

HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2022
Grades 7 and 8

All book summaries are provided by the publisher or written by committee members.

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

Alexander, Kwame. ***The Crossover***. Houghton Mifflin, 2014. Twins Josh and Jordan, both of whom love basketball, begin to grow apart in adolescence at the same time as their father, a former basketball star, begins to experience health issues. *Written in verse. Newbery Medal 2015, Series*

Anderson, John David. ***Posted***. Walden Pond Press, 2017. Eighth graders thwart a phone ban at their school with a creative use of post-it notes, until the messaging gets harmful and a group of outsider teens take a stand to promote inclusiveness and kindness.

Anderson, M. T. ***The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge***. Candlewick, 2018. This is a collaboration between Anderson and Eugene Yelchin about an inept and unlikely pair, an elf and a goblin, in which the stiff and snobby historian elf is catapulted into the goblin kingdom as a spy/unknowing assassin, and is hosted by a goblin archivist, who is anxious for cultural exchanges.

Anthony, Lawrence. ***The Elephant Whisperer: My Life with the Herd in the African Wild (Young Readers' Edition)***. Holt, 2017. Lawrence Anthony reflects on his decision to accept a group of hard-to-manage wild elephants onto his South African game reserve in an effort to ensure their survival.

Asimov, Isaac. ***The Stars, Like Dust***. First published 1951. At the death of his father, Biron Farrill becomes involved in the plot to rebel against the Tyranni who have conquered many worlds. *Series*

Berry, Julie. ***Lovely War***. Viking, 2019. The Greek goddess Aphrodite recounts two tales of tragic love during WWI at the height of World War II. She seeks to answer the age-old question: 'Why are Love and War eternally drawn to one another?' but her quest for a conclusion that will satisfy her jealous husband uncovers a multi-threaded tale of prejudice, trauma, and music revealing that War is no match for the power of Love. *The audiobook version is highly recommended.*

Bowling, Dusti. ***Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus***. Sterling, 2017. New friends, a mystery, and a lot of humor help Aven, thirteen, adjust to middle school and life at a dying western theme park, where her being born armless presents many challenges. *Series*

Bracken, Alexandra. ***The Dreadful Tale of Prosper Redding***. Disney-Hyperion, 2017. A modern New England boy must rid himself of the ancient demon inhabiting his body and break his family's curse.

Brody, Jessica. ***A Week of Mondays***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2016. Sixteen-year-old Ellison Sparks keeps reliving that terrible Monday when her boyfriend, Tristan, breaks up with her; and no matter how hard she tries, she cannot seem to set things right.

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Brown, Daniel James. ***The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers' Adaption): The True Story of an American Team's Epic Journey to Win Gold at the 1936 Olympics***. Viking, 2015. Adapted for young readers by Gregory Mone, this is the remarkable story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal, defeating elite rivals first from eastern and British universities before challenging the German crew rowing for Adolf Hitler in the Olympic Games in Berlin, 1936.

Budhos, Marina. ***Watched***. Wendy Lamb, 2016. Naeem, a senior in high school and an immigrant from Bangladesh, doesn't feel at home anywhere - at home, at school, or with his friends. Tricked into shoplifting by one "friend," he is arrested by NYPD and given a choice-go to jail or become an informant, spying on his own Muslim community.

Cameron, Sharon. ***The Forgetting***. Scholastic, 2016. Seventeen-year-old Nadia lives in Canaan, a quiet city in an idyllic world, but every twelve years the people of Canaan undergo a collective Forgetting after which the people are left without any trace of memory of themselves, their families, or their lives--except for Nadia, who does not forget. *The audiobook version is highly recommended. Series*

Carriger, Gail. ***Etiquette & Espionage***. Little, Brown, 2013. In an alternate England of 1851, spirited fourteen-year-old Sophronia is enrolled in a finishing school where she is surprised to learn that lessons include not only the fine arts of dance, dress, and etiquette, but also diversion, deceit, and espionage. *The audiobook version is highly recommended. Series*

Culbertson, Kim. ***The Wonder of Us***. Point, 2017. Riya and Abby were best friends in their small California town, but Riya and her family moved to Berlin for Riya's junior year, and it was hard to stay in touch. Now that the year has passed, Riya proposes that they take a two-week Grand Tour and travel around Europe to reconnect--but they have both been hiding secrets, and those secrets threaten to push them apart forever.

Dee, Barbara. ***Maybe He Just Likes You***. Aladdin, 2019. Mila isn't sure if the boys at school asking her for hugs are just flirting like her friend says, but it doesn't seem that way and makes her uncomfortable. When the boys won't leave her alone, Mila needs to find a solution before things get even worse.

Deuker, Carl. ***Swagger***. Houghton Mifflin, 2013. Jonas' future looks bright with a college basketball scholarship within reach, but a team member is dead and Jonas knows who is responsible. Should he keep his head down or confront the killer and put his future in jeopardy?

Donnelly, Jennifer. ***Stepsister***. Scholastic, 2019. Ella's stepsister Isabelle is deemed ugly, wicked, and doomed to a life of misery, until she decides to take action to change her fate.

Eagar, Lindsay. ***Hour of the Bees***. Candlewick, 2016. Twelve-year old Carolina spends the summer with her aging grandfather in New Mexico and starts to connect more

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deeply with her family and her Mexican-American heritage in this novel of magical realism.

- Elliott, David. ***The Seventh Raven***. Clarion, 2021. A gripping retelling of the Grimms' fairy tale of seven brothers transformed into ravens and a young sister determined to find the brothers and break the spell. Told in verse, the rhythm of the storytelling takes on a haunting mood.
- Esplin, J.L. ***96 Miles***. Tom Doherty, 2020. Brothers John and Stewart find themselves on their own in a desert with no food or water after a massive blackout creates a crisis that tests their determination to survive.
- Fantaskey, Beth. ***Buzz Kill***. Houghton Mifflin, 2014. Seventeen-year-old Millie joins forces with her classmate, gorgeous but mysterious Chase Colton, to try to uncover who murdered head football coach "Hollerin' Hank" Killdare . . . and why.
- Fleming, Candace. ***Presenting Buffalo Bill: The Man Who Invented the Wild West***. Roaring Brook, 2016. Buffalo Bill's rise as a mythic figure looms large in this entertaining and well-researched story of how Buffalo Bill popularized the legend of the West with his Wild West shows in the US and Europe.
- Freedman, Russell. ***Vietnam: A History of the War***. Holiday House, 2016. The author offers a presentation of American involvement in the Vietnam War with a good selection of primary source photos and quotes from public officials as well as diary accounts and viewpoints of veterans of the war.
- Gerber, Alyson. ***Braced***. Arthur A. Levine, 2017. Rachel's plans to start as a forward on her school's soccer team become endangered when she learns that scoliosis, a spinal condition, requires her to wear a back brace; however, friends and family rally to support her as she rises to the challenge to lead a full life on the field and at school.
- Gidwitz, Adam. ***The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog***. Dutton, 2016. On a dark night, travelers from across France cross paths at an inn and begin to tell stories of three children whose adventures take them on a chase through medieval France.
- Grimes, Nikki. ***Planet Middle School***. Bloomsbury, 2011. A series of poems describes all the baffling changes at home and at school in twelve-year-old Joylin's transition from tomboy basketball player to not-quite-girly girl.
- Hale, Shannon. ***Friends Forever***. First Second, 2021. Based on the author's own experiences as an 8th grader, this graphic novel shows the stress of trying to be a "perfect" teenager and the path to self-acceptance and focusing on one's strengths. *Graphic novel, series*

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- Halpern, Jake, and Peter Kujawinski. ***Nightfall***. Putnam's, 2015. On a distant island where day and night exist on fourteen-year cycles and the islanders migrate south each sunset, three children get left behind and must find a way off the island before the Night finds them.
- Harrington, Kim. ***The Dead and Buried***. Point, 2012. High school senior Jade is horrified to learn her father and stepmother have bought the house of a girl who was mysteriously killed the year before they moved to town. She is even more horrified to realize that the house is being haunted by the dead girl's very mean-spirited ghost.
- Henkes, Kevin. ***Sweeping Up the Heart***. Greenwillow, 2019. Amelia's vacation looks bleak with her dad insisting they stay home over spring break instead of traveling. As boredom looms, she turns to the clay studio in town where she meets a boy named Casey who has a campaign going to keep his divorcing parents together.
- Henry, April. ***The Girl I Used to Be***. Holt, 2016. Fourteen years ago, everyone believed Olivia's mother had been killed by her father, but recently his remains were found in the same woody area where her mother died. Who killed them? Olivia means to find out.
- Higuera, Donna Barba. ***The Last Cuentista***. Levine Querido, 2021. When destruction of Earth by a comet is imminent, Petra Peña and her scientist parents, along with other selected humans, escape via starship. After being put in stasis, they expect to be cared for by volunteer monitors until their arrival on habitable Sagan in 380 years, but things do not go as planned. *Newbery Medal 2022, Pura Belpré Author Award Winner 2022*
- Hilton, Marilyn. ***Full Cicada Moon***. Dial Books, 2015. Mimi grapples with society in this novel written in verse about a half-black, half-Japanese seventh grader who moves to a new town and struggles to find her identity.
- Hoose, Phillip. ***The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2015. Deeply ashamed of Denmark's failure to resist the Nazi regime, fifteen-year-old Knud Pedersen resolved with his brother and a handful of schoolmates to take action against the Nazis themselves.
- Howard, Tim. ***The Keeper: The Unguarded Story of Tim Howard (Young Readers' Edition)***. Harper, 2015. Tim Howard's uplifting memoir about how he grew from being a hyperactive kid from New Jersey with Tourette syndrome to becoming one of the world's premier soccer goalkeepers.
- Hutton, Keely. ***Secret Soldiers***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2019. It is the height of WWI, and although teenager Thomas Sullivan isn't old enough to enlist as a soldier, he finds himself participating in a secret mission in the brutal trenches of the Western Front, all the while seeking his brother who is missing in action.
- Jarrow, Gail. ***Blood and Germs: The Civil War Battle Against Wounds and Disease***. Calkins Creek, 2020. Would you want to be a Civil War surgeon? Before modern

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medicine, injuries during the war were a grisly, life-and-death matter. Read about the heroes, leaders, and technology of the time in this colorful and surprising nonfiction title.

Jarrow, Gail. ***Spooked! How a Radio Broadcast and The War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America***. Calkins Creek, 2018. Orson Welles led a group of talented performers in a 1938 radio production of *The War of the Worlds*, which created a panic across the nation. The story of this faked “alien invasion” is a fascinating mix of theater, history, and psychology.

Johnson, Steven. ***How We Got to Now: Six Innovations that Made the Modern World***. Viking, 2018. This fun survey describes how innovations, such as air conditioning and eye-glasses, evolved over time; these stories provide an appreciation of how ideas build upon each other.

Kelly, Erin Entrada. ***Blackbird Fly***. Greenwillow, 2015. Bullied at school, eighth-grader Apple, a Filipino American who loves the music of the Beatles, decides to change her life by learning how to play the guitar.

Kelly, Scott. ***Endurance: My Year in Space and How I Got There***. Crown, 2018. Ever wonder what it is like to live in space? NASA astronaut, Scott Kelly details his journey from problem student to fighter pilot, Space Shuttle commander, and year-long inhabitant of the International Space Station.

Khoury, Jessica. ***Kalahari***. Razorbill, 2015. Five teens must try to survive in the Kalahari Desert with limited supplies while evading mercenaries and a strange silver lion.

Klass, David. ***Losers Take All: A Novel***. Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2015. At a sports-crazy New Jersey high school where all kids must play on a team, a group of rebels start a soccer team designed to undermine the jock culture of the school.

Klise, James. ***The Art of Secrets***. Algonquin, 2014. When a piece of quirky art donated to a school fundraising effort to help a Pakistani American family, victims of a possible hate crime, is revealed to be a valuable unknown work by a famous outsider artist, adults and teenagers alike debate who should get the money and begin to question each other's motivations.

Landman, Tanya. ***Hell and High Water***. Candlewick, 2017. In 1750s London, young Caleb's life is upended when his father is accused of theft and shipped to America as a laborer; meanwhile, Caleb journeys to a rough seafaring town to live with his father's estranged sister, and he begins to discover murderous plots and a smuggling operation.

Lee, Stacey. ***The Downstairs Girl***. Putnam's, 2019. Jo is a Chinese girl living during the 1890s in Atlanta, a time in which the fight for women's rights is on the rise while segregation laws are also beginning to restrict the rights of Blacks and Asians. Jo masks her identity to become a popular and controversial “advice columnist” for the local paper, and she becomes immersed in the fight for rights.

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- McCall, Guadalupe Garcia. ***Under the Mesquite***. Lee & Low, 2011. Lupita, a budding actor and poet in a close-knit Mexican American immigrant family, comes of age as she struggles with adult responsibilities during her mother's long illness.
- Messner, Kate. ***Tracking Pythons: The Quest to Catch an Invasive Predator and Save an Ecosystem***. Millbrook, 2020. Wade through south Florida with scientists dedicated to finding and controlling the Burmese python population, an invasive species from Southeast Asia. This nonfiction title is full of photos and fascinating facts for snake and nature lovers as well as the just plain curious.
- Meyer, Marissa. ***Heartless***. Feiwel and Friends, 2016. Cath wants most of all to open her own bakery to sell her tarts and other goodies, but in this prequel to Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, she has caught the eye of the goofy King of the Hearts Kingdom, as well as the eye of Jest, the court jester who is a very intriguing person!
- Muhammad, Ibtihaj. ***Proud: Living My American Dream***. Little, Brown, 2018. The inspiring and critically acclaimed all-American story of faith, family, hard work, and perseverance by Olympic fencer, activist, and one of *Time Magazine's* "100 Most Influential People," Ibtihaj Muhammad.
- Nelson, Marilyn. ***How I Discovered Poetry***. Dial Books, 2014. Looking back on her childhood in the 1950s, the author tells the story of her development as an artist and young woman through fifty eye-opening poems that also offer a larger view of the world around her: racial tensions, the Cold War era, and the first stirrings of the feminist movement.
- Nielsen, Susin. ***We Are All Made of Molecules***. Ember, 2016. Thirteen-year-old brilliant but socially-challenged Stewart and mean-girl Ashley must find common ground when, two years after Stewart's mother died, his father moves in with his new girlfriend--Ashley's mother--whose gay ex-husband lives in their guest house in the backyard.
- Nix, Garth. ***Frogkisser!*** Scholastic, 2017. Princess Anya has big problems. Duke Rikard, her step-stepfather, is an evil wizard who wants to rule the kingdom and has a habit of changing people into frogs, and her older sister Morven, the heir, is a wimp. With the help of the librarian Gotfried (who turns into an owl when he is upset) and the Royal Dogs, she must find a way to defeat Rikard, save her sister, and maybe even turn Prince Denholm back into a human being.
- Nunn, Malla. ***When the Ground is Hard***. Putnam's, 2019. At Swaziland's Keziah Christian Academy, where the wealth and color of one's father determines one's station, once-popular Adele bonds with poor Lottie over a book and a series of disasters.
- Odhiambo, Eucabeth A. ***Auma's Long Run***. Carolrhoda Books, 2017. When AIDS devastates thirteen-year-old Auma's village in Kenya during the 1980s, Auma must choose between staying to help her family and working toward a track scholarship that will take her away from home.

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- Okorafor, Nnedi. ***Akata Witch***. Viking, 2011. Twelve-year-old Sunny Nwazue, an American-born albino child of Nigerian parents, moves with her family back to Nigeria, where she learns that she has latent magical powers which she and three similarly gifted friends use to catch a serial killer. *Series*
- Oliver, Mary. ***Dog Songs: Thirty-five Dog Songs and One Essay***. Penguin, 2013. A collection of poems and one essay about dogs and their relationships with their owners.
- Oppel, Kenneth. ***Bloom: The Overflow***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2020. Anaya, Petra, and Seth race to save their family, friends, and island community against a mysterious, deadly plant invasion only to discover that part of the mystery lies deep within themselves. *Series*
- Paulsen, Gary. ***Gone to the Woods: Surviving a Lost Childhood***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2021. In this riveting and inspiring memoir, the author of *Hatchet* and other wilderness survival stories tells his own true-life survival story beginning at age five and continuing through young adulthood.
- Peet, Mal. ***Keeper***. Candlewick, 2005. An enthralling story of a poor and gawky Brazilian child who mysteriously becomes the world's greatest goalkeeper -- a seamless blend of magical realism and exhilarating soccer action.
- Priest, Cherie. ***I Am Princess X***. Arthur A. Levine, 2015. Years after writing stories about a superheroine character she created with a best friend who died in a tragic car accident, sixteen-year-old May is shocked to see stickers, patches, and graffiti images of the superheroine appearing around Seattle.
- Raffin, Michele. ***The Birds of Pandemonium: Life Among the Exotic and the Endangered***. Algonquin, 2014. Pandemonium, the home and bird sanctuary that Raffin shares with some of the world's most remarkable birds, is a conservation organization dedicated to saving and breeding birds at the edge of extinction, with the goal of eventually releasing them into the wild. Their stories teach us volumes about the interrelationships of humans and animals.
- Reynolds, Jason. ***Long Way Down***. Atheneum, 2017. Fifteen-year-old Will faces questions of morality and justice as he considers murdering the man who shot his brother in this powerful, gripping novel-in-verse that takes place in sixty crucial seconds.
- Reynolds, Jason, and Ibram X. Kendi. ***Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You***. Little, Brown, 2020. Preeminent author Jason Reynolds provides an exploration of what it means to be antiracist in this fast-paced, conversational nonfiction title.
- Reynolds, Justin A. ***Miles Morales Shock Waves: A Spider-Man Graphic Novel***. Graphix, 2021. Except for having special powers such as turning invisible and shooting webs from his wrists, Miles is a normal kid juggling typical teenage problems; but when an earthquake hits his mother's hometown in Puerto Rico

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and a classmate's father disappears, Miles must kick things into high gear.
Graphic novel

Rhodes, Jewell Parker. ***Black Brother, Black Brother***. Little, Brown, 2020. Biracial Donte and his brother attend Middlefield Prep, and Donte presents as black while his brother Trey presents as white. Their school experiences couldn't be more different, especially when Donte gets unjustly arrested.

Roberts, Barbara Carroll. ***Nikki on the Line***. Little, Brown, 2019. Middle schooler Nikki's passion is basketball, and she dreams of making the cut for a competitive club team. However, her non-sporty mom, the secret about her dad, changing friendships, and a new guy on the scene add up to things going not quite the way she planned.

Ruiz Zafón, Carlos. ***The Prince of Mist***. Little, Brown, 2010. In 1943, in a seaside town where their family has gone to be safe from war, thirteen-year-old Max Carver and his fifteen-year-old sister Alicia, along with new friend Roland, face off against an evil magician who is striving to complete a bargain made before he died.

Sanderson, Brandon. ***Skyward***. Delacorte, 2018. Branded as the daughter of a coward after her father abandons his team and is killed in battle, young Spensa sets her sights on claiming the stars by becoming a pilot and seeking retribution for her father's death by taking on their age-old enemy, the Krell.

Sandler, Martin W. ***1919: The Year That Changed America***. Bloomsbury, 2019. Sandler shows the many shockwaves hitting the country in 1919: the end of World War I and the resulting race riots, The Great Molasses Flood, the Red Scare, labor unrest, and the temperance movement all made great changes in American society. He compares those trends with what is happening now to show how history affects the current situation.

Sandler, Martin W. ***The Whydah: A Pirate Ship Feared, Wrecked, and Found***. Candlewick, 2017. Set sail on the pirate ship Whydah, doomed to sink off the coast of Cape Cod in 1717 with its treasure aboard and Black Sam Bellamy at the helm. Not found until 1984, its artifacts have shed much light on the life of pirates.

Sands, Kevin. ***The Blackthorn Key***. Aladdin, 2015. In 1665 London, fourteen-year-old Christopher Rowe, apprentice to an apothecary, and his best friend Tom try to uncover the truth behind a mysterious cult, following a trail of puzzles, codes, pranks, and danger toward an unearthly secret with the power to tear the world apart. *Series*

Schlitz, Laura Amy. ***The Hired Girl***. Candlewick, 2015. Fourteen-year-old Joan Skraggs chronicles her life in a journal when she leaves her family's farm in Pennsylvania to work as a hired girl in Baltimore in the summer of 1911. *Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction 2016*

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- Sepetys, Ruta. ***Between Shades of Gray***. Philomel, 2011. On a calm, beautiful night in 1941 Lithuania, fifteen-year-old Lina's life is torn apart as she and her family are forced from their home and sent to work in labor camps along the harsh Arctic Circle as part of Stalin's forced relocation program. Also published as ***Ashes in the Snow***.
- Sheinkin, Steve. ***Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team***. Roaring Brook, 2017. Tells the fascinating story of the beginning of American collegiate football and the role that coach Pop Warner, football great Jim Thorpe, and the legendary Carlisle Indian Industrial School contributed to the development of the sport.
- Soontornvat, Christina. ***All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team***. Candlewick, 2020. This gripping narrative of the 2018 Thai boys' rescue combines the technical details of the rescue operation with the inspiring human efforts to save these boys. *Newbery Honor Book 2021*
- Spooner, Meagan. ***Sherwood***. HarperTeen, 2019. When Lady Marian learns that her betrothed, Robin of Locksley, has perished in the Crusades, she is faced with an uncertain future and finds herself caught between helping Will Scarlet, a fugitive, and keeping one step ahead of Sir Guy, the arm of the law. "The lady becomes the legend" is the perfect tagline for this reimagined classic.
- Springer, Nancy. ***Enola Holmes and the Black Barouche***. Wednesday Books, 2021. The witty, independent, and clever Enola Holmes jumps on a case with her older brother Sherlock Holmes when Flossie, the wife of the Earl of Dunhynch, is suspiciously reported dead. *Series*
- Stead, Rebecca. ***Goodbye, Stranger***. Wendy Lamb, 2015. As Bridge makes her way through seventh grade on Manhattan's Upper West Side with her best friends, curvaceous Em, crusader Tab, and a curious new friend - or more than friend - Sherm, she finds the answer she has been seeking since she barely survived an accident at age eight: "What is my purpose?"
- Stevenson, Robert Louis. ***Treasure Island***. First published 1883. A classic pirate story reproduced in movies and TV shows more than any other, *Treasure Island* tells the tale of the quest for treasure by Jim Hawkins and pirate Long John Silver. The book introduces the now infamous pirate song "Fifteen men on the dead man's chest--Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum!"
- Stroud, Jonathan. ***The Amulet of Samarkand***. Hyperion, 2003. This story is set in present-day London where Nathaniel, a young magician's apprentice, calls up the djinni Bartimaeus to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from another magician, and they both get caught up in a vast conspiracy of treason and murder. *Series*
- Sundquist, Josh. ***Love and First Sight***. Little, Brown, 2017. When Will decides to have surgery that can potentially restore his vision, he finds that those he cares about may be keeping secrets.

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- Thomas, Sherry. ***The Magnolia Sword: A Ballad of Mulan***. Tu Books, 2019. This new telling of the Mulan story will captivate readers with scenes of sword duels and martial arts. Mulan, a young girl disguised as a boy, joins forces with a warrior team to search out a traitorous plot and prevent invading armies from overthrowing the Chinese royal empire.
- Thompson, Holly. ***Orchards***. Ember, 2011. Sent to Japan for the summer after an eighth-grade classmate's suicide, half-Japanese, half-Jewish Kana Goldberg tries to fit in with relatives she barely knows and reflects on the guilt she feels over the tragedy back home.
- Tolkien, J. R. R. ***The Hobbit, or, There and Back Again***. First published 1937. Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return. *Series*
- Turner, Megan Whalen. ***The Thief***. Greenwillow, 1996. Eugenides, Gen, who boasts that he can steal anything, is currently languishing in jail when the Magus offers him a choice of coming with him on an undefined quest, where he will be able to exercise his vaunted skills or stay in jail for life. *Series*
- Vail, Rachel. ***Well, That Was Awkward***. Viking, 2017. Gracie has forgotten how to breathe, move, or do anything when confronted with A. J. who is suddenly so good looking! Then to top things off her best friend Sienna wants Gracie to compose texts to send to A. J. as if it was from her... but the replies are weirdly unlike A. J.
- Van Draanen, Wendelin. ***Flipped***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2001. This is a classic romantic comedy of errors told in alternating chapters by two teenagers describing how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.
- Volponi, Paul. ***Game Seven***. Viking, 2015. Julio Ramirez, a sixteen-year-old shortstop in Cuba who dreams of playing with the national team, finds that he must choose between his country and family and his father who long ago defected to the U.S.
- Warga, Jasmine. ***Other Words for Home***. Balzar + Bray, 2019. Jude and her mother flee Syria as violence erupts in neighboring towns. As Jude tries to navigate a new home, school, and friendships, she discovers an inner courage as she becomes her own person.
- Watson, Jude. ***Loot: How to Steal a Fortune***. Scholastic, 2014. When notorious jewel thief Alfie McQuinn is killed on a job, his last words to his son, March, are to "find jewels," and this instruction leads the boy to Jules, the twin sister he never knew he had—and the perfect partner to carry on the family business. *Series*
- Watson, Renée. ***Piecing Me Together***. Bloomsbury, 2017. Tired of being singled out at her mostly white private school as someone who needs support, high school junior Jade would rather participate in the school's amazing Study Abroad

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program than join Women to Women, a mentorship program for at-risk girls.
Coretta Scott King Award 2018

Wein, Elizabeth. ***The Enigma Game***. Little, Brown, 2020. A small community in Scotland rallies in World War II when a young girl, Louisa, finds an Enigma machine. The descriptions of the air battles between German Messerschmitt planes and the ill-equipped English bombers will keep readers on the edge of their seats.

Wilson, Kip. ***White Rose***. Versify, 2019. Based on true events, this novel in verse tells the compelling story of Sophie Scholl, an activist in World War II Nazi Germany who refused to be a bystander and instead risked everything to stand up against injustice.

Wolk, Lauren. ***Wolf Hollow: A Novel***. Dutton, 2016. Twelve-year-old Annabelle must learn to stand up for what is right in the face of a manipulative and violent new bully who targets people Annabelle cares about, including a homeless World War I veteran.

Yelchin, Eugene. ***Spy Runner***. Holt, 2019. Spy intrigue, FBI agents, Cold War paranoia, some blurry photos, and a sprinkling of wicked wit make this story a unique mystery.

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