

# Best Selling Books & Recommended Reads

September, 2020



Dear Students,

It can be difficult to figure out what to read next when you can't go to a Library or bookstore to browse through the books. So, I have put together a list of titles that I think many of you will enjoy.

Don't see something you like on this list? No worries. You can email me at [LFurey@gomperscharter.org](mailto:LFurey@gomperscharter.org) any time. I am always happy to help you find a book you will love.

Ms Furey

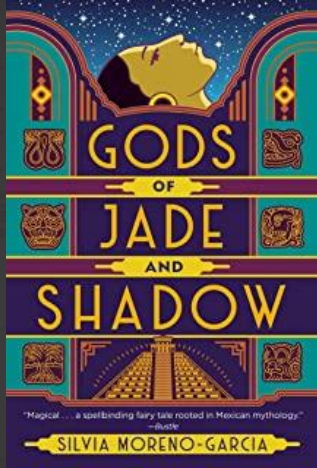


# What You'll Find on Each Page

High School



Audience this book was written for.



**AUTHOR:** Who wrote the book

**TITLE:** What the book is called

**GENRE:** A genre is a book or story category defined by style, content, and form. Examples: Mystery, Fantasy, Historical Fiction...

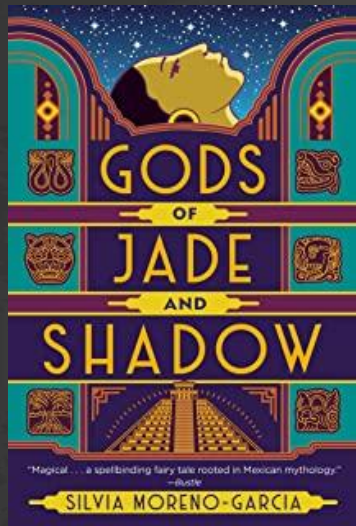
**SYNOPSIS:** A short description of what the book is about.



Cover Art



High  
School



**AUTHOR:** Silvia Moreno-Garcia

**TITLE:** Gods of Jade and Shadow

**GENRE:** Fantasy/Historical Fiction/Hispanic Fiction

**SYNOPSIS:** Set in Mexico City during the 1920's Jazz Age. After accidentally freeing a Mayan death god from his prison, Casiopea's life is turned upside down. Her new companion insists that she help him reclaim his throne from his treacherous brother. The journey will take the pair from the city to the jungle to the Mayan Underworld. This is a complex and engaging tale with just a bit of romance.

Middle  
School



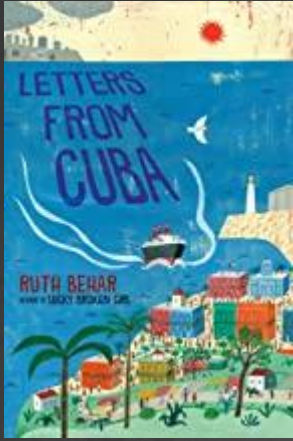
**AUTHOR:** Jewel Parker Rhodes

**TITLE:** Black Brother, Black Brother

**GENRE:** Contemporary Fiction/Social Justice

**SYNOPSIS:** Donte and Trey are twins but they don't look much alike. The brothers are mixed race but while Trey has light skin Donte's skin is dark. For Donte, life has been hellish since the family moved to a smaller town. Bullied at school, now he's been framed and arrested for something he didn't do. But just maybe, with the help of his Fencing coach from the youth center, Donte can find a way to triumph over his accuser.

All  
Ages



**AUTHOR:** Ruth Behar

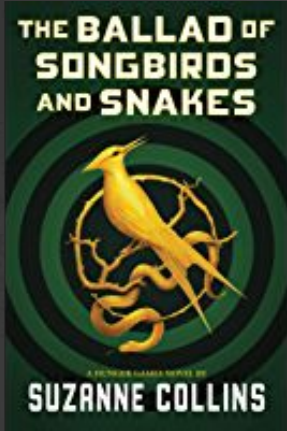
**TITLE:** Letters from Cuba

**GENRE:** Historical Fiction/World War II

**SYNOPSIS:** The Nazi Party is on the rise and Poland is no longer safe for Jews. Esther's father has gone to the Caribbean island of Cuba and Esther is finally on her way to join him. She's had to leave her much-loved sister behind in Poland and doesn't know what this new country will be like. Will she ever see her sister again?



High  
School



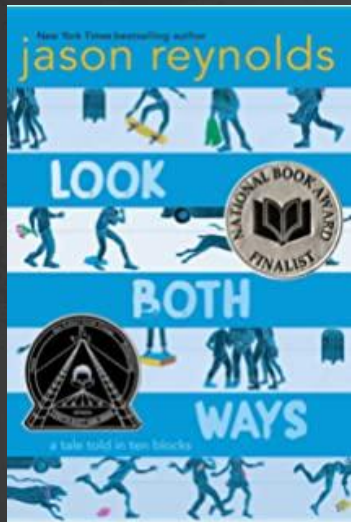
**AUTHOR:** Suzanne Collins

**TITLE:** The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes

**GENRE:** Dystopian Fiction

**SYNOPSIS:** This is the most recent book in the *Hunger Games* series. Coriolanus Snow has been assigned the task of mentoring District 12 girl, Lucy Gray Baird. Lucy is a longshot at best, who will most likely die in the opening minutes of the games. But there might just be a slim chance that together mentor and competitor can manage to survive the Tenth Annual Hunger Games.

Middle  
School



**AUTHOR:** Jason Reynolds

**TITLE:** *Look Both Ways*

**GENRE:** Short Story Collection/Contemporary Fiction

**SYNOPSIS:** An award winning collection of 10 short stories. Each tale in *Look Both Ways* follows a different student or group on their way home from school. A lot can happen in just 10 blocks.





High  
School

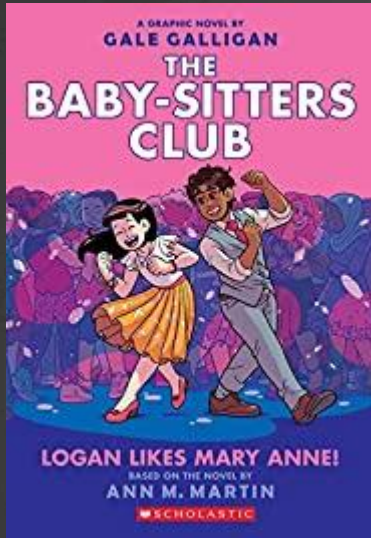


**AUTHOR:** Alan Gratz

**TITLE:** Allies

**GENRE:** Historical Fiction/World War II

**SYNOPSIS:** It is June 6, 1944 and a gigantic top-secret military operation is about to take place. Today is D-Day. Join soldier Dee and a multinational cast of characters as the Allies storm the beaches of Normandy, on the north coast of France. The fight to win back Europe from the Nazis is just beginning.



**AUTHOR:**

**TITLE:** The Baby-Sitters Club: Logan Likes Mary Anne!

**GENRE:** Graphic Novel

**SYNOPSIS:** Mary Anne is starting 8th grade and life just keeps getting more complicated. She thinks new friend, Logan Bruno, would make a great member of the Baby-Sitters Club. The other club members aren't so sure, so they arrange a test. The pair have to complete a babysitting job together. Have Mary Anne and Logan got this, or will their interest in each other get in the way of doing a good job?

High  
School



**AUTHOR:** Ibi Zoboi & Yusef Salaam

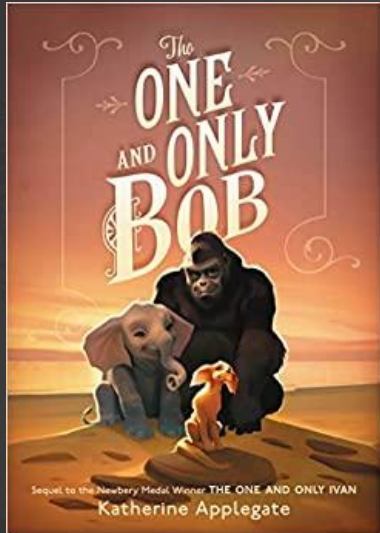
**TITLE:** *Punching the Air*

**GENRE:** Social Justice/Novel in Verse

**SYNOPSIS:** By Award winning author Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam, who was himself wrongly convicted of a crime. 16 year old Amal has been sent to prison for a crime he didn't commit. Wrestling with feelings of powerlessness and rage, can Amal find a way to survive this ordeal?



Middle  
School



**AUTHOR:** Katherine Applegate

**TITLE:** *The One and Only Bob*

**GENRE:** Animals Fiction

**SYNOPSIS:** Sequel to *The One and Only Ivan*. Bob sets out on a journey to find his long-lost sister with his best friends Ivan and Ruby. With a huge hurricane brewing, can the three friends reach safety in time?



All  
Ages



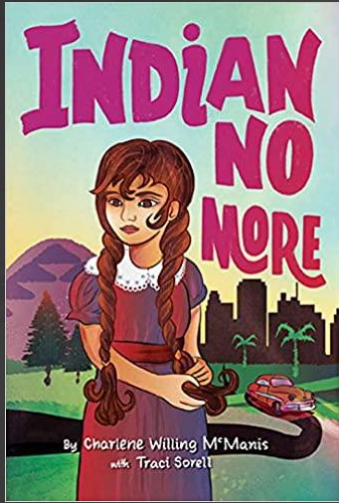
**AUTHOR:** Kamome Shirahama

**TITLE:** *Witch Hat Atelier* (series)

**GENRE:** Manga/Fantasy

**SYNOPSIS:** Coco dreams of becoming a witch, but she was not born with a magical gift. Then she sees Qifrey, a traveling magician, perform an odd type of magic she has never seen before. Could it be possible that Coco's dreams aren't so impossible after all?

Middle  
School



**AUTHOR:** Charlene Willing McManis

**TITLE:** Indian No More

**GENRE:** Historical Fiction/Native American Fiction

**SYNOPSIS:** It is 1957 and the US government has just signed a bill declaring that the Umpqua Indian tribe no longer exists. Regina Petit's family are Umpqua and she has spent her entire life on a reservation in Oregon. Her family moves to Los Angeles to find work. For Regina, this is a time of culture shock. She has never met people of other races. Nor has she ever been the only Indian before. This will take some getting used to.

All  
Ages



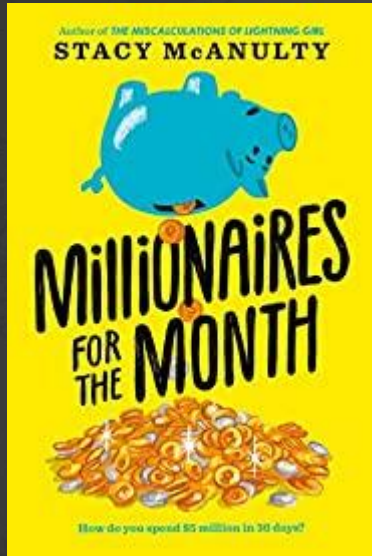
**AUTHOR:** Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

**TITLE:** Fighting Words

**GENRE:** Contemporary Fiction/Sexual Abuse

**SYNOPSIS:** Narrated by ten-year-old Della, Fighting Words tells the story of sisters who have escaped from their incarcerated mother's abusive boyfriend. The girls are now in foster care. Until now, Suki has always been the one to take care of Della. With Suki struggling to come to terms with what happened, it's time for the younger sister to take care of the older.

Middle  
School



**AUTHOR:** Stacy McAnulty

**TITLE:** Millionaires for the Month

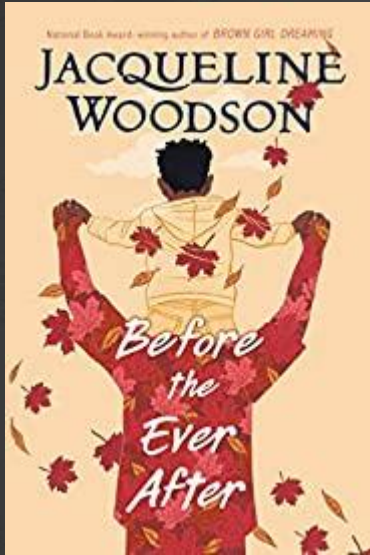
**GENRE:** Contemporary Fiction/Humor

**SYNOPSIS:** Felix and Benji are on a field trip when they find tech billionaire Laura Friendly's wallet. Before returning it, the boys "borrow" twenty dollars, because a billionaire isn't going to miss such a tiny amount, right? Friendly decides to teach the boys about the value of money in a very unique way. She challenges them to spend over five million dollars in just a month. If they can do it she'll give them ten million each to keep. This should be easy money. Right?





Middle  
School



**AUTHOR:** Jacqueline Woodson

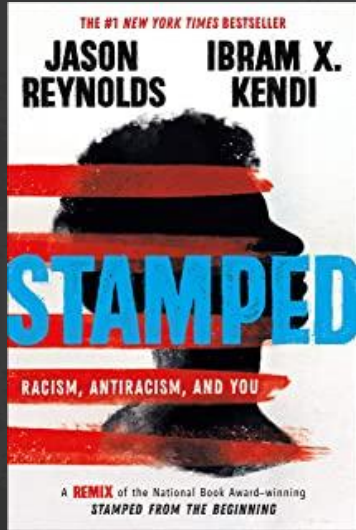
**TITLE:** *Before the Ever After*

**GENRE:** Contemporary Fiction/Sports Injuries

**SYNOPSIS:** ZJ's dad is a well-loved pro football star and an amazing dad. Lately, though, his dad has been angry a lot and seems to be forgetting things. ZJ's mother tell him this is due to the many head injuries his father had while playing football. Dad isn't going to get better. How can ZJ's family possibly adjust to their new "normal?"



All  
Ages



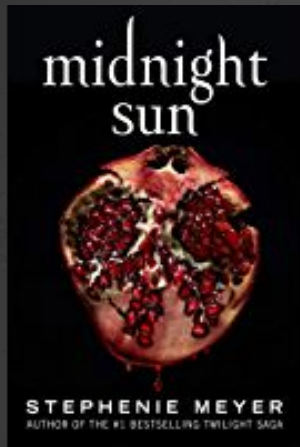
**AUTHOR:** Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi

**TITLE:** *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You*

**GENRE:** Nonfiction/Social Justice

**SYNOPSIS:** This book examines the idea of race and how it has come to effect our lives in the present day. The authors talk about the many insidious forms racism takes and give readers advice on how to identify and stamp out racism in their own lives.

High  
School



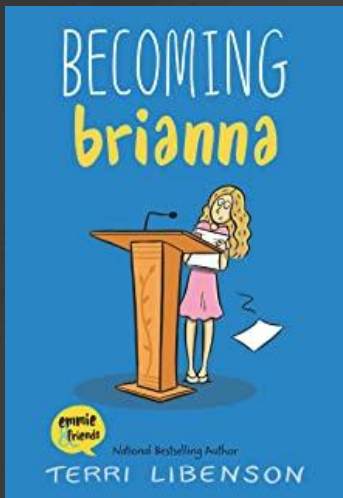
**AUTHOR:** Stephanie Meyer

**TITLE:** *Midnight Sun*

**GENRE:** Horror

**SYNOPSIS:** The long-awaited next book in the *Twilight* series. Told from the perspective of Edward Cullen, this companion novel explores the vampire's thoughts and feelings as he falls in love with mortal Bella Swan. Best enjoyed if you are already familiar with the *Twilight* universe.

Middle  
School



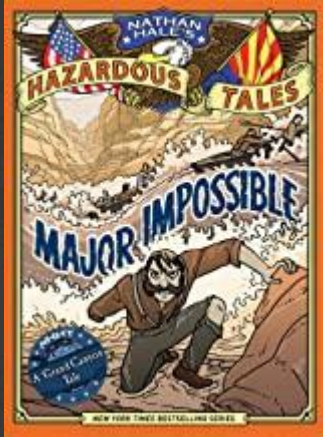
**AUTHOR:** Terri Libenson

**TITLE:** *Becoming Brianna*

**GENRE:** Graphic Novel

**SYNOPSIS:** Brianna is preparing for her *bat mitzvah*, the coming of age ceremony celebrated by members of the Jewish faith. There is a lot to do, including planning a big party. However, learning to give a speech in Hebrew for the ceremony is not easy. With school and family drama swirling all around her, will Brianna be ready in time?

All  
Ages



**AUTHOR:** Nathan Hale

**TITLE:** Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: Major Impossible

**GENRE:** Graphic Novel/Biography

**SYNOPSIS:** The latest entry in this graphic novel series relates the tale of the first explorers of European descent to travel the Grand Canyon from end to end. The Colorado River Exploring Expedition was led by John Wesley Powell, who had lost an arm fighting in the Civil War. A hair-raising tale of wilderness exploration!



**AUTHOR:** Lauren Tarshis

**TITLE:** I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018

**GENRE:** Recent History Fiction

**SYNOPSIS:** 2018 was one of the deadliest and most destructive fire seasons in history. City boy Josh and his mother have recently moved to Northern California, where his cousins live. He is just getting to know them when a trip to the nearby forest goes badly wrong. A mammoth forest fire is fast approaching. Can Josh and his family get to safety in time?

High  
School



**AUTHOR:** Makoto Shinkai

**TITLE:** *Weathering With You* (series)

**GENRE:** Manga/Fantasy

**SYNOPSIS:** Another runaway best-seller from the author of *Your Name*. Runaway teen Hodaka meets a girl with amazing powers. Hina can control the weather with a single prayer. But this amazing gift may just come with a terrible price.



# Happy Reading!



Gompers Preparatory Academy  
1005 47th Street  
San Diego, CA 92102  
Tel. 619-263-2171  
FAX: 619-264-4342





