

# SUMMER READING LIST

## GRADES 6-8

**Beetle Boy**  
by M. G. Leonard  
Illustrated by Julia Sarda  
Scholastic/Chicken House,  
2016, ISBN: 9780545853460

A giant talking beetle and cast of crazy characters help Darkus search for his missing father, a famous entomologist. First in a series.

**The Bitter Side of Sweet**  
by Tara Sullivan  
Putnam, 2016, ISBN:  
9780399173073

Amadou and his brother, Seydou, are modern-day child slaves on a cacao plantation, until Khadija arrives. The three band to make their escape from the Ivory Coast to freedom.

**Booked**  
by Kwame Alexander  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt,  
2016, ISBN: 9780544570986

The thrill of a soccer tournament, the pressure of family expectations, the social minefield of crushes and bullies, and the beauty of words are all explored in this exciting, extraordinary novel in verse.

**The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club**  
by Phillip Hoose

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2015,  
ISBN: 9780374300227

A group of teenagers in Denmark resist the Nazi invasion of their country and inspire others to follow suit in this award-winning nonfiction book.

**Dead to Me**  
by Mary McCoy  
Disney-Hyperion, 2015, ISBN:  
9781423187127

Veronica Mars meets L.A. Confidential as sixteen-year-old Alice tries to piece together the events that lead to her older sister winding up in a coma.

**Dream On, Amber**  
by Emma Shevah  
Sourcebooks/Jabberwocky,  
2015, ISBN: 9781492622505

Amber's father left when she was little, so now she fills in the frustrating gap in her life with imagined conversations to help her deal with art projects, bullies, and little sisters.

**Fatal Fever: Tracking Down Typhoid Mary**  
by Gail Jarrow  
Calkins Creek, 2015, ISBN:  
9781620915974

Learn about this dreaded disease that ravaged our country early in the twentieth century in this nonfiction title that reads like a medical mystery.

**Fearsome Creatures of the Lumberwoods**  
by Hal Johnson  
Illustrated by Tom Mead  
Workman Publishing, 2015,  
ISBN: 9780761184614

This reworking of American tall tales features stories of fearsome legendary creatures of the wooded wilds of early North America, including the snoligoster, the hodag, and the hoop snake. Glow-in-the-dark illustrations add to the alternately fun and creepy tone of this collection of stories.

**Fish in a Tree**  
by Lynda Mullaly Hunt  
Penguin/Nancy Paulsen Books,  
2015, ISBN: 9780399162596

Ally struggles to hide her dyslexia by continually getting into trouble, until a substitute teacher discovers what she is really hiding.

**The Great Greene Heist**  
by Varian Johnson  
Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine,  
2014, ISBN: 9780545525527

Jackson Greene vowed never to get involved in another middle-school con, but he is put to the test when the girl of his dreams runs for class president.

**Grounded: The Adventures of Rapunzel**  
by Megan Morrison  
Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine,  
2015, ISBN: 9780545638265

After leaving her tower for the first time, Rapunzel joins Jack Beanstalker on a perilous journey through the lands of Tyme. First in a series.

**Hour of the Bees**  
By Lindsay Eagar  
Candlewick Press, 2016, ISBN:  
9780763679224

Carol is stuck in the New Mexican desert one summer with her family and her grandfather, who suffers from dementia. Her world is rocked by the stories he tells her during that time.

**I Kill the Mockingbird**  
by Paul Acampora  
Roaring Brook Press, 2014,  
ISBN: 9781596437425

Over summer break, Lucy, Elena, and Michael launch a

campaign to make a beloved teacher's favorite book "go viral."

**The Iron Trial**  
by Holly Black and  
Cassandra Clare  
Scholastic, 2014, ISBN:  
9780545522250

Despite his father's warnings about the dangers of magic, Callum enrolls in the Magisterium and begins to learn about himself and his own bewildering powers.

**Lost in the Sun**  
by Lisa Graff  
Philomel Books, 2015, ISBN:  
9780399164064

Trent blames an unfortunate event for his misfortunes and tries to turn things around. He is able to make that turn when he meets Fallon, and together they help him find the healing and redemption he seeks.

**The Mark of the Dragonfly**  
by Jaleigh Johnson  
Random House/Delacorte,  
2014, ISBN: 9780385376150

When plucky machinist Piper saves Anna after a meteor shower, both girls stow away on an armored train to escape the man chasing them.

**Mark of the Thief**  
by Jennifer A. Nielsen  
Scholastic, 2015, ISBN:  
9780545561549

Nic, a slave in the mines of ancient Rome, escapes after discovering a magical amulet. First in a series.

**Masterminds**  
by Gordon Korman  
Balzer + Bray, 2015, ISBN:  
9780062299963

After living in a perfect town his whole life, Eli discovers there are secrets that will change everything. First in a series.

**Me & Miranda Mullaly**  
by Jake Gerhardt  
Viking, 2016, ISBN:  
9780451475404

Three boys all trying to gain the attention of the same girl become rivals in this hilarious tale of misunderstandings.

**Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War**  
by Steve Sheinkin

Roaring Brook Press, 2015,  
ISBN: 9781596439528  
From the Oval Office to the editor's office of the New York Times, Sheinkin tells a gripping tale of government secrecy and manipulation that is still relevant today.

**The Night Gardener**  
by Jonathan Auxier  
Abrams/Amulet Books, 2014,  
ISBN: 9781419711442

Molly and Kip are orphaned and must find a way to take care of themselves. Molly finds work as a maid but soon discovers the family is being haunted, and she and her brother are soon targeted by the Night Gardener as well.

**The Night Parade**  
by Kathryn Tanquary  
Sourcebooks/Jabberwocky,  
2016, ISBN: 9781492623243

Saki Yamamoto does not want to spend her summer vacation visiting her grandma's small village. Things get more interesting than she expected when she unintentionally invokes a death curse, and she must enter the dangerous spirit world at the Night Parade to break the curse.

**Serafina and the Black Cloak**  
by Robert Beatty  
Disney-Hyperion, 2015, ISBN:  
9781484709016

At the turn of the century, a twelve-year-old secretly living in the basement of the Biltmore Estate solves an ancient evil and unravels her family history.

**Some Kind of Courage**  
by Dan Gemeinhart  
Scholastic, 2016, ISBN:  
9780545665773

Bears, bandits, and raging rapids can't stop Joseph from searching for what's left of his family—his beloved horse, Sarah—across the American Northwest frontier.

**Tesla's Attic**  
by Neal Shusterman and Eric Elfman  
Disney-Hyperion, 2014, ISBN:  
9781423148036

When Nick holds a yard sale to get rid of the junk in the attic of his new home, he realizes too late that all the objects have mysterious powers and he needs to get them back. First in a series.

