

SUMMER READING 2020-2021
FICTION

11/22/63--Stephen King **UG** - BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **42.0** **RP**

When English teacher Jake Epping discovers a portal to the past, he decides to use it to prevent the John F. Kennedy assassination.

23 minutes--Vivian Vande Velde **MG+** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **7.0** **RP**

Zoe can go back in time for twenty-three-minute periods. So, when she witnesses a deadly bank robbery, she replays the event, but the outcome is worse than before

A Curse So Dark and Lonely--Brigid Kemmerer **UG** - BL: **4.2** - AR Pts: **17.0** **RP**

Prince Rhan has been eighteen years old three hundred twenty-seven times. He despairs of breaking the curse that turns him into a beast, until feisty Harper enters his life.

A Heart in the Body of the World--Deb Caletti **UG** - BL: **4.6** - AR Pts: **12.0** **RP**

Eighteen-year-old Annabelle runs from Seattle to Washington, DC, becoming a reluctant activist as people connect her journey to her recent trauma.

A Match Made in High School--Kristin Walker **UG** - BL: **4.2** - AR Pts: **9.0** **RP**

When the high-school principal announces that every senior must participate in a year-long marriage education program, Fiona learns some lessons about people, friendship, crushes, and cheerleading.

A Moment Comes--Jennifer Bradbury **UG** - BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **9.0** **RP**

As the partition of India nears in 1947 bringing violence even to Jalandhar, Tariq, a Muslim, finds himself caught between his forbidden interest in Anupreet, a Sikh girl, and Margaret, a British girl whose affection for him might help him get to Oxford.

A Prayer for Owen Meany--John Irving **UG** - BL: **7.7** - AR Pts: **42.0** **RP**

A terrifying and unforgettable story of what happens in Owen Meany's life as a result of hitting a foul ball that kills his best friend's mother.

A Totally Awkward Love Story--Tom Ellen **UG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **12.0** **RP**

Hannah and Sam are each searching for The One, but over the summer, a series of hilarious misunderstandings prevent them from realizing that they're It for one another. The coauthor is Lucy Ivison.

After the Fire--Will Hill **UG** - BL: **5.8** - AR Pts: **19.0** **RP**

When a fire destroys everything, a teenager struggles to reconcile the beliefs of her cult leader with the realities of the world she is introduced to in a government-sanctioned facility.

All We Have Left--Wendy Mills **UG - BL: 5.6 - AR Pts: 12.0 RP**

In interweaving stories of 16-year-olds, modern-day Jesse tries to cope with the ramifications of her brother's death on 9/11, while in 2001, Alia, a Muslim, gets trapped in one of the Twin Towers and meets a boy as flames rage around them.

American Gods--Neil Gaiman **UG - BL: 5.3 - AR Pts: 28.0 RP**

Shadow sets out on a journey across America fighting old myths and the gods of modern technology and material obsession when he takes employment with a man named Wednesday -- otherwise known as the god Odin.

American Panda--Gloria Chao **UG - BL: 5.6 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP**

A freshman at MIT, 17-year-old Mei Lu tries to live up to her Taiwanese parents' expectations, but no amount of tradition, obligation, or guilt prevent her from hiding several truths.

Anansi Boys--Neil Geiman **UG - BL: 5.2 - AR Pts: 16.0 RP**

Fat Charlie Nancy can't shake the embarrassing name his father bestowed on him twenty years ago. Mr. Nancy also left him other things, such as a brother Charlie never knew about and who wants to show Charlie how to lighten up and have a little fun.

Aurora Rising--Amie Kaufman **UG - BL: 5.4 - AR Pts: 17.0 RP**

Eighteen-year-old Tyler Jones, top graduate of Aurora Academy, and a group of misfits and troublemakers embark on their first mission with Auri, a stowaway from the distant past. The coauthor is Jay Kristoff. Book #1

Burn Baby Burn--Meg Medina **UG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 10.0 RP**

During the infamous New York summer of 1977 when the Son of Sam was running rampant, seventeen-year-old Nora Lopez faces danger within her own home.

Burning Midnight-- Will McIntosh **UG - BL: 5.0 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP**

Teens Sully, Hunter, Dom, and Mandy team up in a race against unscrupulous billionaire CEO Alex Holliday to locate a collectible sphere, which may have a very steep price.

Children of Blood and Bone--Tomi Adeyemi **UG - BL: 4.8 - AR Pts: 20.0 RP**

Seventeen-year-old Zélie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi. Book #1

Contagion-- Erin Bowman **MG+ - BL: 6.0 - AR Pts: 13.0 RP**

After receiving a distress call from a drill team on a distant planet, a skeleton crew is sent into deep space to perform a standard search-and-rescue mission.

Dan vs. Nature--Don Calame **UG** - BL: **4.5** - AR Pts: **11.0** **RP**

Dan spends his time creating graphic novels and looking out for his mom, who announces that she is sending Dan and her fiancé on a survivalist camping trip.

Dread Nation--Justina Ireland **UG** - BL: **6.0** - AR Pts: **17.0** **RP**

Jane McKeene was born days before the dead began to walk the Gettysburg battlefields, derailing the War Between the States and changing the nation forever.

Book #1

Dry--Neal Shusterman **UG** - BL: **5.5** - AR Pts: **16.0** **RP**

A lengthy California drought turns Alyssa's quiet suburban street into a war zone, and she is forced to make impossible choices if she and her brother are to survive. The coauthor is Jarrod Shusterman.

Flawed--Cecelia Ahern **MG+** - BL: **5.1** - AR Pts: **14.0** **RP**

In a future society where Flawed people who are deemed ethically or morally imperfect are branded with an F, a young girl takes a stand. Book #1

Goodbye Days--Jeff Zeitner **UG** - BL: **4.3** - AR Pts: **13.0** **RP**

Carver Briggs never thought the last message he would ever send to his three best friends Mars, Eli, and Blake would lead to their deaths.

Heartless--Marrisa Meyer **UG** - BL: **5.6** - AR Pts: **20.0** **RP**

In this prequel to ALICE IN WONDERLAND, Cath would rather open a bakery and marry for love than accept a proposal from the King of Hearts, especially after meeting the handsome and mysterious court jester.

I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter--Erika Sanchez **UG** - BL: **4.7** - AR Pts: **12.0** **RP**

Julia helps her family pick up the pieces after her sister, Olga, dies in a tragic accident. In the process, Julia learns that Olga may not have been so perfect after all.

Kids of Appetite--David Arnold **UG** - BL: **5.2** - AR Pts: **12.0** **RP**

Teens Victor and Madeline sit in separate police interrogation rooms telling about the misfits who brought them together and their journey sparked by a message in an urn.

Kindred--Octavia Butler **UG** - BL: **4.0** - AR Pts: **14.0** **RP**

Dana, a young black writer living in Los Angeles in 1976, undertakes a series of unexpected and dangerous trips into the year 1819 to rescue Rufus, the young son of a Maryland slaveholder.

Like Water on Stone--Dana Wakrath **UG** - BL: **4.2** - AR Pts: **3.0** **RP**

Inspired by a true story, this novel in verse relates the tale of siblings Sosi, Shahen, and Mariam, who survive the Armenian genocide of 1915 by escaping alone from Turkey over the mountains.

Long Way Down--Jason Reynolds **UG - BL: 4.3 - AR Pts: 2.0 RP**

As fifteen-year-old Will sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths that Will needs to know. Will's story is told in free verse.

The Lying Woods--Ashley Elston **UG - BL: 4.8 - AR Pts: 14.0 RP**

Owen Foster is pulled from his elite New Orleans boarding school when his father's assets are seized. Back in his small town, he begins to piece together his father's past despite mounting danger.

One of Us is Lying--Karen McManus **UG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 14.0 RP**

When the creator of a high-school gossip app mysteriously dies in front of four high-profile students, all four become suspects. It is up to them to solve the case.

Outrun the Moon--Stacey Lee **MG+ - BL: 5.3 - AR Pts: 14.0 RP**

In 1906, Mercy bargains her way out of Chinatown and into an exclusive girls' school. When an earthquake destroys San Francisco, everyone struggles to survive.

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood--Marjane Satrapi **UG - BL: 3.3 - AR Pts: 2.0 RP**

This book contains black-and-white comic strip images in which the author shares the story of her life in Tehran, Iran where she lived from ages six to fourteen while the country came under control of the Islamic regime.

Perception: A Clarity Novel--Kim Harrington **UG - BL: 4.3 - AR Pts: 9.0 RP**

Messages and gifts from a secret admirer make Clare question if they are from Gabriel, the gorgeous boy who gets her pulse racing or from Justin, her ex-boyfriend who'd do anything to win her back. Book #2

Poet X--Elizabeth Acevedo **UG - BL: 5.2 - AR Pts: 5.0 RP**

A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world.

Price of Duty--Todd Strasser **UG - BL: 4.9 - AR Pts: 6.0 RP**

A young man, injured and home from the war, is lauded as a hero. But he doesn't feel very heroic in the face of all that he witnessed.

Pride--Ibi Zoboi **UG - BL: 4.6 - AR Pts: 9.0 RP**

Zuri Benitez has pride. Brooklyn pride, family pride, and pride in her Afro-Latino roots. But pride might not be enough to save her rapidly gentrifying neighborhood from becoming unrecognizable.

Renegades--Marie Lu **UG - BL: 6.5 - AR Pts: 25.0 RP**

The Renegades are a syndicate of prodigies who emerged from the ruins of a crumbled society and established order where chaos reigned. As champions of justice, they are symbols of hope and courage to all except the villains they overthrow. Book #1

Sadie--Courtney Summers **UG - BL: 5.0 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP**

This story is told from the alternating perspectives of nineteen-year-old Sadie, who runs away to find her younger sister's killer, and a true-crime podcast exploring Sadie's disappearance.

Saint Anything--Sarah Dessen **MG+ - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 15.0 RP**

When Sydney's older brother 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.

Salt to the Sea--Ruth Sepetys **UG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 10.0 RP**

As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war's final dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull.

Scythe--Neal Shusterman **UG - BL: 6.5 - AR Pts: 17.0 RP**

In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be gleaned by professional scythes. Two teens must compete to become a scythe, a position neither of them wants. Book #1

Superman: Dawnbreaker--Matt de la Pena **UG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP**

Before he becomes Superman, Clark Kent must save his hometown of Smallville.

The Librarian of Austwitz --Antonio Iturbe **UG - BL: 6.8 - AR Pts: 21.0 RP**

Based on a true story, 14-year-old Dita is a prisoner at Auschwitz when Jewish leader Fredy Hirsch asks her to take charge of eight precious volumes the prisoners have snuck past the guards.

The Bar Code Tattoo- Suzanne Weyn **MG+ - BL: 5.0 - AR Pts: 8.0 RP**

Kayla is ostracized at school because she refused to get the required tattooed bar code and now she must run to avoid the authorities and fight for her freedom. Book #1

The Belles-Dhonielle Clayton-- **UG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 16.0 RP**

In a world where Beauty is a commodity only a few control, one Belle will learn the dark secrets behind her powers and rise up to change the world. Book #1.

The Bitter Side of Sweet--Tara Sullivan **UG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 12.0 RP**

Kept as forced labor on a chocolate plantation in the Ivory Coast, Amadou and his younger brother Seydou had given up hope, until a young girl arrives at the camp who rekindles the urge to escape.

The Cruel Prince-Holly Black **UG - BL: 5.3 - AR Pts: 16.0 RP**

Jude, seventeen and mortal, gets tangled in palace intrigues while trying to win a place in the treacherous High Court of Faerie, where she and her sisters have lived for a decade. Book #1

The Goldfinch--Donna Tartt **UG** - BL: **6.6** - AR Pts: **49.0** **RP**

After Theo survives an accident that takes the life of his mother, a small painting becomes his talisman and eventually leads him into the criminal underworld.

The Hate List--Jennifer Brown **UG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **13.0** **RP**

Valerie, a 16-yr-old whose boyfriend, Nick, committed a school shooting, struggles to cope with integrating herself back into high-school life, unsure whether she was a hero or a villain.

The Hill--Karen Bass **MG+** - BL: **4.3** - AR Pts: **8.0** **RP**

Based on the Cree Wíhtiko legend and inspired by the real story of a remote plane crash, something eerie is happening in the northern Alberta landscape.

The Illustrated Man--Ray Bradbury **UG** - BL: **4.4** - AR Pts: **10.0** **RP**

A tattooed man tells a story for each of his tattoos.

The Last Boy and Girl in the World--Siobhann Vivian **UG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **17.0** **RP**

If her town is to be evacuated due to flooding, high-school senior and class clown Keeley wants to cheer up her friends and pursue her big crush.

The Summer of Jordi Perez (And the Best Burger in Los Angeles)- Amy Spalding

Working at her favorite boutique and falling in love, a girl enjoys a lush Los Angeles summer—until things become complicated.

The Tiny Perfect World--Lauren Gibaldi **UG** - BL: **3.7** - AR Pts: **8.0** **RP**

Penny has her whole life planned out for senior year and beyond, only to have those plans suddenly upended during a pivotal summer in a prestigious theater camp.

The Titans--Victoria Scott **MG+** - BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **13.0** **RP**

Losing everything to gambling, 17-year-old Astrid bets her entire future when she's offered a chance to enter an early model Titan in the derby, hoping to win enough money to keep her family together.

This Lullaby--Sarah Dessen **UG** - BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **15.0** **RP**

Raised by a mother who's had five husbands, eighteen-year-old Remy believes in short-term, no-commitment relationships until she meets Dexter, a rock band musician.

Two Can Keep a Secret--Karen McManus **UG** - BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **12.0** **RP**

While true-crime aficionado Ellery and her twin brother are staying with their grandmother in a Vermont community known for murder, a new friend goes missing, and Ellery may be next.

Up from the Sea--Leza Lowitz **MG+** - BL: **4.5** - AR Pts: **2.0** **RP**

This novel, told in verse from the point of view of a biracial teenaged boy named Kai, follows his personal journey after the March 2011 tsunami in Japan.

Warcross--Marie Lu **UG - BL: 5.6 - AR Pts: 16.0 RP**

When coder Emika hacks into the opening tournament of the championships, she glitches herself into the game and a sinister plot with major consequences for the entire Warcross empire. #1

We'll Fly Away--Bryan Bliss **UG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 12.0 RP**

Toby and Luke are best friends, bound by a goal of leaving their hometown after high school, but a series of events during their senior year will test their resolve.

Windfall--Jennifer E. Smith **UG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 14.0 RP**

Alice loves Teddy, her best friend, but has never told him. When she buys him a lottery ticket that turns out to be a winner, their lives are changed forever and their friendship is put to the ultimate test.

You in Five Acts--Una LaMarche **UG - BL: 6.1 - AR Pts: 13.0 RP**

In the months leading to the performance that will determine their futures, friends at a performing-arts school look back on an unexpected event that upended everything. The plot contains profanity and drug use.

SUMMER READING LIST 2020-2021

NONFICTION

A Few Red Roses --Claire Hartfield **MG+** - BL: **7.9** - AR Pts: **6.0** **RP**

This is a compelling look at the Chicago race riot of 1919, a crisis in the history of race relations that is echoed in today's headlines.

A Hope in the Unseen--Ron Suskind **UG** - BL: **7.5** - AR Pts: **24.0** **RP**

This book tells the story of one African American youth's rise from poverty-stricken Anacostia, in southeast Washington, D.C., to the ivied halls of Brown University.

A Long Way Gone--Ishmael Beah **UG** - BL: **6.1** - AR Pts: **13.0** **RP**

A war survivor Africa recounts his transition from twelve-year-old orphan to killing machine. Beah emerged from Sierra Leone's malignant civil conflict and eventually graduated from college in the US.

A Man Named Dave--Dave Pelzer **UG** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **15.0** **RP**

Desperately trying to make something of his life after he was rescued from his mother's brutality, Dave is determined to weather every setback and gain strength from adversity.

After--Francis Chalifour **MG+** - BL: **4.4** - AR Pts: **4.0** **RP**

Francis is called home to Montreal from a school trip in New York to learn that his father has committed suicide, marking the beginning of a year of guilt, anger, grief, and sadness that he survives with the help of friends, family, and counseling.

Alicia Afterimage--Lulu Delacre **MG+** - BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **4.0** **RP**

This book explores the life of Alicia, a popular sixteen-year-old, in the aftermath of a fatal car crash as her friends, family members, and others recall key episodes that show her impact on their lives.

All Creatures Great and Small #2--James Herriott **MG+** - BL: **6.8** - AR Pts: **26.0** **RP, VP**

An English veterinarian reminisces about his life, career, and animal patients in a small village in the Yorkshire dales.

All Things Bright and Beautiful #1--James Herriott **UG** - BL: **6.7** - AR Pts: **23.0** **RP, VP**

Heart-warming day-to-day story of James Herriot's life as a Yorkshire veterinarian.

Almost a Woman--Esmeralda Santiago **UG** - BL: **6.9** - AR Pts: **18.0** **RP**

This story illustrates Negi's triumphant journey into womanhood

Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card--Sara Saedi **UG** - BL: **7.5** - AR Pts: **11.0** **RP**

In San Jose, California, in the 1990s, teenaged Sara keeps a diary of life as an Iranian American, and discovers that she and her family entered America as undocumented immigrants.

And Still We Rise: The Trials and Triumphs of Twelve Gifted Inner-City Students--Miles Corwin
UG - BL: 7.7 - AR Pts: 24.0 RP

The author, Miles Corwin, spent a school year with twelve high school seniors, South-Central kids who qualified for a gifted program because of their exceptional IQs and test scores. This is their amazing odyssey.

Angela's Ashes--Frank McCourt **UG - BL: 5.9 - AR Pts: 23.0 RP, VP, LS**

The author chronicles his impoverished childhood in Limerick, Ireland in the 1930s and 1940s, describing his father's alcoholism and talent for storytelling; the challenges and tragedies his mother faced, including the loss of three children.

Assassination Vacation--Sarah Vowell **UG - BL: 8.6 - AR Pts: 13.0 RP**

The author takes us on a road trip like no other--a journey to the pit stops of American political murder and through the myriad ways they have been used for fun and profit and for political and cultural advantage.

Autobiography of a Face--Lucy Grealey **UG - BL: 7.4 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP**

Lucy Grealey describes what it is like to be a child and a young adult torn between wanting to be perfect and being loved for who we are.

Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction--David Sheff

UG - BL: 6.5 - AR Pts: 19.0 RP

Journalist David Sheff tells the story of his son Nic's happy early childhood, the transformation wrought by Nic's addiction to methamphetamine, and his own obsession with Nic's well-being.

Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos in the South Bronx--Sonia Manzano **UG - BL: 5.5 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP**

Emmy award-winning actress and writer Sonia Manzano plunges us into the daily lives of a Latino family that is loving and troubled in this memoir of growing up in the Bronx in the 1950s and 1960s.

Behind the Mask: The Life of Queen Elizabeth I **UG - BL: 9.4 - AR Pts: 10.0 RP**

This book tells about the life of Queen Elizabeth I, one the greatest rulers of England, from her cruel childhood to her death in 1603.

Between the World and Me--Ta-Nehisi Coates **UG - BL: 7.6 - AR Pts: 7.0 RP**

In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, the author offers a powerful new framework for understanding America's racial history and current crisis.

Brazen: Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World-- **UG - BL: 5.8 - AR Pts: 5.0 RP**

With stories sure to inspire the next generation of rebel ladies, this graphic novel profiles the lives of feisty female role models from Nellie Bly to Mae Jemison and Josephine Baker to Naziq al-Abid.

Cancer Made Me a Shallower Person--Miriam Engelberg **UG - BL: 4.1 - AR Pts: 2.0 RP**

A cartoonist examines her experience with breast cancer in an irreverent and humorous graphic memoir.

Chasing King's Killer--James L. Swanson **UG - BL: 7.6 - AR Pts: 7.0 RP, VP**

This book is an astonishing account of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., America's most beloved and celebrated civil-rights leader.

Chinese Cinderella--Adeline Yeh Mah **UG - BL: 5.7 - AR Pts: 8.0 RP**

The author paints an authentic portrait of twentieth-century China while telling the story of her painful childhood and her courage and ultimate triumph over despair.

Friday Night Lights: A Town, a Team, and a Dream--H.G. Bissinger

UG - BL: 8.0 - AR Pts: 19.0 RP, VP

This book explores the culture of high school football by focusing on the town of Odessa, Texas.

Hey, Kiddo--Jarret J. Krosoczka **UG - BL: 3.5 - AR Pts: 2.0 RP**

Jarrett goes through his childhood trying to make his non-normal life as normal as possible, expressing himself through drawing even as so little is being said to him about what's going on. The story contains profanity and sexual situations.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings--Maya Angelou **UG - BL: 6.7 - AR Pts: 13.0 RP, VP, LS**

This sensitive autobiography tells of a Black woman's childhood journey to retain her personal "human dignity."

In Cold Blood--Truman Capote **UG - BL: 7.1 - AR Pts: 21.0 RP**

This book recreates the slaying of the Clutter family of Kansas, and the capture, trial, and execution of their murderers.

It Happened to Nancy--Anonymous **UG - BL: 5.4 - AR Pts: 9.0 RP, VP**

A shocking diary of a young teenager who is date-raped, infected with the AIDS virus, and experiences a devastating illness. This book edited by Beatrice Sparks.

Just Mercy: (Adapted for Young Adults) A True Story of the Fight for Justice--Bryan A. Stevenson **UG - BL: 7.5 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP**

Bryan Stevenson delves deep into the broken U.S. justice system, detailing from his personal experience his many challenges and efforts as a lawyer and social advocate, especially on behalf of America's most rejected and marginalized people.

Killing Kennedy: The End of Camelot--Bill O'Reilly **UG - BL: 8.6 - AR Pts: 16.0 RP**

This book is an account of the assassination of John F. Kennedy, sharing how the event not only killed a beloved president but also sent the nation into the cataclysmic division with a culture-changing aftermath. The coauthor is Martin Dugard.

March (Book 2)--John Lewis **MG+ - BL: 5.5 - AR Pts: 2.0 RP**

John Lewis's story continues through Freedom Rides and the legendary 1963 March on Washington. The coauthor is Andrew Aydin.

Marley and Me: Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog--John Grogan

UG - BL: **6.9** - AR Pts: **15.0** **RP, VP**

The author presents the story of his family's love for their Labrador retriever, Marley, and recalls how he grew from a mischievous puppy into a nearly impossible adult that no amount of obedience school training could correct.

Mary's Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein--Lita Judge

MG+ - BL: **7.1** - AR Pts: **3.0** **RP**

Free verse and black-and-white watercolor illustrations present a unique biography of Mary Shelley, the pregnant teenage runaway who became one of the greatest authors of all time.

Pure Grit: How American World War II Nurses Survived Battle and Prison Camp in the Pacific--Mary Cronk Farrell

MG+ - BL: **7.0** - AR Pts: **7.0** **RP**

Photographs and first-person accounts share stories of nurses who enlisted for peacetime duty in the U.S. Army but ended up in grave danger as they fulfilled their duty and honored their vocation in WWII.

The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime That Changed Their Lives--Dashka Slater

MG+ - BL: **6.5** - AR Pts: **8.0** **RP**

This true account tells the story of two teens whose lives were irrevocably changed by one rash action. The story challenges the criminal justice system and explores the courage and compassion of both families. The plot contains mild profanity.

The Air Down Here: True Tales from a South Bronx Boyhood --Gil C. Alicea

MG+ - BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **4.0** **RP**

The author presents 115 short essays about life in New York's South Bronx. Not only do drugs, violence, gangs, police, and misrepresentations by the media fill the book, but so does his positive outlook on life. The coauthor is Carmine DeSena.

The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game--Michael Lewis

UG - BL: **7.2** - AR Pts: **19.0** **RP**

This book details the life of University of Mississippi football player Michael Oher, who was raised by a crack addicted mother and adopted at the age of 16 by a wealthy family. The book also explores the rising importance of the offensive left tackle.

The Burn Journals--Brent Runyon

UG - BL: **3.8** - AR Pts: **12.0** **RP**

Brent Runyon was 14 years old when he set himself on fire. This book describes that devastating suicide attempt, his recovery and return home, and the frightening prospect of entering high school.

The Diary of Ma Yan: The Struggles and Hopes of a Chinese School Girl--Ma Yan

MG+ - BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **5.0** **RP, VP**

Ma Yan's heart-wrenching, honest diary chronicles her struggle to escape hardship and bring prosperity to her family through her persistent, sometimes desperate, attempts to continue her schooling.

The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic--and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World--Steven Johnson **UG - BL: 11.2 AR Pts: 15.0 RP**

This book chronicles the outbreak and spread of cholera in London during the summer of 1854 and the efforts of Reverend Henry Whitehead and Dr. John Snow, who isolated the disease and put an end to the epidemic.

The Grand Escape: The Greatest Prison Breakout of the 20th Century--Neal Bascomb

UG - BL: 7.8 - AR Pts: 8.0 RP, VP

This book chronicles a group of Allied POWs in WWI who dared to escape from Germany's most notorious prison camp, Holzminden.

The Horrors of Andersonville: Life and Death Inside a Civil War Prison--Catherine Courley

UG - BL: 7.8 - AR Pts: 8.0 RP

This fact-based book documents Andersonville, a Civil War prison camp in Georgia, where thousands of Union prisoners died in the last fourteen months of the war.

This Star Won't Go Out: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl--Esther Grace Earl

MG+ - BL: 6.4 - AR Pts: 11.0 RP

This memoir is told through the journals, letters, and stories of young thyroid cancer patient Esther Earl. Photographs and essays by family and friends help to tell Esther's story. The coauthors are Lori and Wayne Earl.

The Year We Disappeared: A Father Daughter Memoir--Cylin Busby **UG - BL: 5.7 - AR Pts: 13.0 RP**

Cylin and John Busby share the challenges they faced after their family was forced into hiding to protect themselves from a killer who had already shot John, a police officer, and was determined to finish the job. The coauthor is John Busby.

Tuesdays with Morrie--Mitch Albom **UG - BL: 5.5 - AR Pts: 5.0 RP**

This book is a chronicle of the time the author spent with his mentor, his former college professor, in the last months of the older man's life. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class": lessons in how to live.

Uprooted--Naomi Novik **UG - BL: 6.6 - AR Pts: 26.0 RP**

This tale follows the experiences of Agnieszka, who becomes the latest girl chosen to serve an immortal wizard who protects their village from the malevolent forces of a nearby forest.

Warriors Don't Cry (Abridged)--Melba P. Beals **UG - BL: 6.5 - AR Pts: 9.0 RP**

Abridged version of the firsthand account of the battle to integrate Little Rock's Central High in 1957.

We Beat the Streets--Sampson Davis **UG - BL: 5.8 - AR Pts: 7.0 RP**

Three men from Newark share anecdotes from their childhoods, teen years, and young adult lives after they pledge in high school to stay safe from drugs, gangs, and crime, and work to become doctors.