



WASHINGTON STATE YOUNG ADULT REVIEW

**GROUP**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE: March 4, 2016**

*Issue: 112  
March 2016*

**WASHRAG**

*Titles Taken\**

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*Fiction Reviews*

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*Nonfiction Reviews*

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*\*Only published in member copy, not publisher copy.*

**WASHYARGers:**

Celebrate spring with WASHYARG, the oldest and largest Young Adult Review Group of its kind! While we all come to WASHYARG because it is a great place to learn about new books, we also enjoy the opportunity to network with other teen-serving professionals.

Our meeting will be in our regular meeting room, 2A-B, on the second floor. Enter through the front door, which is nearest Newport Way NW. You will need to sign in as a guest of the building. The parking lot fills fast so it is recommended that you park in the Target parking lot closest to the Service Center. There is a bridge and some steps leading to Service Center. Do not park in any space designated for a KCLS fleet vehicle.

**All doors are locked until 9 AM.** If you arrive early, please wait at the front door until someone can let you in. **The doors opening off the staircase to the parking lot are always locked.**

Coffee, tea and treats will be available. A donation of \$1 or more is appreciated. You are welcome to bring goodies to share.

Any questions? Contact Brenna Shanks – [bshanks@kcls.org](mailto:bshanks@kcls.org) or 425-369-3331

**DUES**

Members/reviewers may pay dues at any time during the year, but we appreciate prompt payment in September for the forthcoming year. Dues are \$25 and a dues sheet is included in the newsletter. Dues may be sent to:

KCLS  
960 Newport Way NW  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
ATTN: Brenna Shanks

**REMINDERS**

**MEETING LOCATION:**

King County Library System Service Center  
960 Newport Way NW  
Issaquah, 98027

**2016 MEETING DATES:**

- *March 4*
- *May 6*
- *September 16*
- *December 9*

**Reviews**

Please use the format referenced at the top of the “books taken” section. Please submit your delivered reviews and current “books taken” after the meeting. You may submit them at:

<http://www.evergreenbookaward.org/about-washyarg>

**WHAT IS WASHYARG?**

The Washington State Young Adult Review Group is a regional reviewing organization of school and public librarians and other individuals interested in books, magazines, and other media appropriate for teenagers.

**WHY BELONG TO WASHYARG?**

We are the largest Teen Services library specialist group in the Northwest, and have a national reputation as a credible review source.

Besides hearing firsthand reviews from frontline people, the meetings are an opportunity for networking, problem-solving, passionate debate, laughter and cookies.

Even if you cannot attend the meetings, WashYARG is an excellent source for local professional reviews.

**WHAT DOES WASHYARG DO?**

WashYARG receives materials from diverse publishers. Selected items are presented orally at the quarterly meetings and written reviews of all materials are published in the WashRag newsletter and mailed to all members following the meetings. WashYARG also sponsors the annual Evergreen Young Adult Book Award, a statewide teen readers' choice prize.

**WHAT WOULD I DO?**

Agree to review at least two books a year.  
Attend as many of the meetings as possible.

**WHAT DOES IT COST?**

All interested folk are invited to attend for free the first time. The normal dues are \$25.00 for a school year, and entitle one to review books and receive the WashRag, a quarterly compilation of written reviews.

**HOW DO I JOIN?**

Fill out the form below and bring it to the next meeting with your \$25.00 membership dues or mail it to:

KCLS  
960 Newport Way NW  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
ATTN: Brenna Shanks

Please make checks payable to WashYARG.

**2016 MEETINGS**

- *March 4*
- *May 6*
- *September 16*
- *December 9*

**MEMBERSHIP FORM:**



Name:

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Title:

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Email\*:

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Phone\*:

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Address\*:

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*\* Please indicate home or work for contact info.*

## Titles Taken for Review - December 2015

All titles and reviews are now being submitted online at:  
<http://www.evergreenbookaward.org/about-washyarg>  
 Please be as accurate as possible when entering your information. Thanks!

Remember Evergreen Committee meets right after WashYARG - everyone is welcome!

◆ Next to a title indicates it was reviewed in a previous issue

### FICTION

Anderson, Robert L. <b><i>Dreamland</i></b> Lora Gillingham, Tahoma High School	978-0-06-233867-9 Harper Teen, 2015	\$17.99 332p.
Bobet, Leah <b><i>An Inheritance of Ashes</i></b> Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS	978-0-544-28111-0 Clarion Books, 2015	\$17.99 391p.
Carleson, J. C. <b><i>Placebo Junkies</i></b> Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School Shelly Sharp Macer, Redmond HS	978-0-553-49724-3 Alfred A. Knopf, 2015	\$17.99 292p.
Carson, Rae <b><i>Walk on Earth A Stranger</i></b> Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0-06-224291-4 Greenwillow, 2015	\$17.99 431p.
Cerrito, Angela <b><i>The Safest Lie</i></b> Nickie Travis, Renton SD	2014028428 Holiday House, 2015	\$16.95 180p.
Charaipotra, Sona and Clayton, Dhonielle <b><i>Tiny Pretty Things</i></b> Kelly Crickmore - Issaquah High School Library	978-0-06-234239-3 Harper Teen, 2015	\$17.99 438p.
Charbonneau, Joelle <b><i>Need</i></b> Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS	978-0-544-41669-7 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015	\$17.99 352p.
Condie, Ally <b><i>Summerlost</i></b> Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0-399-18719-3 Dutton, 2016	\$17.99 272p.

Cosimano, Elle <b><i>Holding Smoke</i></b> (ARC) Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9781484725979 Hyperion, 2016	\$17.99 336p.
Coyle, Katie <b><i>Vivian Apple Needs a Miracle</i></b> Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School	978-0-544-39042-3 Houghton-Mifflin, 2015	\$17.99 296p.
Cozo, Karole <b><i>How to Say I Love You Outloud</i></b> Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	978-1-250-06359-5 Feiwel and Friends, 2015	\$9.99 214p.
Crossan, Sarah <b><i>One</i></b> Gretchen Oates, Kamiakin Middle School	978-0-06-211875-2 Greenwillow Books, 2015	\$17.99 388p.
Culbertson, Kim <b><i>The Possibility of Now</i></b> (ARC) Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9780545731461 Scholastic, 2016	\$17.99 304p.
Dashner, James <b><i>The Game of Lives</i></b> (Mortality Doctrine #3) Michael Fleming - PCMS Library Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library	978-0-385-74143-9 Delacorte Press, 2015	\$18.99 336p.
David Hofmeyr <b><i>Stone Rider</i></b> Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School	978-0-385-74473-7 Delacorte Press, 2015	\$18.99 325p.
Davis, Kent <b><i>Riddle in Ruby</i></b> (Book One) Marilyn Condon, LWSD	978-0-06-236834-8 Greenwillow Harper, 2015	\$17.99 425p.
Dilloway, Margaret (ill. by Choong Yoon) <b><i>Xander and the Lost Island of Monsters</i></b> (Momotaro series) (ARC) Sarah Evans, University of Washington	978-1-4847-4631-8 Disney Hyperion, 2016	\$17.99 320p.
Donnelly, Jennifer <b><i>These Shallow Graves</i></b> Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0-385-73765-4 Delacorte Press, 2015	\$19.99 482p.
Edwards, Janet <b><i>Earth Flight</i></b> (Earth Girl #3)	978-1-63388-092-4 Prometheus Books, 2014	\$17.99 363p.

Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School  
Jackie Lockwood, KCLS

Elliott, LM 60744243 \$17.99 275p.  
***Da Vinci's Tiger*** Harper Collins, 2015  
Nickie Travis, Renton SD

Emond, Stephen 1626722064 \$17.99 384p.  
***Bright Lights, Dark Nights*** Roaring Book Press, 2015  
Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Everett, Mikaela 978-0-06-238127-9 \$17.99 453p.  
***The Unquiet*** Greenwillow Books, 2015  
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Falkner, Brian 978-0-374-30075-3 \$17.99 357p.  
***Battlesaurus- Rampage at Waterloo*** Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2016  
Michael Fleming - PCMS Library  
Wally Bubelis, Seattle Public Library

Finn, Katie 978-1-250-04525-6 \$17.99 389p.  
***Revenge, Ice Cream, Best Served Cold*** (Broken hearts and Revenge series)  
Feiwel and Friends, 2015  
Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School

Flinn, Alex 9780062134516 \$17.99 374p.  
***Mirrored*** (Kendra Chronicles #3) Harper Teen, 2015  
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Frey, James and Nils Johnson-Shelton 978-0-06-233261-5 \$19.99 481p.  
***Spy Key*** (An Endgame Novel) Harper, 2015  
Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Garza, Xavier 978-1-55885-816-9 \$9.95 83p.  
***The Donkey Lady Fighst La Llorona & other Stories*** Pinata, 2015  
Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Gibney, Shannon 9781467776820 \$18.99 186p.  
***See No Color*** CarolRhoda Lab, 2015  
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Gonzalez, Christina Diaz 978-0-545-77318-8 \$17.99 248p.  
***Moving Target*** Scholastic Press, 2015  
Sarah Evans, University of Washington

Gottfred, B. T 2015000935 \$17.99 421p.

<b><i>Forever For A year</i></b> Nickie Travis, Renton SD	Henry Holt and Co, 2015	
Griffith, Clay & Susan <b><i>The Geomancer: Vampire Empire</i></b> (Gareth and Adele) (ARC) Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9781633880948 Pyr, 2015	\$17.00 321p.
Hanuka, Asaf <b><i>The Divine (Graphic Novel)</i></b> Lisa Carlson, Mt. Rainier HS Library	978-1-59643-674-9 First Second, 2015	\$19.99 150p.
Hartzler, Aaron <b><i>What We Saw</i></b> Shelly Sharp Macer	62338749 HarperCollins Publisher, 2015	\$17.99 321p.
Haydu, Corey Ann <b><i>Making Pretty</i></b> Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School	978-0-06-229408-1 Katherine Tegen, 2015	\$17.99 357p.
Huang, Charlotte <b><i>For the Record</i></b> Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	978-0-553-51182-6 Delacorte Press, 2015	\$17.99 293p.
Hunter, Erin <b><i>A Pack Divided</i></b> (Survivors: A Gathering Darkness) Bethany Steirer - Rose Hill Middle School	9780062343338 Harper Collins, 2015	\$16.99 278p.
Iserles, Inbali <b><i>The Taken</i></b> (Foxcraft Book One) Marilyn Condon, LWSD	978-0-545-69081-2 Scholastic, 2015	\$16.99 252p.
Jean, Emiko <b><i>We'll Never Be Apart</i></b> Sara White, Olympia Timberland Library	978-0-544-48200-5 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015	\$17.99 279p.
Johnson, J.J. <b><i>Believarexic</i></b> Lora Gillingham, Tahoma High School	978-1-56145-771-7 Peachtree, 2015	\$18.95 455p.
Jones, Patrick <b><i>Combat Zone</i></b> (Support & Defend series) Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School	978-1-4677-8053-7 Darby Creek, 2015	\$21.00 87p.
Joseph Bruchac <b><i>Trail of the Dead</i></b> (Killer of Enemies series)	978-1-62014-261-5 Tu Books, 2015	\$19.95 387p.

Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School

Kaufman, Amie & Kristoff, Jay 9780553499117 \$18.99 599p.  
***Illuminae*** (The Illuminae Files\_01) Alfred A. Knopf, 2015  
Jackie Lockwood, KCLS

Kelly, Jacqueline 978-0-8050-9744-3 \$16.99 312p.  
***The Curious World of Calpurnia Tate*** Henry Holt, 2015  
Jeani Littrell-Kwik, KCLS

Keyser, Amber J. 978-1-4677-7590-8 \$18.99 207p.  
***The Way Back From Broken*** Carolrhoda Lab, 2015  
JoAnn Olsson

Khan, Joshua (penname Sarwat Chadda) 9781484732724 \$16.99 319p.  
***Shadow Magic*** (ARC) Disney-Hyperion, 2016  
Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Larsen, Jen 9870062321237 \$17.99 308p.  
***Future Perfect*** Harper Teen, 2015  
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Lauren Kate 385742630 \$18.99 357p.  
***Unforgiven*** (Fallen series) Delacourt Press, 2015  
Nickie Travis, Renton SD

Lee, Mackenzi 9780062382771 \$17.99 371p.  
***This Monstrous Thing*** Katherine Tegen Books, 2015  
Jackie Lockwood, KCLS

Lee, Tony 978-0-7636-7613-1 \$21.99 p.  
***Messenger: The Legend of Joan of Arc*** Candlewick Press, 2014  
Lisa Carlson, Mt. Rainier HS Library

Lore, Pittacus 9780062194756 \$18.99 398p.  
***The Fate of Ten*** (Lorien Legacies #6) Harper, 2015  
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Mackler, Carolyn 978-0-06-173107-5 \$17.99 462p.  
***Infinite in Between*** HarperTeen, 2015  
Gretchen Oates, Kamiakin Middle School

Maizel, Rebecca 9780062327611 \$17.99 364p.  
***Between Us and the Moon*** Harper Teen, 2015  
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Marriott, Zoe <b><i>Darkness Hidden</i></b> (The Name of the Blade series) Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School	978-0-7636-6958-4 Candlewick, 2014	\$16.99 336p.
McCullough, Kelly <b><i>School for Sidekicks</i></b> Kirsten Edwards, KCLS	9781250039262 Feiwel & Friends, 2015	\$16.99 328p.
McGinnis, Mindy <b><i>A Madness So Discreet</i></b> Jackie Lockwood, KCLS	9780062320865 Katherine Tegen Books, 2015	\$17.99 374p.
McGinty, Sean <b><i>The End of Fun</i></b> (ARC) Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9781484722114 Hyperion, 2016	\$17.99 416p.
McKissack, Jennifer <b><i>Sanctuary</i></b> Lisa Carlson, Mt. Rainier HS Library	978-0-545-58758-7 Scholastic Press, 2015	\$17.99 306p.
McLachlan, Jenny <b><i>Flirty Dancing</i></b> (The Ladybirds #1) Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School	1408856077 Bloomsbury Childrens, 2014	\$16.99 179p.
Mikulencak, Mandy <b><i>Burn Girl</i></b> Kathleen Dunbar Eastlake High School	978-0-8075-2217-2 Albert Whitman and Company, 2015	\$16.99 289p.
Moldavsky, Goldy <b><i>Kill the Boy Band</i></b> (ARC) Sarah Evans, University of Washington	978-0-545-86748-4 Point, 2016	\$17.99 320p.
Moore, Wes and Goodman, Shawn <b><i>This Way Home</i></b> Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0-385-74169-9 Delacorte Press, 2015	\$17.99 245p.
Morrill, Lauren <b><i>The Trouble with Destiny</i></b> Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School Shelly Sharp Macer, Redmond HS	978-0-553-49797-7 Delacorte Press, 2015	\$17.99 260p.
Myers, Walter Dean <b><i>Monster - Graphic Novel</i></b> JoAnn Olsson, Liberty High School	978-0-06-227500-4 Amistad, 2015	\$17.99 153p.
Nelson, Suzanne	978-0-385-39212-9	\$17.99 361p.

<b><i>Serendipity's Footsteps</i></b> JoAnn Olsson, Liberty High School Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School	Alfred A. Knopf, 2015	
Nichols, Amy K <b><i>While You Were Gone</i></b> (Duplexity #2) Nickie Travis, Renton SD Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School	978-0-385-75392-0 Alfred A Knoff, 2015	\$17.99 297p.
Nielson, Jennifer A. <b><i>A Night Divided</i></b> Sara White, Olympia Timberland Library	978-0-545-68242-8 Scholastic Press, 2015	\$16.99 317p.
Nix, Garth <b><i>Newt's Emerald</i></b> Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0-06-236004-5 Katherine Tegen, 2015	\$18.99 284p.
Norriss, Andrew <b><i>Friends for Life</i></b> Lora Gillingham, Tahoma High School	978-0-545-85186-2 David Fickling Books, 2015	\$17.99 231p.
Olin, Sean <b><i>Reckless Hearts</i></b> (A Wicked Games Novel) Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School	978-0-06-219241-7 Katherine Tegen, 2015	\$17.99 326p.
Patrick, Denise Lewis <b><i>Finding Someplace</i></b> Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9780805047165 Henry Holt & Co, 2015	\$16.99 214p.
Paul, Marcy Beller <b><i>Underneath Everything</i></b> Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	978-0-06-232721-5 Balzer & Bray, 2015	\$17.99 293p.
Paulson, Elizabeth <b><i>Dead Upon a Time</i></b> Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9780545640466 Scholastic, 2015	\$17.99 212p.
Pearson, Mary <b><i>The Heart of Betrayal</i></b> (Remnant Chronicles #2) Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School	978-0-8050-9924-9 Holt, 2015	\$18.99 470p.
Perez, Ashley Hope <b><i>Out of Darkness</i></b> Kathleen Dunbar Eastlake High School	978-1-4677-4202-3 Carolrhoda Books, 2015	\$18.99 396p.
Preble, Joy	62321307	\$17.99 272p.

<b><i>Finding Paris</i></b> Nickie Travis, Renton SD	Belzer and Bray, 2015	
Prineas, Sarah <b><i>Ash &amp; Bramble</i></b> (Ash & Bramble #1) Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS	978-0-06-233794-8 Harper Teen, 2015	\$17.99 449p.
Roman, Dave and Green, John <b><i>Teen Boat! The Race for Boatlantis</i></b> (TeenBoat!) Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0-547-86563-8 Clarion, 2015	\$14.99 150p.
Roux, Madeleine <b><i>Catacomb</i></b> (Asylum #3) Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	978-0-06-236405-0 Harper, 2015	\$17.99 330p.
Rudnick, Paul <b><i>It's All Your Fault</i></b> (ARC) Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9780545464284 Scholastic, 2016	\$19.99 305p.
Scheerger, Sarah Lynn <b><i>Are You Still There</i></b> Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS	978-0-8075-4557-7 Albert Whitman & Co., 2015	\$16.99 266p.
Schmatz, Pat ◆ <b><i>Lizard Radio</i></b> Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School	978-0-7636-7635-3 Candlewick, 2015	\$16.99 280p.
Schmidt, Gary D. <b><i>Orbiting Jupiter</i></b> Gretchen Oates, Kamiakin Middle School	978-0544462229 Clarion Books, 2015	\$17.99 192p.
Schwartz, Simon; Laura Watkinson, translator <b><i>First Man: Reimagining Matthew Henson</i></b> Wally Bubelis, Seattle Public Library	978-1-4677-5842-0 Graphic Universe, 2015	\$31.99 160p.
Scott, Victoria <b><i>Titans</i></b> (ARC) Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	9780545806022 Scholastic, 2016	\$17.99 320p.
Sheinmel, Alyssa <b><i>Faceless</i></b> Kelly Crickmore	978-0-545-67601-4 Scholastic Press, 2015	\$17.99 341p.
Sher, Emil <b><i>Young Man With Camera</i></b> Sherri Ashlock	978-0-545-54131-2 Arthur A. Levine Books, 2015	\$17.99 218p.

Smith, Greg Leitich <b><i>Borrowed Time</i></b> Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0-544-23711-7 Clarion Books, 2015	\$16.99 179p.
Smith, Roland <b><i>The Edge</i></b> Michael Fleming - PCMS Library	978-0544341227 HMH Books for Young Readers, 2015	\$17.99 240p.
Stevenson, Noelle <b><i>Nimona</i></b> Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library	978-0-06-227823-4 HarperTeen, 2015	\$17.99 266p.
Stieger, AJ <b><i>Mindwalker</i></b> (Book One) Nickie Travis, Renton SD	553497138 Knopp for Young REaders, 2015	\$17.99 400p.
Stone, Sonja <b><i>Desert Dark</i></b> (ARC) Sarah Evans, University of Washington Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	978-0-8234-3562-3 Holiday House, 2016	\$17.95 336p.
Strasser, Todd <b><i>The Beast of Cretacea</i></b> Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School	978-0-7636-6901-0 Candlewick Press, 2015	\$18.99 414p.
Summer, Mary Elizabeth <b><i>Trust Me, I'm Trouble</i></b> (Trust Me #2) Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School Nickie Travis, Renton SD	978-0-385-74414-0 Delacorte Press, 2015	\$17.99 351p.
Swendson, Shanna <b><i>Rebel Mechanics</i></b> Kirsten Edwards, KCLS Nickie Travis, Renton SD	9780374300098 Farrar, Straus, Giroux (FSG), 2015	\$17.99 310p.
Tanquary, Kathryn <b><i>The Night Parade</i></b> (ARC) Sarah Evans, University of Washington	978-1-4926-2324-3 Sourcebooks, 2016	\$16.99 320p.
Thompson, Craig <b><i>Space Dumplins</i></b> Raina Sedore	9780545565431 Graphix, 2015	\$14.99 314p.
Thorne, Bella <b><i>Autumn's Kiss</i></b> (Autumn Falls)	9780385744355 Delacourt Press, 2015	\$18.99 231p.

Bethany Steirer, Rose Hill Middle School, LWSD

Tonke Dragt 978-0-545-81978-7 \$18.99 514p.  
***The Letter for the King***  
Scholastic Inc, 2013  
Kathleen Dunbar Eastlake High School

Van Diepen, Allison 978-0-06-230347-9 \$17.99 310p.  
***Light of Day***  
Harper Teen, 2015  
Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Waugh, Sandra 449817520 \$17.99 384p.  
***Silver Eve*** (Guardians of Tarnac)  
Random House, 2015  
Nickie Travis, Renton SD

Williams, Sean 978-0-06-220327-4 \$17.99 503p.  
***Hollowgirl*** (Twinmaker #3)  
Balzer + Bray, 2015  
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Woolston, Blythe 9780763677565 \$16.99 216p.  
***MARTians***  
Candlewick Press, 2015  
Sarah Hunt, KCLS

Zimmerman, Virginia 978-0-544-44537-6 \$16.99 273p.  
***The Rosemary Spell***  
Clarion Books, 2015  
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Zink, Michelle 9780062327154 \$17.99 294p.  
***Promises I Made*** (Sequel to: Lies I Told)  
HarperTeen, 2015  
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

#### NON-FICTION

Adams, Simon 978-1-60992-770-7 \$15.95 80p.  
***The Second World War (50 Things You Should Know About)***  
QEB Publishing, 2015  
Richele Buoy/Kent Phoenix Academy

Agard, John (ill. by Neil Packer) 978-0-7636-7236-2 \$16.99 131p.  
***Book: My Autobiography***  
Candlewick Press, 2015  
Sarah Evans, University of Washington

Annis, Matt 9781599209111 \$27.82 46p.  
***The Music Industry*** - The Music Scene  
Smart Apple Media, 2016  
Sue McAllister, Kellogg Middle School

Anon. 9781626720633 \$17.50 106p.

***The Young Investigator's Guide to Ancient Aliens*** Roaring Brook, 2015  
 Alan Grenon, Sylvester Middle School

Blofield, Robert 9781633220126 \$12.95 64p.  
***How to Make a Movie in 10 Easy Steps*** - Super Skills Walter Foster Jr. , 2105  
 Kellogg Middle School

Carson, Mary Kay 978-0-544-41664-2 \$18.99 79p.  
***Inside Biosphere 2: Earth Science Under Glass*** Scientists in the Field Houghton Mifflin  
 Harcourt, 2015  
 Jeani Littrell-Kwik, KCLS

Carson, Mary Kay 9780544416642 \$19.00 79p.  
***Inside Biosphere 2: Earth science under glass*** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015  
 Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Colson, Rob 9781770856196 \$9.95 96p.  
***Ultimate Survival Guide for Kids*** Firefly, 2015  
 Kirsten Edwards, KCLS

Cooke, Tim (editor) 9781781212295 \$37.10 48p.  
***Causes and Outbreak*** World War II, The Full Story Brown Bear Books, 2015  
 Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Cooke, Tim (editor) 9781781212325 \$37.10 48p.  
***Home Fronts*** World War II, The Full Story Brown Bear Books, 2015  
 Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

de Heer, Margreet 978-1-56163-994-6 \$17.99 119p.  
***Religion: A Discovery in Comics*** NBM, 2015 (in English)  
 Sarah Evans, University of Washington

Deem, James M. 978-0-544-09664-6 \$18.99 339p.  
***The Prisoners of Breendonk: Personal Histories from a World War II Concentration  
 Camp*** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015  
 Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School

Downer, Ann 9781467737395 \$25.00 88p.  
***Smart and Spineless; exploring invertebrate intelligence*** Twenty-first Century, 2016  
 Alan Grenon, Sylvester Middle School

Harris, Tim 9781781210758 \$31.00 64p.  
***World of endangered animals: North and South America*** Facts at your fingertips Brown  
 Bear Books, 2014  
 Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Harris, Tim 9781781210796 \$31.00 96p.  
***The world of endangered animals: Africa*** Facts at your fingertips Brown Bear Books,  
2014

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Howell, Dan & Lester, Phil 978-1-101-93984-0 \$18.99 224p.  
***The Amazing Book is Not on Fire: The World of Dan and Phil*** Random House,  
2015

Gretchen Oates, Kamiakin Middle School

Howell, Dan and Lester, Phil 1101939842 \$18.99 224p.  
***This Amazing Book Is not on Fire*** Random House, 2015

Nickie Travis, Renton SD

January, Brendan 9781467725170 \$27.79 96p.  
***Information insecurity: privacy under siege*** 21st Century Books, 2016

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Kaplan, Arie 978-1-4677-5252-7 \$33.32 72p.  
***Swashbuckling Scoundrels: Pirates in Fact and Fiction*** 21st Century Books, 2015

Richele Buoy, Kent Phoenix Academy

Krull, Kathleen, ill. by Anna Divito 978-0-06-235231-6 \$16.99 216p.  
***A Kids' Guide to America's Bill of Rights*** Harper, 2015

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Manzano, Sonia 9780545621847 \$17.99 262p.  
***Becoming Maria*** Scholastic, 2015

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Miles, Justin 9781770856189 \$9.95 96p.  
***Ultimate Explorer Guide for Kids*** Firefly, 2015

Kirsten Edwards, KCLS

Morel, Olivier 9781561639823 \$24.99 112p.  
***Walking Wounded: Uncut Stories from Iraq*** Nantier, Beall, Minoustichine, 2013

Lisa Carlson, Mt. Rainier HS Library

Murphy, Jim 9780547821832 \$18.99 130p.  
***Breakthrough! How 3 People Saved "Blue Babies" and Changed Medicine Forever***  
Clarion, 2015

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Murphy, Jim 9780547821832 \$18.99 130p.  
***Breakthrough: How Three People Saved "Blue Babies" and Changed Medicine Forever***  
Clarion Books, 2015

Sarah Hunt, KCLS

Ruschemeyer, Georg 978-1770855922 \$24.95 208p.

***The New Book of Optical Illusion*** Firefly, 2015

Michael Fleming - PCMS Library

Samanci, Ozge 9780374316983 \$16.99 190p.

***Dare to Disappoint: Growing Up in Turkey*** Farrar Straus Giroux, 2015

Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library

Scrace, Carolyn 9781909645462 (and) 9781909645516 \$27.10 24p.

***How to Art Doodle Printing & Other Amazing Techniques (and) How To Art Doodle Fabulous Things*** How To Doodle Black Rabbit Books, 2015

Bethany Steirer, Rose Hill Middle School, LWSD

Vansant, Wayne 9781939581754 \$26.00 103p.

***The Battle of the Bulge; a graphic history of allied victory in the Ardennes, 1944-1945***

graphic "novel" history Zenith, 2014

Alan Grenon

Zimmer, Marc 978-1-4677-5784-3 \$34.65 71p.

***Bioluminescence - Nature and Science at Work***

Twenty-First Century Books, 2016

Michael Fleming - PCMS Library

## Titles Reviewed – December 2015

### FICTION - RECOMMEND

Aguiree, Ann            978-1-250-04750-2            \$17.99            328 p.  
***The Queen of Bright and Shiny Things***            Feiwel & Friends, 2015

Sage is known for her sticky-notes – uplifting and encouraging notes she leaves on classmates lockers and desks. Shane is a bit standoffish and secretive, but really cute! As their relationship grows, we learn about secrets they are both keeping.

A sweet teen love story that delves into real problems that some teens deal with every day. A romance that's never sappy. I liked the characters of Sage & Shane, and the resolution is happy but somewhat realistic. For teens who want something that's a bit edgier than typical teen romances, but not too adult. Recommended for grades 7 -10.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Anderson, Jeff            978-1-4549-1499-0            \$12.95            162 p.  
***Zack Delacruz: Me and My Big Mouth***            Sterling Children's Books, 2015

Zack Delacruz is a quiet 6th grader who avoids attention at school to avoid the bullies, especially Jose, known as El Pollo Loco. Zack's usually invisible due to more popular targets, such as overweight, unattractive Janie Bustamante whose spit sprays from her mouth like a fire hose. When an anti-bullying assembly was seriously derailed by Jose loudly bullying Janie, Zack shocks everyone by yelling at Jose to shut up. Now Zack has the biggest bulls-eye on his back. Even worse, his teacher is now forcing Jose and Zack to work together to sell hundreds of candy bars within a week in order to let all the sixth graders attend a school dance for the first time. Boys especially will cheer for Zack to be the hero that saves the dance for the 6th graders and enjoy the funny situations. This book will appeal to Diary of a Wimpy Kid fans due to its humor and illustrations, however, I was disappointed when the storyline turned into an intervention for Janie who eats almost 200 candy bars instead of selling them.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Bagieu, Pénélope            978-1-62672-082-4            \$19.99            128 p.  
***Exquisite Corpse***            First Second Books, 2015

Zoe is going through an Identity crisis. She works as a model at trade shows; she has a loser boyfriend and not much going on in her life. She doesn't really have a direction in her life and isn't sure what she should do. This is something that sounds familiar to a lot of young adults. One night she stumbles into a fancy apartment building and rings the buzzer.

Thomas Rocher lets her up. They start as friends and quickly jump into a relationship. It's a little strange he never wants to leave the house. Zoe has no idea she is carrying on a relationship with one of the most popular deceased authors of all time. Thomas is no ghost; he has staged his death with the help of his agent/ ex wife Agathe. This situation is not ideal to Zoe, but she stays. She has become his muse, he is writing more than he has ever written and before long Thomas now has a new trilogy of books to release to the public. Except

through out this he has angered both Zoe and Agathe. Little does he know they have conspired against him and released the first of the books as if Zoe has written it and Zoe and Agathe fall in love and live happily ever after.

**Grades:** Adult  
Devon Abejo, KCLS

Banks, Anna                    978-1-250-03961-3                    \$17.99                    276 p.  
*Joyride*                    Feiwell & Friends, 2015

Carly Vegas lives with her older brother, going to school and working at night, helping to earn enough money to pay the smuggler who will bring her parents and younger twin siblings back across the border. She needs to keep a low profile, not attracting attention because what they are doing is obviously illegal. She needs school to get a real job, a good college, and move ahead. Her life revolves around school, grades, and work. So why then, does she keep finding herself going out with Arden Moss, son of the local sheriff?

The attraction of the two opposites, we know, will lead to disaster. It is impossible not to watch and root for the two. While it is heartening to see racism addressed in YA lit, the sheriff father's racist reactions to Mexicans is just too stereotypical. Carly's reactions to racism in the book are spot-on. She is a smart, capable heroine who has goals and sticks with them. Arden is a less-defined character. Although likable, he carries lots of baggage, dealing with it in inappropriate ways. There is growth on his part, but in the long run, life is too easy for him. Even Carly comments on this.

The ending is too swift, too pat to be believable. Although this was a Quick Pick, many teens will find that it drags in the middle for that award. It is also sad that Banks uses the need to make money as a reason why the family promotes a "you shouldn't care about school" attitude.

Despite these problems, the book is still a good read.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Barzak, Christopher                    9780385392792                    \$17.99                    338 p.  
*Wonders of the Invisible World*                    Knopf, 2015

Aidan Lockwood's life is very unexceptional. He lives in a small town on the same property that's been in his family for generations. When Aidan meets Jarrod, he slowly starts to awaken memories and abilities lost years ago. Jarrod reminds him of experiences that Aidan had growing up, like seeing things normal people don't see. Their relationship begins to blossom into more than friendship, just as his relationship with his clairvoyant Mother begins to unravel. As more memories return, Aidan begins to question his clairvoyant Mother, who seems to have hidden these memories and abilities from him. Aidan's search to discover the truth from his Mother leads him to uncover a family secret that stretches back generations and has the potential to destroy their family.

This book starts out slowly and the reader begins to awake to Aidan's situation as Aidan discovers it himself. As the intrigue about family secrets builds, Barzak tightly ties all the

loose ends together at the end. This book is about love, truth, and family secrets. Barzak has created a book that's beautifully written, well thought out, and mysterious. Students who like reading about magical realism, same-sex romantic relationships, and don't mind a slow start will enjoy this book. Not recommended for reluctant readers or those who love lots of action. Grades 8 and up.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult  
Katy Olson, Lindbergh High School

Bertman, Jennifer Chambliss                      978-1-62779-115-1                      \$16.99                      354 p.  
***The Book Scavenger*** (bk. 1)                      Henry Holt, 2015

Emily, 12, is tired of repeated moves just satisfy her parent's desire to live in all 50 states, but is excited to be living in San Francisco, the hometown of her literary idol: Garrison Grisworld, who created the popular website Book Scavenger which gives clues to books hidden in the real world. Players earn points for hiding and finding books. Emily quickly makes friends with her neighbor James who shares her passion for solving puzzles. When Grisworld is attacked and hospitalized with a coma, Emily and James visit the site of his attack and find a hidden book, *The Gold-Bug* by Edgar Allen Poe. Emily thinks this is the brand-new game that Grisworld was supposed to announce on the day of his attack. Soon the duo begin a series of adventures as they expand their skills in codes, ciphers and puzzles. Yet danger lurks nearby for these sleuths as two criminal buffoons want the book for themselves. Tweens and teens who enjoy books, scavenger hunts, mysteries, and puzzles will simply love this book and be happy it's the start of a new series. A bonus is that readers can visit [BookScavenger.com](http://BookScavenger.com) to find books or leave clues of their own.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th  
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Buckley, Michael                      978-0-544-34825-7                      \$18.99                      378 p.  
***Undertow***                      Houghton Mifflin , 2015

Previously reviewed: Lyric Walker's whole life has been hidden from her neighbors and friends, her father a police officer and her mother a former Alpha are very protective of their family. Her live changes after she witnesses the arrival of 30,000 Alpha arrived on the shore of Coney Island. As history has shown us, the newcomers are initially greeted with awe and wonder, then the opinions of Alpha quickly turn to paranoid and ugly.

Lyric is among the first students to welcome the Alphas into their high school, this has the feel of *Little Rock 1957*, and these Alphas are the first people that have come from the sea. She is assigned to befriend the crown prince Fathom to help him adjust to his new life above the water. As she gets to know him, she "falls for him" 8th grade and up  
This was a great story of survival and acceptance. Can't wait for the next book.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Kelly Crickmore, Issaquah High School

Connolly, Tina                      978-0-7653-7516-2                      \$17.99                      208 p.  
***Seriously Wicked*** (ARC)                      Tor Teen, 2015

A teen witch story with heart. Cam juggles two very different worlds on a daily basis. At school, she's a normal high-schooler who's just trying to pass Algebra and enjoy time with her best friend. At home, she must keep up with the demanding chores her power-crazy

adoptive mother gives. She fears anyone at school discovering that her mom is an actual witch, a life-path Cam is desperate to avoid. But her worlds collide when the cute new boy in town stumbles into a summoning ritual just in time to become a demon's host. Now Cam has to find a way to stop the demon from taking over the boy's soul and her mother from taking over the town. But will she have to spill her secrets and try her own hand at magic to pull it off? On the surface, it's a fun, fast-paced story about a busy teen girl navigating a life complicated by magic. But the story also serves as a parable about maturing and accepting ourselves and our family. Although the story is complete, teen readers may wish for more books set in Cam's world.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sarah Evans, University of Washington

Constantine, Robin                      978-0-06-227951-4                      \$17.99                      384 p.

***The Secrets of Attraction***                      Balzer & Bray, 2015

Madison lives a pretty good life. It's just her and mom, but that's okay. She's got good friends and a very cute casual boyfriend. She's not looking for anything different. Then she meets Jesse. Jesse works at the coffee shop Madison and her friends frequent after yoga class. He's having a hard time getting over a recent break up that also left him without a band. When his ex-best friend wants the rights to play one of their songs with his new band, Jesse realizes he has to get back in the game. Through various coincidences Madison and Jesse spend more and more time together and start to fall for each other even if they don't think they are ready for something real. Told in alternating voices, this companion to *The Promising of Amazing* is a fluffy romance teen girls will love even if it doesn't offer anything new. Grades 9+.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Cooney, Caroline B.                      978-0-385-74291-7                      \$17.99                      246 p.

***No Such Person***                      Delacorte Press, 2015

The troubles began for sisters Lander, 22, and Miranda, 15, when their family witnessed a river barge running over a water skier. The boat driver, Jason, heads over their dock immediately and Lander is instantly captivated. Miranda tries to warn Lander away from Jason because she saw him purposely drop his speed which caused the water skier to fall into the path of the barge, but Lander will not listen. Soon Lander is spending all of her time with Jason, yet he never visits their river-front cottage again. In less than a week, Lander is in jail for murder and her parents seem frozen with fear at the thought of their number one daughter going to prison. When Jason disappears and the police focus on Lander, Miranda begins investigating Jason herself. Alternate chapters narrated by Lander and Miranda increase the tension until its riveting conclusion. While I had a hard time caring about Lander, Miranda was a cheer-worthy character who teens will root for. This book will appeal to reluctant readers as it is a quick page-turner.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Cooper, E.E.                      9780062293909                      \$17.99                      307 p.

***Vanished***                      Katherine Tegen, 2015

In her junior year of high school OCD Kalah became friends with popular seniors Beth and Britney. B and B have been friends for so long that they're like sisters, however, lately things seemed to be strained between them and making Kalah feel a bit on the outside, unable to help. The only thing that seems to going well for Kalah is the apparent budding romance between her and Beth. So, when Beth runs away without telling Kalah where she is, Kalah starts to worry. Beth eventually contacts her, but is rather distant and Kalah just wants her friend back. Then, when rumors start to fly at school about Beth and Britney's boyfriend, Britney is unable to deal with the stress, committing suicide. This only adds to Kalah's depression and confusion, especially when Beth stops talking to her. Part girl drama, part mystery, Vanished is a novel that will appeal to teen girls.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Cornwell, Betsy                      978-0-547-92771-8                      \$17.99                      307 p.  
***Mechanica*** (bk. 1)                      Clarion Books, 2015

This wonderful Steampunk retelling of the familiar fairy tale actually involves faeries--or fey. Nicolette's childhood is full of happy memories spent watching her mother invent fantastical creations using fey magic, such as horses and insects that appear to be alive. When the ruler of the land is killed by a fey poison, the tide turns against anything faerie or magical and the neighboring Faerie land and fey goods is outlawed. Then, Nicolette's mother dies when she's 7 and her father follows when she's 10, but not before remarrying and bringing the wicked step-mother and two step-sisters home. Naturally, she's forced be the servant for her step-family and loses her life of reading and inventing. Then when she's 16 a letter from her mother mysteriously appears and Nicolette finds her mother's secret. With her mother's journals and magical tools, she begins experimenting at inventions herself. When her evil step-mother finds out, she names her *Mechanica*--as an insult--and forbids her from spending any time on these creations. Yet, *Mechanica*'s true passion has been found and nothing's going to stop her from creating her most amazing mechanism yet and showing it off at the big technological exposition that happens the day after the royal ball. Teens will love this story that is full of adventure, romance, and steampunk creations. Though based on a familiar story, this version emphasizes creativity, courage and friendship over a happily ever after wedding.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Cotugno, Katie                      978-0-06-221638-0                      \$17.99                      372 p.  
***99 Days***                      Balzer & Bray, 2015

Molly Barlow has returned from her senior year, spent at a boarding school. She left because of an incident involving two brothers: one she was dating (the twin of her best friend) and one with whom she had sex. Understandably she lost her best friend and her boyfriend. Not understandably, her author mom used the incident to create a best-selling book so now the entire (small) town knows. Molly has come home to simply survive the summer before going to college. However, the town will not let the incident rest.

Molly is hired by a newcomer who is renovating the local resort, finding she has a talent for this possible career. She also finds that Patrick, her former boyfriend, has a new girlfriend,

now working at the resort. Gabe, the older brother, seems to want to befriend her, possibly being more. Molly, needing a friend, wanting love, is pulled emotionally by both boys- again- all the while knowing this could end in disaster.

Molly is a great flawed character. She is an intriguing, strong-willed, normal teenager. As she alternately pulls herself into a new life and falls back into the old one, she grows as a person. The “why” of having sex with Gabe to begin with is shrugged off, never fully explained, and remains a flaw in the story. The character of Patrick also did not ring true, and could have been more developed. Nevertheless, we the reader develop from feeling sorry for, but not sympathetic to Molly, to cheering for her in the unexpected ending!

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Cummings, Lindsay                    978-0-06-222003-5                    \$17.99                    496 p.

***The Death Code*** (Murder Complex #2)                    Greenwillow, 2015

In this sequel to *The Murder Complex*, Meadow and Zephyr continue their on again, off again romance interrupted by violence and attempts on their lives. The story sometimes drags and occasionally descends into the romance novel pit, but there are secrets revealed and the action and violence that fascinated us in the first book continues here. Told in alternating chapters, the pace is quick and fans of the first book will want to see how the story continues. There are shocking (maybe) connections reminiscent of *The Maze Runner*, but this is a fine addition to the dystopian genre. Although advertised as a duology and the story does end, there’s certainly room for more if the author decides to continue.

Recommended for high school because of graphic violence.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Dimopoulos, Elaine                    978-0-544-38850-5                    \$17.99                    319 p.

***Material Girls***                    Houghton Mifflin, 2015

Marla is 16 and at the top of her game. She’s a member of the Supreme Court and gets to choose the next fashion trend for one of the largest fashion houses in the country. That is, until she has a few bombs and gets demoted to the basement to be a designer. Ivy Wilde is a 16 year old pop star with #1 songs, a gorgeous (although gay) boyfriend, and a large entourage. She is the “Wildest” in the country until she decides to wear one of Marla’s designs and starts talking about the environmental impact of trendy fashions.

This story is set in the future where young talent is “tapped” at age 13 to be one of the chosen few to become part of the creative industries. Others are designated as “Adequates”, stay in school and become the boring rest of society. It’s an interesting enough story, but it’s really social commentary on consumerism, the emphasis on staying young, and the environmental and social impact of industry. When the designers stage a strike, the message gets a little (lot!) heavy handed, but by then I was fairly attached to the characters so I wanted to see how things played out. Certainly not the best of the dystopian novels, but a nice addition. Little (no?) profanity and no sex, but the storyline might be more appealing to teens in high school.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Dixon, Heather                      978-0-06-200105-4                      \$17.99                      361 p.  
***Illusionarium***                      Greenwillow Books, 2015

Steampunk fantasy driven by action and bromance. Jonathan is looking forward to leaving for university in the empire's capital of Arthurise and becoming a surgeon, though he will miss his family and their arctic airbase home. Suddenly, the king arrives and demands that Jonathan's scientist father immediately find a cure for a deadly disease impacting women across the empire, including the queen. But the empire's lead researcher, Lady Florel, appears mentally unhinged and is insisting that Jonathan and his father must utilize a vision inducing drug to create illusions which will lead to a cure. His father refuses, but when Jonathan's mother and sister fall ill, he is driven to desperate, illegal acts. Soon, Jonathan, followed by imperial soldier Lockwood, find themselves in a twisted version of their own world that offers a cure, but at a terrible cost that might be too late for their home. The story moves along faster than the ever-present airships with just enough character details to keep us emotionally involved. Themes include finding and staying with your moral compass and the impact of addictive substances (with the effects imaginatively embodied). Recommended for collections wanting additional steampunk titles.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sarah Evans, University of Washington

Durango, Julia                      978-0-06-231400-0                      \$17.99                      245 p.  
***The Leveller***                      HarperTeen, 2015

Nixy Bauer is an expert, an expert at finding kids that don't want to be found, inside the MEEP. Parents hire her to go inside of MEEP, the newest virtual-reality gaming world, and bring their kids home. She brags of finding them in "an hour or less" and has never had a problem. That is until the game's designer and billionaire asks Nixy to find his son, Wyn. The only problem is that it is apparent that Wyn does not want to be found. The designers of the MEEP have not been able to get past the challenges that Wyn has developed and it is believed that he has left behind a suicide note. With the promise of a huge finder's fee, Nixy takes the job, but when she discovers that things are not what they seem and that there may be other sinister forces at work, she is not sure whether she will ever be able to escape her virtual world, with or without Wyn.

This is an action-packed Science-Fiction book, sure to appeal to the "gamer" and non-gamer alike. I liked how there were twists and turns that you couldn't see coming. Also, some virtual-reality games are described in such detail that the reader gets lost, but Durango does a great job of bringing the reader in without painstaking details.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th

Bethany Steirer, Rose Hill Middle School, LWSD

Emerson, Kevin                      978-0-06-213398-4                      \$17.99                      313 p.  
***Encore to an Empty Room*** (An Exile Novel)                      Katherine Tegen Books, 2015

Catherine is the obedient teen headed to Stanford, but Summer (her other – more authentic personality) is manager for a hot high school band, Dragonheart, and girlfriend of Caleb, the lead singer. This is the story of the band and their quest to find the songs Caleb's dad left behind when he died, possibly suicide.

Although the story stretches plausibility sometimes, the idea of a high school band on the verge of stardom is certainly appealing. Catherine/Summer is a very typical teen struggling between her own ambitions and those her parents have for her. Caleb, as the budding singer/songwriter who still suffers from his father's abandonment, is a sympathetic character and their romance is sweet and believable. A great read for budding musicians or any teens looking for a fast-paced romance/adventure. This is book 2 in the series, and although there were moments where I felt I had missed something, it could stand alone. There are certainly many loose ends, but the story is engrossing enough to stand alone. Recommended for high school because of drinking, drug use, and some profanity.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Feinstein, John                      978-0385753500                      \$16.99                      304 p.

***The Sixth Man*** (The Triple Threat, bk. 2)                      Knopf, 2015

Alex is finally not the star, just a member of the basketball team, and there is a new transfer hotshot, Max, that can seemingly score at will. But, team morale is in the dumps, as a few of the older guys don't like being replaced by a freshman. Then, Max outs himself, which causes a bit more friction. Great book with lots of basketball action, described well. A must have for middle schools and 9/10th graders for sure.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Finn, Katie                      978-1-250-04525-6                      \$17.99                      389 p.

***Revenge, Ice Cream, and Other Things Best Served Cold***                      Feiwel & Friends, 2015

In Broken Hearts, Fences, & other Things to Mend, Hallie extracted revenge on Gemma for a stunt Gemma had pulled 4 years ago that ruined Hallie's 12th birthday. Among other things, Hallie stole Gemma's boyfriend. In this sequel, as Hallie's pranks continue to get Gemma in trouble, she enlists the help of a few friends to cook up the ultimate payback.

There's nothing new or earthshattering here nor is deep thinking necessary, but it is a fun look at how things can get quickly way out of hand. The plot is fast-paced and full of surprises. Yes, there are some predictable outcomes, but there were also some things that I didn't see coming. Teen girls will love this. Only mild profanity and some sexual tension, but tame enough for middle school. Recommended.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Frank, E.R.                      978-1-4814-3160-6                      \$17.99                      314 p.

***Dime***                      Atheneum, 2015

Thirteen-year-old Dime has been in the Foster Care System, and abused by it. She decides to run away, unfortunately trusting the first nice man who offers her help. As she slowly realizes that she is being groomed as a prostitute, she also believes that this is her "family." She has food, a good place to sleep, and "sisters." When the world again falls apart, it is so difficult to watch.

Human trafficking is a popular theme, and this slight book brings that home once again through human interaction. Dime is thirteen. There are many girls in middle school like her. The sexual situations are not graphic, but still real. The book is not without hope, but hope is only in the background. Dime has so much to overcome that the sheer weight threatens to drag both you and her down.

For teens looking for the feelings involved with the “why” of a teen becoming a prostitute. Difficult to read, but important to discuss and understand. Frank has long produced gritty, well-written novels. This BBYA selection is no exception. It is an important book to read and discuss. Dime’s voice will stay in your mind for a long time.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Giles, Lamar                    978-0-06-229756-3                    \$17.99                    280 p.  
***Endangered***                    Harper Teen, 2015

Lauren, known as Panda, uses her skills with photography to pay back bullies by posting incriminating photos on her anonymous website. When she catches one of the popular girls having sex with a teacher, she attracts a secret admirer – one who begins to blackmail her. Obviously someone at Lauren’s school, she sets out to discover who it is.

I really liked this book. The action is swift, the tension builds slowly but steadily, and the messages about bullying, stereotyping, and taking things into your own hands are clear but not overly didactic. Recommended for high school because of the sexual content and profanity.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Goldstein, Lori                    978-1-250-05539-2                    \$17.99                    377 p.  
***Becoming Jinn***                    Feiwel and Friends, 2015

Paranormal girl story about wish-granting powers and the consequences. It’s the morning of Azra’s 16th birthday, a day she’s dreaded for years. With the permanent placement of a silver bangle on her wrist, her inherited Jinn powers are released. She can perform simple magic for herself, but only grant wishes to selected humans on orders of the Afrit, a mysterious group who controls Jinn activity. In her lifetime, only female Jinn and their mothers are allowed to live amongst humans, while the males, her father included, must live away in an underground world. Azra is expected to bond with her Zar, a sisterhood of peer Jinn, like her mother does with her peers. She has rejected both the girls and the Jinn world after the death of her best human friend as a child. But as her powers and assignments cause shocking revelations about what she thought she knew, Azra tentatively leans into both her Zar sisterhood. Simultaneously, her connections in the human world open her heart to understanding the impact of granting wishes. Left as a cliffhanger, readers interested in unique paranormal settings and girl-power will clamor for the sequel. The emotional descriptions are overwrought at times, but so are some teenage girls.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Sarah Evans, University of Washington

Gregorio, I. W. 9780062335319 \$17.99 328 p.

***None of the Above*** Balzer & Bray (Harper Collin Imprint), 2015

Kristin's senior year is pretty much perfect. She and her two best friends are probably going to be on Homecoming court, she just signed a track scholarship for state, and she is in perfect sync with her dreamy boyfriend Sam. On the night of the big game when she gets voted home coming queen everything just seems too good to be true, until she and Sam try to have sex, and it hurts her so much they have to stop. After a visit to the OBGYN leads to a visit to a specialist Kristin learns that she is an AIS intersex person. This is a big shock for Kristin and she really struggles to understand what this new diagnosis means for her, her relationships, and her gender identity. When the whole school finds out her diagnosis her perfect world seems to come crashing in around her. Leaving Kristin alone to try and figure out what being intersex means to her.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12<sup>th</sup>

**Comments:** The author's note is really helpful and has a lot of great resources.

Maggie Block KCLS Skyway

Harmon, Michael 978-0385754361 \$17.99 240 p.

***Stick*** Knopf, 2015

Stick is the nickname of a rangy wide receiver who loves the game but is being pressured by his father, and who loses respect for his head coach, due to his response to a bullying situation Stick witnesses. So, he quits, despite the college coaches there to see him.

Eventually, given a chance to play for another team, he does, finding his first love and a coach he can play for with a clear conscience. Great addition to football book canon.

Recommended, grades 6th-10th

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Headley, Maria Dahvana 978-0-06-232052-0 \$17.99 309 p.

***Magonia*** (Magonia series) Harper, 2015

Aza Ray has a mysterious illness – so rare that it's even named after her. It seems she is not meant for this earth, because the air around her is slowly killing her – her lungs just can't take it. And one day, they just stop working, and she is no longer of the earth. But no, she's not dead. She has been reborn in a magical world above the clouds. A world filled with strange bird-people and enormous floating whales and ships that sail on the air. A world where she can breathe. A world where she is important. Meanwhile, back on the ground, Aza's best friend doesn't believe that she has died, and he makes it his mission to find her and bring her back. In Maria Dahvana Headley's debut novel, she creates a lush and unique world unlike any before put to page. Her writing voice is distinctive, and Aza and Jason's personality shines through the words. In many ways, the world-building and unusual prose is more successful than the characters and plot in this novel, but the combination of action, romance, and fantasy will draw readers in.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sara Lachman, Olympia Timberland Library

Heltzel, Anne 978-0-544-38849-9 \$17.99 263 p.

***Charlie, Presumed Dead*** Houghton Mifflin, 2015

Charlie is presumed dead when his single engine plane crashes into the ocean. At his memorial service his girlfriend, Aubrey, is startled to hear Lena rise to speak and identify herself as Charlie's girlfriend. When they speak after the service, they compare notes and agree that there's a possibility that Charlie's not really dead. They embark on a quest that takes them from Paris to London, Mumbai, and Bangkok to find the truth.

Told from the points of view of Aubrey, Lena, and Charlie, this is an action packed story filled with secrets and lies. There are startling revelations at every turn. It should appeal to teens who love suspenseful, unpredictable adventures – sort of a YA Gone Girl, but less graphic. Because of some sexual content and some adult situations, recommended for older teens.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Henry, April                    9780805098532                    \$17.99                    258 p.  
***Blood Will Tell*** (Point Last Seen #2)                    Henry Holt, 2015

When Nick gets a call from Search and Rescue to examine a crime scene he's surprised to learn that it happened just down the street, not only that, but some of the evidence recovered at the scene starts to imply him as a primary suspect. Fortunately, his friends Ruby and Alexis believe him and scramble to help their friend prove his innocence before the real murderer finds his next victim.

This is the 2nd book in the Point Last Seen mystery series. The series is like watching a crime scene television series, which makes it easy to read books out of order. There are lots of explanations about crime scenes, DNA evidence, and Search and Rescue. This book is recommended for grades 6 and up.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Katy Olson, Lindbergh High School

Henry, April                    978-0805098532                    \$14.39                    272 p.  
***Blood Will Tell*** (Point Last Seen #2)                    Henry Holt and Company, 2015

I didn't read the first one but didn't need to and I recommend it. In this mystery the main characters; Ruby, Nick, and Alexis, members of the Oregon Search and Rescue (SAR) are called to help find a missing girl, but they end up trying to figure out why Nick's DNA ends up on clothing of a murdered teen girl. Nick becomes a target for police and detectives, the ones who he used to work with in SAR. There are many twists, and Henry is an expert of distracting the reader with doubt and suspense. Even though the subject matter of this story is kind of like the show Criminal Minds, the elements that could be gory and graphic are handled pretty gently so I think it is okay for Middle School and up.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Kathleen Dunbar Eastlake High School

Hogan, Edward                    9780763671129                    \$16.99                    208 p.  
***The Messengers***                    Candlewick, 2015

Frances, of late, has been having episodes where she blacks out and then feels compelled to create a drawing. Between that and the fact that her brother is on the run from the police for having punched an officer who is now in a coma, Frances is having a tough summer. So,

her mom sends her to spend the rest of the summer with her aunt and uncle in Helmstown. However, now her episodic drawings have taken a rather sinister turn. In Helmstown, she meets a young man, Peter, who says she is a Messenger, that the drawings she creates are death scenes and that she must deliver the message (show the picture) of the victim's death to the victim within 48 hours or suffer the consequences (someone close to her will die instead). Frances at first does not believe, but the proof becomes evident very quickly, and she looks to Peter for answers. He cautions her not to get close to anyone and to distance herself from the subjects of the drawings, but Frances has no intention of being Death's messenger and instead tries to take matters into her own hands.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Hosie, Donna            978-0-8234-3390-2            \$16.95            261 p.

***The Devil's Dreamcatcher***            Holiday House, 2015

Team DEVIL is back, trying to do right, even though they are in the middle of hell. Medusa has joined the team, she was at the center of activities in book one. They are to use the time-travel device to track down the Dreamcatcher used by the Devil to harness his horrible dreams, which if they got loose, could be an ultimate weapon. Soon, the team finds out that they have been double-crossed, along with the team from "Up There" they have allied with. Skin-Changers who rule the 9 levels of hell are also on their trail, barely restrained by the protection of Septimus, the devil's right hand man, who is their direct boss. If they cannot recover the dreamcatcher in time, really, really bad things will happen.

Recommended, Grades 7-12

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Hunt, Leo            978-0-7636-7865-4            \$13.00            327 p.

***13 Days of Midnight***            Candlewick Press, 2015

Luke Manchett is sixteen years old and lives in Dunbarrow in the North East part of England. Life in his small, boring town is pretty normal until the day he is summoned to talk with his estranged father's lawyer regarding his father's passing. After signing the legal documents to accept his inheritance, things begin to change. Luke's father was a ghost hunter and TV personality and has more than just the millions of dollars to leave to Luke. He also leaves him a host of eight ghosts to deal with. These ghosts are getting more and more powerful as the days get closer to Halloween where their power peaks. Luke needs to learn how to become the necromancer he has signed on to be by accepting the inheritance. This humorous book is a good horror story that is great for Halloween. It will be enjoyed by middle and high school students.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

JoAnn Olsson, Liberty High School

Johnston, E.K.            978-1-4847-2227-5            \$18.99            295 p.

***A thousand nights*** (ARC)            Hyperion, 2015

The story of Lo-Melkhiin is a cross between 1001 Arabian nights and Beauty and the Beast. In order to save her sister, the protagonist, called Al-ammiyyah (Common,) volunteers to be the 301st bride of Lo-Melkhiin, a king who is consumed by a demon. Each night she

tells a story of her life in the desert, is not afraid of her husband, and is alive the next morning. During her castle wanderings, she finds that she has magic of her own and vows to free the monster and save the king.

This is a Middle East tale. The desert comes so alive, we can smell and taste it. The inherent sexism of the tribes does not seem so misogynistic, but filled with the understanding, and constant power of women. A-ammiyyah's tales show the power of the women around her, even over men. However, the book reads like a fairy tale- where the reader does not really become involved with the characters, and while it is a wonderfully told story, the reader doesn't feel any of the characters' lives are important in a human sense, as fairy tales are wont to do.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th

Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Jones, Ena                      978-0-8234-3389-6                      \$16.95                      187 p.

***Clayton Stone, At Your Service***                      Holiday House, 2015

Clayton is a 7th grader in a private school, and a lacrosse player, being raised by his grandmother and the crew at the diner she owns after the death of his parents and grandfather. Out of the blue, his grandmother gets a call from the president, and then the "suits" start showing up. Suddenly, Clayton is swept into an undercover operation as bait for a kidnapping ring that's taken a senator's wife and daughter. It turns out his grandmother and half the diner are actually Special Services, a secret federal agency supporting other federal law enforcement agencies. Eventually, it becomes a driving adventure with heartwarming elements, but only after a long unbelievable set-up. It even name drops Alex Ryder. There are so many times when suspension of disbelief is difficult. This recurs at the end, when too many unbelievable choices are made. Clayton is at once middle school appropriate in his interests and too sophisticated. There are a couple typo's and unfortunate nonstandard compound word choices. Clayton does get a few fun gadgets, and it's a fairly quick read that may appeal to readers needing enticement, but they'll also have to be a bit patient (additional purchase).

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th

Alan Grenon, Sylvesyter Middle School

Karalius, Kimberly                      978-1-250-04720-5                      \$9.99                      343 p.

***Love, fortunes, and other disasters***                      Feiwell & Friends, 2015

Fallon Dupree is attending Grimbaud High- a Boarding School where her family has attended for generations. The town personifies LOVE. Every place, every shop, every statue, every Thing is devoted to Love. When you arrive at school, you receive your love fortune from Zita's Love Charms Shop. They are never wrong. Generations of her family have found their true love here, through the fortune. When Fallon receives a fortune saying "your love will never be requited," she is devastated- and decides to fight against it- joining a small group who believe Zita's hold on the town must be broken.

This is a cute, sweet story with some interesting twists- some you see coming; others are more subtle. The ending is more violent than the book might lead you to believe, but not overdone. An easy read that will make you chuckle, then very forgettable. Simple kissing

makes it appropriate for 6th/7th/8th grade. The end papers give questions suitable for book discussions. The message that your first love as a 9th grader will be your love forever, however, is just plain nauseating.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th

Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Katcher, Brian                      978-0062272775                      \$17.99                      336 p.

***The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak***                      Katherine Tegen, 2015

Ana is uptight and forced by her parents to be studious and responsible. Zak is a gamer, outgoing and effusive. When Zak is forced to join Ana's quiz team (it looks good on her resume) or face suspension at school, Ana is enraged. However, Zak helps Ana find her little brother, who rebelled against the family pressure they both get and ran away to a Comic-con type event. Zak is like a prince there, and over the evening, Ana begins to appreciate Zak and even falls for him and vice-versa. They find the boy too. Recommended as a funny, sweet relationship book! Grades 7-12

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Kinsella, Sophie                      978-0-553-53651-5                      \$18.99                      286 p.

***Finding Audrey: a Novel***                      Delacorte Press, 2015

Fourteen-year-old Audrey has a severe anxiety disorder. It is so extreme that she cannot leave her house and spends most of her time in the family's den with dark glasses on and the lights off. Readers must infer the cause of Audrey's issues because author Sophie Kinsella never explicitly describes what happened to cause her extreme condition. Apparently, Audrey was the victim of extreme bullying at school in which some students were expelled and an administrator fired. It was interesting to learn about Audrey's extreme anxiety and the author does a good job of describing her heart-pounding terror. Frank's friend Linus soon enters the picture and makes a tremendous effort (not very realistic) to get to know Audrey. Audrey's feelings for Linus provide a compelling reason for her to work towards recovery, which she does. There is also a subplot involving Audrey's brother Frank and his addiction to video games. Their mom is completely freaked out about this and in one dramatic scene, throws Frank's computer out the window. This subplot was distracting to me and might have been better as the subject of a separate book. (Perhaps Audrey and Frank's mother was trying desperately to get control of Frank's behavior because she was so helpless to do anything about Audrey's issues. However, this was not explored in the book.) This story might have been more effectively told in the style of *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio in which all the characters express themselves in separate chapters. Overall, the story felt somewhat directionless. What I liked: the interactions between Audrey and Linus had some of the signature Kinsella vividness and comedy that are enjoyable. Overall, I liked the book and recommend it, but only as an additional purchase. It would be an important book for students suffering from social anxiety but was not a memorable read. Ages: grades 7 up.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Lora Gillingham, Tahoma High School

Kirby, Jessi                      978-0-06-229943-7                      \$17.99                      291 p.

***Things We Know By Heart***

Harper Teen, 2015

Quinn is distraught when her boyfriend is killed in an accident. She doesn't know how to move on until someone suggests she write letters to the recipients of his donated organs. Hearing from the people he saved does help her, but the person who received his heart still hasn't contacted her. And, she can't let it be. Even though she isn't supposed to, Quinn does her own research and figures out that Colton, a boy just a few towns away, was the heart recipient. Her plan is just to take a look at Colton, definitely not to speak to him. But, when they do meet accidentally, Quinn freaks out not just because she's crossed a line, but also because clearly there is a connection between them. She can't seem to stay a way; even though she knows the longer she goes on avoiding telling him the truth the worse off it will be for everyone. Fans of romantic stories will definitely like this even as they cringe over the lie she's hiding. Sex happens mostly off the page. Grades 8+

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Kranz, Jonathan David

978-1-62779-050-5

\$17.99

227 p.

***Our Brothers at the Bottom of the Bottom of the Sea***

Henry Holt, 2015

Ethan struggles to come to terms with his older brother, Jason, falling into the jetty and drowning. Jason's death is mysterious because he was afraid of the ocean and always avoided it. The death of Curtis in the roller coaster is a mystery to his older sister, Rachel, because she still cannot believe that her brother stood up from the seat's restraint, resulting in his own death. Even though Curtis had Down Syndrome, he knew better. The surviving siblings feel enough guilt for their brothers' deaths that when their paths cross they decide to find the truth. As they search for answers, sinister truths about the amusement park, Happy World, and its mafia-esque owner surface. Despite an interesting premise, this book is unable to maintain tension. This clichéd story has every character looking for something: a future, love, a legacy. Yes, there's mystery, grief, guilt, and culpability, but the tale is too slowly told and I'm not sure my teen readers will stick with it. Teens will likely enjoy this mystery, but there's better, more-fast paced options

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Laurie, Estelle

978-0-544-53429-2

\$17.99

288 p.

***This raging light*** (ARC)

Houghton Mifflin, 2016

In her senior year, Lucille gets her little sister Wren ready to begin 4th grade. It appears that their mom has left them, although she declared that she "just needed a vacation." Dad is in an alcoholic rehab. During the rest of the book, Lucille deals with keeping their family together, facing all the things you need to do as part of a routine: making breakfast, making a lunch your sister loved yesterday but hates today, doing laundry so you have clean clothes. Lucille is determined, but keeping away adults who notice is difficult. While she can keep Wren's teacher at bay with notes and visits, excusing her mom, she can do little about the dwindling money. Then things fall more apart: best friend Eden stops talking to her; her car dies. She gets a job with little trouble, but without Eden babysitting, Wren is a problem.

Then there is Digby, the twin of her best friend. Who has a girlfriend. For whom she has fallen. The fact that he helps her with babysitting Wren and is just NICE doesn't help.

Lucille deals with her issues like any overloaded teen: guilt, over-compensation, and overwork. She loves Wren, but understandably hates their circumstances and the fact that she can't deal with what should be adult issues. She is in uncharted territory, at home, at work, and with the non-boyfriend boyfriend. Lucille deals with it all in a humorous, teen angsty, even poetic, way. Everyone is trying on the adult persona, and failing – then trying again. And again.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th

Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Laybourne, Emmy                      978-1250055194                      \$17.99                      288 p.

***Sweet***                      Feiwel & Friends, 2015

Laurel is accompanying her wealthy friend Viv on a celebrity-packed cruise to launch the new sweetener, SOLU, which promises to not only taste delicious, but help you shed pounds without effort. Laurel is pretty happy with who she is: boot-wearing, guitar-strumming, chubby and comfortable in her own skin. She's on the cruise for her friend, and finds herself completely uninterested in the "Cruise it to lose it" mentality of the other passengers. An awkward encounter with celebrity announcer Tom Forelli begins a sweet attraction that propels the story along standard teen-romance lines. But not all is well in SOLU paradise, as the super sweetener is not quite the dream it's been marketed to be. The story turns dark, really dark, and surprisingly horrific and gruesome as the cruise passengers fall under SOLU's powers and Laurel and Tom, who have chosen to abstain from SOLU, unravel the sinister intent behind the wonder sweetener.

The combination of standard teen romance with dark, grotesque horror (read: cannibalism) will be tough for many readers, but others will plow through this fascinating mash-up filled with growing dread and likeable characters, some of which won't survive.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Jennifer Lovchik, Bellingham Public Library

Leaver, Trisha                      978-0-374-30046-3                      \$17.99                      294 p.

***The Secrets We Keep***                      Farrar Straus Giroux, 2015

Maddy and Ella Lawton are twins and seniors in high school and no longer best friends. Maddy is now the popular jock with a mean girls clique while Ella prefers quietly drawing in her sketchbook. While Ella misses her old best friend, Maddy seems content to lead a troubled life that Ella is constantly trying to shield from their parents. When Ella has to retrieve a drunk Maddy yet again from a wild party, her anger erupts while driving them home and the car slides on a dark, wet road and crashes. When Ella wakes up, she's calling out for her twin Maddy, but the doctors think she's telling them her identity. Before Ella can explain the truth, everyone thinks that Ella is the twin who died. Ella decides to stay being Maddy out of her guilt. As the lies go deeper and the difficulties of being the popular Maddy with mean girlfriends and a demanding boyfriend escalate, Ella learns about the secrets Maddy was keeping. How long can Ella maintain the charade before the lies become too

much? Teens who love mean girls, sibling drama, and the tension of *Pretty Little Liars* will enjoy this book even though some it stretches credibility.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Leck, James                    978-1-77138-110-9                    \$16.95                    252 p.

***After Dark***                    KCP Fiction, 2015

Charlie Harker is 15 and his parents have just gotten a divorce while he was away at school. His Dad is a Tony Robbins like guru who has lost everything and now his Mom and siblings are going to Rolling Hills to restore an old family inn that his Mom owns. This was not how he thought he was going to be spending his summer. The first person he meets is his quirky neighbor Miles Van Helsing, the neighborhood UFO watcher. At first he thinks Miles is weird like everyone else but then he realizes that a mysterious illness is spreading through the town. With some help with his famous actor of a brother who is a star of the hit show *Jason Night Vampire Slayer* he is able to figure out a few secrets of his new town. This book has some great nods to other famous vampire books and movies. In the end Charlie and Miles save the day and develop a lasting friendship.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th

Devon Abejo, KCLS

Logan, Kirsty                    978-0-553-44661-6                    \$25.00                    304 p.

***The Grace Keepers*** (ARC)                    Crown, 2015

Callenish and North are two lonely women who are not leading the lives they want in a future world where all the polar ice caps have melted resulting in the land being reduced to scattered islands. Thus, the world is divided between the “landlockers” and the “dampplings.” Since landlockers have food, they have the power. Strict life codes are enforced by the military and punished by a prison boat. As a gracekeeper, Callenish’s job is to provide funerals for the recently deceased. It’s an isolating job that barely provides her with the food and supplies she needs, but she views it as punishment for an earlier tragedy. Plus, her job helps keep her biggest secret hidden. North was born on a travelling circus boat and after her parents died, she took over their act of performing with a bear. Now she’s trying to hide a secret while preventing other circus people’s plans for her future. Both women long for change, which makes their eventual meeting all the more riveting. While Callenish and North take turns narrating their physical and emotional journey, 10 of the surrounding characters also narrate one chapter. This compelling and enchanted fantasy has mysterious qualities reminiscent of fairy tales and magical realism, but at its heart are two utterly captivating and unforgettable women.

**Grades:** 11th, 12th, Adult

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Macfarlane, John                    978-0-8234-3394-0                    \$16.95                    138 p.

***Stormstruck!***                    Holiday House, 2015

When 12-year-old Sam hears his parents talking about putting down his beloved dog, Pogo, Sam decides to run away on his small sailboat to save his elderly Labrador retriever. Pogo is not only his most loyal companion, he’s also the last promise he made to his older brother before he was shipped off, and then killed, in Afghanistan. Sam and Pogo’s

adventures include battling the sea, the weather and sharks. Luckily Sam is an expert sailor and remembers all of his older brother's nautical advice. Sam is helped along the way by a retired ornithologist and a one-eyed sea bird. Reluctant readers, especially guys, will like the fast-paced adventures as long as the sailing lingo doesn't slow them down.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th  
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen MS

Matson, Lynne                      978-1-62779-293-6                      \$17.99                      301 p.  
***Nil Unlocked*** (Nil Series)                      Henry Holt, 2015

Charlie and Thad have left NIL in their gates and Rives is left to head back to the City alone. Rives is leader now and the City is under attack; not only from the ferocious Cats that roam the island, but also from within from a thief that continually takes supplies. Skye, back in the "real" world, is tired of hearing her father's stories of the mysterious island. His quest has broken up their family and Skye is tired of having to prepare to go to some mysterious island like her uncle did 20 years ago. It isn't until Syke and Rives' worlds collide on NIL that they decide that it is time to end the terror of NIL once and for all.

This is a great companion book to NIL. I loved the way that the author brought the stories together and (I think) finished the series. There were some times that I thought that the "love" between the characters was a little too intense, as with the first book, too. However, overall, I thought this was a great second in the series!

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th  
Bethany Steirer, Rose Hill Middle School, LWSD

McCune, Joshua                      978-0062121943                      \$17.99                      448 p.  
***Talker 25 - Invisible Monsters*** (Talker 25 Bk. #2)                      Greenwillow, 2015

Picks up right after book one, Melissa has been rescued, but the rebels are still on the run from the government, which has been using them and their dragon-talking skills to kill dragons and do propaganda. Now, she becomes aware of former friends on the other side, hot romance, and an evil villain who wants to use a collection of green dragons (the most aggressive ones) to teach the US a lesson in one large attack. Dark, but probably good for those who liked volume one. Grades 7-12

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Michael Fleming - PCMS

Nix, Garth                      9780062292520                      \$17.99                      400 p.  
***To Hold the Bridge*** Harper, 2015

Fans of the Old Kingdom novels (Sabriel, etc.) will pick this up for the 50-page titular mini novel. They'll stay for the other inventive stories, subdivided into topical groups: creatures of darkness & light, coming of age, combat & struggle, light-hearted tales, and science fiction.

Longtime Garth Nix fans will appreciate the stories set in the worlds of Shades Children ("You Won't Feel a Thing) and A Confusion of Princes ("Master Haddad's Holiday"), but the whole collection is eclectic fun, unified only by Nix's imaginative world-building (he does terrific magic-systems), deft characterization, and page-turning plots. Some highlights include Magnus Holmes, Sherlock's dippy and magical cousin and his sidekick, the

excellent Susan Shrike in “The Curious Case of the Moondawn Daffodils Murder,” a shy LARPer who finds his voice and a real friend when he decides to let his gaming persona inform a small, socially heroic choice, a Hellboy (yes, the comic-book Hellboy) short “Strange Fishing in the Western Highlands and a really clever story about a school for witches (which would make a great book series) “A Handful of Ashes.”

All the stories are pretty good (even the goofy John Carter spoof “Sidekick of Mars” which requires the reader to be familiar enough to get the joke, but not so familiar that it falls flat) As a bonus, although all the stories have some element of either geekery or the outright fantastical, the types and lengths are varied enough to make it a good choice to support students doing short story assignments.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12<sup>th</sup>

**Comments:** Short story collection  
Kirsten Edwards, KCLS

O'Dowd, Chris and Nick Murphy                      978-1250057075                      \$14.99                      400 p.  
**Moone Boy: The Blunder Years**                      Feiwel & Friends, 2015

If you've seen the HULU series, then this is a must read. Moone is a loan boy in a family of girls, and he has decided (through the guidance of his friend Padraic) that he needs an IF - an imaginary friend. Through trial and error, he creates Sean Murphy, and a best friendship begins. The story is fun, crass, full of middle school humor, and will make you laugh out loud. Nothing is really inappropriate, there is a little language (British swearing) that might make it not a good choice for 5th grade. Fans of Wimpy Kid will love it.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th

Richard Snyder, Kirkland Middle School

Panitch, Amanda                      978-0-553-50749-2                      \$17.99                      294 p.  
**Damage Done**                      Random House, 2015

At age 17, Julia Vann’s life changed dramatically. Her family packed up and moved to a new town in Southern California. She changed her name to Lucy Black and started a new life away from the rumors, haters and journalists. At first it was difficult for her to get used to people calling her Lucy, but soon she began making friends in her new school. Nobody here knew about how her twin brother Ryan went on a rampage in the school band room and killed the room full of students and one teacher. Her brother shot himself in the head and was left in a coma. Julia was the only other survivor and was unable to tell anyone what happened in that twenty minutes of time. Narrated by Lucy, with excerpts from from Dr. Spence’s reports, the story unfolds with twists and turns to reveal a contorted psychological thriller. Best suited form high school students.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

JoAnn Olsson, Liberty High School

Pins, Arthur de                      978-1-56163-956-4                      \$14.99                      p.  
**Control Freaks** (Zombellenium)                      Nantier, Beall, Minoustchine, 2013

Control Freaks is the third installment in the expanding graphic novel series, Zombellenium, the saga of an amusement park operated by the dead and managed by a vampire named, Francis Von Bloodt. Think: Dilbert turns undead--or perhaps The Office

meets *The Walking Dead*--Zombellenium is a business, with disgruntled employees, micromanaging mid-level bosses, and a town full of living folk who begrudge the dead their afterlife jobs while they remain unemployed. In this volume, park manager Von Bloodt's job is threatened when corporate HQ sends in a consultant to "improve" the terror experience offered by the park. This leads to real deaths, an undead employee strike, and the revelation that the owner of Zombellenium, CEO Francis Behemoth, a demon, has a much more insidious agenda than simply terrifying thrill-seeking amusement park attendees.

The overarching story threads its way through smaller vignettes between various regular characters in much the same manner as a television sitcom. Mummies, reapers, witches, demons, zombies, werewolves and vampires are shown in candid glimpses "behind the scenes" of the park's daily routines. All are catty, snarky and sarcastic in temperament--a perfect combination for angsty teens--which brings interest and levity to what might otherwise be a tedious storyline.

Some occasional swearing and one suggested sex scene might make this more for high school, however, it is by far "tamer" than other graphic novels and manga I have seen in middle school libraries. Some of the humor and references might get lost on younger readers, however, the undead characters and their interactions carry much of the plot without the need to "be aware" of the meticulous features.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Lisa Carlson, Mt. Rainier HS

Reed, Amy                    978-0-06-229957-4                    \$17.99                    325 p.

***Invincible*** (Book 1)                    Katherine Tegen, 2015

Evie is a patient in a teen cancer ward. She has had Ewing's Sarcoma for most of her life, and feels more at home in the hospital with her fellow patients. Like any teen, she wants to act out. Stella is only too happy to help her. Stella becomes Evie's outlandish roll model until they escape the hospital for a day and Stella dies. Evie falls into despair, even as she knows her own death is also imminent. This is a 3 kleenex box portion of the book.

Suddenly, Evie's cancer disappears! She goes home, finds that she is a stranger at home, at school, with the boyfriend who has stuck by her, and in her mind. She can't shake the depression, and falls into prescription drug abuse. Her parents too have spent so much of their lives dealing with imminent death, that they become pretty ineffectual. Evie also meets Marcus, who is scarred in different ways, and while he tries to help Evie, the descent is horrifying to watch.

Reed creates real characters. This is not "Fault in our Stars." It is a visceral reaction to finding that you are going to live after years of preparing for death. Tough themes are tackled with grace and realism, adding to the difficulty in placing this book in a school library. We can't read only tearful, sweet stories of death and acceptance. This is the real world.

Set for a sequel, we will not read how Evie's story ends until next summer.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult  
Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Riordan, Rick            978-1423160915            \$19.99            512 p.  
***The Sword of Summer*** (Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard #1)            Disney  
Hyperion, 2015

Percy Jackson with the same formula? Yes, but it still works. Irreverent, but involves just about every Norse god in a brisk book with Magnus on the run from page one, getting a sword, visiting Valhalla and getting a new quest with a group of friends. Fenris Wolf is coming loose, a new rope must be fashioned and put around his neck, before he gets loose and begins Ragnarok. Recommended, must purchase. Grades 4th-10th

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th  
Michael Fleming - PCMS

Sandford, John and Michele Cook            978-0-385-75309-8            \$18.99            325 p.  
***Outrage*** (The Singular Menace #2)            Alfred Knopf, 2015

Shay and her group of misfits managed to rescue her brother from the hands of Singular at the end of book #1, but the bad guys are hot on their trail. Shay and Odin are determined to tear Singular apart by publicizing what they know about the company's unethical and illegal research. But they are thwarted at every turn.

In action that picks up right where book #1 ended, this is a non-stop roller coaster ride filled with double-crosses and secrets that lead all the way to the US government. Some of their stunts are a bit far-fetched, but I was so caught up in the story I didn't care. (Think Mission Impossible)

Violent in places and the descriptions of the experiments may be too intense for younger teens, but little (no?) profanity and no sex. Highly recommended for 8th grade and up.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Scelsa, Kate            978-0-06-233175-5            \$17.99            360 p.  
***Fans of the Impossible Life***            Blazer + Bray, 2015

Fans of the Impossible Life follows Jeremy, Mira, and Sebby over the course of a school year. Focusing on their developing a friendship while navigating bouncing back from life challenges they encountered the previous academic year. While I did find the story enjoyable, I wasn't completely blown away by it. I liked that the story was told from multiple POVs and even though it brought me to tears I wasn't super crazy about the ending. For readers that enjoyed *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, *Fans of the Impossible Life* would be a welcome addition to the library for these readers.

**Grades:** 10th, 11th, 12th  
Richele Buoy/Kent Phoenix Academy

Schneider, Robyn            978-0-06-221716-5            \$17.99            336 p.  
***Extraordinary Means***            Katherine Tegen Books, 2015

In this not too distant future, tuberculosis has come back with a vengeance. In an effort to contain the spread of illness, institutions like Latham House (similar to a boarding school)

have opened across the country. They provide medical care, including experimental treatments, and 24/7 monitoring via electronic medical bracelets. With luck the teens might heal enough to return home, this is what Lane is counting on. He is new to Latham and very academically minded. He's worried that this time away from regular school will ruin his chances of getting into Stanford and if that happens then his life is really over. Sadie, a long time patient at Latham, recognizes Lane from childhood summer camp. Although their relationship starts off rocky – they have very different memories of what happened at camp – as they get to know each other an amazing connection forms. Lane realizes that he hasn't really been living his life until right now, but...the likelihood of both of them surviving isn't high. As much as this feels like an odd setting for a romance, the author's note explains how places like Latham House really existed in the 1800s. Fans of "sick lovers" style romance will definitely be sucked in by Lane and Sadie's story, but it deserves to find a wider audience as well. Grades 9+.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Schrieber, Joe            978-0-544-32020-8            \$17.99            236 p.

**Con Academy**            Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015

Book summary: Con man-teenager Will Shea may have met his match in scammer Andrea Dufresne as they make a high-stakes deal that will determine who gets to stay at the prestigious Connaughton Academy, one of the most elite and privileged preparatory schools in the country, and who must leave.

Review: An enjoyable read, especially at the beginning, as the characters and plot are developed. The main character, Will, is believable as the son of con artist parents. As the story unfolds, it is obvious that Will is questioning the underlying values of the criminal lifestyle in which he has become accustomed. He is disgusted by his father and obviously desires a different future for himself. In this sense, the book was a bit of a redemption story. There was a gentle romance that started up between Will and another student, Gatsby, which was also enjoyable. Although the book is marketed as a sort of teenage version of "Ocean's Eleven", the con schemes in it are not nearly as elaborate or interesting. In fact, I was frankly surprised that the "mark", the richest and most privileged student at Connaughton, Brandt Rush, fell for the gambling scam that Will set up, with the help of his uncle and father. In fact, the character of Brandt Rush, was definitely the most implausible part of the book because he is a total archetype of the spoiled, entitled, evil rich kid. Overall, it was a fun read and it is a recommended purchase suitable for grades 9 up (because of underage gambling and drinking).

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Lora Gillingham, Tahoma High School

Scot Gardner            1742373844            \$15.99            216 p.

**The Dead I Know**            Allen & Unwin, 2011

I chose this book based on the title thinking it was some kind of paranormal comedy or crime fiction, but it's definitely not.

It's a teen named Aaron who becomes a sort of apprentice at a funeral home. He's a quiet, troubled kid and he is referred to the position by his school to give him additional support. The funeral director takes Aaron under his wing and it turns out Aaron is a quick study.

But Aaron's home life is clearly unstable - he lives in a trailer park with Mam. Mam isn't always lucid. She has good days and bad, and the bad are getting worse. Aaron covers for her because he knows if the authorities get involved, he's at the risk of being left alone.

Aaron has the additional complication of suffering from sleepwalking episodes. These episodes add to the mystery and tragic undertones of his home life.

The writing is simple but elegant. I found Aaron to be an extremely sympathetic character who I wanted to look after as much as the funeral director clearly does. The funeral director's family is extremely kind, but Aaron's behavior is sometimes confusing and uncomfortable - their reaction to him is kind but conflicted and feels believable.

I really liked this book, and I think more mature readers who enjoy realistic fiction with heavy issues will pick this up. Grades 7 and up.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Shepard, Sara            978-0-06-207452-2            \$17.99            341 p.

***The Good Girls*** (sequel to *The Perfectionists*)            Harper Teen, 2015

Inspired by *And Then There Were None*, five girls in a high school film class discuss how the people who have wronged them should die. And, then these enemies start dying in exactly the way they described. Could someone have overheard them? Because they definitely aren't the killers, right? As more people die, it becomes harder and harder for the girls to trust each other until the shocking (maybe not to the reader) truth is revealed. If you have fans of *The Perfectionists*, they will certainly want to see how this story wraps up. Fans of Shepard's other books will likely enjoy this as well, but it isn't a must buy series. Grades 9+.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Shusterman, Neal            978-0-06-113411-1            \$17.99            308 p.

***Challenger Deep***            Harper Teen, 2015

Most of the time, Caden Bosch believes that he is inhabiting a surreal pirate ship in the company of a cast of unusual characters. The parrot and the Captain are each conspiring to murder the other, the navigator can't stop rhyming, and the beautiful figurehead longs to escape the ship. The rest of the time, Caden is in the "real" world. He goes to school, and he is an artist, and he hangs out with his friends. When Caden's parents notice his behavior has become more unusual, and his friends begin to fade away, they decide it is time to commit him to a local hospital and find out what's wrong. Based on his real experiences with his own son's schizophrenia, Shusterman does an exceptional job of putting the reader inside the chaotic mind of a person who isn't in control of his own brain. The parallels between the world created by Caden's brain and the reality of what is happening are

masterfully juxtaposed, and illustrations by Shusterman's own son help you understand the turmoil and confusion of the main character's situation. Realistic and surreal at the same time, this is the book to read if you want to understand what it might be like to be a teen who suffers from mental illness.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult  
Sara Lachman, Olympia Timberland Library

Smale, Holly                    978-0-06-233360-5                    \$17.99                    388 p.

**Model Misfit** (Geek Girl series)                    HaperTeen, 2015

Harriet Manners is a model, at least other people seem to think that she is, but she still feels like a geek. When her summer plans are ruined and the prospect of a new baby is making her feel like she is no longer wanted at home, she thinks that taking a modeling job in Japan might be just the right thing that she needs; even if she has to take along her crazy grandma Bunty. However, Japan is not all that she dreamed it would be and when she has to work with her supermodel ex-boyfriend, she might just lose it. From one disaster to another, Harriet has to decide if she is going to keep going or call it quits.

This is a fun look at the other side of modeling from the eyes of someone who was never meant to be a model. While sometimes the events seem over fabricated, it is sure to be a fun read for those who like a little romance and a little drama with their realistic fiction. Great sequel to Geek Girl.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th  
Bethany Steirer, Rose Hill Middle School, LWSD

Smith, Lindsay                    78-1626720053                    \$11.60                    336 p.

**Skandal** (Sekret #2)                    Roaring Book Press, 2015

I did not read the first book and I recommend this one. The writing is engaging enough that I was drawn into the story and cared about the characters even though I didn't read the first book. That being said, I actually wish I had read the first one now. There is too much history with the mother, father, daughter relationship and also the relationship of Yulia and Valentin to fully grasp the impact of the second book. I understand the main plot line which is that Yulia and other psychics are used by governments as, super spies, if you will. And that aggressive mind tactics such as scrubbing, are used to try and defeat opponents. A scrubber removes any memories from objects and places so that psychics like Yulia cannot follow an assassin's trail. A particularly ruthless team of scrubbers in this story has left a trail of murdered agents in their wake, and also Yulia and her father suspect that her mother who is still in Russia is behind it. The main antagonist is Rostov, who is trying to overthrow America with communism, and these scrubbers seem to be working for him. But Yulia knows her mother would only help Rostov if she was a counter spy with a bigger purpose in mind. Yulia joins a team of American psychics and learns to assimilate to some American ways, but she is also torn between loyalty to her mother and also the need to be able to control her ability which includes being able to harness strong emotions in other people, like a super empath. The idea of emotional control is engaging, and kind of reminds me of the Incredible Hulk and how he has to control his anger so he won't turn. The writing has some stunning descriptions, but I strongly recommend to read the first book first, and not the second one first like I did. I recommend this book after having read the

first one, for grades 8 ad up. A great choice for social studies teachers looking for a twist on historical fiction.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Kathleen Dunbar Eastlake High School

Stead, Rebecca                      978-0-385-74317-4                      \$16.99                      287 p.

***Goodbye Stranger***                      Wendy Lamb Books, 2015

Story of kids moving from elementary school through middle school and having some turmoil. Nothing major, just one girl is a bit mean, and the others are watching their friendships change, and in some cases, disappear. Another girl is in her first relationship with an older boy and she chooses to go the sexting route (nothing too bad), but enough to get her in trouble with the administration and claim ignominious fame at school. Bridge, the survivor of a bad car wreck in her past, begins her first relationship with a good boy named Sherm, and she wonders about what it is supposed to feel like and if she is doing it right. A slow, soft book with great relationships, but not a lot of action. Recommended, Grades 5-9

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Stevenson, Noelle                      9780062278234                      \$17.99                      266 p.

***Nimona***                      HarperTeen, 2015

Ballister Blackheart , “the biggest name in supervillainy,” has a brand new sidekick. Nimona’s got big ideas on the fine art of Being Bad, many of which aren’t particularly appreciated by Blackheart. Fortunately, Nimona does have one very useful ability: shapeshifting. This skill becomes critical when Blackheart and Nimona come up against a force challenging even for professional super-villains. This graphic novel bears the distinction of being a finalist for the National Book Award, which is particularly notable because the story was originally presented as a webcomic. Nimona, as a character, is loveable and feisty, and the story pokes at archetypes and tropes in a snarky way. The printed version of Nimona’s story is an instant classic, and one which should be popular with teens and tweens. Recommended for all, but some of the humor will be most appreciated by young adults in middle school and up.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library

Stokes, Paula                      978-0-06-2323328-6                      \$17.99                      360 p.

***Liars, INC***                      Harper Teen , 2015

Senior, Max Cantrell has no problem with lying, so why not make a little money on the side?!! So he and his friends Preston and Parvati begin to make money providing everything from permission slips to cover up stories for their classmates. When his best friend Preston needs a cover story, to go meet a girl that he met online, he provides that cover story and then of course Preston disappears. Clues lead the investigation to find Preston’s body The evidence against Max begins to build making him look like the murderer. Did he really murder his best friend? Can he find the real killer? This has an unexpected twist; it is a good mystery that will hold your interest. Grade 9 up

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kelly Crickmore, Issaquah High School

Tashjian, Jake            9780805098518            \$13.99            250 p.

***My Life as a Gamer***            Henry Holt, 2015

Derek Wallace is super excited that he, along with his friends, has been invited to test out a top secret new video game. Every Saturday they head to Global Games for hours of playing Arctic Ninja. Derek is disappointed to find that he's not as good as others in the focus group, especially video game powerhouse El Cid, but he pulls it together and even learns how to apply the techniques he uses in gaming to help him improve his test-taking abilities at school.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Turner, Henry            544308271            \$15.99            256 p.

***Ask the Dark***            Clarion Books, 2015

Billy Zeets is not what you would imagine a hero to be. He's a troubled kid who with a reputation in his neighborhood for generally being up to no good.

Billy and his dad & sister are struggling after the death of his mother. And to make matters worse they are about to lose the house. His sister is looking for a lifeline in dangerous places. His dad seems to have given up.

Along side Billy's, the town is experiencing its own dark time. Boys are going missing. Two have turned up dead. Billy, embracing his place in the shadows, decides to try to use his familiarity with the dark to find the killer. He slowly pieces the clues together, but unfortunately he has no idea what kind of deadly cat & mouse game is playing.

Billy Zeets is an unlikely hero, but a protagonist the reader can cheer on. Ask the Dark is a chilling psychological thriller but at the same time a journey of healing and hope for Billy and his family. Grades 8 and up - prolific swearing; serial killer (nothing too graphic described); teen pregnancy discussed

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Vincent, Rachel            978-0-385-74417-1            \$17.99            359 p.

***The stars never rise*** (Stars Never Rise #1)            Hyperion, 2015

Sixteen-year-old Nina and her sister Melanie struggle to survive while their mother is strung out on drugs sleeping all day. In this dystopian world, the Church rules everyone through the fear of demons, purity, and people who must die to "gift" their soul to a new baby (all born without a soul.)

Almost, actually. Nina is an exorcist and must try to save her sister, now pregnant without consent of the church, and without being married. And of course, save herself since all "real" exorcists are rogue. Including the really cute boy with amazing green eyes. This wild ride of a novel is the first in a series, which might be good, since the book raises more questions than it answers. Woven in through the novel are people who inhabit dual bodies,

sexual situations, lots of innocent dead bodies, and of course, demons. Because of the world setting, there was a lot of information to get across, and some of that bogged the story down. The twists are nicely done, and your nerves will be raw by the end.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Yoon, Nicola            553496646            \$18.99            310 p.

***Everything Everything***            Delacorte Press, 2015

Everything Everything is a sweet romance story about two misfits, with some unexpected twists. Madeline is eighteen and due to a rare immune compromising disease hasn't ever left the safety of her home. Ever. Her immune system is so weak that she must stay inside where the air is filtered and there is no danger from the outside world. The only people she has ever known are her mom, who is her doctor, and Carla, a nurse who visits daily.

Everything changes when a cute boy, Olly, moves next door, complete with his own problems. The two must go to lengths to get to know each other, since an in-person visit is forbidden. A quick read, complete with chats, emails, drawings, chats and doodles. A fun use of the page and quirky, likeable characters. Madeline is bi-racial, which is mentioned casually (Hooray! Diverse books!). The characters are eighteen but seem younger. Caution for younger readers, as there is sex on the page. This book feels like a mashup of Fault in Our Stars (although less sad), The Compound (due to some twists), and any book by Jennifer Smith (Geography of Me and You, This is What Happy Looks Like).

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Brooke Shoostine

Yoon, Nicola            978-0-553-49664-2            \$18.99            306 p.

***Everything, Everything***            Delacorte Press, 2015

Imagine what it would be like to basically be allergic to everything, literally everything. Just stepping outside your own front door could kill you. This is Madeleine's reality and she hasn't set foot outside her clean and sanitized home for 17 years. She only interacts with two people: her mother and her nurse. And, honestly, that's been okay -- until now. When a moving fan arrives next door she sees Olly. She can't help watching him, and pretty soon he watches her back. Madeleine knows she can't have a real relationship with him, and yet their connection, even over email, is obvious. Is risking your heart as dangerous as risking your life? Everything, Everything seems like it is going to be a classic star-crossed lovers story and in some ways it is. As I was reading it I just knew something bad was going to happen. It did, but not at all what I was expecting. Recommend grades 9+.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

## FICTION - SHRUG

Arntson, Steven            547824084            \$16.99            245 p.

***The Trap***            HMH Books for Young Readers, 2015

Kind of a strange mix of historical fiction, fantasy and science fiction. Small town of Farro, Iowa. 4 kids - Henry & Helen, who are twins, and their friends, Alan and Nikki - are spying

on Alan's older brother, Carl the school bully, and discover a strange book entitled *Subtle Travel and the Subtle Self*.

Henry studies the book and learns how everyone has two selves - the physical self we see and the subtle self. Henry learns a series of steps, including reciting the Fibonacci sequence, that allow his subtle self to separate from his physical self during sleep. His subtle self looks just like his physical self except what looks like colored sparks or snow flowing from the top of his head. Henry successfully enters the subtle world where he encounters Carl's subtle form. And he is not pleased Henry has stolen his book. More than that he also seems terrified, but Henry doesn't know what's scaring him.

Soon after, Carl disappears. Henry, Helen, Alan & Nikki set out to figure out the mysteries of the subtle world. They discover more information about the partners who discovered and educated others about the subtle world. Information the leads them into a trap but closer to finding out what happened to Carl.

There is more to the story - Henry's crush on Nikki, the upcoming winter dance, Henry & Helen's family's money problems, Henry's writing. But their presence is spotty and loosely tied together until the conclusion. The book itself felt like the subtle self - a bit strange and difficult to see clearly. I think it had potential but it just fell a little flat for me. 5th and up.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th

Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Bagieu, Penelope                      978-1-62672-082-4                      \$19.99                      124 p.  
*Exquisite Corpse*                      First Second, 2015

Twenty-something Zoe is stuck in a dead-end job, with a deadbeat boyfriend and no prospects for a better future. She doesn't read much, either, which is the reason she doesn't recognize that the oddly reclusive writer she meets by chance. It's also the reason that she doesn't know that the author she meets is supposed to be dead.

Sexy, poignant, and silly in spots. The ending made me laugh.

**Grades:** Adult

**Comments:** Nudity, some cussing, written for an adult audience. Great book, but not a teen book.

Aarene Storms, KCLS

Barzak, Christopher                      978-0-385-39279-2                      \$17.99                      338 p.  
*Wonders of the Invisible World*                      Alfred Knopf, 2015

Aidan knows that he's missing pieces of his life - memories he just can't piece together. When his former best friend, Jarrod, comes back to town, Aidan begins to wonder exactly why he can't remember so much of his past. His mother reveals that he has the ability to see into the past, even into the past of his father, grandfather, and great-grandmother. These trips to the past uncover tragic events that have repercussions even now.

Although the writing is sometimes beautiful, a cut above what one usually encounters in YA fiction with a paranormal storyline, I found the author's choices puzzling. Aidan's trips into the past don't really make much sense until the very end when an elderly aunt explains things to Aidan. His relationship with Jarrod was actually the best (and most

realistic) part of the book. Even though I tried to suspend my disbelief, I just didn't relate to the story of a curse and the ending (SPOILER) where Aidan goes into the near past to stop his mother from sacrificing herself for him seemed an easy way out and just too pat. Not terrible, just not great. Shrug for high school because of some graphic violence and some sexual situations.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Block, Francesca Lia            9780805096316            \$16.99            214 p.

***The island of excess lover***            Henry Holt, 2014

This is a follow up to *Love in the time of global warming* and it is loosely based on Virgil's *Aeneid*, this follows Pen, her lover Hex who are holed up in Pen's Los Angeles house since the end of the previous book. They flee on an enchanted ship that takes them to a mysterious (are there any other kind) island ruled by an antler-headed young king. adventures (if slow moving) ensue. I guess if you have read the first book this all makes sense but I gave this to 2 different people (my assistant and my intern) and neither could get into the book. I guess you either love or hate Block's writing and I'm not a fan.

**Grades:** 10th, 11th, 12th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Brewer, Heather            62307886            \$15.99            288 p.

***The Cemetery Boys***            Harper Collins, 2015

Basic gist: Stephen's dad is unable to support them after paying mom's psychiatric hospital bills, so they are forced to move back to dad's small, mysterious, suspicious-of-outsiders hometown of Spencer. Stephen has trouble settling in with a crabby grandmother who doesn't really want them there, but he soon finds intriguing acquaintances in fraternal twins down the street. Cara and Devin. Devin is the cool, charismatic leader of a group of teenage boys, reminiscent of Kiefer Sutherland in *Lost Boys*. Cara is his artsy punk twin who catches Steven's eye immediately.

Stephen finds companionship with both as he settles in and starts to learn about the strange superstitions and history of Spencer. Devin invites him to join their group, who spend lots of time at the Playground, what the kids call the local cemetery. They're like a secret sinister late night society, and Stephen discovers that they aren't just about the normal teenage rebellious shenanigans. The group seems to really believe the legend of the Winged Ones, the enormous flying beasts that are believed to be the root cause of bad spans of time in Spencer history. Beasts that must be appeased by a human sacrifice in order to bring peace and prosperity back to the town.

What I liked or think teens might like: the prologue, the legend itself, the *Lost Boys* feel, the twist at the end, the fairly genuine interactions between the group of boys.

What I thought was irritating and stupid: how the book gives the impression it will be a horror/thriller and has elements of that, but most of the time is spent on regular old teenager issues like fitting in and not getting along with parents, how mental illness is a theme but not addressed with much sensitivity and even some mockery, how the author's

random thoughts seem to just pop up in the narrative here and there and take one out of the story, how the Winged Ones are almost peripheral and a mystery not fully solved at the end which seems contrary to the book's opening pages, the completely outlandish ending that the protagonist just seems to deal in such a matter of fact way in the final pages.

A lot of reluctant readers LOVE her Vladimir Tod and Slayer series (which admittedly I haven't read), so maybe they would get into this book because they trust this author will be good. The mystery might be enough for them and the ending may not be as ridiculous to them as it feels to me. I don't see myself selling this to general fans of horror, though. Grades 8 and up (some teenage drinking with consequences; references to sex but nothing explicit)

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Frost, Mark                    978-0-375-87047-7                    \$17.99                    358 p.  
**Rogue** (The Paladin Prophecy, book 3)                    Random House, 2015

Book three in the series. I don't particularly care for the books, but I've had a few kids like this series about an ancient brotherhood bringing in creatures from another dimension to rule the world. This is more of the same, so if the first two are popular, go ahead and buy this. Lots of plot-summarizing by the villains (a la Scooby Doo). Will and friends steal a machine that allows them to go to the other dimension and stop the invasion from inside that world, which is a crazy place where everything wants to kill you. Grades 7-12

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Michael Fleming - PCMS

Frost, Mark                    978-0375870477                    \$17.99                    358 p.  
**Rogue** (The Paladin Prophecy, book 3)                    Random House, 2015

Following the events of the previous two books (this can't stand alone), Will and his friends have devised a plan to get into the Never Was (another dimension) in order to rescue Dave (an advisor to Will and also some sort of angel). The bulk of the book takes place in the Never Was with the group needing to find each other – the portal separated them – and make their way to the fortress. Along the way they must survive a variety of odd creatures, and get more in touch with their powers as a result. They appear to save the world from an impending attack by the “others” and escape the Never Was by the skin of their teeth, but it is hard to say if this is the end of everything. This series started out strong, but since I hadn't read book two I wasn't super invested in this installment. That being said, I just had a student read all three in less than a week – he obviously found them compelling. If you don't have the series, I wouldn't suggest running out to get it because of this book, but if you do have fans of the series they'll want this one. Shrug. Grades 7+.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Hillyer, Lexa                    987-0-06-233037                    \$17.99                    339 p.  
**Proof of Forever**                    Harper Teen , 2015

Four best friends attend their last year at summer camp at the age of 15, and quickly lose touch with each other. Fast forward two years, and a reunion is planned for Camp

Okahatchee, will these four friends return or has their friendships completely soured? Joy, Tali, Luce and Zoe all decide to attend the reunion and when they step into the photo booth they are transported to that last week of camp when they are 15 years old. It is a do over, should they change their history or reenact it to return to the current day? This is a great summer read for girls 9th grade and up.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kelly Crickmore Issaquah High School

Matharu, Taran                      978-1-250-06712-8                      \$18.99                      355 p.

***The Novice*** (Summoner Book 1)                      Feiwei and Friends, 2015

Set in a world constantly at war (usually against orcs, but sometimes with elves), Fletcher is an orphaned boy working for a black smith near one of the fronts. Life is hard enough, and made even harder by an entitled bully in town. Fletcher's life changes dramatically when he gets hold of a Summoner's book and accidentally summons his own weasel-like demon that attacks the bully. Knowing he'll never get a fair shake, Fletcher flees town ultimately landing at the Academy where he trains to be a real Summoner and support the war effort. The training is rushed and full of both allies and enemies. But, just as Fletcher's future starts looking up, his past comes back to haunt him. Nothing is new in this fantasy adventure. There are some likable characters, but that doesn't make up for the predictability of the story. Shrug. Grades 7+.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Napoli, Donna Jo                      978-0385746557                      \$16.99                      368 p.

***Dark Shimmer***                      Wendy Lamb, 2015

Dolce (Sweet) is a fifteen-year-old girl who lives as a "giant" among a race of dwarves on the island of Torcello outside Venice during the Middle Ages. Most babies born who are not dwarves are taken from the parents. Dolce's mother could not stand to do that, and when her mother dies, Dolce leaves the island, finding refuge on a neighboring island inhabited by monks- and a family visiting there. The father, a widower, falls in love and marries Dolce, who becomes a loving mother to his daughter, Bianca. (White) This is the story of how Snow White's stepmother became the wicked witch.

On Torcello, Dolce learned how to make mirrors, and does so in Venice, first to become accepted in society, and later to purchase and free any dwarf who has become a slave. The problem is, of course, that the quicksilver used in mirrors caused one to descend into madness.

While Dolce is a sympathetic character, she quickly becomes so stereotyped that we are reduced to a reader of any fairy tale book. Bianca is not well developed, and Marin, the husband, barely exists. His sister Angnola becomes the most interesting character in the book. The story follows the original fairy tale at that point, and we turn pages only because we want to see how Napoli will play out the tale we know, not because we are invested in the characters. The story reads as an impersonal fairy tale: still a good tale, just a forgettable one. Napoli has turned many fairy tales into novels, some of which have been very well done (Sirena, Breath, Beast [both versions.]

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th

Mary Jo Heller, School Librarian

Napoli, Donna Jo                      978-0-385-74655-7                      \$16.99                      348 p.

***Dark Shimmer***                      Random House teen , 2015

This is a retelling of snow white with a few twists. This mostly focuses on the life of the evil queen. She is raised on a remote island and she is giant among her people. For this reason they are cruel to her and reject her. She lives with her mother who named her Dolce for her sweet disposition and adores her. The only person who will give her a job is the man who makes mirrors. Due to her size she is able to make bigger and more beautiful mirrors than anyone has ever seen. When her mother dies Dolce jumps in the water and starts swimming. She swims to an island where a Widower and his daughter come across her. They take her in and there is a special bond between Dolce and Bianca, the daughter. Eventually the Widower and Dolce marry. In secret she continues to make mirrors to give as gifts to the society woman as a way for them to accept her. No one knows that the chemicals she uses to make mirrors are making her slowly insane. She is using the small mirrors to buy the freedom of dwarves in the city who are sold as servants. She has realized that her mother was a dwarf and that the whole time she was normal sized. Her husband travels all over to collect books and she is left along for long periods of time where she makes more mirrors and is increasingly experiencing dellusions and health issues. She has hired someone to kill her step daughter Bianca and he takes her to an island where his friends live. These men protect Bianca even when the evil queen tries to kill her numerous times. Eventually these men find out that the queen is the one who purchased their freedom, but even then they are loyal to Bianca. Eventually her father returns and the queen must answer for what she has done, but she has no desire to repent and is close to death from years of use of the chemicals to make mirrors.

**Grades:** 12th, Adult

Devon Abejo, KCLS

O'Hara, Mo                      978-1-250-02921-8                      \$12.99                      218 p.

***My Big Fat Zombie Godfish: Fins of Fury (Book 3)***                      Feiwel and Friends, 2014

This quick read will satisfy fans of Zombie Goldfish books. It's two shorter stories put in the same volume. Tom and Pradeep head out for a camping adventure in the first story. The second one finds them investigating the disappearance of many paranormal pets. The stories are lighthearted and entertaining, but probably too young for most readers.

**Grades:** 6th, Too young for YA

**Comments:** Good for struggling readers who don't mind elementary-aged characters.

Richard Snyder, Kirkland Middle School

Quintero, Sofia                      978-0-375-84707-3                      \$17.99                      343 p.

***Show and Prove***                      Alfred Knopf, 2015

Smiles and Nike are friends from the block. They are spending the summer trading rhymes and acting as counselors at day camp. In alternating chapters they share their stories of old friendships and new alliances, break-ups and new love.

Set in 1983, this summer story is filled with 80s music, TV, and movie references.

Although reviews were universally positive, I couldn't finish it. The pop culture references

were distracting, the large number of characters, over reliance on slang and Spanish was just too much for me. It did make me question whether modern teens would relate. For teens looking for a diverse cast of characters and who are interested in 80s hip-hop and urban life, this is a good choice. Perhaps I'm just a bit old and suburban. Shrug for high school

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Quintero, Sofia                      978-0-375-84707-3                      \$17.99                      343 p.  
***Show and Prove***                      Alfred A. Knopf, 2015

Friends Smiles and Nike are growing up in the S. Bronx in 1983 as hip-hop culture is becoming mainstream. Spending the summer working at a camp they've gone to for years, both are struggling with some personal issues. Smiles is angry he didn't get the senior counselor job and is convinced it is because he's black in a primarily Puerto Rican neighborhood. Nike is trying to attract the attention of new girl, Sara, and thinks if he can make his name as a b-boy that will help. These personal stories are set against the backdrop of a neighborhood experiencing tension and a larger world event that is impacting someone close to them. Unlike many recent books set in the 1980s, the time and place is very important to the heart of the story. However, I wonder if it will appeal to modern teens. The hip-hop elements might draw them in, but I'm not sure if that will be enough to keep them with the book. Shrug. Grades 7+.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Reyes, M.G.                      978-0-06-228895-0                      \$17.99                      384 p.  
***Emancipated***                      Katherine Tegen Books, 2015

Two stepsisters, Candace and Grace, move to a large townhouse on Venice Beach, CA with 4 other teens--all emancipated from their parents for a variety of reasons. Living without the guidance of other adults, they must learn to navigate between work, study and play. It is often more responsibility than they want to handle and they make mistakes along the way. Eventually, they form friendships with one another, yet three of the housemates harbor terrible secrets from their pasts which threaten to dissolve the cozy situation they currently have acquired. Although some light is shed on two of these secrets, the novel ends as a cliff-hanger and the reader is left to ponder how the former will be resolved and whether the final secret will be exposed.

Having come from a family in which one of my siblings gained emancipation from our mother at 17, I find all but one of the situations "requiring" parental emancipation a stretch in believability. Most young people who find themselves emancipated are not invited to live in a luxurious home on the beach or have what seems to be an endless stream of money. At least in my observations. However, suspending one's disbelief leaves the reader with a pretty typical teen fantasy about living apart from ones elders. There is a big party, some drugs, an attempt and a "hook-up" that fails and lots of struggling to keep grades up and do housework. The chapters alternate among the six primary characters, dated as a journal might be. I suppose some teen readers might find the various secrets and the

mysteries behind them intriguing, however these seem a secondary plot to their daily living--which might not have been the author's intent.

Although I am curious about how the plot might resolve itself, I doubt I will read any sequel.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Lisa Carlson, Mt. Rainier HS

White, Jen                    978-0-374-30084-5                    \$16.99                    311 p.

***Survival Strategies of the Almost Brave***                    Farrar Straus Giroux, 2015

Liberty and Billie have been abandoned by their estranged father. After their mother died, they were reunited with him and the promise a relationship with the dad they didn't remember. But it's clear that he's not just out getting ice cream - he's left them at a gas station in the middle of a desert. Through grit and fear, the girls must survive and forge their own way back to the only home they know. The setup for the story is great, but the characters come off as a flat. Fans of *Counting by 7s* or *Rain Reign* may like this for a similar story of survival and self-reliance.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th

Richard Snyder, Kirkland Middle School

#### FICTION – NOT RECOMMENDED

Alcott, Jessica                    978-0-385-39116-0                    \$17.99                    341 p.

***Even When You Lie to Me***                    Crown/Random House, 2015

Charlotte (Charlie) has an issue with self-esteem, fed by a mother who pities her because she's not pretty enough or thin enough and a beautiful best friend. Charlie spends her time flying under the radar until a hot new AP Lit teacher strikes her fancy and her growing crush ends in an inevitable manner.

I wanted to like this book, and there are moments of greatness – wit, humor, pathos. But for the most part it's dull and painful. Charlie spends way too much time playing “woe is me” and there are way too many graphic sex scenes to be appropriate for high school, its intended audience. I finished the book quickly, hoping for redemption, but found the endless references to body parts, masturbation, and blow jobs (including a scene with Charlotte's parents!!) that once the story reaches the final 5 page sex scene, I was just bored. Maybe this is appropriate for college girls who once lusted after a teacher, but not recommended for teens or teachers.

**Grades:** 11th, 12th, Adult

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Bloom, M. Beth                    978-0-06-203688-9                    \$17.99                    359 p.

***Don't Ever Change***                    Harper Teen, 2015

Eva Kramer wants to be a writer. She's received mixed messages from her teachers and classmates, sometimes encouraging and sometimes not, but she is determined. In the summer before she leaves for college, she takes a job as a counselor at a summer camp and tries to inspire the young campers in her cabin to use their imagination to write.

Eva is very self-centered and actually rather boring. She overanalyzes everything and shares every thought with her readers. I finally gave up about page 200. One review I read mentioned that it read like a memoir. That's true, but nothing really happens, even the romance is lacking pizzazz. Appropriate for high school, but not recommended. There are so many better books out there.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Schmatz, Pat                    978-0763676353                    \$13.42                    288 p.

***Lizard Radio***                    Candlewick Press, 2015

Lizard Radio review by Kathleen Dunbar and two EHS Students

If someone wants to give this book a try I would say it is 8th grade and up but I don't recommend it for anyone. I really wanted to like this book because it seems like a dream come true; a GLBTQ character in a dystopian world. Too bad it sucks. GLBTQ students deserve much better representation in the YA world! The main character is Kivali, who has been raised by foster parents who found her wrapped in a t shirt with a picture of a lizard, and they are artsy. Kivali, who eventually gets the nickname Lizard aka Lizard Radio, and is a defiant individual and also does not like to define her gender, and so she gets sent to a CropCamp. I really don't know the back history is about the society she lives in. It seems to be futuristic, and when people turn 18 they get sent to the Blight if they have caused too much trouble, and if not they remain in society to contribute with some type of job. In an attempt to help her avoid getting sent to the Blight her foster parents have sent Kigali to a CropCamp. The camp's dorm is a large round tent sleeping bag divided into pie slices. She thinks she will hate Crop Camp but surprisingly feels like she fits in and forms some friendships and relationship with another girl Sully. Then once at the camp she sees a mysterious guy "vape", and that confused me because I was like, he was smoking a fake cigarette? And that brings me to the reason why this book sucks is it uses slang that has no back history and is in fact confusing with current colloquialisms. The best way to describe what it is like to read this book is; imagine reading Scott Westerfeld's Pretties before reading the Uglies. You wouldn't know what the term "bubbly" means, but now that I think about it he is such a good write you could probably figure it out. But not with this writer. I know this writer got an award for a previous book, but he or she will not get an award for this one. On another note I just started a book club at my school and it is hashtag amazing, and two members volunteered to give me a second opinion of this book. I did not tell them anything about it. Their reviews are actually way better than mine, and if you would like to read either of them just e-mail me. In the meantime I will share two excerpts, one from each review:

"I did not enjoy reading this book, and did not finish it. Some of the ideas--if rearranged and separated--would make for a good story, but jumbled together, they make more of a mess than a novel." –EHS book club student

"Lizard Radio: Not Quite the Right Frequency" - EHS book club student

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Kathleen Dunbar Eastlake High School Library

## NONFICTION – RECOMMEND

Allen, John                    9781601527868                    \$28.95                    80 p.  
***The Importance of Atomic Theory*** The Importance of Scientific Theory  
ReferencePoint, 2016

This is a deeply informative, though sometimes dry, series that gives extensive information on the topic at hand. Each volume begins with a timeline and overview of the scientific theory, then delves into the history of beliefs before the theory emerged, how the theory emerged, the pushback and backlash that occurred, how the theory became accepted, how it is viewed now, and how it continues to affect our worldview. An in-depth addition for any high school library.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Allen, John                    9781601528889                    \$28.95                    80 p.  
***The Importance of Cell Theory*** The Importance of Scientific Theory  
ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Allman, Toney                    9781601528902                    \$28.95                    80 p.  
***The Importance of Germ Theory*** The Importance of Scientific Theory  
ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Allman, Toney                    9781601528926                    \$28.95                    80 p.  
***The Importance of the Laws of Motion*** The Importance of Scientific Theory  
ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Atkinson, Rick                    978-1-62779-113-7                    \$19.99                    229 p.  
***Battle of the Bulge*** Henry Holt, 2015

A junior version of *The Guns at Last Light* that does not dumb it down for kids. Great explanations, tons of photos that have to do with what is on the page, maps for those so inclined, and easy to understand information about what the German goals for the Battle of the Bulge were, as well as how the allies stopped them. Glossary and extra information (like what US Winter battle clothing looked like, or what kinds of tanks were involved in the fighting) is located at the end. Recommended, grades 7-12

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Michael Fleming - PCMS

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell            9780544313675            \$17.99            229 p.  
***Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America***  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015

Engrossing and well-written history of the first healthy carrier of typhoid discovered in the US. The complex issues around health, government power, personal freedom, privacy and yellow journalism make this more thought provoking than the usual medical mystery. I really enjoyed it.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Sarah Hunt, KCLS

Baxter, Jack - Faudem, Joshua - Shadmi, Koren            9781-59643-857-6            \$22.99  
189 p.

***Mike's Place***            First Second, 2015

Non-fiction story about a US documentarian making a documentary about Israel, and centering on a blues bar called "Mike's Place." Then, there is a bombing at the bar, and the aftermath in the hospital and news media. Real-life, great, realistic artwork, quotes from the Quran, a peek at daily Israeli life. A few off-page references to sex, but no nudity, a little language. Recommended, grades 8-12

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Michael Fleming - PCMS

Blumenthal, Karen            978-1-62672-084-8            \$19.99            232 p.  
***Tommy: The Gun That Changed America***            Roaring Brook, 2015

John Thompson developed the gun that took his name for the military, but instead, the underworld took to it. Murders and gangland score-settling filled the papers. Machine Gun Kelly supposedly could write his name with a Tommy gun on the side of a barn. Actually, he barely used one and his wife created that legend, but it didn't matter, it was such a good story. Entertaining non-fiction about weapons and gangsters, nothing not to like.

Recommended, grades 5th-10th

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th  
Michael Fleming - PCMS

Brown, Don            978-0544157774            \$18.99            96 p.  
***Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans*** HMH Books for Young Readers, 2015

Drowned City provides great factual information of the days leading up to Hurricane Katrina and after. Including what made Hurricane Katrina such a powerful storm. Along with all the struggles faced once the storm passed. The book does not sugarcoat when discussing information, especially with how bad things got in the Superdome. If your library lacks any books on Hurricane Katrina, I would recommend adding it. The graphic novel format will most likely appeal to reluctant readers.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12<sup>th</sup>

**Comments:** May not be suitable for sensitive readers.  
Richele Buoy, Kent Phoenix Academy

Curran, Abbey with Elizabeth Kaye            978-0-06-236391-6            \$17.99            261 p.

***Courage to Compete: Living with Cerebral Palsy and Following My Dreams***

Harper, 2015

"I'd like to dedicate this book to all of those who said I couldn't, who laughed at me and told me to be realistic. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for filling me with the determination to prove you wrong and pursue dreams that I, too, didn't think were possible. I would never have worked so hard without you!" This dedication sums up Abbey Curran's motivations and message. As the first person with a disability to compete in a major beauty pageant, she became Miss Iowa 2008. While in high school, she established "Miss You Can Do It", her own pageant for disabled girls. This memoir focuses on her "can do" attitude, even while overcoming obstacles created by her Cerebral Palsy.

26 year old, Abbey was assisted in writing her memoir by Elizabeth Kaye, an award-winning journalist. This may be the cause of the short and choppy sentence structure, which interferes somewhat with the flow of the book. Abbey is especially concerned about "not being cool", which is an annoying theme throughout the book. However Abbey's message to never give up and do not be afraid to fail is wonderful. Her accomplishments as a pageant winner, mentor to other disabled girls, college student and future nurse are awe-inspiring for anyone, disabled or non-disabled alike. There is a definite need for uplifting, success stories of young people who overcome challenges and, as such, Abbey's memoir is recommended for girls in Grades 6 - 12.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Marilyn Condon, LWSD

Currie-McGhee, Leanne                      9781601529145                      \$28.95                      80 p.  
***Teens and Marijuana*** Teen Choices                      ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Currie, Stephen                      9781601528209                      \$32.00                      80 p.  
***Thinking Critically: cyberbullying*** Thing critically                      Reference Point Press,  
20116

Cyberbullying, or the harassment through texts, email and social media, is a growing problem both in schools and society. Through the narrative driven pro/con format, supported with facts, quotes, etc. this title examines issues related to cyberbullying. I like this series - good text features, index, further readings, etc... but \$32.00 for 80 pages seems a little steep. An additional purchase if funds are available.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Currie, Stephen                      9781601528964                      \$28.95                      80 p.  
***The Importance of Evolution Theory*** The Importance of Scientific Theory  
ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Dudley, William                      9781601528162                      \$32.00                      80 p.  
**Thinking critically: Biofuels** Thinking critically                      Reference Point Press, 2016  
Biofuels, such as ethanol made from corn and biodiesel made from soybeans, are an increasingly popular and controversial energy source. Through a narrative driven pro/con format - supported by facts, quotes, etc. this title examines the issues related to biofuels. I like the series - formatting is good with a lot of text features but probably would not have bought it based on the price. Additional purchase  
**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Green, Robert                      978-1-60152-788-2                      \$28.95 per book/\$173.70 for series  
80 p.  
**Cause & Effect: The September 11 Attacks** Cause & Effect in History  
ReferencePoint Press, 2015

Books in Series:

- Cause & Effect: The American Revolution
- Cause & Effect: The Fall of the Soviet Revolution
- Cause & Effect: The Fall of Rome
- Cause & Effect: The French Revolution
- Cause & Effect: The September 11 Attacks
- Cause & Effect: World War II

The Cause & Effect in History series explores major historic events and focuses on specific causes and consequences connected to the historic event. Each book contains a forward, timeline, information about the event, and chapters addressing the causes and consequences of the historic event. In addition each book contains source notes, further research, an index, picture credits, and an about the author section. The books are well laid out, although heavy on the text, they do include some pictures. In addition, some of the chapters open with discussion questions making them a great resource for classroom teachers. The entire book is well laid out.

For Cause & Effect: The September 11 Attacks, the book provided a detailed analysis into the growth of al Qaeda. Along with the roles countries and al Qaeda's leaders played in growing al Qaeda into a terrorist group that focused their sights on attacking the U.S.

Overall, I think the entire series would be a welcome addition to any library.

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Richele Buoy/Kent Phoenix Academy

Hartland, Jessie                      978-0307982957                      \$22.95                      223 p.  
**Steve Jobs - Insanely Great**                      Schwarz and Wade, 2015  
Simply drawn graphic novel that spells out Steve Jobs' unusual life from its beginning with adoption to its end at 56 years old, having created Apple computers, Ipods, iPhones and Ipads. The author is pretty high on Jobs, as is evident in the title of the book, but also talks about his personal hygiene, and his ditching his pregnant girlfriend and eventual daughter

for his career. Pixar, NEXT, Apple, Ipods etc... all are covered with minimal verbiage and simple drawings. Recommended for kids who would never sit through a longer book, but would have the patience for this one.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Hartland, Jessie                      978-0-307-98295-7                      \$25.95                      216 p.

**Steve Jobs**                      Schwartz & Wade Books, 2015

Steve Jobs is arguably one of the most influential people of the 20th and 21st centuries. In this graphic biography, Hartland takes a look at the good and the bad of Jobs' personal and professional life. He explores his childhood, education, and professional life from the beginnings of Apple through Pixar and back to Apple. He doesn't pull any punches when it comes to Jobs faults and foibles. Interspersed among the biographical parts are 2 page spreads that explain the changes in technology in the various decades of Jobs' life.

If the text were extracted, this would be a basic, and even poorly written, biography. With the the black & white drawings (which are simple and almost crude), the story becomes interesting and even entertaining. Recommended for teens and adults who are interested in the topic.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Hartland, Jessie                      9780307982957                      \$22.95                      223 p.

**Steve Jobs: Insanely Great, a graphic biography**                      Schwartz & Wade Books, 2015

Loose and playful black and white drawings tell the story of Jobs' personal and business life, from his achievements and outsized influence to the less-flattering cold behavior towards his first family and his employees. Pages give context to the decades as they pass, very helpfully explaining communication and music technologies before Apple's influence.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th

Sarah Hunt, KCLS

Hoose, Phillip                      978-0374300227                      \$19.99                      208 p.

**The Boys Who Challenged Hitler**                      Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2015

Knud Pedersen and his friends, disgusted with Denmark's acquiescence to Germany's occupation, made a club called the Churchill club to sabotage German army equipment and troops. They did bike drive-by's with Molotov cocktails and grenades, stole guns from soldiers at restaurants, cut communication cables etc... Eventually captured, they spent time in Danish prison, always worried they would be transferred to a German prison. Eventually they were let out, but they inspired other adults to keep Danish resistance alive.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Humphreys, Jessica Dee & Michel Chikwanine                      978-1-77138-126-0                      \$17.95  
48 p.

**Child Soldier: When Boys and Girls are Used in War**                      Kids Can Press, 2015

A graphic novel that tells the true story of Michel Chikwanine and his experiences as a child in the Congo, including his time spent as a kidnapped child soldier. The text is detailed and well written, the illustrations enhance the story in a way that mere text cannot.

I was at first put off that this story was in “picture book” format, but despite the “comic book” style, this is not a children’s book and the format really increases the impact of the story. The graphic portion of the book is followed by more about Michel, child soldiers across the world, and the efforts of human rights groups to prevent this from happening.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th

Diane Ferbrache, Hazen High School

Lewin, Ted & Betsy                    978-1-59643-616-9                    \$22.99                    136 p.

***How to Babysit a Leopard and other true stories from our travels across six continents***

Roaring Brook Press, 2014

Bite-sized adventures around the world: on Jeep safari in Botswana, at the bullfights in France (not Spain), feeding iguanas in Ecuador, told in stories with photo and watercolor illustrations by two author/artists who love to travel.

Some stories are funny, some thrilling, some poignant. A good "quick pick" for those who travel and those who want to travel.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

Aarene Storms, KCLS

Loh-Hagan, Virginia                    9781634700306                    \$18.85                    32 p.

***Acupuncturist Odd Jobs***                    45th Parallel Press, 2016

From the interesting and intriguing to the weird and wonderful Odd Jobs: Accupuncturist is HIGH interest combined with a LOW level of complexity to help struggling readers along. The carefully written text will hold reader's interest and allow for successful mastery, understanding and enjoyment of reading about this and other careers in the series. Clear, full-color photographs with captions provide additional accessible information. MS/HS for ELL and SPED. Also very reasonably priced for a non-fiction book!

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Mattern, Joanne                    9781601526100                    \$32.17                    80 p.

***Careers in Finance*** Exploring careers                    Reference Point Press, 2016

This is part of a very solid series that is a worthy purchase. Each title in the series presents specific opportunities in the field covered, offering a job description, the necessary skills and background, working conditions, salary, and a list of resources. Price would be the only thing holding me back from a full on high recommendation.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Minden, Cecilia                    9781633625709                    \$18.85                    32 p.

***Giving back*** Real world math: personal finance                    Cherry Lane Publishing, 2016

Have you ever wondered which charities you should support or how much you can afford to give? This book introduced readers to the idea of giving back to the community. Read world examples help readers learn about the importance of math skills for money management. Good text features prompt inquiry and further thinking. Reasonably priced for a non-fiction title I would recommend this for MS/HS and for ELL/SPED students.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Montgomery, Sy                      978-0-544-232-70-9                      \$18.99                      71 p.

***The Octopus Scientists; exploring the mind of a mollusk*** Scientists in the Field

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015

This entry in the "Scientists in the Field" series features an international team of scientists taking a couple weeks to attempt a brief study on octopus behavior and personality around an island in the South Pacific. The project could be an attempt to determine if a larger study could be productive. It's more a slice-of-life in marine field research than an exploration of research in one person's specialty, as some previous titles have been. Some details of octopus biology, communication, and intelligence are presented, with many striking photographs, not all captioned. The scientists are profiled with amusing personal stories. The account does a good job of capturing the way field research seldom goes as planned, with many compromises required along the way. There are a few minor errors. I enjoyed reference to Jaques Cousteau, but will students recognize that? It may help encourage students interested in biology.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th

Alan Grenon, Sylvester Middle School

Nakaya, Andrea C.                      9781601528223                      \$32.00                      80 p.

***THinking critically: mass shootings*** Thinking critically                      Reference Point Press, 2015

Sadly, this is already out of date! This has the same narrative-driven pro/con format as the other books in the series. Again, with only 80 pages, \$32.00 seems a little steep for this series, but I like the format, the text features and the thoughtful chapter headings like "Are mass shootings a serious problem", "Will stricter gun control reduce mass shootings?" etc. Additional purchase, especially considering that it is already dated.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Nakaya, Andrea C.                      9781601529121                      \$28.95                      80 p.

***Teens and Sex*** Teen Choices                      ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Netzley, Patricia D.                      9781601528605                      \$32.17                      80 p.

***Do Vampires Exist*** Do They Exist?                      Reference Point Press, 2016

This title and series is similar to other Reference Point Press publications. Well organized, clear table of contents, engaging format, and solid use of text features to help navigate content. Each book concludes with Source Notes (bibliography for each chapter), titles for

Further Research, and Index. Writing and format is accessible to struggling readers. Very well done!!

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sue McAllister, Kellogg Middle School

O'Reilly, Bill                    978-1-62779-396-4                    \$22.99                    306 p.

***Hitler's Last Days: The Death of the Nazi Regime and the World's Most Notorious Dictator*** Holt, 2015

The last six months of World War II are described with all the chaos and brutality that happened in Europe during that time period. Written in present tense, the text is complemented with many black and white photos, accompanied by captions and sources. At the beginning of the book, key players are listed by country and there is a map legend for the military maps found interspersed in the rest of the book. The text includes the failed assassination attempt on Hitler, 'Operation Watch' the surprise German offensive set for December 1944 on the Rhine, and the resulting Battle of the Bulge. Military strategy by the Allies (United States, Great Britain and Russia) is described in a simple and understandable way. Following the main part of the book is an afterword which covers the lives of some of the major participants following World War II. There are also brief chapters on The Nazi Party, the swastika, Hitler's health and diet, his toothbrush mustache, German military, Russian Army, the Red Ball Express, the Eagles' Nest, Hitler's bunker, stolen possessions, concentration camps, Nuremberg Trails, Hitler's will and a two –page Timeline.

Recommended Reading, a Bibliography, Sources and a lengthy Index conclude this well researched, non-fiction book, which surprisingly offers a new approach to a subject where many previous resources are available. This is a special illustrated edition for young adults, based on O'Reilly's adult book, Killing Patton (Holt, 2014). This edition is highly recommended for students in Grades 8 – 10.

**Grades:** 8th, 9th, 10th

Marilyn Condon, LWSD

Parks, Peggy J.                    978-1-60152-832-2                    \$32.17                    96 p.

***Teens and Substance Abuse*** Compact Research - Teen Well-Being                    Reference Point Press, 2016

This title and series is similar to other Reference Point Press publications. Well organized, clear table of contents, engaging format, and exceptional use of text features to help navigate content. Each chapter includes primary source quotes, facts and illustrations. The topics in the series are very timely: Teens and Body Image, Teens Nutrition and Dieting, Teens and LGBT Issues, Teens Sports and Exercise. Writing and format is accessible to struggling readers. Very well done!!

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sue McAllister, Kellogg Middle School

Parks, Peggy J.                    9781601528940                    \$28.95                    80 p.

***The Importance of Plate Tectonic Theory*** The Importance of Scientific Theory ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th  
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw                      978-0-544-23268-6                      \$18.99                      80 p.  
***The Call of the Osprey*** Scientists in the Field                      Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015  
This entry in the “Scientists in the Field” series profiles a project monitoring Osprey nesting in a valley in Montana where mining has polluted the river and countryside. Being fish-eating birds, Osprey breeding success, and their blood and feathers, reveals the levels of heavy metal pollution remaining as cleaning efforts continue. Every spread is full of great photographs. The various team members and their tasks are described, but it gets confusing knowing which is which. The project also operates a couple webcams on nests, brings young students to nests when chicks are to be handled, and involves high school and college students in research, all to educate people about birds, pollution, and restoration efforts. Rather than a profile of the project alone, this is another in the series that describes a few weeks in the life of the field work, with the visiting author visible. It doesn’t shy away from the risks inherent in handling wild birds, nor the failures and mortality breeding birds suffer. The account goes beyond field work to a little of the off-season lab. analysis that has to follow, and the communication of results that rounds the scientific method (without the name). There are a few minor errors. Not till the end sections are web addresses given for bird webcams among the other resources.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th  
Alan Grenon, Sylvester Middle School

Samuelsson, Marcus with Veronica Chambers                      978-0-385-74400-3                      \$16.99  
213 p.  
***Make It Messy: My Perfectly Imperfect Life***                      Delacorte Press, 2015  
Marcus Samuelsson was born in Ethiopia, where his birth father and eight half sisters and brothers live. His Ethiopian mother is a mystery to him, but he owes her his life, even when she couldn’t save her own. After her death in 1972, Marcus and his sister became orphans during a tuberculosis epidemic. A Swedish couple, Lennart and Ann Marie Samuelsson, wanted a son and that is why Marcus (age 3) and his sister Linda (age five) were adopted and joined his new parents and Anna, an eight-year-old foster child who had been born to a Swedish woman and a Jamaican man. International and transracial adoptions have been happening in Sweden since the 1950’s and 1960’s.

Thus begins a young adult adaptation of Yez, Chef, Marcus’ memoir (Random House 2012). It is apparent from Marcus’ early years that food has been a passion of his, as demonstrated from his descriptions of Ethiopian seasonings to the smells in his Swedish Grandmother’s kitchen. Marcus describes the life experiences that have led him to his success in the food world. He also relates experiences which could have derailed his goals, but by learning from his mistakes, he has been able to pursue his dreams.

Personable, enjoyable and entertaining, this memoir will fill the need for the ‘biography assignment’. Any reader who loves food will be amazed at the role that food holds in Marcus’ successful life as an “internationally acclaimed chef”, who stresses working hard and following your dreams. Recommended for Grades 7 – 12.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 12th  
Marilyn Condon, LWSD

Samuelsson, Marcus with Veronica Chambers                      978-0385744003                      \$12.15  
224 p.

***Make It Messy: My Perfectly Imperfect Live*** Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2015

I recommend this book for 7th grade and up. This is a great choice for kids who are stuck in a fiction rut and need some non-fiction to mix it up and also expose them to other topics/situations, especially global awareness. Although this is a true story it really does read like realistic fiction. The events are in logical order and they get to the point with no sugar coating (excuse cooking pun) or filler (Ooops another cooking pun). What surprised me most about Samuelsson's story was the amount of racism he experienced in Europe. Having lived there and traveled there I didn't expect that to be such an issue for him but it was. The main idea of achieving your dreams is crystal clear and very inspiring, in a way that I think everyone can relate to. I like that he doesn't shy away from showing how disappointments and even his own mistakes, combined with the right attitude, made him a better person. I am not a foodie but I found the descriptions of kitchen terms and lifestyle very user friendly and I now have a new respect for what goes on behind the closed doors of a kitchen (this does not include Dennys or Olive Garden). I think this is a must have because the non-fiction and narrative style fits in with common core standards for middle and high schools and is a great dose of reality for any reader. I would, however, like to add that there is a longer version with more challenging vocabulary called Yes Chef. I am keeping the Make it Messy version because in addition to serving Eastlake High School I serve a choice middle school so I want both versions in my collection.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, Adult

**Comments:** This review is for the Young Reader's version  
Kathleen Dunbar Eastlake High School

Sandler, Martin W.                      978-0763665272                      \$22.95                      224 p.

***Iron Rails, Iron Men and the Race to Link the Nation*** Candlewick, 2015

Huge fan of this readable, excellent book about the competition between two companies Central Pacific and Union Pacific to lay the most line in the new, transcontinental railroad. Many were not even sure there was a potential path over the mountains, or unbothered by Indian attacks, or that tunneling through the granite mountains was possible. With the help of Irish and Chinese workers (as well as Mormons, once in Utah – prized for their hard work ethic and lack of detrimental behaviors), massive feats of engineering were achieved. Pictures accompany everything, and it reads in a breathtaking fashion. Highly recommended, suitable for reading or research, with full links, credits and epilogue. 6th-12th grades

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Michael Fleming - PCMS

Sheen, Barbara                      9781601528124                      \$32.17                      80 p.

***Careers in sales and marketing*** Exploring careers                      Reference Point Press, 2016

This is part of a very solid series that is a worthy purchase. Each title in the series presents specific opportunities in the field covered, offering a job description, the necessary skills

and background, working conditions, salary, and a list of resources. Price would be the only thing holding me back from a full on high recommendation.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Sheen, Barbara                      9781601528087                      \$32.17                      80 p.

***Careers in Education*** Exploring Careers                      Reference Point Press, 2016

This is part of a very solid series that is a worthy purchase. Each title in the series presents specific opportunities in the field covered, offering a job description, the necessary skills and background, working conditions, salary, and a list of resources. Education, for instance, covers positions as early childhood educator, education administrator, library media specialist, and school counselor as well as several others. Interviews with individuals in these fields ad a personal touch. Price would be the only thing holding me back from a full on high recommendation.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen Campus Library

Snyder, Gail                      9781601529183                      \$28.95                      80 p.

***Teens and Smoking*** Teen Choices                      ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Stewart, Gail B.                      9781601529084                      \$28.95                      80 p.

***Teens and Bullying*** Teen Choices                      ReferencePoint, 2016

This series gives a good, solid background on the issues and includes recent antidotes and statistics. Each volume opens with an introduction that includes a personal story as a way of hooking the reader. From there, there are chapters on the types of, influences of, repercussions of, and society's attempts to curb bullying, drinking, smoking, marijuana, and sex. The writing is very approachable, making this series an acceptable choice for upper middle and high schools alike.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Stewart, Gail B.                      9781601529107                      \$28.95                      80 p.

***Teens and Drinking*** Teen Choices                      ReferencePoint, 2016

(See review posted with first book in series)

**Grades:** 7th

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade MS

Various                      978-1-60152-8667, 978-1-60152-868-1, 978-1-60152-864-3, 978-1-60152-754-4                      \$38.60                      80 p.

***Stephen Hillenburg and SpongeBob SquarePants*** Contemporary Cartoon Creators (4 titles, including Seth MacFarlane, Trey Parker and Matt Stone, Matt Groening)

Reference Point Press, 2016

These titles take you into the background and talents of each of these cartoonists. From where they grew up to what lead to their inspirations, each cartoonist's life is brought to life in this series. It's definitely a middle school/high school reading level and would be good for students who know the shows and are fans. Index and "further research" section is good for more of a research project.

**Grades:** 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Richard Snyder, Kirkland Middle School Library

Wilcox, Christine	978-1-60152-882-7	\$32.17	96 p.
<b><i>How Is Online Pornography Affecting Society</i></b>			INControversy
Reference Point Press, 2016			Reference Point

This title is similar to other Reference Point Press publication. Engaging, timely and informative topics compressed into a well organized and accessible format. These publications get to the center of a topic quickly and allow students ease of navigation using table of contents, text features, an index. Very well done.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Sue McAllister, Kellogg Middle School

#### NONFICTION – SHRUG

Humphreys, Jessica Dee and Chikwanine, Michel	978-1-77138-126-0	\$17.95
47 p.		

***Child Soldier: When Boys and Girls Are Used in War*** Kids Can Press, 2015

Child Solider is the true story of Michel Chikwanine’s time spent as a child soldier. The book covers the events before his capture, his capture and training, his eventual escape, and the events after his escape, including the family’s decision to relocate to Canada. While I found the story informative, I thought the most useful information came after the story ended, specifically the information about the author and the very real issue of child soldiers worldwide. Due to the serious nature of the story I’m not sure if students will flock to it. However, I can see the information at the end being a useful resource for any teacher or librarian covering the topic of Child Soldiers.

**Grades:** 6th, 7th, 8th

Richele Buoy/Kent Phoenix Academy

#### NONFICTION – NOT RECOMMEND

- Technology Titans series

Kallen, Stuart A.	978-1-60152-876-6	\$30.00	80 p.
<b><i>Mark Zuckerberg and Facebook</i></b>			Reference Point Press, 2016

Kallen, Stuart A.	978-1-60152-870-4	\$30.00	80 p.
<b><i>Elon Musk and</i></b>			Reference Point Press, 2016

Kallen, Stuart A.	978-1-60152-872-8	\$30.00	80 p.
<b><i>Jeff Bezos and Amazon</i></b>			Reference Point Press, 2016

