

MPH Middle School History Summer Reading List 2023

Greetings, rising 6th-8th graders!

We hope you're enjoying summer and relaxing, and we want to make summer reading as enjoyable and energizing as possible too. The list of books below includes a variety of voices set in different regions of the world. Many of these books are considered historical fiction, meaning they are set during important events or times in history but the stories and the characters are not based on real people. The reading levels of this list range from 5th-9th grade so please be conscious of that when choosing your books. The selection of these books are designed to offer a wide variety of options for all students. We find that these books are the best to read over the summer because they keep you interested while weaving in important historical topics and concepts. We ask that you,

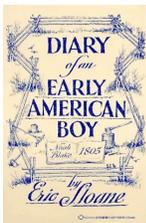
Read at least one or two books, or challenge yourself to read five or more!

When we gather next year for our classes, many of the same themes or events found in these books will be introduced and discussed in class throughout the year. It might help to jot down questions or reactions of your books as you read or keep a reading log as you go: record your thoughts, impressions, favorite passages, and whatever else you like.

Happy Reading!

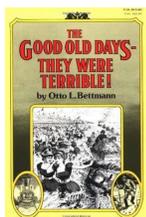
Ms. Rai (6th & 8th) and Mr. Curtis (7th)

Early American Voices



Diary of an Early American Boy by Eric Sloane

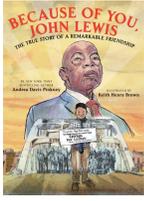
Part the diary of Noah Blake, who was 15 in 1805, and part a re-creation of the life that a boy in his circumstances would have lived, this book is a loving tribute to a vanished way of life. Profusely illustrated, it will give its readers a sense of participation in the past that is all too rare in conventional histories.



The Good Old Days-They Were Terrible! By Otto Bettman

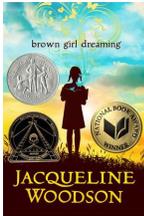
This book explains why the "good old days" were only good for a privileged few and why they were unrelentingly hard for most. Illustrated with lots of period photographs and drawings, this book is an eye-opening look at the past.

Black Voices



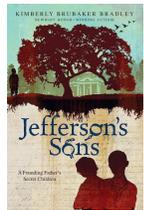
Because of You, John Lewis by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Ten-year-old Tybre Faw is obsessed with history and the civil rights movement, and he devours every book he can find on the subject. When he learns of Congressman John Lewis's harrowing and heroic march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in the fight for the right to vote, Tybre is determined to meet him.



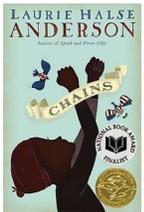
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.



Jefferson's Sons by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Beverly, Harriet, Madison, and Eston are Thomas Jefferson's children by one of his slaves, Sally Hemings. As each child grows up, their questions about slavery and freedom become tougher, calling into question the real meaning of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."



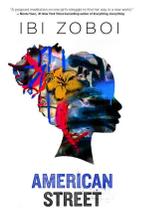
Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson

As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen-year-old Isabel wages her own fight...for freedom. Promised freedom upon the death of their owner, she and her sister, Ruth, in a cruel twist of fate become the property of a malicious New York City couple, who have no sympathy for the Revolution and even less for Ruth and Isabel.



Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper

Stella lives in the segregated South; in Bumblebee, North Carolina, to be exact about it. Some stores she can go into. Some stores she can't. Some folks are right pleasant. Others are a lot less so. The Ku Klux Klan's unwelcome reappearance forces Stella to fight battles of prejudice in this Depression-era tour de force.



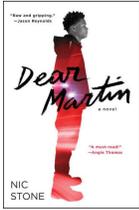
American Street by Ibi Zoboi

After Fabiola Toussaint and her mom leave Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Fabiola's mother is detained by U.S. immigration, leaving Fabiola to navigate her loud American cousins, the grittiness of Detroit's west side, and a new school all on her own.



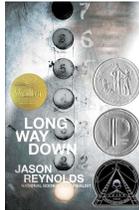
All American Boys by Jason Reynolds

That's the sidewalk graffiti that started it all... Well, no, actually, a lady tripping over Rashad at the store, making him drop a bag of chips, was what started it all. Because it looked like he was stealing. And he was a black kid in baggy clothes. Rashad must navigate the realities of race and police brutality.



Dear Martin by Nic Stone

Justyce McAllister is top of his class and set for the Ivy League—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. And despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can't escape the scorn. Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore?



Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

A cannon. A strap. A piece. A biscuit. A burner. A heater. A chopper. A gat. A hammer. A tool for RULE. Or, you can call it a gun. That's what fifteen-year-old Will has shoved in the back waistband of his jeans. See, his brother Shawn was just murdered. And Will knows the rules. No crying. No snitching. *Revenge.*



When You Look Like Us by Pamela N. Harris

When you look like us—brown skin, brown eyes, black braids or fades—people think you're trouble. No one looks twice at a missing black girl from the projects because she must've brought whatever happened to her upon herself. I, Jay Murphy, thought my sister, Nicole, got too caught up with her boyfriend. But she's been gone too long now.



One of the Good Ones by Maika Moulite and Maritza Moulite

ISN'T BEING HUMAN ENOUGH? When teen social activist and history buff Kezi Smith is killed under mysterious circumstances after attending a social justice rally. As Kezi becomes another immortalized victim in the fight against police brutality, Happi begins to question the idealized way her sister is remembered.



This Is My America by Kim Johnson

Every week, seventeen-year-old Tracy Beaumont writes letters to Innocence X, asking the organization to help her father, an innocent Black man on death row. After seven years, Tracy is running out of time—her dad has only 267 days left.



March: Book 1 by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin

March is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. Rooted in Lewis' personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement.



Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation that's been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of what they see as an unjust and brutal killing.

LGBTQI+ Voices



One True Way by Shannon Hitchcock

A heartening story of two girls who discover their friendship is something more. But how, among their backward town, will Sam and Allie face what they know is true about themselves?



Felix Ever After by Kacen Callender

Felix Love has never been in love. He desperately wants to know what it's like. What's worse is that, even though he is proud of his identity, Felix also secretly fears being Black, queer, and transgender will never get him his happily-ever-after.



The (Un)popular Vote by Jasper Sanchez

Everything Mark learned about politics, he learned from his father, the congressman who still pretends he has a daughter and not a son. To protect his father's image, Mark promises to pretend to be the cis guy everyone assumes he is. But that all changes when he goes up against a manipulatively student body president candidate.



Who I Was With Her by Nita Tyndall

There are two things that Corinne Parker knows to be true: that she is in love with Maggie Bailey, the captain of the rival high school's cross-country team and her secret girlfriend of a year, and that she isn't ready for anyone to know she's bisexual. When Maggie dies, Corinne must navigate her grief and her emotions.



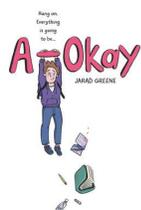
Pumpkin by Julie Murphy

Waylon Russell Brewer is a fat, openly gay boy stuck in the small West Texas town of Clover City. His plan is to bide his time until he can graduate, move to Austin with his twin sister, Clementine, and finally go Full Waylon, so that he can live his Julie-the-hills-are-alive-with-the-sound-of-music-Andrews truth.



Both Can Be True by Jules Machias

Ash is no stranger to feeling like an outcast. Some days Ash is undoubtedly girl, but other times, 100 percent guy. Daniel lacks control too—of his emotions. He's been told he's overly sensitive more times than he can count. He can't help the way he is, and he sure wishes someone would accept him for it.



A-Okay by Jarad Greene

When Jay starts eighth grade with embarrassing acne he hopes will disappear as quickly as it arrived. But when his acne goes from bad to worse, Jay's prescribed a powerful medication that comes with some serious side effects.

Indigenous Voices



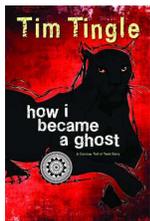
The Marrow Thieves by Cherie Dimaline

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.



My Name Is Not Easy by Debby Dahl Edwardson

Luke knows his I'nupiaq name is full of sounds white people can't say. He knows he'll have to leave it behind when he and his brothers are sent to boarding school hundreds of miles from their Arctic village. At Sacred Heart School things are different and we mustn't act too "Indian."



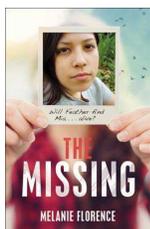
How I Became A Ghost by Tim Tingle

Told in the words of Isaac, a Choctaw boy who does not survive the Trail of Tears, HOW I BECAME A GHOST is a tale of innocence and resilience in the face of tragedy. From the book's opening line, "Maybe you have never read a book written by a ghost before," the reader is put on notice that this is no normal book.



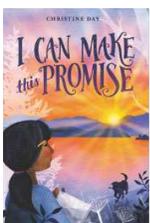
Rain is Not My Indian Name by Cynthia Leitich Smith

It's been six months since her best friend died, and up until now Rain has succeeded in shutting herself off from the world. But when controversy arises around her aunt Georgia's Indian Camp in their mostly white midwestern community, Rain decides to face the outside world again—at least through the lens of her camera.



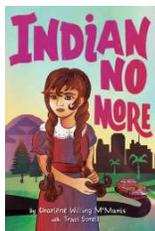
The Missing by Melanie Florence

After a girl she knows from school goes missing and is found dead in the Red River. Then, it's Feather's best friend, Mia, who vanishes. The authorities won't investigate their disappearances either. Everyone knows that Native girls are disappearing and being killed, but no one is connecting the dots.



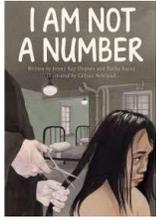
I Can Make This Promise by Christine Day

All her life, Edie has known that her mom was adopted by a white couple. So, no matter how curious she might be about her Native American heritage, Edie is sure her family doesn't have any answers.



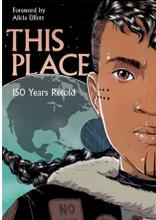
Indian No More by Charlene Willing McManis

Regina Petit's family has always been Umpqua, and lived on the Grand Ronde reservation. But when the federal government signs a bill into law that says Regina's tribe no longer exists, Regina becomes "Indian no more" overnight.



I Am Not A Number by Jenny Kay Dupuis

When eight-year-old Irene is removed from her family to live in a residential school she is frightened. She tries to remember who she is and where she came from, despite the efforts of the school who tell her that she is not to use her own name but instead use the number they have assigned to her.



This Place: 150 Years Retold by Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm & others

Explore the last 150 years through the eyes of Indigenous creators in this graphic novel. Beautifully illustrated, these stories are an emotional and enlightening journey through magic realism, serial killings, psychic battles, and time travel. See how Indigenous peoples have survived a post-apocalyptic world since Contact.



Give Me Some Truth by Eric Gansworth

It's 1980, and Carson Mastick is intent on creating a Native rock band. Magpie Bokoni moves back to the reservation and becomes part of that band. Alternating between Carson's and Magpie's perspectives, Gansworth offers a riveting depiction of Native teens as they groove on their music while challenging hate.



Apple in the Middle by Dawn Quigley

Apple Starkington is stuck in the middle of everything—her parents, the kids at school, her heritage—and feels like she doesn't belong to any of them. Readers will easily relate to her journey of healing and connection to her tribe and family. Quigley offers a wonderful glimpse into Turtle Mountain Ojibwe life and culture.



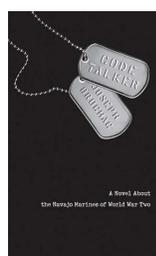
Hearts Unbroken by Cynthia Leitich Smith

Muscogee teen Louise navigates her mostly white high school through two boyfriends, journalism club, and her brother's involvement in the school play. *Hearts Unbroken* shows the bare the underbelly of life in many towns and schools where students navigate stereotyping and racism.



Fire Starters by Jen Storm

When a Native-owned business catches fire, two Native teen boys are arrested, though readers know the blaze was set by the white sheriff's son. This graphic novel reveals two systems of justice at work and demonstrates that a Native system of restorative justice has more to offer than incarceration.



Code Talkers by Joseph Bruchac

Throughout World War II, Navajo code talkers were a crucial part of the U.S. effort, sending messages back and forth in an unbreakable code that used their native language. They braved some of the heaviest fighting of the war, and with their code, they saved countless lives.

Latinx Voices



Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Esperanza's wealthy family must abandon their ranch in Mexico for the United States. Their already unfortunate situation worsens, as they enter their new home during the Great Depression. Mad at the circumstances of being plunged into a new life of poverty, Esperanza realizes she must adapt to survive.



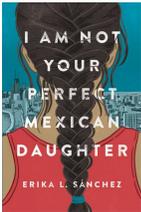
My Havana: Memories of a Cuban Boyhood by Rosemary Wells

To Dino, 1950s Havana has so many wondrous things he needs to capture: vibrant color, music, and festivities. When Fidel Castro and the Communist Party take over the Cuban government, Dino's family is forced to relocate to New York. Longing for his home, Dino tries to bring Havana to New York.



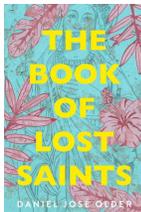
Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo

Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people...her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash.



I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika L. Sánchez

Perfect Mexican daughters do not go away to college. And they do not move out of their parents' house after high school graduation. Perfect Mexican daughters never abandon their family. But Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter.



The Book of Lost Saints by Daniel José Older

An evocative multigenerational Cuban American family story of revolution, loss, violence, and family bonds. Marisol vanished during the Cuban Revolution, her fate unknown and lost to time. Now, haunted by atrocities long-forgotten, her foul-mouthed spirit visits her nephew, Ramon, in modern-day New Jersey.



Don't Ask Me Where I'm From by Jennifer De Leon

Fifteen-year-old Liliana is *fine*, thank you very much. It's *fine* that her best friend, Jade, is all caught up in her new boyfriend lately. It's *fine* that her inner-city high school is disorganized and underfunded. It's *fine* that her father took off again, okay, maybe that isn't fine, but what is Liliana supposed to do? She's fifteen!



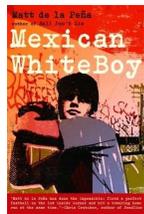
We Are Not From Here by Jenny Torres Sanchez

Pulga, Chico, and Pequeña have no false illusions about the town they've grown up in and the dangers that surround them. When those threats become all too real, the teens have no choice but to run: for the border, for freedom, and for their very lives.



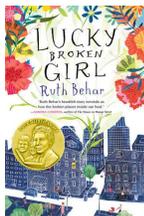
Stef Soto, Taco Queen by Jennifer Torres

Estefania “Stef” Soto wants nothing to do with her family’s taco truck, which gets her labeled “Taco Queen” at school. She wants her dad to get a normal job, but when her family’s livelihood is threatened, Stef will become the truck’s unlikely champion.



Mexican Whiteboy by Matt de la Pena

Danny’ s brown. Half-Mexican brown. And growing up in San Diego that close to the border means everyone at his private school knows exactly who he is before he even opens his mouth. Before they find out he can’t speak Spanish, and before they realize his mom has blond hair and blue eyes, they’ve got him pegged.



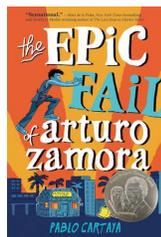
Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar

Ruthie Mizrahi and her family emigrate from Castro’s Cuba to New York City. Just when Ruthie starts to feel settled, a car accident leaves her in a body cast. Ruthie faces a long physical recovery that affects her mentally and emotionally.



Rooting for Rafael Rosales by Kurtis Scaletta

Rafael has dreams of playing Major League Baseball. Maya has concerns about bees dying all over the world and how her father’s company contributes to it. This story follows both Rafael and Maya, shifting back and forth in time and from Rafael’s neighborhood in the Dominican Republic to present-day Minnesota, where Maya and her sister are following Rafael’s first year in the minor leagues.



The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya

Set during a Miami summer, Arturo spends his time playing basketball, sipping mango smoothies, keeping cool under banyan trees, and working a few shifts as a dishwasher at Abuela’s restaurant. But this summer also includes Carmen, a cute girl who moves into Arturo’s apartment complex, the poetry of José Martí, and a shady land developer.



Us in Progress by Lulu Delacre

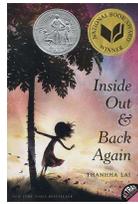
This book includes short stories that show what it means to be Latinx in the U.S. today. Readers will meet a young girl who spends the day on her father’s burrito truck, two sisters working together to change the older sister’s immigration status, and more.

Asian Voices



Brother's Keeper by Julie Lee

Sora and her family live under a rigid set of rules in North Korea. With the war between the North and the South, it seems like the perfect distraction to make their move for the border until an unexpected bombing changes everything.



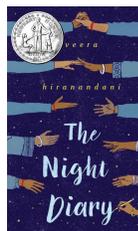
Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai

Ha is being forced to flee the only home she has ever known and relocate to America with her family. These free-verse poems capture the lack of acceptance Ha and her family experienced as refugees during the Vietnam War.



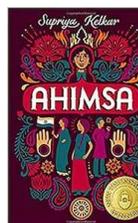
The Last Cherry Blossom by Kathleen Burkinshaw

Yuriko was happy growing up in Hiroshima when it was just her and Papa. But her aunt Kimiko and her cousin Genji are living with them now, and the family is only getting bigger with talk of a double marriage! And while things are changing at home, the world beyond their doors is even more unpredictable.



The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani

It's 1947, and India, newly independent of British rule, has been separated into two countries: Pakistan and India. The divide has created much tension between Hindus and Muslims, and hundreds of thousands are killed crossing borders. Half-Muslim, half-Hindu twelve-year-old Nisha navigates the partition of India.



Ahimsa by Supriya Kelkar

Ten-year-old Anjali's family responds to Mahatma Gandhi's call for Indians to give one family member to the freedom movement in 1942. Using "ahimsa," non-violent resistance, they will stand up to the British government in the struggle for freedom.



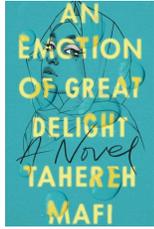
Troublemaker by John Cho

Set during the events of the Rodney King trial and L.A. Riots of 1992, this story follows the dramatic escapades of a young Korean immigrant as he goes on a mission through the streets of South Central L.A. trying to do the right thing.



Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

An orphan boy from a Korean village apprentices under a master potter in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The lessons he learns along the way are far deeper than the craft of pottery, though.



An Emotion of Great Delight by Tahereh Mafi

It's 2003, several months since the US officially declared war on Iraq, and the American political world has evolved. Tensions are high, hate crimes are on the rise, FBI agents are infiltrating local mosques, and the Muslim community is harassed and targeted more than ever. Shadi, who wears hijab, keeps her head down.



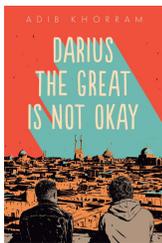
Displacement by Kiku Hughes

Kiku is on vacation in San Francisco when suddenly she finds herself displaced to the 1940s Japanese-American internment camp that her late grandmother, Ernestina, was forcibly relocated to during World War II.



Patron Saints of Nothing by Randy Ribay

A coming-of-age story about grief, guilt, and the risks a Filipino-American teenager takes to uncover the truth about his cousin's murder. Hoping to uncover more about the events that led to his death, Jay is forced to reckon with the many sides of his cousin before he can face the whole horrible truth -- and the part he played in it.



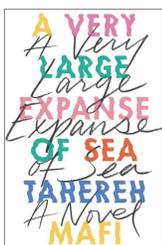
Darius the Great is Not Okay by Adib Khorram

Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones. He's about to take his first-ever trip to Iran, and it's pretty overwhelming—especially when he's also dealing with clinical depression, a disapproving dad, and a chronically anemic social life.



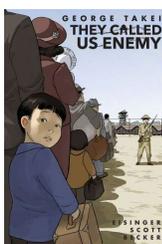
Butterfly Yellow by Thanhha Lai

In the final days of the Việt Nam War, Hằng takes her little brother to the airport, determined to find a way to safety in America. In a split second, Linh is ripped from her arms—and Hằng is left behind in the war-torn country. Six years later, Hằng has made the brutal journey from Việt Nam and is now in Texas as a refugee.



A Very Large Expanse of Sea by Tahereh Mafi

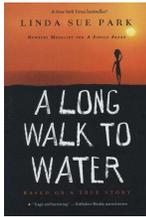
It's 2002, a year after 9/11. It's an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who's tired of being stereotyped. Shirin is never surprised by how horrible people can be. She's tired of the rude stares, the degrading comments - even the physical violence - she endures as a result of her race, her religion, and the hijab she wears every day.



They Called Us Enemy by George Takai

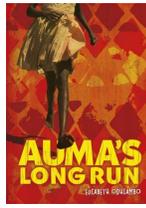
In 1942, every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was rounded up and shipped to one of ten "relocation centers," hundreds or thousands of miles from home.

African Voices



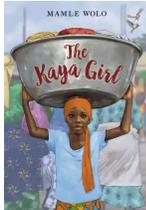
A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue-Park

Salva was separated from his family during the Second Sudanese Civil War. He must now brave the dangerous journey to the nearest refugee camp if he is to survive. Years later Nya faces similar dangers.



Auma's Long Run by Eucabeth Odhiambo

In her small Kenyan village, she's a track star with big dreams. A track scholarship could allow her to attend high school and maybe even become a doctor someday. But a strange new sickness called AIDS is ravaging the village, and when her father becomes ill, Auma's family needs her help at home.



The Kaya Girl by Mamle Walo

When Faiza, a migrant girl from northern Ghana, and Abena, a wealthy doctor's daughter from the south, meet by chance in Accra's largest market, where Faiza works as a porter or *kaya girl*, they strike up an unlikely and powerful friendship that transcends their social inequities and opens up new worlds to them both.



When the Stars Are Scattered by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed

Omar and his younger brother, Hassan, have spent most of their lives in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. Life is hard there: never enough food, achingly dull, and without access to the medical care Omar knows his nonverbal brother needs.



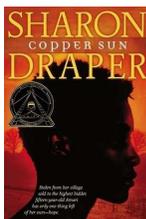
Buried Beneath The Baobab Tree by Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani & Viviana Mazza

On April 14, 2014, Boko Haram kidnapped 276 girls. Some managed to escape. Many are still missing. A new pair of shoes, a university degree, a husband—these are the things that a girl dreams of in a Nigerian village.



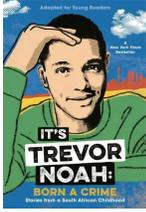
One Shadow On The Wall by Leah Henderson

Eleven-year-old Mor was used to hearing his father's voice, even if no one else could since his father's death. It was comforting. It was also a reminder that Mor had made a promise to his father before he passed: keep your sisters safe. *Keep the family together.*

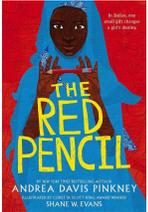


Copper Sun by Sharon Draper

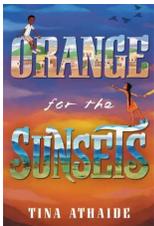
Amari's life was once perfect. Engaged to the handsomest man in her tribe, adored by her family, and living in a beautiful village, she could not have imagined everything could be taken away from her in an instant. But when slave traders invade her village, Amari finds herself dragged away to a slave ship headed to the Carolinas.



It's Trevor Noah: Born A Crime (Young Readers Edition) by Trevor Noah
Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison.



The Red Pencil by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Finally, Amira is twelve. Old enough to wear a *toob*, old enough for new responsibilities. And maybe old enough to go to school in Nyala--Amira's one true dream. But life in her peaceful Sudanese village is shattered when the Janjaweed arrive and she must make the long and brave journey to a refugee camp.



Orange for the Sunsets by Tina Athaide
Twelve-year-old Asha and her best friend, Yesofu, never cared about the differences between them: Indian. African. Girl. Boy. Short. Tall. But when Ugandan President Idi Amin announces that Indians have ninety days to leave the country, suddenly those differences are the only things that people can see.



Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi
Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orisha hummed with magic. But everything changed the night magic disappeared. Under the orders of a ruthless king, maji were killed, leaving Zélie without a mother and her people without hope. Now Zélie has one chance to bring back magic and strike against the monarchy.



Golden Boy by Tara Sullivan
Thirteen-year-old Habo has always been different— light eyes, yellow hair and white skin. Not the good brown skin his family has and not the white skin of tourists. Habo is strange and alone. His family is forced from their small Tanzanian village, and Habo knows he is to blame.



Diamond Boy by Michael Williams
"Diamonds for everyone." That's what fifteen-year-old Patson Moyo hears when his family arrives in the Marange diamond fields. Soon Patson is working in the mines himself, hoping to find his girazi--the priceless stone that could change his life. But when the government's soldiers comes to Marange, Patson's world is shattered.



Akata Witch by Nnedi Okorafor
Born in New York, but living in Aba, Nigeria, twelve-year old Sunny is understandably a little lost. But once she befriends Orlu and Chichi, Sunny is plunged into the world of the Leopard People, where your worst defect becomes your greatest asset. Together they form the youngest ever Oha Coven.

European Voices



The Puffin Keeper by Michael Morpurgo

Years ago Allen was saved from a disaster at sea by Benjamin, a lighthouse keeper. After being deployed, Allen finds himself in a prison camp unsure if he'll ever see his mother or Benjamin again. The only thing that keeps him going is his fond memories of his time at the lighthouse.



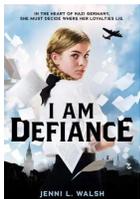
The Great Trouble: A Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel by Deborah Hopkinson

Eel scrounges for goods he can sell to stay alive. All the while, being taunted by one of the evilest men to ever walk the streets of London. He can usually stay out of harm's way until the day the "Blue Death" comes to Broad Street.



Dreamer by Akim Aliu, Greg Anderson Elysée

Akim Aliu, also known as "Dreamer," is a Ukrainian-Nigerian-Canadian professional hockey player whose career took him all around the world and who experienced systemic racism at every turn. Dreamer tells Akim's incredible story, from being the only Black child in his Ukrainian community, and his travel.



I Am Defiance by Jenni L. Walsh

Brigitte tries not to ask questions. Questions are unwelcome at her League of German Girls meetings, where she and her friends learn about their duties to Hitler's effort. But she can't help but ask questions when a pamphlet appears in her mailbox with words like resistance & freedom, from a group that calls itself the White Rose.



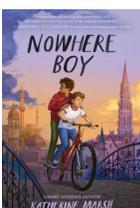
A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Neilson

With the rise of the Berlin Wall, Gerta finds her family suddenly divided. She, her mother, and her brother Fritz live on the eastern side, controlled by the Soviets. Her father and middle brother, who had gone west in search of work, cannot return home. Will Gerta and her family be reunited and find freedom?



A Place To Hang The Moon by Kate Albus

It is 1940 and William, 12, Edmund, 11, and Anna, 9 are left orphaned by their grandmother. In the dark days of World War II London, they need a guardian and those are in short supply, especially if they hope to stay together. Could the mass wartime evacuation of children from London to the countryside be the answer?



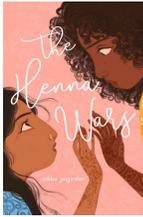
Nowhere Boy by Katherine Marsh

Fourteen-year-old Ahmed is stuck. Newly arrived in Brussels, Belgium, Ahmed fled a life of uncertainty and suffering in Aleppo, Syria, only to lose his father on the perilous journey to the shores of Europe. Now Ahmed's struggling to get by on his own and he's starting to lose hope.



The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta

A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist, *The Black Flamingo*. A bold story about the power of embracing your uniqueness. Sometimes, we need to take charge, to stand up wearing pink feathers - to show ourselves to the world in bold colour.



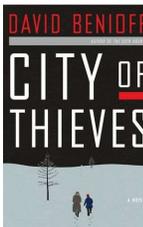
The Henna Wars by Adiba Jaigirdar

Flávia is beautiful and charismatic and Nishat falls for her instantly. But when a school competition invites students to create their own businesses, both Flávia and Nishat choose to do henna. Amidst sabotage and school stress, their lives get more tangled—but there's more there than either girl might realize.



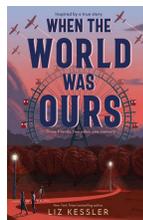
Our Castle by the Sea by Lucy Strange

Growing up in a lighthouse, 11-year-old Pet's world has been one of storms, secret tunnels, and stories about sea monsters. But now the country is at war and the cliff tops are a terrifying battleground. Pet will need to muster all her bravery to uncover why her family is being torn apart.



City of Thieves by David Benioff

During the Nazis' brutal siege of Leningrad, Lev Beniov is arrested for looting and thrown into the same cell as a handsome deserter named Kolya. Instead of being executed, Lev and Kolya are given a shot at saving their own lives by complying with an outrageous directive: secure a dozen eggs for a powerful Soviet colonel to use in his daughter's wedding cake.



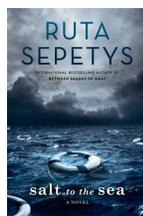
When The World Was Ours by Liz Kessler

Three young friends—Leo, Elsa, and Max—spend a perfect day together, unaware that around them Europe is descending into darkness and that they will soon be cruelly ripped apart from one another. With their lives taking them to Germany, England, Prague, and Poland—will they ever find their way back to one another?



Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wein

Oct. 11th, 1943 - A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun.



Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

While the *Titanic* and *Lusitania* are both well-documented disasters, the single greatest tragedy in maritime history happened on January 30, 1945. A German cruise liner that was supposed to ferry wartime personnel and refugees to safety from the advancing Red Army sinks killing thousands.