Suggested Reading for Grade 6-12

Fiction

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

Anderson, Natalie C. *City of Saints & Thieves* (2017)
Years after her beloved mother is murdered by her corrupt businessman employer, Tina, a girl who fled Congo during childhood, becomes an expert thief in order to support her younger sister and pursue a dangerous opportunity to exact revenge. *YA Fic Anderson*

Sixteen-year-old Emmy Danvers was just trying to write a halfway decent romance novel when a senile old man mumbled a cryptic warning, tackled her to the ground in the middle of Starbucks, and ... died right on top of her. Unfortunately for Emmy, the incident wasn’t quite as random as she thought, and it turns out that the old man might have taken a bullet for her. Not only that, he slipped something into her pocket: a digital tablet containing secrets that she has no idea how to unlock, but that others are ready to kill for. *YA Fic Bates*

Beaufrand, M. J. *Useless Bay* (2016)
On Whidbey Island, the Gray quintuplets are the stuff of legend. Pixie and her brothers have always been bigger and blonder than their neighbors, as if they were birthed from the island itself. Together, they serve as an unofficial search-and-rescue team for the island, saving tourists and locals alike from the forces of wind and sea. But, when a young boy goes missing, the mysteries start to pile up. While searching for him, they find his mother’s dead body instead — and realize that something sinister is in their midst. *YA Fic Beaufrand*

Rhee, better known as Crown Princess Rhiannon Ta’an, is the last Empress of a powerful dynasty. After her family perished under suspicious circumstances, Rhee grew up in exile while Parliament ruled in her stead. Now, Rhee has finally come of age to claim her throne ... and to avenge her family. But on the eve of her coronation, Rhee is brutally attacked and barely escapes with her life. Across the galaxy, pilot Alyosha has risen above his war refugee origins to find fame as the star of a reality holo-vision show. But when Aly is falsely accused of killing Rhee, he goes from celebrity to fugitive in an instant. When their paths collide, Rhee and Aly discover the attack is just one part of a larger plan with devastating consequences for the entire galaxy. With planets on the brink of war, Rhee and Aly must fight to save their own lives – and the fate of the universe. *YA Fic Belleza*

Brittenham, Skip. *Between Worlds* (2016)
Dismissing a local legend about a wish-granting tree near their town, Mayberry and Marshall discover the tree in a nearby grove before finding themselves on a beautiful alien world filled with danger and fantastical creatures, in a story that incorporates interactive 3D elements. *YA Fic Brittenham*
Naeem is far from the “model teen.” Moving fast in his immigrant neighborhood in Queens is the only way he can outrun the eyes of his hardworking Bangladeshi parents and their gossipy neighbors. Even worse, they’re not the only ones watching. Cameras on poles. Mosques infiltrated. Everyone knows: Be careful what you say and who you say it to. Anyone might be a watcher. Naeem thinks he can charm his way through anything, until his mistakes catch up with him and the cops offer a dark deal. Naeem sees a way to be a hero — a protector — like the guys in his brother’s comic books. Yet what is a hero? What is a traitor? And where does Naeem belong? *YA Fic Budhos*

Burkinshaw, Kathleen. *The Last Cherry Blossom* (2016)
Yuriko is happy growing up in Hiroshima when it’s just her and Papa. But her aunt Kimiko and her cousin Genji are living with them now, and the family is only getting bigger with talk of a double marriage! And while things are changing at home, the world beyond their doors is even more unpredictable. World War II is coming to an end, and where Japan stands is not entirely clear, with any battle losses being hidden from its people. Yuriko is used to the sirens and air raid drills, but things start to feel more real when the neighbors who have left to fight stop coming home. When the bombs hit Hiroshima, it’s through Yuriko’s twelve-year-old eyes that we witness the devastation and horror. *YA Fic Burkinshaw*

Sefia knows what it means to survive. After her father is brutally murdered, she flees into the wilderness with her aunt Nin, who teaches her to hunt, track, and steal. But when Nin is kidnapped, leaving Sefia completely alone, none of her survival skills can help her discover where Nin’s been taken, or if she’s even alive. The only clue to both her aunt’s disappearance and her father’s murder is the odd rectangular object her father left behind, an object she comes to realize is a book — a marvelous item unheard of in her otherwise illiterate society. With the help of this book, and the aid of a mysterious stranger with dark secrets of his own, Sefia sets out to rescue her aunt and find out what really happened the day her father was killed — and punish the people responsible. *YA Fic Chee*

Eleven-year-old Alex Petroski is determined to launch his golden iPod into space, just like his hero Carl Sagan launched the Golden Record into space ages and ages ago. Instead, Alex and his dog, aptly named Carl Sagan, wind up on a road trip with some unexpected (and awesome) traveling companions and more than one eye-opening detour. On the road, Alex learns a lot about rockets, casinos, animal control, apple pie à la mode, and secrets he didn’t know existed — including the truth about his long-dead father, and the realization that for a kid with just a mom and an erstwhile brother, he has way more family than he ever knew. *YA Fic Cheng*

Daisy, 12, has died in a car accident. She finds herself in the afterworld, which resembles nothing more than a job center. Her soul is being returned to Earth, but not as a human being — she’s returning as a dog. A dog who retains Daisy's thoughts and pluck and is determined to get back to her parents and to get back home. What she doesn’t expect is that life as a dog named Ray would come with such worries – and moments of jubilation – as she grows to care for others in a whole new way. *YA Fic Coggin*

As Ash trains for his town’s annual Stag Chase — a race rooted in violent, ancient lore — he’s certain that if he can win and make his father proud, life will return to normal. But the line between reality and illusion is rapidly blurring, and the past has a way of threatening the present. When a run in the mountains brings Ash face-to-face with Bone Jack — a figure that guards the boundary between the living world and the dead — everything changes once more. As dark energies take root and the world as he knows it is upended, it's up to Ash to restore things to their proper order and literally run for his life. *YA Fic Crowe*
A prequel to the worldwide Maze Runner phenomenon, *The Fever Code* is the book that holds all the answers. How did WICKED find the Glades? Who are Group B? And what side are Thomas and Teresa really on? Lies will be exposed. Secrets will be uncovered. Loyalties will be proven. Fans will never see the truth coming. *YA Fic Dashner*

**De La Cruz, Melissa. *Something in Between* (2016)**
Jasmine de los Santos has always done what’s expected of her. Pretty and popular, she’s studied hard, made her Filipino immigrant parents proud and is ready to reap the rewards in the form of a full college scholarship. And then everything shatters. A national scholar award invitation compels her parents to reveal the truth: Their visas expired years ago. Her entire family is illegal. That means no scholarships, maybe no college at all and the very real threat of deportation. For the first time, Jasmine rebels, trying all those teen things she never had time for in the past. Even as she’s trying to make sense of her new world, it’s turned upside down by Royce Blakely, the charming son of a high-ranking congressman. Jasmine no longer has any idea where — or if — she fits into the American Dream. All she knows is that she’s not giving up. Because when the rules you lived by no longer apply, the only thing to do is make up your own. *YA Fic De La Cruz*

**Delano, L. E. *Traveler* (2017)**
Jessa has spent her life dreaming of other worlds and writing down stories more interesting than her own, until the day her favorite character, Finn, suddenly shows up and invites her out for coffee. After the requisite nervous breakdown, Jessa learns that she and Finn are Travelers, born with the ability to slide through reflections and dreams into alternate realities. But it’s not all cupcakes, pirates, and fantasy lifestyles – Jessa is dying over and over again in every reality, and Finn is determined that this time, he’s going to stop it. This Jessa is going to live. *YA Fic Delano*

Amy Lennox doesn’t know quite what to expect when she and her mother pick up and leave Germany for Scotland, heading to her mother’s childhood home of Lennox House on the island of Stormsay. Amy’s grandmother, Lady Mairead, insists that Amy must read while she resides at Lennox House — but not in the usual way. It turns out that Amy is a book jumper, able to leap into a story and interact with the world inside. As thrilling as Amy’s new power is, it also brings danger: Someone is stealing from the books she visits, and that person may be after her life. Teaming up with fellow book jumper Will, Amy vows to get to the bottom of the thefts — at whatever cost. *YA Fic Glaser*

**Goldhagen, Shari. *100 Days of Cake* (2016)**
Suffering from debilitating depression that makes it difficult for her to get out of bed, 17-year-old Molly endures the ministrations of an unhelpful psychiatrist and her mother’s denial before learning that the workplace she depends on is closing, forcing her to confront difficult choices. *100 Days of Cake* is a quirky and poignant story of a girl, her depression, an aggressive amount of baked goods, and the struggle to simply stay afloat in an unpredictable, bittersweet world. *YA Fic Goldhagen*

World War II is raging. Michael O’Shaunessey, originally from Ireland, now lives in Nazi Germany with his parents. Like the other boys in his school, Michael is a member of the Hitler Youth. But Michael has a secret. He and his parents are spies. Michael despises everything the Nazis stand for. But he joins in the Hitler Youth’s horrific games and book burnings, playing the part so he can gain insider knowledge. When Michael learns about Projekt 1065, a secret Nazi war mission, things get even more complicated. He must prove his loyalty to the Hitler Youth at all costs – even if it means risking everything he cares about. *YA Fic Gratz*
Griffin, Sarah Maria. *Spare and Found Parts* (2016)
It’s not easy to make friends when your heart ticks like a clock. Like a bomb. When your father is a genius who saved you — and many others — from a devastating virus with his invention of biomechanical limbs. When everyone expects the same revolutionary ideas from you. You have never connected. Not until you find that mannequin’s hand on the beach. The hand that gives you an idea. If your father can build parts, why can’t you build a whole person? *YA Fic Griffin*

Wayne Kovok lives in a world of After. After his uncle in the army was killed overseas. After Wayne and his mother survived a plane crash while coming back from the funeral. After he lost his voice. Wayne has always used his love of facts to communicate (“Did you know more people die each year from shaking a vending machine than from shark attacks?”). Without his voice, how will he wow the prettiest girl in school? How will he stand up to his drill-sergeant grandfather? And how will he share his hopes with his deadbeat dad? It’s not until Wayne loses his voice completely that he realizes how much he doesn’t say. *YA Fic Harrington*

Hicks, Faith Erin. *The Nameless City* (2016)
Every time it is invaded, the City gets a new name, but to the natives, it is the Nameless City, and they survive by not letting themselves get involved. Now the fate of the City rests in the hands of Rat, a native, and Kaidu, one of the Dao, the latest occupiers, and the two must somehow work together if the City is to survive. *YA GN Hicks*

Kent, Trilby. *Once in a Town Called Moth* (2016)
Ana is not your typical teenager. She grew up in a tiny Mennonite colony in Bolivia, and her mother fled the colony when Ana was a young girl. Now Ana and her father have also fled, and Ana doesn’t know why. She only knows that something was amiss in their tight-knit community. Arriving in Toronto, Ana has to fend for herself in this alien environment, completely isolated in a big city with no help and no idea where to even begin. But begin she does: She makes a friend, then two. She goes to school and tries to understand the myriad unspoken codes and rules. She is befriended by a teacher. She goes to the library, the mall, parties. And all the while, she searches for the mother who left so long ago, and tries to understand her father – also a stranger in a strange land, with secrets of his own. *YA Fic Kent*

For Tara Krishnan, navigating Brierly, the academically rigorous prep school she attends on scholarship, feels overwhelming and impossible. Her junior year begins in the wake of a startling discovery: A message from an alternate Earth, light years away, is intercepted by NASA. This means that on another planet, there is another version of Tara, a Tara who could be living better, burning brighter, because of tiny differences in her choices. As the world lights up with the knowledge of Terra Nova, the mirror planet, Tara’s life on Earth begins to change. At first, small shifts happen, like attention from Nick Osterman, the most popular guy at Brierly, and her mother playing hooky from work to watch the news all day. But eventually those small shifts swell, the discovery of Terra Nova like a black hole, bending all the light around it. As a new era of scientific history dawns and Tara’s life at Brierly continues its orbit, only one thing is clear: Nothing on Earth – and for Tara – will ever be the same again. *YA Fic Khorana*

The point of living is learning how to love. That’s what Gpa says. One hot July night, Hendrix and Corrina decide to risk everything. They steal a car, spring Gpa from his assisted living facility, stuff Old Humper the dog into the back seat, and take off on a cross-country odyssey from L.A. to New York. With their parents, Gpa’s doctors, and the police all hot on their heels, Hendrix and Corrina set off to discover for themselves if what Gpa says is true — that the only stories that last are love stories. *YA Fic Kiely*
It's been a century of peace since Earth became a colony of an alien race with far reaches into the galaxy. Some die-hard extremists still oppose their rule on Earth, but Donovan Reyes isn't one of them. His dad holds the prestigious position of Prime Liaison in the collaborationist government, and Donovan's high social standing along with his exocel (a remarkable alien technology fused to his body) guarantee him a bright future in the security forces. That is, until a routine patrol goes awry and Donovan's abducted by the human revolutionary group Sapience. YA Fic Lee

Jena — strong, respected, reliable — is the leader of the line, a job every girl in the village dreams of. Watched over by the Mothers as one of the chosen seven, Jena's years spent denying herself food and wrapping her limbs have paid off. She is small enough to squeeze through the tunnels of the mountain and gather the harvest, risking her life with each mission. No work is more important. This has always been the way of things, even if it isn't easy. But as her suspicions mount and Jena begins to question the life she's always known, the cracks in her world become impossible to ignore. YA Fic McKinlay

Metzger, Lois. Change Places with Me (2016)
Rose has changed. She still lives in the same neighborhood and goes to the same high school with the same group of kids, but when she woke up today, something was a little different. Her clothes and her hair don't suit her anymore. The dogs who live upstairs are no longer a terror. She wants to throw a party — this from a girl who hardly ever spoke to her classmates. There's no more sadness in her life; she's bursting with happiness. But something still feels wrong to Rose. Because until very recently, she was an entirely different person — a person who's still there inside her, just beneath the thinnest layer of skin. YA Fic Metzger

Nesbet, Anne. Cloud and Wallfish (2016)
Noah Keller has a pretty normal life, until one wild afternoon when his parents pick him up from school and head straight for the airport, telling him on the ride that his name isn't really Noah and he didn't really just turn 11 in March. And he can't even ask them why — not because of his Astonishing Stutter, but because asking questions is against the newly instated rules. (Rule Number Two: Don't talk about serious things indoors, because Rule Number One: They will always be listening). As Noah — now “Jonah Brown” — and his parents head behind the Iron Curtain into East Berlin, the rules and secrets begin to pile up so quickly that he can hardly keep track of the questions bubbling up inside him: Who, exactly, is listening — and why? When did his mother become fluent in so many languages? And what really happened to the parents of his only friend, Cloud-Claudia, the lonely girl who lives downstairs? YA Fic Nesbet

Nix, Garth. Frogkisser! (2017)
Cursed with a spell-breaking magic kiss, Princess Anya is forced to flee her stepfamily's plot to take over the kingdom and embarks on a wild adventure involving a talking dog, a boy trapped in the body of a newt and some extraordinarily mischievous wizards. YA Fic Nix

Polisner, Gae. The Memory of Things (2016)
On the morning of September 11, 2001, 16-year-old Kyle Donohue watches the first twin tower come down from the window of Stuyvesant High School. Moments later, terrified and fleeing home to safety across the Brooklyn Bridge, he stumbles across a girl perched in the shadows, covered in ash, and wearing a pair of costume wings. With his mother and sister in California and unable to reach his father, a NYC detective likely on his way to the disaster, Kyle makes the split-second decision to bring the girl home. What follows is their story, told in alternating points of view, as Kyle tries to unravel the mystery of the girl so he can return her to her family. But what if the girl has forgotten everything, even her own name? And what if the more Kyle gets to know her, the less he wants her to go home? YA Fic Polisner
In 1955, in Caroline County, Virginia, amidst segregation and prejudice, injustice and cruelty, two teenagers fell in love. Their life together broke the law, but their determination would change it. Richard and Mildred Loving were at the heart of a Supreme Court case that legalized marriage between races, and a story of the devoted couple who faced discrimination, fought it, and won. *YA Fic Powell*

Preble, Joy. *It Wasn’t Always Like This* (2016)
In 1916, Emma O’Neill is frozen in time. After sampling an experimental polio vaccine brewed in the remote swamps off St. Augustine, Florida, she and her family stop aging — as do the Ryans, her family’s business partners. In a way, this suits Emma fine, because she’s in love with Charlie Ryan. Being 17 together forever with him is a dream. But soon a group of religious fanatics, the Church of Light, notices that Emma’s brother Simon hasn’t aged past two — when he should be five. In the name of divine justice, the Church attacks both families, killing all but Emma and Charlie. Drinking the elixir makes one impervious to aging, but not to murder. In a final tragic blow to Emma, Charlie abandons her, claiming it’s the only way she’ll stay safe. For the next 100 years, Emma wanders, avoiding the descendants of the Church even as she searches for a way to stop them. And always, she keeps an eye out for a certain 17-year-old boy whom she hopes is searching for her, too. *YA Fic Preble*

Lucy is a bit of a pushover, but she’s ambitious and smart, and she has just received the opportunity of a lifetime: a scholarship to a prestigious school, and a ticket out of her broken-down suburb. Though she’s worried she will stick out like badly cut bangs among the razor-straight students, she is soon welcomed into the Cabinet, the supremely popular trio who wield influence over classmates and teachers alike. Linh is blunt, strong-willed, and fearless — everything Lucy once loved about herself. She is also Lucy’s last solid link to her life before private school, but she is growing tired of being eclipsed by the glamour of the Cabinet. As Lucy floats further away from the world she once knew, her connection to Linh — and to her old life — threatens to snap. *YA Fic Pung*

Riggs, Ransom. *Tales of the Peculiar* (2016)
Wealthy cannibals who dine on the discarded limbs of peculiars. A fork-tongued princess. These are but a few of the truly brilliant stories in *Tales of the Peculiar* — the collection of fairy tales known to hide information about the peculiar world, including clues to the locations of time loops — first introduced by Ransom Riggs in the Miss Peregrine’s Peculiar Children series. Now, share his secrets of peculiar history, with a collection of original stories, as collected and annotated by Millard Nullings, ward of Miss Peregrine and scholar of all things peculiar. *YA Fic Riggs*

Ish is convinced that she’ll be one of the first settlers on Mars. She’s applied to — and been rejected from — the Mars Now project 47 times, but the mission won’t leave for 10 years and Ish hasn’t given up hope. She also hasn’t given up hope that Tig will be her best friend again (not that she’d ever admit that to anyone, least of all herself). When Ish collapses on the first day of seventh grade, she gets a diagnosis that threatens all her future plans. As Ish fights cancer, she dreams in vivid detail about the Martian adventures she’s always known she’d have — and makes unexpected discoveries about love, fate, and her place in the vast universe. *YA Fic Rivers*
Romney, J. P. *The Monster on the Road is Me* (2016)

Koda Okita is a high school student in modern-day Japan who isn’t very popular. He suffers from narcolepsy and has to wear a watermelon-sized helmet to protect his head in case he falls. But Koda couldn’t care less about his low social standing. He is content with taking long bike rides and hanging out in the convenience store parking lot with his school-dropout friend, Haru. But when a rash of puzzling deaths sweeps his school, Koda discovers that his narcoleptic naps allow him to steal the thoughts of nearby supernatural beings. He learns that his small town is under threat from a ruthless mountain demon that is hell-bent on vengeance. With the help of a mysterious — and not to mention very cute — classmate, Koda must find a way to take down this demon. But his unstable and overwhelming new abilities seem to have a mind of their own. *YA Fic Romney*

Roth, Veronica. *Carve the Mark* (2017)

This new series from the author of *Divergent* takes place on a planet where violence and vengeance rule, in a galaxy where some are favored by fate, everyone develops a currentgift, a unique power meant to shape the future. While most benefit from their currentgifts, Akos and Cyra do not — their gifts make them vulnerable to others’ control. Can they reclaim their gifts, their fates, and their lives, and reset the balance of power in this world? *YA Fic Roth*


At 17, Callie is the government’s youngest psychic spy, trained to track dangerous people and weapons in her visions. When another young — and handsome and witty — psychic joins the agency, Callie’s personal and professional lives get messy all at once. If she can’t find a way to change the events she’s seen in her visions, she could lose the people she loves most, along with her mind. Literally. *YA Fic Sabel*


Cameron Smith attends an elite boarding school and has just been accepted to Princeton University alongside his girlfriend, Claire. Life for Cameron would be perfect, except that Cameron Smith is actually Skip O’Rourke, who ran away from his grifter family four years ago, along with $100,000 of their “earnings” (because starting a new life is not cheap). When his uncle Wonderful tracks him down, Skip’s given an ultimatum: Come back to the family for one last con, or say goodbye to life as Cameron. Skip’s family is just as merciless (and just as manipulative) as they’ve always been, and everyone around him is lying. Skip may have given up on crime, but there’s one lesson he hasn’t forgotten: Always know your mark. And if you don’t know who your mark is, then it’s probably you. *YA Fic Taylor*


Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend, Khalil, at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil’s name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: What really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does — or does not — say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life. *YA Fic Thomas*


Travis Gardner lives to play quarterback. He’s a standout QB by the middle school, and he’s prepared to put everything he has into the game. Then Gainesville University’s head coach makes Travis a promise: Travis will have a place on the team, and a scholarship to go with it. He just has to get through high school first. As Travis starts ninth grade, he’ll have to earn his teammates’ trust and dodge opponents aiming to sack the star quarterback. But his biggest challenge might be staying focused in the face of sudden fame. Because now the pressure is on, and Travis has to prove himself with every pass. *YA Fic Volponi*
Our tale begins when Princess Misty of Beldora, who longs for a more exciting life and gets more than she bargained for when she is captured by Lord Badlug, the ruler of the neighboring kingdom of Grimoire. He intends to marry her and conquer Beldora, leading the land into ruin and chaos. The people of Grimoire already suffer under his rule and desperately need a hero. Luckily, Badlug has just kidnapped one! Together with the citizens of Grimoire and a certain bumbling prince, Misty must fight to protect her kingdom and free both realms from Badlug’s tyrannical rule. Misty is determined not to be another damsel in distress; and with her new friends to protect, she’ll discover just what it takes to be the hero of the story. *YA GN*  
*Wheeler*

They are four best friends who’ve shared joy and secrets, love and memories, and since the beginning, Lorna was the one who held them all together. Then, the unthinkable happens. During a storm, Lorna is swept out to sea, leaving the three survivors with nothing to cling to except grief and questions. How did this happen? Why was Lorna in such danger, and was she alone? When her body is never found, the mystery deepens. Did Lorna really die? Or has she made a crazy bid for freedom? *YA Fic Wittlinger*

**Non-fiction**

The invasion begins at night, with German cruisers slipping into harbor, and soon the Nazis occupy all of Norway. At Vemork, an industrial fortress high above a dizzying gorge, they gain access to an essential ingredient for the weapon that could end World War II: Hitler’s very own nuclear bomb. When the Allies discover the plans for the bomb, they agree Vemork must be destroyed. But after a British operation fails to stop the Nazis’ deadly designs, the task falls to a band of young Norwegian commandos. *YA 940.5486*  
*Bascomb*

Throughout time, daring women have made fashion choices that have altered the course of history. From Marie Antoinette, who wore a hairstyle as large as her presence, to Coco Chanel, who imagined a world without rib crushing corsets and heavy gowns, to Katharine Hepburn, who walked around the studio in her underwear when studio executives refused to let her wear her then-scandalous jeans, these women were mavericks as well as rebellious icons. Their fashion choices mirrored and redefined what it meant to be a woman in their era. They didn’t follow trends or cultural conventions, but instead set the course with their own style. Their brave and inventive fashion choices paved the way for female empowerment. *YA 391.2*  
*Beccia*

Simone Biles’ entrance into the world of gymnastics may have started on a daycare field trip in her hometown of Spring, Texas, but her God-given talent, passion, and perseverance have made her one of the top gymnasts in the world, as well as a four-time winner of Olympic gold in Rio de Janeiro. But there is more to Simone than the 19 medals — 14 of them gold—and the Olympic successes. Through years of hard work and determination, she has relied on her faith and family to stay focused and positive, while having fun competing at the highest level and doing what she loves. Here, in her own words, Simone takes you through the events, challenges, and trials that carried her from an early childhood in foster care to a coveted spot on the 2016 Olympic team. *YA 794.4409 Biles*
A pile of lime-encrusted shackles discovered on the seafloor in the remains of a ship called the Henrietta Marie, lands Michael Cottman, a Washington, D.C.-based journalist and avid scuba diver, in the middle of an amazing journey that stretches across three continents, from foundries and tombs in England, to slave ports on the shores of West Africa, to present-day Caribbean plantations. This is more than just the story of one ship – it’s the untold story of millions of people taken as captives to the New World. Told from the author’s perspective, this book introduces young readers to the wonders of diving, detective work, and discovery, while shedding light on the history of slavery. *YA 306.362 Cottman*

Gonzales, Andrea and Sophie Houser. *Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, and Getting It Done* (2017)
Perfect for aspiring coders everywhere, *Girl Code* is the story of two teenage tech phenoms who met at Girls Who Code summer camp, teamed up to create a viral video game, and ended up becoming world famous. The book also includes bonus content to help you get started coding! *YA 005.1 Gonzales*

A history of modern forensic science from the first test for arsenic poisoning in the 1700s to criminal profiling, fingerprinting, blood splatter analysis, DNA evidence, and all the milestones in between. *YA 363.2562 Heos*

This book explores the human microbiome – the trillions of microbes that share our bodies – and why it has become one of the hottest areas of research in human health. The book discusses the microbes that live on us and in us, how scientists study them, and how they relate to health issues such as infections, obesity, allergies, and autoimmune disorders. It also takes readers into stores to make informed choices about the many anti-microbial and probiotic products that line the shelves. *YA 612 Hirsch*

This is an irreverent and informative primer that asks tricky questions about what makes art art. What is with all the fruit? Why is art so weird nowadays? There are questions about how art views the world, from cave paintings through to Cubism, from the Renaissance to contemporary art, questions about different genres, including still-life painting, landscapes and portraits, and questions about the role and value of art in the past and today. *YA 702 Hodge*

*March of the Suffragettes* tells the forgotten, real-life story of “General” Rosalie Gardiner Jones, who in the waning days of 1912 mustered and marched an all-women army nearly 175 miles to help win support for votes for women. General Jones, along with her good friends and accomplices, “Colonel” Ida Craft, “Surgeon General” Lavinia Dock, and “War Correspondent” Jessie Hardy Stubbs, led marchers across New York state for their cause, encountering not just wind, fog, sleet, snow, mud, and ice along their unpaved way, but also hecklers, escaped convicts, scandal-plagued industrialists on the lam, and jealous boyfriends and overprotective mothers hoping to convince the suffragettes to abandon their project. *YA 324.623 Jack*

Based on unmatched scientific data, this book brings together major areas of public concern, such as deforestation, climate change, water shortages, and inequality. Easy-to-reference charts and infographics illustrate key findings, while clear, jargon-free text explains the science behind the figures. In addition to charting global trends and showing how they are connected, this book articulates how we can live more sustainably in the future. *YA 333.7 Juniper*
This is the intense memoir of a North Korean boy who was forced at age 12 to live on the streets and fend for himself. To survive, Sungju creates a gang and lives by thieving, fighting, begging, and stealing rides on cargo trains. Sungju richly recreates his scabrous story, depicting what it was like for a boy alone to create a new family with his gang, “his brothers,” to daily be hungry and to fear arrest, imprisonment, and even execution. This riveting memoir allows readers to learn about other cultures where freedoms they take for granted do not exist. *YA 951.905 Lee*

Welcome to the stunning conclusion of the award-winning and best-selling MARCH trilogy. Congressman John Lewis, an American icon and one of the key figures of the civil rights movement, joins co-writer Andrew Aydin and artist Nate Powell to bring the lessons of history to vivid life for a new generation, urgently relevant for today’s world. *YA GN Lewis* *2016 National Book Award Winner for Young People’s Literature, 2017 Printz Award Winner, 2017 Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner, 2017 Sibert Medal Winner, 2017 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction Winner*

Just 75 years ago, the American government did something that most would consider unthinkable today: It rounded up over 100,000 of its own citizens based on nothing more than their ancestry and, suspicious of their loyalty, kept them in concentration camps for the better part of four years. How could this have happened? *Uprooted* takes a close look at the history of racism in America and follows the treacherous path that led one of our nation’s most beloved presidents to make this decision. Meanwhile, it illuminates the history of Japan and its own struggles with racism and xenophobia, which led to the bombing of Pearl Harbor, ultimately tying the two countries together. *YA 940.5317 Marrin* *2017 Sibert Honor book*

McCormick, Patricia A. *The Plot to Kill Hitler: Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Spy, Unlikely Hero* (2016)
It was April 5, 1943, and the Gestapo would arrive any minute. Dietrich Bonhoeffer had been expecting this day for a long time. He had put his papers in order — and left a few notes specifically for Hitler’s men to see. Two SS agents climbed the stairs and told the boyish-looking Bonhoeffer to come with them. He calmly said goodbye to his parents, put his Bible under his arm, and left. Upstairs there was proof, in his own handwriting, that this quiet young minister was part of a conspiracy to kill Adolf Hitler. *YA 940.54 McCormick*

Penn, Maya S. *You Got This! Unleash Your Awesomeness, Find Your Path, and Change Your World* (2016)
Everyone is talking about the entrepreneur, animator, eco-designer, and girls’ rights activist Maya Penn. Her TEDWomen Talk has been viewed over 1.2 million times (and is one of the top 15 TEDWomen Talks of all time). Now this amazing teenager has written an inspirational handbook for teens and young adults to help them discover their passions and maximize their full potential for a creative, successful life. *YA 650.1 Penn*

Pioneering nurse Florence Nightingale was best known for her work during the Crimean War, where she rectified horrifying conditions and made nightly rounds to check on patients, saving hundreds of lives and sparking worldwide healthcare reform. Discover more about the exceptional life of a woman who defied the stifling conventions of Victorian society to pursue what was considered an undesirable vocation, and whose modern methods in nursing became the defining standards still used today. *YA Bio Nightingale*
**Sheinkin, Steve. Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team (2017)**
This is an astonishing underdog sports story — and more. It’s an unflinching look at the U.S. government’s violent persecution of Native Americans and the school that was designed to erase Indian cultures. Expertly told by three-time National Book Award finalist Steve Sheinkin, it’s the story of a group of young men who came together at that school, the overwhelming obstacles they faced both on and off the field, and their absolute refusal to accept defeat. YA 796.332 Sheinkin

**Stelson, Caren. Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor’s Story (2016)**
This striking work of narrative nonfiction tells the true story of 6-year-old Sachiko Yasui’s survival of the Nagasaki atomic bomb on August 9, 1945, and the heartbreaking and lifelong aftermath. Having conducted extensive interviews with Sachiko Yasui, Caren Stelson chronicles Sachiko’s trauma and loss as well as her long journey to find peace. This book offers readers a remarkable new perspective on the final moments of World War II and their aftermath. YA Bio Yasui *2017 Sibert Honor book*

**Toor, Rachel. Misunderstood: Why the Humble Rat May Be Your Best Pet Ever (2016)**
As much a moving memoir as it is an amusing pet manual, Misunderstood is a unique nonfiction book for teens and tweens about domesticated rats in general and a wonderful rat named Iris in particular. Brimming with smarts and energy just like its furry subjects, Rachel Toor’s text blends history and science with profiles of interesting people and autobiographical anecdotes as it joyfully sets the record straight about why this reviled creature is actually a most amazing species. Readers will come away with a deeper understanding and appreciation of domestic rats — and may be convinced to adopt one themselves. YA 636.9352 Toor

**Vance, Ashlee. Elon Musk and the Quest for a Fantastic Future (2017)**
There are few people in history who could match Elon Musk’s relentless drive and vision. A modern combination of famous inventors and industrialists like Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, and Steve Jobs, Elon is the man behind companies such as SpaceX, Tesla Motors, SolarCity, and PayPal that are transforming the way we live. Written with exclusive access to Elon, his family, and his friends, this book traces Elon’s journey from a kid in South Africa to a young man in the United States, his dramatic technical inventions, and his world-changing companies. Elon has sparked new levels of innovation in the world, and this book gives young readers a detailed but fast-paced look at his story. YA 338.7629 Vance