

GHS Summer Reading 2024

Fiction:

Adler, Dahlia. *Home Field Advantage*. 296 p.

Amber McCloud's dream is to become cheer captain at the end of the year, but after the football team's quarterback dies in an accident, this seems like a tough feat. When the quarterback is replaced by a girl, Amber knows she should work against this unliked Jaclyn to keep her cheer status but the two fall for each other.

Albertalli, Becky. *Imogen, Obviously*. 416 p.

Imogen Scott may be hopelessly heterosexual, but she's got the world's greatest ally title locked down. . . . She even has two queer best friends. There's Gretchen, a fellow high school senior, who helps keep Imogen's biases in check. And then there's Lili--newly out and newly thriving with a cool new squad of queer college friends. . . . Now that she's finally visiting Lili on campus, she's bringing her ally A game. Any support Lili needs, Imogen's all in. Even if that means bending the truth, just a little. Like when Lili drops a tiny queer bombshell: she's told all her college friends that Imogen and Lili used to date. And none of them know that Imogen is a raging hetero--not even Lili's best friend, Tessa. Of course, the more time Imogen spends with chaotic, freckle-faced Tessa, the more she starts to wonder if her truth was ever all that straight to begin with.

Alexander, Kwame. *The Door of No Return*. 418 p.

A novel in verse about a boy escaping slavers during the nineteenth century.

Barnes, Jennifer Lynn. *The Inheritance Games*. 376 p. (the entire series!)

When a Connecticut teenager inherits vast wealth and an eccentric estate from the richest man in Texas, she must also live with his surviving family and solve a series of puzzles to discover how she earned her inheritance.

Bracken, Alexandra. *Silver in the Bone*. 474 p.

Tamsin Lark goes on a quest to find the infamous ring from Arthurian legend to break her brother's curse.

Cashman, Christy. *Truth About Horses*. 367 p.

Fourteen-year-old Reese's dream of winning the Black Elk race is shattered when her beloved horse, Trusted Treasure, falls at the last jump and the vet suggests they put him down. While still reeling from that loss, her family suffers a second tragedy--one that results in the end of their family business, the sale of Trusted Treasure, and irreparable damage to Reese's relationship with her father. Heartbroken and still longing to find Trusted Treasure, Reese meets Wes, a Lakota Indian whose way of training horses is unlike anything she's ever seen. If anyone can win the Black

Elk, it's Wes, but he's struggling with his troubled past, and having a teenage girl hanging around his barn isn't exactly what he'd planned. Through heartaches and triumphs, Reese must prove her worth if she wants to heal her family, help Wes, and show them all that some dreams are worth fighting for.

Graves, Byron. *Rez Ball*. 357 p.

This novel tells the relatable, high-stakes story of a young athlete determined to play like the hero his Ojibwe community needs him to be.

Hazelwood, Ali. *Check & Mate*. 352 p.

When eighteen-year-old Mallory begrudgingly agrees to return to chess in one last charity tournament, her surprise upset against Nolan Sawyer, the reigning world champ and bad boy of the chess world, sets her on a whirlwind adventure as she rediscovers her passion for the game.

Hibbert, Talila. *Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute*. 319 p.

To win the grand prize at the end of their survival course, ex-best friends Claire and Bradley trudge through mud, dirt and their messy past to find the adventure bringing them closer together, sparking a whole new kind of relationship.

Hughes, Alison. *Fly*. 197

Told in free verse, this moving novel about courage, connection and self-discovery follows Felix, a 14-year-old with cerebral palsy, who, captivated by the noble, chivalrous ideals of knighthood, embarks on a quest to save his lady love from the school bully.

Ibrahim, Maiya. *Spice Road*. 454 p.

Imani's brother is thought to be dead—a fate her family reluctantly accepts, since his reputation was sullied by rumors of a magical addiction. After coming across a djinn who claims that her brother is still alive, Imani takes off on a perilous adventure to a land plagued with evils, both monster and human. Throughout her journey, Imani is forced to reckon with some hard truths about her brother, her home, and the land beyond.

Josephson, Kalyn. *This Dark Descent*. 387 p.

Mikira, a seventeen-year-old daughter of a famous horse breeder, takes part in a magical horse race to save her family, and enlists the help of Arielle, a talented, black-market enchanter, and Damien, a young lord involved in a succession battle, who both have their own motives for helping her.

Korman, Gordon. *The Fort*. 239 p.

When a tight-knit group of middle school friends discover a trap door in the woods that leads to a completely intact bomb shelter, they vow to keep the place a secret while sharing their individual secrets to build the safest space possible.

McGinnis, Mindy. *A Long Stretch of Bad Days*. 362 p.

To earn the last credit she needs to graduate, Lydia Chass teams up with foul-mouthed Bristol Jamison to transform her listener-friendly local history podcast into a hard-hitting, truth-telling expose as they investigate an unsolved murder from their small town's past.

Monsef, Kiyash. *Once There Was.* 406 p.

When fifteen-year-old Iranian American Marjan discovers her murdered father was secretly a veterinarian to magical creatures, she realizes she must take up his mantle, despite the many dangers.

Parker, Kellie. *Thin Air.* 308 p.

A flight to Paris filled with teens competing for a cash prize turns deadly.

Quinn, Kate. *The Diamond Eye.* 435 p.

Known as Lady Death--a lethal hunter of Nazis--Mila Pavlichenko, sent to America on a goodwill tour, forms an unexpected friendship with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and a connection with a silent fellow sniper, offering her a chance at happiness until her past returns with a vengeance.

Reintgen, Scott. *A Door in the Dark.* 361 p.

Follows six teenage wizards as they fight to make it home alive after a malfunctioning spell leaves them stranded in the wilderness.

Ross, Rebecca. *Divine Rivals.* 367 p.

When two young rival journalists find love through a magical connection, they must face the depths of hell, in a war among gods, to seal their fate forever.

Shukairy, Ream. *The Next New Syrian Girl.* 409 p.

The unlikely friendship between Syrian American boxer Khadija and Syrian refugee Leene reveals the pressures and expectations of the perfect Syrian daughter and the repercussions of the Syrian Revolution both at home and abroad.

Wein, Elizabeth. *Stateless.* 384 p.

Stella North is one of twelve young pilots competing in a 1937 air race meant to promote peace in Europe, but when one of her competitors is sabotaged, Stella races to determine who is capable of murder, and who might be the next victim.

Authors We Recommend Always:

Alexander, Kwame

Anderson, Laurie Halse

Bruchac, Joseph

Crutcher, Chris

Dessen, Sarah

Green, John

King, A. S.

Levithan, David

Reynolds, Jason

Sepetys, Ruta

Stone, Nic

Strasser, Todd

Thomas, Angie

Trueman, Terry

Wein, Elizabeth

Zusak, Markus

Non-Fiction

Aberg-Riger, Ariel. *America Redux: Visual Stories from Our Dynamic History.* 294 p.

America Redux explores the themes that create our shared sense of American identity and interrogates the myths we've been telling ourselves for centuries. With . . . American catchphrases as chapter titles, these twenty-one visual stories illuminate the . . . unexpected, sometimes darker sides of history that reverberate in our society to this very day--from the role of celebrity in immigration policy to the influence of one small group of white women on education to the effects of 'progress' on housing and the environment, to the inspiring force of collective action and mutual aid across decades and among diverse groups.

Chuculate, Eddie. *This Indian Kid: A Native American Memoir.* 207p.

Award-winning author Eddie Chuculate recounts his experience growing up in rural Oklahoma, from boyhood to young manhood.

Cooper, Candy J. *Shackled: A tale of wronged kids, rogue judges, and a town that looked away.* 163 p.

Here is the explosive story of the Kids for Cash scandal in Pennsylvania, a judicial justice miscarriage that sent more than 2,500 children and teens to a for-profit detention center while two judges lined their pockets with cash, as told by Candy J. Cooper, an award-winning journalist and Pulitzer Prize finalist.

Day, Nick. *The Mona Lisa Vanishes: a legendary painter, a shocking heist, and the birth of a global celebrity.* 276 p.

A narrative nonfiction about how the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre, how the robbery made the portrait the most famous artwork in the world--and how the painting by Leonardo da Vinci should never have existed at all.

Dronfield, Jeremy. *The Boy Who Followed His Father into Auschwitz: a true story retold for young readers.* 387 p.

This powerful adaptation of the adult international bestselling narrative shines a light on the true story of two brothers who experienced the atrocities of the Holocaust in very different ways.

Hakim, Joy. *Discovering Life's Story: Biology's Beginnings.* 185 p.

How did our scientific quest to understand life begin? From the earliest questioning about the origins of life to the first use of the word virus, this book unfolds the history of biology itself. Joy Hakim takes readers back through time to biology's beginnings. Observe the inquisitive scholars of Ancient Greece and the Islamic Golden Age as they began to ask questions about how the human body works; journey to the Renaissance where Leonardo da Vinci was dissecting cadavers to

uncover human anatomy; and stop in the late 1800s, where a baffled Dutch biologist found a tiny infectious particle destroying tobacco crops, which he named virus.

Hakim, Joy. *Discovering Life's Story: The Evolution of an Idea.*

In the second volume of the *Discovering Life's Story* series by best-selling author Joy Hakim, the theory of evolution takes hold--transforming ideas about survival, extinction, and life itself.

Jarrow, Gail. *American Murderer: The Parasite that Haunted the South.* 159 p.

Imagine microscopic worms living in the soil. They enter your body through your bare feet, travel to your intestines, and stay there for years sucking your blood like vampires. You feel exhausted. You get sick easily. It sounds like a nightmare, but that's what happened in the American South during the 1800s and early 1900s. Doctors never guessed that hookworms were making patients ill, but zoologist Charles Stiles knew better. Working with one of the first public health organizations, he and his colleagues treated the sick and showed Southerners how to protect themselves by wearing shoes and using outhouses so that the worms didn't spread. Although hookworm was eventually controlled in the United States, the parasite remains a serious health problem throughout the world.

Ogle, Rex. *Abuela, Don't Forget Me.* 198 p.

Rex Ogle captures and celebrates the powerful presence of a woman he could always count on--to give him warm hugs and ear kisses, to teach him precious words in Spanish, to bring him to the library where he could take out as many books as he wanted, and to offer safety when darkness closed in. Throughout a coming of age marked by violence and dysfunction, Abuela's red-brick house in Abilene, Texas, offered Rex the possibility of home, and Abuela herself the possibility for a better life.

Oluseyi, Hakeem. *A Quantum Life: My Unlikely Journey From the Street to the Stars.* 333p.

Renowned American astrophysicist Hakeem Oluseyi's (born James Plummer) coming-of-age memoir, from young boy to graduate-school student, charts the remarkable resilience of a boy who was offered few chances to succeed, but fought hard to achieve his dream.

Sepetys, Ruta. *You: The Story.*

You: The Story is a powerful how-to book for aspiring writers that encourages you to look inward and excavate your own memories in order to discover the authentic voices and compelling details that are waiting to be put on the page. Masterfully weaving in humorous and heartfelt stories from her own life that illustrate an aspect of the craft of writing (such as plot, character development, or dialogue), Sepetys then inspires readers with a series of writing prompts and exercises.

Sheinkin, Steve. *Impossible Escape: a true story of survival and heroism in Nazi Europe.* 243 p.

A true story of two Jewish teenagers racing against time during the Holocaust--one in hiding in Hungary, and the other in Auschwitz, plotting escape.

Slater, Dashka. *Accountable: the true story of a racist social media account and the teenagers whose lives it changed.*

When a high school student started a private Instagram account that used racist and sexist memes to make his friends laugh, he thought of it as "edgy" humor. Over time, the edge got sharper. Then a few other kids found out about the account. Pretty soon, everyone knew. Ultimately no one in the small town of Albany, California, was safe from the repercussions of the account's discovery. Not the girls targeted by the posts. Not the boy who created the account. Not the group of kids who followed it. Not the adults--educators and parents--whose attempts to fix things too often made them worse. In the end, no one was laughing. And everyone was left asking: Where does accountability end for online speech that harms? And what does accountability even mean?

Speller, Katherine. *The Beasts in your Brain: Understanding and Living With Anxiety and Depression.* 144 p.

Making room for mental health in the new normal. "Reminds readers they are not alone in their feelings, teaches them the science of mental illness, and empowers them to quell the brain beasts of depression and anxiety.

Notable Non-Fiction Authors:

Bryson, Bill

Kolbert, Elizabeth

Sheinkin, Steve

Gladwell, Malcolm

Krakauer, Jon

Walls, Jeanette

Harari, Yuval Noah

Mukherjee, Siddhartha

Wright, Lawrence

Graphic Fiction

North, Ryan. *Danger and Other Unknown Risks.* 206 p.

Follows Marguerite de Pruitt and her canine pal, Daisy, as they embark on a journey to save the world.

Rubio, Salva. *The Librarian of Auschwitz: The Graphic Novel.* 120p.

Follows the true story of Dita Kraus, a fourteen-year-old girl from Prague who after being sent to Auschwitz is chosen to protect the eight volumes prisoners have smuggled past the guards.

Xu, Wendy. *The Infinity Particle.* 266 p.

Clementine Chang moves from Earth to Mars for a new start and is lucky enough to land her dream job with Dr. Marcella Lin, an Artificial Intelligence pioneer. On her first day of work, Clem meets Dr. Lin's assistant, a humanoid AI named Kye. Clem is no stranger to robots--she built

herself a cute moth-shaped companion named SENA. Still, there's something about Kye that feels almost too human. When Clem and Kye begin to collaborate, their chemistry sets off sparks. The only downside? Dr. Lin is enraged by Kye's growing independence and won't allow him more freedom. Plus, their relationship throws into question everything Clem thought she knew about AI. After all, if Kye is sentient enough to have feelings, shouldn't he be able to control his own actions? Where is the line between AI and human? As her past and Kye's future weigh down on her, Clem becomes determined to help him break free--even if it means risking everything she came to Mars for.

Graphic Non - Fiction

Lee, Deborah. *In Limbo.* 339p.

Set between New Jersey and Seoul, this coming-of-age story follows the author as she goes to South Korea, where she realizes something that changes her perspective on her family, her heritage and herself.

Myer, Sarah. *Monstrous: A Transracial Adoption Story.* 260 p.

Bullied by her classmates, Sarah, a Korean American girl growing up in a rural community with few Asian neighbors, channels her rage into her art and cosplay until it threatens to explode.

Ogle, Rex. *Four Eyes.* 218 p.

When Rex finds out he needs glasses, he's beyond miserable. Dealing with the bullies at school, his family being broke, and an embarrassing lack of friends, he has way too much on his plate already.

Pham, Thien. *Family Style: Memories of An American From Vietnam.* 234 p.

Told through the lens of meaningful food and meals, this graphic memoir chronicles the author's life, beginning with his childhood immigration to America, where food takes on new meaning as he and his family search for belonging, for happiness and for the American dream.

Santat, Dan. *A First Time for Everything.* 308 p.

In this feel-good coming-of-age memoir, the best-selling author and Caldecott Medalist shares his life-changing middle school trip to Europe during which he experiences a series of firsts, including first love.

Xavier, Clement. *The Bodyguard Unit: Edith Garrud, Women's Suffrage, and Jujitsu.* 136 p.

A nonfiction graphic novel which examines the life of British martial artist and suffragist Edith Garrud.