

Incoming 7th Grade Reading List



& *RMS Parent-Teachers Association*



Just Ella

by Margaret Peterson Haddix

This retelling of a beloved fairy tale finds 15-year-old Ella discovering that accepting the Prince's proposal ensnares her in a suffocating tangle of palace rules and royal etiquette.

Paperback, 218 pages

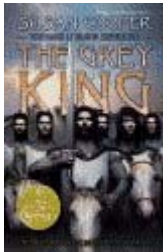


Ruby Electric

by Theresa Nelson

Twelve-and-a-half-year-old Ruby Miller loves the magic time when the lights go dim and she's sitting in the dark with her popcorn waiting for the movie to start. For Ruby, movies are better than real life. And the ones she writes--why those are the best of all.

Paperback, 272 pages



The Grey King

by Susan Cooper

In Wales, recovering from a severe illness, Will meets Bran, a strange boy with a white dog, who invokes an old Welsh legend that foreshadows Will's role in the last battle between the Dark and the Light.

Paperback, 176 pages



The Misfits

by James Howe

Two seventh-graders who have always been misfits decide to do something about it with the approach of the student council elections. When they team up to form a new political party, their platform bans name calling--and the impact on the school and their own lives is a surprise to all.

Mass Market Paperback, 288 pages



The White Giraffe

by Lauren St. John

A first-time children's author takes readers deep into the Africa, where myth becomes reality and a young girl with a healing gift has the power to save her home and her one true friend. Illustrations.

Paperback, 208 pages



Crispin

by Avi

Winner of the 2003 Newbery Medal. In medieval England, 13-year-old Crispin has no home, family, or possessions. Accused of a crime he didn't commit, he takes his mother's cross of lead and begins an amazing and terrifying journey across the English countryside.

Paperback, 320 pages

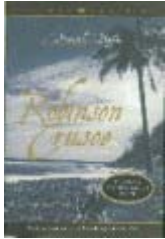


Alabama Moon

By Watt Key

For as long as 10-year-old Moon can remember, he has lived out in the forest in a shelter with his father. When his father dies, Moon follows his dad's last instructions: to travel to Alaska and find others like himself. An ALA Best Book for Young Adults.

Paperback, 304 pages



Robinson Crusoe

by Daniel Defoe

This classic story of one man's escape to a tropical island after a terrible storm at sea is the prototype for many popular survival and adventure stories of today. Includes a reader's group guide.

Paperback, 304 pages



The London Eye Mystery

by Siobhan Dowd

Ted and Kat watch their cousin Salim board the London Eye. But after half an hour it lands and everyone steps off--except Salim. Where did he go? Since the police are having no luck, Ted and Kat become sleuthing partners, in this acclaimed mystery.

Paperback, 336 pages



A Mango Shaped Space

by Wendy Mass

Mia Winchell seems to be a typical teenager, but she's keeping a huge secret from everyone who knows her: sounds, numbers, and words appear in color for her. Mia has synesthesia, the mingling of perceptions whereby a person can see sounds, smell colors, or taste shapes. When trouble in school forces Mia to reveal her condition, her friends and family can't relate to her, and she must look to herself to develop an understanding and appreciation for her gift. Spiced with wit and humor, *A Mango-Shaped Space* is a poignant coming-of-age novel that will intrigue readers long after they've turned the last page. Praised by reviewers and award-winning authors alike, *A Mango-Shaped Space* has brought renewed attention to the fascinating world of synesthesia, which includes famous artists such as Vincent Van Gogh and Serge Rachmaninoff.

Paperback, 221 pages

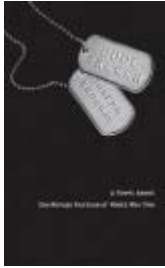


Cirque du Freak

by Darren Shan

Soon to be a major motion picture based on the three books in the Cirque Du Freak series, these books feature new cover images. Darren Shan is an ordinary schoolboy who enjoys hanging out with his three best friends. Then one day they stumble across an invitation to visit the Cirque Du Freak, a mysterious freak show. As if by destiny, Darren wins a ticket, and what follows is his horrifying descent into the dark and bloody world of vampires.

Paperback, 272 pages



Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two

by Joseph Bruchac

Viewed through the eyes of a 16-year-old Navajo youth, "Code Talker" is a fascinating slice of World War II history by a much-respected and acclaimed author.

Paperback, 231 pages



The Green Glass Sea

by Ellen Klages

In this award-winning debut novel, 11-year-old Dewey Kerrigan is traveling west on a train to live with her scientist father, but no one will tell her exactly where he is. It is 1943 and her destination is New Mexico, where scientists are working on the Manhattan Project.

Paperback, 352 pages



Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit

by Nahoko Uehashi

The action-packed novel that inspired the animated series on Cartoon Network, this extraordinary fantasy merges the deep well of Eastern myth with the Western fantasy tradition, for a novel that's rich in place and character.

Paperback



Destination Unexpected

by Donald Gallo

Whether they're leaving the country or just walking around the block, the characters in these stories experience things along the way that change the way they look at the world, and at themselves. As distinct as they are compelling, these ten tales of intriguing teenage journeys are spun by ten outstanding authors.

Paperback, 240 pages



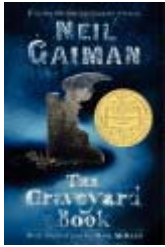
Inkheart

by Cornelia Funke

One cruel night, Meggie's father reads aloud from a book called "Inkheart," and an evil ruler escapes the boundaries of fiction and lands in their living room.

Suddenly, Meggie is smack in the middle of the kind of adventure she has only read about in books.

Paperback, 560 pages

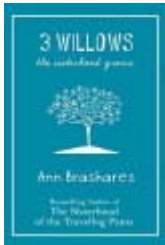


The Graveyard Book

by Neil Gaiman

In his first full-length novel for middle-graders since the international bestseller "Coraline," Neil Gaiman introduces Bod, a boy who is the only living resident of a graveyard. Can a boy raised by ghosts face the wonders and terrors of the worlds of both the living and the dead?

Hardcover, 320 pages

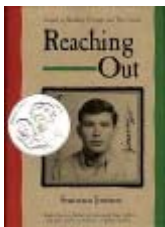


3 Willows: The Sisterhood Grows

Ann Brashares

The author of the bestselling Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants series introduces the girls in a new sisterhood in this new series. Summer is a time to grow, and Polly, Joe, and Ama each sprout into young adulthood over the course of one summer.

Hardcover, 336 pages



Reaching Out

by Francisco Jiménez

From the perspective of the young adult he was then, Jimnez describes the challenges he faced in his efforts to continue his education, in this absorbing, tender, and honest sequel to his award-winning "Breaking Through."

Hardcover, 176 pages

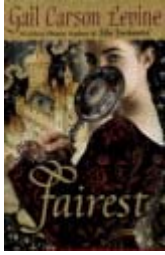


Yellow Star

by Jennifer Roy

This wonderfully written first novel is based on the experiences of Sylvia Perlmutter, one of only twelve children who survived the Lodz ghetto in Poland during World War II. Roy interviewed Perlmutter, who is actually her aunt, in 2003. Short "poems" and simple language appropriate for Sylvia's age make the book a quick but poignant read. Sylvia was four years old when her family reported to Lodz along with more than 270,000 others. In 1942, the Nazis began deporting children from Lodz to the Chelmno extermination camp. Parents were told that their children were being taken to safety, but Sylvia's father suspected that the children would be killed and sought ways to hide her. The most inconspicuous hiding place was a graveyard where Sylvia and her father lay in a shallow grave. When the final train departed Lodz headed for Auschwitz-Birkenau, only 1,200 Jews were left behind to clean the ghetto. Among them were twelve children whom they smuggled into a cellar. The survivors huddled together...

Hardcover, 300 pages

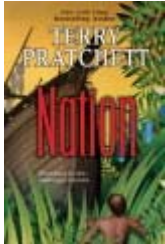


Fairest

by Gail Carson Levine

From critically acclaimed author Levine comes "Fairest," a spellbinding retelling of "Snow White" set in the same magical world as Newbery Honor Book "Ella Enchanted..

Hardcover, 326 pages



Nation

by Terry Pratchett

The author of the phenomenally successful *Discworld* series delivers the mesmerizing story of a boy whose journey to manhood requires the strength to defy expectations and the courage to forge new beliefs.

Hardcover, 384 pages



The True Adventures of Charley Darwin

by Carolyn Meyer

Just in time for Charles Darwin's 200th birthday and the 150th anniversary of the publication of "On the Origin of Species," Meyer tells the story of his restless childhood, unrequited teenage love, and a passion for studying nature that was so great, Darwin would sacrifice everything to pursue it.

Hardcover, 336 pages



Palace of Mirrors

by Margaret Paterson Haddix

"Somewhere in the world I have a tiara in a little box. It is not safe for me to wear it...It is not safe for me even to tell anyone who I really am. But I know -- I have always known." Cecilia knows that she is not just another peasant girl; she is actually the true princess, in hiding until the evil forces that killed her parents are vanquished. A commoner named Desmia is on the throne as a decoy. As she gets older, Cecilia finds it harder to study statesmanship and palace protocol secretly at night and then pretend that she has nothing on her mind other than scrubbing the gruel stains out of her best apron by day. Cecilia knows that it is time to take charge. Along with her best friend, Harper, she flees to the capital city, determined to reclaim her throne and face the danger head on. When Harper and Cecilia reach the famed Palace of Mirrors, they discover complications: Princess Desmia believes an entirely different version of the story.

Hardcover, 304 pages



The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures

by Brian Selznick

Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.

Paperback, 533 pages



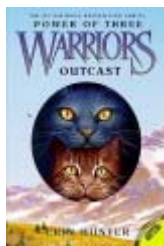
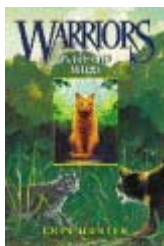
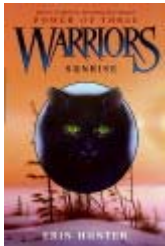
The Traitor's Gate

by Avi

John Huffam is sure the tall man's beard is false. He's sure of little else in November 1849, the year he is fourteen, the year his father is sentenced to London's Whitecross Street Prison. Maybe the man following John -- who claims to be one Inspector Copperfield -- can explain why. Surely, Pa isn't prepared to reveal the truth, any more than the jovial bailiff, Mr. Tuckum, who knows something, but remains mum. Or the little Frenchman, Mr. Farquatt, who courts John's sister but seems most keen on Pa's work at the Naval Ordnance Office. Or Mr. O'Doul, the Irishman who insists Pa owes him the unimaginable sum of three hundred pounds. Or what of the one-legged, single-mindedly fierce Sergeant Muldspeen, John's teacher? What about the boy's great-great-aunt, Lady Euphemia Huffam, who could pay the debt but won't for reasons of her own? What about the secretive Mr. Snugsbe of All Hallows Church, who hides himself away in the City's most voluminous coat? Then there's Chief Inspector Ratche...

Hardcover, 353 pages

SERIES



The Warrior Series

by Erin Hunter