

Chokshi, Roshani | ***Aru Shah and the End of Time*** | Disney Hyperion, 2018 | Twelve-year-old Aru stretches the truth to fit in at her private school, but when she is dared to prove an ancient lamp is cursed, she inadvertently frees an ancient demon.



Dembicki, Matt, ed | ***Trickster: Native American Tales, A Graphic Collection*** | Fulcrum Publishing, 2010 | In *Trickster*, the first graphic anthology of Native American trickster tales, more than 20 Native American tales are adapted into comic form. An inspired collaboration between Native writers and accomplished artists, these tales bring the Trickster back into popular culture in vivid form.

Sotomayor, Sonia | ***The Beloved World of Sonia Sotomayor*** | Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2018 | Discover the inspiring life of Justice Sonia Sotomayor, the first Latina and third woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court, in this middle-grade adaptation of her bestselling adult memoir, *My Beloved World*.

Dimaline, Cherie | ***The Marrow Thieves*** | Dancing Cat Books, 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's their marrow that holds the cure for the rest of the world. But getting the marrow, and dreams, means death for the unwilling donors. Driven to flight, a 15-year-old and his companions struggle for survival, attempt to reunite with loved ones and take refuge from the "recruiters" who seek to bring them to the marrow-stealing "factories." 🍏 🍏

Dumas, Firoozeh | ***It Ain't So Awful, Falafel*** | Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016 | Eleven-year-old Zomorod, originally from Iran, tells her story of growing up Iranian in Southern California during the Iranian Revolution and hostage crisis of the late 1970s 🍏 🍏

Bascomb, Neal | ***The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi*** | Arthur A Levine Books, 2013 | In 1945, at the end of World War II, Adolf Eichmann, the head of operations for the Nazis' Final Solution, walked into the mountains of Germany and vanished from view. 16 years later, an elite team of spies captured him at a bus stop in Argentina and smuggled him to Israel, resulting in one of the century's most important trials. 🍏 🍏 🍏

Blake, Ashley Herring | ***Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World*** | Little Brown Books for Young Readers, 2018 | When a tornado rips through town, twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed and her family of five is displaced. Ivy feels invisible and ignored in the aftermath of the storm--and what's worse, her notebook filled with secret drawings of girls holding hands has gone missing. 🍏 🍏

Broskol, Vera | ***Be Prepared*** | First Second, 2018 | All Vera wants to do is fit in—but that's not easy for a Russian girl in the suburbs. Her friends live in fancy houses and their parents can afford to send them to the best summer camps. Vera's single mother can't afford that sort of luxury, but there's one summer camp in her price range—Russian summer camp. 🍏

Chanani, Nidhi | ***Pashmina*** | First Second, 2017 | Priyanka has many unanswered questions: Why did her mother abandon her home in India years ago? What was it like there? And who is her father, and why did her mom leave him behind? But Pri's mom avoids these questions. For Pri, her mother's homeland can only exist in her imagination. That is, until she finds a mysterious pashmina. When she wraps herself in it, she is transported to a place more vivid and colorful than any guidebook.

Let's Read!

Summer reading is necessary for students to continue using good literacy practice beyond school. It's also a great way to spend time together! Many of the titles on the list are available to borrow for free at the Free Library of Philadelphia. Check the website at www.freelibrary.org for locations, book title availability, and other great summer programs for students.



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

Grade 6-8



Summer Reading

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Some books may contain graphic content in the form of themes, language, violence, and/or explicit sexual content:

- 🍏 Mild
- 🍏🍏 Moderate
- 🍏🍏🍏 High

Acevedo, Elizabeth | ***The Poet X*** | HarperTeen, 2018 | A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world. 🍏

Ahmed, Samira | ***Love, Hate, And Other Filters*** | Soho Teen, 2018 | Maya Aziz, seventeen, is caught between her India-born parents world of college and marrying a suitable Muslim boy and her dream world of film school and dating her classmate, Phil, when a terrorist attack changes her life forever. 🍏 🍏

Alexander, Kwame | ***The Crossover*** | HMH Books for Young Readers, 2014 | Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health. 🍏 🍏

Ali, S.K. | ***Saints and Misfits*** | Salaam Read, 2017 | 15-year-old Janna Yusuf, a Flannery O'Connor-obsessed book nerd and the daughter of the only divorced mother at their mosque, tries to make sense of the events that follow when her best friend's cousin--a holy star in the Muslim community--attempts to assault her at the end of sophomore year. 🍏 🍏 🍏

Older, Daniel Jose | **Shadowshaper** | Arthur A Levine, 2015 | When the murals painted on the walls of her Brooklyn neighborhood start to change and fade in front of her, Sierra Santiago realizes that something strange is going on--then she discovers her Puerto Rican family are shadowshapers and finds herself in a battle with an evil anthropologist for the lives of her family and friends. 🍎🍎

Reynolds, Jason | **Long Way Down** | Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2017 | As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know. 🍎🍎🍎

Toten, Teresa | **The Unlikely Hero of Room 13b** | Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2015 | Adam not only is trying to understand his OCD while trying to balance his relationship with his divorced parents, but he's also trying to navigate through the issues that teenagers normally face, namely the perils of young love. 🍎

Wang, Jen | **The Prince and the Dressmaker** | First Second, 2018 | Paris, at the dawn of the modern age: Prince Sebastian is looking for a bride—or rather, his parents are looking for one for him. Sebastian is too busy hiding his secret life from everyone. At night he puts on daring dresses and takes Paris by storm as the fabulous Lady Crystallia—the hottest fashion icon in the world capital of fashion! Sebastian's secret weapon (and best friend) is the brilliant dressmaker Frances—one of only two people who know the truth: sometimes this boy wears dresses. But Frances dreams of greatness, and being someone's secret weapon means being a secret. Forever. How long can Frances defer her dreams to protect a friend? 🍎

Johnson, Varian | **The Great Greene Heist** | Arthur A Levine, 2014 | Jackson Greene has a reputation as a prankster at Maplewood Middle School, but he is trying to go straight—but when it looks like Keith Sinclair may steal the election for school president from his former best friend Gabriela, he assembles a team to make sure Keith does not succeed.

Khorrani, Adib | **Darius the Great is Not Okay** | Dial Books, '18 | 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 trip to Iran, and it's overwhelming--especially when he's also dealing with clinical depression, a disapproving dad, and a chronically anemic social life. In Iran, he gets to know his mom's family for the first time. And he meets Sohrab, the boy next door who changes everything. 🍎

King, A.S. | **Glory O'Brien's History of the Future** | Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2014 | From ancient ancestors to many generations forward, Glory is bombarded with visions--and what she sees ahead of her is terrifying: A tyrannical new leader raises an army. Women's rights disappear. A violent second civil war breaks out. And young girls vanish daily, sold off or interned in camps. Glory makes it her mission to record everything she sees, hoping her notes will somehow make a difference. 🍎🍎

Krosoczka, Jarrett | **Hey, Kiddo** | Graphix, an imprint of Scholastic, 2018 | Hey, Kiddo is a profoundly important memoir about growing up in a family grappling with addiction, and finding the art that helps you survive. 🍎🍎

Lu, Marie | **Warcross** | Penguin, 2017 | When teenage coder Emika Chen hacks her way into the opening tournament of the Warcross Championships, she glitches herself into the game as well as a sinister plot with major consequences for the entire Warcross empire. 🍎

Okorator, Nnedi | **Akata Witch** | Viking, 2011 | Often referred to as "the Nigerian Harry Potter", Akata Witch transports the reader to a magical place where living in Aba, Nigeria, twelve-year old Sunny is understandably a little lost. 🍎

Hiranandani, Veera | **The Night Diary** | Dial Books, 2019 | It's 1947, and newly independent India, has been separated into 2 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 12-year-old Nisha doesn't know where she belongs. When Papa decides it's too dangerous to stay in what is now Pakistan, Nisha and her family become refugees and embark first by train but later on foot to reach her new home. 🍎🍎

Watson, Renee | **Picking Me Together** | Bloomsbury USA, 2017 | A timely and powerful story about a teen girl from a poor neighborhood striving for success, from acclaimed author Renée Watson. 🍎

Holt, K.A. | **Rhyme Schemer** | Chronicle Books, 2014 | A novel in verse about Kevin's journey from bully to being bullied, as he learns about friendship, family, and his talent for poetry. 🍎

Giles, Lamar, ed | **Fresh Ink: An Anthology** | Crown Books for Young Readers, 2018 | All it takes to rewrite the rules is a little fresh ink in this YA collection from 13 of today's most recognizable diverse authors (Nicola Yoon, Jason Reynolds, Melissa de la Cruz). 🍎

Gratz, Alan | **Refugee** | Scholastic Press, 2017 | Although separated by continents and decades, Josef, a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany; Isabel, a Cuban girl trying to escape the riots and unrest plaguing her country in 1994; and Mahmoud, a Syrian boy in 2015 whose homeland is torn apart by violence, embark on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, discovering shocking connections that tie their stories together. 🍎🍎

Guerrero, Diane | **My Family Divided: One Girl's Journey of Home, Loss, and Hope** (Young Reader Adaptation) | Henry Holt and Company, 2018 | The star of Orange Is the New Black and Jane the Virgin, Diane Guerrero presents her personal story in this memoir about her parents' deportation and the struggles of undocumented immigrants and their American children. 🍎🍎