

Middle School Summer Reading

Dear Middle School Students:

Summer is a time to relax, spend time with family, and read! Summer is also the perfect time to renew your enjoyment of reading and has the added bonus of boosting your reading skills.

Your teachers will be reading all summer long, and we challenge you to read as many books as you can this summer. During the upcoming school year, you'll be challenged to read more than you ever had before and "outgrow yourself as a reader." Why not get a head start over the summer when you have more free time? Just keep track of the books you have read on the list provided. **(This is the Summer Reading Challenge Journal)** We are setting a school-wide goal of 100% participation.

Students are expected to read at least three during the summer. Students will be able to choose one book to bring home, then choose at least two additional books from the attached list to read. In addition, we are encouraging students to read as many of the Nutmeg Award Nominees as they can. Visit the Nutmeg [website](https://www.nutmegaward.org/) (https://www.nutmegaward.org/) for more information about each title. The Nutmeg nominees are chosen by children's librarians and school library media specialists from around the state. Students in grades 2-12 vote on their favorite book to choose the winner of the award.

Books are nominated for a Nutmeg Award in four categories: Elementary (2-3), Intermediate (4-5), Middle School (7-8), and High School. Nominees from the Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle School categories will be available at the Sherman Library. In addition, copies will be available at the Sherman School Library. During the summer months, students can check out a copy of the Nutmeg books from the Sherman School library by emailing Dr. Karen Fildes, Director of Teaching and Learning, at fildesk@shermanschool.com and arranging for pickup.

To help you select your additional summer reading book, we've created a list of suggested titles. See suggested reading list on the Summer Reading Google Classroom: Google Classroom Code - **iopsntc**. Any additional reading you do over the summer can be books that you choose on your own. We would also like you to create a Google Drawing of your summer reading. Create a drawing that includes the covers of all the books you read and write a short caption of one thing you liked about each book ("I liked this book because..."). This will not be a big task if you create the drawing at the beginning of the summer and just add each book as you read it throughout the summer. At the end of the summer print the drawing out (in color if you can) and bring it with you at the start of school.

We hope you have an enjoyable summer! Happy reading! See you at the start of school!
Thank you!

Book Choices for Middle School Summer Reading:

***The Fall from Lunathal*, by Christopher S. Carlone**

A Dungeons and Dragons group adventure turned into a full-blown fantasy series!

The world of Tellis has flooded.

For seven hundred years, the Moonfolk sought refuge in the treetop city of Lunathal. The blue-skinned Summerborn live in the upper districts with arcane magic and riches aplenty. The Winterborn, do not. Each day, more and more Moonfolk are falling ill to an unknown plague. To make matters worse, the Hero of Lunathal has vanished below the cloud sea. With no hero to protect them, it is up to two young and unlikely Moonfolk to save a world they only recently discovered and learn the truth about themselves. Theryn, an animal-lover with aspirations for greatness, and Lyra, a musician-turned-rogue with dark secrets, must set aside their differences and work together to defeat an evil from another Realm... All while being hunted by the ancient Winter Wyvern of Tellis and its mysterious rider.

***The Slippery Skirmish*, by Christopher S. Carlone**

The crew of the Hyena have made a stop at the mysterious Southmore Port to resupply for their voyage. Overconfident Gnome and former con man Pimbo Pintooth is now the captain of his own ship. The only problem is, he's stuck with pet-sitting duty.

Can trusty otter Slip stop Pimbo from putting their whole voyage in jeopardy?

Set one year after the events of, [The Fall from Lunathal](#), join Pimbo Pintooth on an exceedingly goofy and thrilling adventure as he tries to become the well-respected captain he always hoped he could be.

***The Last Cuentista*, by Donna Barba Higuera**

There lived a girl named Petra Peña, who wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita. But Petra's world is ending. Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred scientists and their children – among them Petra and her family – have been chosen to journey to a new planet. They are the ones who must carry on the human race. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet – and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. A sinister Collective has taken over the ship during its journey, bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past. They have systematically purged the memories of all aboard – or purged them altogether.

Petra alone now carries the stories of our past, and with them, any hope for our future. Can she make them live again?

***Shark Summer*, by Ira Marcks (Fiction)**

When a Hollywood film crew arrives on Martha's Vineyard with a mechanical shark and a youth film contest boasting a huge cash prize, disgraced pitcher Gayle "Blue Streak" Briar sees a chance to turn a bad season into the best summer ever. After recruiting aspiring cinematographer Elijah Jones and moody director Maddie Grey, Gayle and her crew set out to uncover the truth of the island's own

phantom shark and win the prize money. But these unlikely friends are about to discover what happens when you turn your camera toward the bad things lurking below the surface.

***New Kid*, by Jerry Craft (Fiction)**

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?

***Wild Blues*, by Beth Kephart (Fiction)**

Thirteen-year-old Lizzie's favorite place in the world is her uncle's cabin. Uncle Davy's renovated schoolhouse cabin, filled with antiques and on the edge of the Adirondacks, disconnected from the rest of the world, is like something out of a fairy tale. And an escape from reality is exactly what Lizzie needs. Life hasn't been easy for Lizzie lately. Her father abandoned their family, leaving Lizzie with her oftentimes irresponsible mother. Now, her mom has cancer and being unable to care for Lizzie during her chemotherapy, asks Lizzie where she'd like to spend the summer. The answer is simple: Uncle Davy's cabin. Lizzie loves her uncle's home for many reasons, but the main one is Matias, Uncle Davy's neighbor and Lizzie's best friend. Every day they go to their special spot where Matias paints with watercolors and Lizzie writes. Until one day when Matias never arrives. When news breaks about two escaped convicts from the nearby prison, Lizzie fears the worst. And when Uncle Davy goes missing, too, Lizzie knows she's the only one who knows this area of woods well enough to save them. Armed with her trusted Keppy survival book, Lizzie sets out into the wilds of the Adirondacks, proving just how far she'll go to save the people she loves.

***Greetings from the Witness Protection*, by Jake Burt (Fiction)**

The marshals are looking for the perfect girl to join a mother, father, and son on the run from the nation's most notorious criminals. After all, the bad guys are searching for a family with one kid, not two, and adding a streetwise girl who knows a little something about hiding things may be just what the marshals need. Nicki swears she can keep the Trevor family safe, but to do so she'll have to dodge hitmen, cyberbullies, and the specter of standardized testing, all while maintaining her marshal-mandated B-minus average. As she barely balances the responsibilities of her new identity, Nicki learns that the biggest threats to her family's security might not lurk on the road from New York to North Carolina, but rather in her own past.

***The Van Gogh Deception*, by Deron R. Hicks (Fiction)**

Dan Brown meets Jason Bourne in this riveting middle-grade mystery thriller. When a young boy is discovered in Washington DC's National Gallery without any recollection of who he is, so begins a high-stakes race to unravel the greatest mystery of all: his identity. As the stakes continue to rise, the boy must piece together the disjointed clues of his origins while using his limited knowledge to stop one of the greatest art frauds ever attempted. Digitally interactive, this

brehtaking museum mystery offers QR codes woven throughout the book that bring renowned paintings to readers' fingertips.

***Ban The Book*, by Alan Gratz (Fiction)**

In *Ban This Book* by Alan Gratz, a fourth grader fights back when *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg is challenged by a well-meaning parent and taken off the shelves of her school library. Amy Anne is shy and soft-spoken, but don't mess with her when it comes to her favorite book in the whole world. Amy Anne and her lieutenants wage a battle for the books that will make you laugh and pump your fists as they start a secret banned books locker library, make up ridiculous reasons to ban every single book in the library to make a point, and take a stand against censorship.

***The Night Diary*, by Veera Hiranandani (Fiction)**

It's 1947, and India, newly independent of British rule, has been separated into two countries: Pakistan and India. The divide has created much tension between Hindus and Muslims, and hundreds of thousands are killed crossing borders. Half-Muslim, half-Hindu twelve-year-old Nisha doesn't know where she belongs, or what her country is anymore. When Papa decides it's too dangerous to stay in what is now Pakistan, Nisha and her family become refugees and embark first by train but later on foot to reach her new home. The journey is long, difficult, and dangerous, and after losing her mother as a baby, Nisha can't imagine losing her homeland, too. But even if her country has been ripped apart, Nisha still believes in the possibility of putting herself back together.

***Defy the Stars*, by Claudia Gray (Fiction)**

She's a soldier--Noemi Vidal is willing to risk anything to protect her planet, Genesis, including her own life. To their enemies on Earth, she's a rebel. He's a machine--Abandoned in space for years, utterly alone, Abel's advanced programming has begun to evolve. He wants only to protect his creator, and to be free. To the people of Genesis, he's an abomination. Noemi and Abel are enemies in an interstellar war, forced by chance to work together as they embark on a daring journey through the stars. Their efforts would end the fighting for good, but they're not without sacrifice. The stakes are even higher than either of them first realized, and the more time they spend together, the more they're forced to question everything they'd been taught was true.

***Frostblood*, by Elly Blake (Fiction)**

Seventeen-year-old Ruby is a Fireblood who has concealed her powers of heat and flame from the cruel Frostblood ruling class her entire life. But when her mother is killed trying to protect her, and rebel Frostbloods demand her help to overthrow their bloodthirsty king, she agrees to come out of hiding, desperate to have her revenge. Despite her unpredictable abilities, Ruby trains with the rebels and the infuriating--yet irresistible--Arcus, who seems to think of her as nothing more than a weapon. But before they can take action, Ruby is captured and forced to

compete in the king's tournaments that pit Fireblood prisoners against Frostblood champions. Now she has only one chance to destroy the maniacal ruler who has taken everything from her--and from the icy young man she has come to love.

***Rebound*, by Kwame Alexander (Fiction)**

Before Josh and Jordan Bell were streaking up and down the court, their father was learning his own moves. In this prequel to Newbery Medal winner *The Crossover*, Chuck Bell takes center stage, as readers get a glimpse of his childhood and how he became the jazz music worshipping, basketball star his sons look up to. A novel in verse with all the impact and rhythm readers have come to expect from Kwame Alexander, *Rebound* will go back in time to visit the childhood of Chuck "Da Man" Bell during one pivotal summer when young Charlie is sent to stay with his grandparents where he discovers basketball and learns more about his family's past.

***Shouting at the Rain*, by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (Fiction)**

Delsie loves tracking the weather--lately, though, it seems the squalls are in her own life. She's always lived with her kindhearted Grammy, but now she's looking at their life with new eyes and wishing she could have a "regular family." Delsie observes other changes in the air, too--the most painful being a friend who's outgrown her. Luckily, she has neighbors with strong shoulders to support her, and Ronan, a new friend who is caring and courageous but also troubled by the losses he's endured. As Ronan and Delsie traipse around Cape Cod on their adventures, they both learn what it means to be angry versus sad, broken versus whole, and abandoned versus loved. And that, together, they can weather any storm.

***Unbound: A Novel in Verse*, by Anne E. Burg (Fiction)**

The day Grace is called from the slave cabins to work in the Big House, Mama makes her promise to keep her eyes down. Uncle Jim warns her to keep her thoughts tucked private in her mind or they could bring a whole lot of trouble and pain. But the more Grace sees of the heartless Master and hateful Missus, the more a rightness voice clamors in her head-asking how come white folks can own other people, sell them on the auction block, and separate families forever. When that voice escapes without warning, it sets off a terrible chain of events that prove Uncle Jim's words true. Suddenly, Grace and her family must flee deep into the woods, where they brave deadly animals, slave patrollers, and the uncertainty of ever finding freedom.

***Merci Suarez Changes Gears*, by Meg Medina (Fiction)**

Merci Suarez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just *how* different. For starters, Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school in Florida, because she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. They don't have a big house or a fancy boat, and they have to do extra community service to make up for their free tuition. So when bossy Edna Santos sets her sights on the new boy who happens to be Merci's school-assigned Sunshine Buddy, Merci becomes the target of Edna's jealousy. Things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather and most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely lately — forgetting important things, falling from his bike, and getting angry over

nothing. No one in her family will tell Merci what's going on, so she's left to her own worries, while also feeling all on her own at school. In a coming-of-age tale full of humor and wisdom, award-winning author Meg Medina gets to the heart of the confusion and constant change that defines middle school — and the steadfast connection that defines family.

***Refugee*, by Alan Gratz (Fiction)**

JOSEF is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world . . .

ISABEL is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety in America . . .

MAHMOUD is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe . . .

All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers -- from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But there is always the hope of *tomorrow*. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end.

***Hello, Universe*, by Erin Entrada Kelly (Fiction)**

In one day, four lives weave together in unexpected ways. Virgil Salinas is shy and kindhearted and feels out of place in his crazy-about-sports family. Valencia Somerset, who is deaf, is smart, brave, and secretly lonely, and she loves everything about nature. Kaori Tanaka is a self-proclaimed psychic, whose little sister, Gen, is always following her around. And Chet Bullens wishes the weird kids would just stop being so different so he can concentrate on basketball. They aren't friends, at least not until Chet pulls a prank that brings them all together.

***Wolf Hollow*, by Lauren Wolk (Fiction)**

Growing up in the shadows cast by two world wars, Annabelle has lived a mostly quiet, steady life in her small Pennsylvania town. Until the day new student Betty Glengarry walks into her class. Betty quickly reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative, and while her bullying seems isolated at first, things quickly escalate, and reclusive World War I veteran Toby becomes a target of her attacks. While others have always seen Toby's strangeness, Annabelle knows only kindness. She will soon need to find the courage to stand as a lone voice of justice as tensions mount.

***The Selection*, by Kiera Cass (Fiction)**

For thirty-five girls, the Selection is the chance of a lifetime. The opportunity to escape a rigid caste system, live in a palace, and compete for the heart of gorgeous Prince Maxon. But for America Singer, being Selected is a nightmare. It means turning her back on her secret love with Aspen, who is a caste below her, and competing for a crown she doesn't want.

***Warriors Series*, by Erin Hunter (Fiction)**

For generations, four Clans of wild cats have shared the forest according to the laws laid down by their warrior ancestors. But now ThunderClan is in grave danger. Rival ShadowClan is

growing stronger, a traitor may be hiding in their midst, and rising tensions threaten every cat in the forest.

***Orbiting Jupiter*, by Gary D. Schmidt (Fiction)**

The two-time Newbery Honor winner Gary D. Schmidt delivers the shattering story of Joseph, a father at thirteen, who has never seen his daughter, Jupiter. After spending time in a juvenile facility, he's placed with a foster family on a farm in rural Maine. Here Joseph, damaged and withdrawn, meets twelve-year-old Jack, who narrates the account of the troubled, passionate teen who wants to find his baby at any cost. In this riveting novel, two boys discover the true meaning of family and the sacrifices it requires.

***Goodbye Stranger*, by Rebecca Stead (Fiction)**

Long ago, best friends Bridge, Emily, and Tab made a pact: no fighting. But it's the start of seventh grade, and everything is changing. Emily's new curves are attracting attention, and Tab is suddenly a member of the Human Rights Club. And then there's Bridge. She's started wearing cat ears and is the only one who's still tempted to draw funny cartoons on her homework. It's also the beginning of seventh grade for Sherm Russo. He wonders: what does it mean to fall for a girl—as a friend? By the time Valentine's Day approaches, the girls have begun to question the bonds—and the limits—of friendship. Can they grow up without growing apart?

***Zombie Baseball Beatdown*, by Paolo Bacigalupi (Fiction)**

In this inventive, fast-paced novel, the "New York Times"-bestselling and Printz Award-winning author of "Ship Breaker" takes on hard-hitting themes, from food safety to racism and immigration, and creates a zany, grand-slam adventure that will get kids thinking about where their food comes from.

***Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, by J.K. Rowling (Fiction)**

Harry Potter has no idea how famous he is. That's because he's being raised by his miserable aunt and uncle who are terrified Harry will learn that he's really a wizard, just as his parents were. But everything changes when Harry is summoned to attend an infamous school for wizards, and he begins to discover some clues about his illustrious birthright. From the surprising way he is greeted by a lovable giant, to the unique curriculum and colorful faculty at his unusual school, Harry finds himself drawn deep inside a mystical world he never knew existed and closer to his own noble destiny.

***Macaroni Boy*, by Katherine Ayres (Fiction)**

In Pittsburgh in 1933, sixth-grader Mike Costa notices a connection between several strange occurrences, but the only way he can find out the truth about what's happening is to be nice to the class bully. Includes historical facts.

***Blood On The River*, by Elisa Carbone (Fiction)**

Traveling to the New World in 1606 as the page to Captain John Smith, twelve-year-old orphan Samuel Collier settles in the new colony of Jamestown, where he must quickly learn to distinguish between friend and foe.

***The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*, by Avi (Fiction)**

An ocean voyage of unimaginable consequences Not every thirteen-year-old girl is accused of murder, brought to trial, and found guilty. But I was just such a girl, and my story is worth relating even if it did happen years ago. Be warned, however: If strong ideas and action offend you, read no more. Find another companion to share your idle hours. For my part I intend to tell the truth as I lived it.

***The Crossover*, by Kwame Alexander (Fiction)**

Twelve-year-old narrator Josh Bell uses the rhythms of a poetry jam to emulate the "moving & grooving/popping and rocking" of life on the basketball court with his twin brother, J.B. This powerful novel in verse paints an authentic portrait of a closely-knit family on the brink of crisis. Swish! This book is nothing but net!

***The Night Garden*, by Jonathan Auxier (Fiction)**

The Night Gardener follows two abandoned Irish siblings who travel to work as servants at a creepy, crumbling English manor house. But the house and its family are not quite what they seem. Soon the children are confronted by a mysterious spectre and an ancient curse that threatens their very lives.

***Wildfire Run*, by Dee Garretson (Fiction)**

The President's son Luke and his friends Theo and Callie enjoy their vacation at Camp David, the safest place in the US. When a raging wildfire threatens to turn Camp David into a death trap, they race to override security systems and save the Secret Service agents who are supposed to keep them safe. (690L)

***Starry River of The Sky*, by Grace Lin (Fiction)**

The moon is missing from the remote Village of Clear Sky, but only a young boy named Rendi seems to notice! Rendi has run away from home and is now working as a chore boy at the village inn. He can't help but notice the village's peculiar inhabitants and their problems. Where has the innkeeper's son gone? Why are Master Chao and Widow Yan always arguing? What is the crying sound Rendi keeps hearing? And how can crazy old Mr. Shan not know if his pet is a toad or a rabbit?

***The Owl Keeper*, by Christine Bodien Jones (Fiction)**

Maxwell Unger has always loved the night. He used to do brave things like go tramping through the forest with his gran after dark. He loved the stories she told him about the world before the Destruction—about nature, and books, and the silver owls. His favorite story, though, was about the Owl Keeper.

***Spy Camp*, by Stuart Gibbs (Fiction)**

School may be out for summer, but top-secret training continues for aspiring spy Ben Ripley & #8212; and so does the danger.

***Middle School The Worst Years of My Life*, by James Patterson (Fiction)**

It's Rafe Khatchadorian's first day at Hills Village Middle School, and it's shaping up to be the worst year ever. He has enough problems at home without throwing his first year of middle school into the mix, but luckily he's got an ace plan for the best year ever--if only he can pull it off. With his best friend Leonardo the Silent awarding him points, Rafe tries to break every rule in his school's oppressive Code of Conduct. Chewing gum in class--5,000 points! Running in the hallway--10,000 points! Pulling the fire alarm--50,000 points!

***Echo*, by Pam Munoz Ryan (Fiction)**

Lost and alone in the forbidden Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives, binding them by an invisible thread of destiny. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. How their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo will resound in your heart long after the last note has been struck.

***Roller Girl*, by Victoria Jamieson (Fiction)**

For most of her 12 years, Astrid has done everything with her best friend, Nicole. But when Astrid falls in love with roller derby and signs up for derby camp, Nicole chooses to go to dance camp. And so begins the most difficult summer of Astrid's life as she struggles to keep up with the older girls at camp, hang on to the friend she feels slipping away, and cautiously embark on a new friendship. As the end of summer nears and her first roller derby bout (and junior high!) draws closer, Astrid realizes that maybe she *is* strong enough to handle the bout, a lost friendship, and middle school. In short, she's strong enough to be a roller girl.

***The Honest Truth*, by Dan Gemeinhart (Fiction)**

In all the ways that matter, Mark is a normal kid. He's got a dog named Beau and a best friend, Jessie. He likes to take photos and write haiku poems in his notebook. He dreams of climbing a mountain one day. But in one important way, Mark is not like other kids at all. Mark is sick. The kind of sick that means hospitals and treatments. The kind of sick some people never get better from. So Mark runs away. He leaves home with his camera, his notebook, his dog, and a plan to reach the top of Mount Rainier — even if it's the last thing he ever does.

***Red Queen*, by Victoria Aveyard (Fiction)**

Mare Barrow's world is divided by blood—those with common, Red blood serve the Silver-blooded elite, who are gifted with superhuman abilities. Mare is a Red, scraping by as a thief in a poor, rural village, until a twist of fate throws her in front of the Silver court. There, before the king, princes, and all the nobles, she discovers she has an ability of her own.

***A Long Way from Chicago*, by Richard Peck (Fiction)**

Joey and his sister, Mary Alice, visit their Grandma Dowdel every year during their summer vacation. They live in the big city of Chicago, while Grandma lives in a small Illinois town. We

learn about small-town life during the Depression. There are seven short stories for the years 1929 through 1942. Grandma's life is different to say the least! Her town has many interesting characters. The story is told by Joe as an adult as he reminisces about those summer trips. Grandma's life makes for fun adventures.

***Eragon*, by Christopher Paolini (Fiction)**

Eragon, a young farm boy, finds a marvelous blue stone in a mystical mountain place. Before he can trade it for food to get his family through the hard winter, it hatches a beautiful sapphire-blue dragon, a race thought to be extinct. Eragon bonds with the dragon, and when his family is killed by the marauding Ra'zac, he discovers that he is the last of the Dragon Riders, fated to play a decisive part in the coming war between the human but hidden Varden, dwarves, elves, the diabolical Shades and their neanderthal Urgalls, all pitted against and allied with each other and the evil King Galbatorix. Eragon and his dragon Saphira set out to find their role, growing in magic power and understanding of the complex political situation as they endure perilous travels and sudden battles, dire wounds, capture and escape.

***Uglies*, by Scott Westerfeld (Fiction)**

Tally Youngblood lives in a futuristic society that acculturates its citizens to believe that they are ugly until age 16 when they'll undergo an operation that will change them into pleasure-seeking "pretties." Anticipating this happy transformation, Tally meets Shay, another female ugly, who shares her enjoyment of hoverboarding and risky pranks. But Shay also disdains the false values and programmed conformity of the society and urges Tally to defect with her to the Smoke, a distant settlement of simple-living conscientious objectors. Tally declines, yet when Shay is found missing by the authorities, Tally is coerced by the cruel Dr. Cable to find her and her compatriots—or remain forever "ugly." Tally's adventuresome spirit helps her locate Shay and the Smoke.

***The Scorpio Races*, by Maggie Stiefvater (Fiction)**

Some race to win. Others race to survive.

It happens at the start of every November: the Scorpio Races. Riders attempt to keep hold of their water horses long enough to make it to the finish line. Some riders live. Others die.

At age nineteen, Sean Kendrick is the returning champion. He is a young man of few words, and if he has any fears, he keeps them buried deep, where no one else can see them.

Puck Connolly is different. She never meant to ride in the Scorpio Races. But fate hasn't given her much of a choice. So she enters the competition - the first girl ever to do so. She is in no way prepared for what is going to happen.

***Twilight*, by Stephenie Meyer (Fiction)**

When Bella Swan moves from sunny Phoenix to Forks, Washington, a damp and dreary town known for the most rainfall in the United States, to live with her dad, she isn't expecting to like it.

But the level of hostility displayed by her standoffish high school biology lab partner, Edward Cullen, surprises her. After several strange interactions, his preternatural beauty, strength, and speed have her intrigued. Edward is just as fascinated with Bella, and their attraction to one

another grows. As Bella discovers more about Edward's nature and his family, she is thrown headlong into a dangerous adventure that has her making a desperate sacrifice to save her one true love.

***The Hunger Games*, by Suzanne Collins (Fiction)**

This is a gripping story set in a post-apocalyptic world where a replacement for the United States demands a tribute from each of its territories: two children to be used as gladiators in a televised fight to the death. Katniss, from what was once Appalachia, offers to take the place of her sister in the Hunger Games, but after this ultimate sacrifice, she is entirely focused on survival at any cost. It is her teammate, Peeta, who recognizes the importance of holding on to one's humanity in such inhuman circumstances.

***The Red Pyramid*, by Rick Riordan (Fiction)**

Carter, 14, and Sadie, 12, have grown up apart. Carter has traveled all over the world with his Egyptologist father, Dr. Julius Kane, while Sadie has lived in London with her grandparents. Their mother passed away under mysterious circumstances, so when their father arrives in London and wants to take them both on a private tour of the British Museum, all is not necessarily what it seems. The evening ends with the apparent destruction of the Rosetta Stone, the disappearance of Dr. Kane, and the kidnapping of Carter and Sadie. More insidiously, it leads to the release of five Egyptian gods, including Set, who is their mortal enemy. Carter and Sadie discover the secrets of their family heritage and their ability to work magic as they realize that their task will be to save humanity from Set, who is building a destructive red pyramid inside Camelback Mountain in Phoenix.

***Among the Hidden*, by Margaret Peterson Haddix (Fiction)**

Born third at a time when having more than two children per family is illegal and subject to seizure and punishment by the Population Police, Luke has spent all of his 12 years in hiding. His parents disobeyed once by having him and are determined not to do anything unlawful again. At first the woods around his family's farm are thick enough to conceal him when he plays and works outdoors, but when the government develops some of that land for housing, his world narrows to just the attic. Gazing through an air vent at new homes, he spies a child's face at a window after the family of four has already left for the day. Is it possible that he is not the only hidden child? Answering this question brings Luke greater danger than he has ever faced before, but also greater possibilities for some kind of life outside of the attic.

***So B. It*, by Sarah Weeks (Fiction)** Although she lives an unconventional lifestyle with her mentally disabled mother and their doting neighbour, Bernadette, Heidi has a lucky streak that has a way of pointing her in the right direction. When a mysterious word in her mother's vocabulary begins to haunt her, Heidi's thirst for the truth leads her on a cross-country journey in search of the secrets of her past.

***The Maze Runner*, by James Dashner (Fiction)**

Thomas wakes up in an elevator, remembering nothing but his own name. He emerges into a world of about 60 teen boys who have learned to survive in a completely enclosed environment,

subsisting on their own agriculture and supplies. A new boy arrives every 30 days. The original group has been in "the glade" for two years, trying to find a way to escape through a maze that surrounds their living space. They have begun to give up hope. Then a comatose girl arrives with a strange note, and their world begins to change.

***THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS*, by John Boyne (Fiction)**

The 8 year old son of a Nazi commander befriends a Jewish boy on the "other side" of the fence.

***THINGS NOT SEEN*, by Andrew Clements (Fiction)**

Bobby wakes up invisible. His parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to reverse his condition. Also, Things Hoped For and Things That Are.

***RED KAYAK*, by Priscilla Cummings (Fiction)**

Brady knows that his friends are responsible for a mean prank that results in an accidental tragedy. Plagued by this guilty secret, Brady struggles with the truth and its consequences.

***FOUND*, by Margaret Peterson Haddix (Fiction)**

Thirteen years after a plane mysteriously lands in an airport with 36 baby passengers and no adults on board, the children from the flight begin to receive strange, unexplained letters. Jonah and Chip must work quickly to uncover the secrets of their past. This is the first in The Missing Book series.

***TRAVEL TEAM*, by Mike Lupica (Fiction)**

After he is cut from his travel basketball team—the very same team his father once led to national prominence—Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs who might have a shot at victory.

***THE SIXTY-EIGHT ROOMS*, by Marianne Malone (Fiction)**

When Ruthie and her best friend, Jack, visit Chicago's Art Institute on a class field trip, they discover the Thorn Room, which houses 68 miniature rooms representing different time periods. A found key allows them to shrink and visit these rooms and time periods, and the adventures begin.

***LIFE AS WE KNEW IT*, by Susan Beth Pfeffer (Fiction)**

When a meteor hits the moon and knocks it off its axis, life on Earth is altered forever. High school student Miranda keeps a diary about how her family copes with food and gas shortages and extreme weather changes, and without electricity.

***The Eleventh Plague*, by Jeff Hirsch (Fiction)**

In the aftermath of a war, America's landscape has been ravaged and two thirds of the population left dead from a vicious strain of influenza. Fifteen-year-old Stephen Quinn and his family were among the few that survived and became salvagers, roaming the country in search

of material to trade for food and other items essential for survival. But when Stephen's grandfather dies and his father falls into a coma after an accident, Stephen finds his way to Settler's Landing, a community that seems too good to be true, where there are real houses, barbecues, a school, and even baseball games. Then Stephen meets strong, defiant, mischievous Jenny, who refuses to accept things as they are.

***Secret Soldiers: How the U.S. Twenty-Third Special Troops Fooled the Nazis*, by Paul B. Janeczko**

In his third book about deception during war, Paul B. Janeczko focuses his lens on World War II and the operations carried out by the Twenty-Third Headquarters Special Troops, aka the Ghost Army. This remarkable unit included actors, camouflage experts, sound engineers, painters, and set designers who used their skills to secretly and systematically replace fighting units — fooling the Nazi army into believing what their eyes and ears told them, even though the sights and sounds of tanks and war machines and troops were entirely fabricated. Follow the Twenty-Third into Europe as they play a dangerous game of enticing the German army into making battlefield mistakes by using sonic deceptions, inflatable tanks, pyrotechnics, and camouflage in more than twenty operations. From the Normandy invasion to the crossing of the Rhine River, the men of the Ghost Army — several of whom went on to become famous artists and designers after the war — played an improbable role in the Allied victory.

***Apollo 8: The Mission that Changed Everything*, by Martin W. Sandler (Nonfiction)**

In 1957, when the USSR launched Sputnik I, the first man-made satellite to orbit Earth, America's rival in the Cold War claimed victory on a new frontier. The Space Race had begun, and the United States was losing. Closer to home, a decade of turbulence would soon have Americans reeling, with the year 1968 alone seeing the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy as well as many violent clashes between police and protesters. Americans desperately needed something good to believe in, and NASA's mission to orbit Earth in Apollo 8 and test a lunar landing module was being planned for the end of the year. But with four months to go and the module behind schedule, the CIA discovered that the USSR was preparing to send its own mission around the moon — another crucial victory in the Space Race — and it was clearly time for a change of plan. In a volume full of astonishing full-color photographs, including the iconic Earthrise photo, Martin W. Sandler unfolds an incredible chapter in U.S. history: Apollo 8 wouldn't just orbit Earth, it would take American astronauts to see the dark side of the moon.

***Something Rotten: A Fresh Look at Roadkill*, by Heather L. Montgomery (Nonfiction)**

When Heather L. Montgomery sees a rattlesnake flattened on the side of the road, her first instinct is to pick it up and dissect it—she's always wanted to see how a snake's fangs retract when they close their mouths, and it's not exactly safe to poke around in a live reptile's mouth. A wildlife researcher with a special penchant for the animals that litter the roadways, Heather isn't satisfied with dissecting just one snake. Her fascination with roadkill sets her off on a journey from her own backyard and the roadways of the American South to scientists and kids in labs

and homes across the globe. From biologists who use the corpses of Tasmanian devils to investigate cures for a contagious cancer, to a scientist who discovered a whole new species of bird from a single wing left behind, to a boy rebuilding animal bodies from the bones up, to a restaurant that serves up animal remnants, Heather discovers that death is just the beginning for these creatures.

***The Big Bold Adventurous Life of Lavinia Warren*, by Elizabeth Raum (Nonfiction)**

Lavinia Warren never let her height—or the lack of it—prevent her from leading a full and adventurous life. Although she never grew more than three feet tall, she became a beloved teacher, a world traveler, an entertainer and the friend of many powerful figures. Lavinia was teaching at a local school when she heard about an opportunity to travel doing shows as a “human curiosity” on a Mississippi River boat. Eventually she met P. T. Barnum and worked at his American Museum. It was there that she met Charles Stratton, a little person known to the world as “Tom Thumb.” Their wedding, which took place on February 10, 1863, brought joy to a nation at war. President and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln held a reception for the couple at the White House. The newlyweds later toured the United States and the world. Lavinia faced several tragedies but always found the strength to go on. Lavinia’s extraordinary story also provides a social history of one of the most devastating periods in American history. With additional material on Tom Thumb Weddings, readers' questions, timeline, and notes and bibliography, this is sure to be a valuable title for adventurous middle-grade readers.

***Backyard Bears*, by Amy Cherrix (Nonfiction)**

North Carolina's black bears were once a threatened species, but now their numbers are rising in and around Asheville. But what happens when conservation efforts for a species are so successful that there’s a boom in the population? Can humans and bears live compatibly? What are the long-term effects for the bears? Author Amy Cherrix follows the scientists who, in cooperation with local citizen scientists, are trying to answer to these questions and more. Part field science, part conservation science, *Backyard Bears* looks at black bears—and other animals around the globe—who are rapidly becoming our neighbors in urban and suburban areas.

***The United States Versus Jackie Robinson*, by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen (Nonfiction)**

A moving and inspiring nonfiction picture book about Jackie Robinson’s court martial trial—an important lesser-known moment in his lifetime of fighting prejudice with strength and grace—from author Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen and award-winning illustrator R. Gregory Christie. Perfect for fans of *Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer*, *The Story of Ruby Bridges*, and *Martin’s Big Words*. Jackie Robinson broke boundaries as the first African American player in Major League Baseball. But long before Jackie changed the world in a Dodger uniform, he did it in an army uniform. As a soldier during World War II, Jackie experienced segregation every day—separate places for black soldiers to sit, to eat, and to live. When the army outlawed segregation on military posts and buses, things were supposed to change. So when Jackie was ordered by a white bus driver to move to the back of a military bus, he refused. Instead of

defending Jackie's rights, the military police took him to trial. But Jackie would stand up for what was right, even when it was difficult to do.

Everest, by Sangma Francis (Nonfiction)

Hundreds of people dare to climb Mount Everest every year, following in Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay's footsteps, hoping to experience Earth's highest peak. But there is so much more to this mountain than the brave mountaineers who climb it. Travel back to its ancient origins, learn about the flowers and plants that grow upon this great peak, and discover the rich history of religions, myths, and legends that surround this great Sagarmatha, the Goddess of the Sky.

Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation, by Duncan Tonatiuh (Nonfiction)

Almost 10 years before *Brown vs. Board of Education*, Sylvia Mendez and her parents helped end school segregation in California. An American citizen of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage who spoke and wrote perfect English, Mendez was denied enrollment to a "Whites only" school. Her parents took action by organizing the Hispanic community and filing a lawsuit in federal district court. Their success eventually brought an end to the era of segregated education in California.

Hidden Figures: The Untold True Story of Four African-American Women Who Helped Launch Our Nation Into Space, by Margot Lee Shetterly (Nonfiction)

Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as "human computers" used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Among these problem-solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation. Originally relegated to teaching math in the South's segregated public schools, they were called into service during the labor shortages of World War II, when America's aeronautics industry was in dire need of anyone who had the right stuff.

The Next Wave: The Quest to Harness the Power of the Oceans, by Elizabeth Rusch (Nonfiction)

Journey to the wave-battered coast of the Pacific Northwest to meet some of the engineers and scientists working to harness the punishing force of our oceans, one of the nature's powerful and renewable energy sources. With an array of amazing devices that cling to the bottom of the sea floor and surf on the crests of waves, these explorers are using a combination of science, imagination, and innovation to try to capture wave energy in the hopes of someday powering our lives in a cleaner, more sustainable way.

Witches! The Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem, by Rosalyn Schanzer (Nonfiction)

With excellent graphics and historical information, this book offers a fresh look at the Salem Witch Trials from all sides.

***Lincoln's Last Days*, by Bill O'Reilly (Nonfiction)**

In the spring of 1865, President Abraham Lincoln traveled through Washington, D.C., after finally winning America's bloody Civil War. In the midst of celebrations, Lincoln is assassinated at Ford's Theatre by a famous actor named John Wilkes Booth. What follows is a thrilling chase, ending with a fiery shoot-out and swift justice for the perpetrators.

***Kennedy's Last Days*, by Bill O'Reilly (Nonfiction)**

On a sunny day in Dallas, Texas, at the end of a campaign trip, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy is assassinated by an angry, lonely drifter named Lee Harvey Oswald. The former Marine Corps sharpshooter escapes briefly, but is hunted down, captured, and then shot dead while in police custody.

***Chew On This*, by Charles Wilson and Eric Schlosser (Nonfiction)**

In the New York Times bestseller *Chew on This*, Eric Schlosser and Charles Wilson unwrap the fast-food industry to bring you a behind-the-scenes look at a business that both feeds and feeds off the young. Find out what really goes on at your favorite restaurants—and what lurks between those sesame seed buns.

***Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart*, by Candace Fleming (Nonfiction)**

In alternating chapters, Fleming deftly moves readers back and forth between Amelia's life (from childhood up until her last flight) and the exhaustive search for her and her missing plane. With incredible photos, maps, and handwritten notes from Amelia herself—plus informative sidebars tackling everything from the history of flight to what Amelia liked to eat while flying (tomato soup).

***The Book of Blood: From Legends and Leeches to Vampires and Veins*, by HP Newquist (Nonfiction)**

HP Newquist takes young readers on an engaging tour of the world of blood, from ancient history to modern science—with an occasional trip to the very strange side of the most important tissue in our bodies. Oddly enough, scientists began to understand this fascinating fluid only within the past one hundred years and how its microscopic components nourish the entire body. Whether the tales of vampires, medieval medical practices, and Mayan sacrificial rites captivate or terrify, this comprehensive investigation into blood's past and present will surely enthrall. And if this account is a little bloodcurdling, well, that's half the fun!

***Primates: The Fearless Science of Jane Goodall*, by Dian Fossey and Birute Galdikas (Nonfiction)**

Jim Ottaviani returns with an action-packed account of the three greatest primatologists of the last century: Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Biruté Galdikas. These three ground-breaking

researchers were all students of the great Louis Leakey, and each made profound contributions to primatology—and to our own understanding of ourselves. Tackling Goodall, Fossey, and Galdikas in turn, and covering the highlights of their respective careers, *Primates* is an accessible, entertaining, and informative look at the field of primatology and at the lives of three of the most remarkable women scientists of the twentieth century.

***My Thirteenth Winter*, by Samantha Abeel (Nonfiction)**

Samantha Abeel couldn't tell time, remember her locker combination, or count out change at a checkout counter -- and she was in seventh grade. For a straight-A student like Samantha, problems like these made no sense. She dreaded school, and began having anxiety attacks. In her thirteenth winter, she found the courage to confront her problems -- and was diagnosed with a learning disability. Slowly, Samantha's life began to change again. She discovered that she was stronger than she'd ever thought possible -- and that sometimes, when things look bleakest, hope is closer than you think.

***Next Man Up: A Year Behind the Lines of Today's NFL*, by John Feinstein (Nonfiction)**

An up-close look inside an NFL powerhouse, from the only writer in America who players and coaches would trust with their secrets.

***Seabiscuit: An American Legend*, by Lauren Hillenbrand (Nonfiction)**

Charles Howard was a former bicycle repairman who introduced the automobile to the western United States and became an overnight millionaire. When he needed a trainer for his new racehorses, he hired Tom Smith, a mysterious mustang breaker from the Colorado plains. Smith urged Howard to buy Seabiscuit for a bargain-basement price, then hired as his jockey Red Pollard, a failed boxer who was blind in one eye, half-crippled, and prone to quoting passages from Ralph Waldo Emerson. Over four years, these unlikely partners survived a phenomenal run of bad fortune, conspiracy, and severe injury to transform Seabiscuit from a neurotic, pathologically indolent also-ran into an American sports icon.

***A Night to Remember*, by Walter Lord (Nonfiction)**

First published in 1955, *A Night to Remember* remains a completely riveting account of the *Titanic's* fatal collision and the behavior of the passengers and crew, both noble and ignominious. Some sacrificed their lives, while others fought like animals for their own survival. Wives beseeched husbands to join them in lifeboats; gentlemen went taut-lipped to their deaths in full evening dress; and hundreds of steerage passengers, trapped below decks, sought help in vain.

***Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot"*, by Michael O. Tunnell (Nonfiction)**

Michael O. Tunnell tells an inspiring tale of candy and courage, illustrated with Lt. Halvorsen's personal photographs, as well as letters and drawings from the children of Berlin to their beloved "Uncle Wiggly Wings."

***Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World*, by Sy Montgomery and Temple Grandin (Nonfiction)**

When Temple Grandin was born, her parents knew that she was different. Years later she was diagnosed with autism. While Temple's doctor recommended a hospital, her mother believed in her. Temple went to school instead. Today, Dr. Temple Grandin is a scientist and professor of animal science at Colorado State University. Her world-changing career revolutionized the livestock industry. As an advocate for autism, Temple uses her experience as an example of the unique contributions that autistic people can make. This compelling biography complete with Temple's personal photos takes us inside her extraordinary mind and opens the door to a broader understanding of autism.

***Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and Endurance*, by Jennifer Armstrong (Nonfiction)**

In August 1914, Ernest Shackleton and 27 men sailed from England in an attempt to become the first team of explorers to cross Antarctica from one side to the other. Five months later and still 100 miles from land, their ship, *Endurance*, became trapped in ice. The expedition survived another five months camping on ice floes, followed by a perilous journey through stormy seas to remote and unvisited Elephant Island. In a dramatic climax to this amazing survival story, Shackleton and five others navigated 800 miles of treacherous open ocean in a 20-foot boat to fetch a rescue ship.

***Left for Dead A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis*, by Pete Nelson (Nonfiction)**

Just after midnight on July 30, 1945, the USS *Indianapolis* was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. The ship sank in 14 minutes. More than 1,000 men were thrown into shark-infested waters. Those who survived the fiery sinking—some injured, many without life jackets—struggled to stay afloat in shark-infested waters as they waited for rescue. But the United States Navy did not even know they were missing. The Navy needed a scapegoat for this disaster. So it court-martialed the captain for "hazarding" his ship. The survivors of the *Indianapolis* knew that their captain was not to blame. For 50 years they worked to clear his name, even after his untimely death. But the navy would not budge—until an 11-year-old boy named Hunter Scott entered the picture. His history fair project on the *Indianapolis* soon became a crusade to restore the captain's good name and the honor of the men who served under him.

***10,000 DAYS OF THUNDER: A HISTORY OF THE VIETNAM WAR*, by Phillip Caputo (Nonfiction)**. This is a straightforward overview, with pictures, of the Vietnam War.

***HITLER YOUTH: GROWING UP IN HITLER'S SHADOW*, by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Nonfiction)** This is a look at the youth organizations Hitler founded and used to meet his social and military ends.

***BODIES FROM THE ICE: MELTING GLACIERS AND THE RECOVERY OF THE PAST*, by James M. Deem (Nonfiction)** In 1991, mountain climbers found the body of Otzi, the oldest mummy recovered and thought to be over 5000 years old.

***TAKING FLIGHT*, by Michaela DePrince (Nonfiction)**

In an orphanage in war-torn Sierra Leone, young Michaela DePrince found a magazine cover swirling in the wind. She grabbed it and saw a ballerina on the cover. She was adopted by an American family and followed her dream born by that cover to become a professional ballerina.

***PURE GRIT: HOW AMERICAN WORLD WAR II NURSES SURVIVED BATTLE AND PRISON CAMP IN THE PACIFIC*, by Mary Cronk Farrell (Nonfiction)**

In 1941, Army and Navy nurses serving in the Philippines suddenly found themselves in a war zone treating injured and dying soldiers in makeshift hospitals in the jungle. Things got worse when some were captured and kept as prisoners of war in deplorable conditions, battling disease and starvation while still treating and helping anyone (including their captors) who needed medical attention.

***ER VETS: LIFE IN AN ANIMAL EMERGENCY ROOM*, by Donna M. Jackson (Nonfiction)**

Pet lovers will enjoy this real-life look into the daily world of veterinarians.

***ANNIE SULLIVAN AND THE TRIALS OF HELEN KELLER*, by Joseph Lambert (Nonfiction)**

This graphic biography tells the story of Annie Sullivan's difficult childhood and her first years working to help Helen Keller communicate and make sense of a world she could neither see nor hear.

***THE BOY ON THE WOODEN BOX: HOW THE IMPOSSIBLE BECAME POSSIBLE...ON SCHINDLER'S LIST*, by Leon Leyson (Nonfiction)**

This is a remarkable memoir of a family's survival of the Holocaust, thanks to Oskar Schindler's repeated interventions. It is told in the voice of Leon Leyson, the youngest member of Schindler's list, who offers his first-hand account of day-to-day existence in the factory, helping readers understand the Holocaust through the eyes of a young person who lived it.

***LINCOLN'S GRAVE ROBBERS*, by Steve Sheinkin (Nonfiction)**

A group of counterfeiters scheme to steal Abraham Lincoln's body from his tomb, ransom Lincoln's remains for money, and free a master counterfeiter from jail. Secret Service agents learn of the plot, recruit an undercover agent to infiltrate the gang, and try to catch the criminals before they can rob Lincoln's grave.

***OUTCASTS UNITED: THE STORY OF A REFUGEE SOCCER TEAM THAT CHANGED A TOWN*, by Warren St. John (Nonfiction)**

Just a few miles from Atlanta, Clarkston, Georgia became a settlement for families of refugees from war-torn countries. Soccer coach Luma Mufleh formed the Fugees, a soccer team consisting of boys from various countries and backgrounds. This inspiring book explores the array of challenges the team faced on and off the field and how determination prevailed.

***I AM MALALA: HOW ONE GIRL STOOD UP FOR EDUCATION AND CHANGED THE WORLD*, by Malala Yousafzai with Patricia McCormick (Nonfiction)**

Malala Yousafzai is an outspoken advocate for education for all children. In October 2012, she nearly lost her life when she was shot at point-blank range on the way home from school because of her education advocacy. Malala tells her remarkable story of her crusade for education rights, recovery, and survival.

***INTO THIN AIR: MT. EVEREST DISASTER*, by John Krakauer (Nonfiction)**

Climbers face the deadliest season in the history of Everest.

***Atomic Women: The Untold Stories of the Scientists Who Helped Create the Nuclear Bomb*, by Roseanne Montillo**

Bomb meets Code Girls in this nonfiction narrative about the little-known female scientists who were critical to the invention of the atomic bomb during World War II. They were leaning over the edge of the unknown and afraid of what they would discover there—meet the World War II female scientists who worked in the secret sites of the Manhattan Project. Recruited not only from labs and universities from across the United States but also from countries abroad, these scientists helped in—and often initiated—the development of the atomic bomb, taking starring roles in the Manhattan Project. In fact, their involvement was critical to its success, though many of them were not fully aware of the consequences.

***Spooked!: How a Radio Broadcast and The War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America*, by Gail Jarrow**

On the night of October 30, 1938, thousands of Americans panicked when they believed that Martians had invaded Earth. What appeared to be breaking news about an alien invasion was in fact a radio drama based on H. G. Wells's *War of the Worlds*, performed by Orson Welles and his Mercury Theatre players. Some listeners became angry once they realized they had been tricked, and the reaction to the broadcast sparked a national discussion about fake news, propaganda, and the role of radio. In this compelling nonfiction chapter book, Gail Jarrow explores the production of the broadcast, the aftermath, and the concept of "fake news" in the media.

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