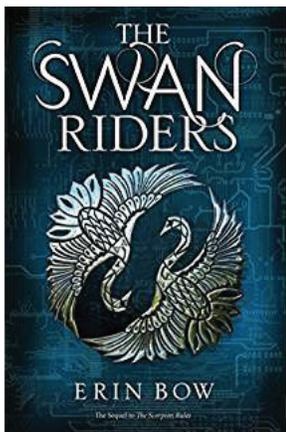
Sirens of Titan (The) (Kurt Vonnegut, 1959) The richest, most depraved man on Earth, Malachi Constant, is offered a chance to take a space journey to distant worlds with a beautiful woman at his side. Of course there's a catch to the invitation—and a prophetic vision about the purpose of human life that only Vonnegut has the courage to tell.*



Song of Solomon (Toni Morrison, 1977) Milkman Dead was born shortly after a neighborhood eccentric hurled himself off a rooftop in a vain attempt at flight. For the rest of his life he, too, will be trying to fly.*



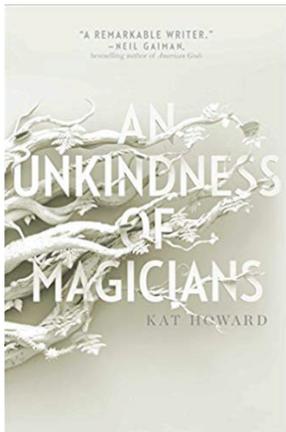
Sun is Also a Star (The) (Nicola Yoon, 2016) Over the course of a single day in New York City, two teenagers who have nothing in common randomly meet and fall in love.*



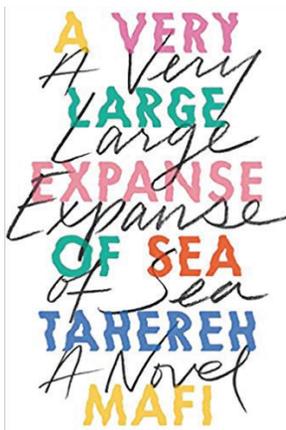
Swan Riders (The) (Erin Bow, 2016) Greta Stuart has become AI. New transmitters have silvered her fingerprints. New receptors have transformed her vision. And the whole of her memory has become one book in a vast library of instant knowledge. Greta is ready to rule the world. But the new technology is also killing her.* Book two in the *Prisoners of Peace* series following *The Scorpion Rules* (2015).



Things We Have in Common (Tasha Kavanagh, 2017) Fifteen-year-old Yasmin Doner is a social misfit—obese, obsessive and deemed a freak by her peers at school. With her father dead and her mother in a new relationship, Yasmin yearns for a sense of belonging, finding comfort only in food and the fantasy of being close to Alice Taylor, a girl at school. Yasmin will do anything to become friends with pretty and popular Alice—even if Alice, like everyone else, thinks she's a freak.*



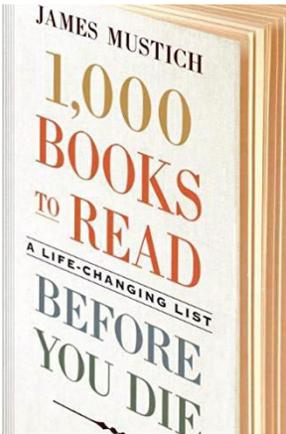
Unkindness of Magicians (An) (Kat Howard, 2017) In New York City, magic controls everything. But the power of magic is fading. No one knows what is happening, except for Sydney—a new, rare magician with incredible power that has been unmatched in decades, and she may be the only person who is able to stop the darkness that is weakening the magic. But Sydney doesn't want to help the system, she wants to destroy it.*



Very Large Expanse of Sea (A) (Tahereh Mafi, 2018) It's 2002, a year after 9/11. It's an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who's tired of being stereotyped.*

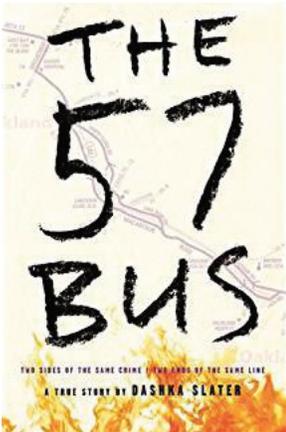


War Storm (Victoria Aveyard, 2018) War is coming, and all Mare has fought for hangs in the balance. Will victory be enough to topple the Silver kingdoms? Or will the little lightning girl be forever silenced? This is the final installment in the *Red Queen* series: *Red Queen* (2015), *Glass Sword* (2016) and *King's Cage* (2017).

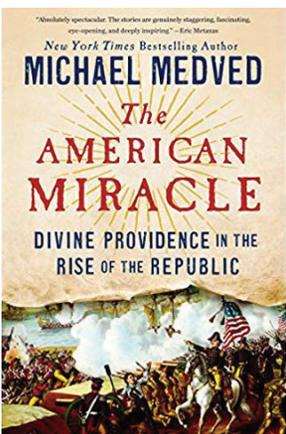


Non-fiction:

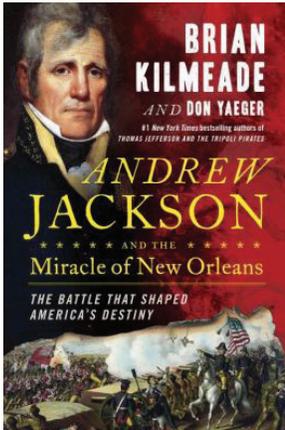
1,000 Books to Read before You Die: A Life-Changing List (James Mustich, 2018) Covering fiction, poetry, science and science fiction, memoir, travel writing, biography, children's books, history, and more, *1,000 Books to Read before You Die* ranges across cultures and through time to offer an eclectic collection of works that each deserve to come with the recommendation....* Why not get started now?



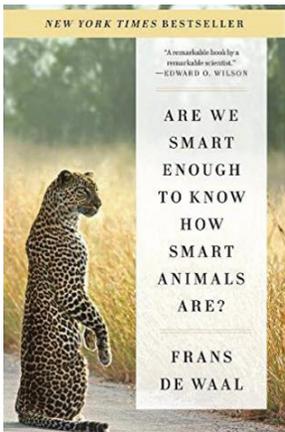
57 Bus (The): A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime That Changed Their Lives (Dashka Slater, 2017) One teenager in a skirt. One teenager with a lighter. One moment that changes both of their lives forever.*



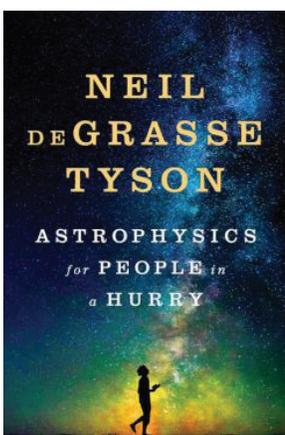
American Miracle (The): Divine Providence in the Rise of the Republic (Michael Medved, 2016) The history of the United States displays an uncanny pattern: At moments of crisis, when the odds against success seem overwhelming and disaster looks imminent, fate intervenes to provide deliverance and progress. Historians may categorize these incidents as happy accidents, callous crimes, or the product of brilliant leadership, but the most notable leaders of the past four hundred years have identified this good fortune as something else—a reflection of divine providence.*



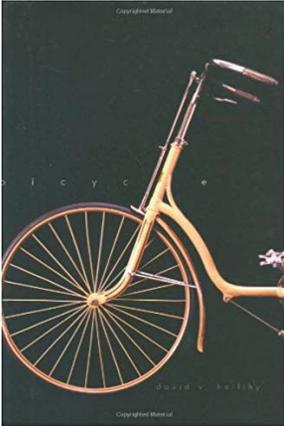
Andrew Jackson and the Miracle of New Orleans: The Battle That Shaped America's Destiny (Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger, 2017) The War of 1812 saw America threatened on every side.... Into this dire situation stepped Major General Andrew Jackson. A native of Tennessee who had witnessed the horrors of the Revolutionary War and Indian attacks, he was glad America had finally decided to confront repeated British aggression. But he feared that President Madison's men were overlooking the most important target of all: New Orleans.*



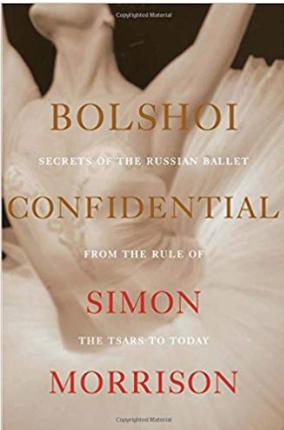
Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are? (Frans de Waal, 2016) What separates your mind from an animal's? Maybe you think it's your ability to design tools, your sense of self, or your grasp of past and future—all traits that have helped us define ourselves as the planet's preeminent species. But in recent decades, these claims have eroded, or even been disproven outright, by a revolution in the study of animal cognition.*



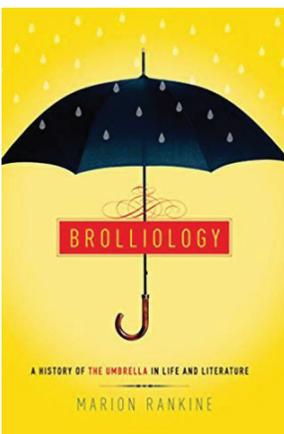
Astrophysics for People in a Hurry (Neil deGrasse Tyson, 2017) What is the nature of space and time? How do we fit within the universe? How does the universe fit within us? Today, few of us have time to contemplate the cosmos. So Tyson brings the universe down to Earth succinctly and clearly, with sparkling wit, in tasty chapters consumable anytime and anywhere in your busy day.*



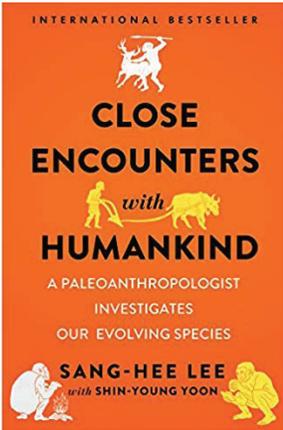
Bicycle: The History (David V. Herlihy, 2004) Because we live in an age of cross-country bicycle racing and high-tech mountain bikes, we may overlook the decades of development and ingenuity that transformed the basic concept of human-powered transportation into a marvel of engineering. This lively and engrossing history retraces the extraordinary story of the bicycle—a history of disputed patents, brilliant inventions, and missed opportunities.*



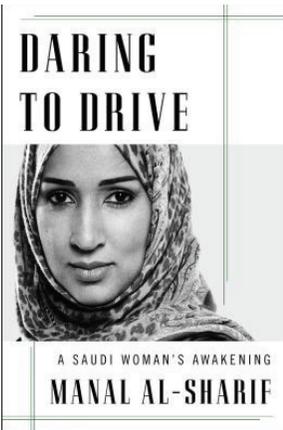
Bolshoi Confidential: Secrets of the Russian Ballet from the Rule of the Tsars to Today (Simon Morrison, 2016) An enthralling, definitive new history of the Bolshoi Ballet, where visionary performances onstage compete with political machinations backstage.*



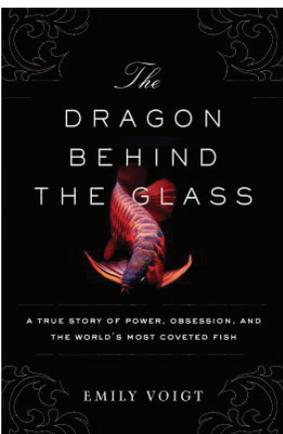
Brolliology: A History of the Umbrella in Life and Literature (Marion Rankine, 2017) Humans have been making, using, perfecting, and decorating umbrellas for millennia—holding them over the heads of rulers, signaling class distinctions, and exploring their full imaginative potential in folk tales and novels.... Marion Rankine elevates umbrellas to their rightful place as an object worthy of philosophical inquiry.*



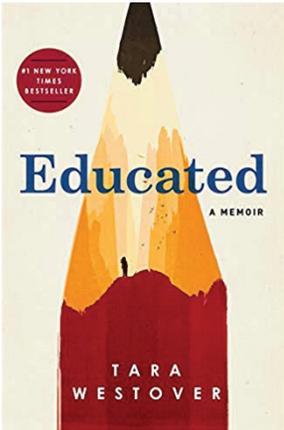
Close Encounters with Humankind: A Paleoanthropologist Investigates Our Evolving Species (Sang-Hee Lee and Shin-Young Yoon, 2018) Korea's first paleoanthropologist, Sang-Hee Lee, explores some of our greatest evolutionary questions from new and unexpected angles.*



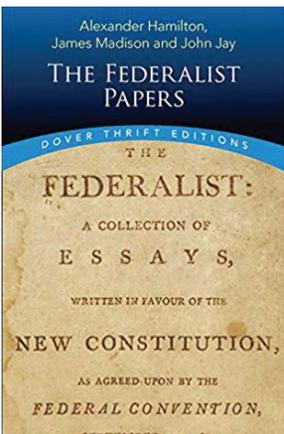
Daring to Drive: A Saudi Women's Awakening (Manal Al-Sharif, 2017) Memoir by a devout woman from a modest family in Saudi Arabia who became the unexpected leader of a courageous movement to support women's right to drive.*



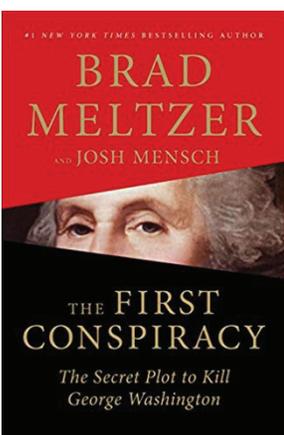
Dragon behind the Glass (The): A True Story of Power, Obsession, and the World's Most Coveted Fish (Emily Voigt, 2017) *The Dragon behind the Glass* tells the story of a fish like none other. Treasured as a status symbol believed to bring good luck, the Asian arowana, or "dragon fish," is a dramatic example of a modern paradox: the mass-produced endangered species.*



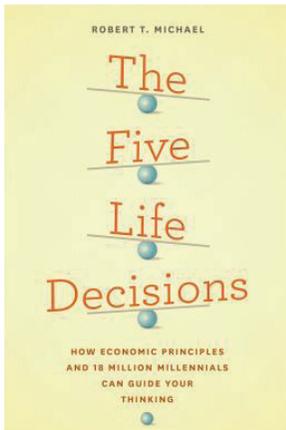
Educated: A Memoir (Tara Westover, 2018) Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life.*



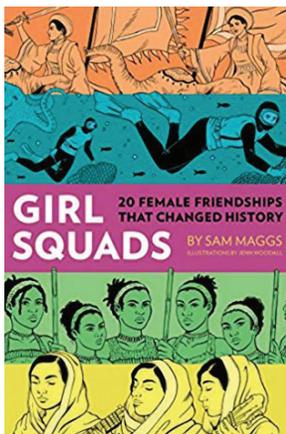
Federalist Papers (The) (Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison, 1788). An authoritative analysis of the Constitution of the United States and an enduring classic of political philosophy.*



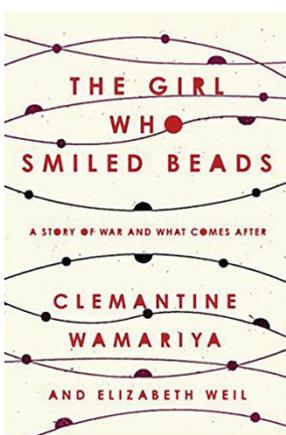
First Conspiracy (The): The Secret Plot to Kill George Washington (Brad Meltzer, 2018) In 1776, an elite group of soldiers were handpicked to serve as George Washington's bodyguards. Washington trusted them; relied on them. But unbeknownst to Washington, some of them were part of a treasonous plan.*



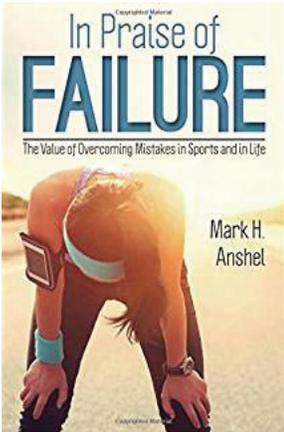
Five Life Decisions (The): How Economic Principles and 18 Million Millennials Can Guide Your Thinking (Robert T. Michael, 2017) Choices matter. And in your teens and twenties, some of the biggest life decisions come about when you feel the least prepared to tackle them. Economist Robert T. Michael won't tell you what to choose. Instead, he'll show you how to make smarter choices. Michael focuses on five critical decisions we all face about college, career, partners, health, and parenting.*



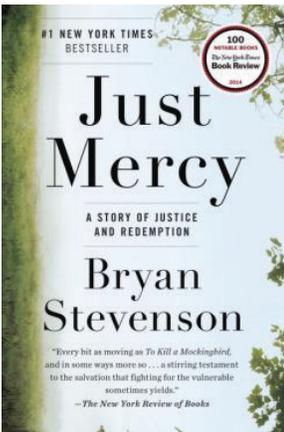
Girl Squads: 20 Female Friendships That Changed History (Sam Maggs, 2018) Spanning art, science, politics, activism, and even sports, these girl squads show just how essential female friendship has been throughout history and throughout the world.*



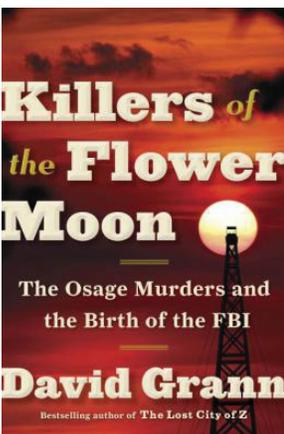
Girl Who Smiled Beads (The): A Story of War and What Comes After (Clemantine Wamariya and Elizabeth Weil, 2018) Clemantine Wamariya was six years old when her mother and father began to speak in whispers, when neighbors began to disappear, and when she heard the loud, ugly sounds her brother said were thunder. In 1994, she and her fifteen-year-old sister, Claire, fled the Rwandan massacre and spent the next six years migrating through seven African countries, searching for safety....*



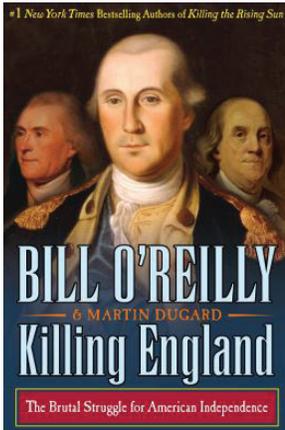
In Praise of Failure: The Value of Overcoming Mistakes in Sports and in Life (Mark H. Anshel, 2016) Many of our greatest athletes, scientists, and entertainers failed repeatedly throughout their careers, yet they refused to allow past mistakes stop them from striving for future success. Instead, they turned those so-called failures into opportunities to learn, improve, and eventually earn the achievements they are celebrated for today. Why, then, is failure considered negative in our society? Perhaps failure is not, in fact, something to be avoided, but something to be encouraged.*



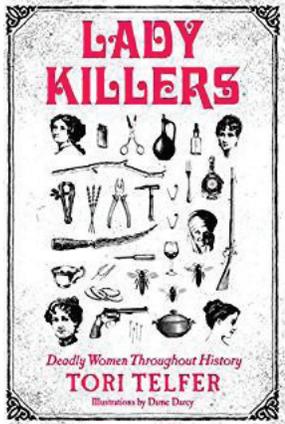
Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption (Bryan Stevenson, 2014) *Just Mercy* is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.*



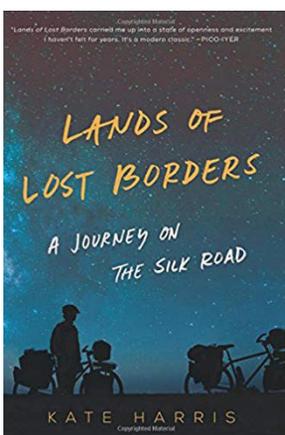
Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI (David Grann, 2017) In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Indian nation in Oklahoma. After oil was discovered beneath their land, they rode in chauffeured automobiles, built mansions, and sent their children to study in Europe. Then, one by one, the Osage began to be killed off.*



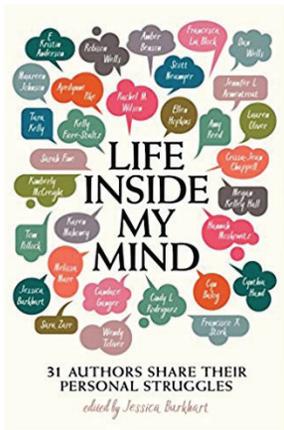
Killing England: The Brutal Struggle for American Independence (Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard, 2017) Told through the eyes of George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Great Britain's King George III, *Killing England* chronicles the path to independence in gripping detail, taking the reader from the battlefields of America to the royal courts of Europe.*



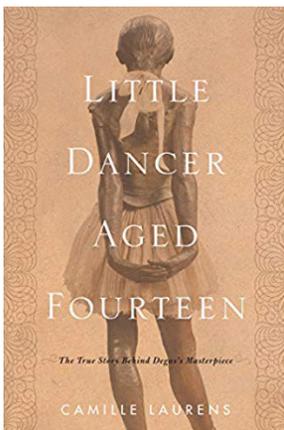
Lady Killers: Deadly Women throughout History (Tori Telfer, 2017) This thrilling and entertaining compendium investigates female serial killers and their crimes through the ages.*



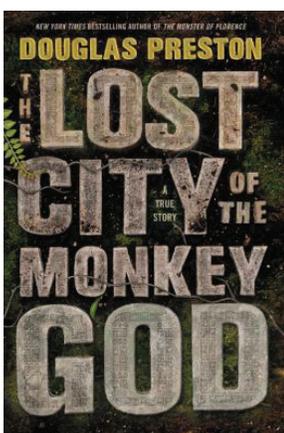
Lands of Lost Borders: A Journey on the Silk Road (Kate Harris, 2018) As a teenager, Kate Harris realized that the career she craved—to be an explorer, equal parts swashbuckler and metaphysician—had gone extinct.... In between studying at Oxford and MIT, Harris set off by bicycle down the fabled Silk Road with her childhood friend Mel. Pedaling mile upon mile in some of the remotest places on earth, she realized that an explorer, in any day and age, is the kind of person who refuses to live between the lines.*



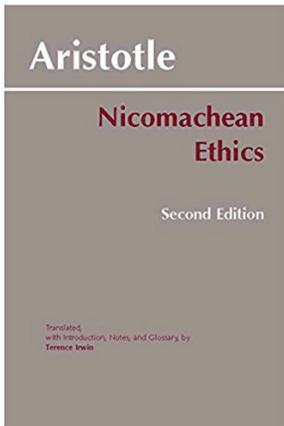
Life inside My Mind: 31 Authors Share Their Personal Struggles (Jessica Burkhart [ed.], 2018) Your favorite YA authors...recount their own experiences with mental illness in this raw, real, and powerful collection of essays that explores everything from ADD to PTSD.*



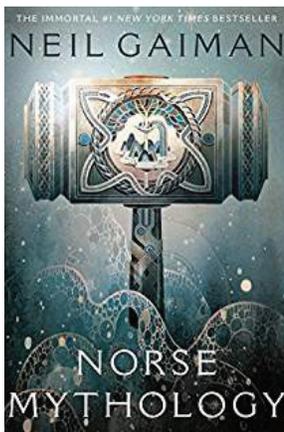
Little Dancer Aged Fourteen: The True Story behind Degas's Masterpiece (Camille Laurens, 2018) She is famous throughout the world, but how many know her name? You can admire her figure in Washington, Paris, London, New York, Dresden, or Copenhagen, but where is her grave? We know only her age, fourteen, and the work that she did—because it was already grueling work, at an age when children today are sent to school.*



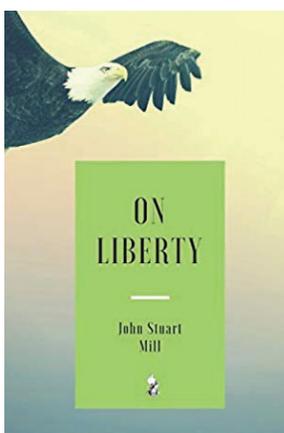
Lost City of the Monkey God (The): A True Story (Douglas Preston, 2017) A five-hundred-year-old legend. An ancient curse. A stunning medical mystery. And a pioneering journey into the unknown heart of the world's densest jungle.*



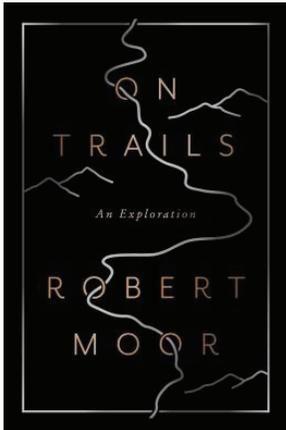
Nicomachean Ethics (Aristotle, 3XX B.C.) In the *Nicomachean Ethics*... Aristotle's guiding question is what is the best thing for a human being? His answer is happiness. "Happiness," he wrote, "is the best, noblest, and most pleasant thing in the world." But he means not something we feel, not an emotion, but rather an especially good kind of life.*



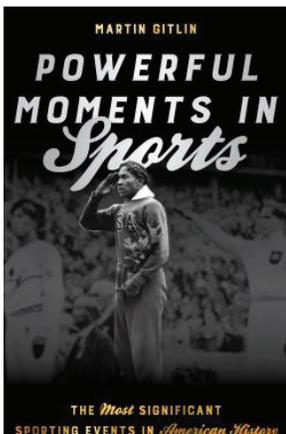
Norse Mythology (Neil Gaiman, 2017) Neil Gaiman, long inspired by ancient mythology in creating the fantastical realms of his fiction, presents a bravura rendition of the Norse gods and their world from their origin through their upheaval in Ragnarok.*



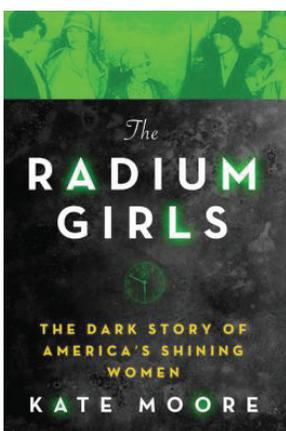
On Liberty (John Stuart Mill, 1859) Mill asks and answers provocative questions relating to the boundaries of social authority and individual sovereignty.*



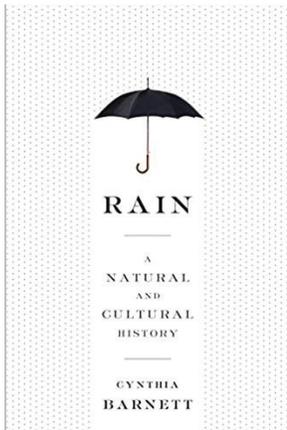
On Trails: An Exploration (Robert Moor, 2016) In 2009, while thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail, Robert Moor began to wonder about the paths that lie beneath our feet: How do they form? Why do some improve over time while others fade? What makes us follow or strike off on our own? Over the course of the next seven years, Moor traveled the globe, exploring trails of all kinds, from the miniscule to the massive.*



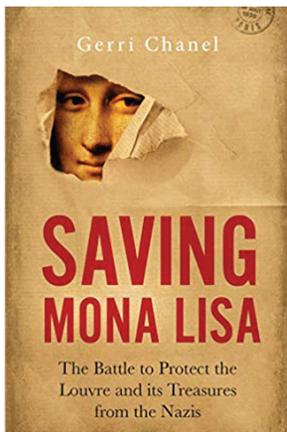
Powerful Moments in Sports: The Most Significant Sporting Events in American History (Martin Gitlin, 2017) This book looks at how a particular event revolutionized a sport, how a contest of speed inspired a nation, or even how a humble victory affected the world.*



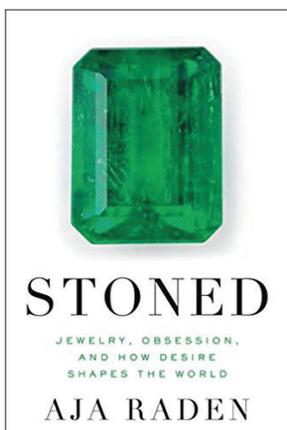
Radium Girls (The): The Dark Story of America's Shining Women (Kate Moore, 2017) *The Radium Girls* fully illuminates the inspiring young women exposed to the "wonder" substance of radium, and their awe-inspiring strength in the face of almost impossible circumstances. Their courage and tenacity led to life-changing regulations, research into nuclear bombing, and ultimately saved hundreds of thousands of lives....*



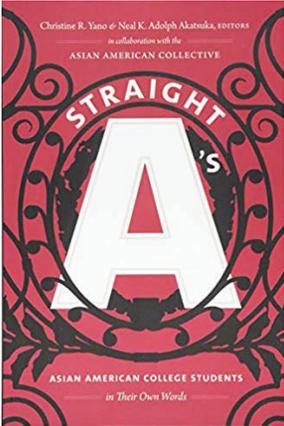
Rain: A Natural and Cultural History (Cynthia Barnett, 2015) It is the subject of countless poems and paintings; the top of the weather report; the source of the world's water. Yet this is the first book to tell the story of rain.*



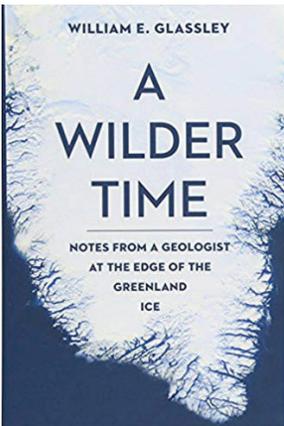
Saving Mona Lisa: The Battle to Protect the Louvre and its Treasures from the Nazis (Gerri Chanel, 2018) In August 1939, curators at the Louvre nestled the world's most famous painting into a special red velvet-lined case and spirited her away to the Loire Valley. So began the biggest evacuation of art and antiquities in history.... Throughout the German occupation, the museum staff fought to keep the priceless treasures out of the hands of Hitler and his henchmen, often risking their lives to protect the country's artistic heritage.*



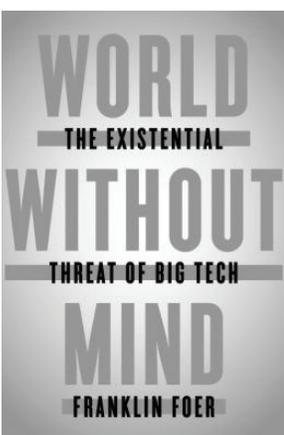
Stoned: Jewelry, Obsession, and How Desire Shapes the World (Aja Raden, 2015) An account of how eight jewels shaped the course of history shares insights into the role of precious gemstones in triggering cultural movements political dynasties and wars while exploring how jewels reflect darker aspects of human nature.*



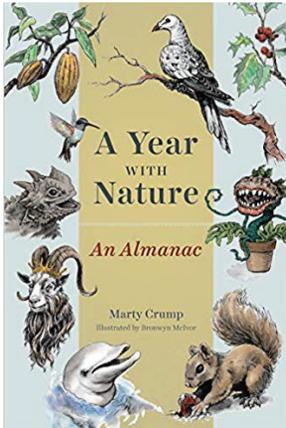
Straight A's: Asian American College Students in Their Own Words (Christine R. Yano and Neal K. Adolph [eds.], 2018) In *Straight A's* Asian American students at Harvard reflect on their common experiences with discrimination, immigrant communities, their relationships to their Asian heritage, and their place in the university.*



Wilder Time (A): Notes from a Geologist at the Edge of the Greenland Ice (William E. Glassley, 2018) An invitation to experience a breathtaking place and the fascinating science behind its creation....*

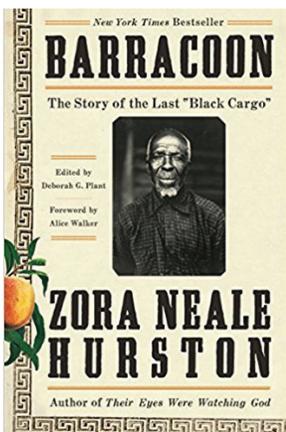


World without Mind: The Existential Threat of Big Tech (Franklin Foer, 2017) Over the past few decades there has been a revolution in terms of who controls knowledge and information. This rapid change has imperiled the way we think. Without pausing to consider the cost, the world has rushed to embrace the products and services of four titanic corporations.*

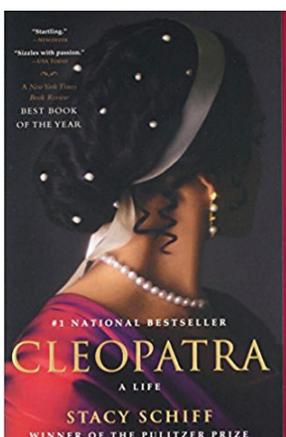


Year with Nature (A): An Almanac (Marty Crump, 2018) *A Year with Nature* celebrates the wonder and beauty of our natural world as we have expressed it in visual arts, music, literature, science, natural history, and everyday experience. But more than this, the almanac's vignettes encourage us to contemplate how we can help ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the landscapes and rich biodiversity we so deeply cherish.*

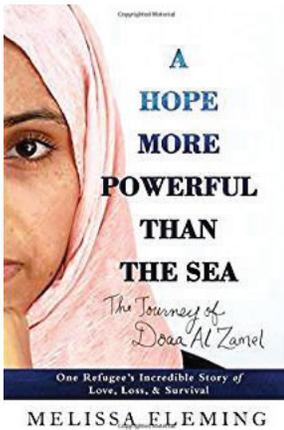
Biographies/Memoirs:



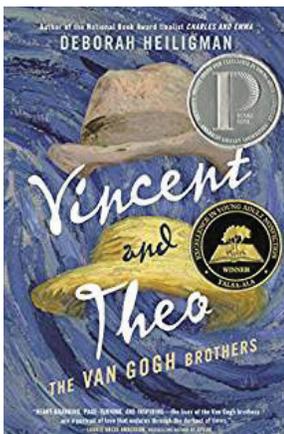
Barracoon: The Story of the Last "Black Cargo" (Zora Neale Hurston, 2018) In 1927, Zora Neale Hurston went to Plateau, Alabama, just outside Mobile, to interview eighty-six-year-old Cudjo Lewis. Of the millions of men, women, and children transported from Africa to America as slaves, Cudjo was then the only person alive to tell the story of this integral part of the nation's history.*



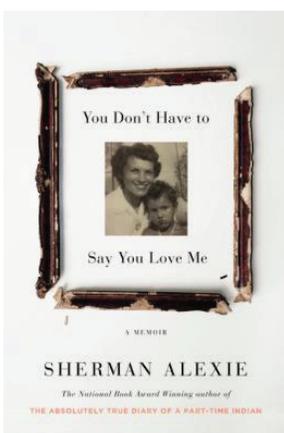
Cleopatra: A Life (Stacy Schiff, 2010) Famous long before she was notorious, Cleopatra has gone down in history for all the wrong reasons.... Along the way, Cleopatra's supple personality and the drama of her circumstances have been lost. In a masterly return to the classical sources, Stacy Schiff here boldly separates fact from fiction to rescue the magnetic queen whose death ushered in a new world order. Rich in detail, epic in scope, Schiff's is a luminous, deeply original reconstruction of a dazzling life.*



Hope More Powerful Than the Sea (A): One Refugee's Incredible Story of Love, Loss and Survival (Melissa Fleming, 2017) Adrift in a frigid sea, no land in sight, just debris from the ship's wreckage and floating corpses all around, nineteen-year-old Doaa Al Zamel stays afloat on a small inflatable ring and clutches two little girls—barely toddlers—to her body. The children had been thrust into Doaa's arms by their drowning relatives, all refugees who boarded a dangerously overcrowded ship bound for Italy and a new life. For days as Doaa drifts, she prays for rescue and sings to the babies in her arms. She must stay alive for them. She must not lose hope.*

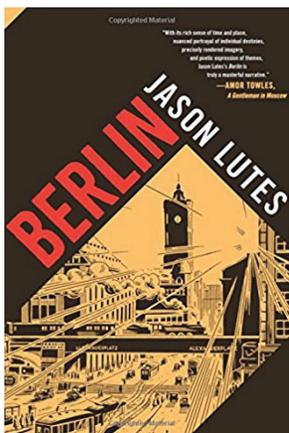


Vincent and Theo: The Van Gogh Brothers (Deborah Heiligman, 2017) The deep and enduring friendship between Vincent and Theo Van Gogh shaped both brothers' lives. Confidant, champion, sympathizer, friend—Theo supported Vincent as he struggled to find his path in life.*



You Don't Have to Say You Love Me: A Memoir (Sherman Alexie, 2017) Family relationships are never simple. But Sherman Alexie's bond with his mother Lillian was more complex than most.... She wanted a better life for her son, but it was only by leaving her behind that he could hope to achieve it.*

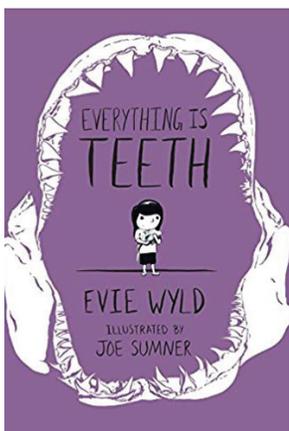
Graphic Novels/Non-fiction



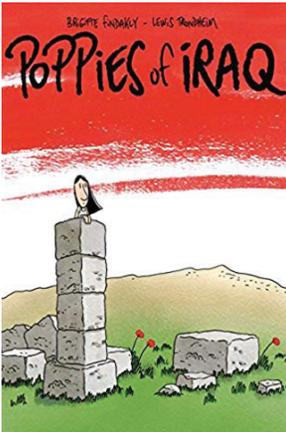
Berlin (Jason Lutes, 2018) *Berlin* is an intricate look at the fall of the Weimar Republic through the eyes of its citizens—Marthe Müller, a young woman escaping the memory of a brother killed in World War I; Kurt Severing, an idealistic journalist losing faith in the printed word as fascism and extremism take hold; the Brauns, a family torn apart by poverty and politics.*



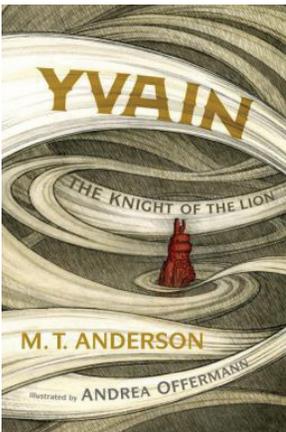
Best We Could Do (The): An Illustrated Memoir (Thi Bui, 2017) Bui documents the story of her family's daring escape after the fall of South Vietnam in the 1970s and the difficulties they faced building new lives for themselves.*



Everything Is Teeth (Evie Wyld, 2016) When she was a little girl, passing her summers in the heat of coastal Australia, Evie Wyld was captivated by sharks—by their innate ruthlessness, stealth, and immeasurable power—and they have never released their hold on her imagination.*

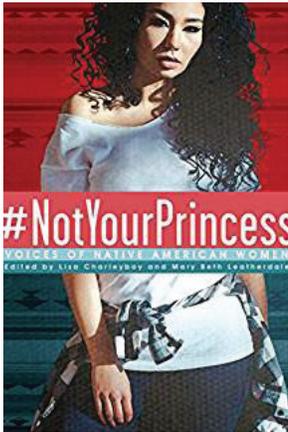


Poppies of Iraq (Brigitte Findakly and Lewis Trondheim, 2017) *Poppies of Iraq* is Brigitte Findakly's nuanced tender chronicle of her relationship with her homeland Iraq...memories of her middle class childhood touching on cultural practices, the education system, Saddam Hussein's state control, and her family's history as Orthodox Christians in the Arab world.*

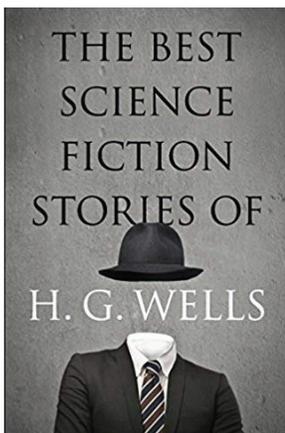


Yvain: The Knight of the Lion (M.T. Anderson and Andrea Offermann, 2017) Eager for glory and heedless of others, Sir Yvain sets out from King Arthur's court and defeats a local lord in battle, unknowingly intertwining his future with the lives of two compelling women: Lady Laudine, the beautiful widow of the fallen lord, and her sly maid Lunette.*

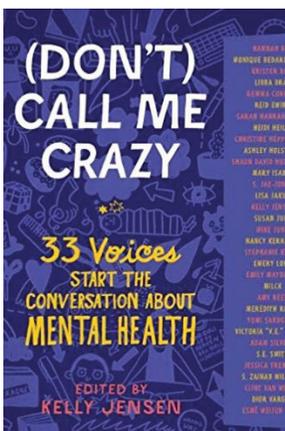
Collections: Short Stories, Essays and more...



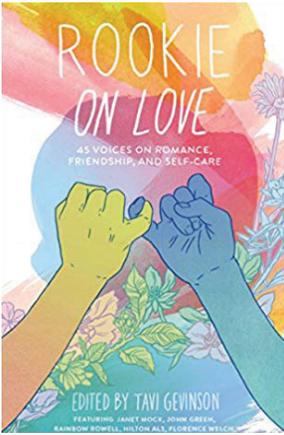
#NotYourPrincess: Voices of Native American Women (Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale [eds.], 2017) Whether looking back to a troubled past or welcoming a hopeful future, the powerful voices of Indigenous women across North America resound in this book...an eclectic collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that combine to express the experience of being a Native woman.*



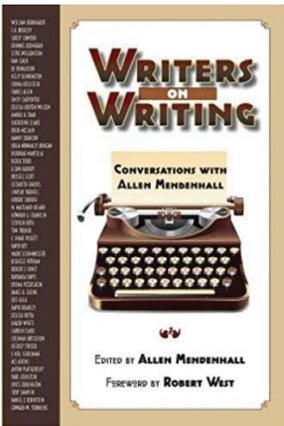
Best Science Fiction Stories of H. G. Wells (The) (H.G. Wells) Hailed as the founder of modern science fiction, H. G. Wells (1866–1946) wrote a brilliant succession of novels and short stories that remain in the first rank of the genre.*



(Don't) Call Me Crazy: 33 Voices Start the Conversation about Mental Health (Kelly Jensen [ed.], 2018) To understand mental health, we need to talk openly about it. Because there's no single definition of crazy, there's no single experience that embodies it, and the word itself means different things—wild? extreme? disturbed? passionate?—to different people. In *(Don't) Call Me Crazy*, thirty-three actors, athletes, writers, and artists offer essays, lists, comics, and illustrations that explore a wide range of topics:...*

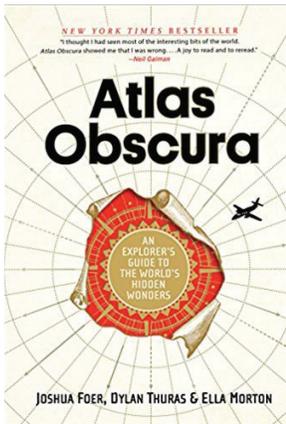


Rookie on Love: 45 Voices on Romance, Friendship, and Self-Care (Tavi Gevinson [ed.], 2018) A single-subject anthology about the heart's most powerful emotion....*

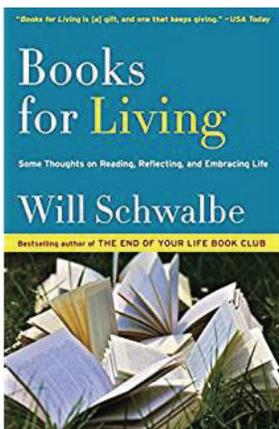


Writers on Writing: Conversations with Allen Mendenhall (Allen Mendenhall, 2019) Featuring the telling insights and sage advice of novelists, historians, poets, professors, philosophers, and more, *Writers on Writing* is not just an informative guide or a useful resource but a fount of inspiration.*

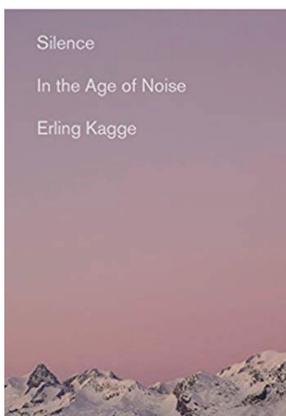
Something for Everyone: Informational Titles for Teenagers



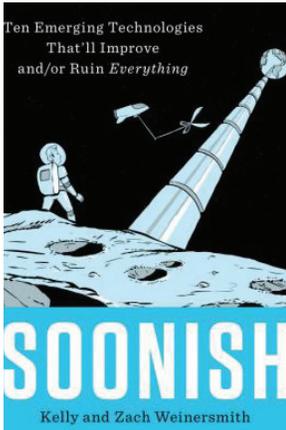
Atlas Obscura: An Explorer's Guide to the World's Hidden Wonders (Joshua Foer, Dylan Thuras, and Ella Morton, 2016) It's time to get off the beaten path. Inspiring equal parts wonder and wanderlust, *Atlas Obscura* celebrates over 700 of the strangest and most curious places in the world.*



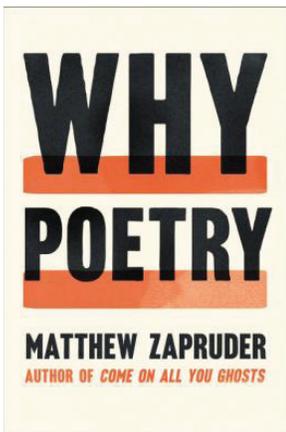
Books for Living: Some Thoughts on Reading, Reflecting, and Embracing Life (Will Schwalbe, 2016) In this delightful celebration of reading, Schwalbe invites us along on his quest for books that speak to the specific challenges of living in our modern world, with all its noise and distractions.*



Silence: In the Age of Noise (Erling Kagge, 2017) Erling Kagge, famed Norwegian explorer and the first person to reach the South Pole alone, explores the silence around us, the silence within us, and the silence we must create. By recounting his own experiences and discussing the observations of poets, artists, and explorers, Kagge shows us why silence is essential to our sanity and happiness—and how it can open doors to wonder and gratitude.*

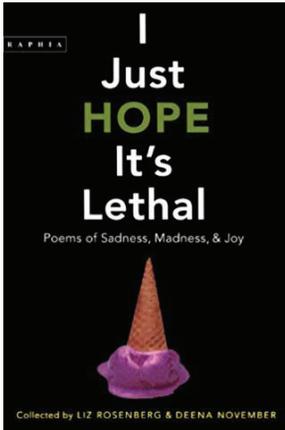


Soonish: Ten Emerging Technologies That'll Improve and/or Ruin Everything (Kelly Weinersmith and Zach Weinersmith, 2017) In this smart and funny book, celebrated cartoonist Zach Weinersmith and noted researcher Dr. Kelly Weinersmith give us a snapshot of what's coming next—from robot swarms to nuclear fusion powered-toasters.*

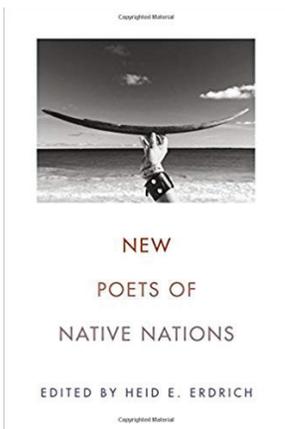


Why Poetry (Matthew Zapruder, 2017) An impassioned call for a return to reading poetry and an incisive argument for poetry's accessibility to all readers....*

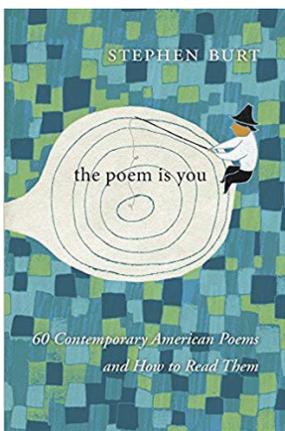
Poetry, Anyone?



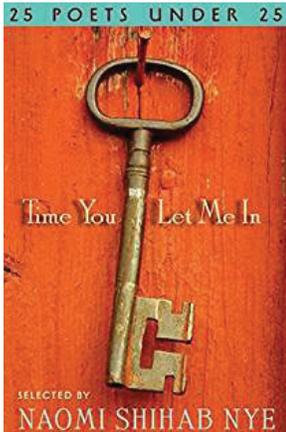
I Just Hope It's Lethal: Poems of Sadness, Madness, and Joy (Liz Rosenberg and Deena November [eds.], 2005) The teenage years are a time filled with sadness, madness, joy, and all the messy stuff in between.... It is moments like these that have inspired the touching, honest, and gripping poems found in *I Just Hope It's Lethal: Poems of Sadness, Madness, and Joy*.*



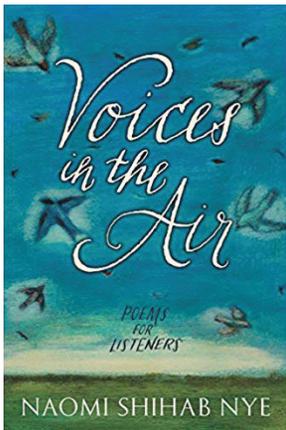
New Poets of Native Nations (Heid E. Erdrich [ed.], 2018) A landmark anthology celebrating twenty-one Native poets first published in the twenty-first century.*



Poem Is You (The): Sixty Contemporary American Poems and How to Read Them (Stephanie Burt, 2018) *The Poem Is You: Sixty Contemporary American Poems and How to Read Them* is a guide to the diverse magnificences [sic] of American poetry today. It presents a wide range of poems selected by Burt for this volume, each accompanied by an original essay explaining how a given poem works, why it matters, and how the poem speaks to other parts of art and culture.*



Time You Let Me In: 25 Poets under 25 (Naomi Shihab Nye [ed.], 2010)
A collection of poetry from young contemporary writers selected by the acclaimed poet, Naomi Shihab Nye.



Voices in the Air: Poems for Listeners (Naomi Shihab Nye, 2018) This volume of almost one hundred original poems is a stunning and engaging tribute to the diverse voices past and present that comfort us, compel us, lead us, and give us hope.*

*These annotations have been reproduced from the product descriptions on Amazon.com. This listing is for educational purposes only.

Looking for a Good Book? Some Web Sites to Help You...

Below are some web sites that offer book recommendations in a number of categories as well as tools for finding your next good read. While by no means all-inclusive, these may offer a good place to start looking...

AllReaders.com

<http://allreaders.com>

Look for books by plot, theme, character or setting. Book reviews are also available.

Book Series in Order

<https://www.bookseriesinorder.com>

Need to know the order of books in your favorite series? This is the place for you!

Bookwire: Book Awards

<http://www.bookwire.com/>

This web site offers links to a wide variety of books by genre. Bestsellers, new releases, and links to book reviews are also included.

Edgar Awards

<http://www.mysterywriters.org>

Click on "2019 Edgar® Award Nominees" to find the current nominees for the annual Edgar Allan Poe Awards given by the Mystery Writers of America for writing achievement in the mystery field. Locate previous winners by clicking on the "TheEdgars.com" link under "Edgar Awards" at the top of the page.

Fantastic Fiction

<http://www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/>

Access to thousands of fiction titles, including titles not yet released.

Goodreads

<http://www.goodreads.com/>

This website provides access to a wide variety of books by genre as well as "Goodreads Choice Awards" winners.

Horror Writers Association

<http://horror.org/>

Access titles honored by the Horror Writers Association for achievement in horror writing, including current nominees (on the home page) and previous winners (see link to the right: Bram Stoker Award Info).

Hugo Awards

<http://www.thehugoawards.org>

Fan-voted awards for excellence in the field of science fiction and fantasy. Click on "Current/Past Hugos" for past winners.

Literature-Map

<http://www.literature-map.com/>

Type in your favorite author's name and get a list of similar titles to read.

National Book Awards

<http://www.nationalbook.org/index.html>

Annual awards presented by the National Book Foundation for literary achievement in four categories: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and young people's literature. At the top of the page, select "National Book Awards" for access to current and previous winners by decade.

National Book Critics Circle: Awards

<http://bookcritics.org>

Prestigious awards given for the year's best books in six categories: fiction, general nonfiction, criticism, poetry, biography and autobiography. Select "Awards" at the top of the page for access to current and past winners.

Pulitzer Prizes

<http://www.pulitzer.org>

Click on "Prize Winners" link and select any year to view the annual awards for distinguished writing by The Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University.

Western Writers of America

<http://www.westernwriters.org/>

Click on "Spur Awards/Winners" to access titles that have received the Spur Awards for distinguished writing about the American West established by the Western Writers of America.

What Should I Read Next?

<http://whatshouldireadnext.com/>

Similar to Literature-Map, this website recommends books similar to those written by your favorite authors.

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