

# WLPCS SUMMER READING

7th and 8th Grade – Summer 2020

## Requirements by Course

Students are required to read the book listed for the grade they will enter in the fall.

### English 7

1. *March, Book One* by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin
2. Two books from the 7th and 8th grade independent reading list

### English 8

1. *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
2. Two books from the 7th and 8th grade independent reading list

## Student Choice Books

Students will read the required number of choice books (indicated above) from the 7th and 8th grade Independent Reading List.



## Why summer reading?

At Washington Latin, we require that students read over the summer for several reasons. Required texts establish themes for the year and are frequently the focus of the first unit of the year in each class. They serve as touchstones and jumping-off points for year-long conversations about the essential thematic questions that drive English courses at Latin. We require summer reading to prevent any loss of reading skills over the summer; summer reading ensures that students are engaged in some of the same activities they pursue during the school year. We believe children learn to read (and think) best when they want to read; we require summer reading to promote reading for pleasure and assist parents in motivating students to read. We are trying to teach students to love reading. We think if children love books, they will do well in life.

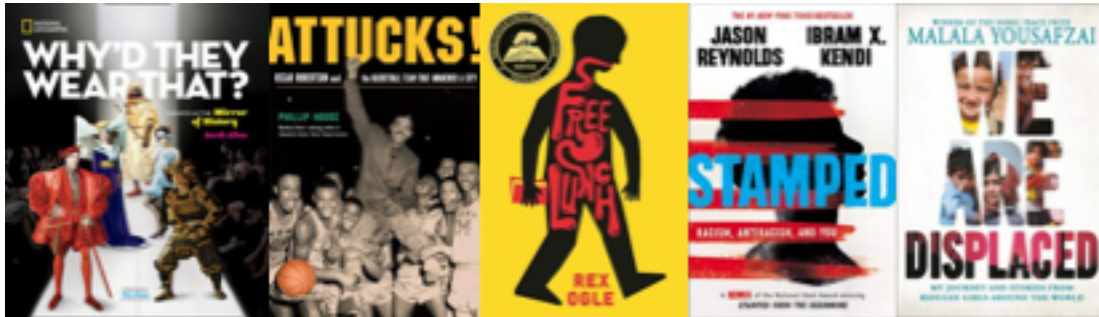
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# INDEPENDENT READING LIST

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7th and 8th grade – Summer 2020

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## Nonfiction

**Why'd They Wear That: Fashion as the Mirror of History** by Sarah Albee -- In this book, learn about clothing from togas to spatz and discover why those fashions were practical, popular, and stylish. (WLPCS Library)

**Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina (Young Readers Edition)** by Misty Copeland -- As the first African-American principal dancer at the American Ballet Theatre, Misty Copeland has been breaking down all kinds of barriers in the world of dance. But when she first started dancing—at the late age of thirteen—no one would have guessed the shy, underprivileged girl would one day make history in her field.

**Blood, Bullets, and Bone** by Bridget Heos -- From Jack the Ripper to CSI: Miami, human beings have been fascinated by the process of solving gruesome crimes, both factual and fictional. This book tells the history of forensic science and its evolution from crude early methods to the cutting-edge techniques we use today. (WLPCS Library)

**Attucks!: Oscar Robertson and the Basketball Team that Awakened a City** by Phillip M. Hoose -- The true story of the all-black high school basketball team that broke the color barrier in segregated 1950s Indiana, masterfully told by National Book Award winner Phil Hoose.

**Free Lunch** by Rex Ogle -- Rex Ogle recounts his first semester in sixth grade in which he and his younger brother often went hungry, wore secondhand clothes, and were short of school supplies and he was on his school's free lunch program. Grounded in the immediacy of physical hunger and the humiliation of having to announce it every day in the school lunch line, Rex's is a compelling story of a more profound hunger -- that of a child for his parents' love and care.

**Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You** by Jason Reynolds -- The construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, to create dynamics that separate and silence. This remarkable reimagining of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's National Book Award-winning *Stamped from the Beginning* reveals the history of racist ideas in America, and inspires hope for an antiracist future.

**PRIDE: Celebrating Diversity and Community** by Robin Stevenson -- For LGBTQ people and their supporters, Pride events are an opportunity to honor the past, protest injustice, and celebrate a diverse and vibrant community....But there is a whole lot more to Pride than rainbow flags and amazing outfits. How did Pride come to be?

**We Are Displaced: My Journey and Stories from Refugee Girls Around the World** by Malala Yousafzai -- Malala's experiences visiting refugee camps caused her to reconsider her own displacement -- first as an Internally Displaced Person when she was a young child in Pakistan, and then as an international activist who could travel anywhere in the world except to the home she loved. In *We Are Displaced*, Malala not only explores her own story, but she also shares the personal stories of some of the incredible girls she has met on her journeys.

(+) Students may read any book of the series.

Titles in blue are new titles on this year's list.

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## Ancient World and Mythology

**King of Ithaka by Tracy Barrett** -- Telemachus must find his father Odysseus in order to save his kingdom. (WLPCS Library)

**Goddess of Yesterday: A Tale of Troy by Caroline B. Cooney** -- Anaxandra, daughter of a Greek king, becomes involved in the Trojan War after her home is destroyed. (WLPCS Library)

**Norse Myths: Tales of Odin, Thor, and Loki by Kevin Crossley-Holland** -- A collaboration by two talented creators provides the perfect means to delve into Norse mythology and pore over the enthralling exploits of all-powerful Odin; mighty Thor and his hammer, Mjolnir; and Loki, the infamous trickster. From the creation of the nine worlds to the final battle of Ragnarok, Carnegie Medal winner Kevin Crossley-Holland details the Viking gods as never before, while Jeffrey Alan Love's lavish illustrations bring the mythic figures to life on the page.

**Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo** -- An illustrated retelling of the oldest English epic, "Beowulf," in which a Norse hero saves Denmark's royal house from monsters, returns home to become his own people's greatest king, and then faces a murderous dragon to protect them. (Follett)

(+) **Gods and Warriors by Michelle Paver** -- In Mycenaean Greece, young goatherd Hylas and priestess Pirra are on the run from the same enemy. The pair is forced to join together to accomplish their own goals. Along the way, they learn to trust each other and eventually become friends. Bronze Age gods, fierce warriors, and heroes-in-the-making take center stage in this action-packed story. (Horn Book Guide)

(+) **The Eagle of the Ninth (Roman Britain Trilogy, Book 1) by Rosemary Sutcliff** -- Marcus must solve the mystery of his father's Ninth Legion after they all disappeared when they marched into the mists of Roman Britain. (S. Hamm)

**The Shadow Hero by Gene Luen Yang** -- 19-year-old Hank, son of Chinese immigrants, struggles to please his parents. His mom tries to pressure him into being a superhero after one saves her life, but Hank isn't so sure he can do it. Calling himself the Green Turtle, this formerly-reluctant hero saves his Chinatown neighborhood from trouble, facing many classic superhero challenges (yes, toxic gas and mysterious animal bites) before he becomes a powerful fighter in his own right. Marvel comic and Gene Yang fans will love this graphic novel which is based on a 1940s comic! (WLPCS Library)

## Historical Fiction

**Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar** -- Ruthie Mizrahi and her family recently emigrated from Castro's Cuba to New York City. Just when she's finally beginning to gain confidence in her mastery of English--and enjoying her reign as her neighborhood's hopscotch queen--a horrific car accident leaves her in a body cast and confined her to her bed for a long recovery.

(+) **Orphan Monster Spy by Matt Killeen** -- After her mother is shot at a checkpoint, 15-yr-old Sarah--blond, blue-eyed, and Jewish--meets a mysterious man who is part of the secret resistance against the Third Reich. He needs Sarah to infiltrate a school for the daughters of top Nazi brass, befriend the daughter of a key scientist, and steal the blueprints to a bomb that could destroy the cities of Western Europe. (WLPCS Library)

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**Hunger: A Tale of Courage by Donna Jo Napoli** – In the autumn of 1846 in Ireland, twelve-year-old Lorraine and her family struggle to survive during the Irish potato famine, but when Lorraine meets Miss Susannah, the daughter of the wealthy English landowner who owns Lorraine's family's farm, they form an unlikely friendship. (*Follett*)

**Playing Atari with Saddam Hussein by Jennifer Roy** – For forty-two days in 1991, eleven-year-old Ali Fadhil and his family struggle to survive as Basra, Iraq, is bombed by the United States and its allies. (*Follett*)

**X: A Novel by Ilyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon** -- Before he was known as Malcolm X, teenage Malcolm Little left his home in Michigan, spending time in Boston and Harlem, converting to Islam and changing his name.

**Fountains of Silence by Ruta Sepetys** – At the Castellana Hilton in 1957 Madrid, eighteen-year-old Daniel Matheson connects with Ana Moreno through photography and fate as Daniel discovers the incredibly dark side of the city under Generalissimo Franco's rule.

**Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk** – Crow washed ashore on a tiny Massachusetts island as a baby. A fire on another uninhabited island that once housed a leper colony raises her curiosity about her origins, which leads to fearful danger. An exceptional mix of historical fiction, physical adventure, and interiority; suspense, insight, and the natural world play equal parts. An author's note provides historical background. (*Horn Book Guide*)

**Spy Runner by Eugene Yelchin** – It's 1953 and the Cold War is on. Communism threatens all that the United States stands for, and America needs every patriot to do their part. So when a Russian boarder moves into the home of twelve-year-old Jake McCauley, he's on high alert. What does the mysterious Mr. Shubin do with all that photography equipment? And why did he choose to live so close to the Air Force base? Jake's mother says that Mr. Shubin knew Jake's dad, who went missing in action during World War II. But Jake is skeptical; the facts just don't add up. And he's determined to discover the truth--no matter what he risks.

## Realistic Fiction

**Solo by Kwame Alexander** -- Blade never asked for a life of the rich and famous. In fact, he'd give anything not to be the son of Rutherford Morrison, a washed-up rock star and drug addict with delusions of a comeback. Or to no longer be part of a family known most for lost potential, failure, and tragedy, including the loss of his mother. The one true light is his girlfriend, Chapel, but her parents have forbidden their relationship.

**The Other Half of Happy by Rebecca Balcarcel** – One-half Guatemalan, one-half American: When Quijana's Guatemalan cousins move to town, her dad seems ashamed that she doesn't know more about her family's heritage. One-half crush, one-half buddy: When Quijana meets Zuri and Jayden, she knows she's found true friends. But she can't help the growing feelings she has for Jayden. One-half kid, one-half grown-up: Quijana spends her nights Skyping with her ailing grandma and trying to figure out what's going on with her increasingly hard-to-reach brother.

**King and the Dragonflies by Kacen Callender** – When Kingston's white friend Sandy came out to him a few months ago, Kingston's older brother, Khalid, told him to stay away from Sandy because King wouldn't want people to think he was gay too. And then Khalid died. But King knows that his brother is not really gone: Khalid "shed his skin like a snake" and is now a dragonfly. Complicating King's grief over the sudden loss of his brother is the fear that Khalid would not still love him if he knew the truth--King is gay. Every day after school King walks to the bayou searching for Khalid, wondering if he can ever share who he is. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

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**Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish by Pablo Cartaya** – After a fight at school leaves Marcus facing suspension, Marcus's mother takes him and his younger brother, who has Downs syndrome, to Puerto Rico to visit relatives they do not remember or have never met, and while there Marcus starts searching for his father, who left their family ten years ago and is somewhere on the island.

**The Eleventh Trade by Alyssa Hollingsworth** – An Afghan refugee by way of Iran, Greece, and Turkey, seventh-grader Sami is still adjusting to life in Boston when his grandfather's rebab is stolen. Having come to America with only each other and the prized instrument, which is also Baba's livelihood, Sami is devastated. When he finds it in a local pawn shop, he vows to trade his few precious belongings enough times to earn the \$700 to buy it back. (*Booklist*)

**Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds** -- Jason Reynolds's fiercely stunning novel that takes place in sixty potent seconds--the time it takes a kid to decide whether or not he's going to murder the guy who killed his brother.

**Saving Montgomery Sole by Mariko Tamaki** -- Montgomery Sole is forced to go to a school full of jocks and girls who don't even know what irony is. It would all be impossible if it weren't for her best friends, Thomas and Naoki. The three are also the only members of Jefferson High's Mystery Club, dedicated to exploring the weird and unexplained, from ESP and astrology to super powers and mysterious objects.



**Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga** – Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. The American movies that Jude has always loved haven't quite prepared her for starting school in the US --and her new label of 'Middle Eastern,' an identity she's never known before. But this life also brings unexpected surprises--there are new friends, a whole new family, and a school musical that Jude just might try out for. Maybe America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is.

**Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson** -- Jade believes she must get out of her poor neighborhood if she's ever going to succeed. Her mother tells her to take advantage of every opportunity that comes her way. And Jade has: every day she rides the bus away from her friends and to the private school where she feels like an outsider, but where she has plenty of opportunities. But some opportunities she doesn't really welcome...

**Genesis Begins Again by Alicia Williams** – Genesis comes home from school to find her family's belongings on the lawn; they've been evicted again. Her father promises that this next time will be different, renting a house in the suburbs and promising that he will get a promotion at work so they can afford it. At school, Genesis makes friends for the first time and is mentored by Mrs. Hill, the choir teacher, but Genesis's father still drinks too much and her parents' marriage is unraveling. Genesis tries lightening her skin, and begs to use relaxer in her hair, believing that if she only looked like her light-skinned mother and not her dark-skinned father, the situation at home would improve. Genesis escapes by singing; she is inspired by greats like Billie Holiday and Etta James. When she has the opportunity to sing in the school talent show, Genesis must find the power in using her voice to speak her truth. (*Phillipe, School Library Journal*)

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## Romance and Relationships

**All American Muslim Girl by Nadine Jolie Courtney** – Allie Abraham has it all going for her--she's a straight-A student, with good friends and a close-knit family, and she's dating popular, sweet Wells Henderson. One problem: Wells's father is Jack Henderson, America's most famous conservative shock jock, and Allie hasn't told Wells that her family is Muslim. It's not like Allie's religion is a secret. It's just that her parents don't practice, and raised her to keep it to herself. But as Allie witnesses Islamophobia in her small town and across the nation, she decides to embrace her faith--study, practice it, and even face misunderstanding for it.

**Lily and Dunkin by Donna Gephart** -- 8th graders Lily and Dunkin meet during a time in their lives where they are both struggling with deep challenges. Lily, born Tommy, is a transgender girl. Dunkin has bipolar disorder and is new in town. Together, they learn important lessons about life, bravery, and love. (*WLPCS Library*)

**Redwood and Ponytail by K.A. Holt** – At first, Tam figures Kate is your stereotypical cheerleader; Kate sees Tam as another tall jock. But beneath Kate's sleek ponytail and perfect facade, Tam sees a goofy, sensitive, lonely girl. And Tam's so much more than a volleyball player, Kate realizes: She's everything Kate wishes she could be. It's complicated. Except it's not. When Kate and Tam meet, they fall in like. It's as simple as that. But not everybody sees it that way.

**From Twinkle with Love by Sandhya Menon** – Aspiring filmmaker and wallflower Twinkle Mehra has stories she wants to tell and universes she wants to explore, if only the world would listen. So when fellow film geek Sahil Roy approaches her to direct a movie for the upcoming Summer Festival, Twinkle is all over it. The chance to publicly showcase her voice as a director? Dream come true. The fact that it gets her closer to her longtime crush, Neil Roy--a.k.a. Sahil's twin brother? Dream come true x 2. But then she falls for the irresistibly adorkable Sahil instead...

(+) **Crush by Gary Paulsen** – Readers met the comical Kevin Spencer in *Liar, Liar* and *Flat Broke*. Now Kevin gets serious about Tina Zabinski, the Most Beautiful Girl in the World. Finally, finally, he's worked up his courage--he's going to ask her out. Or will his trademark scheming get in his way?

**To Night Owl from Dogfish by Holly Goldberg Sloan** –Peeking at her father's emails, 12-year-old Californian Bett learns two pieces of upsetting information: her father has fallen in love with a man she's never met, and the two of them are scheming to send Bett and the man's 12-year-old daughter, Avery, away to summer camp together. Furious, Bett finds Avery's email address to break the horrible news. The girls vow not to speak to each other during the summer, but despite their differences, they form a strong bond. When their fathers part ways during a disastrous trip to China, the girls are determined to find a way to reunite them. (*Publishers Weekly*)

**Well, That Was Awkward by Rachel Vail** – What if Cyrano were an eighth-grade girl in the 21st century? Gracie Grant has a crush on popular AJ Rojanasopondist, but AJ likes Gracie's best gal pal, Sienna Reyes. Gracie is a bit jealous upon hearing this news but soon decides sweet and adorable Sienna should be with AJ. The problem: Sienna is so unsure of what to text AJ, Gracie ends up doing it for her. As it turns out, text-AJ has a great sense of humor, one that is oddly absent in real life and is suspiciously like that of Gracie's best guy friend, Emmett Barnaby. Who is really on the other end of the texts? (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Pride by Ibi Zoboi** – Zuri Benitez has pride. Brooklyn pride, family pride, and pride in her Afro-Latino roots. But pride might not be enough to save her rapidly gentrifying neighborhood from becoming unrecognizable. In a timely update of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, critically acclaimed author Ibi Zoboi skillfully balances cultural identity, class, and gentrification against the heady magic of first love in her vibrant reimagining of this beloved classic.

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## Adventure, Survival, and Sports

***Illegal* by Eoin Colfer** – Ebo is alone. His brother, Kwame, has disappeared, and Ebo knows it can only be to attempt the hazardous journey to Europe, and a better life, the same journey their sister set out on months ago. But Ebo refuses to be left behind in Ghana. Ebo's epic quest takes him across the Sahara Desert to the dangerous streets of Tripoli, and finally out to the merciless sea. But with every step he holds on to his hope for a new life, and a reunion with his family.

***Dog Driven* by Terry Lynn Johnson** – McKenna, fourteen, is losing her vision to Stargardt's disease, but that will not stop her from competing in a rigorous new sled dog race through the Canadian wilderness. (*Follett*)

(+) ***Masterminds* by Gordon Korman** – Eli Frieden has never left Serenity, New Mexico...why would he ever want to? Then one day, he bikes to the edge of the city limits and, it changes everything. Soon it becomes clear that nothing is as it seems in Serenity. The clues mount to reveal a shocking discovery, connecting their ideal crime-free community to some of the greatest criminal masterminds ever known.

***No Slam Dunk* by Mike Lupica** -- In Annapolis, Maryland, seventh-grader Wes is a good teammate but this basketball season has been challenging because of his ball hog teammate Dinero, who is determined to steal the spotlight, and Wes's army veteran father who is suffering from PTSD. (*Follett*)

(+) ***Ghost* by Jason Reynolds** -- Ghost has always been running from something, or, more specifically, someone -- his violent father. When he's chosen for an elite middle school track team, he must learn to run for something -- a chance to compete at the Junior Olympics. Can he discipline himself and get his act together or will he waste his shot at being the best? (*WLPCS Library*)

## Horror, Mystery and Suspense

(+) ***The Darkdeep* by Ally Condie** – Middle-schoolers Nico, Tyler, Ella, and Opal discover a hidden island in a forbidden cove that appears uninhabited, but something ancient has awakened knowing their wishes, dreams, and darkest secrets. (*Follett*)

***Bone Jack* by Sarah Crowe** – Times have been tough for Ash lately, and all he wants is for everything to go back to the way it used to be. Back before drought ruined the land and disease killed off the livestock. Before Ash's father went off to war and returned carrying psychological scars. Before his best friend, Mark, started acting strangely. As Ash trains for his town's annual Stag Chase--a race rooted in violent, ancient lore--he's certain that if he can win and make his father proud, life will return to normal. But the line between reality and illusion is rapidly blurring...

***Poe: Stories and Poems* by Gareth Hinds** – In a thrilling adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe's best-known works, acclaimed artist-adaptor Gareth Hinds translates Poe's dark genius into graphic-novel format. It is true that I am nervous. But why will you say that I am mad?

(+) ***Truly Devious* by Maureen Johnson** – Ellingham Academy is a famous private school in Vermont founded by Albert Ellingham, an early twentieth century tycoon. Shortly after the school opened, his wife and daughter were kidnapped.... True-crime aficionado Stevie Bell is set to begin her first year at Ellingham Academy, and she has an ambitious plan: She will solve this cold case.

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(+) **The Shadow Cipher by Laura Ruby** – From National Book Award finalist and Printz Award winner Laura Ruby comes an epic alternate history series about three kids who try to solve the greatest mystery of the modern world: a puzzle and treasure hunt laid into the very streets and buildings of New York City.



## Fantasy

(+) **Children of Blood and Bone by Toni Adeyemi** – Danger lurks in Orïsha, where snow leoponaires prowl and vengeful spirits wait in the waters. Yet the greatest danger may be Zélie herself as she struggles to control her powers and her growing feelings for an enemy.

**Assassination of Brangwain Spurge by M.T. Anderson** – Uptight elfin historian Brangwain Spurge is on a mission: survive being catapulted across the mountains into goblin territory, deliver a priceless peace offering to their mysterious dark lord, and spy on the goblin kingdom - from which no elf has returned alive in more than a hundred years. Brangwain's host, the goblin archivist Werfel, is delighted to show Brangwain around. They should be the best of friends, but a series of extraordinary double crosses, blunders, and cultural misunderstandings throws these two bumbling scholars into the middle of an international crisis that may spell death for them - and war for their nations.

**Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster by Jonathan Auxier** – When child chimney sweep Nan Sparrow gets stuck in a flue and nearly dies, she is saved by a "soot golem." Nan and the kind, gentle "Charlie" escape from her cruel master and make a home in an abandoned mansion. Weaving together strands of Jewish folklore, Blake's poetry, Frankenstein, child-labor reform, and magical realism, Auxier crafts a beautiful, hopeful story from the ugly realities of nineteenth-century British life. (*Horn Book Guide*)

(+) **Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo** -- It's the heist of the ages, and, if he can pull it off, Kaz will be the richest criminal in Ketterdam. He can't do it alone though. In this exciting tale, Kaz and his companions join up to commit the ultimate crime. (*WLPCS Library*)

(+) **Charlie Hernandez and the League of Shadows by Ryan Calejo** – Steeped in Hispanic folklore since childhood, middle schooler Charlie Hernandez learns the stories are true when, shortly after his parents disappearance, he grows horns and feathers and finds himself at the heart of a battle to save the world.

**Tess of the Road by Rachel Hartman** – In the medieval kingdom of Goredd, women are expected to be ladies, men are their protectors, and dragons can be whomever they choose. Tess is none of these things. Tess is. . . different. She speaks out of turn, has wild ideas, and can't seem to keep out of trouble.

(+) **Black Wings Beating by Alex London** – The people of Uztar revere birds of prey and no one is more honored than the falconers. Brysen strives to be a great falconer—while his twin sister, Kylee, rejects her ancient gifts for the sport and wishes to be free of falconry. But war is coming so the twins must journey into the treacherous mountains to trap the Ghost Eagle, the greatest of the Uztari birds and a solitary killer. Brysen goes for the boy he loves and the glory he's long craved, and Kylee to atone for her past and to protect her brother. (*WLPCS Library*)

(+) **Shadow Shaper by Daniel Jose Older** -- Sierra Santiago planned an easy summer of making art and hanging with her friends. But then a corpse crashes their first party. Her stroke-ridden grandfather starts apologizing non-stop. And when the murals in her neighborhood start to weep tears... Well, something more sinister than the usual Brooklyn ruckus is going on.

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## Science Fiction

(+) ***Bloom* by Kenneth Oppel** – The invasion begins--but not as you'd expect. It begins with rain. Rain that carries seeds. Seeds that sprout--overnight, everywhere. These new plants take over crop fields, twine up houses, and burrow below streets. They bloom--and release toxic pollens. They bloom--and form Venus flytrap-like pods that swallow animals and people. They bloom--everywhere, unstoppable. Or are they? Three kids on a remote island seem immune to the toxic plants. Anaya, Petra, Seth. They each have strange allergies--and yet not to these plants. What's their secret? Can they somehow be the key to beating back this invasion? They'd better figure it out fast, because it's starting to rain again....

(+) ***Virals* by Kathy Reichs and Brendan Reichs** – Adventure is in Tory Brennan's blood. After all, she's the grandniece of world-famous forensic anthropologist Temperance Brennan. Always up for a challenge, Tory and her science-geek friends spend their time exploring the marshlands of Loggerhead Island, home to the very off-limits Loggerhead Island Research Institute, where something strange is going on. After rescuing a stray wolfdog pup from a top-secret lab, Tory and her friends are exposed to a rare strain of canine parvovirus, changing them--and their DNA--forever. Now they are more than friends. They are a pack. They are Virals. And they're dangerous to the core. But are they unstoppable enough to catch a cold-blooded murderer?

***Maximilian Fly* by Angie Sage** – Maximillian Fly wants no trouble. Yet because he stands at six feet two, with beautiful indigo wings, long antennae, and more arms than you or me, many are frightened of him, He is a gentle creature who looks like a giant cockroach. This extraordinary human wants to prove his goodness, so he opens his door to two SilverSeed children in search of a place to hide. Instantly, Maximillian's quiet, solitary life changes. There are dangerous powers after them and they have eyes everywhere. But in this gray city of Hope trapped under the Orb, is escape even possible?

(+) ***Steelheart* by Brandon Sanderson** -- In the future, Epics, dark and powerful supervillans, rule over major US cities. When Steelheart, the Epic that rules over Newcago, kills David's father, he plans his revenge. (WLPCS Library)

(+) ***Scythe* by Neal Shusterman** -- In a perfect world where there is no disease and death, Scythes reign supreme because only they have the power to take a life. Reluctant apprentices Citra and Rowan are taught to master the art of death, and their greatest fears are realized when they are required to chase each other to the death to show off their skills. (WLPCS Library)

***Dry* by Neal and Jarrod Shusterman** – The drought--or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it--has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, fill up your pool or take long showers. Then the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turned against each other on the hunt for water.

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