

A Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds.

YA FIC REYNOL J

As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know.

Opposite of Always by Justin Reynolds.

YA FIC REYNOL J

After falling for Kate, her unexpected death sends Jack back in time to the moment they first met, but he soon learns that his actions have consequences when someone else close to him dies.

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz.

YA FIC SAENZ B

Fifteen-year-old Ari Mendoza is an angry loner with a brother in prison, but when he meets Dante and they become friends, Ari starts to ask questions about himself, his parents, and his family that he has never asked before.

The Gravity of Us by Phil Stamper.

YA FIC STAMPE P

When his volatile father is picked to become an astronaut for NASA's mission to Mars, seventeen-year-old Cal, an aspiring journalist, reluctantly moves from Brooklyn to Houston, Texas, and looks for a story to report, finding an ally (and crush) in Leon, the son of another astronaut.

It's Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini.

YA FIC VIZZIN N

A humorous account of a New York City teenager's battle with depression and his time spent in a psychiatric hospital.

Uglies by Scott Westerfeld.

YA FIC WESTER S

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.

Sorcery & Cecelia by Patricia Wrede & Caroline Stevermer.

YA FIC WREDE P

In 1817 in England, two young cousins, Cecilia living in the country and Kate in London, write letters to keep each other informed of their exploits, which take a sinister turn when they find themselves confronted by evil wizards.

From a Whisper to a Rallying Cry: The Killing of Vincent Chin and the Trial that Galvanized the Asian American Movement by Paula Yoo.

YA 305.895 YOO

A compelling account of the killing of Vincent Chin, the verdicts that took the Asian American community to the streets in protest, and the groundbreaking civil rights trial that followed.



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595 Granite Run Drive
Lancaster, PA 17601

717-560-6441

www.mtpl.info

RECOMMENDED READS FOR NINTH GRADE



Does My Head Look Big in This? by Randa Abdel-Fattah.

YA FIC ABDEL F R

High school is tough enough, but it is further complicated for Amal when she decides to wear the hijab, the Muslim head scarf, full-time as a badge of her faith - without losing her identity or sense of style.

Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo.

YA FIC ACEVED E

A deadly plane crash brings together two teenage sisters separated by a secret, an ocean, and their father.

Internment by Samira Ahmed.

YA FIC AHMED S

In a terrifying, futuristic United States where Muslim-Americans are forced into internment camps, seventeen-year-old Layla Amin must lead a revolution against complicit silence.

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson.

YA FIC ANDERS L

A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.

We Are Not Free by Traci Chee.

YA FIC CHEE T

For fourteen-year-old budding artist Minoru Ito and the other members of the Japanese-American community in southern California, the three months since Pearl Harbor was attacked have become a waking nightmare: attacked, spat on, and abused with no way to retaliate - and now things are about to get worse, their lives forever changed by the mass incarcerations in the relocation camps.

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros.

YA FIC CISNER S

Tells the story of Esperanza Cordero, a young girl growing up in the Hispanic quarter of Chicago, whose neighborhood is one of harsh realities and harsh beauty.

House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer.

YA FIC FARMER N

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pederson and the Churchill Club by Phillip Hoose.

YA 940.53489 HOO

The true story of a group of boy resistance fighters in Denmark after the Nazi invasion.

Hattie Big Sky by Kirby Larson.

YA FIC LARSON K

After inheriting her uncle's homesteading claim in Montana, sixteen-year-old orphan Hattie Brooks travels from Iowa in 1917 to make a home for herself and encounters some unexpected problems related to the war being fought in Europe.

The Downstairs Girl by Stacey Lee.

YA FIC LEE S

In 1890 Atlanta, Jo Kuan works as a lady's maid for the cruel Caroline Payne, the daughter of one of the wealthiest men in Atlanta. But by night, Jo moonlights as the pseudonymous author of a newspaper advice column for the genteel Southern lady.

A Step Toward Falling by Cammie McGovern.

YA FIC MCGOVE C

When Emily sees her developmentally disabled classmate Belinda being attacked, she does nothing at all. Belinda, however, manages to save herself. When their high school finds out what happened, Emily and Lucas, a football player who was also there that night, are required to perform community service at a center for disabled people. But can they do anything that will actually help the one person they hurt the most?

Cinder by Marissa Meyer.

YA FIC MEYER M

As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, observed by a ruthless lunar people, 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.

Monster by Walter Dean Myers.

YA FIC MYERS W

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken

A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness.

YA FIC NESS P

Conor awakens one night to find a monster outside his bedroom window, but not the one from the recurring nightmare that began when his mother became ill - an ancient, wild creature that wants him to face truth and loss.

Sabriel by Garth Nix.

YA FIC NIX G

Sabriel, daughter of the necromancer Abhorsen, must journey into the mysterious and magical Old Kingdom to rescue her father from the Land of the Dead.

The Field Guide to the North American Teenager by Ben Phillipe.

When Norris, a Black French Canadian, starts his junior year at an Austin, Texas, high school, he views his fellow students as clichés from "a bad 90s teen movie."

A Short History of the Girl Next Door by Jared Reck.

YA FIC RECK J

After years of pining for the girl next door, fifteen-year-old Matthew Wainwright must deal with Tabby dating a popular senior just when he needs her most.