

Saint Ann's Library Suggested Summer Reading List

for Students Entering

9th Grade, 2022

Adaptations • Other Great Books to Read •
Series • Feeling Crafty?

Adaptations: Read the book before watching the series/movie



Alderman, Naomi. *The Power*. (fiction)

Teenage girls around the world discover that they can shoot an electrical current from their fingertips. They soon learn how to harness this power and then they teach older women to access their own abilities. With the advent of this skill, everything changes. Power dynamics between men and women shift and history is rewritten. An Amazon series based on the book is due to be released this year. 📖



Baldwin, James. *If Beale Street Could Talk*. (fiction)

Tish and Fonnny are planning to get married (they have a child together). But then Fonnny is accused of a crime and goes to jail. Justice? Yeah, right. Watch the 2018 movie directed by Barry Jenkins. 📖



Bardugo, Leigh. *Shadow and Bone*. (fiction)

This is the first book in the Grishaverse (many interconnected books by Bardugo all taking place in the land of Grisha). Alina, a soldier, begins training with the Grisha, her country's magical military elite when it becomes clear that she possesses powerful untamed magic. Can she destroy the Shadow Fold and reunite her war-ravaged country? Watch the 2021 Netflix series. Season 2 to be released soon. 📖



Bennett, Brit. *The Vanishing Half*. (fiction)

Desiree and Stella are twins born in the 1950s in the South. Although different, their relationship is intense—they even escape their small hometown together at the age of 16. So how does one end up back at home with her daughter while the other leaves the family behind to pass for white? You'll have to read to find out. HBO has plans to turn the novel into a series. Read the book first! 📖🎧



Clayton, Dhonielle and others. *Blackout*. (fiction)

Six authors (including Nicola Yoon and Angie Thomas!) collaborated to write this novel comprised of intersecting stories. Friendship, romance, and a whole mess of other stuff goes down one sweltering summer night when a blackout hits New York City. Read the book to prepare for the upcoming adaptation planned by Higher Ground (the Obamas' production company). 📖

Read library books all
summer
with Saint Ann's Digital
Library!

Access it at

<https://soraapp.com/library/saintannssny>

Most titles on this list are available on the digital library as an **ebook**, **audiobook**, or both.

📖 means ebook

🎧 means audiobook

📖🎧 means both

See the end of this list
for more instructions.



Grann, David. ***Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI***. (nonfiction)

The treatment of the Osage Indians by white Americans was cruel, inhumane, and simply mindboggling. In the 1800s the Osage were relegated to land in Oklahoma that no white people wanted— well, not until oil was discovered. By the 1920s the Osage were incredibly wealthy. They drove fancy cars, built mansions, and traveled. Soon, however, various Osage started dying mysteriously. The bodies piled up before any proper investigation was carried out. Martin Scorsese is working on a film version starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Lily Gladstone. 📖 🎧



Han, Jenny. ***The Summer I Turned Pretty***. (fiction)

Fifteen-year-old Isabel, aka Belly, loves the summer; everything important happens during the summer. This summer is no exception. Expect friendship, romance, beaches, and a bit of heartbreak. The Amazon series is coming out this summer. 📖



Hannah, Kristen. ***The Nightingale***. (fiction)

During World War II in German-occupied, war-torn France, two sisters face the reality of war under vastly different circumstances. Vianne, whose house is requisitioned by a German captain while her husband is off fighting, is forced to live with the enemy while her sister, Isabelle, risks her life to join the resistance. Both heroically resist occupation. Movie to be released later this year.



Hendriks, Jenni and Ted Caplan. ***Unpregnant***. (fiction)

When seventeen-year-old Veronica realizes that she is pregnant, she enlists her ex-best friend, Bailey, to drive 900 miles with her to New Mexico—the nearest place to legally get an abortion. (In Missouri where she lives, you must be 18 without parental consent). Things don't go exactly as planned! Funny, heartfelt, and incredibly timely. Watch the 2020 HBO movie starring Haley Lu Richardson and Barbie Ferreira. 📖 🎧



Herbert, Frank. ***Dune***. (fiction)

First published in 1965, *Dune* is a science fiction classic. Paul Atreides is heir to a noble throne; he rules over an inhospitable world where thinking machines (like computers), have been rejected. The only thing of value is a substance known as the spice melange—it prolongs life, protects against disease, and enhances abilities.

When the Atreides family is betrayed, the young heir embarks on an epic path. The most recent movie adaptation came out in 2021 starring Timothée Chalamet. 📖



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.

Watch the 2007 movie. 📖 🎧



Menon, Sandhya. ***When Dimple Met Rishi***. (fiction)

The parents of Dimple Shah and Rishi Patel want to arrange a marriage between the two teens. Rishi is all in, but Dimple has other plans—she's going to Stanford in the fall. The two meet at a summer program for aspiring web developers and clash big time. Romance! Humor! This book is the inspiration behind the 2020 Netflix series *Mismatched* starring Prajakta Koli. *There's Something about Sweetie* by Menon is a sequel

featuring a different Patel brother and *10 Things I Hate about Pinky* is Book 3. 📖 🎧



Ng, Celeste. ***Little Fires Everywhere***. (fiction)

The seemingly perfect Richardson family (mother, father, and four children in grades 9-12) live in suburban Shaker Heights. Enter Mia, a single mother, and her daughter, Pearl. Mia and Pearl are renting an apartment owned by the Richardsons. The lives of the two families soon become intertwined with sometimes positive and ultimately catastrophic results. Issues of race, class, and motherhood are explored along the way. Watch

the 2020 series starring Reese Witherspoon and Kerry Washington. 📖 🎧



Owens, Delia. ***Where the Crawdads Sing***. (fiction)

Set in the coastal marshes of North Carolina's Outer Banks, this is a murder mystery and coming-of-age novel featuring Kya Clark, a young woman who lives a solitary life in the marshes. The movie adaptation is due to be released this July. 📖 🎧



Oseman, Alice. ***Heartstopper. Volumes 1-4***. (fiction)

Chances are you've read the four-part graphic novel series and watched the adorable 2022 Netflix adaptation of the series starring Kit Connor as Nick and Joe Locke as Charlie, but in case you've missed it—what are you waiting for? Oseman perfectly captures the butterflies-in-your-stomach feeling of first love with her not-to-be-missed graphic novels. 📖



Sáenz, Benjamin Alire. ***Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe***. (fiction)

Ari and Dante are both lonely teenagers when they meet at a swimming pool. Ari, in particular, is struggling (the youngest of four, born after his father returns from the Vietnam War—forever changed). The two become friends and support each other as they navigate growing up and their sexual orientation. Lin-Manuel Miranda is producing the upcoming adaptation! 📖 🎧



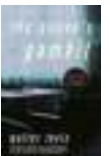
Stevenson, NB. ***Nimona***. (graphic novel)

Featuring Sir Goldenloin as hero, Lord Blackheart as villain, and spunky shape-shifting Nimona as sidekick, this subversive web-comic-turned-graphic-novel questions the traditional clarity of good and evil as found in your average superhero comic. Animated movie adaptation coming to Netflix in 2023. And have you ever wondered what an audiobook version of a graphic novel is like?! 📖 🎧



Stevenson, Bryan. ***Just Mercy: A True Story of the Fight for Justice***. (nonfiction)

At age 23, Stevenson joined a pro bono legal defense team fighting a death penalty case in Georgia. Since then, he has fought dozens of similar cases, and today runs the Equal Justice Initiative, which opened a museum and memorial honoring the legacy of Black people, from slavery to lynching to segregation to mass incarceration. Stevenson illuminates a national crisis and calls on us all to work for justice. This is the YA adaptation of Stevenson's *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. Watch the 2019 movie starring Michael B. Jordan, Jaime Foxx, and Brie Larson, and the HBO documentary called *True Justice*. 📖 🎧



Tevis, Walter. ***The Queen's Gambit***. (fiction)

Chess has never been so entertaining! Beth Harmon is living in an orphanage when she learns how to play chess from the janitor. It turns out she's a chess prodigy. Soon she finds herself adopted, addicted to tranquilizers, and touring the world playing chess. If you haven't watched the 2020 Netflix adaptation starring Anya Taylor-Joy, you should! 📖 🎧

Other Great Books to Read



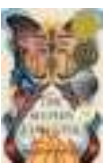
Ballard, Chris. ***One Shot at Forever***. (nonfiction)

This book is so good. Really. It's 1971 and the Macon Ironmen, a ragtag 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. The ultimate underdog sports tale. 📖🎧



Bosh, Chris. ***Letters to a Young Athlete***. (memoir)

Chris Bosh knows basketball and is, by all accounts, a great player. In 2017, after being diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition and compelled to retire from the Miami Heat, he was forced to come to terms with his identity as a basketball player and a human in this world. Insightful. 📖🎧



Boulley, Angeline. ***Firekeeper's Daughter***. (fiction)

Daunis has spent her life balancing between two identities: her father was Ojibwe and grew up on the reservation, and her mom is white, from a wealthy political clan. Because of a death in her family, she puts off college for a year and finds herself embroiled in a mystery involving meth on the reservation, sexual assault, and even the murder of her lifelong friend. An intense thriller featuring Ojibwe history and multiple twists and turns. Won the 2022 Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature. 📖



Cavallaro, Brittany. ***A Study in Charlotte: Charlotte Holmes, Book 1***. (fiction)

This is the first in a trilogy featuring the teen descendants of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson, aka Charlotte and Jamie. The two end up at the same Connecticut boarding school, and although Charlotte has no interest in being friends with Jamie, she is forced to reconsider when a student dies (murdered?). This sounds like a light and fluffy mystery—and it is a lot of fun—but be warned, it's also pretty dark. 📖



Chee, Traci. ***We Are Not Free***. (fiction)

Imagine living your whole life in one neighborhood, and then suddenly being told you don't belong and getting shipped off to a desert hundreds of miles away. From Japantown, San Francisco to Topaz internment camp and beyond, this is the gripping story of fourteen teenagers—told in fourteen voices—whose lives intertwine before, during, and after World War II. 📖🎧



Fitzgerald, Mara. ***Beyond the Ruby Veil***. (fiction)

Water, in the city of Occhia, is provided by the mysterious watercrea who can magically turn blood into water. Citizens of Occhia must turn themselves in to be sacrificed if a bruise-like omen appears on their skin. Only Emanuela has not done so. On the eve of her wedding to the wealthy Alessandro Morandi, her childhood best friend, her secret is exposed with disastrous consequences. It's dark, it's queer (the marriage is only one of convenience as they are both gay), and it's a fantasy—what more could you ask for? Sequel: *Into the Midnight Void*. 📖

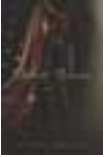


Fitzsimmons, Isaac. ***The Passing Playbook***. (fiction)

Spencer left his old school because he was bullied after transitioning. At his new school things are going well—he's got friends, is going to play for the boys' soccer team, and even has a potential romantic interest. When Spencer's coach sees the F on his birth certificate, he is forced to bench him due a discriminatory law. No one at his new school knows he's trans. Is fighting for his right to play worth coming out to everyone? 📖🎧



Gao, Laura. ***Messy Roots: A Graphic Memoir of a Wuhanese American***. (graphic memoir)
Gao was born in Wuhan, China and lived with her cousins until she joined her parents in the United States when they attended graduate school. She changed her first name from Yuyang to Laura (after Laura Bush—the First Lady at the time) when she started school, to try and fit in better. A heartfelt exploration of identity. 📖



Ireland, Justina. ***Dread Nation***. (fiction)
In this alternate universe, the Civil War has just ended because all of the dead began to rise up and attack both armies. A historical zombie thriller? Yes. Jane is forced to attend combat school, as are all the other Black and Indigenous children, in order to become zombie slayers to protect the whites. Jane and her friend have other plans. The sequel is *Deathless Divide*. 📖 🎧



Johnson, Leah. ***You Should See Me in a Crown***. (fiction)
Liz is determined to get out of her small midwestern town and go to college. Being one of the few Black girls in town, Liz tries not to call attention to herself. But when she finds out the prom king and queen can win a college scholarship, she decides to go for it. The only thing is—the new girl, Mack, who Liz happens to have a crush on—has the same idea. 📖



Rosser, Kareem. ***Crossing the Line: A Fearless Team of Brothers and the Sport That Changed Their Lives Forever***. (memoir) Kareem was captain of the first all-Black national interscholastic polo team. How did this happen? It started when he and his siblings stumbled across a barn of horses and were offered a job in exchange for riding lessons. Winner of a 2022 Alex Award—given to adult books with teen appeal.



Kritzer, Naomi. ***Catfishing on CatNet***. (fiction)
Steph is the new kid again. She and her mom never stay in one place for long—they are on the run from Steph's abusive father. Steph's closest friends are on CatNet, an online community where members share cat pictures and more. Alternately narrated by Steph and a sentient AI, this fun and heartfelt thriller explores power, personhood, technology, and identity without being preachy. The sequel: *Chaos on CatNet*. 📖



Lee, Lyla. ***I'll be the One***. (fiction)
Skye Shin is determined to be a K-Pop star. She enters an internationally televised competition searching for the next big star and she actually aces the audition. When she finds that the Korean pop entertainment industry is a *lot* less comfortable with her size-16 body than she is, she plans to break all the rules and shatter the stereotypes. A body-positive rom-com. 📖 🎧



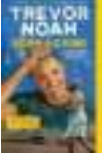
Lo, Melinda. ***Last Night at the Telegraph Club***. (fiction)
A young Chinese American woman in 1950s San Francisco discovers a world she never knew existed when she goes to a gay bar. Winner of the Stonewall Book Award and the National Book Award. 📖 🎧



McBride, James. ***The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother***. (memoir)
McBride, author of *Deacon King Kong* (also amazing) wrote this memoir about growing up as number eight of twelve children with a white mother, a Black minister for a father and, later, a Black stepfather. Who was Ruth McBride? Nothing short of amazing. 📖 🎧



Méndez, Yamile Saied. ***Furia***. (fiction)
Camila lives in Argentina and leads a double life. At home she's a perfect obedient daughter, but on the soccer field she's a fierce and talented player, aka La Furia. When her team qualifies for a big tournament, she gets a chance to fulfill her dreams, but will her family acknowledge that she has dreams? 📖 🎧



Noah, Trevor. ***Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood***. (memoir)

As talented a writer as he is a comedian, Trevor Noah has written a memoir not to be missed. Noah writes about his experiences growing up under apartheid as the mixed-race son of a single mother—he has a lot of stories to tell. 📖



Novik, Naomi. ***A Deadly Education***. (fiction)

This is not your typical magical boarding school story. (Honestly, what is?) At Scholomance learning is potentially deadly for the magically gifted students. Failure=Death. There is one student, El, who possesses a powerfully dark magic and might be able to make a difference—but change comes with risks. Monsters, magic, boarding school drama, and a terrifying graduation ritual. The sequel: *The Last Graduate*. 📖 🎧



O'Donoghue, Caroline. ***All Our Hidden Gifts***. (fiction)

Maeve becomes an in-demand tarot card reader at her boarding school when she finds a deck in her closet. After one ill-fated reading, Maeve's friend Lily disappears. Maeve struggles to find answers in the cards—the police seem clueless—while she attempts to maintain a romance with Lily's gender-fluid sibling. There's a lot happening that the nuns don't know about. 📖



Picoult, Jodi. ***My Sister's Keeper***. (fiction)

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. When, at the age of 13, it becomes clear that Anna's parents expect her to donate a kidney to save Kate's life, Anna sues for medical emancipation from her parents. Who's right? Anna? Her parents? 📖



Sepetys, Ruth. ***I Must Betray You***. (fiction)

In 1989 Romania is governed by a tyrannical dictatorship. 17-year-old Cristian, who dreams of being a writer, is blackmailed by the secret police into becoming an informer and betraying his family and friends. Can he use his writing to undermine the dictatorship? 📖 🎧



Weir, Andy. ***Project Hail Mary***. (fiction)

Ryland Grace wakes up from a coma to find that he's hurtling through space on a tiny ship. He has no idea why. Slowly he figures it out: He's supposed to save Earth. Yikes. Lots of science, intrigue, and page-turning suspense in this space adventure. If you haven't read *The Martian* by Weir, you should! 📖



Wong, Alice. ***Disability Visibility: Adapted for Young Adults***. (nonfiction)

The idea that storytelling is a powerful tool for creating community and fostering agency has been a driving force behind disabled activist Wong's work. Here Wong has collected 17 first person accounts by people with diverse identities. Don't miss Ariel Henley's story called *There is a Mathematical Equation That Proves I'm Ugly: Or So I Learned in My Seventh-Grade Art Class*. 📖 🎧



Zhang, Lun and Adrien Gombeaud. ***Tiananmen 1989: Our Shattered Hopes***. (graphic memoir)

In 1989 thousands of students and other Chinese citizens joined together to protest and demand political reform. Authorities opened fire on the protesters, shocking the world. Zhang was a witness to the massacre and has joined forces with a journalist and an illustrator to tell his story. 📖

Series



Bardugo, Leigh. **King of Scars**. The young king, Nikolai Lantsov, has endured devastating hardship during his country's civil war. Now enemies amass at his country's borders and a dark magic within him threatens to overwhelm him. Nikolai needs to face his demons. *King of Scars* and its sequel *King of Wolves* are the latest additions to the Grishaverse, many interconnected books written by Bardugo about the land called Grisha. Each series can stand alone, but in order the books are: **Shadow and Bone**: *Shadow and Bone*, *Siege and Storm*, *Ruin and Rising*; **Six of Crows**: *Six of Crows*, *Crooked Kingdom*; **King of Scars**: *King of Scars* and *Rule of Wolves*. 📖



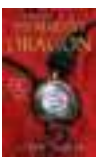
Bradley, Alan. **Flavia de Luce**. These mysteries feature eleven-year-old Flavia, an eccentric science prodigy with a penchant for poison, who lives in an ancient English country house. Fearless and unflappable, she solves crimes herself while in hot pursuit of clues. Totally fun. Series: *The Sweetness 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*, *As Chimney Sweepers Come to Dust*, *Thrice the Brinded Cat Hath Mew'd*, *The Grave's a Fine and Private Place*, and *The Golden Tresses of the Dead*. 📖 🎧



Kemmerer, Brigid. **The Cursebreaker**. Every season Prince Rhen turns into a monster and terrorizes his people. The curse can be broken if someone falls in love with him. Rhen sends Commander Grey to search for a candidate and Harper finds herself transported to their parallel universe. This is a twist on the classic Beauty and the Beast story. Series: *A Curse So Dark and Lonely*, *A Heart So Fierce and Broken*, and *A Vow so Bold and Deadly*. 📖



Ness, Patrick. **Chaos Walking**. Todd Hewitt must flee his settlement in haste after a wacko preacher chases him out. All the women on his planet have been killed and the men have been infected with a sickness that broadcasts all 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*. (BTW: In 2021 a movie adaptation came out called *Chaos Walking*.) 📖



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*, *Crucible of Gold*, *Blood of Tyrants*, and *League of Dragons*. 📖 🎧



Shusterman, Neal. **Arc of a Scythe**. Citra and Rowan have been assigned a job they don't want. They are to be apprenticed to a scythe. In Citra and Rowan's world, a scythe is the only person who can take life (hunger, disease, and war have been eliminated). Scythes are tasked with population control—a grim responsibility. Recipient of a Printz Honor (for best YA fiction). Series: *Scythe*, *Thunderhead*, and *The Toll*. 📖



Shusterman, Neal. **Unwind**. The warring Pro-Choice and Pro-Life armies compromised after the second Civil War—no pregnancy can be terminated. But...when children turn 13, they can be unwound if their parents decide. That means their organs are repurposed for others—so they are technically not dead. Connor, Risa, and Lev are all slated for rewinding—but they have other plans. Series: *Unwind*, *UnWholly*, *UnSouled*, and *UnDivided*. 📖

Feeling Creative?



The Art of Stone Painting: 30 Designs to Spark Your Creativity by F. Sehnaz Bac. Have you ever stumbled across a painted rock nestled under a tree and thought, “That’s cool!” Be a part of the love. Learn what you need to make your own. 📖



Expressive Stitches: A No-Rule Guide to Creating Original Textile Art (The Textile Artist). By Jan Dowson. There are many ways to tell a story. Try telling one with fabric, thread, plants—whatever you have.



The Granny Square Book, Second Edition: Timeless Techniques and Fresh Ideas for Crocheting Square by Square--Now with 100 Motifs and 25 All New Projects! by Margaret Hubert. Try it—you might like it! 📖



My America: Recipes from a Young Black Chef by Kwame Onwuachi with Joshua David Stein. Part a family history and part an exploration of African culinary traditions. Yum. 📖

Read a Classic! All titles are available in the digital library.

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 • *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier • *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston • *Dracula* by Bram Stoker • The Lord of the Rings series by J.R.R. Tolkien • *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells • *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* by Malcom X

Digital Library FACTS: What You Need to Know

Access the Saint Ann’s Digital library through Sora at <https://soraapp.com/library/saintannssny> or use the **Sora app**, which you can download from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

Logging In: When you log onto Sora for the first time, you’ll be prompted to find your school. If Saint Ann’s doesn’t pop up, search for it, then **log in with your Saint Ann’s Google credentials**. Sora allows you to add other participating libraries, including the Brooklyn Public Library, so you can search multiple libraries at once.

Finding Books: To search for a title, click the “explore” icon at the bottom of the page/app and a search bar will appear at the top. You can also browse lists and collections, including this list.

Other: You can have four titles checked out at a time and the checkout period is two weeks. You may return books on the app or website. If you don’t return a book yourself, it will automatically return after two weeks. You can download to a Kindle if you use one.

Current and past reading lists can be found online at:

<http://saintannssny.org/divisions-and-offices/library/high-school-library/reading-list/>