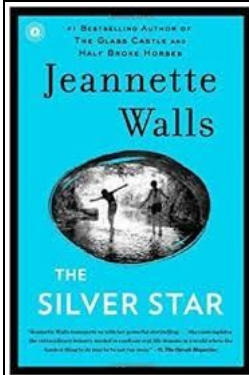


Summer Reading Book Club Library



The Silver Star by Jeannette Walls

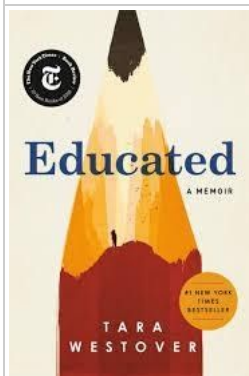
“It is 1970 in a small town in California. ‘Bean’ Holladay is twelve and her sister, Liz, is fifteen when their artistic mother, Charlotte, takes off to find herself, leaving her girls enough money to last a month or two. When Bean returns from school one day and sees a police car outside the house, she and Liz decide to take the bus to Virginia, where their widowed Uncle Tinsley lives in the decaying mansion that’s been in Charlotte’s family for generations.”



The Rise of Kyoshi by F. C. Yee

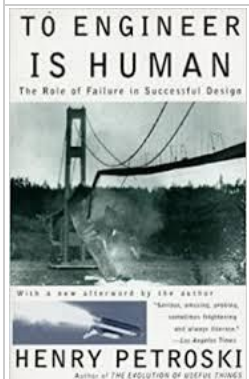
“*The Rise of Kyoshi* delves into the story of Kyoshi, the Earth Kingdom–born Avatar. The longest-living Avatar in this beloved world’s history, Kyoshi established the brave and respected Kyoshi Warriors, but also founded the secretive Dai Li, which led to the corruption, decline, and fall of her own nation. The first of two novels based on Kyoshi, *The Rise of Kyoshi* maps her journey from a girl of humble origins to the merciless pursuer of justice who is still feared and admired centuries after she became the Avatar.”

CONTENT WARNING: Issues surrounding sexual identity; body image



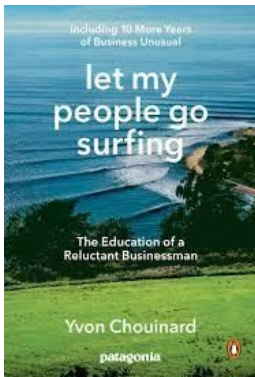
Educated by Tara Westover

“Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara’s older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she’d traveled too far, if there was still a way home.”



To Engineer is Human: The Role of Failure in Successful Design by Henry Petroski

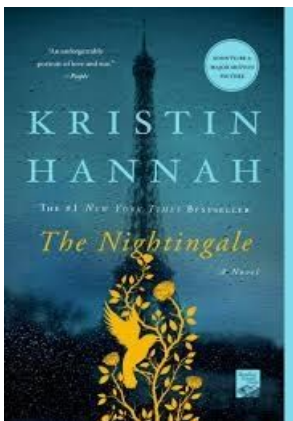
“In *To Engineer is Human*, an exposition of engineering failures, Henry Petroski explores the reasons designs and structures fail. He incorporates examples of everyday objects and basic designs as well as large complex design failures. He cites several literary passages in the book that illuminate or obfuscate human failure and help illustrate his ideas. Each case study reinforces his underlying theme: engineering is more than precise science it is also human judgment, and humans have a proclivity for error. If we identify and analyze the mistakes, we can learn from them and improve our results.”



Let My People Go Surfing: The Education of a Reluctant Businessman by Yvon Chouinard

“Yvon Chouinard - legendary climber, businessman, environmentalist, and founder of Patagonia, Inc. - shares the persistence and courage that have gone into being head of one of the most respected and environmentally responsible companies on earth.

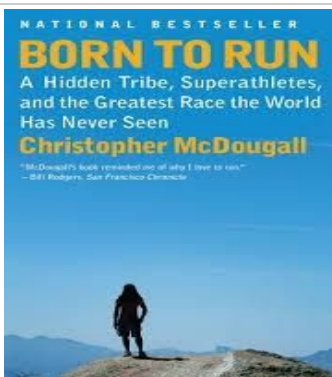
From his youth as the son of a French Canadian handyman to the thrilling, ambitious climbing expeditions that inspired his innovative designs for the sport's equipment, *Let My People Go Surfing* is the story of a man who brought doing good and having grand adventures into the heart of his business life—a book that will deeply affect entrepreneurs and outdoor enthusiasts alike.”



The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

“FRANCE, 1939 In the quiet village of Corriveau, Vianne Mauriac says goodbye to her husband, Antoine, as he heads for the Front. She doesn't believe that the Nazis will invade France...but invade they do, in droves of marching soldiers, in caravans of trucks and tanks, in planes that fill the skies and drop bombs upon the innocent. When a German captain requisitions Vianne's home, she and her daughter must live with the enemy or lose everything. Without food or money or hope, as danger escalates all around them, she is forced to make one impossible choice after another to keep her family alive. Vianne's sister, Isabelle, is a rebellious eighteen-year-old girl, searching for purpose with all the reckless passion of youth. While thousands of Parisians march into the unknown terrors of war, she meets G aetan, a partisan who

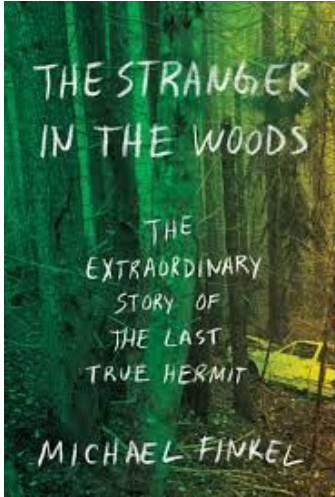
believes the French can fight the Nazis from within France, and she falls in love as only the young can...completely. But when he betrays her, Isabelle joins the Resistance and never looks back, risking her life time and again to save others. With courage, grace and powerful insight, bestselling author Kristin Hannah captures the epic panorama of WWII and illuminates an intimate part of history seldom seen: the women's war. *The Nightingale* tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France—a heartbreakingly beautiful novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women. It is a novel for everyone, a novel for a lifetime.”



Born to Run by Christopher McDougall

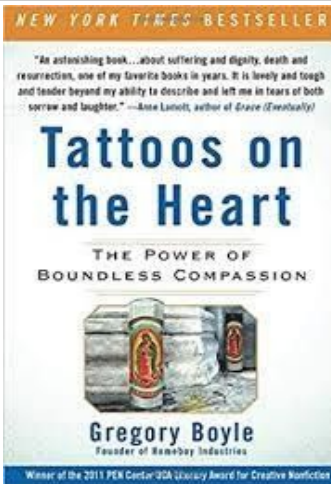
“An epic adventure that began with one simple question: Why does my foot hurt? Isolated by Mexico's deadly Copper Canyons, the blissful Tarahumara Indians have honed the ability to run hundreds of miles without rest or injury. In a riveting narrative, award-winning journalist and often-injured runner Christopher McDougall sets out to discover their secrets. In the process, he takes his readers from science labs at Harvard to the sunbaked valleys and freezing peaks across North America, where ever-growing numbers of ultra-runners are pushing their bodies to the limit, and, finally, to a climactic race in the Copper Canyons that pits America's best ultra-runners against the tribe. McDougall's incredible story will not only engage

your mind but inspire your body when you realize that you, indeed all of us, were born to run.”



The Stranger in the Woods by Michael Finkel

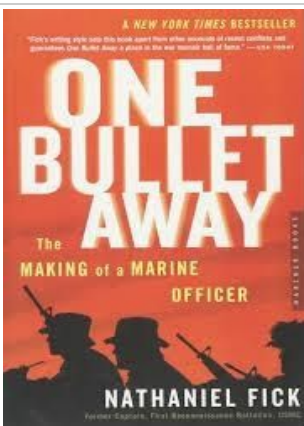
This is a non-fiction book about a man, Christopher Knight, who drove into rural Maine, abandoned his car, and disappeared into the woods. He would not have a conversation with another person for the next 27 years. He lived in a tent in a secluded encampment, developing ingenious ways to store provisions and stave off frostbite during winter. This is the story of a man determined to live in his own way.



Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion by Gregory Boyle

“For twenty years, Gregory Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, the gang capital of the world. In *Tattoos on the Heart*, he distills his experience working in the ghetto into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith. Arranged by theme and filled with sparkling humor and glowing generosity, these essays offer a stirring look at how full our lives could be if we could find the joy in loving others and in being loved unconditionally. From giant, tattooed Cesar, shopping at JCPenney fresh out of prison, we learn how to feel worthy of God's love. From ten-year-old Lula we learn the importance of being known and acknowledged. From Pedro we understand the kind of patience necessary to rescue someone from the darkness. In each chapter we benefit from Boyle's gentle, hard-earned wisdom. These essays

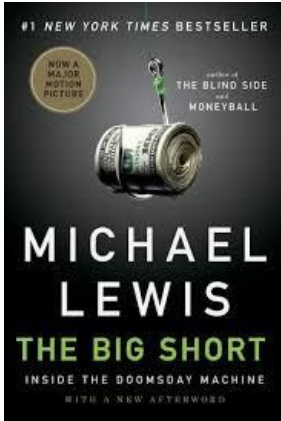
about universal kinship and redemption are moving examples of the power of unconditional love and the importance of fighting despair. Gorgeous and uplifting, *Tattoos on the Heart* reminds us that no life is less valuable than another.”



One Bullet Away: The Making of a Marine Officer by Nathaniel Fick

“If the Marines are ‘the few, the proud,’ Recon Marines are the fewest and the proudest. Nathaniel Fick's military training begins with a hellish summer at Quantico, and just after 9/11 Fick finds himself leading a platoon into Afghanistan. Two years later he advances to the pinnacle--Recon--on the eve of the war with Iraq. Leading twenty-two Marines into this deadly conflict, he vows to bring them all home safely. To do so, he'll need luck and an increasingly clear vision of the limitations of his superiors. Fick unveils the process that makes Marine officers such legendary leaders and shares his hard-won insights into the differences between military ideals and military practice, which can mock those ideals. *One Bullet Away* never shrinks from blunt truths, but ultimately it is an inspiring account of mastering the art of war.”

CONTENT WARNING: Graphic language, graphic combat violence

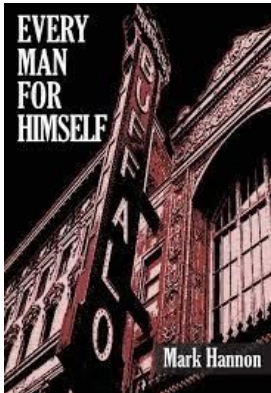


The Big Short by Michael Lewis

The #1 New York Times bestseller: "It is the work of our greatest financial journalist, at the top of his game. And it's essential reading."—Graydon Carter, Vanity Fair

"The real story of the crash began in bizarre feeder markets where the sun doesn't shine and the SEC doesn't dare, or bother, to tread: the bond and real estate derivative markets where geeks invent impenetrable securities to profit from the misery of lower- and middle-class Americans who can't pay their debts. The smart people who understood what was or might be happening were paralyzed by hope and fear; in any case, they weren't talking. Michael Lewis creates a fresh, character-driven narrative brimming with indignation and dark humor, a fitting sequel to his #1 bestseller *Liar's*

Poker. Out of a handful of unlikely-really unlikely-heroes, Lewis fashions a story as compelling and unusual as any of his earlier bestsellers, proving yet again that he is the finest and funniest chronicler of our time."

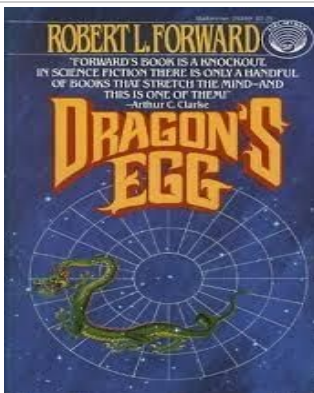


Every Man For Himself by Mark Hannon

"Pat Brogan is a Gambling Squad detective in 1950s Buffalo, NY. Beneath the gritty smokestacks are thousands of bright, clanging pinball machines-banned from New York City but still legal here-tempting the well-heeled as well as factory hands in bars, stores and clubs. When a single machine could take in \$100 a week in nickels and factory workers made far less, there were fortunes to be made on the dark side of the law. Dealing with grasping pinball vendors, a manipulative politician, a ruthless mobster, a vengeful judge, and corruption within the department as well as bitter wartime nightmares, Pat struggles with guilt and duty as he is drawn into the game. The snowy city is on the verge of its long decline. Everyone's out to make a fast buck and settle old

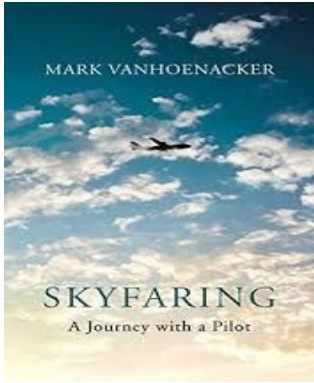
scores. Almost everyone."

"In *Every Man for Himself*, Buffalo has a new hero in Pat Brogan. In Mark Hannon's well-told tale, Brogan works tirelessly to keep the ethnic streets of 1950s Buffalo safe from the bad guys. Readers will enjoy the colorful characters and recognize the places they inhabit." -Tim Bohan, author of *Against the Grain*



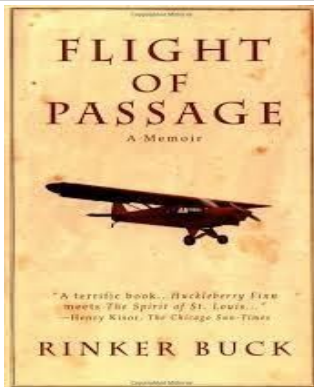
Dragon's Egg by Robert L. Forward

In the story, *Dragon's Egg* is a neutron star with a surface gravity 67 billion times that of Earth, and inhabited by cheela, intelligent creatures the size of a sesame seed who live, think and develop a million times faster than humans." A totally alien world brought to life: 5 of their days only take one of our seconds, mountain ranges are only .5 to 4 inches tall, their ability to move is greatly influenced by a magnetic field 100 trillion times stronger than Earth's. Good news is there is a sequel novel if you enjoyed this one!



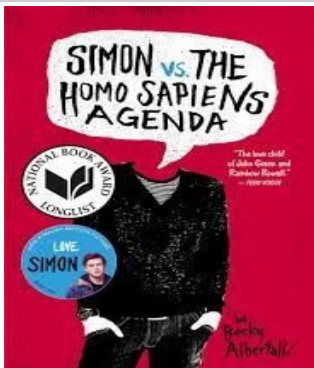
Skyfaring: A Journey with a Pilot by Mark Vanhoenacker

"In this mesmerizing reflection on flying, Mark Vanhoenacker, a 747 pilot who left academia and a career in the business world to pursue his childhood dream of flying, helps us to reimagine what we--as pilots and as passengers--are actually doing when we enter the world between departure and discovery. In a seamless fusion of history, politics, geography, meteorology, ecology, family, and physics, Vanhoenacker vaults across geographical and cultural boundaries; above mountains, oceans, and deserts; through snow, wind, and rain, renewing a simultaneously humbling and almost superhuman activity and reawakening our capacity to be amazed."



Flight of Passage: A True Story by Rinker Buck

"Writer Rinker Buck looks back more than 30 years to a summer when he and his brother, at ages 15 and 17 respectively, became the youngest duo to fly across America, from New Jersey to California. Having grown up in an aviation family, the two boys bought an old Piper Cub, restored it themselves, and set out on the grand journey. Buck is a great storyteller, and once you get airborne with the boys you find yourself absorbed in a story of adventure and family drama. And *Flight of Passage* is also an affecting look back to the summer of 1966, when the times seemed much less cynical and adventures much more enjoyable."

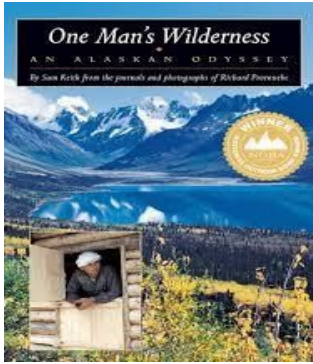


Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli

William C. Morris Award Winner; National Book Award Longlist.

"Simon Speir, high school junior, walks away from his computer at school for just a moment, and that is when his biggest secret is discovered. In order to keep his secret from becoming public, Simon is confronted with ethical dilemmas that force him to decide how far he's willing to go to maintain his sense of normalcy. Confronting issues of bullying and social media, rife with realistic, high school relationships and drama, with a laugh or two at every turn, this is a coming-of-age, coming-out, and defying-the-odds story with which many teens will identify."

Content Warning: Issues surrounding sexual identity; mature language

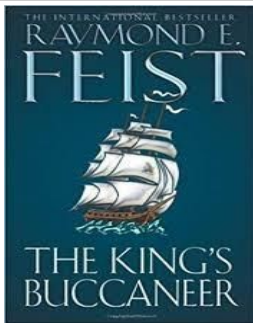


One Man's Wilderness: An Alaskan Odyssey by Richard Proenneke

“To live in a pristine land unchanged by man...to roam a wilderness through which few other humans have passed...to choose an idyllic site, cut trees and build a log cabin...to be a self-sufficient craftsman, making what is needed from materials available...to be not at odds with the world but content with one's own thoughts and company.

Thousands have had such dreams, but Richard Proenneke lived them. He found a place, built a cabin, and stayed to become part of the country. *One Man's Wilderness* is a simple account of the day-to-day explorations and activities he carried out alone, and the constant chain of nature's events that kept him company.

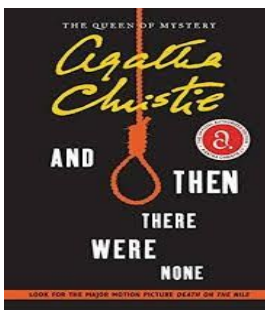
From Proenneke's journals, and with first-hand knowledge of his subject and the setting, Sam Keith has woven a tribute to a man who carved his masterpiece out of the beyond.”



The King's Buccaneer (Kronador's Sons #2) by Raymond E. Feist

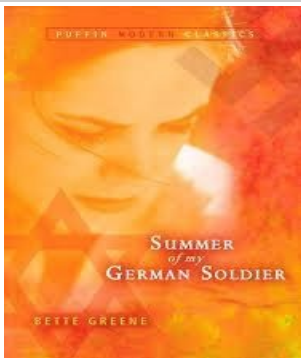
“Long recovered from the ravages of the Riftwar, the land and people of the kingdom of the Isles thrive. Nicholas, the youngest son of Prince Arutha, is intelligent and gifted but vastly inexperienced. In hopes of hardening him, his father sends him and his irreverent squire, Harry, to live at Rustic Castle Crydee to learn of life beyond the halls of privilege. But within weeks of Nicholas and Harry's arrival, Crydee is viciously attacked by unknown assailants, resulting in murder, massive destruction, and the abduction of two young noblewomen. The raiders have come from a pirate haven and are no ordinary foe

... but an enemy connected to dark magical forces that threaten the lands Nicholas will someday rule -- if he survives.”



And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie

“Ten strangers are lured to an isolated island mansion off the Devon coast by a mysterious ‘U.N. Owen.’ At dinner a recorded message accuses each of them in turn of having a guilty secret, and by the end of the night one of the guests is dead. Stranded by a violent storm, and haunted by a nursery rhyme counted down one by one...one by one they begin to die. Who among them is the killer and will any of them survive?”

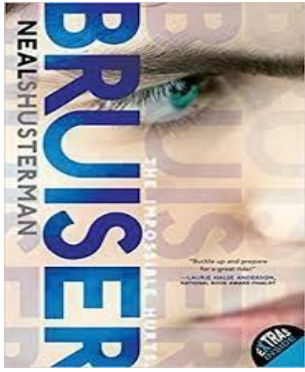


Summer of My German Soldier by Bette Greene

“The summer that Patty Bergen turns twelve is a summer that will haunt her forever. When her small hometown in Arkansas becomes the site of a camp housing German prisoners during World War II, Patty learns what it means to open her heart. Even though she's Jewish, she begins to see a prison escapee, Anton, not as a Nazi, but as a lonely, frightened young man with feelings not unlike her own. In Anton, Patty finds someone who softens the pain of her own father's rejection and who appreciates her in a way her mother never will. While patriotic feelings run high, Patty risks losing family, friends — even her freedom — for this dangerous friendship. It is a risk she

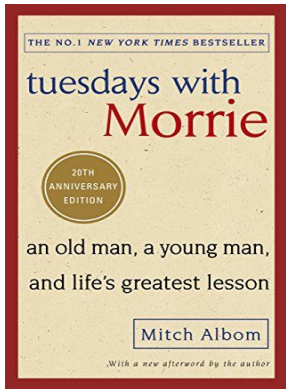
has to take and one she will have to pay a price to keep.”

Content Warning: Some mature content



Bruiser by Neal Shusterman (Available for INCOMING FRESHMEN only)

"Neal Shusterman, delivers a suspenseful, eloquent, and thrilling novel that you won't be able to stop thinking about after you've put it down. The main character, Tennyson, does not trust his twin sister's new boyfriend, Bruiser. As Tennyson's own family problems escalate, the truth about the boyfriend is revealed and it changes everything in their lives forever."



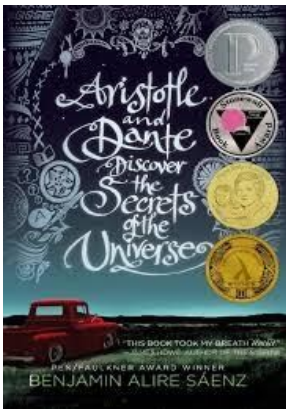
Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom

Maybe it was a grandparent, or a teacher, or a colleague. Someone older, patient and wise, who understood you when you were young and searching, helped you see the world as a more profound place, gave you sound advice to help you make your way through it.

For Mitch Albom, that person was Morrie Schwartz, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago.

Maybe, like Mitch, you lost track of this mentor as you made your way, and the insights faded, and the world seemed colder. Wouldn't you like to see that person again, ask the bigger questions that still haunt you, receive wisdom for your busy life today the way you once did when you were younger? Mitch Albom had that second chance. He rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he

was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class": lessons in how to live.

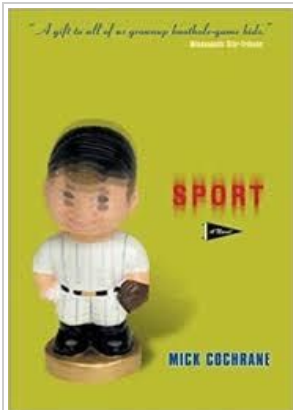


Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz

"This Printz Honor Book is a 'tender, honest exploration of identity' that distills lyrical truths about family and friendship." (*Publishers Weekly*)

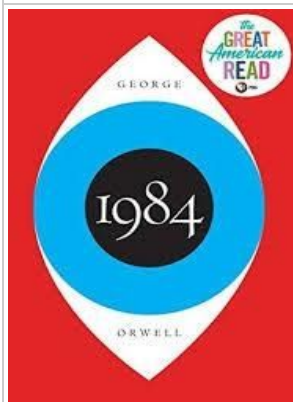
Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. But as the loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special friendship—the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. And it is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be."

Content Warning: Issues surrounding sexual identity; mature language



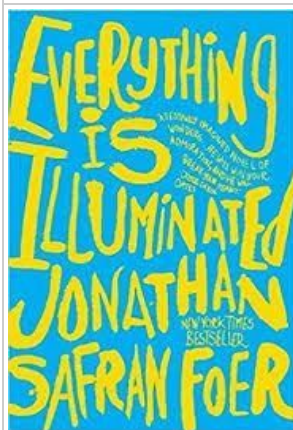
Sport by Mick Cochrane

A young adult novel about a boy entering high school who must confront his troubled home life: a mother with MS, a mostly absent father, and suburban poverty. He finds a measure of solace through his summer league baseball team, his neighbor and coach, and the ups and downs of the Minnesota Twins. *Sport's* author is Canisius College professor Mick Cochrane.



1984 by George Orwell

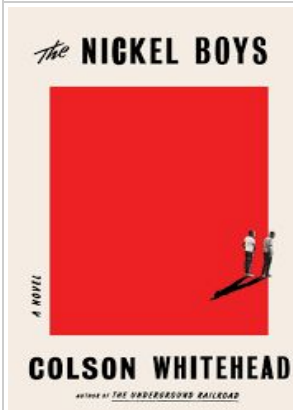
In this dystopian novel set in the "future" 1984 (since the novel was published in 1949), the main character Winston Smith defies a ban on individuality and dares to keep a diary and pursue a relationship with the young and beautiful Julia. These criminal deeds bring Winston (and Julia) under the totalitarian gaze of "Big Brother." Filled with references that we use and take for granted (such as "Big Brother"), the novel is even more relevant today in the internet age.



Everything Is Illuminated by Jonathan Safran Foer

"With only a yellowing photograph in hand, a young man — also named Jonathan Safran Foer — sets out to find the woman who might or might not have saved his grandfather from the Nazis. Accompanied by an old man haunted by memories of the war, an amorous dog named Sammy Davis, Junior, Junior, and the unforgettable Alex, a young Ukrainian translator who speaks in a sublimely butchered English, Jonathan is led on a quixotic journey over a devastated landscape and into an unexpected past.

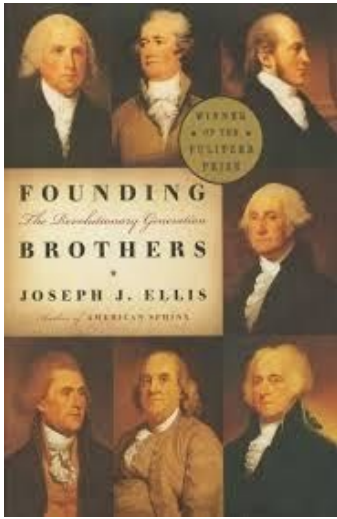
As their adventure unfolds, Jonathan imagines the history of his grandfather's village, conjuring a magical fable of startling symmetries that unite generations across time. As his search moves back in time, the fantastical history moves forward, until reality collides with fiction in a heart-stopping scene of extraordinary power."



The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

"*The Nickel Boys* is a 2019 novel based on the real story of the Dozier School, a reform school in Florida that operated for 111 years and had its history exposed by a university's investigation. The Nickel Academy is a grotesque chamber of horrors, where the sadistic staff beats and sexually abuses the students, corrupt officials and locals steal food and supplies, and any boy who resists is likely to disappear 'out back.' Stunned to find himself in such a vicious environment, Elwood tries to hold on to Dr. King's ringing assertion 'Throw us in jail and we will still love you.'"

CONTENT WARNING: Graphic language, mature subject matter



Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation by Joseph Ellis

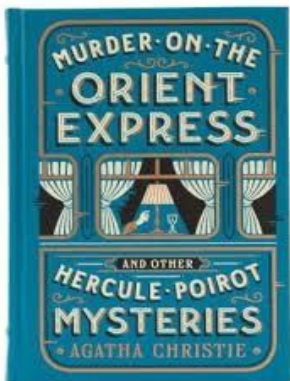
“In this landmark work of history and winner of the Pulitzer Prize, Joseph J. Ellis explores how a group of greatly gifted but deeply flawed individuals—Hamilton, Burr, Jefferson, Franklin, Washington, Adams, and Madison—confronted the overwhelming challenges before them to set the course for our nation. The United States was more a fragile hope than a reality in 1790. During the decade that followed, the Founding Fathers—re-examined here as Founding Brothers—combined the ideals of the Declaration of Independence with the content of the Constitution to create the practical workings of our government. Through an analysis of six fascinating episodes—Hamilton and Burr’s deadly duel, Washington’s precedent-setting Farewell Address, Adams’ administration and political partnership with his wife, the debate about where to place the capital, Franklin’s attempt to force Congress to confront the issue of slavery and Madison’s attempts to block him, and Jefferson and Adams’ famous

correspondence—*Founding Brothers* brings to life the vital issues and personalities from the most important decade in our nation’s history.”



Here, There Be Dragons by James A. Owen

“The mysterious death of a professor draws together three strangers from Oxford, John, Jack, and Charles. Informed that they are now the Caretakers of an atlas of imaginary lands called the Imaginarium Geographic, the three set sail for the Archipelago of Dreams, where all the places of myth and literature exist. Chaos threatens the Archipelago, however, as the Winter King seeks the throne. A fast-paced fantasy adventure that will appeal to fans of J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis.”



Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie

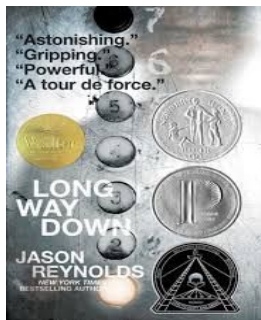
"The murderer is with us—on the train now . . ."

“Just after midnight, the famous Orient Express is stopped in its tracks by a snowdrift. By morning, the millionaire Samuel Edward Ratchett lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside. One of his fellow passengers must be the murderer. Isolated by the storm, detective Hercule Poirot must find the killer among a dozen of the dead man's enemies, before the murderer decides to strike again . . .

Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer



“A bank of clouds was assembling on the not-so-distant horizon, but journalist-mountaineer Jon Krakauer, standing on the summit of Mt. Everest, saw nothing that “suggested that a murderous storm was bearing down.” He was wrong. The storm, which claimed five lives and left countless more—including Krakauer’s—in guilt-ridden disarray, would also provide the impetus for *Into Thin Air*, Krakauer’s epic account of the May 1996 disaster.”



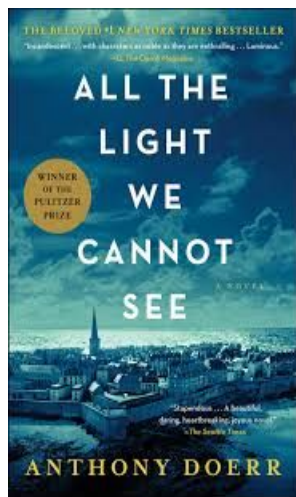
A Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

This is National Book Award finalist and New York Times bestseller Jason Reynolds’s fiercely stunning novel that takes place in sixty potent seconds—the time it takes a kid to decide whether or not he’s going to murder the guy who killed his brother.

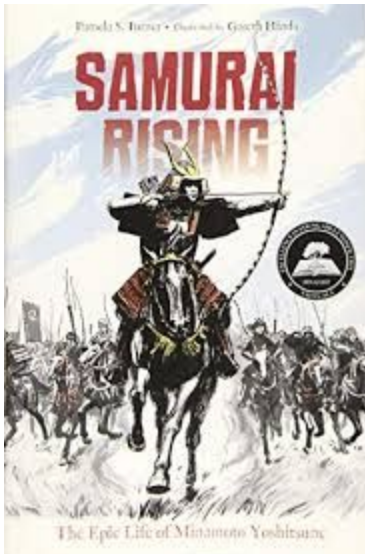
All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

WINNER OF THE 2015 PULITZER PRIZE FOR FICTION

“A beautiful, stunningly ambitious novel about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II



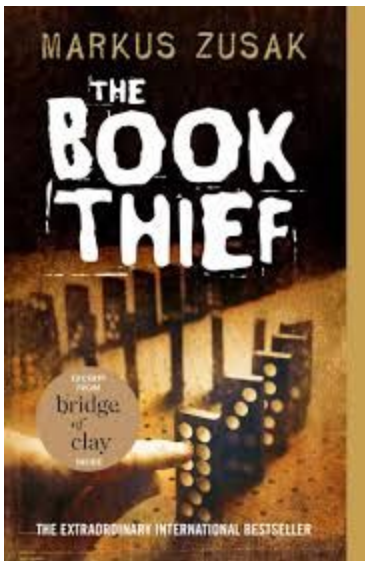
Marie-Laure has been blind since the age of six. Her father builds a perfect miniature of their Paris neighbourhood so she can memorize it by touch and navigate her way home. But when the Nazis invade, father and daughter flee with a dangerous secret. Werner is a German orphan, destined to labour in the same mine that claimed his father’s life, until he discovers a knack for engineering. His talent wins him a place at a brutal military academy, but his way out of obscurity is built on suffering. At the same time, far away in a walled city by the sea, an old man discovers new worlds without ever setting foot outside his home. But all around him, impending danger closes i



Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune by Pamela S. Turner

2017 YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award: Minamoto Yoshitsune should not have been a samurai. But his story is legendary in this real-life saga. This epic warrior tale reads like a novel, but this is the true story of the greatest samurai in Japanese history.

Content Warning: Issues surrounding battles and military violence



The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still.

By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up a single object, partially hidden in the snow. It is *The Gravedigger's Handbook*, left there by accident, and it is her first act of book thievery.

So begins a love affair with books and words, as Liesel, with the help of her accordion-playing foster father, learns to read. Soon she is stealing books from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library, wherever there are books to be found. But these are dangerous times. When Liesel's foster family hides a Jewish fist-fighter in their basement, Liesel's world is both opened up, and closed down.

The Book Thief is a story about the power of words to make worlds. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time.

Please do not choose this book if you have already read it in middle school.

