

SUMMER READING

Rising Freshman/Sophomore Selections

And Then There Were None - Christie - fiction, mystery

First, there were ten—a curious assortment of strangers summoned to a private island off the coast of Devon. Their host, an eccentric millionaire unknown to any of them, is nowhere to be found. The ten guests have precious little in common except that each has a deadly secret buried deep in their own past. And, unknown to them, each has been marked for murder. Alone on the island and trapped by foul weather, one by one, the guests begin to fall prey to the hidden murderer among them. With themselves as the only suspects, only the dead are above suspicion.

Asgardians: Thor - O'Connor - graphic novel, fantasy fiction

Welcome to the Nine Worlds, home of Gods, Valkyries, Dwarves, and more! Follow the journey of the mighty Thor as he sets off into the blackest sea in search of the Midgard serpent, Jormungandr; thunders across fjords and hills in his chariot to the land of the Jotnar; and is united with his trusty hammer, Mjollnir, for the very first time. But will Thor's tales of brawling and bravado earn him his crossing from the mysterious ferryman?

Charming as a Verb - Philippe - fiction, coming of age

Henri "Halti" Haltiwanger can charm just about anyone. He is a star debater and popular student at the prestigious FATE academy, the dutiful first-generation Haitian son, and the trusted dog walker for his wealthy New York City neighbors. But his easy smiles mask a burning ambition to attend his dream college, Columbia University.

David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants - Gladwell - nonfiction, psychology, sociology

In *David and Goliath*, Malcolm Gladwell challenges how we think about obstacles and disadvantages, offering a new interpretation of what it means to be discriminated against, or cope with a disability, or lose a parent, or attend a mediocre school, or suffer from any number of other apparent setbacks.

Death by Black Hole: And Other Cosmic Quandaries - Tyson - nonfiction, science

Loyal readers of the monthly "Universe" essays in *Natural History* magazine have long recognized Neil deGrasse Tyson's talent for guiding them through the mysteries of the cosmos with clarity and enthusiasm. Bringing together more than forty of Tyson's favorite essays, *Death by Black Hole* explores a myriad of cosmic topics, from what it would be like to be inside a black hole to the movie industry's feeble efforts to get its night skies right.

Ghost - Reynolds, realistic fiction, sports

Ghost. Lu. Patina. Sunny. Four kids from wildly different backgrounds with personalities that are explosive when they clash. But they are also four kids chosen for an elite middle school track team—a team that could qualify them for the Junior Olympics if they can get their acts together. They all have a lot to lose, but they also have a lot to prove, not only to each other, but to themselves.

Golden Arm - Deuker - fiction, sports

Lazarus “Laz” Weathers has always been shy, and his stuttering issue when he speaks hasn’t helped. Stuck in a Seattle trailer park, Laz finds baseball helps him escape from the world of poverty and drugs. When he gets an opportunity to pitch for the rich kids across town, he has a chance to get drafted by the major leagues.

It’s Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood (Adapted for Young Readers) - Noah - nonfiction, memoir

The host of *The Daily Show*, Trevor Noah, shares his personal story and the injustices he faced while growing up half black, half white in South Africa under and after apartheid in this *New York Times* bestselling young readers' adaptation of his adult memoir.

Killers of the Flower Moon: Adapted for Young Readers - Grann - nonfiction, history

In this edited edition of the adult bestseller, critically acclaimed author David Grann revisits the gripping investigation into the shocking crimes against the Osage people. It is a searing indictment of the callousness and prejudice toward Native Americans that allowed the murderers to continue for so long and provides essential information for young readers about a shameful period in U.S. history.

Powerful Mathematicians Who Changed the World: What We Do When Fairness Fails Us -

Zavala, Frank and de Araujo - fiction, math

How can we use math to understand—and solve—challenges in our world? In *What We Do When Fairness Fails Us*, Moises, Marissa, and Astrud realize that a specialized high school uses a lottery for admission that prevents many qualified students from attending. As they research how lotteries work, they come across videos by Federico Ardila, a mathematician who explains concepts like randomness and probability and how they apply to our everyday lives. Join Moises, Marissa, and Astrud as they learn from Federico how they can use math—and their voices—to change unfair systems and help people get the opportunities they deserve.

To Kill a Mockingbird - Lee- classic fiction, historical fiction

A gripping, heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father—a crusading local lawyer—risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.

The Ultimate Gift - Stovall, realistic Christian fiction

Jason Stephens lives a life of wealth. A life of privilege. A life that's about to take a radical turn. Jason always had a straightforward relationship with his billionaire grandfather, Howard "Red" Stevens. He shunned him but welcomed his money. So he figured that when Red died, his part of the inheritance would be a simple cash transaction that would fund his extravagant lifestyle. Instead, for Jason to receive his inheritance, he's given an ultimatum...a series of twelve tests or "gifts" as Red calls them. If he fails at any one of them, he loses everything. If he completes them all, the ultimate gift will be his.