



## Saint Ann's Library

### 2015 Suggested Summer Reading List for students entering 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades



[Check out e-books](#) all summer long! See instructions on the last page of this list.  
If a book is available through our digital library, its title is shaded.



**Acampora, Paul. *I Kill The Mockingbird***

Thirteen-year-old Lucy is excited to read *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, but not everyone is so thrilled about their summer reading assignment. Lucy and her friends step in and start a secret campaign to “destroy the mockingbird,” designed to get people talking. It works, but what happens when the consequences of their shenanigans spin out of control? A great read to prepare for Harper Lee’s new book release this summer.



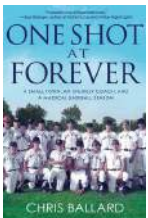
**Alexander, Kwame. *The Crossover***

Josh (aka Filthy McNasty) and his twin brother Jordan have always been close, both on and off the basketball court. But as family problems and teenage crushes enter the picture, priorities begin to change. Told in rhythmic verse, the Newbery medal winner of 2015 is a poignant novel about basketball and family. A quick read.



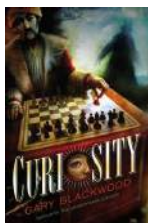
**Auxier, Jonathan. *The Night Gardener***

Siblings Molly and Kip leave Ireland to find work as servants in England. They soon realize something creepy is happening, both with their new house and its inhabitants. A 2015 Saint Ann’s Mock Newbery Honor book, *The Night Gardener* has plenty of heart and plenty of spook.



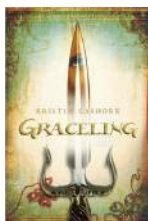
**Ballard, Chris. *One Shot at Forever***

The ultimate underdog sports tale. It’s 1971 and the Macon Ironmen, a ragtag baseball team from small-town Illinois, make it all the way to the state finals—with hand-me-down uniforms and a hippie English teacher as a coach. Ballard, a writer for *Sports Illustrated*, has crafted one heck of a heartwarming—and true—story.



**Blackwood, Gary. *Curiosity***

It’s 1835, and Rufus is a poor 12-year-old in Philadelphia. All he has is his chess-playing skill, and it turns out that’s enough. But once he begins secretly operating the mechanical Turk, will he ever get out of that world? A historical novel with a mysterious feel, *Curiosity* won the 2015 Saint Ann’s Mock Newbery medal.



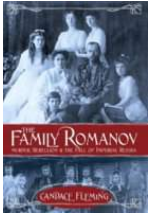
**Cashore, Kristin. *Graceling***

Katsa’s grace is killing. This is why her uncle, King Randa, keeps her at the castle and sends her out to do his bidding. But at 17, Katsa starts to question her uncle’s orders. When she meets Prince Po, a graced fighter, she begins to discover truths about herself, her grace, and her kingdom, as she sets out on a path toward justice...and maybe love. If you like *Graceling*, read *Fire* and *Bitterblue* too!



Edwardson, Debby Dahl. **My Name Is Not Easy**

Alaska, 1960s. Luke and his brother are sent south from their Inupiaq (Eskimo) community to a boarding school with Eskimos, Indians, and a handful of white kids. The novel follows the students through several years as they experience racism and learn to come together. Written in a simple and accessible way but with intense and disturbing subject matter, this is one of those books that you'll read in a day but that will stay with you long after you've finished.



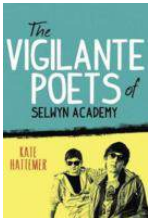
Fleming, Candace. **The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia**

Brilliantly told story of the last tsar of Russia and his family in their final years. Stories from inside the palace are interspersed with those of ordinary Russians living in poverty. A remarkable piece of nonfiction that reads like a dramatic novel.



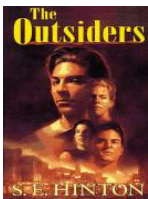
Han, Jenny. **To All the Boys I've Loved Before**

Whenever Lara Jean Song has a crush on a boy, she writes him a love letter – and hides all the letters in a box. But when they accidentally get mailed, Lara Jean's love life is suddenly quite complicated. A fun lighthearted romance with strong family relationships.



Hattemer, Kate. **The Vigilante Poets of Selwyn Academy**

When a reality TV show decides to feature students from Ethan's art school, he and his friends begin an underground rebellion inspired by the poetry of Ezra Pound. But the exploitation and corruption runs deeper than Ethan's group ever could have guessed, and it's up to them (and a gerbil) to save the school.



Hinton, S.E. **The Outsiders**

Since the death of Ponyboy's parents, his brothers and gang have been his family. When his best friend kills a member of a rival gang, a violent nightmare begins. This classic was one of the first novels published for young adults, and Hinton was only sixteen when she wrote it! Also check out Hinton's other books: *That Was Then, This is Now*; *Rumblefish*; *Tex*; and more.



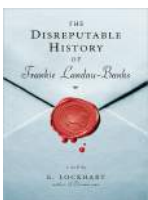
Lee, Harper. **Go Set a Watchman**

Yes, it's true. Harper Lee wrote a book before *To Kill A Mockingbird*, it has recently been rediscovered, and it will be published for the first time in July! Word has it that when she originally submitted the manuscript, featuring an adult Scout, her editor asked her to write a new one from the young Scout's perspective. More than half a century later, we will now be able to read the "sequel" to *Mockingbird*.



Levine, Kristin. **Paper Cowboy**

Tommy wants to be a cowboy, and in 1953 Chicago, he decides this means ridding his town of communists. A bit of a bully with a difficult home life, Tommy finds it hard to do the right thing, or even to know what the right thing is sometimes. A haunting and powerful novel.



Lockhart, E. **The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks**

Frankie returns to her fancy boarding school after a summer of changes and finds herself dating a gorgeous senior who is part of a long-standing all-boys secret society. Frankie uses her wit (and righteous indignation) to manipulate the club and challenge the school's sexism and classism. If you like this clever and dynamic story, check out Lockhart's other books, including the *Ruby Oliver* series.



**Maguire, Gregory. Egg and Spoon**

Elena and Ekaterina: two girls of similar ages but whose lives are as different as can be. One is a poor rural girl and the other from a noble family, and when their lives meet, unexpected things happen. A cleverly-woven epic tale combining the hard reality of impoverished Soviet life under the Tsar with the magic of Russian folklore.



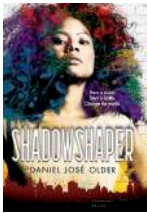
**Myers, Suzanne. Stone Cove Island**

Eliza is cleaning up the lighthouse on Stone Cove Island after a devastating hurricane when she finds a creepy letter, perhaps new evidence in the twenty-five-year-old unsolved murder of a high school girl named Bess. None of the adults on the island want to revisit the past so Eliza and her friend Charlie decide to solve the mystery themselves. A page-turner.



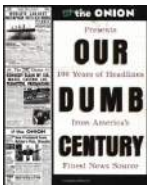
**Nelson, Jandy. I'll Give You The Sun**

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. Told from both perspectives (Jude at age 16, Noah starting at age 13 and gradually getting older), the story brings the two narratives together 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.



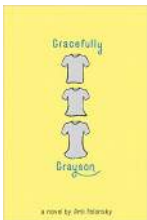
**Older, Daniel José. Shadowshaper**

It's summer in Brooklyn, and Sierra Santiago is hoping to chill out and make art. But when a corpse shows up at a party and the neighborhood murals start shedding real tears, Sierra discovers a kind of ancient magic that someone is trying to crush. Family history is discovered, secrets are revealed. [This book comes out at the end of June.]



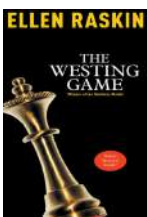
**The Onion. Our Dumb Century**

This arrangement of fake front pages from *The Onion* – one for each year of the 1900s – is laugh-out-loud funny. 1912: “World’s Largest Metaphor Hits Iceberg.” 1963: “Martin Luther King: ‘I Had a Really Weird Dream Last Night.’” 1990: “Bush Not Liar, Bush Says.” Need we go on?



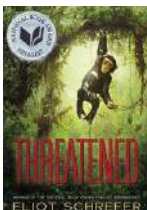
**Polonsky, Ami. Gracefully Grayson**

Grayson Sender is a sixth grader who knows she is a girl, but is afraid to tell anyone. On a whim, Grayson (whom others see as a boy) tries out for the lead in the school play. The role? Persephone. With the help of a supportive teacher and friend, Grayson can face her family and peers and begin to embrace her true self. A touching story and one of the few books featuring a transgender middle schooler.



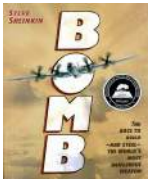
**Raskin, Ellen. The Westing Game**

In this 1979 Newbery winner for all ages, Sam Westing chooses sixteen people to compete for his inheritance in his “final game.” Mystery abounds as the characters try to figure out each other’s connections to Westing in this intricate Clue-like plot.



**Schrefer, Eliot. Threatened**

Luc has lost all his family members and is living in an orphanage when a man called “Prof” offers him a job. Though Luc has always feared chimpanzees (“mock men” as his mother called them), he now finds himself living in the jungle with them – and getting to know them. A novel for adventure seekers, animal lovers, and Jane Goodall fans.



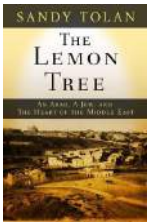
Sheinkin, Steve. **Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon**

This is the gripping, Newbery Honor-winning, true story of the atomic bomb, featuring Soviet spies, Norwegian resistance against the Nazis, and American scientists hidden in the desert.



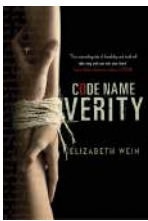
Terrill, Cristin. **All Our Yesterdays**

Em and Finn are in prison, and the easiest way to get out just might be to travel back in time. Four years earlier, Marina is a normal (privileged) teenager, friends with a congressman and in love with the politician’s younger brother James. When the stories connect, we find out just how far Em (and James) will go to save the world.



Tolan, Sandy. **The Lemon Tree**

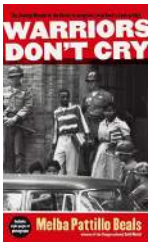
A simple lemon tree outside a small stone house in Ramle, Israel (formerly Al-Ramle, Palestine), holds different meaning for Dalia, who lives there now, and Bashir, whose family lived there before 1948. This true account reads like a novel as it chronicles the relationship between an Israeli and a Palestinian family across decades.



Wein, Elizabeth. **Code Name Verity**

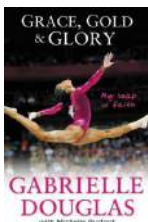
“Verity” is a secret agent, captured by the Gestapo and forced to write out a confession. Hoping to gain more time, she describes her involvement in the resistance in great detail. But what is true and what isn’t? Where is her friend Maddie, and what else is happening while she sits in prison? A clever and thrilling read with a shocking end. Sequel: *Rose Under Fire*.

## Looking for a good memoir? Look no further!



Beals, Melba Pattillo. **Warriors Don’t Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock’s Central High**

In 1957, nine black students enrolled in Little Rock’s Central High School, becoming the first to integrate the previously all-white school. The challenges they faced were enormous, from social pressure to physical attacks and death threats. This is a memoir of that year, written by one of the Little Rock Nine. Pair with the fictional *Fire from the Rock* by Sharon Draper and *Lions of Little Rock* by Kristin Levine.



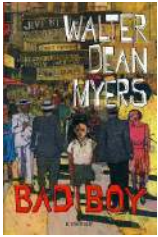
Douglas, Gabrielle. **Grace, Gold & Glory: My Leap of Faith**

Gabrielle Douglas started doing gymnastics at age six, and she never stopped. Her mother worked double shifts to support the family, and even her siblings had to sacrifice their own activities for hers. But it paid off – we all watched Douglas win gold in the 2012 Olympics. This is a personal and inspiring autobiography of one girl whose hard work and faith made her dreams come true.



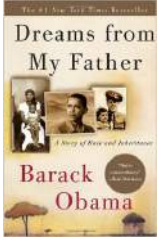
Earl, Esther. **This Star Won’t Go Out: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl**

Meet Esther, the teenager who inspired John Green’s *The Fault in Our Stars*. Esther was diagnosed with thyroid cancer at age 12 and died in 2010 at age 16, but not before creating hundreds of journal entries, letters, drawings and more, and inspiring an online community of thousands. This collection of Esther’s writings and drawings is the moving and uplifting memoir of a remarkable girl.



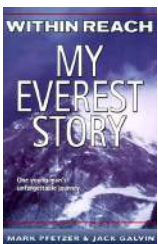
Myers, Walter Dean. **Bad Boy**

Growing up in Harlem in the 1940s, Walter Dean Myers hid books in unmarked bags to avoid teasing from other boys. He always knew he wanted to write, but being poor and black made it anything but easy. After dropping out of school and joining the army, Myers eventually found his way back to himself. Read this extraordinary memoir from the author of *Monster* and *Fallen Angels*.



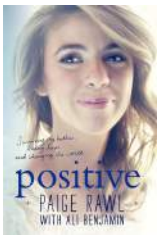
Obama, Barack. **Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance**

In this compelling memoir, Barack Obama explores his identity as a black American and his search for connection with his roots. From Hawaii to Chicago to Kenya, Obama tells of his journey as a student, a community organizer, and finally a lawyer. Refreshingly candid story written long before Obama ran for president.



Pfitzer, Mark. **Within Reach: My Everest Story**

At age 16, Mark Pfitzer became the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest. This is the fascinating story of his climbing expeditions, filled with people and places and details that will interest climbers and non-climbers alike.



Rawl, Paige. **Positive**

Paige is a smart, sporty, and popular middle schooler ... until she tells people that she was born with HIV. The bullying starts immediately, and her school does very little to help. Paige becomes depressed and even suicidal, but ultimately she moves through it and writes this inspiring memoir to share her experiences with the world.



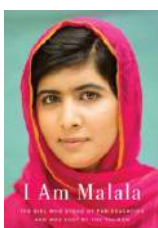
Van Wagenen, Maya. **Popular**

Can a popularity guide from the 1950s make a current geeky 8th grader popular? Judging by the reactions to this funny and poignant memoir, yes.



Woodson, Jacqueline. **Brown Girl Dreaming**

This poetic memoir provides a moving glimpse into the childhood of writer Jacqueline Woodson. From her struggles with reading in South Carolina to her family of Jehovah's Witnesses in Brooklyn, Woodson beautifully describes the life of a young storyteller-in-the-making set against the backdrop of the civil rights movement.



Yousafzai, Malala. **I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban**

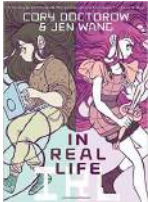
Malala Yousafzai spoke out for girls' education, even as those opposed to it were gaining power in parts of Pakistan. At the age of 15 she was shot in the head and was not expected to survive. Not only did she live, she went on to become the youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner ever, and an advocate for girls' rights and education globally. In this memoir, she tells her own story and contextualizes it in the politics and history of the region.

## Graphic (Novels and Memoirs)



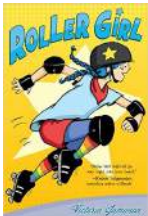
**Bell, Cece. *El Deafo***

Cece just wants to fit in, but at her new school, the giant hearing aid she wears makes it a bit difficult. This graphic memoir chronicles Cece Bell's childhood as she discovers her "superpowers" and makes friends. A 2015 Newbery Honor book, *El Deafo* is perfect for fans of *Smile*.



**Doctorow, Cory and Jen Wang. *In Real Life***

What happens when you mix real money with online role-playing games? Or when a girl in Arizona tries to help a boy working in a factory in China – and ends up harming him instead? This graphic novel explores the intersection of gaming and economics, of cultural differences and global responsibility.



**Jamieson, Victoria. *Roller Girl***

When Astrid's mother takes her to see a roller derby bout, Astrid envisions herself out in that arena. The only problem: she doesn't know how to skate. Her bottle of blue hair dye and months of practice bring her a long way, but her journey to being a true roller girl has many bumps in the road. With vibrant illustrations and easy-to-read text, this is a story of changing friendships and a girl finding her inner (and outer!) strength.



**Lewis, John, Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell. *March***

The first in a graphic trilogy about both John Lewis's journey from civil rights activist to Congressman, and the civil rights movement at large. A masterfully written and illustrated memoir. If you like it, read *March: Book Two* (and *Book Three* when it comes out).



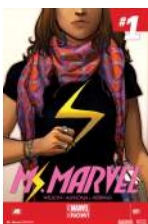
**Tamaki, Jillian and Mariko. *This One Summer***

Rose and her friend Windy have spent summers together every year at Awago Beach, but things are different this summer. Rose is dealing with some serious issues – parents arguing, a local teenager getting pregnant – and she and Windy seem to be drifting apart. This one-of-a-kind realistic graphic novel perfectly captures a moment in the process of growing up, and broke new ground in 2015 by winning honors for both the Caldecott (best picture book) and the Printz (best young adult book).



**TenNapel, Doug. *Ghostopolis***

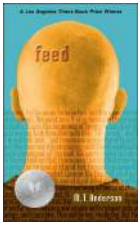
In this richly colored graphic novel, a boy with an incurable disease is whisked away to the land of Ghostopolis. A successful blend of humor and emotions as Garth meets his grandfather's ghost and tries to escape the evil ruler of the ghost world.



**Wilson, G. Willow and Adrian Alphona. *Ms. Marvel: No Normal***

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*).

## Do you like futuristic adventure books? Post-apocalyptic science fiction? Revolutionary stick-it-to-'em hacker novels? Try these!



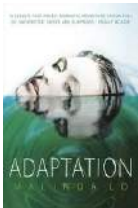
### Anderson, M.T. **Feed**

Titus is a regular kid; like everyone else, he had a TV/internet feed implanted into his brain when he was a baby. It tells him what to watch, how to dress, what to buy, and how to think. When he meets home-schooled Violet on a trip to the moon, everything changes. A classic – and funny! – commentary on capitalism.



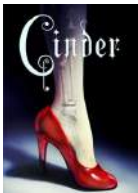
### Cline, Ernest. **Ready Player One**

The year is 2044. The economy has collapsed, the environment has gone to hell, the world is not a place you want to be. Sound familiar? It's not. Enter the OASIS, the online virtual reality in *Ready Player One*, where a billionaire has hidden clues to his inheritance. Teenager Wade and other "gunters" dedicate their lives to finding the fortune before corporations take over the OASIS. This debut novel is brilliantly imaginative and loads of fun... and his next book comes out in July!



### Lo, Malinda. **Adaptation**

Reese and David are returning from a high school debate competition when all flights are canceled due to flocks of birds. They get in a car accident and are unconscious for a month, and when they awake, strange things begin to happen. This book is full of unexplained occurrences, shocking secrets, a bit of teen romance (when Reese meets the intriguing Amber), and a cliffhanger ending. Sequel: *Inheritance*. Companion ebook: *Natural Selection*. Other books by Lo: *Ash* and *Huntress*.



### Meyer, Marissa. **Cinder**

Cinder is a mechanic – and a cyborg – whose life becomes entwined with Prince Kai's as she becomes involved in an intergalactic battle. This is a cleverly imagined and completely unique take on a very old tale. Sequels: *Scarlet* and *Cress*.



### O'Brien, Caragh M. **Birthmarked**

Gaia is a 16-year-old midwife who is forced to turn three babies over to the Enclave each month, essentially stealing them from their mothers so they can lead "better" lives in the city. When Gaia's parents are arrested, she begins a journey of questioning and ultimately challenging the Enclave's ideas about creating an exclusive gene pool. Sequels: *Prized* and *Promised*.



### Sanderson, Brandon. **Steelheart**

When David was eight years old, his father was killed by Steelheart, an "Epic" with supernatural powers. He vows to get revenge. Everyone thinks Epics are invincible, but when David joins with the rebellious Reckoners, they hope to prove otherwise. In a setting of perpetual twilight, this book is full of twists and turns that will delight any science fiction lover. Sequel: *Firefight*.

## Or these...

Card, Orson Scott. **Ender's Game** (series)

Dashner, James. **The Eye of Minds** (trilogy)

Doctorow, Cory. **Little Brother** (sequel: **Homeland**)

DuPrau, Jeanne. **City of Ember** (series)

Fisher, Catherine. **Incarceron** (sequel: **Sapphique**)

Healey, Karen. **When We Wake** (trilogy)

Lore, Pittacus. **I am Number Four** (series)

Lu, Marie. **Legend** (trilogy)

Moore, Alan. **Watchmen** (graphic)

Ness, Patrick. **The Knife of Never Letting Go** (trilogy)

Pfeffer, Susan. **Life As We Knew It** (trilogy)

Westerfeld, Scott. **Afterworlds**

## Classics

Austen, Jane. **Pride and Prejudice** (witty romance)



Barrie, J.M. **Peter Pan** (the boy who never grew up)



Brontë, Charlotte. **Jane Eyre** (Brontë has been called the “first historian of the private consciousness”)

Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan. **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes** (legendary Victorian-era detective)

Du Maurier, Daphne. **Rebecca** (gothic classic)

Hurston, Zora Neale. **Their Eyes Were Watching God** (soulful Southern love story)

Huxley, Aldous. **Brave New World** (cautionary dystopian tale)

Keyes, Daniel. **Flowers for Algernon** (timeless tear-jerker)



Orwell, George. **1984** (chilling and ever-timely)

Stevenson, Robert Louis. **The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde** (thrilling moral parable)

Tolkien, J.R.R. **The Lord of the Rings series** (fantasy at its best)



Wells, H.G. **The War of the Worlds** (imperialist alien invasion)

## Accessing the Saint Ann’s Digital Library

Search for individual books in our catalog or access the digital library at <http://saintannsny.lib.overdrive.com>. The easiest way to read our e-books is with a Kindle, free Kindle app, or free OverDrive app.

**Logging in:** Students need a library card number and PIN to check out books. Your library card number is simply your student ID number (look for an email from [library@saintannsny.org](mailto:library@saintannsny.org) for yours!) **with an “S” in front.** For example, if your name is Eleanor Roosevelt and your student ID number is 18840, your library card number is **S18840**. Your **PIN** is your first and last initial, lower case, followed by the same ID number. So, Eleanor, your PIN is **er18840**. 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.**
- For more information, click “help” when you access the digital library.

**Happy Reading!**  
**Love, Hannah, Denise, and Ragan**

Our booklists can be found at <http://saintannsny.org/divisions-and-offices/library/high-school-library/reading-list>

