

## 2018 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading List

We have divided the Suggested Summer Reading list into categories of reading: Fiction, Fantasy, Nonfiction (find your STEAM titles in this section), Sports, Adrenaline, etc. Each category has easier or more accessible titles for those who desire them under the heading: **Easier Reads**.

The books marked with an asterisk (\*) are **for more mature readers**. These books may have a higher level of language, and they might involve more mature topics such as violence, sex, drugs, and/or alcohol. Some title descriptions also mention that the book contains “explicit sexual content” so that students and their parents can avoid choosing such books if they are not comfortable with them.

Another good resource for students and parents is **commonsensemedia.org** which gives star ratings to books under the headings of Educational Value, Positive Role Models & Representation, Language, Sex, Violence, etc. as well as reviews of books.

Please ask Karen Stern (Readers’ Advisory & Reference Librarian—Main Floor Reference), Casey Chwiecko (Young Adult Librarian—Lower Level Youth Room), or the other librarians at the Beebe Library, if you have questions about a book’s content. They are more than happy to help students and their parents in their process of selecting summer reading books.

Librarians will also suggest titles based on what you enjoy reading if you cannot find something you would like to read on the Suggested Summer Reading List.

### **FICTION Easier Reads**

**Andrews, Jesse.** *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*. Seventeen-year-old Greg has managed to become part of every social group at his Pittsburgh high school without having any friends, but his life changes when his mother forces him to befriend Rachel, a girl who has leukemia. **FILM**

**Bauer, Joan.** *Rules of the Road*. Sixteen-year-old Jenna gets a job driving the elderly owner of a chain of successful shoe stores from Chicago to Texas to confront the son who is trying to force her to retire, and along the way Jenna hones her talents as a saleswoman and finds strength to face her alcoholic father. Especially for those who enjoy Elizabeth Berg.

**Bell, Julia.** *Massive*. Because of her mother's obsession with weight, coupled with the false idea that being thin is the key to success, young Carmen becomes just as obsessed as her mother in having a perfect body. Good companion to Hornbacher’s nonfiction title, *Wasted*, from this list.

**Benway, Robin.** *Emmy & Oliver*. Emmy just wants to be in charge of her own life - surf her favorite beaches, stay out late - but since Oliver disappeared, her parents aren’t letting her do anything. But now Oliver’s back...can they pick up where they left off ten years before? For fans of Sarah Dessen.

**Coelho, Paulo.** *The Alchemist: A Fable About Following Your Dream*. A young shepherd boy seeks a hidden treasure and dreams of traveling the world. Also in Graphic Novel format.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 2

### FICTION Easier Reads (continued)

**Haddix, Margaret Peterson.** *Don't You Dare Read This, Mrs. Dunphrey.* In the journal she is keeping for English class, sixteen-year-old Tish chronicles the changes in her life when her abusive father returns home after a two-year absence.

**Harrison, Lisi.** *Pretenders.* In this series beginner, five high school freshmen - the Phoenix Five - reveal their friendships, crushes, school and family dramas, and big secrets, as told in their unique voices through journal entries. For those who enjoy Clique & Gossip Girls series.

**Hesser, Terry Spencer.** *Kissing Doorknobs.* Fourteen-year-old Tara describes how her increasingly strange compulsions begin to take over her life and affect her relationships with her family and friends.

**Hough, Robert.** *Diego's Crossing.* Diego is a smart high school senior from a dusty town on the Mexican side of the U.S. border. This grim and unflinching story shows the nearly, impossible choices that make life there so tough.

**Hughes, Dean.** *Soldier Boys.* HISTORICAL FICTION. Two boys, one German and one American, are eager to join their respective armies during World War II, and their paths cross at the Battle of the Bulge. Each boy tells the story from his own point of view.

**Johnson, Angela.** *First Part Last.* Bobby's carefree teenage life changes forever when he becomes a father and must care for his adored baby daughter.

**Johnson, Maureen.** *13 Little Blue Envelopes.* When seventeen-year-old Ginny receives a packet of mysterious envelopes from her favorite aunt, she leaves New Jersey to crisscross Europe on a sort of scavenger hunt that transforms her life.

**Lubar, David.** *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie.* While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.

**Murdock, Catherine Gilbert.** *Dairy Queen.* After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

**Myers, Walter Dean.** *Darius & Twig.* Two best friends, a writer and a runner, deal with bullies, family issues, social pressures, and their quest for success coming out of Harlem.

**Nelson, Jandy.** *The Sky is Everywhere.* In the months after her sister dies, seventeen-year-old Lennie falls into a love triangle and discovers the strength to follow her dream of becoming a musician. Student Suggestion: This may be a good book for someone who enjoyed Greal's memoir: *Autobiography of a Face.*

**Peet, Mal.** *Life: An Exploded Diagram.* HISTORICAL FICTION. In 1960s Norfolk, England, seventeen-year-old Clem Ackroyd lives with his mother and grandmother in a tiny cottage, but his life is transformed when he falls in love with the daughter of a wealthy farmer in this tale that flashes back through the stories of three generations.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 3

### FICTION Easier Reads (continued)

**Powell, Kelley.** *The Merit Birds*. Angry eighteen-year-old Cameron must accompany her mother to Laos. At first things go well until a motorbike accident lands him in a Laotian jail. Fresh and gripping, this novel is filled with both action and romance.

**Smith, Roland.** *Peak*. A fourteen-year-old-boy attempts to be the first kid to climb Mt. Everest in this compelling, fast-paced, realistic story. Readalike for Ullman's *Banner in the Sky*.

**Spalding, Amy.** *Kissing Ted Callahan (and Other Guys)*. Sixteen-year-olds Riley and Reid make a pact to pursue their respective crushes and document the experiences in a shared notebook they call "The Passenger Manifest."

FICTION Easier Reads (Continued)

**Tokio, Marnelle.** *More Than You Can Chew*. Marty, a high school senior, finds herself in a psychiatric institution where she is being treated for her eating disorder. Excellent companion to Bell's *Massive* or Hornbacher's nonfiction title, *Wasted*, on this list.

**Vivian, Siobhan.** *The List*. Every year at Mount Washington High School somebody posts a list of the prettiest and ugliest girls from each grade--this is the story of eight girls, freshman to senior, and how they are affected by the list.

**Walker, Melissa.** *Small Town Sinners*. High school junior Lacey finds herself questioning the evangelical Christian values she has been raised with when a new boy arrives in her Texas town.

**Werlin, Nancy.** *Rules of Survival*. Seventeen-year-old Matthew recounts his attempts, starting a young age, to free himself and his sisters from the grip of their abusive mother.

### FICTION \*for more mature readers

\***Ackerman, Elliot.** *Green on Blue*. In this thorny, illuminating, memorable modern war novel. Ackerman who served five tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq writes with empathy, authority, and integrity about Aziz, who joins a US-funded militia after his older brother is injured in a Taliban bombing.

\***Albertalli, Becky.** *Simon vs The Homo Sapien Agenda*. Sixteen-year-old, not-so-openly-gay Simon Spier is blackmailed into playing wingman for his classmate or else his sexual identity--and that of his pen pal--will be revealed.

\***Alegria, Malin.** *Estrella's Quinceañera*. Estrella's mother and aunt are planning a gaudy, traditional Quinceañera for her, even though it is the last thing she wants as she moves between her wealthy school friends and her big crazy family. Also check out the nonfiction list for Alvarez's *Once Upon a Quinceañera: Coming of Age in the USA*.

\***Almond, David.** *A Song for Ella Grey*. Claire witnesses a love so dramatic it is as if her best friend Ella Grey has been captured and taken from her. However, the loss of her best friend to the arms of Orpheus is nothing compared to the loss she feels when Ella is taken from the world in this modern take on the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice set in Northern England.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 4

### FICTION \*for more mature readers (continued)

\***Alvarez, Julia.** *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents.* Four girls from the Dominican Republic plunge from a pampered life of privilege on an island into the big city chaos of New York and rebel against their parents' old-world discipline.

\***Anders, Charlie Jane.** *All the Birds in the Sky.* Two socially inept tweens who are thrust into a whirlpool of world-ending change, join forces in this knock-your-socks-odd blend of science and magic, which follows the pair over decades from friends to enemies.

\***Anderson, Laurie Halse.** *Impossible Knife of Memory.* Hayley Kincaid and her father move back to their hometown to try a "normal" life, but the horrors he saw in the war threaten to destroy that possibility.

---.*Twisted.* After finally getting noticed by someone other than bullies and his angry father, seventeen-year-old Tyler enjoys his tough new status, but when life starts to go bad again, he must make some choices in this darkly humorous tale.

\***Armistead, Cal.** *Being Henry David.* Seventeen-year-old 'Hank,' who cannot remember his identity, finds himself in Penn Station with a copy of Thoreau's *Walden* as his only possession and must figure out where he's from and why he ran away.

\***Ball, Jesse.** *How to Set a Fire and Why.* Effectively orphaned Lucia lives with her penniless aunt and cherishes her father's Zippo lighter. In a sharp, deadpan voice, witty valiant Lucia recounts her misadventures setting fires in a Robin Hood like process against the ruling class.

\***Banks, Russell.** *Rule of the Bone.* A Wakefield author tells the raw and riveting adventures of a teenage boy who is molested at home, skirts the underworld, and finds horrifying abuse as well as unlikely familial support as he retains his sense of humor and humanity. Some profane and crude language.

\***Bauman, Beth Ann.** *Rosie and Skate.* NJ Sisters Rosie, aged 15, and Skate, aged 16, cope differently with their father's alcoholism and incarceration, but manage to stay close to one another as they strive to lead normal lives and find hope for the future.

\***Beam, Cris.** *I am J.* In this debut, J, who feels like a boy mistakenly born as a girl, runs away from his best friend who has rejected him and the parents he thinks do not understand him when he finally decides that it is time to be who he really is. Student Suggestion: Try this if you enjoyed reading Will Grayson, *Will Grayson* by Green and Levithan.

\***Berg, Elizabeth.** *Durable Goods.* Following her mother's death, Katie, a young girl living on an army base in the 1960s, waits for her Prince Charming to fall in love with her and struggles to understand her distant, violent father. First of three novels with Katie as the main character: *Joy School* and *True to Form*.

\***Berry, Julie.** *All the Truth That's In Me.* HISTORICAL FICTION. Four years ago, Judith and her best friend disappeared. Only Judith returned, permanently mutilated and ignored by everyone. Unable to speak, Judith lives like a ghost in her own home until the town is attacked.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 5

### FICTION \*for more mature readers (continued)

---. *The Passion of Dolssa*. HISTORICAL FICTION. The story-within-a-story begins in 1290 as a friar gathers testimonies from the Inquisition. But one tale troubles him: Sassy matchmaker Botille and her sister encounter aristocratic mystic Dolssa, beloved of Jesus, escaping from the pyre.

\***Betts, A.J.** *Zac and Mia*. The last person Zac expects in the room next door is a girl like Mia, angry and feisty with questionable taste in music. In the real world, he wouldn't--couldn't--be friends with her. In the hospital different rules apply, and what begins as a knock on the wall leads to a note--then a friendship neither of them sees coming--in this Australian author's Fault in Our Stars readalike.

\***Blume, Judy.** *In the Unlikely Event*. Blume tells the story of three generations of women in the 1950s through the eyes of 15-year-old Mitzi. It all begins when, over a two-month period, three planes inexplicably fall out of the sky over their New Jersey town.

\***Bray, Libba.** *Beauty Queens*. When an airplane full of teenage beauty queens crashes on a remote island, the surviving girls are forced to push themselves to the limits in order to survive. A very amusing and thought-provoking Miss America meets Survivor story.

\***Brown, Jennifer.** *Hate List*. Sixteen-year-old Valerie, whose boyfriend Nick committed a school shooting at the end of her junior year, struggles to cope with integrating herself back into high school life, unsure herself whether she was a hero or a villain.

\***Brunt, Carol Rifka.** *Tell the Wolves I'm Home*. In 1987, June Elbus, 14, overcomes her misery at the loss of her beloved artist uncle, Finn Weiss, by making an unexpected older friend who avoids the other members of her family.

\***Calame, Don.** *Call the Shots*. Coop, Matt, and Sean embark on their latest popularity-building venture for which they write a horror movie script and shoot a low-low-budget film in hopes of winning the girls of their dreams. Companion novel to author's *Swim the Fly* and *Beat the Band*.

\***Caletti, Deb.** *Wild Roses*. In Washington State, seventeen-year-old Cassie learns about the good and bad sides of both love and genius while living with her mother and brilliant-yet-disturbed, violinist stepfather and falling in love with a gifted young musician.

\***Chbosky, Stephen.** *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Written in a diary format, Charlie is navigating through the strange worlds of love, drugs, and dealing with the loss of a good friend and his favorite aunt. Some profane and crude language and explicit sexual content. FILM.

\***Cline, Emma.** *The Girls*. In the author's impressive debut, it's 1969 in Petaluma, California, and bored teenager Evie is introduced to a "family" of hangers-on surrounding a charismatic musician—vivid recreation of the Manson Family as a coming-of-age novel.

\***Demetrios, Helen.** *I'll Meet You There*. Skylar Evans, seventeen, yearns to escape Creek View by attending art school, but after her mother's job loss puts her dream at risk, a rekindled friendship with Josh, who joined the Marines to get away then lost a leg in Afghanistan, and her job at the Paradise motel lead her to appreciate her home town.

\***Desai Hidier, Tanuja.** *Born Confused*. Seventeen-year-old Dimple, whose family is from India, discovers that she is not Indian enough for the Indians and not American enough for the

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 6

### FICTION \*for more mature readers (continued)

Americans, as she sees her hypnotically beautiful, manipulative best friend taking possession of both her heritage and the boy she likes. May want to pair with Markandaya's Nectar in a Sieve.

\***Dessen, Sarah.** *Just Listen.* Isolated from friends who believe the worst because she has not been truthful with them, sixteen-year-old Annabel finds an ally in classmate Owen, whose honesty and passion for music help her to face and share what really happened at the end-of-the-year party that changed her life.

---. *Saint Anything.* Sydney's charismatic older brother, Peyton, has always been the center of attention in the family but when he is sent to jail, Sydney struggles to find her place at home and the world until she meets the Chathams, including gentle, protective Mac, who makes her feel seen for the first time.

\***DeWoskin, Rachel.** *Big Girl Small.* Sixteen-year-old Judy faces the usual torments of teen life when she transfers to an elite performing arts high school, but it's her 3-foot-9-inch stature that amplifies the troubles and helps her stand tall.

\***Diederich, Phillippe.** *Playing for the Devil's Fire.* After drug dealers overrun Boli's Mexican village, he teams up with drunken, down-on-his-luck masked wrestler to fight back. Their strange but tender relationship grounds this compassionate, violent, and timely novel, *Graphic Violence*.

\***Downham, Jenny.** *You Against Me.* When eighteen-year-old Mikey's younger sister claims to have been raped and he seeks to avenge the crime, he meets Ellie, the sister of the accused, and befriends her, complicating the situation considerably for all of them.

\***Enger, Leif.** *Peace Like a River.* HISTORICAL FICTION. The quiet 1960s Midwestern life of the Land family is upended when Davy kills two teenage boys who have come to harm the family. On the morning of his sentencing, Davy escapes from his cell and the Lands set out in search for him. This debut is at once a heroic quest and a haunting meditation on the possibility of magic in the everyday world. Those who enjoyed Watson's *Montana 1948* may like this.

\***Fischer, Jackie Moyer.** *An Egg on Three Sticks.* In this unforgettable debut, thirteen-year-old Abby recounts her mother's heartbreaking descent into mental illness.

\***Forman, Gayle.** *If I Stay.* While in a coma following an automobile accident that killed her parents and younger brother, seventeen-year-old Mia, a gifted cellist, weighs whether to live with her grief or join her family in death. Followed by *Where She Went*. Readalike for *The Lovely Bones*. FILM. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Galloway, Gregory.** *The 39 Deaths of Adam Strand.* A bored, self-absorbed teenager commits suicide and later wakes up alive, physically unharmed--thirty-nine times. Realistic teen voice for John Green, Laurie Halse Anderson, and Jay Asher fans.

\***Going, K.L.** *King of the Screwups.* After getting in trouble yet again, popular high school senior Liam, who never seems to live up to his wealthy father's expectations, is sent to live in a trailer park with his gay "glam-rocker" uncle. Student Suggestion: Readers who liked Abrahams' *Reality Check* or Korman's *Son of the Mob* will enjoy this tale of overcoming life's screw-ups.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 7

\***Goslee, S.J.** *Whatever*. High-school junior Mike is doubly surprised when his girlfriend drops him and informs him he is gay. However, nothing is more shocking than this: his former rival looks a

### **FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

little less like completion and more like a crush. A coming-of-age story that's both sweet and hilarious. HARDCOVER Only 2017.

\***Graudin, Ryan.** *Wolf By Wolf*. The first book in a duology about an alternate version of 1956 where the Axis powers won WWII, and hold an annual motorcycle race across their conjoined continents to commemorate their victory. #1 duology.

\***Green, John.** *The Fault in Our Stars*. Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life. FILM. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Green, John & Daniel Levithan.** *Will Grayson, Will Grayson*. When two teens, one gay and one straight, meet accidentally and discover that they share the same name, their lives become intertwined as one begins dating the other's best friend, who produces a play about them. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Haddon, Mark.** *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother. Some profane language. Was Senior assignment for 2014 summer.

\***Hand, Cynthia.** *The Last Time We Say Goodbye*. After her younger brother, Tyler, commits suicide, Lex struggles to work through her grief in the face of a family that has fallen apart, the sudden distance between her and her friends, and memories of Tyler that still feel all too real.

\***Handler, David.** *Why We Broke Up*. Structured around the objects being returned after a breakup, this girl-meets-boy story rises far above par due to Handler's deft depiction of the couple's alternately gushing and halting emotions.

\***Harrington, Laura.** *Alice Bliss*. This stunning debut follows the experiences of teenage Alice during her father's deployment to Iraq, an agonizing waiting period during which she gains new independence and falls in love while trying to be strong for her mother and younger sister. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Henriquez, Cristina.** *The Book of Unknown Americans*. In a Maryland apartment building where tales of immigrant life abound, two families from different countries form a bond, brought together by the connection between their teenagers, Maribel and Mayor. As Maribel and Mayor's love takes hold, an ugly incident sets off a chain of events that changes the families' lives forever.

**FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

\***Hoffman, Alice.** *Blue Diary*. For those who enjoy Berg and Picoult, the revelation of a dark secret about a man's true identity and his past threatens to turn a small Massachusetts town upside down as the truth shatters its peace and tests the bond between family and friends.

\***Iserson, David.** *Firecracker*. Forced to attend public school after being expelled from her elite private school, Astrid earns the dislike of her new peers because of her biting wit and competitive worldview until fellow misfits teach her a lesson in humility.  
See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Johnston, E.K.** *Exit, Pursued By a Bear*. At the end-of-the-year cheerleading camp, Hermione Winters is drugged, raped, and impregnated. Recovery is long, but she is determined to live her life in this reimagining of Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*.

\***Josefson, Dan.** *That's Not A Feeling*. The author's debut is set in cultish Roaring Orchards School for Troubled Teens in New York, where two-time failed suicide Benjamin and Tidbit become friends in a restricted world run by adults who have yet to really grow up themselves.

\***King, A.S.** *I Crawl Through it*. A surrealist novel about four teenagers who find unconventional ways to escape standardized tests and their perilous world, and discover that the only escape from reality is to face it.

----. *Reality Boy*. An emotionally damaged seventeen-year-old boy in Pennsylvania, who was once an infamous reality television show star, meets a girl from another dysfunctional family, and she helps him out of his angry shell.

---. *Still Life with Tornado*. A talented 16-year-old artist slowly discovers the history of domestic violence behind why her brother left the family years earlier and why she suddenly cannot make art. HARDCOVER Only 2017.

\***Kinsella, Sophie.** *Finding Audrey*. Fourteen-year-old Audrey is making slow but steady progress dealing with her anxiety disorder when Linus comes into the picture and her recovery gains momentum.

---. *I've Got Your Number*. After her phone is stolen during a hotel fire drill, Poppy Wyatt, discovering an abandoned phone in a trash can, crashes into the life of the phone's owner, Sam Roxton, when she uses his phone to make her wedding preparations. Adult themes.

\***Klass, David.** *Grandmaster*. A father-son chess tournament reveals the dark side of the game.  
See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Klein, Lisa.** *Ophelia*. In a story based on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Ophelia tells of her life in the court of Elsinore, her love for Prince Hamlet, and her escape from the violence in Denmark. If you like this point of view, consider *Dating Hamlet* by Lisa Fiedler.

\***Knowles, Jo.** *Jumping Off Swings*. This novel tells, from four points of view, the ramifications of a pregnancy resulting from a "one-time thing" between Ellie, who feels loved when boys touch

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 9

her, and Josh, an eager virgin with a troubled home life. Student Suggestion: Reminded this reader of Johnson's *First Things Last*.

### FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)

\***Kokie, E.M.** *Personal Effects*. Matt's brother has died fighting for his country and Matt has the remnants of his personal belongings. Through these, Matt discovers a side of his brother he never knew. For a thematic readalike—try Reinhardt's *The Things a Brother Knows*.

\***Kraus, Daniel.** *At the Edge of Empire: The Death and Life of Zebulon Finch*, HISTORICAL/HORROR. The story follows Zebulon Finch, a teenager murdered in 1896 Chicago who inexplicably returns from the dead and searches for redemption through the ages. Vol. 1.

\***Laban, Elizabeth.** *The Tragedy Paper*. While preparing for the most dreaded assignment at the prestigious Irving School, "the Tragedy Paper," Duncan gets wrapped up in the tragic tale of Tim Macbeth, a former student who had a clandestine relationship with the wrong girl, and his own ill-fated romance with Daisy. May appeal to John Green devotees.

\***Lamb, Wally.** *She's Come Undone*. Dolores Price is a mess. Growing up in the "perfect 1950s," her life unraveling from the day she was born, Dolores falls completely apart when she is thirteen. The author does an excellent job presenting the emotional state of Dolores, particularly in his description of what makes her fat and what being fat does to one's life. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Larkin, Jillian.** *Vixen*. HISTORICAL FICTION. In this first book in the Flappers series, it is 1923 in Chicago and seventeen-year-old Gloria rebels against her upcoming society wedding by visiting a speakeasy, while her cousin, Clara, hides her wild past. Followed by *Ingenue* and *Diva* in the series.

\***Lockhart, E.** *We Were Liars*. This brilliant and heartbreaking novel tells the story of a prestigious family living on a private island off the coast of Massachusetts. Full of love, lies, secrets, no shortage of family dysfunction, and a shocking twist that you will not see coming. HARDCOVER ONLY 2015.

\***Mackler, Carolyn.** *Infinite In Between*. Five students who meet in freshman orientation agree to write notes to their future selves and promise to reunite in exactly four years when they are ready to graduate from high school.

FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)

\***Madigan, L.K.** *Flash Burnout*. Fifteen-year-old Blake has a girlfriend and a friend who is a girl. One of them loves him; the other one needs him. In a tangle of life and death, love and loyalty, Blake will emerge with a more sharply defined snapshot of himself.

\***Maia, Love.** *DJ Rising*. In this fresh debut novel, sixteen-year-old half black/half Puerto Rican Marley (born at a Bob Marley concert) dreams of becoming a professional DJ and spinning records at a nightclub but his mother's addiction keeps dragging him back to earth.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 10

\***Martel, Yann.** *Life of Pi*. Possessing encyclopedia-like intelligence, unusual zookeeper's son Pi Patel sets sail for Canada, but when the ship sinks, he escapes on a lifeboat and is lost at sea with a dwindling number of animals until only he and a hungry Bengal tiger remain. FILM. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

### FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)

\***Mathieu, Jennifer.** *Moxie*. In a small Texas town where high school football reigns supreme, Viv, sixteen, starts a feminist revolution using anonymously-written zines in this empowering story of young women taking on the culture of sexual harassment.

\***McCormick, Patricia.** *Cut*. While confined to a mental hospital, thirteen-year-old Callie slowly comes to understand some of the reasons behind her self-mutilation and gradually starts to get better. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

---**Sold**. When she is tricked by her stepfather and sold into prostitution, thirteen-year-old Lakshmi becomes submerged in a nightmare where her only comfort is the friendship she forms with the other girls, which helps her survive and eventually escape.

**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***McGinty, Sean.** *The End of Fun*. Aaron is having a heck of a time deleting an embedded, interactive marketing program chip in this very funny take on tech.

\***Merullo, Roland.** *The Talk-Funny Girl*. Raised in isolation in New Hampshire, Marjorie seems to be from another planet with its own language. Her seventeenth year brings love and possibly freedom from her dangerous parents. Massachusetts Must Read, 2012.

\***Morgenstern, Erin.** *The Night Circus*. Spanning 30 years, this sprawling, compelling fantasy tells of two children raised by feuding magicians to become rivals. Celia and Marco are embroiled in a fierce duel on behalf of their mentors. Their showcase is the Night Circus, which opens at sunset and brings magic, adventure and romance wherever it travels.

\***Murphy, Julie.** *Dumplin'*. Sixteen-year-old Willowdean wants to prove to everyone in her small Texas town that she is more than just a fat girl, so, while grappling with her feelings for a co-worker who is clearly attracted to her, Willowdean and some other misfits prepare to compete in the beauty pageant her mother runs.

\***Nelson, Jandy.** *I'll Give You the Sun*. A story of first love, family, loss, and betrayal told from different points in time, and in separate voices, by artists Jude and her twin brother Noah.

\***Northrop, Michael.** *Gentlemen*. No one at their high school takes four friends from the wrong side of the tracks seriously, except for Mr. Haberman, their English teacher who calls them "gentlemen." When one of them goes missing, the clues all seem to point to Mr. Haberman. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Park, Patricia.** *Re Jane*. Jane Re--a half-Korean, half-American orphan--takes a position as an au pair for two Brooklyn academics and their daughter, but a brief sojourn in Seoul, where she reconnects with family, causes her to wonder if the man she loves is really the man for her as she tries to find balance between two cultures.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 11

\***Perera, Anna.** *Guantanamo Boy*. Set six months after 9/11, this unforgettable novel explores the crucial headline issues through the story of an English teenager who is arrested while visiting Pakistan and brutally detained at Guantanamo Bay. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

### **FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

\***Picoult, Jodi.** *Leaving Time*. This is a love story – love between mother and child, love between soulmates, and love between elephants. A variety of broken and lost narrators, tell this story. Jenna is searching for answers to the disappearance of her mother, and seeks the help of a retired police detective and a psychic. Alice, Jenna’s mom, disappeared after a tragic accident at the elephant sanctuary, and her work with the elephants is fascinating and touching. The book is a brilliant ode to motherhood in all its forms—the good, the bad, and the ugly.

---*My Sister’s Keeper*. Conceived to provide a bone marrow match for her leukemia-stricken sister, teenage Anna begins to question her moral obligations in light of countless medical procedures and decides to fight for the right to make decisions about her own body. FILM. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

---*Small Great Things*. A black neonatal nurse is charged with causing the death of a white supremacist’s newborn baby. The story is told from the points of view of the nurse, her attorney, and the baby’s heartbroken father.

Also try: *Picture Perfect*, *Nineteen Minutes*, *Plain Truth*, *Second Glance*, & *Vanishing Acts* among other titles by this author. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website** for many of these titles.

\***Pitre, Michael.** *Fives and Twenty-Fives*. When you're in a Marine platoon dispatched to repair roads in Iraq, fives and twenty-fives are important -- they mark the distance, in meters, at which roadside bombs can kill. In this debut novel, written by an Iraq War veteran, we hear the stories of the platoon leader, the medic, and their Iraqi interpreter in both wartime and after returning home.

\***Pung, Alice.** *Lucy and Linh*. Lucy, a lower-middle-class Chinese Australian teen, wins a prestigious scholarship to an exclusive all-girls school, but struggles among mean girls. She keeps in contact with Linh, the girl she left behind, through letters that reveal a surprising relationship in this debut that breathes new life into the “mean girls” theme. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Rabb, Margo.** *Kissing in America*. When she falls for a boy who moves to California without any warning, sixteen-year-old Eva and her best friend, Annie, set off on a road trip to the West Coast to see him again, confronting the complex truth about love along the way.

\***Rapp, Adam.** *Punkzilla*. For a runaway boy who goes by the name “Punkzilla,” kicking a meth habit and a life of petty crime in Portland, Oregon, is a prelude to a mission: reconnecting with his older brother, a gay man dying of cancer in Memphis. Against a backdrop of seedy motels, dicey bus stations, and hitched rides, the desperate fourteen-year-old meets a colorful, sometimes dangerous cast of characters. This daring novel offers a narrative worthy of Kerouac and a keen insight into the power of chance encounters. Explicit sexual description and crude language.

\***Rebeck, Theresa.** *Three Girls and Their Brother*. This tale of three sisters transformed into the fashion world’s latest “it” girls is told in four different narrative voices. The siblings fall prey to the evil forces and temptations of show business, unleashing a rivalry that threatens the family.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 12

\***Rees, Celia.** *Witch Child*. **HISTORICAL FICTION.** In 1659, fourteen-year-old Mary Newbury keeps a journal of her voyage from England to the New World and her experiences living as a witch in a community of Puritans near Salem, Massachusetts.

### **FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

\***Reinhardt, Dana.** *The Things a Brother Knows*. Levi's older brother Boaz returns from fighting in the Middle East, and he is no longer the brother Levi thought he knew. When Boaz announces he's off to hike the Appalachian Trail, Levi knows he's lying so he follows. For a thematic read alike, try Kokie's Personal Effects. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Restrepo, Bettina.** *Illegal*. Nora, a fifteen-year-old Mexican girl, faces the challenges of being an illegal immigrant in Texas when she and her mother cross the border in search of Nora's father.

\***Reynolds, Jason.** *The Boy in the Black Suit*. Soon after his mother's death, Matt takes a job at a funeral home in his tough Brooklyn neighborhood and, while attending and assisting with funerals, begins to accept her death and his responsibilities as a man.

--When I Was the Greatest. In Bed Stuy, New York, a small misunderstanding can escalate into having a price on your head—even if you're totally clean. Reynolds' gritty, triumphant debut captures the heart and the hardship of urban life.

\***Reynolds, Jason and Brendan Kiely.** *All American Boys*. When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.

\***Rice, James.** *Alice and the Fly*. Greg--known by his classmates as "Psycho"--keeps a journal recounting his medical "condition," his bouts of uncontrollable arachnophobia, and his obsession with a girl on the bus named Alice. A slowly unfolding mystery, powered by equal parts dread and empathy.

\***Riggs, Ransom.** *Hollow City*. The sequel to *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* finds Jacob and his friends escaping from the island and traveling to London where they encounter new allies and other unexpected surprises. The third in the series is *Library of Souls* (2016). See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Roskos, Evan.** *Dr. Bird's Advice for Sad Poets*. A sixteen-year-old boy wrestling with depression and anxiety tries to cope by writing poems, reciting Walt Whitman, hugging trees, and figuring out why his sister has been kicked out of the house. Readalike for *Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

\***Rosoff, Meg.** *There Is No Dog*. If you were told that God was a teenage boy, would that explain why things are so screwed up? That's the premise of this wildly inventive story told from several viewpoints, including God or Bob who unfortunately is a typical sex-crazed and lazy teenage boy.

\***Rowell, Rainbow.** *Fangirl*. At turns funny, sweet, smart, and sad, Fangirl traces Cath's journey to independence as she begins college, struggles to have an identity separate from her twin sister, find her voice and passion as a writer and fall in love, maybe, for the first time.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 13

\***Ruby, Laura.** *Bone Gap*. Eighteen-year-old Finn, an outsider in his quiet Midwestern town, is the only witness to the abduction of town favorite Roza, but his inability to distinguish between faces makes it difficult for him to help with the investigation, and subjects him to even more ridicule and bullying. Michael L. Printz Award 2016.

### **FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

\***Rudnick, Paul.** *Gorgeous*. When eighteen-year-old Becky's mother dies, she is whisked away from a trailer park to New York City, where fashion designer Tom Kelly offers to transform her into a glamorous Rebecca, but soon she begins to fear that she will lose touch with her real self.

\***Schmidt, Tiffany.** *Send Me a Sign*. Superstitious before being diagnosed with leukemia, high school senior Mia becomes irrationally dependent on horoscopes, good luck charms, and the like when her life shifts from cheerleading and parties to chemotherapy and platelets, while her parents obsess and lifelong friend Gyver worries. Readalike for Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*.

\***Scott, Elizabeth.** *Love You Hate You Miss You*. It's been seventy-five days, and Amy still doesn't know how she can possibly exist without her best friend, Julia—especially since it is her fault that Julia's dead. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Sebold, Alice.** *The Lovely Bones*. Looking down from heaven, fourteen-year-old Susie Salmon recounts her rape and murder and watches her family as they cope with their grief and “the lovely bones” growing around her absence. **FILM.**

\***Semple, Maria.** *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* Through a series of e-mails, letters, and FBI files, precocious Bee follows the trail of her missing mother to the ends of the earth.

\***Sherwood, Ben.** *The Death and Life of Charlie St. Cloud*. (Charlie St. Cloud). The powerful bond between two brothers—one alive and the other killed in a terrible accident—unexpectedly transcends the barriers of life and death, and it is up to one enchanting woman to make their world right. **FILM.**

\***Shusterman, Neal.** *Challenger Deep*. Winner of 2015 National Book Award, this fantastical, skillfully disjointed novel about a teen boy caught between reality and the pirate ship of his mental illness (schizophrenia) is raw, lovely, and powerful

\***Silvera, Adam.** *More Happy Than Not*. Sixteen-year-old Aaron Soto is struggling to find happiness after a family tragedy. Between his girlfriend and his new best friend, Thomas, he thinks happiness might be within reach until he something about his relationship with Thomas takes him backwards. Can a newly approved memory-altering procedure help him? Silvera's debut confronts race, class, and sexuality.

\***Smith, Hilary.** *Wild Awake*. The discovery of a family secret leads seventeen-year-old Kiri Byrd from a protected and naive life into a summer of mental illness, first love, and profound self-discovery. Readalike for Green's *Looking for Alaska*.

\***Smith, Sherri.** *Flygirl*. **HISTORICAL FICTION.** During World War II, a light-skinned African-American girl “passes” for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 14

\***Stiefvater, Maggie.** *The Raven Boys*. Blue Sargent has been told that a kiss will kill her true love. She stays away from all boys, but when one boy's ghost shows up, Blue understands that she can no longer avoid the Raven Boys. The Raven Cycle also contains *The Dream Thieves*, *Blue Lily*, *Lily Blue* & *The Raven King* (2016).

### FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)

\***Suma, Nova Ren.** *The Walls Around Us*. Orianna and Violet are ballet dancers and best friends, but when the ballerinas who have been harassing Violet are murdered, Orianna is accused of the crime and sent to a juvenile detention center where she meets Amber and they experience supernatural events linking the girls together.

\***Summers, Courtney.** *All the Rage*. After the sheriff's son, Kellan Turner, assaults Romy Grey she is branded a liar and bullied by former friends. Romy finds refuge only in the diner where she works outside of town, but when a girl with ties to both Romy and Kellan goes missing and news of him assaulting another girl gets out, Romy must decide whether to speak out again or risk having more girls hurt.

\***Tharp, Tim.** *The Spectacular Now*. In the last months of high school, charismatic eighteen-year-old Sutter Keely lives in the present, staying drunk or high most of the time, but that could change when he starts working to boost the self-confidence of a classmate, Aimee. FILM.

\***Toten, Teresa.** *The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B*. Adam not only is trying to understand his OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder), while trying to balance his relationship with his divorced parents, but he's also trying to navigate through the issues that teenagers normally face, namely the perils of young love.

\***Tracy, Kristen.** *Lost it*. Tess has to find her bearings in a new community when her family moves to a survivalist camp in Utah, while her best friend plots against a poodle and Tess considers losing her virginity to her boyfriend. For Sarah Dessen fans. Explicit Sexual Content.

\***Vestal, Shawn.** *Daredevils*. Longing to experience a glamorous life outside of her Mormon community. Feisty 15-year-old Loretta decides that Evel Knieval-worshipping Jason will help her do just that,

\***Vizzini, Ned.** *It's Kind of a Funny Story*. A humorous account of a New York City teenager's battle with depression and his time spent in a psychiatric hospital. Student Suggestion: Good readalike for Chbosky's *Perks of Being a Wallflower*. FILM.

\*Walker, Brian F. *Black Boy White School*. This powerful debut novel about a fourteen-year-old black boy who leaves the rough streets of East Cleveland for a predominately-white boarding school in Maine offers an unflinching honest look at race relations. HARDCOVER only 2012.

\*Ward, Jesmyn. *Salvage the Bones*. Bearing down on fourteen-year-old Esch and her dysfunctional family, Hurricane Katrina could be as devastating to her life as the secret she's been carrying.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 15

\*Watson, Larry. *Montana 1948*. HISTORICAL FICTION. The events of a small-town summer forever alter David Hayden's view of his family in this tale of love and courage. Good readalike for Leif Enger's *Peace Like a River* on this list.

### FICTION \*for more mature readers (Continued)

\***Whaley, John Corey**. *Noggin*. After dying at age sixteen, Travis Coates' head was removed and frozen for five years before being attached to another body, and now the old Travis and the new must find a way to coexist while figuring out changes in his relationships.

\***Whitehead, Colin**. *Underground Railroad*. Chronicles the daring survival story of a cotton plantation slave in Georgia, who races through the Underground Railroad with a relentless slave-catcher close behind. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. HARDCOVER Only 2016.

\***Woodson, Jacqueline**. *Another Brooklyn*. HISTORICAL FICTION. In poetic prose, August reminisces about her childhood and adolescence in 1970s Brooklyn.

\***Yoon, Nicola**. *Everything Everything*. The story of a teenage girl who is literally allergic to the outside world. When a new family moves in next door, she begins a complicated romance that challenges everything she's ever known. The narrative unfolds via vignettes, diary entries, texts, charts, lists, illustrations, and more. David Yoon illustrations. **HARDCOVER ONLY 2015. FILM.** ---. *The Sun is Also a Star*. Natasha has only hours to prevent her family's deportation to Jamaica. Korean American Daniel has to decide whether to follow the path his parents want. It is inconvenient but when they meet, sparks fly. This lyrical account of one life-changing day is artful, smart, and swoonworthy. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Zevin, Gabrielle**. *Elsewhere*. After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live" in this philosophical and poetic novel. Readalike for *The Lovely Bones* and *If I Stay*. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Zoboi, Ibi**. *American Street*. Fabiola Toussaint thought she would finally find *une belle vie*—a good life. But after they leave Haiti, Fabiola's mother is detained by U.S. immigration, leaving Fabiola to navigate her loud American cousins, Chantal, Donna, and Princess; the grittiness of Detroit's west side; a new school; and a surprising romance, all on her own. What price is she willing to pay for the American Dream?

\***Zusak, Markus**. *I Am the Messenger*. After capturing a bank robber, nineteen-year-old cab driver Ed Kennedy begins receiving mysterious messages that direct him to addresses where people need help, and he begins getting over his lifelong feeling of worthlessness. Author of *The Book Thief*.

**ROMANCE Easier Reads**

**Cabot, Meg.** *The Royal Wedding*. From the author of the Princess Diaries series, comes the very first adult installment, which follows Princess Mia and her Prince Charming as they plan their fairy tale wedding--but a few poisoned apples could turn this happily-ever-after into a royal nightmare.

**Dalton, Michelle.** *My Fifteenth Summer*. Chelsea and her family are spending the summer at a cottage on the shore of Lake Michigan where Chelsea meets and falls for Josh--the cute and shy employee at the new bookstore in town. Suggested readalike: Hoover's *Slammed*. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

**Higgins, Kristan.** *Catch of the Day*. The only guy Maggie can count on is her lovable dog Colonel. And thank goodness she loves running the family-owned diner but when surly lobsterman Malone rescues her from a blind date no-show, she suddenly finds his gruff personality hard to resist.

**Ockler, Sarah.** *Twenty Boy Summer*. While on vacation in California, sixteen-year-old best friends Anna and Frankie conspire to find a boy for Anna's first kiss, but Anna harbors a painful secret that threatens their lighthearted plan and their friendship. Student Suggestion: This is like Caletti's *The Story of Us*.

**Sparks, Nicholas.** *The Lucky One*. U.S. Marine Logan believes the photograph of a smiling woman he has never met holds the key to his destiny. **FILM.**

---. *A Walk to Remember*. A nostalgic look back at the 1950s in a story of first love set in a small North Carolina town when a seventeen-year-old boy in North Carolina finds all his expectations overturned by the Baptist minister's daughter. **FILM.**

**ROMANCE \*for more mature readers**

\***Caletti, Deb.** *The Story of Us*. Cricket is on a self-imposed break from her longtime boyfriend, but she's picked a bad week to sort out her love life. Told over the course of one weekend, a fresh and bittersweet story of love and family from a National Book Award finalist. See Ockler above.

\***Callihan, Kristen.** *Firelight*. **FANTASY.** Forced to wed London's most nefarious nobleman to save her family from financial ruin, Miranda Ellis, who is gifted with exceptional abilities, discovers that her new husband is no ordinary man when she must enter a world of dark magic to save his soul. First book in the Darkest London series followed by *Moonglow* in the series

\***Colasanti, Susan.** *Something Like Fate*. Lani and Jason, who is her best friend's boyfriend, fall in love, causing Lani tremendous anguish and guilt.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 17

\***Crusie, Jennifer.** *Bet Me*. Agreeing not to pursue a relationship after one date, unlikely lovers Min Dobbs and Cal Morrisey are thrown together again in the wake of such factors as a jealous ex-boyfriend, a determined psychologist, and a bizarrely intelligent cat. Explicit Sexual Content.

### **ROMANCE \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

\***Elkeles, Simone.** *Perfect Chemistry*. When wealthy, seemingly perfect Brittany and Alex Fuentes, a gang member from the other side of town, develop a relationship after Alex discovers that Brittany is not exactly who she seems to be, they must face the disapproval of their schoolmates—and others. First in series followed by *Rules of Attraction* and *Chain Reaction*.

**Student Suggestion:** DeMeo's *For the Sins of My Father* also has themes about choosing your own path and involvement with groups like gangs. Explicit Sexual Content and some violence.

\***Gabaldon, Diana.** *Outlander*. Claire walks through a cleft stone in an ancient henge in Scotland and travels from 1945 to 1745, meets her husband's evil ancestor, and falls in love with his enemy, a very handsome Highlander. Beginning of a series. Explicit Sexual Content. **TV Series. DVD.**

\***Hoover, Colleen.** *Slammed*. 18-year-old Layken is having a tough time—her father has died and her mother is moving her to Michigan where she has to start her senior year of high school all over. Her new neighbor takes her to a poetry slam and love and drama build from there.

\***Kindl, Patrice.** *Keeping the Castle*. **HISTORICAL FICTION.** Seventeen-year-old Althea is the sole support of her entire family, and she must marry well. But there are few suitors of any kind—in their small town until the attractive (and very rich) Lord Boring arrives, and Althea sets her plans in motion.

\***Morgan, Jessica & Heather Cocks.** *The Royal We*. This delightful spin on the story of Prince William and Kate Middleton is the perfect beachy, weekend read for anyone who enjoys love stories with a healthy dose of humor. Here, Nick and Bex replace Will and Kate—he's the heir to the British throne, she's the American who effortlessly steals his heart. Can they weather many obstacles to find their Happily Ever After? Part fairy tale, part cautionary tale, the novel is pure fun from start to finish.

\***Ockler, Sarah.** *The Book of Broken Hearts*. Jude has learned a lot from her older sisters, but the most important thing is this: The Vargas brothers are notorious heartbreakers. But as Jude begins to fall for Emilio Vargas, she begins to wonder if her sisters were wrong. Good readalike for John Green's *The Fault in our Stars*. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Russo, Meredith.** *If I Was Your Girl*. Partially inspired by her own experiences as a trans woman, Russo presents the first YA novel to feature a transgender character in a romance that doesn't end badly. A romantic, coming-of-age story that deals with prejudice and the fear of being different.

\***Webber, Tammara.** *Easy*. After being unceremoniously dumped by her boyfriend, college sophomore Jacqueline is attacked leaving a frat party. Lucas, a boy she's never seen before,

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 18

saves her—though it turns out, he has certainly seen her. Followed by *Breakable* told from Lucas’s point-of-view. Explicit Sexual Content.

### **ADRENALINE: Mystery, Thrillers, Horror, etc.: Easier Reads**

**Berk, Josh.** *Guy Langman, Crime Scene Procrastinator.* Sixteen-year-old Guy, his best friend Anoop, and other members of the school Forensics Club investigate a break-in and a possible murder, which could be connected to the mysterious past of Guy’s recently deceased father.

**Carter, Ally.** *Heist Society.* When Katarina Bishop was three, her parents took her on a trip to the Louvre...to case it. For her seventh birthday, she was part of an attempt to steal Austria’s crown jewels. At fifteen, she plans a con of her own—scamming her way into the best boarding school in the country, determined to leave the family business behind. Unfortunately, that proves harder than she expected. First in the *Heist Society* series.

**Henry, April.** *The Night She Disappeared.* When Kayla is sent out to deliver a pizza---she never returns. Told from various viewpoints, Gabie and Drew set out to prove that their missing co-worker Kayla is not dead, and to find her before she is, while the police search for her body and the man who abducted her.

**Horowitz, Anthony.** *Stormbreaker: An Alexander Rider Mystery.* After the death of his uncle guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced into continuing his uncle’s dangerous work for Britain’s intelligence agency, MI6. Followed by Point Blank and others in the series. This is also a **Graphic Novel series & FILM.**

**Lynch, Chris.** *Kill Switch.* As his grandfather Da’s mind begins to go, Da starts leaking secrets of his government past—and dangerous old cronies start threatening him. Desperate young Daniel hits the road with Da in tow in this brilliant and unpredictable novel.

**Marsden, John.** *Tomorrow, When the War Began.* In this survival story, six teenagers return from a camping trip to discover that their town has been taken over by enemy soldiers. First in a series.

**McNamee, Graham.** *Acceleration.* Stuck working in the Lost and Found of the Toronto Transit Authority for the summer, seventeen-year-old Duncan finds the diary of a serial killer and sets out to stop him. Well-placed comic relief and solid characters add to this thrilling ride.

**Plum-Ucci, Carol.** *The Body of Christopher Creed.* Torey Adams, a high school junior with a seemingly perfect life, struggles with doubts and questions surrounding the mysterious disappearance of the class outcast. Following Christopher Creed is the second in the series. Also check out *The She*.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 19

**Summers, Courtney.** *This is Not a Test.* **ZOMBIES.** When six teens become trapped inside their high school during the zombie apocalypse, they quickly discover the line between the living and the dead isn't as clear as they think in this chilling story of survival.

**Wells, Dan.** *I am not a Serial Killer.* Hoping to prevent himself from committing murder, John Wayne Cheever keeps his obsession with serial killers in check using a set of rigid rules that he lives by. But when a body turns up behind a laundromat, John must confront a danger outside himself. Followed by *Mr. Monster*, *I Don't Want to Kill You*, *The Devils Only Friend*, and *Over Your Dead Body* in the series.

**ADRENALINE: Mystery, Thrillers, Horror, etc.: \*for more mature readers**

**\*Abrahams, Peter.** *Reality Check.* After a knee injury destroys sixteen-year-old Cody's college hopes, he drops out of high school and gets a job in his small Montana town, but when his ex-girlfriend disappears from her VT boarding school, Cody travels cross-country to join the search.

**\*Altebrando, Tara.** *The Leaving.* Six little kids were taken. Eleven years later, five come back--with no idea of where they have been. No one remembers the sixth victim, Max. Avery, Max's sister, needs to find her brother--dead or alive--and is not buying this whole memory-loss story.

**\*Barnes, Jennifer.** *The Naturals.* Seventeen-year-old Cassie, who has a natural ability to read people, joins an elite group of criminal profilers at the FBI in order to help solve cold cases. Followed by *Killer Instinct* in the series. Suggested for those who like Lyga's *I Hunt Killers* and *CSI* fans.

**\*Barnes, Steven and Tananarive Due.** *Devil's Wake.* **ZOMBIES.** What happens when an alien race brings Earth to the brink of the Apocalypse? The victims of an epidemic are the result of a sinister insidious alien plot, humanity ultimately becomes enmeshed in a brutal struggle for control of its home, planet Earth. Followed by *Domino Falls*.

**\*Beaudoin, Sean.** *You Killed Wesley Payne.* **MYSTERY.** Clever doesn't begin to cover this hard-boiled satire riddled with wise-guy wit, as Dalton Rev treads the mean streets of a high school's labyrinthine complex of cliques in search of a killer.

**\*Beverly, Bill.** *Dodgers.* East, a 15-year-old gang member in L.A. joins in with his younger brother and other gang members on a road trip to Wisconsin on a job for their boss. Confronting crime, race, and coming-of-age, this searing crime-fiction debut features rich, multidimensional characters and remarkable prose. Graphic violence and language.

**\*Blundell, Judy.** *What I Saw and How I Lied.* **HISTORICAL MYSTERY.** In 1947, with her jovial stepfather Joe back from the war and family life returning to normal, teenage Evie, smitten by the handsome young ex-GI who seems to have a secret hold on Joe, finds herself caught in a complicated web of lies whose devastating outcome change her life and that of her family forever.

**\*Brooks, Kevin.** *The Bunker Diaries.* Sixteen-year-old Linus Weems, a street person since leaving his wealthy father's home, is kidnapped and taken to an underground bunker where five others

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 20

soon join him, ranging in age from nine to seventy, who are alternately cared for and tortured by their unseen captor. Graphic violence. **HARDCOVER only 2015.**

**\*Brooks, Max.** *World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie War.* **ZOMBIES.** An account of the conflict between humankind and hordes of the predatory undead is told from the perspective of dozens of survivors who describe in their own words the human battle for survival. **FILM.**  
**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

### **ADRENALINE: Mystery, Thrillers, Horror, etc.: \*for more mature readers (continued)**

**\*Brown, Ryan.** *Play Dead.* **ZOMBIES.** After a rival team causes his football squad's bus to crash, killing all the players, quarterback Cole Logan—who was not present due to injury—enlists the black-magic abilities of a mysterious fan to turn his dead teammates into zombies, so that they can get revenge on the rival team on the field.

**\*Clancy, Tom.** *Against All Enemies.* For years, ex-Navy SEAL Maxwell Moore has worked across the Middle East and behind the scenes for the Special Activities Division of the CIA, making connections, extracting valuable intelligence, and facing off against America's enemies at every turn. When Moore arrives at a rendezvous to take charge of a high-ranking Taliban captive, the meeting takes a horrific turn.

**\*Ellison, Kate.** *The Butterfly Clues.* **MYSTERY.** Sixteen-year-old Lo's psychological symptoms are getting her into trouble when she witnesses a murder while wandering dangerous quarters of Cleveland, Ohio, collecting others' belongings, and obsessing about her brother's death.

**\*Gaylin, Alison.** *And She Was.* The haunting story of a female missing person's investigator whose hunt for a local woman, whereabouts unknown, connects her to a long-lost child and her own dark past. Brenna Spector; bk.1. **Student Suggestion:** if you liked *Webber's Easy*.

**\*Giles, L.R.** *Endangered.* When Lauren (Panda), a teen photoblogger, gets involved in a deadly game, she has to protect the classmates she despises. This is a dynamic, dangerously suspenseful, contemporary adventure that also leaves room for introspective soul-searching.

**\*Goeglein, T.M.** *Cold Fury.* Sixteen-year-old Chicago preparatory school student Sara Jane Rispoli must unravel a web of complex mysteries after her family goes missing and unknown enemies pursue her. First in trilogy followed by *Flicker & Burn* and *Embers & Ash*.

**\*Green, John.** *Paper Towns.* **MYSTERY.** One month before graduating from his Central Florida high school, Quentin "Q" Jacobsen basks in the predictable boringness of his life until the beautiful and exciting Margo Roth Spiegelman, Q's neighbor and classmate, takes him on a midnight adventure and then mysteriously disappears. **FILM. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**\*Haines, Kathryn Miller.** *The Girl is Murder.* **MYSTERY.** Peppered by irresistible 1940s slang, this observant historical has fifteen-year-old Iris grieving for her mother who committed suicide and secretly helping her father with his detective business. Followed by *The Girl Is Trouble*.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 21

\***Hardinge, Frances.** *The Lie Tree.* **HISTORICAL MYSTERY** It's 1860 and Faith's father is dead, and only she knows it wasn't suicide. In pursuit of revenge and justice for the father she idolized, Faith hunts through his possessions and discovers a strange tree, a tree that only bears fruit when she whispers a lie to it. The fruit, in turn, delivers a hidden truth that might hold the key to her father's murder..

\***Hartley, A.J.** *Steeplejack.* **MYSTERY.** Repute as a death-defying "steeplejack" leads to Angler being hired to solve the theft of a luxurite stone before a civil war breaks out. This thriller is set in alternate South Africa and brings up a bevy of relevant subjects. May be 1st in series.

### **ADRENALINE: Mystery, Thrillers, Horror, etc.: \*for more mature readers (continued)**

\***Hendrix, Grady.** *My Best Friend's Exorcism.* **HORROR.** Abby knows something is terribly demonically wrong with her best friend, Gretchen, but as her behavior becomes more erratic, Abby is the only one who notices. With spot on 1980s references, the author completely captures the angst of teenage friendships and the stagnant air of suburbia in this comic horror novel.

\***Keene, Brian.** *The Rising.* **ZOMBIES.** When a horrifying plague turns most of the world into powerful flesh-eating zombies, Jim Thurmond, while on a cross-country quest to save his son, joins forces with others to save civilization from evil. Will appeal to fans of Wellington's Monster Island and Brooks' World War Z.

\***King, Stephen.** *Cell.* **ZOMBIES.** What if a pulse sent out through cell phones turned every person using one of them into a zombie-like killing machine? Clay, who is cell-less, is in Boston and soon teams up with others who have eluded the evil transmission to save themselves. **DVD.** ---. *It.* **HORROR.** They were seven teenagers when they first stumbled upon the horror. Now they were grown-up men and women who had gone out into the big world to gain success and happiness. But none of them could withstand the force that drew them back to Derry, Maine to face the nightmare without an end, and the evil without a name.

\***Lake, Nick.** *Hostage Three.* After Amy and her family set out to sea on a yacht, a group of pirates seizes the boat, and the family becomes a commodity in a highly sophisticated transaction in this taut, emotionally loaded, devastatingly powerful thriller. ---. *There Will Be Lies.* After a car hits Shelby Cooper, the seventeen-year-old is left with a broken foot, visions that take her to a mystical place called "The Dreaming," and the knowledge that she has to separate the lies of her life from the truths in this thought-provoking thriller.

\***Lyga, Barry.** *I Hunt Killers.* Jazz learned all about being a serial killer from his notorious father but believes he has a conscience that will help fight his own troubling urges, so he secretly helps the police apprehend the town's newest murderer, "The Impressionist." Followed by *Game.*

\***Lyons, C.J.** *Broken.* Attending high school for the first time, chronically ill Scarlet, with the help of her new friends, faces down bullies, endures her school-nurse mother's smothering overprotectiveness, and eventually discovers the truth behind her illness--a truth that puts much more than her life at risk.

\***Maden, Mike.** *Drone.* Secretly dispatched by the new U.S. president to take out a drug cartel responsible for her daughter's death, private security head and former CIA operative Troy

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 22

Pearce and his team risk an all-out war with America's most dangerous enemies to exact justice. Troy Pearce series continues in *Blue Warrior* and *Drone Command*. Graphic violence and language.

\***McCreight, Kimberly.** *The Outliers*. Boston-area high school junior Wylie is in danger of losing everything she loves in this action-packed psychological thriller. First in trilogy.

\***McEwen, Scott.** *Sniper Elite: One-Way Trip*. Against the President's orders, Navy SEAL and sniper Gil Shannon leads a mission comprised of SEAL Team Six and Delta Force members into Afghanistan to rescue a female helicopter pilot held captive by the Taliban. From co-writer of

### **ADRENALINE: Mystery, Thrillers, Horror, etc.: \*for more mature readers (continued)**

Kyle's *American Sniper*. Followed by *Target American* and *The Sniper and the Wolf*. Graphic violence and language.

\***McGinnis, Mandy.** *A Madness So Discreet*. **HISTORICAL FICTION**. Near the turn of the nineteenth century, Dr. Thornhollow helps teenaged Grace Mae escape from the Boston asylum where she was sent after becoming pregnant by rape, and takes her to Ohio where they put her intelligence and remarkable memory to use in trying to catch murderers.

\***Myers, E.C.** *The Silence of Six*. After his best friend Evan kills himself, Max Stein becomes the target of a corporate-government witch-hunt and is forced to go on the run.

**HARDCOVER only 2014.**

\***Parker, Robert B.** *Early Autumn*. **MYSTERY**. In this coming-of-age novel, the Boston detective Spenser becomes a surrogate father to a fifteen-year-old boy. Spenser; bk.7. Also, try *Back Story* in the same series.

\***Patterson, James & Michael Ledwidge.** *Zoo*. All over the world, brutal attacks are crippling entire cities. Jackson Oz, a young biologist, watches the escalating events with an increasing sense of dread. When he witnesses a coordinated lion ambush in Africa, the enormity of the violence to come becomes terrifyingly clear. Graphic violence. **DVD** and **2016 TV Show**.

\***Scheier, Leah.** *Secret Letters*. **HISTORICAL FICTION**. Steeped in Victorian atmosphere and intrigue, in this gripping novel, sixteen-year-old Dora travels to London to meet Sherlock Holmes, who might be her biological father, to ask his help for her cousin, and a handsome, young detective comes to Dora's aid.

\***Schreiber, Joe.** *Au Revoir, Crazy European Chick*. Perry's parents insist that he take Gobi, their quiet, Lithuanian exchange student, to senior prom but after an incident at the dance he learns that Gobi is actually a trained assassin who needs him as a henchman, behind the wheel of his father's precious Jaguar, on a mission in Manhattan.

\***Silva, Daniel.** *The Kill Artist*. The first in the Gabriel Allon series finds the Israeli intelligence chief recalling two agents to eliminate a top Palestinian terrorist. The agents were once lovers and their enemies come back to haunt them as the terrorist begins his campaign of murder.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 23

\***Tharp, Tim.** *Mojo*. A boy who feels powerless in his own life sets out to investigate the mystery of a missing high school girl in his town, who attends an elite private high school very unlike his own. For those who enjoyed Beaudoin's *Who Killed Wesley Payne?*

\***Wein, Elizabeth.** *Code Name Verity*. **HISTORICAL FICTION**. This novel full of danger and suspense shows just how far true friends will go to save each other. The spy "Verity" weaves a courageous tale as she relates what she must do to survive after a British plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France in 1943. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Wellington, David.** *Monster Island*. **ZOMBIES**. A global disaster has replaced humankind with a population of zombies. Among the walking dead of New York City is Gary Fleck, who retains his intelligence and his aversion to what he has become. From across the world, an army of schoolgirls and a U.N. weapons inspector, some of the few remaining humans, come to New York in search of medical supplies. What they encounter tests them to their limits and beyond. First in trilogy.

\***Winspear, Jacqueline.** *Maisie Dobbs*. **HISTORICAL MYSTERY**. In this debut, private detective Maisie Dobbs must investigate the reappearance of a dead man who turns up at a cooperative farm called the Retreat that caters to men who are recovering their health after World War I. First in a series followed by *Birds of a Feather*

\***Yovanoff, Brenna.** *Paper Valentine*. Followed everywhere by the ghost of her recently deceased best friend (from an eating disorder), Hannah investigates the serial murders of young girls in her community. Thrills, romance, gore—what's not to like? **HARDCOVER only 2013**.

\***Zentner, Jeff.** *The Serpent King*. The son of a Pentecostal preacher faces his personal demons as he and his two outcast friends try to make it through their senior year of high school in rural Forrestville, Tennessee without letting the small-town culture destroy their creative spirits and sense of self.

\***Zettel, Sarah.** *Palace of Spies*. **HISTORICAL MYSTERY**. In 1716 London, an orphaned sixteen-year-old girl from a good family impersonates a lady-in-waiting only to discover that the real girl was murdered, the court harbors a nest of spies, and the handsome young artist who is helping her solve the mystery might be a spy himself. Book one followed by *Dangerous Deceptions*.

**FANTASY: Easier Reads**

**Bardugo, Leigh.** *Shadow and Bone*. Orphaned by the Border Wars, Alina Starkey is taken from obscurity and her only friend, Mal, to become the protégé of the mysterious Darkling, who trains her to join the magical elite in the belief that she is the Sun Summoner, who can destroy the monsters of the Fold. Followed by *Siege and Storm* and *Ruin and Rising* in the Grisha Trilogy.

**Billingsley, Franny.** *Chime*. In a complex alternate universe, Briony, a secret witch at seventeen, is a force to be reckoned with in this story that explores the powers of guilt and redemption, as she tries to figure out if she has committed murder or not.

**Black, Holly.** *The Coldest Girl in Coldtown*. When seventeen-year-old Tana wakes up in the aftermath of a violent vampire attack, she travels to Coldtown, a quarantined Massachusetts city full of vampires, with her ex-boyfriend and a mysterious vampire boy.

**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**Carriger, Gail.** *Etiquette & Espionage*. **STEAMPUNK**. In an alternate England of 1851, spirited fourteen-year-old Sophronia is enrolled in a finishing school where, she is surprised to learn, lessons include not only the fine arts of dance, dress, and etiquette, but also diversion, deceit, and espionage. Finishing School series#1.

**Damico, Gina.** *Croak*. A delinquent sixteen-year-old girl is sent to live with her uncle for the summer, only to learn that he is a Grim Reaper who wants to teach her the family business. Trilogy#1 followed by *Scorch & Rogue*.

**Gagnon, Michelle.** *Don't Turn Around*. Computer "hactivists" Paeter and Noa uncover a conspiracy: a shady corporation is involved in Project Persephone, a secret program involving stealing homeless children to be experimented on in an unspecified way. First in Persephone Trilogy followed by *Don't Look Now* and *Don't Let Go*.

**Hand, Cynthia, Brodi Ashton & Jodi Meadows.** *My Lady Jane*. The Tudor-era Catholic-Protestant conflict is reimagined as a feud between shape-shifters and non-shapeshifters. Bookish Jane Grey, less than thrilled with an arranged marriage, is soon caught up in a hilarious web of court intrigue and high adventure in this wacky and irreverent take on historical fantasy.

**Hartman, Rachel.** *Seraphina*. In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce and dragons can assume human form, Seraphina, whose mother died giving birth to her,

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 25

grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents. *Shadow Scale* is a companion to this title.

**Henry, Emily.** *The Love that Split the World*. At the beginning of her last summer in Kentucky before leaving for college, Natalie is once again visited by the apparition she calls "Grandmother" and meets a new boy, Beau, who changes her life as they work together to solve the romance-killing problem of their separate worlds. **Time Travel.**

**Hunt, Leo.** *Thirteen Days of Midnight*. When his estranged father dies, sixteen-year-old Luke inherits eight spirits who want revenge for their enslavement, and with Halloween fast

### **FANTASY Easier Reads (Continued)**

approaching, he has only thirteen days to give them their eternal rest or he may join their ghostly ranks.

**Kontis, Alethea.** *Hero*. Saturday Woodcutter accidentally conjures an ocean in the backyard and, with sword in tow, sets sail on a pirate ship, only to find herself kidnapped and held captive by a witch with the power to destroy the world. Follows *Enchanted*.

**Meyer, Marissa.** *Cinder*. As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world in this futuristic take on the Cinderella story. *Scarlet* follows. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

**Ness, Patrick.** *The Rest of Us Just Live Here*. The best friend of a kid with superhuman qualities endeavors to have a life of his own that is both normal and extraordinary in the face of constant world-shaking challenges, threats against his school, and an elusive pretty girl.

-- *The Knife of Never Letting Go*. Todd lives in a town where everyone can hear everyone else's thoughts in a never-ending stream of Noise. When he and his dog (whose thoughts Todd can hear too, whether he wants to or not) stumble upon an area of complete silence and an awful secret, they are forced to run. But how do you escape when everyone can hear what you're thinking? First in the *Chaos Walking* series.

**Nix, Garth.** *Sabriel*. Sabriel, the daughter of the necromancer Abhorsen, must journey into the mysterious and magical Old Kingdom to rescue her father from the Land of the Dead. First in the Abhorsen series is followed by *Liriae: Daughter of the Clayr*, *Abhorsen*, *Clariel*

**Westerfeld, Scott.** *Uglies*. Just before their sixteenth birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally's best friend runs away and Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty at all. Issues of betrayal, honesty, free will, and Western ideas of beauty are explored in this dystopian adventure. First in *Uglies Trilogy*.

### **FANTASY \*for more mature readers**

\***Ahdieh, Renee.** *The Wrath and the Dawn*. In this reimagining of *The Arabian Nights*, Shahrzad plans to avenge the death of her dearest friend by volunteering to marry the murderous boy-king of Khorasan but discovers not all is as it seems within the palace. Followed by *The Rose and the Dagger* (2016),

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 26

\***Aveyard, Victoria.** *Red Queen*. When her latent supernatural powers manifest in front of a noble court, Mare, a thief in a world divided between commoners and superhumans, is forced to assume the role of lost princess before risking everything to help a growing rebellion. Followed by *Glass Sword* and *Cruel Crown* in the trilogy.

\***Baker, Mishell.** *Borderline*. **URBAN FANTASY**. A cynical, paraplegic screenwriter with borderline personality is recruited to a secret organization that oversees relations between Hollywood and Fairyland, and assigned to search for a missing fae movie star. First in Arcadia Project series is followed by *Phantom Pains*.

### **FANTASY \*for more mature readers (continued)**

\***Black, Holly.** *The Darkest Part of the Forest*. In the town of Fairfold, where humans and fae exist side by side, a boy with horns on his head and ears as pointed as knives awakes after generations of sleep in a glass coffin in the woods, causing Hazel to be swept up in new love, shift her loyalties, feel the fresh sting of betrayal, and to make a secret sacrifice to the faerie king.

\***Bobet, Leah.** *Above*. When insane exile Corner and his army of mindless shadows invade Safe, a secret, underground community of misfits, Matthew and others go to the dangerous place known as Above, where Matthew makes a shocking discovery. **HARDCOVER only 2012**.

\***Bond, Gwenda.** *Blackwood*. Seventeen-year-olds Miranda and Phillips investigate the mysterious disappearance of 114 people from Roanoke Island, a case that mirrors an old legend in which the same number of people vanished from the Lost Colony. *Strange Chemistry*; bk.1.

\***Bray, Libba.** *The Diviners*. **HISTORICAL FANTASY**. In the museum of the creepy crawlies, a new evil has awoken—the Pentacle Killer, who might be the reincarnation of a religious zealot named Naughty John. It's up to Evie and her friends to investigate. First in The Diviners series; *Lair of Dreams* follows.

\***Brennan, Sarah Rees.** *Unspoken*. Kami's imaginary friend turns out to be not so imaginary after all and meeting him brings mystery and conflict. *The Lynburn Legacy*; bk.1.

\***Butcher, Jim.** *The Aeronaut's Windlass*. An airship's crew become humanity's lone defenders when an ancient enemy reawakens and threatens the world with monstrous creatures and perpetual darkness. Cat lovers will adore. First book in the *Cinder Spires*.

\***Carson, Rae.** *The Girl of Fire and Thorns*. A fearful sixteen-year-old princess discovers her heroic destiny after being married off to the king of a neighboring country in turmoil and pursued by enemies seething with dark magic. First in a trilogy followed by *Crown of Embers*.

\***Chee, Traci.** *The Reader*. When her aunt Nin is kidnapped, Sefia is left to survive on her own with the only clue to her aunt's whereabouts contained in a strange square object Sefia learns is called a book. With overlapping stories of swashbuckling pirates and merciless assassins in a world where reading is unheard of Sefia struggles to discover her family's secrets. First in the *Sea of Ink* series.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 27

\***Clare, Cassandra.** *City of Bones*. Suddenly able to see demons and the Darkhunters who are dedicated to returning them to their own dimension, fifteen-year-old Clary Fray is drawn into this bizarre world when her mother disappears and Clary herself is almost killed by a monster. *Mortal Instruments*; bk.1 Followed by *City of Ashes*. **FILM.**

---. *Clockwork Angel*. When 16-year-old orphan Tessa's older brother suddenly vanishes, her search for him leads her into Victorian-era London's dangerous supernatural underworld where she must learn to trust the demon-killing Shadowhunters if she ever wants to learn to control her powers and find her brother. *Infernal Devices*; bk.1. Also available in **Graphic Novel**.

\***Cremer, Andrea R.** *Nightshade*. Calla and Ren have been raised knowing it is their destiny to mate with one another and rule over their shape-shifting wolf pack, but when a human boy arrives and vies for Calla's heart; she is faced with a decision that could change her whole world. **FANTASY \*for more mature readers (continued)**

Followed by *Wolfsbane*, *Bloodrose*, and *Snakeroot* and in the series. **Student Suggestion:** You may like Green's *Will Grayson*, *Will Grayson* for the same emotional intensity.

\***Dayton, Arwen.** *Seeker*. After years of brutal training for what she thinks is the noble purpose of becoming a Seeker, Quin Kincaid, fifteen, learns that she will be using the ancient artifacts and sacred knowledge as an assassin. First in trilogy followed by *Traveler* (2016).

\***Elliott, Kate.** *Cold Magic*. In a pseudo-Victorian Europe at the emergence of an industrial revolution, the cold mages believe that radical scientists will destroy society. Orphan Cat thinks about finding out about her mysterious explorer parents; but when a cold mage comes to her, Cat is forced to undertake a frightening journey. *Spiritwalker* Trilogy; bk.1.  
**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Feist, Raymond E.** *Magician, Apprentice*. Pug, a young apprentice to a master magician, comes of age during a war between the medieval fantasy kingdom of Midkemia and an alien army from across the universe. First in *Riftwar Saga* series.

\***Fisher, Catherine.** *Obsidian Mirror*. When his father disappears while experimenting with a black mirror that is a portal to both the past and the future, Jake encounters obstacles when he tries to use the mirror to find his father. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.

\***Fitzpatrick, Becca.** *Hush Hush*. High school sophomore Nora has always been very cautious in her relationships, but when Patch, who has a dark side she can sense, enrolls at her school, she is mysteriously and strongly drawn to him, despite warnings from her best friend, the school counselor, and her own instincts. Followed by *Crescendo*, *Silence*, *Finale* in the series.  
Student Suggestion: If you like this, try Stiefvater's *The Raven Boys*.

\***Gaiman, Neil.** *Anansi Boys*. His past marked by his father's embarrassing taunts and untimely death, Fat Charlie Nancy meets the brother he never knew and is introduced to new and exciting ways to spend his time after he finds out that his father was the West African trickster god, Anansi. Also try *American Gods* (also a **Starz TV series**).

\***Garcia, Kami.** *Beautiful Creatures*. In a small South Carolina town, where it seems little has changed since the Civil War, sixteen-year-old Ethan is powerfully drawn to Lena, a new

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 28

classmate with whom he shares a psychic connection and whose family hides a dark secret that may be revealed on her sixteenth birthday. *Caster Chronicles*, bk.1. **FILM**.

\***Gaughen, A.C.** *Scarlet*. Will Scarlet shadows Robin Hood, with an unerring eye for finding treasures to steal and throwing daggers with deadly accuracy, but when Gisbourne, a ruthless bounty hunter, is hired by the sheriff to capture Robin and his band of thieves, Robin must become Will's protector risking his own life in the process. First in trilogy followed by *Lady Thief* and *Lionheart*.

\***Gier, Kerstin.** *Ruby Red*. Sixteen-year-old Gwyneth discovers that she, rather than her well-prepared cousin carries a time-travel gene, and soon she is journeying with Gideon, who shares the gift, through historical London trying to discover whom they can trust. First in trilogy followed by *Sapphire Blue* and *Emerald Green*.

### **FANTASY \*for more mature readers (continued)**

\***Hamilton, Alwyn.** *Rebel of the Sands*. Amani is desperate to leave the dead-end town of Dustwalk, and she's counting on her sharpshooting skills to help her escape. But after she meets Jin, the mysterious rebel running from the Sultan's army, she unlocks the powerful truth about the desert nation of Miraji...and herself. First in a trilogy followed by *Traitor to the Throne*.

\***Hardinge, Frances.** *Cuckoo Song*. In post-World War I England, eleven-year-old Triss nearly drowns in a millpond known as "The Grimmer" and emerges with memory gaps, aware that something is terribly wrong, and to try to set things right, she must meet a twisted architect who has designs on her family.

\***Howard, A.G.** *Splintered*. **URBAN FANTASY**. A descendant of the inspiration for Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, sixteen-year-old Alyssa Gardner fears she is mentally ill like her mother until she finds that Wonderland is real and, if she passes a series of tests to fix Alice's mistakes, she may save her family from their curse. Series continues with *Unhinged* and *Ensnared*.

\***Johansen, Erika.** *The Queen of the Tearling*. The first of a trilogy, this book is so much more than just another fantasy. Yes, there is magic, a princess and a really bad queen, but there is also an apocalyptic twist that makes readers hungry for the next installment. Kelsea, the rightful heir to the throne turns nineteen and returns to claim her throne. *The Invasion of the Tearling* and *The Fate of the Tearling* complete the trilogy.

\***Jordan, Robert.** *Eye of the World*. In the first of the Wheel of Time series, Rand al-Thor and his companions flee from a magical terror. For Tolkien & George R. R. Martin fans.

\***Lanagan, Margo.** *The Brides of Rollrock Island*. For a price, a man may buy himself a sea-wife from the witch. He will tell himself that he is her master. But from his first look into those wide, questioning, liquid eyes, he will be just as transformed as she. He will be equally ensnared.

\***Levithan, David.** *Every Day*. Every morning "A" wakes in a different person's body, in a different person's life, learning over the years to never get too attached, until he wakes up in the body of Justin and falls in love with Justin's girlfriend, Rhiannon.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 29

--*Another Day*. The sequel to *Every Day* - the one where we hear Rhiannon's side of the story, in which she tries to find out the truth about love and how it can change you.

\***Lu, Marie.** *The Young Elites*. Adelina Amouteru survived the blood fever, a deadly illness that killed many, but left others with strange markings and supernatural powers. Cast out by her family, Adelina joins the secret society of the Young Elites and discovers her own dangerous abilities. Followed by *The Rose Society* in the series.

\***Maas, Sarah J.** *Throne of Glass*. After she has served one year of hard labor in the salt mines of Endovier for her crimes Crown Prince Dorian offers eighteen-year-old assassin Calaena Sardothien her freedom on condition that she act as his champion in a competition to find a new royal assassin. Followed by *Crown of Midnight*.

---. *Court of Thorns and Roses*. The human world is in peril. Feyre, a semi-literate girl, hunts for her family's survival. After she kills an enormous wolf, a fierce fey shows up at her doorstep seeking retribution. Feyre is led to beautiful eternal springs, but the journey is not without

**FANTASY \*for more mature readers (continued)**

danger. Maas masterfully pulls the reader into this new dark fantasy series that feels like a mix of fairy tales, from *Beauty and the Beast* to *Tam Lin*. Followed by *The Court of Mist and Fury*.

\***Madison, Bennett.** *September Girls*. Vacationing in a sleepy beach town for the summer, Sam is pursued by hordes of blonde girls before falling in love with the unusual DeeDee, who compels him to uncover secrets about the community's ocean-dwelling inhabitants.

**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Maresca, Marshall Ryan.** *The Thorn of Dentonhill*. Veranix Calbert leads a double life. By day, he's a struggling magic student at the University of Maradaine. At night, he spoils the drug trade of Willem Fenmere, crime boss of Dentonhill and murderer of Veranix's father. He's determined to shut Fenmere down. If Batman were a teenager and magically talented—he would be Veranix. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Martin, George R.R.** *Game of Thrones*. The aristocratic Stark family faces its ultimate challenge in the onset of a generation-long winter, the poisonous plots of the rival Lannisters, demons, and the arrival of barbarian hordes. *Song of Fire and Ice* series; bk.1. **Also in Graphic Novel Format. HBO series. DVD.**

\***Meadows, Jodi.** *Orphan Queen*. In a world where it is forbidden, refugee Princess Wilhelmina's ability to do magic might be just the thing to help reclaim her kingdom, or ruin it forever. First in a Duology. Followed by *The Mirror King*.

\***Paige, D. M.** *Dorothy Must Die*. Whisked to Oz by a Kansas twister, Amy Gumm discovers that the magical land has been destroyed by Dorothy's tyrannical rule, a situation that compels Amy to join an order of deposed magic-wielders who seek to put an end to Dorothy's reign. First in series followed by *The Wicked Will Rise*.

\***Pearson, Mary E.** *Kiss of Deception*. Princess Lia flees an unwanted marriage and expectations about her supernatural legacy only to be pursued by her jilted fiancé and a ruthless assassin. First in the *Remnant Chronicles* followed by *Heart of Betrayal*.

\***Rhodes, Morgan.** *Falling Kingdoms*. After centuries of peace, the three kingdoms of Mytica stand on the brink of war. As rulers struggle for power, the lives of their subjects are brutally transformed and four key players find their fates forever intertwined amidst betrayal, murder, secret alliances, and even unforeseen love. Followed by *Rebel Spring*, *Gathering Darkness*, *Frozen Tides*. Good Readalike for *Game of Thrones* fans.

\***Rowell, Rainbow.** *Carry On: The Rise and Fall of Simon Snow*. During his last year at Watford School of Magicks, Simon Snow, the Chosen One, faces a magic-eating monster wearing his face, a break-up, and a missing nemesis. This is the book referred to in *Fangirl* (see Fiction list).

\***Rutkoski, Marie.** *Winner's Curse*. An aristocratic girl who is a member of a warmongering and enslaving empire purchases a slave, an act that sets in motion a rebellion that might overthrow her world as well as her heart. First in a trilogy followed by *Winner's Crime* and *Winner's Kiss*.

#### **FANTASY \*for more mature readers (continued)**

\***Schwab, Victoria.** *This Savage Song*. In a not-so-distant America, overrun with monsters, Kate Harker wants to be as ruthless as her father. After five years and six boarding schools, she's finally going home to prove that she can be. August Flynn wants to be human. But he isn't. He's a monster, one that can steal souls with a song. Book#1 *Monsters of Verity*. *Our Dark Duet* follows.

\***Shannon, Samantha.** *The Bone Season*. Paige Mahoney is a Dreamwalker, a rare type of clairvoyant employed by the Seven Seals, the powerful criminal syndicate that operates within a dystopian 21st-century London controlled by the Scion government. When she's captured by Scion, Paige must develop her gifts if she wants to survive, let alone escape. First in series followed by *The Mime Order*.

\***Shvarts, Andrew.** *Royal Bastards*. Being a bastard sucks. Tilla's father, Lord Kent, loved her as a child, but cast her aside as soon as he had trueborn children. Now Tilla and the other bastards have a chance to prevent Civil War if they can survive the journey to warn the king. For those looking for adventure and romance. First in a trilogy followed by *City of Bastards*.

\***Stiefvater, Maggie.** *The Scorpio Races*. Nineteen-year-old returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, as both try to control the dangerous, man-eating water horses long enough to make it to the finish line.

\***Taylor, Laini.** *Daughter of Smoke and Bone*. Karu questions how she came to be raised by the chimera Brimstone. When she meets the seraph Akiva, events unfold that could answer her questions—but at a great cost. First in a trilogy, followed by *Days of Blood & Starlight*.

\***Westerfeld, Scott.** *Afterworlds*. In alternating chapters, eighteen-year-old Darcy Patel navigates the New York City publishing world and Lizzie, the heroine of Darcy's novel, slips into the "Afterworld" to survive a terrorist attack and becomes a spirit guide, as both face many challenges and both fall in love.

**SCIENCE FICTION: Easier Reads**

**Card, Orson Scott.** *Ender's Game*. This book is set against a backdrop of aliens, computers, and orbiting battle stations. This award-winning story describes Andrew "Ender" Wiggins's attempts to create an honest life for himself in a world that offers few respectable choices. *Ender*; bk.1. **FILM.**

**Farmer, Nancy.** *The House of the Scorpion*. In this Newbery Award-winner, in a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

**Grant, Michael.** *BZRK*. In the near future, the conjoined Armstrong twins, under the guise of the Armstrong Fancy Gifts Corporation, plot to create their own version of utopia using nanobots, while a guerilla group known as BZRK develops a DNA-based biot that can stop bots, but at risk of the host's brain. Followed in series by *BZRK Reloaded* & *BZRK Apocalypse*.

**Lancaster, Mike A.** *Human 4*. This fast-paced plot follows fifteen-year-old Kyle as he relates a story of a great historic value to beings of the future. But what kind of beings? Followed by *The Future We Left Behind*.

**McDonald, Ian.** *Planesrunner*. When 14-year-old Everett Singh's scientist father is kidnapped from the streets of London, he leaves a mysterious app on Everett's computer giving him access to a map of parallel earths, being sought by technologically advanced dark powers. Series; bk.1.

**Wells, H.G.** *The War of the Worlds*. An English astronomer, in company with an artilleryman, a country curate, and others, struggle to survive the invasion of Earth by Martians. **FILM.**

**SCIENCE FICTION \*for more mature readers**

\***Anderson, M. T.** *Feed*. Everyone in the population has a chip implanted in their brain so that they are constantly bombarded with advertisements, music, news or whatever—but when your

“feed” gets hacked everything changes. In this environment, a boy meets an unusual girl who is in serious trouble.

\***Bennett, Christopher, L.** *Only Superhuman*. In the future, genetically engineered superhumans inspired by classic Earth comic book heroes fight as Troubleshooter Emerald Blair is helping to restore order to unstable space habitats, only to find her loyalties tested.

\***Bow, Erin.** *Scorpion Rules*. This is how the game is played: if you want to rule, you must give one of your children as a hostage. Go to war and your hostage dies. Crown Princess Greta is a hostage, who can be free if she can survive until her eighteenth birthday. Then everything changes when Elián arrives, a new hostage who refuses to play by the rules Greta has always taken for granted. First in the *Prisoners of Peace* series.

\***Bracken, Alexandra.** *The Darkest Minds*. Sixteen-year-old Ruby breaks out of a government-run "rehabilitation camp" for teens who acquired dangerous powers after surviving a virus that wiped out most American children. Followed by *Never Fade* and *In the Afterlight* in the trilogy.

**SCIENCE FICTION \*for more mature readers (continued)**

\***Brashares, Ann.** *The Here and Now*. Seventeen-year-old Prenna, an immigrant who moved to New York when she was twelve, came from another time and she and the other travelers must follow strict rules to avoid destroying the new life they have worked so hard to get, as well as the one person Prenna is desperate to protect.

\***Brown, Pierce.** *Red Rising*. A tale set in a bleak future society torn by class divisions follows the experiences of secret revolutionary Darrow, who after witnessing his wife's execution by an oppressive government joins a revolutionary cell and attempts to infiltrate an elite military academy. First in trilogy followed by *Golden Son* and *Morning Star*.

\***Cline, Ernest.** *Armada*. Does Zack's skill at the game Armada make him just the hero we need when real alien ships descend? A zesty, hard-charging, crowd-pleasing, adrenaline-pumping fanboy fantasy. Great for those who liked Card's *Ender's Game*.

---. *Ready Player One*. Loaded with video-game references and nonstop action, this futuristic tale sends a young gamer on a cyberquest of epic geekiness. A fortune and control of the virtual online utopia goes to the one who can find the "key." Game on. **FILM**

\***Collins, Suzanne.** *The Hunger Games*. In this page-turner, in a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people from each of the twelve districts against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place. Followed in the series by *Catching Fire* & *Mockingjay*. **FILM**.

\***Doctorow, Cory.** *For the Win*. In a future where poor children and teenagers work for corrupt bosses as gold farmers, finding valuable items inside massively-multiplayer online games, a small group of teenagers work to unionize and escape this near-slavery. **Student Suggestion:** Cline's *Ready Player One*.

---. *Little Brother*. After being interrogated for days by the Department of Homeland Security in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, California, seventeen-year-old

Marcus, released into what is now a police state, decides to use his expertise in computer hacking to set things right.

**\*Graudin, Ryan.** *The Walled City*. As Jin Ling tries to save her sister, Mei Yee, from the Brotherhood of the Red Dragon in Hak Nam Walled City, one boy, Dai, can reunite them and save their lives--but only if he's willing to risk his own.

**\*Hautman, Pete.** *The Obsidian Blade*. After thirteen-year-old Tucker's parents disappear and he steps inside of one of the strange disks of shimmering air he suspects is involved, he is whisked on a time-twisting journey and finds himself at Jesus's crucifixion. *Klaatu Diskos*; bk.1.

**\*Healey, Karen.** *When We Wake*. In 2027, sixteen-year-old Tegan is just like every other girl until she dies, waking up 100 years in the future as the unknowing first government guinea pig to be cryogenically frozen and successfully revived. Appalling secrets about her new world come to light, and Tegan must choose to either keep her head down or fight for a better future.  
**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**SCIENCE FICTION \*for more mature readers (continued)**

**\*Jennings, Holly.** *Arena*. Every week, Kali Ling fights to the death on national TV. Every player is a modern gladiator, and though their weapons and armor are digital, the pain is real. Chosen to be the first female captain in RAGE tournament history, Kali Ling must confront the truth about the tournament. Because it is much more than a game--and even in the real world, not everything is as it seems. *Gauntlet* is the second in the series. Readers who like Cline's *Ready Player One* and *The Hunger Games* should take note.

**\*Johnson, Alaya Dawn.** *The Summer Prince*. In a Brazil of the distant future, June falls in love with Enki, a fellow artist and rebel against the strict limits of the matriarchal government, knowing that, like all Summer Kings before him, Enki is destined to die.

**\*Kaufman, Arnie & Jay Kristoff.** *Illuminae*. The planet Kerenza is attacked, and Kady and Ezra find themselves on a space fleet fleeing the enemy, while their ship's artificial intelligence system and a deadly plague may be the end of them all. First in series.

**\*Kosmatka, Ted.** *The Games*. For fans of robot movie thriller *Real Steel*, this tale is set in a future where genetically engineered monstrosities fight each other to the death in an Olympic Gladiator competition, with only one rule: no human DNA is permitted.

**\*Leckie, Ann.** *Ancillary Justice*. The only novel ever to win the Hugo, Nebula, and Arthur C. Clarke Award. One Esk -- an electronic artificial intelligence -- once commanded an entire starship. Now confined to a mortal body cobbled together from interchangeable human parts as the entity called "Breq," the AI must survive as a multisegmented, ancillary humanoid being in a galactic empire ruled by an oppressive government -- without disobeying the law that forbids AIs from harming their creators. First in *Imperial Radch* series followed by *Ancillary Sword* and *Ancillary Mercy*.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 34

\***Merbeth, K.S.** *Bite: Wastelanders*. In a post nuclear, apocalyptic world, Kid, a teenage girl, falls in with a gang and embarks on a Mad Max-style adventure through a hostile landscape in which cannibalism is a real survival option, in a tale filled with dark humor and wit,

\***Mieville, China.** *Railsea*. A gripping and brilliantly imagined take on Herman Melville's Moby-Dick has orphan Sham chasing enormous, man-eating, mole like creatures (instead of whales) who burrow in the perilous earth beneath a tangled ocean of train tracks.

\***Newman, Sandra.** *The Country of Ice Cream Star*. Enduring a nomadic existence in the aftermath of a disease that kills all humans once they reach the age of twenty, Fifteen-year-old Ice Cream Star risks her freedom and life to travel dangerous territory in search of a cure.

\***Oliver, Lauren.** *Delirium*. Lena looks forward to receiving the government-mandated cure that prevents the delirium of love and leads to a safe, predictable, and happy life, until ninety-five days before her eighteenth birthday and her treatment, when she falls in love. First in trilogy, followed by *Pandemonium*.

\***Reuter Hapgood, Harriet.** *The Square Root of Summer*. Gottie Oppenheimer, a seventeen-year-old physics prodigy, navigates grief, love, and disruptions in the space-time continuum in one very eventful summer as she travels the wormholes to her past. **Time Travel.**

\***Rosoff, Meg.** *How I Live Now*. In this somewhat speculative fiction book, to get away from her pregnant stepmother in New York City, fifteen-year-old Daisy goes to England to stay with her aunt and cousins, with whom she instantly bonds, but soon war breaks out and rips apart the family while devastating the land. This may appeal to those readers who wish to consider how teens in difficult situations make decisions no matter when or what the circumstances. **FILM. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Roth, Veronica.** *Divergent*. Beatrice lives in a society where people are divided into five factions that determine work, lifestyle, and even friendships. Unusual results on her faction aptitude tests place her in danger. Followed by *Insurgent* and *Allegiant* in the trilogy. **FILM.**

\***Smith, Andrew.** *Grasshopper Jungle: A History*. Austin Szerba narrates the end of humanity as he and his best friend Robby accidentally unleash an army of giant, unstoppable, bug super soldiers and uncover secrets of a decade-old experiment gone terribly wrong. Vulgar language, sexual content and graphic violence.

\***Smith, Sherri S.** *Orleans*. In this compelling and disturbing novel, the Gulf Coast has been formally separated from the U.S. since 2025, after a deadly plague called Delta Fever emerges from the horrific conditions following years of increasingly destructive hurricanes.

\***Weir, Andy.** *The Martian*. An edge-of-your seat debut thriller with laugh-out-loud dialogue mixed in. After a bad storm cuts his team's Mars mission short, injured astronaut Mark Watley is stranded. Now he has to figure out how to survive without air, shelter, food, or water on the harsh Martian landscape until the next manned mission in four years. It is Science Fiction with a capital S, but Weir does a fabulous job of making it accessible to non-science geeks. Some profane language. **FILM.**

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 35

**\*Wentworth, Douglas.** *Stranded*. June 6, 2026. The War to End All Wars. As the bombs rain down, the starship, Prometheus, with its crew of six brave astronauts, escapes an Earth destined to become a lifeless, black rock. And they realize that someone among them is a traitor, and as the crew members are murdered, one by one, the human race teeters on the brink of extinction. Chief Scientific Officer Sandra Hapgood, the developer of the stranding process, vows to defend humankind at any cost.. Wakefield Author/ 2012 Independent Publisher Gold Medal Winner for Sci-fi/Fantasy. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**\*Westerfeld, Scott.** *Leviathan*. In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically engineered beasts. First in a trilogy, followed by *Behemoth*.

**\*Wilson, Daniel H.** *Robopocalypse*. In the near future, robots, smart computers, and machines wage a war against humankind. Followed by *Robogenesis*.

**\*Yancey, Rick.** *The 5th Wave*. Cassie Sullivan, the survivor of an alien invasion, must rescue her young brother from the enemy with help from a boy who may be one of them. First of series, followed by *The Infinite Sea* and *The Last Star*. **FILM. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website. NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here): Easier Reads**

**Conkling, Winifred.** *Radioactive!* How Marie Curie and Lise Meitner Revolutionized Science and Changed the World. Shares the story of how the daughter of Marie and Pierre Curie discovered artificial radioactivity and won a Nobel Prize in spite of being denied an advanced education, and inspiring physicist Lise Meitner, codiscoverer of nuclear fission.

Grealy, Lucy. *Autobiography of a Face*. BIOGRAPHY. Grealy's hard-hitting personal narrative about life as a teen with a face disfigured by cancer covers so much—from the definition of beauty to loneliness to acceptance. The author tells a moving and heroic story of her struggle for dignity.

Tyson, Neil deGrasse. *The Pluto Files: The Rise and Fall of America's Favorite Planet*. The International Astronomical Union dismissed Pluto as one of the nine planets in August 2006. Tyson, who was involved in the first exposition to dismiss Pluto, investigates planet classification history, and the American fascination of this planet.

### **NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers**

**\*Ajayi, Luvvie.** *I'm Judging You: The Do-Better Manual*. The author aka the blogger Awesomely Luvvie, has crafted an astute and humorous handbook about how to navigate social media and its impact on everything from self-esteem to social attitudes.

**\*Allison, Peter.** *Whatever You Do, Don't Run: Confessions of a Botswana Safari Guide*. While presenting tales from a safari guide about his encounters with big cats, elephants, hippos, and other unpredictable animals, the author's infectious enthusiasm for both the African bush and his job showing its wonders to tourists is really apparent.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 36

\***Almond, Steve.** *Candyfreak: A Journey Through the Chocolate Underbelly of America.* The delicious and hilarious story of one man's lifelong obsession with candy and his quest to discover its origins in America.

\***Anderson, M.T.** *Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad.* An account of the Siege of Leningrad reveals the role played by Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich and his Leningrad Symphony in rallying and commemorating their fellow citizens.

\***Baggett, Jennifer.** *The Lost Girls: Three Friends, Four Continents, One Unconventional Detour Around the World.* Three friends at a crossroads in their twenties quit their high-pressure NY media jobs, leave their friends and everything familiar behind, and embark on a year-long backpacking adventure around the world.

\***Bascombe, Neal.** *The Winter Fortress: The Epic Mission to Sabotage Hitler's Atomic Bomb.* A "compulsively readable" true spy story about what many consider the greatest act of sabotage of World War II and the group of young men who endured soul-crushing setbacks and Gestapo hunts in one of the coldest, most inhospitable places on earth to save the world from destruction.

\***Bausum, Ann.** *Sergeant Stubby: How a Stray Dog and His Best Friend Helped Win World War I and Stole the Heart of a Nation.* A stray dog befriends Private J. Robert "Bob" Conroy at the

### **NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers [continued]**

Connecticut National Guard camp at Yale University and the two become inseparable, eventually crossing an ocean and going to war together

---Stonewall: Breaking Out in the Fight for Gay Rights. The author's riveting exploration of the Stonewall Riots and the national Gay Rights movement that followed is eye opening, unflinching, and inspiring.

\***Berg, Ryan.** *No House to Call My Home: Love Family, and Other Transgressions.* A heart-wrenching account of disowned and homeless LGBTQ teens and the man who tried to help them, These stories are complex, sad, and moving.

\***Biss, Eula.** *On Immunity: An Inoculation.* Examines the pervasive fears and myths surrounding vaccines from a mother's perspective and identifies the historical and cultural factors that cause people to doubt government regulations and the medical establishment.

\***Blumenthal, Karen.** *Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different.* **BIOGRAPHY.** Framed around his inspirational Stanford University commencement speech, this book traces the life of the late founder of Apple, covering topics ranging from his struggles as an adopted child and a college dropout to his Buddhist faith and friendships.

\***Brown, Mike.** *How I Killed Pluto and Why It Had It Coming.* The astronomer who inadvertently triggered the "demotion" of Pluto in his effort to officially recognize the solar system's tenth planet describes the ensuing debates and public outcry while revealing the behind-the-scenes story of his discovery.

\***Bryson, Bill.** *A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail.* As Bryson and his friend Katz walk the 2,100 miles from Georgia to Maine, the reader is treated to both a very funny personal memoir and a delightful chronicle of the trail. FILM.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 37

\***Cahalan, Susannah.** *Brain on Fire: My Month of Madness.* An account of the author's struggle with a rare brain-attacking autoimmune disease traces how she wound up in a hospital room with no memory and describing the last-minute intervention by a doctor who figured out what she had.

\***Cain, Susan.** *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking.* Compelling arguments for why we should turn down the volume.

\***Carmony, Irin.** *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsberg.* **BIOGRAPHY** An illustrated biography of the feminist icon and legal pioneer who has changed the world, especially in the realms of gender equality and civil rights. Illustrated by Shana Knizhnik. **HARDCOVER Only 2015.**

\***Coates, Ta-Nehisi.** *Between the World and Me.* In this brief book in the form of a letter to the author's son, Coates comes to grips with what it means to be black in America today. In exceptional essays, furious, judicious Coates lays out awesome beauty, powerful prose, and vitally important truth on every page.

\***De Blasi, Marlena.** *That Summer in Sicily: A Love Story.* The author describes a summer in Sicily where she uncovered the story of Tosca, the daughter of a poor horse trader, who became the ward of the local prince and his family and eventually had a love affair with the prince.

\***DeMeo, Albert and Mary Jane Ross.** *For the Sins of My Father: A Mafia Killer, His Son, and the Legacy of a Mob Life.* The son of the head of the Gambino crime family's squad of killers and **NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers [continued]**

thieves describes growing up in the world of organized crime, the murder of his father when he was seventeen, and his determination to escape his father's fate.

\***Denver, Rorke.** *Damn Few: Making the Modern SEAL Warrior.* Explaining the unique psychology behind the SEALs' legendary training program, a high-level SEAL officer reveals the modern techniques that transform a chosen few into lethal warriors and details how the SEALs' creative operations became front-and-center in America's War on Terror. Written with Ellis Hennican. Graphic language and violence.

\***Dugard, Jaycee.** *A Stolen Life: A Memoir.* The author describes how registered sex offender Phillip Garrido, who sexually abused her and fathered her two children, held her hostage for eighteen years and how she was finally found by authorities.

\***Earl, Esther with Lori and Wayne Earle.** *This Star Won't Go Out: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl.* A memoir told through the journals, letters, and stories of young cancer patient Esther Earl who was the inspiration for John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*.

\***Ellenberg, Jordan.** *How not to be Wrong: The Power of Mathematical Thinking.* The math we learn at school can seem like a dull, unquestionable set of rules handed down through the ages. Ellenberg shows us that the opposite is true: Math touches everything we do in everyday life. This is not only a tour of mathematical thinking, it's a guide to becoming a better thinker.

\***Eggers, Dave.** *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius.* At the age of 22, Eggers became both an orphan and a "single mother" when his parents died within five months of one another of unrelated cancers. Dave is appointed unofficial guardian of his eight-year-old brother, Christopher, as they struggle together to stay a family.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 38

\***Finkel, David.** *The Good Soldiers.* Combining the action of Mark Bowden's *Black Hawk Down* with the literary tone of Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*, a reporter, embedded with Battalion 2-16, takes an unforgettable look at those in the surge, the heroes and the ruined, returning from the Iraq War. Graphic language and violence. Also wrote *Thank You for Your Service.*

---. *The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the North Pond Hermit.* Why, at the age of 20, did Christopher Knight drive into a forest in Maine and disappear for 27 years, his only human interaction a single 'hi' with a passing hiker? This book uses the incredible but true story of Knight, 'the last true hermit,' to explore themes of solitude, introversion and the meaning of life. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Foer, Joshua.** *Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything.* This book draws on cutting-edge research, a surprising cultural history of memory, and venerable tricks of the mentalist's trade to transform our understanding of human remembering. As Foer learns methods that have been largely forgotten, he discovers that we can all dramatically improve our memories.

\***Fulton, Sybrina & Tracy Martin.** *Rest in Power: The Enduring Life of Trayvon Martin.* Fulton and Martin candidly describe their shock, grief, and grueling quest for justice after their son, Trayvon Martin, was murdered, creating a galvanizing account of how a personal loss inspired a national movement.

\***Gawande, Atul.** *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters In the End.* Medicine has triumphed in modern times. But in the inevitable condition of aging and death, the goals of medicine seem too frequently to run counter to the interest of the human spirit. Gawande, a practicing surgeon, addresses his profession's ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of life is the desired goal for patients and families. **DVD Frontline Documentary.**

\***Helman, Scott.** *Long Mile Home: Boston Under Attack, the City's Courageous Recovery, and the Epic Hunt for Justice.* In the tradition of *102 Minutes* and *Columbine*, the definitive book on the Boston Marathon bombing and subsequent manhunt for the Tsarnaev brothers, written by reporters from *The Boston Globe.* **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Higashida, Naoki.** *The Reason I Jump: The Inner Voice of a Thirteen-Year-Old Boy with Autism.* A journey into the mind of a remarkable thirteen-year-old Japanese boy with severe autism shares firsthand insights into a variety of experiences associated with the disorder, from behavioral traits and misconceptions to perceptions about the world. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Hillenbrand, Laura.** *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption.* Relates the story of a U.S. airman who survived when his bomber crashed into the sea during World War II, spent forty-seven days adrift in the ocean before being rescued by the Japanese Navy, and was held as a prisoner until the end of the war. **FILM.**

\***Hornbacher, Marya.** *Wasted: A Memoir of Anorexia and Bulimia.* Based on research and her own battle with anorexia and bulimia, which left her with permanent physical ailments that nearly killed her, Hornbacher's book explores the mysterious and ruthless realm of self-starvation, which has its grip firmly around the minds and bodies of adolescents all across this country.

\***Ignotofsky, Rachel.** *Women in Science: Fifty Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World.* A collection of artworks inspired by the lives and achievements of fifty famous women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, from the ancient world to the present, profiles each notable individual. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Irving, Nicholas.** *The Reaper: Autobiography of a Legendary Special Operations Sniper.* For fans of Kyle's American Sniper. A memoir by a Special Operations Direct Action Sniper traces his extraordinary career during the War on Terror, which was marked by his record-setting deployment to Afghanistan and his face-off against an enemy sniper known only as The Chechnian. Written with Gary Brozak. Graphic language and violence.

\***Isaacson, Walter.** *The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers, Geniuses, and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution.* A revelatory history of the people who created the computer and the internet discusses the process through which innovation happens in the modern world, citing the pivotal contributions of such figures as programming pioneer Ada Lovelace.

\***Jamison, Leslie.** *The Empathy Exams.* A collection of essays explores empathy, using topics ranging from street violence and incarceration to reality television and literary sentimentality to ask questions about people's understanding of any relationships with others.

\***Johnson, Steven.** *How We Got to Now: Six Innovations that Made the Modern World.* Examines the pervasive fears and myths surrounding vaccines from a mother's perspective and identifies

**NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers [continued]**

the historical and cultural factors that cause people to doubt government regulations and the medical establishment. **PBS series on DVD.**

\***Junger, Sebastian.** *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging.* Junger uses history, psychology, and anthropology to explore what can be learned from tribal societies about loyalty, belonging, and the human quest for meaning. **HARDCOVER Only 2016.**

\***Kaplan, Fred.** *Dark Territory: The Secret History of Cyber War.* The story of the computer scientists and government policymakers who invented and employ the wars of the present and future - the cyber wars where every country can be a major power player and every hacker a mass destroyer, as reported by a Pulitzer Prize-winning security and defense journalist.

\***Kean, Sam.** *The Disappearing Spoon: and Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of the Elements.* The periodic table of the elements is a crowning scientific achievement, but it's also a treasure trove of passion, adventure, obsession, and betrayal.

---. *The Violinist's Thumb: and Other Lost Tales of Love, War, and Genius, as Written by Our Genetic Code.* An exploration of human DNA and the stories it can tell describes how genes can explain why JFK's skin was bronze, Einstein was a genius, and why people with exceptional thumb flexibility can become world-class violinists.

\***Kershaw, Alex.** *Escape From the Deep: A Legendary Submarine and Her Courageous Crew.* Details the history of the U.S. Navy submarine Tang in the Pacific theater of World War II, the explosion that led to its sinking, the ordeal of its surviving crew members and their capture by

the Japanese, followed by months of brutal captivity. Survival story in the same vein as Hillenbrand's *Unbroken*.

\***Krakauer, Jonathan.** *Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster.* In May 1996, the author participated in an ill-fated climb that resulted in the death of his climbing mates.

\***Kyle, Chris.** *American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History.* A member of Navy SEAL Team 3 describes his life as a father and husband, and as the serviceman with the most confirmed sniper kills in the history of the United States military while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Written with Scott McEwen and Jim DeFelice. Graphic language and violence. **FILM.**

\***Larson, Erik.** *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania.* In cinematic terms, this dramatic page-turner is *Das Boot* meets *Titanic*. Larson has a wonderful way of creating a very readable, accessible story of a time, place, and event. We get three sides of the global story--the U-boat commander, British Admiralty and President Wilson--but what really elevates this book are the affecting stories of individual crew and passengers.

---. *The Devil in the White City.* Written like a fictional thriller, this true story is a gripping tale about two men -- one a creative genius, the other a mass murderer -- who turned the 1893 Chicago World's Fair into their playground.

**NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers [continued]**

\***LeBleu, Joe.** *Long Rifle: One Man's Deadly Sniper Missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.* Witty, passionate, and provocative, *Long Rifle* is both the first memoir by a U.S. Army sniper from the 9/11 generation and a stirring testament to the core values of American soldiers. Also good companion to Buzzell's *My War* on this list. Graphic language and violence.

\***Luttrell, Marcus.** *Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10.* The only survivor of a team of U.S. Navy SEALs sent to Afghanistan to capture a well-known al Qaeda leader chronicles the events of the battle that killed his teammates. Written with Patrick Robinson. Graphic language and violence. **FILM.**

**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

---. *Service: A Navy SEAL at War.* A combat trained Navy SEAL shares dramatic stories from his Special Operations assignments throughout the world while highlighting the contributions of remarkable soldiers. Written with James D. Hornfischer. Graphic language and violence.

\***Mann, Don.** *Inside SEAL Team Six: My Life and Missions with America's Elite Warriors.* Shares the experiences of the former Navy SEAL in being a member of the team responsible for killing Osama bin Laden. Written with Ralph Pezzullo. Graphic language and violence.

\***Margolick, David.** *Elizabeth and Hazel: Two Women of Little Rock.* The author portrays two civil rights icons: African American Elizabeth Eckford, who braved white hecklers to attend high school in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957, and Hazel Bryan, then an angry white tormentor.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 41

\***Marlantes, Karl.** *What It Is Like to Go to War.* A huge proponent of counseling for returning veterans, Marlantes relates his combat experiences in Vietnam and discusses the daily contradictions warriors face in the grind of war.

\***McCullough, David.** *The Wright Brothers.* **BIOGRAPHY.** A strong work ethic and keen observation fueled the quest to conquer manned flight in this tale of the quirky Wright brothers.

\***Montgomery, Sy.** *The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness.* A charming, revelatory journey into the world of cephalopods.

\***Nestor, James.** *Deep: Freediving, Renegade Science, and What the Ocean Tells Us About Ourselves.* Surveys the achievements of adventurous scientists, athletes and explorers to reveal how new understandings about deep-sea life, from telepathic coral to shark navigation, are expanding what is known about the natural world and the human mind.

\***Noah, Trevor.** *Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood.* Noah's coming-of-age during apartheid in South Africa vividly comes to life in this incisive, funny, and fresh memoir. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Olson, Steve.** *Eruption: The Untold Story of Mount St. Helens.* An account of one of the largest volcanic eruptions in human history and the history forces that influenced the fates of those who lived and those who died on that sunny Sunday morning in southwestern Washington state. Full of personal stories of those who survived and those who did not.

### **NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers [continued]**

\***O'Neill, Robert.** *The Operator. Firing the Shots that Killed Osama Bin Laden and My Years as a SEAL Team Warrior.* The 400-mission career of a SEAL Team operator. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Orenstein, Peggy.** *Girls and Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape.* The New York Times best-selling author presents an analysis of the new sexual landscape faced by girls in today's high schools and colleges, revealing hidden truths, hard lessons and important possibilities in girls' modern-world sex lives.

\***Owen, Mark.** *No Easy Day: The Firsthand Account of the Mission that Killed Osama Bin Laden: the Autobiography of a Navy SEAL.* Riveting from cover to cover, a former Navy SEAL describes the mission that killed Bin Laden in his own voice. Tense scenes of strategizing, stealth and action drive the story. Written with Kevin Maurer. Graphic language and violence.  
---. *No Hero: The Evolution of a Navy Seal.* Recounts definitive moments from the author's career as a Navy SEAL, discussing the missions that had the greatest personal meaning for him and explaining the lessons and values he hopes to pass on to the next generation. Written with Kevin Maurer. Graphic language and violence.

\***Pilon, Mary.** *The Monopolists: Obsession, Fury, and the Scandal Behind the World's Favorite Board Game.* The Monopolists reveals the unknown story of how Monopoly came into existence, the reinvention of its history by Parker Brothers and multiple media outlets, the lost

female originator of the game, and one man's lifelong obsession to tell the true story about the game's questionable origins.

**\*Porath, Jason.** *Rejected Princesses: Tales of History's Boldest Heroines, Hellions, and Heretics.* Turning the ubiquitous "pretty pink princess" stereotype on its head, an entertaining blend of biography, imagery and humor, pays homage to strong, fierce and, sometimes weird, women who refused to behave and meekly accept their place. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

**\*Roach, Mary.** *Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War.* With courageous curiosity, journalistic persistence, and a wry empathetic sense of humor, Roach writes about the issues confronting the military in its attempt to protect and enable combat troops. Roach brings to our attention the amazing efforts of science to tackle all the challenges of modern warfare.

---. *Gulp: Adventures on the Alimentary Canal.* Take a tour of the human digestive system, explaining why the stomach doesn't digest itself and whether constipation can kill you.

---. *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Living in the Void.* Explores what it's like to live in space from gross-out basics like bodily functions and puking in a space helmet to philosophical thoughts on what makes us human and how that changes away from Earth.

**\*Sacks, Oliver W.** *Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain.* Drawing on the individual experiences of patients, musicians, composers, and ordinary people, the author explores the complex human response to music, and how music can affect those suffering from a variety of ailments.

**\*Sheff, David.** *Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction.* The story of one teenager's descent into methamphetamine addiction is told from his father's point of view, describing how a varsity athlete and honor student became addicted to the dangerous drug and

**NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers [continued]**

its impact on his family. His son Nic's story is next on this list. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**\*Sheff, Nic.** *Tweak: (Growing up on Methamphetamines).* The author details his immersion in a world of hardcore drugs, revealing the mental and physical depths of addiction, and the violent relapse one summer in California that forever changed his life, leading him down the road to recovery. Nic's father's story about Nic's addiction is above this on this list.

**\*Skloot, Rebecca.** *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks.* This is a true story of the Black woman whose cells were used to create polio vaccine and many other scientific breakthroughs. Reads like a fiction book—a compelling tale of how science intersects with life. **FILM on Amazon.**

**\*Sotomayor, Sonia.** *My Beloved World.* Appointed to the Supreme Court in 2009, Sotomayor became the first Latina to achieve this high judicial office. This book offers a moving portrait of her gritty South Bronx neighborhood and her extended Puerto Rican family, as well as details of the many challenges she has faced during her formative years and early career.

**\*Tanenbaum, Leora.** *I Am Not a Slut: Slut-Shaming in the Age of the Internet.* The author revisits her influential work on sexual stereotyping to offer fresh insight into the digital and face-to-face worlds contemporary young women inhabit. She shares her new research, involving interviews with a wide range of teenage girls and young women from a variety of backgrounds as well as

parents, educators, and academics. Tanenbaum analyzes the coping mechanisms young women currently use and points them in a new direction to eradicate slut-shaming for good

**\*Thorpe, Helen.** *Soldier Girls: The Battles of Three Women at Home and at War.* Describes the experiences of three women soldiers deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq to reveal how their military service has affected their friendship, personal lives and families, detailing the realities of their work on bases and in war zones and how their choices and losses shaped their perspectives.

**\*Tyson, Timothy B.** *The Blood of Emmett Till.* Tyson offers fresh perspectives on the tragic death of young Emmett Till, in 1955 Mississippi, including an interview with the white woman at the center of the case. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

**\*Walls, Jeanette.** *The Glass Castle.* Wall's extraordinary memoir recounts her itinerant childhood with two eccentric parents and the poverty and bullying that she endured. A graceful, candid, and sometimes shocking story.

**\*Ward, Jesmyn, Ed.,** *The Fire This Time: A New Generation Speaks About Race.* Building on James Baldwin's famous essay collection, Ward has assembled poetry and prose by writers such as Natasha Trethewey and Kevin Young to address racial tensions in 21st century America.

**\*Wasdin, Howard E. and Stephen Templin.** *SEAL Team Six: Memoirs of an Elite Navy SEAL Sniper.* For the first time ever, a Navy SEAL Team Six sniper chronicles how he became an elite warrior and the ferocious battle that nearly cost him his life. Graphic language and violence.

**NONFICTION (find STEAM titles here) \*for more mature readers [continued]**

**\*West, Lindy.** *Shrill: Notes from a Loud Women.* In this uproariously funny debut, this GQ writer and fat-acceptance activist, blends memoir, social commentary, and ribald comedy in a biting manifesto. Will appeal to anyone who struggles with body image issues. Graphic Language.

**\*Wooten, Jim.** *We Are All the Same: The Story of a Boy's Courage and a Mother's Love.* The extraordinary story of the little South African boy whose bravery and fierce determination to make a difference despite being born with AIDS has made him the human symbol of the world's fight against the disease, told by the veteran American journalist whose life he changed.

**\*Wright, Evan.** *Generation Kill: Devil Dogs, Iceman, Captain America, and the New Face of American War.* A narrative on the lives of twenty-three First Recon marines who led the attack on Iraq describes their training and the physical and psychological challenges they faced in skirmishes leading to the fall of Baghdad. Same Marines from Fick's One Bullet Away on this list. Graphic language and violence.

**\*Yong, Ed.** *I Contain Multitudes: The Microbes Within Us and a Grand View of Life.* An award-winning science writer shares unique perspectives into the role of the microbiome in human health, identity and ability, explaining in comprehensive, lighthearted detail how our microbial partners shape and protect life on Earth in unexpected ways. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

**\*Zailckas, Koren.** *Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood.* From earliest experimentation to habitual excess to full-blown abuse, 24-year-old Koren Zailckas leads us through her experience

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 44

of a terrifying trend among young girls, exploring how binge drinking becomes routine. Also from the author, another memoir: *Fury: The Tales of a Good Girl Gone Ballistic*.

**\*Zuckoff, Mitchell.** *Lost in Shangri-La: The Epic True Story of a World War II Plane Crash in the Stone Age.* Award-winning former Boston Globe reporter Mitchell Zuckoff unleashes the exhilarating, untold story of an extraordinary World War II rescue mission, where a plane crash in the South Pacific plunged a trio of U.S. military personnel into the jungle of New Guinea.

**SPORTS: Easier Reads**

**Lupica, Mike.** *Travel Team.* **FICTION.** After he is cut from his travel basketball team—the very same team that his father once led to national prominence—twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms

his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory

**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**Roy, Travis & E.M. Swift.** *Eleven Seconds: A Story of Tragedy, Courage & Triumph.*

**BIOGRAPHY.** BU hockey player Travis Roy ended his hockey career eleven seconds into his debut game when his neck was broken. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**Sonnenblick, Jordan.** *Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip.* **FICTION.** Meet Peter Friedman, high school freshman. Talented photographer. Former baseball star. When a freakish injury ends his pitching career, Peter has some major things to figure out. Is there life after sports? Why has his grandfather suddenly given him thousands of dollars' worth of camera equipment. And is it his imagination, or is the super-hot star of the girls' swim team flirting with him, right in front of the amazing new girl in his photography class?

**Sullivan, Derek E.** *Biggie.* **FICTION.** Henry "Biggie" Abbott has hidden behind his weight for years, and although he is the son and stepson of two of Finch, Minnesota's most famous athletes, he prefers academic success until the girl of his dreams suggests he join the baseball team, and, with his stepbrother's help, he discovers he is a great pitcher.

**Volponi, Paul.** *Black and White.* **FICTION.** Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently when committing a crime together and getting caught. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

---. *The Final Four.* **FICTION.** Told over the course of an exhilarating, triple-overtime tournament game and a series of flashbacks, this novel explores talent and dedication, confidence and arrogance, and the uncomfortable realities of big-time collegiate sports.

**SPORTS \*for more mature readers**

\***Appel, Marty.** *Casey Stengel: Baseball's Greatest Character.* A biography of the only baseball player in history to play for all the New York teams describes how he went on to revolutionize the role of manager and won 10 pennants and seven World Series with the Yankees.

**HARDCOVER only 2017.**

\***Aston, Felicity.** *Alone in Antarctica: the First Woman to Ski Solo Across the Southern Ice.* Like Cheryl Strayed's *Wild*, this is an inspirational saga of one woman's battle through fear and loneliness as she honestly confronts both the physical challenges of her adventure, as well as her own human vulnerabilities.

\***Bauman, Jeff & Brad Witter.** *Stronger: Fighting Back After the Boston Marathon Bombing.* A survivor of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing, who helped to set off one of the biggest manhunts in the country's history, discusses his experiences that day and his ongoing mission to walk again after losing both legs. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

**SPORTS \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

\***Bradlee, Ben, Jr.** *The Kid: The Immortal Life of Ted Williams*. **BIOGRAPHY**. This baseball legend's biography discusses his status as the best hitter in the history of this sport, his five years away from baseball to serve as a Marine pilot in WWII and Korea, and how he spent most of the life hiding his Mexican heritage.

\***Branch, John.** *Boy on Ice: The Life and the Death of Derek Boogaard*. The tragic death of hockey star Derek Boogaard at twenty-eight was front-page news across the country in 2011 and helped shatter the silence about violence and concussions in professional sports. Widely regarded as the toughest man in the NHL, Boogaard was a gentle man off the ice but a merciless fighter on it. But, as Branch reveals, behind the scenes Boogaard's injuries and concussions were mounting and his mental state was deteriorating, culminating in his early death from an overdose of alcohol and painkillers.

\***Clark, Al.** *Called Out But Safe: A Baseball Umpire's Journey*. This is an outspoken and often hilarious account of Clark's life in baseball from umpire school through the highlights to the inglorious end of his stellar career. Not just a source of baseball history and lore, Clark's book also affords a rare look at what life is like for someone who works for the Major Leagues' other team. **HARDCOVER**. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Davidson, Jim & Kevin Vaughan.** *Ledge: An Inspirational Story of Friendship and Survival*. Documents the 1992 mountaineering venture during which co-author Davidson and his best friend, Mike Price, ascended Mount Rainier before a tragic fall that instantly ended Mike's life and forced Jim to climb to safety with sparse equipment.

\***Dickson, Paul.** *Leo Durocher: Baseball's Prodigal Son*. The first full biography of one of the most colorful and important figures in baseball history. **HARDCOVER only 2017.**

\***D'Orso, Michael.** *Eagle Blue: A Team, a Tribe, and a High School Basketball Season*. This fascinating, sensitive account follows an Alaskan high-school basketball team through its season in a town above the Arctic Circle. The sports narrative is as gripping as the portraits of the teens and their changing community.

\***Feinstein, John.** *Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life in the Minor Leagues of Baseball*. Examines the world of minor baseball, relating the stories of eight men—two pitchers, three position players, two managers, and one empire.

\***Fischer, David.** *Facing Mariano Rivera: Players Recall the Greatest Relief Pitcher Who Ever Lived*. This book tells the reader what it's like to battle one of the all-time best, in the words of the players who did just that. **HARDCOVER only 2014. See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Francona, Terry and Dan Shaughnessy.** *The Red Sox Years*. **BIOGRAPHY**. The former Red Sox coach discusses his tenure with the team, chronicling the challenges posed by managing difficult players, satisfying multiple owners with different expectations, and dealing with both championship and losing seasons.

\***Gretzky, Wayne.** *99: Stories of the Game.* For the first time, Gretzky discusses candidly what the game of hockey looks like to him and introduces us to the people who inspired and

**SPORTS \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

motivated him: mentors, teammates, rivals, the famous and the lesser known. Written with Kirstie McLellan Day. **HARDCOVER only 2017.**

\***Gronkowski, Rob.** *It's Good to Be the Gronk.* NFL player Rob Gronkowski takes fans from the field to the locker room to the VIP room to the talk show green room to his parents' kitchen table--a full tour of the world according to Gronk. Written with Jason Rosenhaus.

\***Herren, Chris.** *Basketball Junkie.* **MEMOIR.** A powerful, dramatic memoir of basketball star Chris Herren's rise to fame, struggle with addiction, and path back to life.

\***Holley, Michael.** *Belichick and Brady: Two Men.* The Patriots, and How They Revolutionized Football. Boston Globe writer Holley provides insights into the story of the legendary Tom Brady, Bill Belichick and Super Bowl winning New England Patriots. Holley also wrote *War Room* and *Patriot Reign* about the Patriots and *Red Sox Rule* about the Boston Red Sox.

**HARDCOVER only 2017.**

\***Kendall, Jason and Lee Judge.** *Throwback: A Big-League Catcher Tells How the Game is Really Played.* Structured to mirror the flow of a baseball game, this covers everything that happens in plain sight and behind the scenes, from the players' pre-game routines to the pitcher's warm up tosses, weaving hilarious first-person anecdotes together with wonderfully illuminating insights.

\***Lewis, Michael.** *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game.* Lewis profiles Billy Bean, the general manager of the Oakland Athletics baseball team, a man whose success proves that it's still possible to win in the major leagues without having the deepest pockets. **FILM.**

**See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Lipsyte, Robert.** *Raiders Night.* **FICTION.** After his teammates sexually assault a fellow player, Matt, the co-captain of his high school football team, covers up the brutal incident in this shocking portrait of corruption, drugs, and violence in high school sports.

\***Longman, Jere.** *The Girls of Summer: The U.S. Woman's Soccer Team and How It Changed the World.* The story of the US women's soccer team and their rise from a virtually unnoticed group of young women athletes to the champions of the 1999 Women's World Cup includes profiles of top players.

\***Martinez, Pedro.** *Pedro.* **MEMOIR** A description by the World Series champion pitcher of his youth in the Dominican Republic, hardscrabble days in the minor leagues and legendary run with the Red Sox. Written with Michael Silverman.

\***McDougall, Christopher.** *Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World has Never Seen.* One journalist's quest to discover the secrets of the world's greatest distance runners, the reclusive Tarahumara Indians, an Indian tribe living deep in the Copper Canyon of northern Mexico, and leads to an exciting and dangerous endurance race.

\***Nyad, Diana.** *Find a Way: One Woman's Pursuit of a Life-long Dream.* On September 2, 2013, at the age of 64, Diana Nyad emerged onto the shores of Key West after completing a 110 mile, 53 hour, record-breaking swim through shark-infested waters from Cuba to Florida. Her memoir shows why, at 64 she was able to achieve what she couldn't at 30 and how her repeated failures contributed to her success.

\***Orr, Bobby.** *Orr: My Story.* **AUTOBIOGRAPHY.** This fabled Boston Bruin still holds the record for most points and assists as a defenseman and won a record eight consecutive Norris Trophies as

**SPORTS \*for more mature readers (Continued)**

the NHL's best defenseman, three consecutive Hart Trophies as the league's MVP, as well as two Conn Smythe Trophies as the Stanley Cup MVP. He is the only player in history to have won the Ross, Norris, Hart, and Conn Smythe Trophies in a single season. He was inducted in the Hockey Hall of Fame at the age of 31 – the youngest living player to receive that honor.

\***Piazza, Mike.** *Long Shot.* **AUTOBIOGRAPHY.** The twelve-time All-Star catcher describes the inspiration he gleaned from his self-made father, his early career with the Dodgers, his memorable 2000 World Series with the Mets, and the controversies that have marked his career. **See Student Reviews on Beebe Website.**

\***Ross, David.** *Teammate.* A life in baseball by the now retired Chicago Cubs catcher. Written with Don Yaeger. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Sanderson, Derek.** *Crossing the Line: The Outrageous Story of a Hockey Original.* **AUTOBIOGRAPHY.** The autobiography of one of hockey's first rebels and a beloved member of the "Big Bad Bruins," this book shares how Sanderson's ferocious style helped lead the team to two Stanley Cup victories in the early 1970s. Sanderson comes clean on his life in hockey, the demons that threatened to consume him, and the strength and courage it took to fight his way back. Today a successful entrepreneur and speaker, Sanderson's incredible story is a must read for any fan of hockey.

\***Shaughnessy, Dan.** *The Curse of the Bambino.* Written in 1990, this book traces the history of the Boston Red Sox, linking the 1920 trade of Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees to a curse that haunted Boston and kept the team from winning any world championships until October 2004.

\***St. John, Warren.** *Outcasts United: An American Town, A Refugee Team and One Woman's Quest to Make a Difference.* Shares the inspirational story of a youth soccer team comprised of refugees from around the world who, under the guidance of a formidable female coach, helped to transform their Georgia community.

\***Torre, Joe.** *The Yankee Years.* The former Yankees manager offers a study of the Yankees organization, detailing the challenges of working for a team in which executives and the media question every decision and the concerns of managing a clubhouse of superstars. Student Suggestion: Francona's *The Red Sox Years.*

\***Wade, Becky.** *Run the World: My 3,500-Mile Journey Through Running Cultures Around the Globe.* An elite marathoner describes the year she spent running over 3,500 miles in nine different countries, living with host families and exploring diverse running communities and cultures all over the globe.

\***Zimniuch, Fran.** *Crooked: A History of Cheating in Sports.* The author provides an anecdotal survey of various types of dishonesty that have gone on in sports from the Olympics of ancient Greece to New England Patriots Spygate scandal in this well researched and timely book.

**GRAPHIC NOVELS: Easier Reads**

**Allison, John.** *Giant Days*. Susan, Esther, and Daisy started at university three weeks ago and became fast friends. Now, away from home for the first time, all three want to reinvent themselves. But in the face of all their adventures, they may be lucky just to make it to spring alive. Going off to university is always a time of change and growth, but for Esther, Susan, and Daisy, things are about to get a little weird. Illustrated by Lissa Treiman. Vol.1.

**Backderf, Derf.** *Trashed*. Illustrated by the author. Inspired by real-life experiences, the author uncovers the messy inside world of garbage collection in this exceptionally humorous graphic novel.

**Bendis, Brian Michael.** *Miles Morales: Ultimate Spider-Man Ultimate Collection Book 1*. Infinity War fans take note! The new Spidey is here, rubbing shoulders with all the greatest Avengers, while single-handedly dealing with homework and his grandmother...Gaaahh!!

**Canada, Geoffrey.** *Fist, Stick, Knife, Gun: A Personal History of Violence*. This graphic adaptation of Canada's memoir of growing up in the South Bronx in the late 1950s explains how violence surrounded and informed his life from a young age. Adapted by Jamar Nicholas.

**Carroll, Emily.** *Through the Woods*. A collection of five spine-tingling short stories filled with ghosts, murder, monsters, and squeal-inducing illustrations that will give readers a shivery thrill. Illustrated by Author.

**Dawson, Diana.** *Ladycastle*. When all the kingdom's men ride off on a crusade only to be killed by a dragon, it is the women who remain to defend the land and the castle. A rollicking woman-powered adventure and the first in the series.

**Gaiman, Neil.** *Death, The High Cost of Living*. Death (in the guise of a hot Goth chick) arrives just in time to save a teenager contemplating suicide and they end up searching New York City to find a witch's heart. Illustrated by Chris Bachalo & Mark Buckingham. Part of Gaiman's *Sandman* series.

**Girner, Sebastian.** *Scales & Scoundrels*. Treasure hunter Luvander sets off for gold and glory with a ragtag group of adventurers made up of one naive and impetuous Prince, his honorable female bodyguard, and a stocky, young female dwarf.. Will they be able to shed light on the ancient darkness that awaits them? A fun fantasy romp for those who enjoyed *Avatar: The Last Airbender*.

**McCoola, Marika.** *Baba Yaga's Assistant*. When her father announces that he is remarrying, Masha decides to leave home and become Baba Yaga's assistant. But to earn her place at the witch's house, she must first pass a series of tests. Illustrated by Emily Carroll.

**Rowell, Rainbow.** *Runaways Vol. 1: Find Your Way Home*. The "IT" book of the early 2000s with the original cast is back - Nico! Karolina! Molly! Chase! Old Lace! And, could it be? GERT?! The heart of the Runaways died years ago, but you won't believe how she returns!

**Stevenson, Noelle.** *Nimona*. Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart's mission is to prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his

**GRAPHIC NOVELS: Easier Reads (continued)**

buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are. Illustrated by Author.

## 2017 Wakefield High School Summer Suggested Reading 50

**Yang, Gene.** *American Born Chinese*. This award-winning story alternates between three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans trying to fit into the culture of high school. Coloring by Lark Pien.

**GRAPHIC NOVELS \*for more mature readers** (Also check out the Adult Graphic Novel section near Reference Desk at the Beebe Library)

\*Anthony, Jessica. *Chopsticks*. In a love story told in photographs and drawings, Glory, a brilliant piano prodigy, is drawn to Frank, an artistic new boy, and the farther she falls, the deeper she spirals into madness until the only song she is able to play is “Chopsticks.” Illustration by Rodrigo Corral.

\*Bechdel, Alison. *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*. This autobiography deals with the author’s childhood with a closeted gay father, who was an English teacher and proprietor of the local funeral parlor. Illustrated by the author. Also adapted into a Broadway play.

\*Doctorow, Cory. *In Real Life*. Anda loves Coarsegold Online, the massively multiplayer role-playing game that she spends most of her free time on. It's a place where she can be a leader, a fighter, a hero. It's a place where she can meet people from all over the world, and make friends. But things become a lot more complicated when Anda befriends a gold farmer -- a poor Chinese kid whose avatar in the game illegally collects valuable objects and then sells them to players from developed countries with money to burn. This behavior is strictly against the rules in Coarsegold, but Anda soon comes to realize that questions of right and wrong are a lot less straightforward when a real person's real livelihood is at stake. Illustrated by Jen Wang.

\***Lewis, John.** *March. Books 1, 2 & 3*. A first-hand account of the author's lifelong struggle for civil and human rights spans his youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr., and the birth of the Nashville Student Movement. Co-written by Andrew Aydin, illustrated by Nate Powell.

**Thrash, Maggie.** *Honor Girl*. Camp Bellflower is an impossible place for a girl to fall in love with another girl, but that doesn’t mean it’s not happening to Maggie. When it seems as if Erin may feel the same way about her, it's too much for both Maggie and Camp Bellflower to handle, let alone to understand.

\***Vaughan, Brian K.** *Pride of Baghdad*. Inspired by true events, this book examines life on the streets of war-torn Iraq, raising questions about the meaning of liberation through the experiences of four lions who escaped from the Baghdad Zoo during a bombing raid. Illustrated by Niko Henrichon.

\***Waid, Mark.** *Daredevil. V.1*. Reclaiming Daredevil from years of dramatic grimness, Waid and Rivera recapture the transcendent fun, adventure, and invention of the early Lee-Kirby collaborations. Illustration by Paolo Rivera.

\***Wilson, G. Willow.** *Ms Marvel: No Normal*. Kamala Khan is an ordinary girl from Jersey City - until she's suddenly empowered with extraordinary gifts. But who truly is the new Ms. Marvel? Teenager? Muslim? Inhuman? Find out as she takes the Marvel Universe by storm! When Kamala discovers the dangers of her newfound powers, she unlocks a secret behind them, as well. Is Kamala ready to wield these immense new gifts? Illustrated by Adrian Alphona

**Wyld, Evie.** *Everything is Teeth*. Evie is both terrified and utterly obsessed with sharks in this mesmerizing graphic novel that stirringly evokes childhood fears and fascination with the macabre. **HARDCOVER Only 2017.**

\***Yakin, Boaz.** *Marathon*. With equal parts ancient history, Greek city-state politics, and high-stakes action. The story of punishing endurance celebrates the world's first extreme feat of athleticism. Illustration by Joe Infurnari.

**POETRY** (For more poetry see Call Number 811 upstairs at the Beebe Library)

**Collins, Billy, Ed.** *Poetry 180: A Turning Back to Poetry*. Inspired by America's former Poet Laureate Billy Collins's poem-a-day program with the Library of Congress, Poetry 180 is the perfect anthology for readers who appreciate engaging, thoughtful poems that are an immediate pleasure and represent the richness and diversity of the form.

— *Sailing Alone Around the Room: New and Selected Poems*. In this compilation by former Poet Laureate Collins, the surface structure of these poems appears simplistic, but subtle changes in tone or gesture move the reader from the mundane to the sublime.

**Hemphill, Stephanie.** *Wicked Girls: A Novel of the Salem Witch Trials*. A fictionalized account, told in verse, of the Salem witch trials, told from the perspective of three of the real young women living in Salem in 1692—Mercy Lewis, Margaret Walcott, and Ann Putnam, Jr.

**Hopkins, Ellen.** *Perfect*. Northern Nevada teenagers Cara, Kendra, Sean, and Andre, tell in their own voices of their very different paths toward perfection and how their goals change when tragedy strikes. Trust us—it reads like a novel!

**Sones, Sonya.** *What My Mother Doesn't Know*. What is the difference between love and lust? That is the question Sophie must answer. Simultaneously dating sexy Dylan while secretly baring her soul to her cyber-chat buddy Chaz, she must examine what it is that draws her to each. She has to decide for herself what is more important – good looks or a kind heart?

— *Stop Pretending: What Happened When My Big Sister Went Crazy*. A younger sister has a difficult time adjusting to life after her older sister has a mental breakdown.

**Wild, Margaret.** *Jinx*. Told in a series of short poems, this novel compellingly tells the story of Jen, a self-proclaimed jinx. Here, Wild gently traces the ebb and flow of Jen's observations and changing moods as she weathers the tragic, unrelated deaths of two consecutive boyfriends.