Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. *Americanah*
In preparation for a move back to Nigeria after living in the states for thirteen years, Ifemelu gets her hair braided. As she sits in the hair-braiding chair, we learn about her growing-up in Nigeria (and about her first love, Obinze), how she came to the United States to study, and all the highs and lows of her time here. Ifemelu also records her observations about race in her widely-read blog called Raceteenth or Various Observations About American Blacks (Those Formerly Known as Negroes) by a Non-American Black. Titles that are shaded, like this sentence, indicate that the book is available in the Saint Ann’s digital library.

Albertalli, Becky. *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*
Simon’s life is forever changed when he steps away from his computer at school and his biggest secret is discovered. Drama, blackmail, and hilarity ensue in this coming-of-age, coming-out masterpiece.

Ballard, Chris. *One Shot at Forever* (nonfiction)
The ultimate underdog sports tale. It’s 1971 and the Macon Ironmen, a rag-tag high school baseball team from small-town Illinois, make it all the way to the state finals—with hand-me-down uniforms and a hippie-loving English teacher as a coach. Ballard, a writer for Sports Illustrated, has crafted one heck of a heartwarming—and true—story.

Bracken, Alexandra. *Passenger*
Much to Etta’s amazement, it turns out she comes from a time-traveling family. She soon finds herself captive aboard Captain Nicholas Carter’s ship in the distant past as he ferries her to her destiny. Life is full of surprises—one day she’s a violinist in New York, the next day she’s embroiled in a world where history is manipulated in an effort to gain power and influence. (Available 7/5 in the digital library.)

Cavallaro, Brittany. *A Study in Charlotte*
The teen descendants of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson find themselves at boarding school together. They have no intention of being friends, but then murder happens.

Chevalier, Tracy. *Girl with a Pearl Earring*
History and fiction merge in this novel about Vermeer, the famous 17th-century Dutch artist from Delft. The story imagines what life was like for the model who posed for one of his most famous paintings.
Claire, Ernest. **Ready Player One**

It’s the year 2044. Wade spends most of his time jacked into the OASIS, a sprawling virtual utopia, in an attempt to escape his grim life. Wade, along with everyone else, is searching for the hidden clues that James Halliday, creator of the OASIS, has concealed somewhere in the virtual world. The first to discover and unlock the clues will inherit Halliday’s vast fortune. As Wade begins to unlock the clues, he realizes that there are many who would commit murder to solve the puzzle before he does. Steven Spielberg is going to direct the movie version!

Coates, Ta-Nehisi. **Between the World and Me** (nonfiction)

Be a part of the conversation and read this. Coates writes a series of essays—which take the form of a long letter to his son—exploring his thoughts on race in America. A lot of food for thought.

Cunningham, Darryl. **How to Fake a Moon Landing: Exposing the Myths of Science Denial** (graphic nonfiction)

There are folks who think the moon landing was fake, or that vaccines cause autism, or even that climate change isn’t real. Cunningham investigates the science (and the reporting) behind these issues, as well as many others, and explains how scientific information is manipulated and misconceptions arise. An investigative journalism and mythbusters mashup in graphic form.

Fainaru-Wada, Mark and Steve Fainaru. **League of Denial: The NFL, Concussions, and the Battle for Truth** (nonfiction)

A very readable account by two investigative reporters (who happen to be brothers), about the NFL’s twenty-year attempt to cover up the connection between football and brain damage.

Federle, Tim. **The Great American Whatever**

Did you read Federle’s *Better Nate than Ever* when you were younger? Well, this is a Federle title for the more mature you. Quinn, a wannabe screenwriter, is wallowing in grief after the death of his older sister. Thankfully, he has his best friend Geoff who helps him come out—out from under the weight of his grief as well as the closet.

Giles, Gail. **Girls Like Us**

Quincy and Biddy have just graduated from their special ed high school class. A guidance counselor gets them set up with an apartment and jobs working for Elizabeth (the wealthy wife of the former mayor who is suffering from health problems). Written in the vernacular in alternating chapters from the points of view of both girls, this is the poignant and heart-wrenching story of Biddy, Quincy, and Elizabeth as they learn to live together and become a family.

Goldman, Steven. **Two Parties, One Tux, and a Very Short Film about The Grapes Of Wrath**

Mitchell is trying to figure out who he is—or who he wants to be. Meanwhile, his younger sister insists on taking charge of his barely existent social life and Mitchell’s best friend announces he’s gay. There’s also his English grade, which is at risk due do a somewhat risqué claymation short film he submitted in lieu of a research paper. Did anyone mention prom? Hilarious.

Gregory, Philippa. **The Other Boleyn Girl**

Juicy historical fiction set during the reign of Henry VIII in England. Henry is the king famous for having so many wives and beheading a couple of them. Most are familiar with Anne Boleyn, Henry’s wife after he annulled his marriage with Katherine of Aragon. This novel features Anne’s younger sister Mary, who was King Henry’s mistress before Anne. Better than the movie. Note: History can be racy.
Grove, Tim. *First Flight Around the World* (nonfiction)
Totally fun. In 1924 there was a race to be the first to fly around the world. The U.S. Army sent eight men (four planes) to race against pilots from Great Britain, France, Portugal, Italy, and Argentina. Troubles and challenges ensued.

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*
Christopher is autistic. He takes everything at face value and has trouble understanding the behavior of people around him. One night he comes across his neighbor's poodle, Wellington, impaled on a garden fork. Wellington's owner finds Christopher holding her dead dog and has him arrested. After spending a night in jail, he decides to discover who murdered Wellington. His social worker encourages him to write a book about his investigations. This is the book.

Hill, Katie Rain. *Rethinking Normal* (memoir)
Katie Rain Hill always knew she was a girl, and considered it a mistake that she had the body of a boy. This moving and candid memoir tells of her transition from suicidal 8-year-old to award-winning activist and college student. Read with *Some Assembly Required* by Arin Andrews—the honest and compelling memoir of an outdoorsy Oklahoma transgender teenage boy.

Hillenbrand, Lauren. *Unbroken* (nonfiction)
After their Army Air Forces plane crashes during a routine mission in May of 1943, Louie and two pals find themselves on a life raft in the middle of the Pacific Ocean dodging bullets from an attacking aircraft. This is an incredible survival story—47 days on a raft in the open ocean only to be rescued and sent to a Japanese prison camp. Brutal. Watch the movie after you read the book!

Hitchcock, Bonnie-Sue. *The Smell of Other People's Houses*
Alyce, working on her dad's fishing boat, longs to be a dancer. Ruth has a secret that makes her grandmother send her away. Dora, finally safe at Dumpling's house, fears she will never escape her past. Hank and his brothers run away—anything is better than staying home with their mom's new boyfriend—well, until one of his brothers falls overboard while stowing away on a ferry. Each Alaskan teen's story (Native and non-Native) is unique and distinct, but they eventually all converge in the most beautiful way.
Hosseini, Khaled. **The Kite Runner**
Amir, the privileged son of a wealthy businessman in Kabul, and Hassan, the son of a servant, are friends. As children in the relatively stable Afghanistan of the early 1970s, the boys are inseparable. They spend idyllic days running kites and telling stories of mystical places and powerful warriors until an unspeakable event changes the nature of their relationship forever. Warning: a few incredibly disturbing scenes.

Kantor, Melissa. **Maybe One Day**
Zoe and Olivia. Olivia and Zoe. Best friends—always together. When Olivia is diagnosed with leukemia, Zoe puts on a brave face, determined to be there for Olivia, but it’s not easy.

Kaufman, Amie and Jay Kristoff. **Illuminae**
A futuristic intergalactic adventure of epic proportions. Hacked documents speckle this thrilling innovatively-formatted novel as Kady and her ex-boyfriend attempt to uncover the truth and save their world. The first in a trilogy (good luck patiently waiting for the next installment due in October!).

Kidd, Sue Monk. **The Secret Life of Bees**
It’s 1964 and 14-year-old Lily has run away from her neglectful father with her nanny, Rosaleen. Lily has only fleeting memories of her mother, who she accidentally shot and killed when she was four years old. Looking for clues about her mother’s life, Lily finds a picture of a black Virgin Mary with the words “Tiburon, SC” on the back. Off the two go to South Carolina. Read this heartwarming story and then see the movie.

Kleist, Reinhard. **The Boxer: The True Story of Holocaust Survivor Harry Haft** (graphic nonfiction)
It is in Auschwitz that 16-year-old Harry is forced to fight other inmates to survive. It’s in postwar America that he becomes a professional prizefighter—undefeated until he fights Rocky Marciano in 1949. But forgetting his past and the fiancée he left behind in Poland just isn’t possible.

Krakauer, Jon. **Into the Wild** (nonfiction)
In 1992 Christopher Johnson McCandless, a privileged young man, gave up all his worldly possessions and went off to live in the wilderness of Alaska. His journey didn’t end well. Krakauer brilliantly tells his story.

LaCour, Nina and David Levitan. **You Know Me Well**
David came to one of the Saint Ann’s Monday symposiums and read from this book when it was still in galleys. Now it’s out! Mark and Kate go to the same school, but don’t really know each other. When they meet under strange circumstances, a friendship is forged. Will Mark help Kate meet the girl she has crushed on from afar? What does Kate think Mark should do about his unspoken feelings for his best friend Ryan?

Lewis, John, Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell. **March: Book Two** (graphic memoir)
This is Congressman John Lewis’s second book in his planned trilogy of graphic memoirs documenting his experiences working in the civil rights movement. Sit-ins, freedom rides, his election as chairman to the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and speaking at the 1963 March on Washington—it’s all here. Start with **March: Book One** and learn about Lewis’s childhood spent on a sharecropper’s farm in Alabama.

McDougall, Steve. **Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen** (nonfiction)
Want to learn about the Tarahumara Indian tribe—renowned long distance runners from Mexico’s Copper Canyon? What about the theory that evolutionarily speaking, humans were literally born to run? (The idea is that our ancestors survived because they were able to outrun their prey.) Well, this is the book for you! Fascinating.
Murphy, Julie. *Dumplin’*
For Willowdean, a bikini-ready body is a body with a bikini on it. Yes, she’s comfortable in her own skin. But when she meets perfect Bo, her confidence starts to waver. Is she actually going to enter the Miss Teen Blue Bonnet Pageant? Read and find out.

Nelson, Jandy. *I’ll Give you the Sun*
Twins Jude and Noah communicate without words, understand each other’s art, and know that in an emergency they would each save the other before anyone else. But something happens that tears them apart. The novel is told from both perspectives (Jude at age 16, Noah starting at age 13 and gradually getting older), and their stories converge as secrets are revealed to the characters and the reader alike. A unique portrayal of grief, love, and sexuality—this novel won the 2015 Printz Award and was a Stonewall Honor book.

Neumeier, Rachel. *The Keeper of the Mist*
Keri is the illegitimate daughter of the Lord of Nimmira. When he dies, she is forced to leave her comfortable world (she runs a bakery) and become the new Lady. Ancient magic has decreed it. But will she survive all the forces operating against her, including her three half-brothers? Tamora Pierce lovers, this is for you.

Nović, Sara. *Girl at War*
In 1991 Ana Jurić is in Croatia dealing with snipers, air raids and rations. In 2001 she’s in New York, unable to escape her memories. How should she live after surviving?

Parssinen, Keija. *The Unraveling of Mercy Lewis*
Mercy Lewis is a high school basketball star in Sabine, Texas. Life has always gone Mercy’s way until the team loses the State Championship at the end of her junior year. Then a newborn baby is found in a dumpster and every teenage girl becomes a suspect.

Peralta, Dan-el Padilla. *Undocumented: A Dominican Boy’s Odyssey from a Homeless Shelter to the Ivy League* (memoir)
As the title indicates, this is one hell of an American dream story. Straddling two worlds (the streets of East Harlem and the classrooms of elite private schools) Peralta writes eloquently about his experiences.

Pérez, Ashley Hope. *Out of Darkness*
A tale of star-crossed lovers, Naomi (of Mexican heritage) and Wash (African-American), in the months before a massive explosion at their school in New London, Texas. (The 1937 explosion really happened.)

Pfetzer, Mark. *Within Reach: My Everest Story* (memoir)
At age 16, Mark Pfetzer became the youngest person ever to climb Mt. Everest. Mark was on the expedition that Jon Krakauer recounted in his book *Into Thin Air* (where eight climbers died). Read *Into Thin Air* while you’re at it!

Picoult, Jodi. *My Sister’s Keeper*
Anna was born to keep her older sister, Kate, alive. Engineered by her parents (with the help of a lab) to be a perfect genetic match for Kate, who was dying of leukemia, Anna began her life by donating stem cells from her umbilical cord. Each time Kate relapsed, Anna donated; first it was just platelets, then bone marrow. Eventually it becomes clear that Anna’s parents expect her to donate a kidney in order to save Kate’s life once again. That’s when, at the age of 13, Anna sues for medical emancipation from her parents. Who’s right? Anna? Her parents?
Reynolds, Jason and Brendan Kiely. *All American Boys*
Rashad is trying to buy a bag of chips at Jerry’s when he is accused of shoplifting, gets thrown to the ground, and beaten senseless by a policeman for supposedly resisting arrest. While he is recovering in the hospital, all hell breaks loose. There are witnesses, a cellphone video of the incident, and all sorts of people telling him what to do. Quinn Collins, who knows both Rashad and the policeman who beat him up, witnessed the incident. What should he do?

Ronson, Jon. *So You’ve Been Publicly Shamed* (nonfiction)
Public humiliation is the name of the game. Ronson explores the plight of many victims of public shaming in the world of social media—like Justine Sacco who tweeted something inappropriate about AIDS on her way to South Africa and was fired before she even landed!

Rowell, Rainbow. *Fangirl*
For years Cath and her identical twin sister, Wren, have written wildly popular fan fiction about a character who bears a striking resemblance to the famous fictional character with a lightning bolt shaped scar on his forehead. When the two get to college, Wren decides she wants distance from Cath and the fan fiction world and Cath is left to cope on her own. Cath is an expert when it comes to writing about friendship and love—it turns out having friends and being in love is a little harder in real life. An amazing book—don’t miss it.

Ruby, Laura. *Bone Gap*
Finn and his older brother Sean live in a small town called Bone Gap. Their father is dead and their mother ran off with an orthodontist. Determined to save Raja from life in a low-budget roadside zoo, John decides to return Raja to an ape sanctuary in Sumatra. Like this? Try *Endangered* and *Threatened*, also by Schrefer.

Schrefer, Eliot. *Rescued*
John and Raja grew up together. Raja was the family pet orangutang, but now he’s too big and aggressive. Determined to save Raja from life in a low-budget roadside zoo, John decides to return Raja to an ape sanctuary in Sumatra. Like this? Try *Endangered* and *Threatened*, also by Schrefer.

Sedaris, David. *Me Talk Pretty One Day* (essays)
So funny! Sedaris writes about his family (lots of material to draw from!) and his move to Paris. Do not attempt to read the title story in public (about his efforts to learn French); people will look at you strangely due to your uproarious laughter.


Shusterman, Neal. *Challenger Deep*
Caden Bosch is a high school student with friends and a loving family—but for him, normal life is getting increasingly hard to live. His paranoia is growing and he is distancing himself from his friends. He wavers between his high school life and his life as a shipmate aboard the Challenger Deep, a ship journeying to the deepest part of the ocean. The two worlds merge when his parents do what is necessary and admit him to a psychiatric institution to get him the help he needs.
Silvera, Adam. *More Happy Than Not*

Aaron lives in the Bronx sometime in the not-too-distant future. He’s struggling to be happy, but it’s hard with the recent death of his father. When his girlfriend leaves for the summer, Aaron forms a close and confusing relationship with a new friend, Thomas. Aaron is so confused that he’s considering going to the Leteo Institute for a memory-alteration procedure. Maybe he just needs to forget who he really is.

Stevenson, Noelle. *Nimona* (graphic novel)

Lord Ballister Blackheart is the villain working to bring down the kingdom. Sir Ambrose Goldenloin, under the direction of The Institute of Law Enforcement, is his enemy. But are they really enemies? Is Blackheart really the villain? As usual, the answer is more complicated. Enter Nimona, a young shape-shifter girl, whose powers are extraordinary and whose presence escalates the confrontation.

Thrash, Maggie. *Honor Girl* (graphic novel)

Didn’t read this when Maggie Thrash visited the library earlier in the school year? Well, now’s your chance. It’s the story of the last summer that Maggie attended the all-girls Camp Bellflower in the Kentucky Appalachians and covers a lice scare, early morning Civil War reenactments, a Backstreet Boys obsession, a rifle range, and Maggie’s very significant realization that she has a major crush on an older counselor.

Wagner, Laura Rose. *Hold Tight, Don’t Let Go*

Magdalie’s world is comprised of plywood walls and tarps. She lives with her cousin in a camp after the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti. What happens after the telethons are over and the media has left? A lot.

Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple*

Celie, abused by her stepfather, is forced to marry Albert, who also treats her badly. Celie’s life is pretty miserable. It is only when she meets Shug Avery, Albert’s mistress, that she begins to rise above the despair. It is Shug who teaches Celie self-respect through her love. Now on Broadway!

Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle* (memoir)

Walls had an unusual childhood. Dysfunctional yet brilliant, her parents encouraged their four children to "fly under the radar" to avoid attracting attention to their bizarre lifestyle. Virtual nomads, they often did the "skedaddle" rather than pay rent or deal with authority. Amazing story.

Wilson, G. Willow and Adrian Alphona. *Ms. Marvel: No Normal* (graphic novel)

Meet Kamala Khan, aka Ms. Marvel. A normal Muslim teenage girl in New Jersey, or the comic world’s newest, fiercest superhero? You decide. Classic comic book style illustrated by Adrian Alphona (*The Runaways*).

Zentner, Jeff. *The Serpent King*

Life has been tough for Dill since his father, a Pentecostal minister, was sent to prison for having child pornography on his computer. Luckily Dill has his music and two great friends, Lydia (fashion blogger) and Travis (fantasy fiction aficionado). Dill dreads the end of senior year because it means Lydia will be leaving for college while he and Travis will remain stuck in dead-end Forestville, Tennessee.
Series:

Bradley, Alan. Flavia de Luce
These mysteries feature eleven-year-old Flavia, an eccentric science prodigy with a penchant for poison, who lives in an ancient English country house. Fearless and unflappable, she solves crimes herself while in hot pursuit of clues. Totally fun. Series: The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie, The Weed that Strings the Hangman’s Bag, A Red Herring Without Mustard, I am Half Sick of Shadows, Speaking from Among the Bones, The Dead in Their Vaulted Arches, The Curious Case of the Copper Corpse, and As Chimney Sweepers Come to Dust.

Charbonneau, Joelle. The Testing
Cia gets selected for the Testing by the United Commonwealth; it’s an honor and an opportunity to join the ranks of the leaders. She soon finds herself at the university in Tosu City, where she and the others selected undergo physical and mental trials. Traps, tricks, and subterfuge ensue. Reminiscent of The Hunger Games. Series: The Testing, Independent Study, and Graduation Day.

Martin, George R.R. A Song of Ice and Fire
Warriors, lords, ladies, sorcerers, assassins, and bastards—you know you want to read it. Series: A Game of Thrones, A Clash of Kings, A Storm of Swords, A Feast for Crows, A Dance with Dragons, The Winds of Winter, and A Dream of Spring.

Ness, Patrick. Chaos Walking
Todd Hewitt has to flee his settlement in haste after a wacko preacher chases him out. All of the women on his planet have been killed and the men have been infected with a sickness that broadcasts all of their thoughts. Expect suspense and tension in this dystopian nightmare. Series: The Knife of Never Letting Go, The Ask and the Answer, and Monsters of Men.

Novik, Naomi. Temeraire
Dragons and fantasy set against the backdrop of the Napoleonic Wars! Each country has its own special dragon breed and the British Captain, Will Laurence, is very fortunate to intercept a French ship carrying a special gift from the Chinese: a precious dragon egg. The Captain and the dragon form a special bond and join the Aerial Corps together. Lots of battle action ensues. Series: His Majesty’s Dragon, Throne of Jade, Black Powder War, Empire of Ivory, Victory of Eagles, Tongues of Serpents, and Crucible of Gold.

O’Brien, Caragh M. Birthmarked
Gaia has lived her entire life with her parents outside the wall. She has assisted her mother, a midwife, at countless births. Gaia continues to deliver babies even after her parents are arrested; she also continues to hand over the first three babies born every month to guards at the wall, just as her mother did. When it appears her parents are never returning, she sneaks through the wall in an effort to save them. Series: Birthmarked, Prized and Promised.

Yancey, Rick. The 5th Wave
Cassie is one of the few humans left on Earth. Heavily armed at all times, she is battling the invading aliens in what is now called the 5th Wave. Her family survived Waves 1 and 2, only to meet their downfall in later Waves. Ben, an old high school crush of Cassie’s, also survived. A thriller with non-stop action, told from the viewpoints of both Cassie and Ben. Series: The 5th Wave, The Infinite Sea, and The Last Star.
Read a Classic this Summer:

- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou
- *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë
- *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas
- *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier
- *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* by Victor Hugo
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Dracula* by Bram Stoker
- *The Lord of the Rings series* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne
- *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells

Need a Break? Try One of These:

- *Our Dumb Century: The Onion Presents 100 Years of Headlines from America’s Finest News Source* by Scott Dikkers.
  Need a laugh? Look no further.

  Learn the basics of crocheting. Make a chunky bracelet, a cell phone case or an owl pillow. You can do it! Next try *Star Wars Crochet* by Lucy Collin—a kit which includes instructions, a crochet hook, and yarn to make a yoda and a stormtrooper. You know you want to try this.

  Learn how to draw this summer—this workbook is just what you need to learn or improve your skills.

- *Humans of New York: Stories* by Brandon Stanton.
  Read ’em and weep. Or smile. Or laugh.

- *Cupcakes, Cookies & Pie, Oh My!* by Karen Tack and Alan Richardson.
  Do a little baking—someone has to have a birthday this summer. There’s also *Cake My Day* by the same authors if you want to get really adventurous.
Saint Ann’s Digital Library at Overdrive

Remember, students can check out e-books all summer long. Access the digital library at saintannsny.lib.overdrive.com or locate it by Googling the phrase Saint Ann’s Digital Library. The easiest way to read our e-books is with a Kindle, Kindle app, or Overdrive app.

Logging in: Students need a library card number and PIN to check out books. Look for an email from library@saintannsny.org with yours (though you may have it already). FYI: Your library card number is simply your student ID number with an “S” in front. For example, if your student ID number is 18840, your library card number is S18840. Your PIN is your first and last initials, lower case, followed by the same ID number. So, if your name is Eleanor Roosevelt and your library card number is S18840, your PIN is er18840. Got it, Eleanor? Now, go read some books!

Other things to keep in mind:
- You can check out a book from the digital library using a 3G or WiFi connection. But to actually download it to your device, you must use WiFi.
- Select the Read in your Browser option if you want to just read the title on your computer.
- For more information click “help” when you access the digital library.

Current and past reading lists available online at: http://saintannsny.org/divisions-and-offices/library/high-school-library/reading-list/

Love, Ragan, Denise, and Hannah