

Pritzker Traubert Family High School Library
Summer 2022 Reading List

FICTION



Ahmed, Samira. Hollow Fires, 2022.

After discovering the body of fourteen-year-old Jawad Ali in Jackson Park, seventeen-year-old journalism student Safiya Mirza begins investigating his murder and ends up confronting white supremacy in her own high school.



Alsaid, Adi. Come on in: 15 Stories about Immigration and Finding Home, 2020.

This collection of short stories, written by YA authors, presents the myriad facets of the immigrant experience. Their characters face random traffic stops, TSA detention, customs anxiety, and the daunting and inspiring journey to new lands... while also dancing at weddings, keeping diaries, and teaching ESL.



Austen, Jane. Pride and Prejudice, 1813.

In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters.

–Recommended by the High School Library Advisory Board (HLAB)



Black, Holly. Book of Night, 2022.

In a world where shadows have feelings and memories and can be altered, a low-level con artist/bartender is pitted against doppelgangers, mercurial billionaires, shadow thieves and her own sister while trying to keep out of trouble.



Bowen, Natasha. Skin of the Sea, 2021.

Transformed by the goddess Yemoja into a Mami Wati, an African mermaid charged with collecting the souls of those who die at sea, Simi goes against the gods to save a living boy, Kola, from drowning.



Bradley, Marion Zimmer. The Mists of Avalon, 1982.

This early best-selling fantasy classic follows the legend of King Arthur as told by the women central to the tale, from the zealous Morgaine, sworn to uphold her goddess at any cost, to the devout Gwynhefar, pledged to the king but drawn to another.



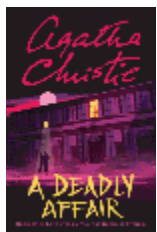
Brooks, Elizabeth, The Whispering House, 2021.

Simmering and mysterious, *The Whispering House* trades in secrets: of a son haunted by his family's unsettling past, and a young woman uncovering the truth about her sister's last days.



Chee, Traci. A Thousand Steps into Night, 2022.

When a girl who's never longed for adventure is hit with a curse that begins to transform her into a demon, she embarks on a quest to reverse the curse and return to her normal life, but along the way is forced to confront her true power within.



Christie, Agatha. A Deadly Affair: Unexpected Love Stories from the Queen of Mystery, 2022.

In this new collection of short stories, witness the dark side of love - crimes of passion, games of the heart, and deadly affairs. This pulse-pounding compendium features beloved detectives Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, master of charades Parker Pyne, and the enigmatic Harley Quin, all on the ready to solve a tantalizing mystery.

–Recommended by the High School Library Advisory Board (HLAB)



Cronin, Marianne. The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot, 2021.

Determined to leave a mark on the world even though they are in the hospital and their days are dwindling, unlikely friends, seventeen-year-old Lenni and eighty-three-year-old Margot, devise a plan to create one hundred paintings showcasing the stories of the century they have lived.



De La Peña, Matt. We Were Here, 2009.

After a judge sentences Miguel to spend a year in a group home and write in a journal, he makes plans to escape the youth detention center and go to Mexico, where he can put his past behind him.



***Doerr, Anthony. Cloud Cuckoo Land, 2021.**

Set in Constantinople in the fifteenth century, in a small town in present-day Idaho, and on an interstellar ship decades from now, this is a soaring story about children on the cusp of adulthood in worlds in peril, who find resilience, hope—and a book. Doerr has created a magnificent tapestry of times and places that reflects our vast interconnectedness.



Feng, Linda Rui. Swimming Back to Trout River, 2021.

In the summer of 1986 in a small Chinese village, ten-year-old Junie receives a momentous letter from her parents, who had left for America years ago: her father promises to return home and collect her by her twelfth birthday. What Junie doesn't know is that her parents are newly estranged from one another in their adopted country. In order for her father to fulfill his promise, he must make one last desperate attempt to reunite all three members of the family before Junie's birthday.



Goffney, Joya. Excuse Me While I Ugly Cry, 2021.

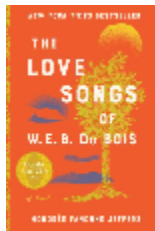
Quinn keeps lists of everything--from the days she's ugly cried, to "Things That I Would Never Admit Out Loud" and all the boys she'd like to kiss. Her lists keep her sane. By writing her fears on paper, she never has to face them in real life. That is, until her journal goes missing. Then an anonymous account posts one of her lists on Instagram for the whole school to see and blackmails her into facing seven of her greatest fears, or else her entire journal will go public.



Huxley, Aldous. Brave New World, 1932.

A satirical novel about the utopia of the future, a world in which babies are decanted from bottles and the great Ford is worshiped.

–Recommended by the High School Library Advisory Board (HLAB)



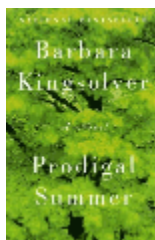
Jeffers, Honorée Fanonne. The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois, 2021.

To come to terms with who she is and what she wants, Ailey, the daughter of an accomplished doctor and a strict school teacher, embarks on a journey through her family's past, helping her embrace her full heritage, which is the story of the Black experience in itself.



***Kawakami, Mieko. Heaven, 2021.**

A 14-year-old student is subjected to relentless torment for having a lazy eye. Instead of resisting, the boy chooses to suffer in complete resignation. The only person who understands what he is going through is a female classmate who suffers similar treatment at the hands of her tormentors. These raw and realistic portrayals of bullying are counterbalanced by textured exposition of the philosophical and religious debates concerning violence to which the weak are subjected.



***Kingsolver, Barbara. The Prodigal Summer, 2001.**

The coming of summer to Appalachia's Zebulon Mountain brings a blossoming in nature as well as in the lives of reclusive wildlife biologist Deanna Wolfe, young hunter Eddie Bondo, transplanted city-girl Lusa Landowski, and a pair of elderly, feuding neighbors.



Lee, MacKenzi. The Nobleman's Guide to Scandal and Shipwrecks, 2021.

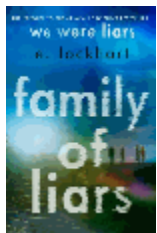
Desperate to escape his father's high expectations and his own grief in the aftermath of his mother's passing, sole heir Adrian Montague embarks on a search for his disowned siblings after discovering that he is not an only child. This is the third title in the *Montague Siblings Series*.



***Le Fanu, Joseph Sheridan. Carmilla, 1872.**

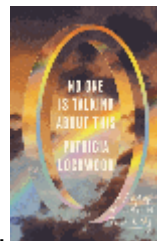
In an isolated castle deep in the Austrian forest, Laura leads a solitary life with only her ailing father for company. One moonlit night, a horse-drawn carriage crashes into view, carrying an unexpected guest - the beautiful Carmilla. So begins a feverish friendship between Laura and her mysterious, entrancing companion. Pre-dating Dracula by twenty-six years, Carmilla is the original vampire story, steeped in sexual tension and gothic romance.

–Recommended by the High School Book Club



***Lockhart, E. Family of Liars, 2022.**

A windswept private island off the coast of Massachusetts. A hungry ocean, churning with secrets and sorrow. A fiery, addicted heiress. An irresistible, unpredictable boy. A summer of unforgivable betrayal and terrible mistakes. Welcome back to the Sinclair family. They were always liars. This is the Prequel to We Were Liars.



Lockwood, Patricia. No One is Talking about This, 2021.

As this urgent, genre-defying book opens, a woman who has recently been elevated to prominence for her social media posts travels around the world to meet her adoring fans. She is overwhelmed by navigating the new language and etiquette of what she terms "the portal," where she grapples with an unshakable conviction that a vast chorus of voices is now dictating her thoughts.



Maxwell, William. So Long, See You Tomorrow, 1979.

Haunted by a memory of human failure, an aging man recalls his friendship, as a boy, with a tenant farmer's son and forces himself and others to recall the causes of a bloody murder and its consequences.



***McManus, Karen. You'll Be the Death of Me, 2021.**

Estranged friends Ivy, Mateo, and Cal witness a murder while skipping school, and the only way they can solve it is by revealing what they have been hiding from one another--and themselves.



***McQuiston, Casey. I Kissed Shara Wheeler, 2022.**

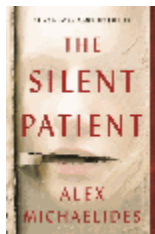
After seventeen-year-olds Chloe and Shara, Chloe's rival for valedictorian, kiss, Shara vanishes leaving Chloe and two boys, who are also enamored with Shara, to follow the trail of clues she left behind, but during the search, Chloe starts to suspect there might be more to Shara and her small Alabama town than she thought.



***Mele, Dana. People Like Us, 2018.**

When a girl is found dead at her elite boarding school, soccer-star Kay Donovan follows a computer-coded scavenger hunt left by the victim which implicates suspects increasingly close to her, unraveling her group of popular friends and perfectly constructed life.

–Recommended by the High School Book Club



***Michaelides, Alex. The Silent Patient, 2021.**

Theo Faber is a criminal psychotherapist who has waited a long time for the opportunity to work with Alicia. His determination to get her to talk and unravel the mystery of why she shot her husband takes him down a path into his own motivations--a search for the truth that threatens to consume him.



Mo Xiang Tong Xiu. Heaven Official's Blessing, 2021.

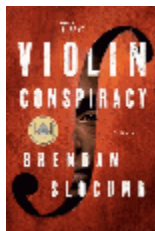
Born the crown prince of a prosperous kingdom, Xie Lian was renowned for his beauty, strength, and purity. His years of dedicated study and noble deeds allowed him to ascend to godhood. But those who rise may also fall, and fall he does--cast from the heavens and banished to the world below.

–Recommended by the High School Book Club



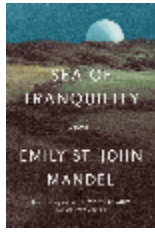
Redgate, Riley. Final Draft, 2018.

Eighteen-year-old Laila Piedra is a biracial aspiring author whose creative writing teacher always told her she has a special talent, so when he suddenly dies and is replaced by Nadiya Nazarenko, a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist who is sadistically critical and perpetually unimpressed, Laila grows obsessed with gaining the woman's approval and is led to believe she must choose between perfection and sanity.



***Slocumb, Brendan. The Violin Conspiracy, 2022.**

Ray McMillian loves playing the violin more than anything, and nothing will stop him from pursuing his dream of becoming a professional musician. Not his mother, who thinks he should get a real job, not the fact that he can't afford a high-caliber violin, not the racism inherent in the classical music world. And when he makes the startling discovery that his great-grandfather's fiddle is actually a priceless Stradivarius, his star begins to rise.



***St. John Mandel, Emily. Sea of Tranquility, 2022.**

In this novel of art, time, love, and the plague, author St. John Mandel takes the reader from an island off Vancouver in 1912 to a dark colony of the moon three hundred years later, unfurling a story of humanity across centuries and planets.



Stephenson, Neal. Snow Crash, 1992.

Hiro Protagonist, a pizza delivery man in future America, lives an alternate life as a warrior prince in the Metaverse where he embarks on a search-and-destroy mission for the virtual-reality villain who is trying to bring about *infocalypse*.



Suri, Tasha. Empire of Sand, 2018.

The illegitimate daughter of an imperial governor and an Amrithi, an outcast nomad with magic in her blood, must fight the plans of the Emperor's mystics to use her ability to manipulate the dreams of gods to alter the shape of the world.



***Vasquez Gilliland, Raquel. How Moon Fuentez Fell in Love with the Universe, 2021.**

When seventeen-year-old Star Fuentez reaches social media stardom, her polar-opposite twin, Moon, becomes "merch girl" on a tour bus full of beautiful influencers and the grumpy but attractive Santiago Philips.



***Weir, Andy. Project Hail Mary, 2021.**

Ryland Grace has been asleep for a very, very long time. He's just been awakened to find himself millions of miles from home, with nothing but two corpses for company. He can't remember his own name, let alone the nature of his assignment or how to complete it. Alone on this tiny ship that's been cobbled together by every government and space agency on the planet and hurled into the depths of space, it's up to him to conquer an extinction-level threat to our species.



Weis, Margaret. Bones of the Dragon, 2009.

When a new generation of gods challenge Skoval and the other ancient gods for the powers of creation, the Vindras people, led by Skylan Ivorson, undertake a quest to recover the Five Bones of the Vektan Dragons, which will assist them in their fight against the interlopers.



Yamaguchi, Tsubasa. Blue Period, 2020-21.

This graphic novel series starts with Yatora, the perfect high school student, with good grades and lots of friends. He puts on an effortless performance, and, ultimately... a dull one. But he wanders into the art room one day, and a lone painting captures his eye, awakening him to a kind of beauty he never knew. Compelled and consumed, he dives in headfirst--and he's about to learn how savage and unforgiving art can be.



Zakiya, Dalila. The Other Black Girl, 2021.

Tired of being the only Black employee at Wagner Books, 26-year-old editorial assistant Nella Rogers is thrilled when Harlem-born and bred Hazel is hired until, after a string of uncomfortable events, she is elevated to Office Darling, leaving Nella in the dust.



***Zhao, Xiran Jay. Iron Widow, 2021.**

The boys of Huaxia dream of pairing up with girls to pilot Chrysalises, giant transforming robots that can battle the aliens that lurk beyond the Great Wall of China. When 18-year-old Zetian offers herself up as a concubine-pilot, it's to assassinate the ace male pilot responsible for her sister's death. But when she gets her vengeance, it becomes clear that she is an Iron Widow, a rare kind of female pilot who can sacrifice males to power up Chrysalises instead.

NON FICTION



Bailey, Moya. Misogynoir Transformed: Black Women's Digital Resistance, 2021.

This book uses the Twitter, YouTube, and Tumblr productions of Black women as evidence that negative ideas about Black women can be transformed. Misogynoir describes the uniquely co-constitutive racialized and sexist violence that befalls Black women.

–Recommended by the Intersectional Feminism Club



***Baldwin, James. The Fire Next Time, 1963.**

This book is a powerful evocation of Baldwin's childhood in Harlem that helped to galvanize the early days of the civil rights movement. It examines the deep consequences of racial injustice to both the individual and the body politic.

–Recommended by the Black Students Association



Burton-Hill, Clemency. Year of Wonder: Classical Music to Enjoy Day by Day, 2018.

"Year of Wonder" introduces readers to one piece of music each day of the year, artfully selected from across genres, time periods, and composers. Author Burton-Hill offers short introductions to contextualize each piece, and makes the music come alive in modern and playful ways.



Chang, Jeff. Can't Stop Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation, 2005.

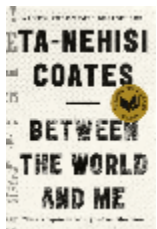
Traces the history of hip-hop culture, discussing how hip-hop came to define a new generation of youth rebellion and expression in North America.

–Recommended by the Black Students Association



Chang, Victoria. Obit: Poems, 2020.

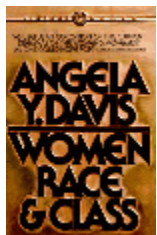
After her mother died, poet Victoria Chang refused to write elegies. Rather, she distilled her grief during a feverish two weeks by writing scores of poetic obituaries for all she lost in the world. In "Obit," Chang writes of "the way memory gets up after someone has died and starts walking." These poems reinvent the form of newspaper obituary to both name what has died and the cultural impact of death on the living.



***Coates, Ta-Nehisi. Between the World and Me, 2015.**

Coates takes readers along on his journey through America's history of race and its contemporary resonances through a series of awakenings--moments when he discovered some new truth about our long, tangled history of race.

–Recommended by the Black Students Association



Davis, Angela Y. Women, Race & Class, 1983.

A powerful study of the women's liberation movement in the U.S., from abolitionist days to the present, demonstrating how it has always been hampered by the racist and classist biases of its leaders. From the widely revered and legendary political activist and scholar Angela Davis.

–Recommended by the Intersectional Feminism Club



Davis, Joshua. Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot, and the Battle for the American Dream, 2014.

In 2004, four Latino teenagers arrived at the National Underwater Robotics Competition. They were born in Mexico but raised in Phoenix, Arizona, and attended an underfunded, beat-up public high school. No one had ever suggested to them that they might amount to much-but two inspiring science teachers convinced them that four impoverished, undocumented kids from the desert who had never even seen the ocean should try to build an underwater robot.



***Fleming, Candace. Murder Among Friends: How Leopold and Loeb Tried to Commit the Perfect Crime, 2022.**

Taking readers back to 1924, this shocking true crime story follows two eighteen-year-old college students who kidnapped and murdered a child they both knew in Hyde Park, their trial, and how a renowned defense attorney enabled them to avoid the death penalty.



***Green, John. Anthropocene Reviewed: Essays on a Human-Centered Planet, 2021.**

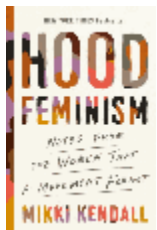
In this remarkable symphony of essays adapted and expanded from his groundbreaking podcast, John Green reviews different facets of the human-centered planet - from the QWERTY keyboard and Staphylococcus aureus to the Taco Bell breakfast menu - on a five-star scale. John Green's gift for storytelling shines throughout this artfully curated collection that includes both beloved essays and all-new pieces exclusive to the book.



Horn, Dara. People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present, 2021.

A startling and profound exploration of how Jewish history is exploited to comfort the living.

–Recommended by the Jewish Student Association



***Kendall, Mikki. Hood Feminism: Notes from the Women that the Movement Forgot, 2020.**

A collection of essays taking aim at the legitimacy of the modern feminist movement, arguing that it has chronically failed to address the needs of all but a few women.

–Recommended by the Intersectional Feminism Club



Smil, Vaclav. Numbers Don't Lie: 71 Stories to Help Us Understand the Modern World, 2021.

Vaclav Smil's mission is to make facts matter. An environmental scientist, policy analyst, and a hugely prolific author, he is Bill Gates' go-to guy for making sense of our world. In Numbers Don't Lie, Smil answers questions such as: What's worse for the environment--your car or your phone? How much do the world's cows weigh? And what makes people happy?



***Weiner, Jennifer. Uncanny Valley: A Memoir, 2020.**

The author chronicles her experience at a big-data startup in the heart of the Silicon Valley bubble: a world of surreal extravagance, dubious success and fresh-faced entrepreneurs hell-bent on domination, glory and, of course, progress.