

Incoming 9th Grade Reading List



& *RMS Parent-Teachers Association*



Shattered Mirror

Amelia Atwater-Rhodes

Sarah Vida is a witch and a vampire hunter -- and a loner. Christopher Ravena is a vampire trying to pass as a normal high school student who wants to know Sarah better. Drawn to him despite her better judgment, Sarah's forced to admit that there's room for gray in her otherwise black-and-white world of good versus evil -- until she meets Nikolas, Christopher's twin and one of the most hunted vampires in history.

Mass Market Paperback, 240 pages

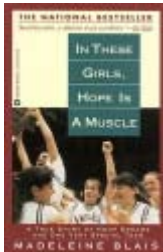


Fever 1793

Laurie Halse Anderson

In 1793 the Cook Coffeeshouse outside of Philadelphia is a haven for those fleeing from the fever sweeping across the mosquito-infested city. Fourteen-year-old Mattie Cook loses her childhood playmate to the fever and struggles to keep her family and its business alive.

Paperback, 272 pages



In These Girls, Hope Is a Muscle

Madeleine Blais

Following one championship season in the lives of the Lady Hurricanes, a high school basketball team from Amherst, Massachusetts, this involving personal account offers a riveting portrait of contemporary female adolescence and the development of girls' self-esteem. "Better than a pep talk".--New Woman.

Paperback, 272 pages



Ender's Game

Orson Scott Card

In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers. A brilliant young boy, Andrew "Ender" Wiggin lives with his kind but distant parents, his sadistic brother Peter, and the person he loves more than anyone else, his sister Valentine. Peter and Valentine were candidates for the soldier-training program but didn't make the cut -- young Ender is the Wiggin drafted to the orbiting Battle School for rigorous military training.

Mass Market Paperback, 384 pages

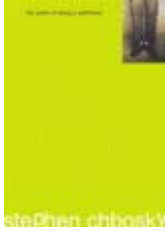


Bad Boy: A Memoir

Walter Dean Myers

From bad boy to role model, Myers recalls growing up in Harlem in the 1940s and 1950s.

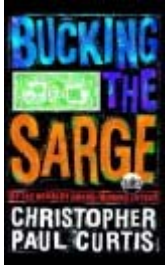
Paperback, 224 pages



The Perks of Being a Wallflower

Stephen Chbosky

Stephen Chbosky grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and graduated from the University of Southern California's Filmic Writing Program. His first film, *The Four Corners of Nowhere*, premiered at the 1995 Sundance Film Festival and went on to win Best Narrative Feature honors at the Chicago Underground Film Festival. He is the recipient of the Abraham Polonsky Screenwriting Award for his screenplay *Everything Divided* as well as a participant in the Sundance Institute's filmmakers' lab for his current project, *Fingernails and Smooth Skin*. Chbosky lives in New York. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* is his first novel. *Paperback, 213 pages*



Bucking the Sarge

Christopher Paul Curtis

Luther T. Farrell has got to get out of Flint, Michigan. As his best friend Sparky says, "Flint's nothing but the Titanic." And his mother, a.k.a. the Sarge, says, "Take my advice and stay off the sucker path." The Sarge milked the system to build an empire of slum housing and group homes. Luther's just one of the many people trapped in the Sarge's Evil Empire--but he's about to bust out.

If Luther wins the science fair this year, he'll be on track for college and a future as America's best-known and best-loved philosopher. All he's got to do is beat his arch rival Shayla Patrick, the beautiful daughter of Flint's finest undertaker--and the love of Luther's life. Sparky's escape plans involve a pit bull named Poofy and the world's scariest rat. Oh, and Luther. Add to the mix Chester X., Luther's mysterious roommate; Dontay Gaddy, a lawyer whose phone number is 1-800-SUE'M ALL; and Darnell Dixon, the Sarge's go-to guy who knows how to break all the rules.

Mass Market Paperback, 288 pages



The Sea of Trolls

Nancy Farmer

Now in paperback--a new adventure by the three-time Newbery Honor-winning author and National Book Award finalist. Set in A.D. 793 in the land of the Vikings, this novel is the story of two children swept up on a quest on which they encounter a dragon, a giant spider, and trolls.

Paperback, 480 pages



Nothing To Lose

Alex Flinn

The acclaimed author of "Breathing Underwater" takes a fresh, unflinching look at domestic violence in this story of a young man whose mother has killed his brutal stepfather, and only the truth will save her.

Paperback, 288 pages



Incantation

Alice Hoffman

Estrella is a Marrano: During the time of the Spanish Inquisition, she is one of a community of Spanish Jews living double lives as Catholics. And she is living in a house of secrets, raised by a family who practices underground the ancient and mysterious way of wisdom known as kabbalah. When Estrella discovers her family's true identity--and her family's secrets are made public--she confronts a world she's never imagined, where new love burns and where friendship ends in flame and ash, where trust is all but vanquished and betrayal has tragic and bitter consequences.

Paperback, 166 pages



Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho

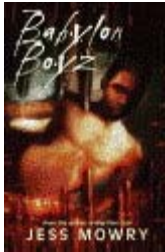
Jon Katz

Jesse and Eric were geeks: suspicious of authority figures, proud of their status as outsiders, fervent in their belief in the positive power of technology. High school had been an unbearable experience and their small-town Idaho families had been torn apart by hard times. On the fringe of society, they had almost no social lives and little to look forward to. They spent every spare cent on their computers and every spare moment on-line. Nobody ever spoke of them, much less for them.

But then they met Jon Katz, a roving journalist who suggested that, in the age of geek impresario Bill Gates, Jesse and Eric had marketable skills that could get them out of Idaho and pave the way to a better life. So they bravely set out to conquer Chicago--geek style.

Told with Katz's trademark charm and sparkle, *Geeks* is a humorous, moving tale of triumph over adversity and self-acceptance that delivers two irresistible heroes for the digital age and reveals the very human face of technology.

Paperback, 256 pages



Babylon Boyz

Jess Mowry

For 14-year-old Dante and his posse, life in Babylon isn't about making choices but about dodging blows. Dante needs a heart operation, Pook can't afford college, let alone medical school, and Wyatt's going to need more than his sense of humor to squeeze through life. So when the boys find a suitcase full of cocaine, they face an excruciating decision. Selling the coke means escape. But it also means adding to the crack epidemic that has already destroyed their community.

Paperback, 192 pages

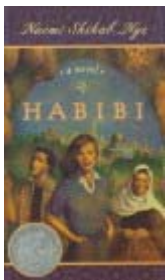


Fallen Angels

Walter Dean Myers

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the publication of "Fallen Angels," a gripping account of soldiers struggling to survive the Vietnam War, it and other classic novels by Myers are now reissued in new paperback editions that include bonus features.

Paperback, 336 pages

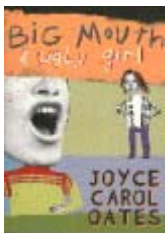


Habibi

Naomi Shihab Nye

An award-winning first novel about the ties of family, friendship, and love. "What is it like to be young in Palestine today?"

Mass Market Paperback, 272 pages

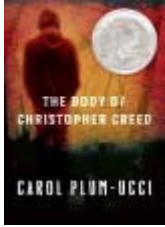


Big Mouth & Ugly Girl

Joyce Carol Oates

In her first novel for young adults, acclaimed author Oates creates a provocative and unflinching story of friendship and family, loyalty and betrayal that hits close to home.

Paperback, 288 pages



The Body of Christopher Creed

Carol Plum-Ucci

The often-tortured class weirdo has disappeared, leaving an enigmatic note on the school library computer. Is he a runaway, a suicide, or a murder victim?

Paperback, 276 pages

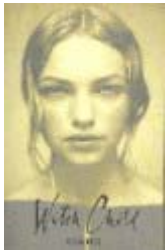


Imani All Mine

Connie Rose Porter

In this beautifully realized novel from the acclaimed author of "All-Bright Court," the unwed mother of a baby girl narrates, in her lyrical, street-smart voice, her progress on her journey to adulthood in an increasingly violent world.

Paperback, 224 pages

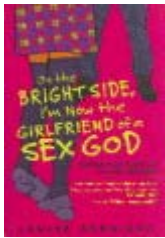


Witch Child

Celia Rees

When her beloved grandmother is hanged in the public square as a witch, Mary narrowly escapes a similar fate, only to find intolerance and new danger among the Puritans in the New World.

Paperback, 272 pages



On the Bright Side, I'm Now the Girlfriend of a Sex God: Further Confessions of Georgia Nicolson

Louise Rennison

Disaster strikes again in this fab sequel to 2001 Printz Award Honor Book "Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging." "A hilarious sequel. Georgia's laugh-a-minute narration picks right up where "Angus" left off."--"

Paperback, 272 pages

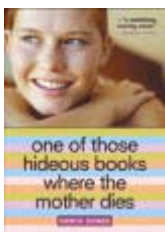


The Trap

John Smelcer

A gripping wilderness adventure survival story with an intergenerational theme.

Paperback, 172 pages



One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies

Sonya Sones

After her mother's death, Ruby moves to Los Angeles to live with her father, actor Whip Logan, whom she's never met. Ruby hates her new glamorous life, but a tragic incident helps Ruby and Whip be honest with each other. Written in free verse poems.

Paperback, 272 pages



Like Sisters on the Homefront

Rita Williams-Garcia

When Gayle gets into trouble with her boyfriend, her mother sends the street-smart 14-year-old--and her baby, Jose--down to Georgia to live with relatives. There's nothing to do and nowhere to go. Then Gayle meets Great, the family matriarch--and her stories of the past begin to change how Gayle sees her future. A 1996 Coretta Scott King Honor Book.

Paperback, 176 pages



Emako Blue

Brenda Woods

With the same depth of characterization that marked her Coretta Scott King Honor Book "The Red Rose Box," Woods presents the gritty story of a girl from South Central L.A. who is destined to be a star until everything changes in one horrific instant.

Paperback, 128 pages



Razzle

Ellen Wittlinger

Printz Honor Winner Wittlinger captures all the emotions of one pivotal Cape Cod summer in the lives of two outsiders.

Paperback, 256 pages



Make Lemonade

Virginia Euwer Wolff

When she answers a babysitting ad, 14-year-old LaVaughn meets Jolly, a 17-year-old single mother with two kids by different fathers. As she helps Jolly make lemonade out of the lemons her life has given her, LaVaughn learns some lessons about making choices in this multiple award-winning and groundbreaking novel.

Paperback, 208 pages