



WASHINGTON STATE YOUNG ADULT REVIEW

GROUP

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE: September 21, 2018

*Issue: 122
September 2018*

WASHRAG

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28- 32*

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WASHYARGers:

Start the school-year, 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 8:30 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 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:

Anne Dame
Einstein Middle School
19343 3rd Ave NW
Shoreline WA 98177

REMINDERS

MEETING LOCATION:

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

2018-2019 MEETING DATES:

- *September 21*
- *December 14*
- *March 1*
- *May 10*

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:

Anne Dame
Einstein Middle School
19343 3rd Ave NW
Shoreline WA 98177

Please make checks payable to WashYARG.

2018-19 MEETINGS

- *September 21*
- *December 14*
- *March 1*
- *May 10*

MEMBERSHIP FORM:



Name:

Title:

Email*:

Phone*:

Address*:

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

Titles Taken for Review – May 2018

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!

Please remember ARCs may not be added to your collection.

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

FICTION

<i>A Bad Night for Bullies</i> , The Goolz Next Door #1	Boyds Mills Press, 2018		
Ghislain, Gary	978-1-62979-677-2	\$17.95	232 p.
Alan Grenon, Sylvester Middle School			
<i>As She Fades</i>	Feiwel & Friends, 2018		
Glines, Abbi	9781250133861	\$18.99	266 p.
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School			
<i>Ash Princess</i>	Delacorte, 2018		
Sebastian, Laura	9781524767068	\$18.99	433 p.
Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School			
Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School			
<i>Beneath the Haunting Sea</i>	Page Street, 2018		
Meyer, Joanna	1-62414-534-5	\$17.99	393 p.
Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School			
<i>Beyond a Darkened Shore</i>	HarperTeen, 2018		
Leake, Jessica	9780062666260	\$17.99	421 p.
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School			
<i>Blue Window</i>	Candlewick, 2018		
Gewirtz, Adina Rische	978-0-7636-6036-9	\$18.99	560 p.
Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
<i>Bound To You</i>	Swoon Reads, 2018		
Brandon, Alyssa	9781250101723	\$17.99	291 p.
Tracy Erickson, Redmond High School			
<i>*Children of Blood and Bone</i> , Legacy of Orisha #1	Henry Holt, 2018		
Adeyemi, Tomi	9781250170972	\$18.99	525 p.
Alexis Hardy, Centralia Timberland Library			
<i>Class: What She Does Next Will Astound You</i>	HarperTeen, 2016		

Goss, James Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School <u>Comments:</u> Book from Dr. Who TV show; created by Patrick Ness	978-0-06-26623-9	\$17.99	296 p.
<i>Daughter of the Siren Queen</i> , Daughter of the Pirate King #2 Levenseller, Tricia Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Feiwel & Friends, 2018 978-1-250-09601-2	\$17.99	341 p.
<i>Deep Water</i> Key, Watt Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School	Farrar Straus Giroux, 2018 9780374306540	\$16.99	264 p.
<i>Devils Unto Dust</i> Berquist, Emma Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literacy, Pacific Cascade Middle School	Greenwillow, 2018 978-0-06-264278-3	\$17.99	487 p.
<i>Dread Nation</i> , Dread Nation #1 Ireland, Justina Alexis Hardy, Centralia Timberland Library	Balzer + Bray, 2018 9780062570604	\$17.99	*BFYA NOM 455 p.
<i>From You to Me</i> (ARC) Holt, K. A. Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School	Scholastic , 2018 9781338193305	\$16.99	208 p.
<i>Fum</i> Rapp, Adam Dawn Rutherford, Seattle Public Library	Candlewick, 2018 978-0-7636-6756-6	\$18.99	402 p.
<i>Gone to Drift</i> McCauley, Diana Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School	Harper, 2016 0-06-267296-7	\$16.99	265 p.
<i>I Stop Somewhere</i> Carter, T. E. Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Feiwel & Friends, 2018 97812504647	\$17.99	298 p.
<i>In Her Skin</i> Savage, Kim Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Farrar Straus Giroux, 2018 9780374308001	\$17.99	289 p.
<i>In Search of Us</i> Dellaira, Ava Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School	Farrar Straus Giroux, 2018 0-374-30531-5	\$17.99	403 p.
<i>Infamous</i> , Beautiful Idols #3 Noel, Alyson	Katherine Tegen Books, 2018 0-06-232458-6	\$17.99	416 p.

Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School

Infinite Risk, Immortal Game #3 Feiwel & Friends, 2016
Aguirre, Ann 9781250024657 \$17.99 376 p.
Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School

Inkmistress Balzer + Bray, 2018
Coulthurst, Audrey 978-0-06-243328-2 \$17.99 387 p.
Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literacy, Pacific Cascade Middle School

◆ ***It Should Have Been You*** Page Street, 2018
Slaughter, Lynn 9781624145353 \$16.99 310 p.
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School

Just Friends Candlewick, 2018
Sheldon, Dyan 978-0-7636-9354-1 \$16.99 277 p.
Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School

Leah on the Offbeat, Creekwood #2 Balzer + Bray, 2018 ***BFYA**
NOM
Albertalli, Becky 62643800 \$17.99 343 p.
Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Listen to Your Heart (ARC) Point, 2018
West, Kasie 978-1-338-21005-7 \$17.99 324 p.
Kathleen Dunbar, Eastlake High School

Losers Bracket Greenwillow, 2018
Crutcher, Chris 9780062220066 \$17.99 250 p.
Cindy Simon, International Community School

Lovely, Dark, and Deep (ARC) Arthur A. Levine, 2018
Chen, Justina 9781338134063 \$18.99 352 p.
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Maiden Voyage: A Titanic Story (ARC) Scholastic, 2018
Jane, Sarah 978-1-338-22665-2 \$9.99 256 p.
Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Mary's Monster Roaring Brook, 2018
Judge, Lita 1-62672-500-4 \$21.99 312 p.
Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School

My Name Is Victoria Candlewick, 2018
Worsley, Lucy 9780763688073 \$16.99 367 p.
Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School

<i>Obsidio</i> , The Illuminae Files #3 Kaufman, Amie and Jay Kristoff Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School	Alfred A. Knopf, 2018 0-553-49919-X	\$19.99	615 p.
<i>Ozland</i> , Everland #3 (ARC) Spinale, Wendy Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Scholastic, 2018 978-0-545-95322-1	\$17.99	288 p.
<i>Peasprout Chen: Future Legend of Skate and Sword</i> Lien, Henry Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library	Henry Holt, 2018 9781250165695	\$16.99	330 p.
<i>Rebel with a Cupcake</i> Mainwaring, Anna Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Kids Can Press, 2018 9781525300332	\$17.99	216 p.
◆ <i>Relative Strangers</i> Garner, Paula Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	Candlewick, 2018 978-0-7636-9469-2	\$17.99	359 p.
<i>Rewind</i> O'Doherty, Carolyn Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School	Boyd's Mills Press, 2018 978-1-62979-814-1	\$17.95	247 p.
<i>Sam & Ilsa's Last Hurrah</i> Cohn, Rachel and David Levithan Kathleen Dunbar, Eastlake High School Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School	Alfred A. Knopf, 2018 978-0-399-55384-4	\$17.99	209 p.
<i>Someday, Somewhere</i> Champion, Lindsay Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Kids Can Press, 2108 978-1-5253-0042-4	\$10.99	270 p.
<i>Stormcaster</i> , Shattered Realms #3 Chima, Cinda Williams Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School	HarperTeen, 2018 9780062381002	\$18.99	535 p.
<i>Summer Constellations</i> Sevigny, Alisha Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School Katy Olson, Monticello Middle School	Kids Can Press, 2018 978-1-5253-0043-1	\$10.99	256 p.
◆ <i>Tempests and Slaughter</i> , The Numair Chronicles #1 Pierce, Tamora Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School	Random House, 2018 9780375847110	\$18.99	455 p.

<i>Tess of the Road</i> Hartman, Rachel Sara White, Olympia Timberland Library Already reviewed	Random House, 2018 978-1-101-93128-8	\$18.99	536 p.
<i>The Beauty That Remains</i> Woodfolk, Ashley Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School	Delacorte, 2018 9781524715878	\$17.99	324 p.
<i>The Beloved Wild</i> Ostrom, Melissa Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Feiwel & Friends, 2018 978-1-250-13279-6	\$17.99	312 p.
<i>The Case for Jamie</i>, Charlotte Holmes #3 Cavallaro, Brittany Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School	Katherine Tegen Books, 2018 978-0-06-239897-0	\$17.99	349 p.
<i>The Dark Beneath the Ice</i> (ARC) Bérubé, Amelinda Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	Sourcebooks Fire, 2018 978-1-4926-5707-1	\$17.99	336 p.
<i>The Fall of Grace</i> Dominy, Amy Fellner Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School. Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School	Delacorte, 2018 9781101936238	\$17.99	289 p.
<i>The Final Six</i>, The Final Six #1 Monir, Alexandra Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School	HarperTeen, 2018 978-0-06-265894-4	\$18.99	338 p.
<i>The Innocence Treatment</i> Goelman, Ari Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Roaring Brook, 2017 9781626728806	\$17.99	262 p.
<i>The Last Summer of the Garrett Girls</i> Spotswood, Jessica Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School	Sourcebooks Fire, 2018 978-1492622192	\$17.99	368 p.
<i>The Perfume Burned His Eyes</i> Imperioli, Michael Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School	Akashic Books, 2018 978-1-61775-620-7	\$25.95	253 p.
<i>The Poet X</i> Acevedo, Elizabeth	HarperTeen, 2018 978-0-06-266280-4	\$17.99	*BFYA NOM 361 p.

Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

<i>The Queen Underneath</i> Filak, Stacey Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School	Page Street, 2018 1-62414-560-5	\$16.99	279 p.
<i>The Secret Science of Magic</i> Keil, Melissa Raina Sedore, Lacey Timberland Library	Peachtree, 2018 9781682630143	\$17.95	302 p.
<i>The Stars at Oktober Bend</i> Millard, Glenda Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School	Candlewick, 2018 9780763692728	\$16.99	266 p.
<i>This Tiny Perfect World</i> Gibaldi, Lauren Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	HarperTeen, 2018 9780062490070	\$17.99	287 p.
<i>To Kill A Kingdom</i> Christo, Alexandra Teresa Jensen, North Creek High School	Feiwel & Friends, 2018 978-1-250-11268-2	\$18.99	342 p.
<i>Whatshisface</i> (ARC) Korman, Gordon Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School	Scholastic , 2018 9781338200164	\$16.99	240 p.
<i>Whisper</i> , Whisper #1 Noni, Lynette Nickie Travis, Lindbergh High School Tracy Erickson, Redmond High School	KCP Loft, 2018 9781525300417	\$10.99	312 p.
<i>White Rabbit</i> Roehrig, Caleb Sara White, Olympia Timberland Library	Feiwel & Friends, 2018 978-1-250-08565-8	\$17.99	329 p.
<i>Window</i> Brunskill, Amelia Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	Delacorte, 2018 978-1-5247-2029-2	\$17.99	336 p.
<i>Winner Take All</i> Devore, Laurie Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School	Imprint, 2018 9781250082886	\$17.99	325 p.
<i>Winter Glass</i> , Spindle Fire #2 Hillyer, Lexa Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School	HarperTeen, 2018 978-0-06-244090-7	\$17.99	329 p.

You're Welcome, Universe Knopf, 2017
 Gardner, Whitney 978-0-399-55141-3 \$17.99 293 p.
 Jodie Purcell, Bishop Blanchet High School

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Brazen: Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World First Second, 2018 ***QP NOM**
 Bagieu, Pénélope 1626728690 \$17.99 296 p.
 Maggie Block, Skyway Library KCLS

Breaking the 10, Vol. 2 NBM Graphic Novels, 2018
 Wilson, Sean Michael & Michiru Morikawa 9781681121178 \$12.99 125 p.
 Jodi Kruse, R. A. Long High School

Making Friends (ARC) Scholastic: Graphix, 2018
 Gudsnuik, Kristen 1338139215 \$12.99 272 p.

Monsters Beware!, Chronicles of Claudette #3 First Second, 2018
 Aguirre, Jorge (Author) and Rafael Rosado (Illustrator) 9781626721807 \$14.99 171 p.
 Richele Buoy, Mill Creek Middle School
 Too young.

Peter & Ernesto; a tale of two sloths First Second, 2018
 Annable, Graham 978-1-62672-561-4 \$17.99 119 p.
 Alan Grenon, Sylvester Middle School

Potions & Parameters, Secret Coders #5 First Second, 2018
 Yang, Gene Luen & Mike Holmes 978-1-62672-607-9 \$10.99 106 p.
 Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School

Robots and Drones: Past, Present, and Future, Science Comics First Second, 2018
 Scott, Mairghread & Jacob Chabot 978-1-62672-792-2 \$12.99 121 p.
 Dawn Rutherford, Seattle Public Library

Scarlett Hart: Monster Hunter First Second, 2018
 Sedgwick, Marcus & Thomas Taylor 9781250159847 \$14.99 192 p.
 Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School
 Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literacy, Pacific Cascade Middle School

Sharks: Nature's Perfect Hunter, Science Comics First Second, 2018
 Flood, Joe 9781626727885 \$12.99 122 p.
 Richele Buoy, Mill Creek Middle School

The City on the Other Side First Second, 2018
 Scott, Mairghread and Robin Robinson 978-1-250-15255-8 \$23.99 211 p.

Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literacy, Pacific Cascade Middle School

The League of Lasers, Star Scouts #2 First Second, 2018
Lawrence, Mike 978-1-62672-281-1 \$14.99 196 p.
Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literacy, Pacific Cascade Middle School

NON-FICTION

Claiming My Place Farrar Straus Giroux, 2018
Price, Planaria; West, Helen 9780374305291 \$17.99 272 p.
Katy Olson, Monticello Middle School

Doing It (ARC) Sourcebooks, 2018
Witton, Hannah 978-1-4926-6503-8 \$16.99 327 p.
Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School

Tying the Knot: A World History of Marriage Twenty-First Century Books, 2018
Keyser, Amber J. 1-46779-242-X \$27.04 104 p.
Sameera Khalifa, Talley High School

Voices From the Second World War Candlewick, 2018
None. Not even an editor. 978-0-7636-9492-0 \$24.99 302 p.
Teresa Jensen, North Creek High School
Comments: Stories of war as told to children of today

Were Native Americans the Victims of Genocide? Reference Point Press, 2018
Haugen David M 978-1682822913 \$29.95 80 p.
Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School

- Exploring Careers series

Careers in Renewable Energy Reference Point Press, 2018
Nardo, Don 9781682823156 \$29.95 80 p.

Careers in the Legal Profession Reference Point Press, 2018
Mooney, Carla 9781682823132 \$29.95 80 p.

Careers in Travel and Hospitality Reference Point Press, 2018
Kallen, Stuart A. 9781682823170 \$29.95 80 p.
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School

- Growing Up Around the World series

Growing Up in Australia Reference Point Press, 2018
Gitlin, Martin 978-1-68282-319-4 \$29.95 80 p.

Growing Up in France Reference Point Press, 2018

Parks, Peggy	978-1-68282-321-7	\$29.95	80 p.
<i>Growing Up in Saudi Arabia</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Sheen, Barbara	978-1-68282-323-1	\$29.95	80 p.
Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
• Next-Generation Medical Technology series			
<i>3D Printing and Medicine</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Blohm, Craig E.	978-1-68282-331-6	\$29.95	80 p.
<i>Genetics and Medicine</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Allman, Toney	978-1-68282-325-5	\$29.95	80 p.
<i>Nanotechnology and Medicine</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Nardo, Don	978-1-68282-327-9	\$29.95	80 p.
<i>Robotics and Medicine</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Hulick, Kathryn	978-1-68282-329-3	\$29.95	80 p.
<i>Virtual Reality and Medicine</i>	Reference Point Press, 2108		
Roland, James	978-1-68282-333-0	\$29.95	80 p.
Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School			
• Thinking Critically series			
<i>Cell Phones</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Steffens, Bradley	9781682823354	\$29.95	78 p.
Cindy Simon, International Community School			
<i>Gun Control</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Allen John	978-1682823378	\$29.95	80 p.
Elizabeth Courage, Lake Washington High School			
<i>Performance Enhancing Drugs</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Currie, Stephen	9781682823392	\$29.95	80 p.
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School			
<i>Social Networking</i>	Reference Point Press, 2018		
Carroll, Jamuna	9781682823415	\$29.95	80 p.
Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School			

Titles Reviewed at May 2018 Meeting

FICTION – RECOMMEND

Aceves, Fred 978-0-06-248853-4 \$17.99 310p.
The Closest I've Come HarperTeen, 2017

Marcos Rivas is a sensitive guy growing up in the “Maesta” looking for ways to avoid his “hood life” when a caring teacher recommends him for an after school program for troubled teens with potential. There he makes friends with Zach, the gay theater geek, and his crush, Amy, the soccer-playing punk girl who doesn’t care what people think. Because of his participation in the success program, Marcus starts to look for more in his family relationships finally confronting his alcoholic mother when she buys vodka instead of his new sneakers and trying to make friends with his mother’s latest abusive boyfriend.

Aceves hits all the usual redemptive notes but nothing much changes; Marcos just learns to live with it. Concerns: The narrative, not just the dialog, intermittently uses non-standard English but the grammar seems to improve as the book goes on and in describing his marijuana experience with Amy, seems to glamorize it.

Age Level: Junior High, High School, Reluctant Reader, 8th and up.

Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Alameda, Courtney 978-1-250-08589-4 \$18.99 378p.
Pitch Dark Feiwel & Friends, 2018

Here’s an action-packed sci-fi thriller teens will devour. It’s the year 2435 and Tuck is just one of 10,000 people aboard the spaceship, USS John Muir, who went to sleep for almost 4 centuries. Only 150 of them woke up human. The rest evolved into creatures whose howling voices can cause blunt force trauma or death to anyone in earshot. Their ship has precious cargo that could save the human race since Earth’s soil is no longer viable. The Muir has a gigantic terrarium complete with plants, trees, and animals. Meanwhile, Laura is on the Conquistador spaceship which is run by her parents who are archeologists. Before plans can be made to board the Muir, a terrorist group (called Pitch Dark) forces the Conquistador to crash into the Muir and makes it look like Laura’s responsible. Now hundreds of lives are in danger from not only the deadly creatures on the Muir but also from direct exposure to deep space. Tuck and Laura must work together to restore power to the Muir and reactivate its AI in order to not only save lives on both ships, but ultimately the entire human race. Dangers abound as they traverse the ship while facing vicious monsters who kill with sound, the terrorist hacker who thwarts their every move, and those who wants Laura killed as a traitor. Teens will love this adrenalin-fueled science fiction adventure with a kick-butt Latina girl who refuses to give in--even when facing insurmountable obstacles.

Age Level: Grades 8 and up

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Angelini, Josie 978-1-250-15092-9 \$16.99 197p.
Snow Lane Feiwel & Friends, 2018

This bittersweet tale of child abuse will captivate readers as Annie, age 10, narrates her chaotic life with her parents and 8 siblings at 17 Snow Lane. She's a girl with dyslexia, OCD, and perhaps autism. She also has giant teeth and is skinny and short--all factors used against her. As Annie quietly describes her life, we realize that something's not right. Annie adores her oldest sister but the others are mean and unkind. Fay enjoys hurting her and we read about violence escalating from pinches to arm twists to beatings. At least school is a safe place for Annie and the setting of 1985 plays a part in how Annie views herself and her future as her teacher inspires them with a Carl Sagan quote about finding your destiny. But when the Challenger shuttle explodes, it symbolizes Annie's family and the danger she's in--especially when one sister runs away. How can Annie keep navigating a dangerous home life? Readers will be unable to put this book down until they know Annie's whole story. Be prepared to cry and cheer for Annie.

Age Level: Grades 4-7

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Arcos, Carrie 978-0399175541 \$17.99 378p.

We Are All That's Left (ARC) Philomel Books, 2018

Zara and her mother Nadja have always had a difficult relationship. When both women are injured during a terrorist attack at their town's farmer's market, Nadja is left in a coma while Zara struggles with PTSD. Told in alternating perspectives, Nadja's life in Bosnia during the Bosnian war dovetail with chapters about Zara dealing with the aftermath of the bombing. As Nadja recovers in the hospital, Zara discovers photos and documents from Nadja's past and she begins to understand a little more about her mother. A great book on a topic that doesn't receive a ton of attention. A little slow paced, but thoughtful readers will appreciate it.

Age Level: High School

Tracy Erickson, Redmond High School

August, John 978-1-62672-814-1 \$16.99 318p.

Arlo Finch in the Valley of Fire Roaring Book Press, 2018

Arlo moves to a new town. To get to know kids, he joins the town's version of the Boy/Girl Scouts. It is weird from the beginning, with clear magic and forestcraft that requires identifying strange creatures, among other things. Arlo and his small group within the scouts are attempting to win their area contest, but they end up in a "between place" where a Hag, among other creatures, is attempting to kill Arlo. A perfect middle school book.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High

Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literac, Pacific Cascade Middle School

Bethell, Zillah 978-1-250-09394-3 \$16.99 339p.

A Whisper of Horses Feiwel & Friends, 2018

12 yr. old Serendipity lives in a dystopian world behind a desolate walled-in city called Lahn Dan (London) where no escape is allowed into a "post-Gases" world. She is a member of the lowest of the three societal classes, the Pbs (lead) and knows there is no future in the city. Her mother's dying word, "outside" and her finding of an old toy horse and map motivate her to search for real horses. On the way, she seeks out a story-teller who helps her escape and in the country meets an orphan boy, Tab and his ratty dog, Mouse also on

the run. Many plot holes, but the focus is on discovering and appreciating nature in a post-tech world where no one can read and there are no animals. The author comments about her current society, "Before the Gases...they [people] lost all contact with the outside world. They lived through technology none of them understood... they had become unthinking blinkered automata." (262) Seren and Tab's awkward wording and dialect ("amazing," "wern compainin") can be challenging especially for middle-school but the beauty is in the pursuit of a dream.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School, 5th-9th

Additional Comments: Author grew up in leprosy hospital in New Guinea, went to Oxford. Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Caine, Rachel 978-0062570994 \$17.99 465p.

Honor Among Thieves, The Honors #1 Katherine Tegan Books, 2018

Zara Cole is a young woman living on the mean streets of New Detroit, one step away from starvation or worse. When she accidentally angers a local mob boss she is running scared with nowhere to go, except up. She is offered salvation in the form of the elite Honors program, a one in a million shot to go into space with a living, breathing space craft called a Leviathan. Once aboard, Zara must learn to trust her co-pilot Beatriz, her alien ship and herself. Zara and her ship Nadim bond faster and closer than most, putting them both in a dangerous position. The mystery of the true purpose of the Honors program keeps the plot going while the relationship (romance?) between Zara and her ship is a little odd at times, but surprisingly sweet. Fast paced and engaging, I think sci-fi lovers will enjoy it!

Age Level: Middle School, High School

Tracy Erickson, Redmond High School

Carter, Ally 9781338134148 \$18.99 304p.

Not If I Save You First (ARC) Scholastic, 2018

When Maddie was little, her dad was in the secret service. He was in charge of guarding the president. The president had a son named Logan. Maddie and Logan were best friends and thought they always would be. But life doesn't always work out that way. Maddie and her dad end up moving to Alaska where Maddie is the most popular girl in a 20 mile range - because she is the only girl in a 20 mile range... 6 years later, Logan shows up there and Maddie wants to kill him (because he never answered all her letters). Unfortunately, someone else wants to kill him too. Lots of action and adventure, plus some romance. A very fun read. A little predictable as it feels a bit like Carter's other books, but set in the Alaskan wilderness this time. Plus, be-dazzled axe handles.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Clare, Gwendolyn 978-1250112767 \$18.99 336p.

Ink, Iron and Glass Imprint, 2018

Elsa's mom is a scriptologist - with the right paper and ink, she can write a world into existence, just as real as Earth. Elsa is scripted too, but she can travel back and forth to Earth from her scripted world, which she must do when her mother is kidnapped and the Worldbook for her world stolen too. With the help of a group of talented orphans,

including one hottie, Elsa works to get her mother and the book back before they are destroyed.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literac, Pacific Cascade Middle School

Connor, Leslie 62491431 \$16.99 336p.

The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle Katherine Tegen Books, 2018

Mason Buttle lost his best friend last year to an accident in his apple orchard. He doesn't understand why the police keep questioning him about it - it was an accident. When Mason meets Calvin it is when they are running away from the local bullies. A friendship is forged. When Calvin goes missing, the police show up on Mason's doorstep again. A beautiful story about a boy who is a little bit different, but who is so much more than everyone expects.

Grades 5-7

Age Level: Middle School

Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School

DasGupta, Sayantani 1338185705 \$17.99 351p.

The Serpent's Secret, Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond #1 (ARC) Scholastic, 2018

A fun, adventurous fantasy with diverse characters inspired by Bengali culture and mythology. The dialogue is filled with colloquialisms, jokes and humor. Kiranmala is a girl from New Jersey who has never felt like she fits in. Her parents are weird, like when they make her dress as an Indian Princess every Halloween instead of like all the other kids in the neighborhood. Only when she comes home one day to find them missing and two princes ringing her doorbell, does she find out that all their stories are true and she is really a princess. Now on a mission to save them from the deepest darkest depths of the universe, Kiranmala must use all her wits, her strength and her ability to solve riddles to save her parents. She has to rely on the Princes' to help navigate this new world, to fight monsters and face the Serpent King. Grades 4 and up.

Age Level: Middle School, Grades 4-6

Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School

DiMartino, Michael Dante 9781626723375 \$16.99 368p.

Warrior Genius, Geniuses #2 Roaring Brook Press, 2018

Since I did not read the first installment of the Geniuses series, I entered the story line midway through. However, I was able to follow along pretty well. In this ancient Italian fantastic world, certain people are bestowed with magical artistic gifts attached to a Genius, an animal that channels those powers through a gem in its forehead. If the Genius dies, the human becomes a Lost Soul. Evil Supreme Creator, Nerezza, and her Genius, Victoria, rule the kingdom with terror & violence. Nerezza's goal is to gather all the Genius gems in the kingdom and all the Sacred Tools, and therefore, rule over all. Giacomo, a Tulpa created by his parents as a force of goodness, along with his teacher, Pietro and a cast of close friends, are doing everything they can to stop her. The second installment leaves off at a clear cliffhanger with Giacomo's fate twisted and hanging in the balance, so there will most likely be a third. Warrior Genius has magical battles, fascinating creatures, travel to distant strange lands, riffs and challenges between friends, and a large cast of characters. The villain feels most definitely villainous. "Good guys" sometimes become "bad guys" and vice

versa. The heroes have some flaws and so also a little more depth. DiMartino does a good job of world building and explaining some complex mathematical and magical concepts in a way younger readers will understand. Black and white illustrations sprinkled throughout. Middle grade readers who enjoy action-packed adventure fantasy with a hero's quest will enjoy the Genius series for sure! Grades 4-8

Age Level: Middle School

Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Emerson, Kevin 9780062306746 \$16.99 407p.

The Oceans Between Stars, Chronicle of the Dark Star #2 Walden Pond Press, 2018

The Ocean Between Stars picks-up slightly after where The Lat Day on Mars ended and continues to follow Liam and Phoebe's journey to catch the Scorpius to be reunited with their friends and family. However, Phoebe is hiding a major secret from Liam, a secret big enough that it could threaten to destroy their friendship. Despite the secret being revealed, the two quickly realize there is something bigger they will need to overcome that will have a greater impact than Phoebe's secret. While the book does start off slow, there is plenty of action to keep the reader's attention and to make it a fast read. I will say the time-travelling/time-jumping does start to get a bit confusing. However, all-in-all a good sequel to the first book. In fact, I may have liked book two more than I liked book one.

Age Level: Grade: 3-7

Richele Buoy, Mill Creek Middle School

French, Gillian 978-0062642585 \$17.99 295p.

The Lies They Tell (ARC) HarperTeen, 2018

Last summer tragedy struck Pearl's small harbor town when the wealthy Garrison family was shot and burned in their beds on Pearl's father's watch. Only their teenage son escaped the blaze. Now her father's career is ruined and Pearl works full time waiting tables at the country club to make ends meet. The line between the local kids and the rich summer kids has always been clear, but when a group of summer boys, including Tristan Garrison, invite Pearl along for their adventures she takes the bait. She is desperate to solve the mystery of the Garrison murders and clear her father's name. As she grows closer to enigmatic Tristan, she is alternately attracted and repulsed by his behavior, could he have murdered his own family? An enjoyable mystery thriller, this book delivers scandal, betrayal and a creepy atmosphere. While the ending isn't very surprising, fans of mysteries will likely be intrigued up until the reveal.

Age Level: High School

Tracy Erickson, Redmond High School

Garcia, Kami 978-1-250-07920-6 \$18.99 401p.

Broken Beautiful Hearts Imprint, 2018

Life is almost perfect for Peyton. She just got a college soccer scholarship bringing her dream of playing professionally a little bit closer. She's got good friends and a boyfriend, Reed, (her BFF's brother) that she really likes. But, everything changes when she finds steroids in Reed's car. Their argument ends with him pushing her down a flight of stairs majorly injuring her knee. In the aftermath, no one believes her side of the story and Reed won't leave her alone. Fearing for her safety, she gets sent to live with her uncle and twin

cousins. Peyton plans to lie low and focus on rehabbing her knee. Then she meets Owen and everything changes again. Fans of Katie McGarry and Simone Elkeles will like this romance. Sex on the page and lots of fighting (both school yard and MMA) makes it more appropriate for grades 10+.

Age Level: High School

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Greenwald, Lisa 978-0-06-268990-0 \$12.99 212p.
TBH This is So Awkward, TBH #1 Katherine Tegen Books, 2018

This first book in a middle grade series will appeal highly to 5th and 6th grade girls as it deals with all of the drama found in 6th grade. This book is similar to Lauren Myracle's TTYL series as it is told in text messages, school assignments, handwritten notes, emails, diary entries and emojis--lots and lots of emojis. Cece, Gabby, and Pri have been BFFAE since they were born. Now in 6th grade they're trying to navigate middle school while dealing with typical middle school drama: boys, classes, friendships, dances, and their first boy-girl birthday party. OMG! IHNC! (I have no clue!) Tween girls will eat this up, but I don't see any 7th graders or older being interested in their juvenile issues. It's a good read for tweens who can handle 12 emojis in a row without throwing up.

Age Level: Grades 4-6

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Guterson, Ben 978-1-250-12388-6 \$16.99 370p.
Winterhouse, Winterhouse #1 Henry Holt, 2018

Orphan Elizabeth Somers leads a quiet, grim life since her parents died 7 years ago. She is surprised when she gets sent to spend three weeks at the Winterhouse Hotel at Christmas time as her aunt and uncle have never vacationed. Upon arriving, Elizabeth falls under the beautiful hotel's charm, even though there's a strange couple that stare at her and the owner, Norbridge Falls, acts suspicious. Elizabeth meets a boy her age named Freddy who loves anagrams and puzzles too. The hotel's three-story library is magnificent and on her first visit, Elizabeth finds a hidden old book, *A Guide for Children*, that seems to be magical. Soon Elizabeth and Freddy are off trying to solve a mysterious code in a painting as well as what that weird couple is up to and whether or not Norbridge can be trusted. Could that magical book really help them solve the secrets of Winterhouse? Middle grade readers looking for a fun, entertaining mystery full of adventure will love this start to a new series. Elizabeth is a character to cheer for and readers will love learning about Winterhouse's past and her connection to it.

Age Level: Middle School

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Hartman, Rachel 9781101931288 \$18.99 544p.
Tess of the Road, Tess of the Road #1 Random House Books for Young Readers, 2018

This is the story of Tess, the half sister of Seraphina. She is a headstrong, curious and adventurous. She is also angry, bitter and a drunk. All her life she has been told she was trouble. Her sister Jeanne is the good one, and she is the bad one. After spending two years at court helping to secure her sister's future, Tess gets drunk at her wedding and punches one of the guests. Her family decides to send her off to a convent to reform. The thought of

being stuck in a convent is too much for Tess so she runs away and hits the road. With each step of her journey she unpacks her heartache and disappointment. This is a journey of the heart, of being found, of being a woman in a culture that represses them. Recommended for grades 10 and up. Trigger warning: rape, alcoholism, emotional abuse

Age Level: High School

Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School

Kadohata, Cynthia 9781481446617 \$16.99 400p.
Checked (ARC) Simon & Schuster, 2018

11-year-old Conor has a good life: his single-parent dad is a good one. His dog, Sinbad, is an awesome Doberman who has adjusted nicely to life outside the kill-shelter. And he is a kick-butt junior hockey player with goals (see what I did there?) and (probably) the ability to making the NHL someday. Then, Sinbad gets cancer, and financial choices need to be made. Conor and his dad are both great characters, but there is a LOT of extra detail in this book, plus pages and pages of hockey stuff. The book would be great for a sport kid, especially a hockey kid, if you can find one of those with a 400-page attention span.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of KCLS

Killeen, Matt 451478738 \$18.99 423p.
Orphan Monster Spy (ARC) Viking Books for Young Readers, 2018

A suspense filled historical novel based in Hitler's Germany. The novel opens with Sarah, barely escaping a Nazi checkpoint at which her mother is shot dead. As she barely escapes from the soldiers chasing her she bumps into a mysterious man spying on the Nazis. When their paths cross again she makes a decision that ultimately leads her to work for him by infiltrating a boarding school filled with the daughters of Nazi party leaders. The biggest issue – Sarah is a Jewish girl masquerading as Aryan. The girls at the school are so much crueler than she could have ever imagined. In constant terror of slipping up before she accomplishes her goal each day she begins to question if she is going to survive.

Haunting cruelty, pure hatred and violence abound in this well-crafted novel. From the horrors of Kristallnacht to the school's Ice Queen, Sarah's journey is one fraught with difficulty. It doesn't flinch from the horrors of war or the cruelty of people to one another. It is clear the author did a lot of background research on this period and as a result the setting feels authentic. It is dark and disturbing and fraught with tension. There are many graphically violent scenes that may upset sensitive readers. Trigger warning – attempted rape, alcoholism. Grades 8 and up.

Age Level: High School

Mary Beth Kurspahic Risdon Middle School

Killeen, Matt 9780451478733 \$18.99 432p.
Orphan Monster Spy (ARC) Penguin Young Reader's Group, 2018

15 year old Sarah is blonde, blue-eyed, and Jewish. She is a talented gymnast, she speaks several languages, she is adept at assimilating. In other words, she is well-equipped to be a spy. Assigned to infiltrate a school for the privileged daughters of high-ranking SS officers so she can discover the hidden location of a new kind of bomb, Sarah (now called "Ursula")

sneaks, lies, snoops, and tricks her way into the top level of mean girls. She finds the bomb...and much more. Good research, good character building, good suspense, a few-too-many coincidences for this reader, but decent historical fiction. Cussing is in German, sexual predation is tactfully disturbing. Probably first in a series.

Age Level: Junior High, High School, Adult

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of KCLS

Legrand, Claire 978-1-4926-5662-3 \$17.99 512p.

Furyborn, The Empirium Trilogy #1 Sourcebooks Fire, 2018

Rielle has powers beyond what anyone has seen and just may be the fulfillment of a prophecy that will either bring great joy or destroy everything. Eliana is a bounty hunter for a Lord who serves the evil Emperor. When women start disappearing (including her mother) Eliana is blackmailed into helping the rebels. These women are separated by 1000 years, but their stories must be connected – or there would be no reason for readers to deal with the confusion of these alternating stories. The world building felt incomplete, but the main characters were interesting enough to keep following. Recommend if you have lots of fantasy fans. Due to sex on the page, this is more appropriate for grades 10+.

Age Level: High School

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

McCullough, Kelly 978-1-250-10783-1 \$16.99 282p.

Magic, Madness, Mischief, MMM #1 Feiwel & Friends, 2018

Twelve-year-old Kalvan is shocked the day he accidentally electrocutes himself and unknowingly summons a talking rabbit made of fire. This fire hare refers to Kalvan as a “child of fire” and says that those with the magic element of fire either have it illuminate them like it’s done for Kalvan or it consumes them like it’s done for his mother. Magic is brand-new for Kalvan and his fire hare, Sparx, becomes his snarky, reluctant magic teacher. Kalvan learns that evil Darknes exists and is now after Kalvan because he’s perceived as a threat. Kalvan learns the hard way that the school bully is a child of water and serves the nefarious Water Queen who vows to kill Kalvan. However, they have a common enemy in the Winter King who is ruled by Darkness but has a human form. The Winter King wants to keep the Corona Borealis crown instead of passing it off at the end of his season. This would create chaos in the real world as it’s the changing human holder of the crown that allows for peace and the changing seasons. Can Kalvan find a way to defeat the Winter King before it costs Kalvan his life or worse? This fantasy tale has enough humor and action to keep it zipping along. First in a new series. Fans of Riordan will enjoy it.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High

Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

McLelland, Brad 9781250124326 \$16.99 325p.

Legends of the Lost Causes, Legends of Lost Causes #1 Henry Holt, 2018

Zombies in the Wild West! Keech and Sam need all the skills that Pa Abner taught them and the other orphans if they want to outwit the (undead!) bad guys and survive to book #2 in the series. Lots of action & adventure, minimal blood, no cussing, no sex, no drinking. Gun fights, horseback escapes, and zombies.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, could go as young as 3rd or 4th grade

Aarene Storms, dragonrider of KCLS

Merell, Billy 978-1-338-10092-1 \$17.99 320p.
Vanilla Push, 2017

Age Level: High School

Dawn Rutherford, Seattle Public Library

Mitchell, Jane 9781541500501 \$16.99 282p.
Without Refuge Carolrhoda Books, 2017

Without Refuge by Jane Mitchell takes us on a journey of escape from war torn Syria. Ghalib's family tried to remain in their beloved country through the war, but things have gotten so bad that they must leave or face terrible injury or death. The journey out of Syria includes hot desert crossings, snipers, dangerous border crossings, overcrowded immigrant camps, and smugglers. This is a great read for middle school students interested in this current event. I recommend it for 6th grade and up.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High

Cindy Simon, International Community School

Nielsen, Jennifer 978-1338045376 \$17.99 400p.
The Traitor's Game, The Traitor's Game #1 Scholastic, 2018

Kestra, daughter of a powerful man in an oppressive government, returns from exile where she has been training in warfare, only to be kidnapped by rebels, who want her to search for a magical object which can be used to kill the evil king. Her traveling companions are taken hostage as security to make her obey her captors, one of whom is somewhat kind and romantically interested in her, despite being her captor. Kestra comes to realize her father's involvement in an evil government and starts to wonder if she should be helping her kidnappers voluntarily. Not Nielsen's strongest work, but decent MS stuff.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High

Michael Fleming, High Priest of Literac, Pacific Cascade Middle School

Nielsen, Jennifer A. 978-1-338-04537-6 \$17.99 400p.
The Traitor's Game, The Traitor's Game #1 Scholastic, 2018

After being sent away by her father for three years, Kestra has been called home to do his bidding (i.e. marry). On the road, her convoy is attacked by rebels who blackmail her into helping them find the Olden Blade, the only weapon capable of killing the evil Lord Endrick. Assuming they can't trust her, Kestra is accompanied home by Simon (who grew up in her father's castle) and Trina (who has her own reasons for helping the rebellion). Luckily Kestra isn't a shrinking violet and she's capable of holding her own with the rebels and with her father. But, the secrets her dead mother was keeping will send her down a path Kestra could never have imagined. Adventurous, but some clunky world building. Fantasy fans will enjoy. Grades 7+.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Nielsen, Jennifer A. 978-1-338-04537-6 \$17.99 388p.

The Traitor's Gate, The Traitor's Game #1

Scholastic, 2018

Rebellious Kestra Dallisor has been recalled by her father, second-in-command to the king, from a three-year exile. On her return journey, enemies of the king kidnap Kestra. These rebels blackmail her into obtaining a magical weapon reportedly hidden at her father's estate and rumored to be the only means by which the king can be defeated. Kestra struggles to fight back at every turn, making life difficult for her captors Trina and Simon, but makes some discoveries along the way about the kingdom and her own legacy, which may change everything. The narrative switches between Kestra and Simon and the numerous of plot twists and developing love interest between these two characters will keep readers interested. First in a series. Grades 5 and up.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School

Orlando, Kristen

9781250123619

\$16.99

310p.

You Won't Know I'm Gone, The Black Angels Chronicles #2

Swoon Reads, 2018

Even though this is the second book in a series, I was able to follow the story with ease. After rogue mission to save her mother fails with tragic consequence, Reagan Hillis may be barred from Black Angels qualifiers. Black Angels are an elite, more-secret-than-CIA, US spy sector, and Reagan's parents have raised her to be a legacy recruit. But her insubordinate nature may keep her from living up to their expectations. Her recklessness may sabotage all her relationships. Her fixation on revenge may destroy her identity. The book has quite a bit of action, intrigue and covert ops but gets a little sluggish in the middle with Reagan's internal struggle to either stop pretending and embrace her potential and her thirst to avenge her mother's death. Her relationship with her father and pseudo-aunt/body guard feel like they could be fleshed out a little more but provide some impetus for change and character development. Reagan's definitely a flawed protagonist, and it's a wonder her friends stick by her after so much lying and betrayal but she's a tough girl you find yourself rooting for even in the midst of her mistakes. Feels a lot like the TV show, Quantico, as most of the story takes place during training. Complete with cliché roles for other recruits -- her two very likable BFFs that stick by her side no matter what, a taboo love interest she just can't stay away from, an entitled mean-girl who resents Reagan from the start. Kind of a cross between Quantico, Mean Girls, and Harry Potter without the magic. Possibly controversial ending leaves it open for a third installment. Some violence and language make this appropriate for grades 8th and up.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Heather Nelson, McKnight Middle School

Paterson, Katherine

9780763695088

\$15.99

198p.

My Brigadista Year

Candlewick Press, 2017

Lora lives with her family in Cuba in the 1960s. Her mother is preparing her to be a beautiful house wife, but Lora has other plans. When Fidel Castro calls for young volunteers to help teach his country to read, 13-year old Lora jumps at the opportunity. After much persuasion, her parents relent and Lora is sent to the Escambray Mountains where she will live and work alongside a farming family. In exchange, she will teach them to read. But the experience is not without dangers. Fidel Castro's enemies also live in the mountains and are eager to harm the brigadistas teaching the ignorant farmers to read. Great historical

fiction on Cuban history from a fresh perspective, as well as a coming-of-age story. Lora is a strong female character full of bravery, fear, and humanity. Ages 10 and up.

Age Level: Middle School, This book skews younger as well

Katy Olson, Monticello Middle School

Pierce, Tamora 9780375847110 \$18.99 466p.

Tempests and Slaughter, Numair Chronicles #1 Random House, 2018

Arram is a student at the Imperial University at Carthak. He is one of the youngest students there but is a really gifted mage. Luckily he makes friends with Varice and Ozorne who are also talented and help him with the social things that he is clueless about. They advance quickly through their classes (there is a little bit of a Harry Potter feel to some of this except there is not one book for each year), and discover that there is a threat to the kingdom - oh and by the way, it just so happens that Ozorne is in line for the throne and the others in the line in front of him keep dying... An entertaining read but I didn't think it was Pierce's best. Also, it was 466 pages and felt like it could have been edited down, or split into 2 books.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Ross, Rebecca 9780062471345 \$17.99 439p.

The Queen's Rising, The Queen's Rising #1 HarperTeen, 2018

Historical setting mixed with fantasy elements. Evil Kings and magical Queens. The Queen's Rising takes you on Brienna's journey of becoming a Passion of Knowledge, learning more about her birth father, and plotting to overthrow an evil King. Yes, the book is part of a trilogy, however, the book does not end on a cliffhanger, which I really appreciated. Overall, I can see this book doing well in any Library in which Fantasy stories are in-demand.

Age Level: Middle School, High School

Richele Buoy, Mill Creek Middle School

Schneider, Robyn 978-0062837882 \$17.99 310p.

Invisible Ghosts (ARC) Katherine Tegan Books, 2018

When Rose Asher's older brother died 4 years ago, she started seeing his ghost and in a way became a ghost herself. She stopped talking to her outgoing theatre friends and started trying to become invisible. Now a junior in High School, Rose and her ghost brother Logan hang out every day, watching reruns of favorite shows and hiding from the world. When an old friend Jamie moves back into town, Rose's life starts to change. He draws her back into their old friend group and encourages her to step out of backstage and into the limelight. As Rose starts to make changes in her life, Logan changes too, in scary unpredictable ways. This light romance with a ghost sub-plot was very enjoyable to read! Only the age of the characters and some brief nudity/heavy petting make it unsuitable for middle school.

Age Level: High School

Tracy Erickson, Redmond High School

Shofner, Corabel 978-0-374-30378-5 \$16.99 296p.

Almost Paradise Farrar Straus Giroux, 2017

Tween readers will enjoy this realistic fiction tale. For 12-year-old Ruby, life hasn't been easy as her dad died before she was born and her mom's always been attracted to the wrong kind of guys, like her current boyfriend that Ruby calls "Catfish." This year on her birthday, Ruby wakes up in Arkansas with all their belongings packed into the car. Then her mom and Catfish steal a pig from a zoo that Ruby's mom thinks was being abused. Ruby's so pleased to have this sweet pig that she names it Bunny. But then Catfish robs a convenience store and he ends up shot and Ruby's mom ends up arrested. Ruby was hiding in the bushes with Bunny so was not seen by the police. This forces Ruby to stay with her persnickety Aunt Eleanor that she just found about. Ruby's shocked to have never heard of this aunt, not only because she's a nun who only speaks 20 words a day, but also because she's her mom's estranged identical twin. Aunt Eleanor lives at Paradise Ranch (a peach farm) in Austin, Texas. Maybe this ranch could end up being almost paradise to Ruby who narrates her life story with heart and humor. Readers will cheer Ruby on and wish they had their own special pig named Bunny.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High
 Sherri Ashlock, Nelsen Middle School

Smith, Mark David	9781896580050	\$12.95	152p.
<i>Caravaggio: Signed in Blood</i>	Tradewind Books, 2014		

The story is told from Beppo's perspective, an orphaned teenager on the run after being accused of a crime he didn't commit. He meets up with Caravaggio, a well-known artists in Italy with questionable life-choices. There is lots of action and adventure within the overall. In addition, it is an extremely quick read. However, the abundance of Italian words could discourage some readers.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High
 Richele Buoy, Mill Creek Middle School

West, Kasie	978-0-06-267577-4	\$17.99	376p.
<i>Love, Life and the List</i>	HarperTeen, 2018		

Abby Turner is crushed when her artwork is rejected from a summer art show for "having no heart." Seeking to add more depth to her artwork, Abby decides that she should spend her summer having experiences that will help her grow as an artist. Her mother and grandfather help her come up with a list of experiences to try that includes items such as reading a classic, learning a stranger's story, quitting a bad habit, doing a service project and even having her heart broken. Her best friend—and unrequited crush—Cooper decides to do the list too, which will turn out to be tricky since the whole project revolves around matters of the heart. Along with the list, author Kasie West weaves in Abby's supportive but complicated home life. Her dad is serving in the military overseas, her mother is fearful of leaving the house, her grandfather lives with the family. Abby also meets friends outside her clique, which helps her grow in ways that surprisingly help with the list. Grades 7-10.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School
 Amber Peterson, Beaver Lake Middle School

Calista, the popular girl, and loners, Laura and Damian, all narrate chapters in this middle school fluff taking place five days before the big 8th grade dance. Damian sweats profusely but is the artist painting the poster for the dance; Laura, is smart but overweight, and beautiful Calista is devastated by a “gigantic” pimple on her nose. The plot focuses on the pimple and the middle-school problems and anxieties that result. Eventually, they all learn to appreciate each other for their talents, not their physical flaws.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, 6th-7th

Additional Comments: Author of Charlie Joe Jackson series
Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Liu, Liana 9780062306678 \$17.99 324p.
Shadow Girl HarperTeen, 2017

As her senior year comes to a close, Mei accepts a position as a summer tutor for a young girl named Ella, daughter of the wealthy Morison family. Ella and her family are spending the summer at their vacation home on Arrow Island, three hours from the city, so Mei will be boarding with them. She’s placed in a beautifully over-decorated room that was meant for Ella, but which Ella refuses to stay in because she believes there a ghost haunting the room. As Mei tries to convince Ella that ghosts don’t exist—and get her more focused on her studies—she has her own encounters with the ghost. The ghost claims to be Eleanor, daughter of island namesake Arrow family, but Mei finds no mention of her in Arrow history books. When Mei can no longer deny the presence of the ghost, she and Ella must work to figure out why she haunts the house and what she needs to move on. Side stories focus on Mei’s codependent relationship with her own mother, her budding romance with Ella’s brother Henry, and her view of the fragile marriage between Ella’s parents. The story drags a bit and Mei sometimes comes off more like a condescending adult than a mature teen, making this more of a slow-burn family drama than exciting paranormal mystery.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School

Poston, Ashley 978-0-06-265285-0 \$17.99 467p.
Heart of Iron Balzer + Bray, 2018

Retelling of the Anastasia story. As a child, Ana and her sentient robot, D09 are found in a space capsule with no memory and are rescued by a ragtag bunch of outlaws who become family. When Di, the robot, starts glitching, Ana is desperate to save him by finding the coordinates of a ship that may hold answers to her origins and Di’s problems. However, they are intercepted by a rival prince of the Iron Kingdom who has reasons of his own for wanting that same ship. There’s nice world building but it takes almost half the 400 page book to catch the reader. Characters are not fleshed out and it fails to anthropomorphize Di into a human enough robot to believe Ana could be in love with him. Ending is set-up for a sequel.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Prasad, Chandra 9780545907927 \$17.99 260p.
Damsel Scholastic, 2018

Tracy Erickson, Redmond High School

Slaughter, Lynn 978-1-62414-535-3 \$16.99 320p.
It Should Have Been You (ARC) Page Street, 2018

Because she was the only other person home when her twin sister was murdered, Claire has been considered a suspect by just about everyone including the lead detective (and even, if briefly, her mom). She's been dealing with rumors and cruelty, but now she's getting threatening emails thru an school newspaper account that no one is supposed to know goes to her. Her confidence in the police to keep her safe is low, so she decides the only way to stay alive is to figure out who killed her sister. The first page has a great hook "once I decided to kill her, the rest was surprisingly easy" BUT, unfortunately the rest of the book does not live up to this promise. The writing wasn't great and some of the plot elements (mom's depression, romantic interest) distract rather than add to the whole. Shrug. Grades 7-10.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School
Kirsten Gunn, Highline High School

Upperman, Katy 978-1-250-11116-6 \$17.99 297p.
Kissing Max Holden Swoon Reads, 2018

Childhood friends, Max and Jillian both 17, end up kissing in Jillian's bedroom one night, triggering an avalanche of latent feelings on both sides. Max is coping with his newly disabled father and crazy girlfriend. Jillian is coping with no longer having money for college because her new step-mother and father have spent her college fund on expensive fertility treatments to get Meredith pregnant. In addition, Meredith suspects he is cheating on her since she was the result of an affair on Jillian's mother. Hypocrisy abounds: Dad's cheating; Max is cheating; Jillian is cheating. In the end Jillian has to choose between her dad and Meredith with her new sister. Although derivative and predictable with 2D characters, it does have smoldering aspects.

Age Level: Junior High, High School, 8th+
Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

FICTION – NOT RECOMMENDED

Bergstrom, Scott 978-1-250-10820-3 \$18.99 403p.
The Greed, The Cruelty #2 Feiwel & Friends, 2018

Gwendolyn Brooks, 17 year-old black ops CIA agent, takes on a new identity as she wreaks revenge on the people who kidnapped and injured her diplomat father in book 1, The Cruelty. She and her father are still on the run in Uruguay and cities around the world as they search for safety. Filled with graphic brutal gratuitous violence—there's a whole page devoted to the details of Gwen strangling someone with no remorse. She kills first and asks questions later- maybe. Jean Feiwel, the publisher, claims she ignored the "body count" because they were more interested in a girl "figuring out her own identity." (Corbett) Well, she evolved-- from an overweight Jewish naive into a near-adult psychopath.

Age Level: High School, Adult, NA

were fun characters to go on this journey with, I enjoyed each of them and their dynamics. I found the story clever and original, and felt the suspense of possible danger while enjoying the story. Would recommend.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High
Maggie Block, Skyway Library KCLS

D.G., Gigi 1626728321 \$14.99
Cucumber Quest: The Doughnut Kingdom, Cucumber Quest #1 First Second, 2017
Very cute comic series, with a unique water color artistic style, and a sophisticated sense of humor I was not expecting for a children's comic. Cucumber is all set to start school at Puffington's Academy for a Magically Gifted (and/or Incredibly Wealthy) when his father strong arms him into going on a quest to save the world. Cucumber does not think of himself as a legendary hero, nor does his sister Almond, but luckily she's ready to come along on the journey. This comedic action story is sure to fans of Steven Universe captivated with cute characters and tons of fun!

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High
Maggie Block, Skyway Library KCLS

D.G., Gigi 1250159822 \$12.99
Cucumber Quest: The Ripple Kingdom, Cucumber Quest #2 First Second, 2018
Cucumber Quest continues! Now that Queen Cordelia has successfully freed the nightmare knight, Cucumber, Almond, and Sir Carrot have to find Saturday (a character) to get back the Dream Sword. But first they have to defeat Splashmaster the first of the Nightmare Knights evil Servants. With the help of their new friend Princess Nautilus, and their ever growing skills, that might stand a chance!

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High
Maggie Block, Skyway Library KCLS

Franklin, Tee 9781534307506 \$9.99 88p.
Bingo Love Inclusive Press, 2018
This is a lovely story of a lesbian romance started in high school that is thwarted by religious parents, and later rekindled when the ladies are senior citizens. A very sweet book highly recommended to readers with interest in this topic, with good art and pacing. I question the overall teen appeal, since the ladies are adults much of the story, but those looking for a love story with a happy ending will not go away unsatisfied.

Age Level: High School, Adult
Dawn Rutherford, Seattle Public Library

Judge, Lita 1626725004 \$21.99 320p.
Mary's Monster: Love, Madness and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein
Roaring Book Press, 2018
This biography of Mary Shelley attempts to capture the moments of her life that may have influenced her writing of Frankenstein. Told in free verse, with black and white atmospheric illustrations, her story is not a happy one. When she ran away with a married man, pregnant at 16, Mary was just following her heart. Little did she know the tragedies that would continue to await her in life. It was through these tragedies, however, that

Frankenstein was born. The author has an extensive list of materials to follow up with, and a wonderful Author's Note in the back. The story is beautifully wrought and the illustration style adds so much to the story. The material is mature and I can't see the book having wide appeal. However, it is a beautiful book, painstakingly well researched and tragic story that is worth having in the collection. Trigger warnings: rape, suicide, depression

Age Level: High School

Mary Beth Kurspahic, Risdon Middle School

Meyer, Marissa 978-1-250-07828-5 \$21.99 324p.

Gone Rogue, Wires and Nerve #2 Feiwel & Friends, 2018

Lunar Queen Cinder and her android best friend, Iko continue to hunt down the pack of bio-engineered wolf soldiers led by Alpha Lysander Steele. Peace between Earth and Lunar are threatened as well as Cinder's life. Characters from the Lunar Chronicles series, Kai, Scarlet and Wolf, Cress and Thorne, Winter and Jacin all reappear. Readers who loved Volume 1 will not be disappointed.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

O'Conner, George 9781626725249 \$18.00 76p.

Hermes: Tales of the Trickster, Olympians First Second, 2018

MS/HS The 10th in the Olympians series turns its attention to Hermes, god of lies, language, and trickery (among many others). Fittingly, the plot centers around a series of tales about Hermes' roguish exploits, told by a mysterious traveler who is trading stories for hospitality. Beginning with Hermes' birth and childhood, O'Connor illustrates the speedy god's mischievousness with slapstick flair, playing up his witty repartee and sly, impish appeal. O'Connor's artwork is as solid as ever, with muscle-bound deities and grotesque monsters aplenty (Typhon, in particular, is quite impressive). If his other titles are any indication, this will be very popular!

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen High School

Wang, Jen 9781626723634 \$16.99 288p.

The Prince and the Dressmaker First Second, 2018

Frances is a dressmaker who longs to be a designer. When one of her daring designs gets worn to a high society party she is suddenly hired by a mystery client to live in the palace and design dresses. The mystery client turns out to be Prince Sebastian. Together they create the persona Lady Crystallia and she begins taking the fashion world by storm. But he is still a prince during the day and if his secret life is discovered, everything could turn into a disaster. I adore this graphic novel! The artwork is clean and easy to look at and the coloring is beautiful. The character development is fantastic which normally can be difficult with a graphic novel. I really cared about Frances and Sebastian. There is a romance angle to the story and I can't decide if I like it or not. It doesn't ruin the story by any means but part of me preferred just the focus on friendship. Overall, I think it's perfect for any age!

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Alexis Hardy, Centralia Timberland Library

GRAPHIC NOVEL – SHRUG

Breach, Jen 9780545814461 \$14.99 p.

Clem Hetherington and the Ironwood Race, Clem Hetherington #1 (ARC)

Scholastic: Graphix, 2018

There were things I liked about this book, female fronted action adventure, original ideas (archeologist race!). The illustrations are fun, vibrant, and move along the crash bang excitement of the story. But I felt the storytelling skills couldn't quite weave the pieces of this book together. Clem is an orphan who's run away from the orphanage with her android and trying to find a way to get on an archeological dig so she can support herself. When her parent's colleagues don't want to bring a child on digs, she turns her parents former assistant who wants her to work this dangerous Ironwood Race to dig up buried treasures. The shocking reveal at the end was so poorly developed that the conclusion was pretty meh. I think it's a fine read for younger audiences, but there's better out there, so I recommend with a shrug.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High

Maggie Block, Skyway Library KCLS

Geary, Rick 978-1-68112-134-5 \$15.99 60p.

The True Death of Billy the Kid NBM, 2014

While this non-fiction title may enlighten readers to more about the context of Billy the Kid's death, it raises more questions than it answers. Too brief for most adult readers, and not fun enough to appeal to younger readers, I can see why this ended up being published through Kickstarter. Illustrated in Geary's classic black and white style it is well done, if ultimately unsatisfying. Not particularly useful for research. A supplementary purchase at best.

Age Level: High School, Adult

Additional Comments: Originally published as Kickstarter

Dawn Rutherford, Seattle Public Library

MariNaomi 9781541510449 \$11.99 280p.

Losing the Girl, Life on Earth #1 Graphic Universe, 2018

This graphic novel follows the perspectives of four teens who are all connected with each other in some dramatic way, either romantic feelings, friendship issues etc. In the background of each of their stories is a girl none of the characters know but has suddenly disappeared with the rumor that she has been kidnapped by aliens. Also, all the characters cellphones mysteriously do not work. This the only evidence during the story that there might be something more going on. It's a strange graphic novel with a ton of angst. The artwork is on the abstract side and the style changes based on which character's perspective you are reading. I found most of the characters to not be very likable either but I did think the experiences portrayed were realistic. Overall it was a shrug for me.

Age Level: High School

Alexis Hardy, Centralia Timberland Library

GRAPHIC NOVEL – NOT RECOMMENDED

Whamond, Dave 9781771383554 \$14.99 48p.
Nick the Sidekick Kids Can Press, 2018
 Fun, cute, and short graphic novel. Wonderful pictures and storyline. However, WAY too young for MS/HS.
Age Level: Too young for YA, Grade: 1-4
 Richele Buoy, Mill Creek Middle School

NON-FICTION – RECOMMEND

Allman, Toney 978-1-68282-325-5 \$29.95 80p.
Genetics and Medicine, Next-Generation Medical Technology Reference Point Press, 2018
 One of the five books in this series, Genetics and Medicine covers topics such as personalized medicine, gene therapy, and prenatal genetic testing as well as discussing how genes and DNA works. It gives personal examples (Angelina Jolie and the breast cancer gene) and some pictures as well as text boxes. Information is well-sourced and up-to-date but is a little dense for middle-school researchers.
Age Level: Junior High, High School, Adult
 Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Aronson, Marc and Marina Budhos 9780805098358 \$22.99 294p.
Eyes of the World Henry Holt, 2017
 Eyes of the World: Robert Capa, Gerda Taro, and the Invention of Modern Photojournalism is the story of the Spanish Civil War and two people who started photojournalism. Capa and Taro were both Jewish refugees living in France when they met and fell in love. Their bravery and hunger took them to the frontlines of the Spanish Civil War to capture the brutality and humanity of those living there. Their images inspired others internationally to join the war efforts and inform the world. I didn't anticipate as much detail about the Spanish Civil War and the prelude into WWII, but it helped put their photographs in perspective. The bibliography and sources notes are extensive and helpful. This is a well researched nonfiction book for high school and older.
Age Level: High School
 Katy Olson, Monticello Middle School

Blohm, Craig E. 978-1-68282-331-6 \$29.95 80p.
3D Printing and Medicine, Next-Generation Medical Technology Reference Point Press, 2018
 This book in the Next-Generation Medical Technology series starts with the evolution of 3D printing and covers the big topics, replacing organs, creating new body parts and printing pharmaceuticals as well as its use in surgery and research. Like the other books in this series, the information is up-to-date and well-sourced; the graphics (text boxes, definitions) are helpful but the text itself is dense and middle-school researchers could use more diagrams and pictures.
Age Level: Junior High, High School, Adult
 Nancy Federiuk, Pacific Middle School

Conkling, Winifred 978-1-61620-734-2 \$19.95 312p.
Votes for Women: American Suffragists and the Battle of the Ballot (ARC)
Algonquin Books, 2018

Most would think that all American women would be in favor of women suffrage, but as Winnifred Conklin points out in the preface of *Votes for Women*, this was not the case. In the middle of the nineteenth century most Americans considered suffrage a ludicrous idea. By the turn of the century, opinions were beginning to change, but it was still a battle getting the final vote to pass the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. Even by that time, many women were against the idea. Some felt it was the bitter old maids who were not happy being represented in government by their fathers, husbands and brothers. The book tells the story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Victoria Claflin Woodhull and other women important to the beginning campaign to gain the right to vote for women. The stories of their lives, the struggles, the ties to the issues of slavery and temperance are presented. The book continues with the second wave of less genteel suffragists led by Alice Paul - pointing out the thankless struggles made by many women to finally achieve woman suffrage after much personal sacrifice. This is a really good telling of an important struggle in history. At the end of the book, primary sources, a timeline of the women involved, a bibliography and notes are included to help the reader. Highly recommended for middle school and high school students.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School
JoAnn Olsson, Liberty High School

Haelle, Tara 9781512425307 \$37.32 120p.
Vaccination Investigation: The History and Science of Vaccines
Twenty-First Century Books, 2018

Vaccination Investigation: The History and Science of Vaccines by Tara Haelle provides a broad background on vaccines. Some of the topics included are: a basic understanding of how disease works, how vaccines prevent disease, the history of immunization, the process of creating vaccines, the pushback from media and legislature, and current disease epidemics and possible solutions. In a school setting, this book lends itself to content areas like biology as well as social studies because of the controversial issues surrounding immunization. It should be noted that the source notes were weak. The author cites herself and not the original sources from her articles, also no in-text citation. This book skews more towards high school than middle school, but I'm including it in my middle school collection. It's a good starting point for understanding immunization.

Age Level: High School

Additional Comments: This book is a great place to start, but I would make sure to have other books on the subject.

Katy Olson, Monticello Middle School

Keyser, Amber J. 9781512427523 \$29.00 80p.
Underneath It All: A History of Women's Underwear Twenty-First Century Books, 2018
HS - Corsets, open-crotch drawers, farthingales, chastity belts, and bullet bras, OH MY! As stated in her introduction, undergarments are closely tied to "the complex interactions of gender, sexuality, politics, and body image," and Keyser incorporates these topics with unblushing candor. Early chapters take readers through the evolution of underwear's form

and function, from basic bindings to lingerie and corsetry, noting that a lady's underwear options were dictated by her class and shifting beauty ideals—typically dictated by men. The male gaze is directly addressed in sections describing the rise of the “bombshell” during WWII and Victoria's Secret, originally created to sell lingerie to men. Similarly, women's rights and the reappropriation of female sexuality (thanks, Madonna!) get their due diligence, as do modern companies supporting trans individuals. Inset boxes offer relevant trivia, while illustrations utilize iconic images of women who shaped, embodied, or challenged an era's notion of femininity. A fun romp with interesting ties to the social sciences and history. Given the subject matter, I can't see it staying on the shelves long.

Age Level: High School

Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen High School

Nye, Naomi Shihab 978-0-06-269184-2 \$17.99 190p.
Voices in the Air: Poems for Listeners Greenwillow Books, 2018

Naomi Shihab Nye's most recent collection of poems is a tribute to inspirational writers and speakers of the past (and a few from the present). There are brief biographical notes for each of the 79 people mentioned in the poems that have “inspired and encouraged me (Nye) and so many others over the years.” This collection is a highly recommended addition to poetry sections and a very welcome addition to any collection that other works by Naomi Shihab Nye.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School, Adult

Andy Berkbigler, Shorecrest High School

Rosen, Michael 9781512429992 \$37.21 96p.
Outrageous Animal Adaptations Twenty-First Century Books, 2018

This book explores the adaptations of two dozen animals from mudskippers (fish that spend time on land) to vampire squid (which flash light, instead of discharging dark ink, to confuse its predators). Each brief chapter includes classification information, curious facts, and enticing color photos of its subject, and is chockful of interesting information, such as how the Galapagos giant turtle can go up to 18 months without eating/drinking and the marabou stork poops on its own legs to cool down! Lots of fascinating information in this compact title! The reading level is fairly high, but the pictures and quick facts make this book accessible to struggling readers as well.

Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School

Dawn Lindgren, Cascade Middle School

Voiklis, Charlotte Jones and Lena Roy 9780374307646 \$19.99 162p.
Becoming Madeleine Farrar Straus Giroux, 2018

Madeleine L'Engle was 43 when her ageless book, *A Wrinkle in Time*, was accepted for publication. The book is still read in classrooms across the country. Written by her granddaughters, this biography explores Madeleine's life journey that help develop her as an author. This journey included a father with PTSD after WWI, boarding school travails, and theater work. Snippets of Madeleine's writings, letters, and diary entries provide a view into her struggles, talent, and drive to be a writer. I recommend this book for 6th through 8th grade.

Age Level: Middle School

Cindy Simon, International Community School

Zimmer, Marc 9781512427523 \$29.00 80p.
Lighting Up the Brain: The Science of Optogenetics Twenty-First Century Books, 2018
What is neuroscientists could look inside the human brain and see exactly that it was doing? This may sound like science fiction, but it's not. In concise text, this book explains optogenetics, which uses light to control cells in living tissue, particularly the neurons in the brain. It also explores the groundbreaking innovations and tools developed to do this and how they work. Inherent risks are acknowledged, and the controversy over animal testing is mentioned, but the hope is that this will ultimately lead to treatment of certain disorders and diseases, including Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, anxiety, depression, narcolepsy, and perhaps even visual impairments. This attractively designed book is full of color photos and includes a table of contents, source notes, a glossary, a selected bibliography, further information, and an index. Vocabulary and subject matter might put this in the HS, but I could see a motivated MS student using this as well.
Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School
Joanne Glasgow, Evergreen High School

NON-FICTION – SHRUG

Nardo, Don 9781601529480 \$27.95 80p.
Cleopatra Influential Women Reference Point Press, 2016
This series focuses on women around the world from different eras who have lived fascinating lives and made various contributions, especially when facing gender inequality, to the world. This book focuses on Cleopatra. There are a lot of books available about Cleopatra and I personally have not read enough of them to know if this one provides any new information. Back of the book includes: source notes; timeline; books, internet sources, and websites for further research; index; and picture credits. Other titles in the series: Marie Curie, Anne Frank, Hillary Clinton, Malala Yousafzai. Recommended with a shrug as much of this information can be found online these days.
Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School
Anne Dame, Einstein Middle School

Woodward, Kay 9781338216400 \$16.99 112p.
What Would SHE do? 25 True Stories of Trailblazing Rebel Women (ARC)
Scholastic, 2018
Brief bios of 25 diverse, historical women, with attractive, colorful illustrations. So far, so good. It's when Cleopatra gives advice about mean girls, or Joan of Arc offers encouragement for those working against the odds that things in the book get pear-shaped. Well-intentioned, but seems to be trying (unsuccessfully) too hard to be "hip." Fine for browsing, not-so-good for biography assignments or self-help.
Age Level: Middle School, Junior High, High School
Aarene Storms, dragonrider of KCLS