



*Rochambeau & Memorial
Middle Schools*

Entering Grades 7 & 8
2017

Summer Literacy Suggestions

June 2017

Dear Students Entering Seventh & Eighth Grades:

Welcome to Rochambeau & Memorial Middle Schools' 2017 Summer Literacy Program! One of our exciting school goals is to support you in continuing your journey toward becoming lifelong readers and writers. Reading and writing enrich life in so many ways. They help you create ideas, imagine possibilities, challenge positions, learn information, and connect to a variety of people and places. Of course they both are a lot of fun, too! This summer, in between camp and hanging out, your goal is to read **at least three books** and to try writing down some of your ideas. The following pages have some great suggestions, but your selections and ideas can come from anywhere. You don't need to read books from this list; feel free to search the websites, browse a bookstore or library and find your own choices. In the fall, we will be asking you to do two things:

1. Share a list of the books you most enjoyed reading and a sample of your summer writing.
2. Participate in a Summer Literacy activity in your English/ELA class. This may be in the form of a discussion or book review.

Ultimately we hope that you find moments in your day to read and write this summer, that you discuss your thoughts, ideas and books with family members and friends and create an important place in your life for reading and writing.

Sincerely,
Rochambeau & Memorial's
Staff of Readers and Writers

On the web

American Library Association, <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/bookawards/booklists/members>

Young adult book lists ranging from Quick Picks for the Reluctant Young Reader to Popular Paperbacks.

Guysread.com Web-based literacy program for boys. Books guys want to read.

Nerdy Book Club nerdybookclub.wordpress.com

Newbery Medal Home Page <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberywinners/medalwinners> Newbery Medal winners, 1922 to present.

Nutmeg Book Award, <https://sites.google.com/site/nutmegbookaward/> Nutmeg nominees & past winners.

Sharing Our Notebooks <http://www.sharingournotebooks.amylv.com/p/summer-notebooking-try-it.html>

Discovery: the Real Stuff

Big Ideas that Changed the World

Isabel Thomas

Read & marvel at the stories behind some of the world's most amazing discoveries that have made a sensation, from the first wheel to satellite navigation, the Model T Ford, & Edison's light bulb.

Bombs over the Bikini

Connie Goldsmith

From 1946 until 1958, the military detonated sixty-seven nuclear bombs over the regions Bikini and Eniwetok Atolls. The twelfth bomb, called Bravo, became the world's first nuclear disaster.

Bubonic Panic: When Plague Invaded America

Gail Jarrow

In 1900, a man in San Francisco's Chinatown is infected with bubonic plague, but the government won't quarantine because they don't want to limit growth of the state. Jarrow tracks the outbreak and response.

Bugged: How Insects Have Changed History

Sarah Albee

There are about ten quintillion insects in the world--and some of them have affected human history in tremendous ways! For as long as humans have been on earth, we've co-existed with insects . . . for better or for worse. This book is told with fun and informative graphics.

Courage Has No Color

Tanya Lee Stone

The True Story of the Triple Nickles: America's First Black Paratroopers.

We Will Not Be Silent

Russell Freedman

The story of the White Rose Student Resistance Movement that defied Hitler. Hans and Sophie belonged to the Hitler youth, but later, with a few friends, formed the White Rose, a campaign of active resistance to Hitler and the Nazis.

Authors of Adventure

The Blackthorne Key

Kevin Sands

In the 1600s, England, Christopher Rowe, the apprentice to a Master Apothecary, tries to solve the murder of his master with the help of his loyal best friend. Codes, ciphers, chemistry and humor add to the mystery.

Lockwood & Co.: The Screaming Staircase—a series **Jonathan Stroud**

The British Isles have become plagued with ghostly Visitors and three teens have formed a company to help rid them from the country—for a fee. **Also *The Whispering Skull, The Hollow Boy, Creeping Shadow, & The Empty Grave* September 2017 publication.**

Loot: How to Steal a Fortune

Jude Watson

In his dying words, the notorious cat burglar tells his son to, "Find jewels." But March learns that his father isn't talking about hidden loot. He's talking about Jules, the twin sister March never knew he had. Together they are led to hunt for a famous stolen fortune. Cons & close calls await!

Mickey Bolitar, Book Three: Found

Harlan Coben

It's been eight months since Mickey Bolitar witnessed the shocking, tragic death of his father. It's now been 8 months of lies, dark secrets, and unanswered questions. While he desperately wants answers, Mickey's sophomore year of high school brings on a whole new set of troubles. Action-packed series. Also, **Mickey Bolitar Book One, *Shelter*, and Book Two, *Seconds Away*.**

Stone Rider

David Hofmeyr

Fifteen-year-old Adam Stone inherited his biomechanical bike from his brother, who inherited it from his father. His family has escaped working in the mines by riding the race circuit, providing entertainment for the Watchers. The Blackwater Trail will be his first race, and unlike most of the other racers who ride with fellow gang members,

Taste of Monsters

Matthew Kirby

1888 London, when Evelyn is disfigured from her work at the match factory, she gets hired as a maid for Joseph, the "Elephant Man", while Jack the Ripper roams the streets. Ghosts of the victims appear and Evelyn and Joseph must find a way to help them move on. Creepy historical fiction.

Fantasy

Five Kingdoms Series Book One, Sky Raiders

Brandon Mull

Written by former Rochambeau student & author of the Fablehaven & Beyonders series!

Cole was just trying to have a fun time with his friends on Halloween. But when a spooky haunted house turns out to be a portal to something much creepier, Cole finds himself on an adventure on a whole different level. Also, ***Rogue Night, Crystal Keepers, & Death Weavers.***

The Girl from Everywhere

Heidi Heilig

16-year-old Nix has sailed across the globe and through centuries aboard her time-traveling father's ship as he tries to stop her mother's death. Nix worries how this might change her own birth.

Heartless

Marissa Meyer

Ever wonder how the Queen of Hearts of *Alice in Wonderland* became so heartless? Here is the story that tells all. Catherine just wanted to be a baker, but she falls in love with a jester and heart-break follows.

Magisterium: The Iron Trial—a 2017 Nutmeg & series

Black & Clare

Despite his father's warnings to stay away, Callum and his friends are heading deep into the magical world where twisted, sinister adventures and enemies await them. **Also *The Copper Gauntlet, The Bronze Key, & The Silver Mask* August 2017 Publication.**

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children--a series

Ransom Riggs

A haunting and out-of-the-ordinary read--Jacob finds children--alive and well--who locals say were all killed decades ago. Enjoy: ***Hollow City & Library of Lost Souls.***

The Nest

Kenneth Oppel

For some kids summer is a sun-soaked season of fun. But for Steve, it's just another season of worries. Worries about his sick newborn baby brother who is fighting to survive, worries about his parents who are struggling to cope, even worries about the wasp's nest looming ominously from the eaves.

Great Middle School Stories of Growing Up

Falling Over Sideways

Jordan Sonnenblick

Eighth-grader Claire is dealing with normal girl things: dance, mean girls, changing friendships, a perfect older brother—but everything changes when her funny, amazing father has a stroke.

Goodbye Stranger—a 2018 Nutmeg Nominee

Rebecca Stead

Friends struggle with the changes middle school and family issues bring to their lives. Three girls are best friends with one rule: No fighting. Can it get them through seventh grade?

I am Princess X—a 2018 Nutmeg Nominee

Cherie Priest

Best friends Libby and May invented Princess X when they were in elementary school. May is now 16 and Libby has supposedly been dead for years. But now May is seeing stickers with drawings of Princess X all over Seattle. Could Libby still be alive?

I Kill the Mockingbird—a 2018 Nutmeg Nominee

Paul Acampora

When Lucy, Elena, and Michael receive their summer reading list, they are excited to see *To Kill A Mockingbird* included. But not everyone in their class shares the same enthusiasm. So they hatch a plot to get the entire town talking about the well-known Harper Lee classic.

Lily and Dunkin

Donna Gephart

Lily was born in a boy's body and wants to come out. Dunkin's just moved and struggles with the loss of his dad. The two meet and everything changes. Thoughtful and sensitive.

Need

Joelle Charbonneau

When a new social network pops up promising to fulfill any need, 16 year-old Kaylee knows it's too good to be true. It's one thing to deliver new phones, computers, or sports equipment, but how can an anonymous site give Kaylee what she needs—a kidney for her little brother? Kaylee joins NEED but starts to worry when NEED begins asking users to complete tasks in exchange for getting what they want. The tasks seem harmless enough at first, until a student turns up dead, and Kaylee finds out the lengths to which some people will go to get what they think they need.

One

Sarah Crossan

Tippi and Grace share everything—clothes, friends . . . even their body. This is the sensitive and moving story of conjoined twin sisters, who find it normal to step into the same skirt, to hook their arms around each other for balance, to fall asleep listening to the other breathing, to share, and to keep some things private...But the girls' body is beginning to fight against them. And Grace doesn't want to admit it. Not even to Tippi. How long can they hide from the truth—how long before they must face the most impossible choice of their lives?

Orbiting Jupiter

Gary Schmidt

The shattering story of Joseph, a father at thirteen, who has never seen his daughter, Jupiter. After spending time in a juvenile facility, he's placed with a foster family on a farm in rural Maine. Here Joseph, damaged and withdrawn, meets twelve-year-old Jack, who narrates the account of the troubled, passionate teen who wants to find his baby at any cost. In this riveting novel, two boys discover the true meaning of family and the sacrifices it requires.

Pax

Sara Pennypacker

Peter is determined to find his pet fox after his father forces him to leave him in the woods as war looms in the background. Dual narrative between Peter and his fox, Pax.

See You at Harry's—2015 Nutmeg Nominee

Jo Knowles

Twelve-year-old Fern feels invisible. It seems as though everyone in her family has better things to do than to pay attention to her. Then tragedy strikes, and Fern feels responsible for the accident that has wrenched her family apart and changed their lives forever.

Keep Thinking & Writing

...All Summer Long!

If I waited
for perfection,
I would never write
A WORD.

-Margaret Atwood

Sometimes it is hard to get started with writing!

If you feel stuck, or want great ideas for starting points, check out these possibilities from the website *Sharing Our Notebooks*.

Some of these might sound great to you, while others might not. Pick and choose the ones that inspire you to get writing!

Take 15 minutes at the end of each day to jot down answers to these 3 questions: What surprised you today? What moved or touched you? What inspired you?

Go to a public place and write about what you see. Don't worry about what people are thinking, just observe and record.

You're stuck in traffic at a long red light or in a construction zone. Look around you. Who else is on the road? Observe the license plates. Often, they tell us a lot about the person inside the car. Try deciphering the code on the plate, and then write a brief character sketch about the person in the car. Who are they? Where are they going? What are they hiding? What are they famous for? What makes them unique, important, or unusual?

Begin with the day's weather! Go out in the weather and write about it. Poems, short phrases, longer paragraphs...what can you do with your words (and maybe illustrations, too!) to bring to life all the wonders the weather has to offer?

Stick things into your notebook: tickets, receipts, restaurant bills, pictures cut from a brochure, any of the little paper things around you when you go out in public.

Tape one of these down onto a page, and write a few notes about what you were doing, who was with you, what you were thinking about, why you were there.

So often we are asked, especially in school, to write about what we “love”-- a favorite place, a beloved pet, etc. Sometimes, thinking about things we don’t love--or, better yet, things we wished we loved, but don’t--provides just as much, if not more, fodder for writing. So, what do you have to say about those things you don’t love? Or some things you wish you loved?

Pay attention to the words that others say. Listen to interesting phrases, and gather them into your own notebook. You might sit in a public place and listen for interesting snips of stranger-conversation or you might copy down words spoken by those you know. Keep these in your own notebook-- they may come in handy for future projects.

Sometimes all we have to do is walk about and ideas for writing will find us. Try taking a walk about your home or your backyard. Explore your world, and write what you notice. You never know what will turn up to write about!

Do you have a collection of any sort? Objects from nature like shells, or other kinds of objects like Pokemon cards?

Choose an object and write its story.

Where were you? Who were you with? What were you doing?
What were you feeling?

For more ideas, visit the website:

<http://www.sharingournotebooks.amylv.com/p/summer-notebooking-try-it.html>

With special thanks to Ann, Greg, Stacey, Gretta, Shawna, Melanie, Kiesha, Elizabeth and Gretchen for their suggestions.

Sample Notebook Entrees

Summer Camp Talent Show

"Come on. Don't be nervous. We signed up for the talent show because we have talent!" Sarah laughed. But inside, I definitely didn't feel like I had talent.

"Okay, Jill. This is simple. Just one note after the other. Super easy. Just 34 notes. 34 long dreadful notes." They were spinning through my head like a windmill in a tornado. I wasn't sure if I was excited or I if just wanted to run away. It was too late.

"And next up we have Jill and Sarah playing the flute!" The announcer boomed.

I heard screams and cheers. Then clapping. I heard it, but I couldn't see it. The lights burned into my pupils.

"Ready?" Sarah asked.

"More than ever," I said sarcastically.

"One, two, three," she whispered.

Note after note, the sound of the flute duet we were playing pulled me into a trance. I forgot about the 400 people watching. I forgot about everything but the music. I smiled.

"Yes," I whispered to myself. "I did it"

Observing Nature

I saw a family of birds today. They didn't see me watching. The dad perched at the edge of the nest, poking at the baby birds. The momma bird was in the grass. They called back and forth to each other. Dad poked some more. Then one of those babies climbed up to the edge of the nest and called out to his mom. He leaned and stretched and then, WOW! He jumped and soared to the grass below to stand next to his mom. WOW! Such beauty in nature!

Practicing the Piano

Like anything you want to be good at, playing piano takes practice - a lot of practice. There just isn't any way around this. One thing that is super important to practice is scales. Ideally, you've got a metronome next to the piano that is easily set to different tempos. Set the tempo to a speed at which you can comfortably practice scales with both hands at least two octaves; then see-- are you able to do it? If you're playing jazz, it is important to the set the metronome to beats two and four-- not one and three. Practicing with the beats set to offbeats will increase your "feel" for swing, a common jazz style.

Science Fiction—Will life look like this in the future?

The Accelerati Trilogy

Shusterman & Elfman

Fans of intrigue, action, humor, and nonstop surprises are guaranteed a read unlike any other A story of teenagers versus mad scientists. *Tesla's Attic*, *Edison's Alley* & *Hawking's Hallway*.

Atlantia

Ally Condie

For as long as she can remember, Rio has dreamed of the sand and sky Above—of life beyond her underwater city of Atlantia. But in a single moment, all Rio's hopes for the future are shattered when her twin sister, Bay, makes an unexpected choice, stranding Rio Below. Alone, ripped away from the last person who knew Rio's true self—and the powerful siren voice she has long silenced—she has nothing left to lose.

The Fifth Wave—a trilogy

Rick Yancey

Cassie is one of the very few people left alive on Earth. Aliens sent waves of destructive forces to eradicate humans, and Cassie must now fight back. A compelling story full of violent twists and turns, along with nonstop action. **Also** *The Infinite Sea* & *The Last Star*.

Genius, The Game

Leopoldo Gout

The Game: Get ready for Zero Hour as 200 geniuses from around the world go head to head in a competition hand-devised by India's youngest CEO and visionary. The stakes are higher than you can imagine. Like life and death. Welcome to the revolution. And get ready to run.

Lunar Chronicles—a 2016 Nutmeg Nominee

Marissa Meyer

In this futuristic retelling of Cinderella, Cinder is both a gifted mechanic and a cyborg, living on a plague-ravaged Earth that is threatened by a ruthless lunar queen. She becomes involved with a prince and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the fate of the world. *Cinder*, *Scarlet*, *Cress*, *Winter* and companion novels: *Fairest* & *Stars Above*.

The Mortality Doctrine—a series

James Dashner

Michael is a gamer. And like most gamers, he almost spends more time on the VirtNet than in the actual world. The VirtNet offers total mind and body immersion, and it's addictive. And the more hacking skills you have, the more fun. Why bother following the rules when most of them are dumb, anyway? *The Eye of Minds*, *The Rule of Thoughts*, & *The Game of Lives*.

The Six

Mark Alpert

Adam's muscular dystrophy has stolen his mobility, his friends, and in less than a year it will take his life. Virtual reality games are Adam's only escape from his wheelchair. In his alternate world, he can defeat anyone. Running, jumping, scoring touchdowns: Adam is always the hero. Then an artificial intelligence program hacks into Adam's game. Created by Adam's computer-genius father, Sigma has gone rogue, threatening to kill Adam—and the entire human race. **Also** *The Siege*.

Sea of Ink and Gold—a series

Traci Chee

Sefia knows what it means to survive. After her father is brutally murdered, she flees into the wilderness with her aunt Nin, who teaches her to hunt, track, and steal. But when Nin is kidnapped, leaving Sefia completely alone, none of her survival skills can help her discover where Nin's been taken, or if she's even alive. Sefia sets out to rescue her aunt and find out what really happened the day her father was killed—and punish the people responsible. *The Reader* & *The Speaker*, a **November 2017 Publication**.

W.A.R.P.: The Reluctant Assassin—a series

Eoin Coffey

From the author of *Artemis Fowl*: Seventeen-year-old FBI agent Chevron Savano thought her time in London would be an exercise in boredom, but between dead scientists, scrappy would-be assassins, and a malevolent Victorian illusionist, boredom may be the least of her worries.

Also *The Hangman's Revolution* & *The Forever Man*.

Exciting Sports Authors

The Final Four—2015 *Nutmeg Nominee*

Paul Volponi

It's the semifinal game of March Madness—as the teams race to find victory, the stories of how each player arrived there are revealed.

Throwing Strikes: The Quest for the Perfect Knuckleball

R.A. Dickey

An inspiring true story about one of the most respected pitchers in the game—R.A. is proof that with hard work and devotion, anyone can overcome whatever life throws at him.

John Feinstein

Triple Threat—a series: *The Walk On*

The Sports Beat Series: *Last Shot: Mystery at the Final Four, Vanishing Act: Mystery at the US Open, Cover-Up: Mystery at the Super Bowl, Change-Up: Mystery at the World Series, The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game.*

Tim Green

Football Genius Series: *Football Genius, Football Hero, Football Champ, The Big Time, Deep Zone and Perfect Season.*

Baseball Great Series: *Baseball Great, Best of the Best, Pinch Hit and Rivals.*

Other Novels: *Unstoppable, Pinch Hit, Force Out, New Kid, Lost Boy, and Left Out.*

Dan Gutman

The Baseball Card Adventures—a series: *Babe & Me, Honus & Me, Jackie & Me, Shoeless Joe & Me, Mickey & Me, Ted & Me, Willie & Me, Satch & Me, Roberto & Me, Ray & Me, Abner & Me, Jim & Me.*

Million Dollar series: *Million Dollar Catch, Million Dollar Kick, Million Dollar Putt, Million Dollar Shot, Million Dollar Strike, Million Dollar Goal.*

Other Books: *Casey Back at Bat, Gymnastics: the Trials, the Triumph, the Truth* (nonfiction).

Mike Lupica

Game Changers Series: *Game Changers, Play Makers, and Heavy Hitters.*

Comeback Kid Series: *Two-Minute Drill, Hot Hand, Safe at Home, Long Shot and Shoot Out.*

Other Novels: *Travel Team, Summer Ball* (sequel). *True Legend, Hero, Underdogs, Million-Dollar Throw, Batboy, Miracle on 49th Street, The Big Field, QB1, Fast Break, and Last Man Out.*

Mystery

FunJungle: Belly Up— a series

Stuart Gibbs

12 year-old Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt Fitzroy has murder on his hands and trouble on his tail. He believes that Henry, the hippopotamus at the brand-new FunJungle, has been murdered. The zoo's top brass claim the hippo went belly up the natural way, but Teddy and his feisty friend have other ideas. The deeper Teddy and Summer dig, the more danger they're in! ***Poached, Big Game, & Panda-Monium.***

The Girl I Used to Be

April Henry

When she was three, Olivia's mother was murdered and everyone thought her father must have done it. Now 13 years later, her father's body is found and the true murderer must be found. Is the killer hunting Olivia?

The Lie Tree

Frances Hardinge

In the 1870's, Faith dreams of being a scientist. Her father's reputation is in ruins, and after someone murders him, she discovers his secret—a tree that bears fruit only when she whispers a lie to it. The fruit of the tree, when eaten delivers hidden truth. A dark, suspenseful mystery.

Serafina and the Black Cloak

Robert Beatty

In 1899, 12 year-old Serafina lives with her father in the basement of the Vanderbilts' estate. When children begin disappearing, she and Braeden Vanderbilt decide to solve the mystery, and in the process Serafina discovers secrets of her past.

Reading in Fun Formats

Brown Girl Dreaming

Jacqueline Woodson

In vivid poems, Woodson shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world.

How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous

Georgia Bragg

Over the course of history men and women have lived and died. In fact, getting sick and dying can be a big, ugly mess—especially before the modern medical care that we all enjoy today. Also *How They Choked: Failures, Flops & Flaws of the Awfully Famous*

March—a trilogy

Lewis, Aydin, & Powell

A vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, beginning with his youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr., the birth of the Nashville Student Movement, and their battle to tear down segregation through nonviolent lunch counter sit-ins, building to a stunning climax on the steps of City Hall. Also *March: Book 2 & Book 3*.

Olympians—a series

George O'Conner

A graphic novel series based on mythology. The gods interfere in the lives of the humans and the demi-gods as we watch the story unfold. *Odysseus: Escaping Poseidon's Curse; Perseus: The Hunt for Medusa's Head; The Trojan Horse: The fall of Troy; Hercules: The Twelve Labors; Apollo: The Brilliant One; Ares: Bringer of War.*

Saving Red

Sonya Sones

Right before winter break, fourteen-year-old Molly Rosenberg reluctantly volunteers to participate in Santa Monica's annual homeless count, just to get her school's community service requirement out of the way. But when she ends up meeting Red, a spirited homeless girl only a few years older than she is, Molly makes it her mission to reunite her with her family in time for Christmas. Told in verse.

Six Kids and a Stuffed Cat

Gary Paulsen

Six boys in a school lockdown take shelter in a boy's restroom during a potentially bad thunderstorm. Funny story, written in script format.

The Tapper Twins Go to War—a series

Geoff Rodkey

What's wrong with a little pranking among siblings? Things couldn't possibly escalate, could they? Also *The Tapper Twins Tear Up New York, ...Run for President, and ...Go Viral.*

Inspired by True Life Experiences

All of the Above

Shelly Pearsall

James, Rhondell, Sharice, and Marcel attend the same inner-city school. Their teacher, Mr. Collins, challenges these diverse students to build the world's biggest Sierpinski tetrahedron in an after-school club. Based on a true story.

Because They Marched

Russell Freedman

The people's Campaign for Voting rights that changed America. The story of Selma, Alabama 1965: Tired of abuse for attempting to register to vote, Selma's black community began to protest.

The Boys in the Boat

Daniel Brown

The true story of an American team's epic journey to win gold at the 1936 Olympics. The inspiring story of The University of Washington's underdog crew team that beat all of the big East Coast teams and went on to win the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.

Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and Fight for Civil Rights

Steve Sheinkin

On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors who were at the docks, critically injuring off-duty men in their bunks, and shattering windows up to a mile away. On August 9th, 244 men refused to go back to work until unsafe and unfair conditions at the docks were addressed. When the dust settled, fifty were charged with mutiny, facing decades in jail and even execution.

Ten Days a Madwoman

Deborah Noyes

The Daring Life and Turbulent Times of the Original "Girl" Reporter, Nellie Bly. Tells all of her daring and era challenging exploits, including her coverage of a NY asylum and the injustice there.

History With a Dash of Fiction

The Auslander

Paul Dowswell

When Peter's parents are killed, he is sent to an orphanage in Warsaw, Poland. With his blond hair and blue eyes, he looks just like the boy on the Hitler Youth poster. The Nazis decide he is racially valuable. Indeed, a prominent German family is pleased to adopt such a fine Aryan specimen into their household. But despite his new "family," Peter feels like a foreigner—an *ausländer*—and he is forming his own ideas about what he sees and what he's told. He doesn't want to be a Nazi. So he takes a risk—the most dangerous one he could possibly choose in 1942 Berlin...

The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle

Janet Fox

During WWII, to escape the London Blitz, Katherine and her siblings are sent to a crumbling Scottish estate that's been turned into a boarding house where mysterious things are happening. Erie and haunting...

The Inventor's Secret—a series of *alternate history*

Andrea Cremer

In an America in which the British won the Revolutionary War, descendants of the rebels are forced to labor in indentured servitude to atone for their forefathers' errors, and the children of those descendants are up to their eyeballs in plots against the government.

Lincoln's Grave Robbers

Steve Sheinkin

The plan: grab Lincoln's body from its Springfield tomb, stash it in the sand dunes near Lake Michigan, and demand, as a ransom, the release of Ben Boyd --and \$200,000 in cash. Follow the story of the conspirators, the Secret Service agents on their trail, and the undercover agent moving back and forth between the two groups.

Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story

Nora Baskin

Two days before 9-11, four kids in different parts of the country are going about their lives. Sergio, who lives in Brooklyn, is struggling to come to terms with the absentee father he hates and the grandmother he loves. Will's father is gone, too, killed in a car accident that has left the family reeling. Naheed has never before felt uncomfortable about being Muslim, but at her new school she's getting funny looks because of the head scarf she wears. Aimee is starting a new school in a new city and missing her mom, who has to fly to New York on business. These four don't know one another, but their lives are about to intersect in ways they never could have imagined.

Red Berries, White Clouds, Blue Sky

Sandra Dallas

Tomi and her brothers are American, but after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1942, her family is separated and imprisoned in an internment camp for Japanese Americans in Colorado. Tomi tries to enrich the lives of her family and friends at the camp while her own faith in the American dream begins to waiver.

Seeds of America Book Three: Ashes

Laurie Halse Anderson

The conclusion to the trilogy. Isabel and Curzon have narrowly escaped Valley Forge—they are reported as runaways, and the awful Bellingham is determined to track them down as Isabel finds her sister, Ruth. *Also Chains & Forge.*

Some Kind of Courage

Dan Gemeinhart

1890, Joseph Johnson has lost just about everyone he's ever loved. He lost his pa in an accident. He lost his ma and his little sister to sickness. And now, he's lost his pony—fast, fierce, beautiful Sarah, taken away by a man who had no right to take her. He will face down deadly animals, dangerous men, and the fury of nature itself on his quest to be reunited with the only family he has left.

Under a Painted Sky

Stacey Lee

All Samantha wanted was to move back to New York and pursue her music, which was difficult enough being a Chinese girl in Missouri, 1849. Then her fate takes a turn for the worse after a tragic accident leaves her with nothing and she breaks the law in self-defense. With help from Annamae, a runaway slave she met at the scene of her crime, the two flee town for the unknown frontier. But life on the Oregon Trail is unsafe for two girls. They disguise themselves as Sammy and Andy, two boys heading for the California gold rush.

Cover Art by Anastasia Skabardonis