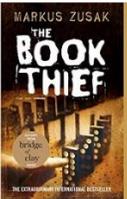
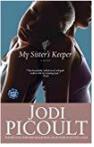
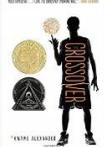


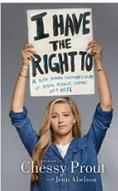
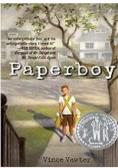
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	<p><u>The Hate U Give</u> By Angie Thomas §</p> <p><i>New York Times</i> best-selling book. The 2018 Coretta Scott King Author Honor. The Michael L. Printz Honor. The Odyssey Award.</p>	<p>Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed....What everyone wants to know is: what <i>really</i> went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.</p>
	<p><u>Ghost (Track series)</u> By Jason Reynolds §</p>	<p>Running. That’s all Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But Ghost has been running for the wrong reasons—it all started with running away from his father, who, when Ghost was a very little boy, chased him and his mother through their apartment, then down the street, with a loaded gun, aiming to kill. Since then, Ghost has been the one causing problems—and running away from them—until he meets Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who sees something in Ghost: crazy natural talent....</p>
	<p><u>The Lightning Thief</u> by Rick Riordan</p>	<p>When young Percy Jackson starts having some trouble at school, his mom realizes it’s time to tell him the truth about his life — he’s actually the son of Poseidon — and sends him away to Camp Half Blood for demigods. But once he’s there, he finds out it’s up to him to venture to the Underworld to prevent a war between the gods.</p>
	<p><u>The Book Thief</u> By Markus Zusak</p>	<p>During WWII, a young girl named Liesel finds solace in stealing books and sharing them with others — including Jewish refugees her parents are housing. The story is told from Death’s point of view.</p>
	<p><u>My Sister's Keeper</u> By Jodi Picoult §</p>	<p>Jodi Picoult tells the story of a girl who decides to sue her parents for the rights to her own body in this <i>New York Times</i> bestseller that tackles a controversial subject with grace and explores what it means to be a good person.</p>
	<p><u>The Crossover</u> By Kwame Alexander <i>New York Times</i> bestseller; Newbery Medal Winner; Coretta Scott King Honor Award; 2015 YALSA; 2015 Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults; 2015 YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers; <i>Publishers Weekly</i> Best Book; School Library Journal Best Book; Kirkus Best Book</p>	<p><i>“With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . .The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I’m delivering,”</i> announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he’s got mad beats, too, that tell his family’s story in verse....</p>

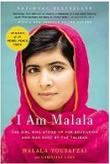
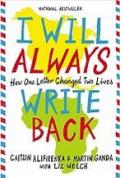
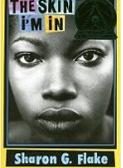
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	<p><u>A Thousand Splendid Suns</u> By Khaled Hosseini §</p>	<p>Born a generation apart and with very different ideas about love and family, Mariam and Laila are two women brought jarringly together by war, by loss and by fate. As they endure the ever escalating dangers around them—in their home as well as in the streets of Kabul—they come to form a bond that makes them both sisters and mother-daughter to each other, and that will ultimately alter the course not just of their own lives but of the next generation.</p>
	<p><u>The Bitter Side of Sweet</u> By Tara Sullivan</p>	<p>Fifteen-year-old Amadou counts the things that matter. For two years what has mattered are the number of cacao pods he and his younger brother, Seydou, can chop down in a day. The higher the number the safer they are. The higher the number the closer they are to paying off their debt and returning home. Maybe. The problem is Amadou doesn't know how much he and Seydou owe, and the bosses won't tell him. The boys only wanted to make money to help their impoverished family, instead they were tricked into forced labor on a plantation in the Ivory Coast. With no hope of escape, all they can do is try their best to stay alive—until Khadija comes into their lives.</p>
	<p><u>Firegirl</u> By Tony Abbot</p>	<p>From the moment Jessica arrives, life is never quite the same for Tom and his seventh-grade classmates. Jessica was badly burned in a fire, and will be attending St. Catherine's while getting medical treatments. Despite Jessica's shocking appearance and the fear she evokes in him and most of the class, Tom slowly develops a tentative friendship with Jessica that changes his life in just a short amount of time.</p>
	<p><u>I Have the Right To</u> By Chessy Prout §</p>	<p>The numbers are staggering: nearly one in five girls ages fourteen to seventeen have been the victim of a sexual assault or attempted sexual assault. This is the true story of one of those girls. In 2014, Chessy Prout was a freshman at St. Paul's School, a prestigious boarding school in New Hampshire, when a senior boy sexually assaulted her as part of a ritualized game of conquest. Chessy bravely reported her assault to the police and testified against her attacker in court. Then, in the face of unexpected backlash from her once-trusted school community, she shed her anonymity to help other survivors find their voice.</p>
	<p><u>Paperboy</u> By Vince Vawter §</p> <p>Newbery Honor Book <i>Paperboy</i>, is set in the segregated South, and involves situations and attitudes typical of that era and calls for some maturity on the reader's part.</p>	<p>This Newbery Honor winner is perfect for fans of <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>, <i>The King's Speech</i>, and <i>The Help</i>. Little Man throws the meanest fastball in town. But talking is a whole different ball game. He can barely say a word without stuttering—not even his own name. So when he takes over his best friend's paper route for the month of July, he's not exactly looking forward to interacting with the customers. But it's the neighborhood junkman, a bully and</p>

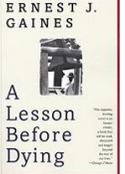
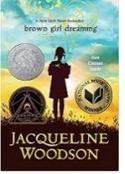
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		thief, who stirs up real trouble in Little Man's life.
	<p><u>Outcasts United</u> By Warren St. John</p>	<p>Luma Mufleh, a young Jordanian woman educated in the United States and working as a coach for private youth soccer teams in Atlanta, was out for a drive one day and ended up in Clarkston, Georgia, where she was amazed and delighted to see young boys, black and brown and white, some barefoot, playing soccer on every flat surface they could find. Luma decided to quit her job, move to Clarkston, and start a soccer team that would soon defy the odds. Despite challenges to locate a practice field, minimal funding for uniforms and equipment, and zero fans on the sidelines, the Fugees practiced hard and demonstrated a team spirit that drew admiration from referees and competitors alike.</p>
	<p><u>I Am Malala</u> By Malala Yousafzai</p> <p>Malala was a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.</p>	<p>I Am Malala is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons. I Am Malala will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.</p>
	<p><u>I Will Always Write Back</u> By Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda</p>	<p>It started as an assignment. Everyone in Caitlin's class wrote to an unknown student somewhere in a distant place. Martin was lucky to even receive a pen-pal letter. There were only ten letters, and fifty kids in his class. But he was the top student, so he got the first one. That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives. In this compelling dual memoir, Caitlin and Martin recount how they became best friends — and better people—through their long-distance exchange. Their story will inspire you to look beyond your own life and wonder about the world at large and your place in it.</p>
	<p><u>The Skin I'm In</u> By Sharon Flake</p> <p>Coretta Scott King Award John Steptoe Award for New Talent</p>	<p>Maleeka Madison is a child with very low self-esteem due to the fact that she is darker skinned than most other black girls. In her new teacher, Miss Saunders, she encounters someone who, she feels, is worse off than she is, as Miss Saunders' skin is blotched with a rare skin condition. The teacher withstands the snickers and shouts from the students but can Maleeka accept friendship and accept the skin she's in?</p>
	<p><u>Great Expectations</u> By Charles Dickens</p>	<p>Charles Dickens's Great Expectations charts the course of orphan Pip Pirrip's life as it is transformed by a vast, mysterious inheritance. A terrifying encounter with the escaped convict Abel Magwitch in a graveyard on the wild Kent marshes; a summons to meet</p>

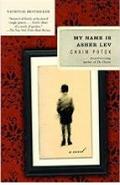
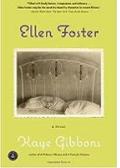
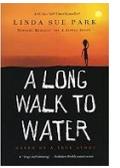
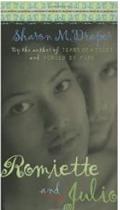
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		<p>the bitter, decrepit Miss Havisham and her beautiful, cold-hearted ward Estella at Satis House; the sudden generosity of a mysterious benefactor - these form a series of events that change the orphaned Pip's life forever, and he eagerly abandons his humble station as an apprentice to blacksmith Joe Gargery, beginning a new life as a gentleman.</p>
	<p>A Lesson Before Dying By Ernest J. Gaines</p> <p>Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award</p>	<p>From the author of <i>A Gathering of Old Men</i> and <i>The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman</i> comes a deep and compassionate novel, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. A young man who returns to 1940s Cajun country to teach visits a black youth on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Together they come to understand the heroism of resisting.</p>
	<p>Things We Know by Heart By Jessi Kirby</p>	<p>After Quinn's boyfriend, Trent, dies in an accident their junior year, she reaches out to the recipients of his donated organs in hopes of picking up the fragments of her now-unrecognizable life. But whoever received Trent's heart has chosen to remain silent. The essence of a person, Quinn has always believed, is in the heart. If she finds Trent's, then in a way, she will still have a piece of him. Risking everything to get closure once and for all, Quinn goes outside the system to track down nineteen-year-old Colton Thomas, whose life has been forever changed by this priceless gift.</p>
	<p>Brown Girl Dreaming By Jacqueline Woodson</p> <p>Winner of The 2014 National Book Award for Young People's Literature; the 2015 Coretta Scott King Book Award; named a 2015 Newbery Honor Book.</p>	<p>Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she 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....</p>
	<p>Inkheart (Trilogy Book I) By Cornelia Funke *</p>	<p>Characters from books literally leap off the page in this engrossing fantasy. Meggie, 12, has had her father to herself since her mother went away when she was young. Mo taught her to read when she was five, and the two share a mutual love of books. Things change after a visit from a scarred man who calls himself Dustfinger and who refers to Mo as Silvertongue. Meggie learns that her father can "read" characters out of books. When she was three, he read aloud from a book called Inkheart and released Dustfinger and other characters into the real world. At the same time, Meggie's mother disappeared into the story.</p>

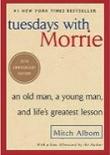
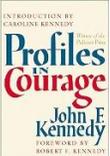
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	<p><u>My Name is Asher Lev</u> By Chaim Potok *</p>	<p>In this stirring and often visionary novel, Potok traces Asher's passage between two identities, one consecrated to God, the other subject only to the imagination. Asher Lev grows up in a cloistered community in post WWII Brooklyn, a world suffused by ritual and revolving around a charismatic Rebbe. But in time his artistic talent threatens to estrange him from that world and the parents he adores. As it follows his struggle, <i>My Name is Asher Lev</i> becomes a luminous portrait of the artist, by turns heartbreaking and exultant.</p>
	<p><u>Ellen Foster</u> By Kay Gibbons § *</p> <p>Winner of The American Academy of Arts and Letters' Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction Ernest Hemingway Foundation's Citation for Fiction.</p>	<p>Ellen Foster is an 11-year-old who has been dealt a rotten hand in life. Her early childhood is spent with a sickly mother and an alcoholic and abusive father. After her mother commits suicide (was it murder?) Ellen goes to live alone with her father, doing the best she can to avoid being abused. When the courts finally take action, she is sent to live with her grandmother, a bitter and spiteful woman. Yet when her grandmother dies, Ellen manages to take charge of her own life. This beautifully written story, compelling in its innocence, is sweet, funny, and sad.</p>
	<p><u>A Long Walk to Water</u>, based on a true story By Linda Sue Park</p>	<p>The <i>New York Times</i> bestseller <i>A Long Walk to Water</i> begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.</p>
	<p><u>Romiette and Julio</u> By Sharon Draper *</p>	<p>A contemporary retelling of the Romeo and Juliet story. Sixteen-year-old Julio Montague's parents have moved their family to Cincinnati, OH, in order to get their son out of his gang-ridden high school in Corpus Christi, TX. Romiette Cappelle, also 16, is the daughter of successful African-American parents and the granddaughter of college professors. When these two young people, both from proud heritages, begin a romance, they must deal not only with their parents' prejudices but also with the threats of a local gang</p>

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	<p><u>Tuesdays with Morrie</u> By Mitch Albom *</p>	<p>This true story about the love between a spiritual mentor and his pupil has soared to the bestseller list for many reasons. For starters: it reminds us of the affection and gratitude that many of us still feel for the significant mentors of our past. It also plays out the fantasy many of us have entertained: what would it be like to look those people up again, tell them how much they meant to us, and maybe even resume the mentorship?</p>
	<p><u>Shatter Me</u> By Tahreh Mafi *</p>	<p>No one knows why Juliette’s touch is fatal. The Reestablishment has plans for her. Plans to use her as a weapon. But Juliette has plans of her own. After a lifetime without freedom, she’s finally discovering a strength to fight back for the very first time—and to find a future with the one boy she thought she’d lost forever. In an electrifying debut, Tahreh Mafi presents a riveting dystopian world, a thrilling superhero story, and an unforgettable heroine.</p>
	<p><u>Profiles in Courage</u> By John F. Kennedy *</p> <p>NOTE: There is a Profiles in Courage Essay contest through the JFK Library each year</p>	<p>In 1954-55, a freshman U.S. senator from Massachusetts wrote a book profiling eight of his historical Senatorial colleagues, such men as John Quincy Adams, Sam Houston, and Robert A. Taft. Instead of focusing on their storied careers, John F. Kennedy chose to illustrate their acts of integrity, when they stood alone against tremendous political and social pressure for what they felt was right.</p>
	<p><u>Red Kayak</u> By Priscilla Cummings *</p>	<p>In this satisfying crime and coming of age drama, Brady’s friends commit a mean-spirited prank—but no one was supposed to die. What happens now? Revealing the terrible secret would implicate Brady’s friends in the drowning, and it clouds his whole world with guilt and fear. Cummings’s works plot and characterizations skillfully building suspense as the evidence unfolds and as Brady wrestles with his decision and tries to come to terms with his own responsibility.</p>

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§ This book was written for adults, young adults, and/or teens and contains some mature language and/or content.

**These titles on this list were inspired by the Braintree Public Schools Summer Reading list for Grade 9*