



## Washington Township Public Schools Middle School Summer Reading 2018

*"Choose Your Own Reading Adventure!"*



### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Book List

#### ***Hello Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly**

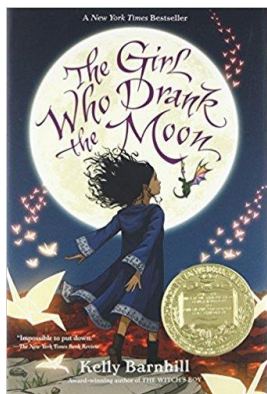


In one day, four lives weave together in unexpected ways. Virgil Salinas is shy and kindhearted and feels out of place in his crazy-about-sports family. Valencia Somerset, who is deaf, is smart, brave, and secretly lonely, and she loves everything about nature. Kaori Tanaka is a self-proclaimed psychic, whose little sister, Gen, is always following her around. And Chet Bullens wishes the weird kids would just stop being so different, so he can concentrate on basketball.

They aren't friends, at least not until Chet pulls a prank that traps Virgil and his pet guinea pig at the bottom of a well. This disaster leads Kaori, Gen, and Valencia on an epic quest to

find missing Virgil. Through luck, smarts, bravery, and a little help from the universe, a rescue is performed, a bully is put in his place, and friendship blooms.

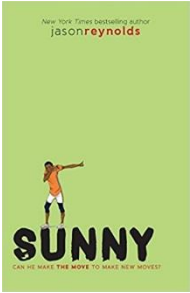
#### ***The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill**



Every year, the people of the Protectorate leave a baby as an offering to the witch who lives in the forest. They hope this sacrifice will keep her from terrorizing their town. But the witch in the Forest, Xan, is kind. She shares her home with a wise Swamp Monster and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon. Xan rescues the children and delivers them to welcoming families on the other side of the forest, nourishing the babies with starlight on the journey.

One year, Xan accidentally feeds a baby moonlight instead of starlight, filling the ordinary child with extraordinary magic. Xan decides she must raise this girl, whom she calls Luna, as her own. As Luna's thirteenth birthday approaches, her magic begins to emerge--with dangerous consequences. Meanwhile, a young man from the Protectorate is determined to free his people by killing the witch. Deadly birds with uncertain intentions flock nearby. A volcano, quiet for centuries, rumbles just beneath the earth's surface. And the woman with the Tiger's heart is on the prowl.

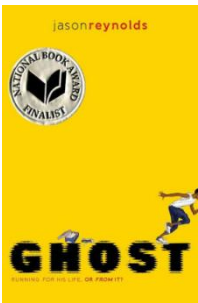
## **Sunny (Track series) by Jason Reynolds Ghost**



*Sunny* is the third book in Reynolds' acclaimed *Track* series, which follows a handful of very different kids who are all on an elite track team. In this installment, we learn more about Sunny, who seems to be a happy-go-lucky guy. But we find out soon enough that, despite his demeanor, Sunny carries great guilt and pain: He feels responsible for his mother's death; he doesn't have a great relationship with his father; and he really doesn't enjoy running. We can't wait to read Reynolds' latest effort.

Ghost. Lu. Patina. Sunny. Four kids from wildly different backgrounds with personalities that are explosive when they clash. But they are also four kids chosen for an elite middle school track team—a team that could qualify them for the Junior Olympics if they can get their acts together. They all have a lot to lose, but they also have a lot to prove, not only to each other, but to themselves.

## **Ghost**



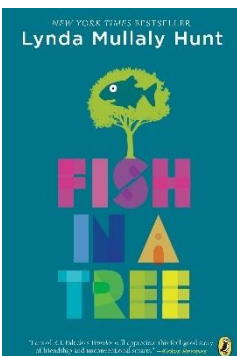
Ghost wants to be the fastest sprinter on his elite middle school track team, but his past is slowing him down in this first electrifying novel in a new series from Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award-winning author Jason Reynolds.

## **Patina**



A newbie to the track team, Patina must learn to rely on her teammates as she tries to outrun her personal demons in this follow-up to the National Book Award Finalist *Ghost* by New York Times bestselling author Jason Reynolds.

## **A Fish in A Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt**



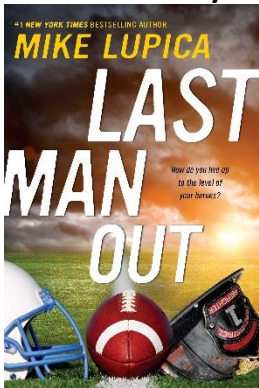
Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. - *From the publisher*

**Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan**

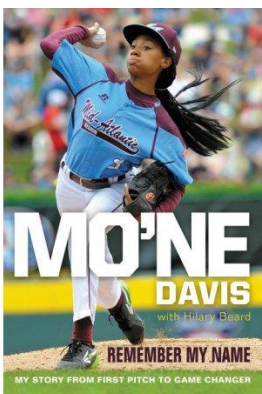


Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression. - *From Follett*

**Last Man Out by Mike Lupica**



Twelve-year-old Tommy Gallagher, the bravest and toughest football player on the field, faces his biggest battle ever when his father, a Boston firefighter, is fatally injured while rescuing a child. - *From Follett*



**Mo'ne Davis: Remember My Name by Mo'ne Davis**

This inspiring memoir from a girl who learned to play baseball with the boys and rose to national stardom before beginning eighth grade will encourage young readers to reach for their dreams no matter the odds. Mo'ne's story is one of determination, hard work, and an incredible fastball. -*From the publisher*



## Washington Township Public Schools Middle School Summer Reading 2018

"Choose Your Own Reading Adventure!"



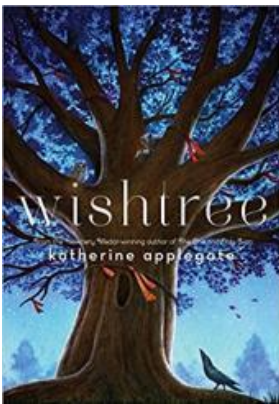
### 7<sup>th</sup> grade Book List

#### ***Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick**



The protagonist Steven, an avid drummer, narrates the story during the month of September, discussing in the novel the previous ten months about his struggles of his little brother's cancer. Steven has had a crush on a girl named Renee Albert since the third grade. Over the course of the novel, Steven's brother Jeffrey has been acting strange. Finally, Steven finds out that his brother Jeffrey has cancer.

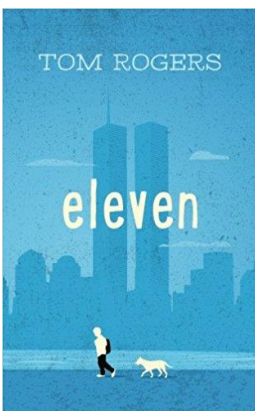
#### ***Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate**



Red is an oak tree who is many rings old. Red is the neighborhood "wishtree" - people write their wishes on pieces of cloth and tie them to Red's branches. Along with her crow friend, Bongo, and other animals who seek refuge in Red's hollows, this "wishtree" watches over the neighborhood.

You might say Red has seen it all. Until a new family moves in. Not everyone is welcoming, and Red's experiences as a wishtree are more important than ever.

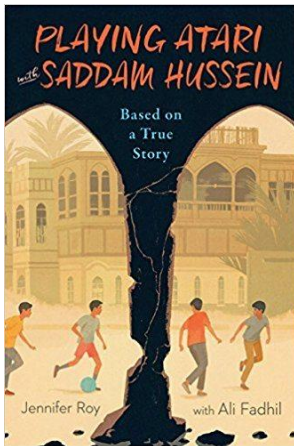
#### ***Eleven* by Tom Rogers**



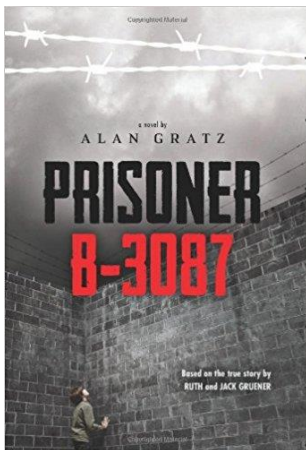
Alex Douglas always wanted to be a hero. But nothing heroic ever happened to Alex. Nothing, that is, until his eleventh birthday. When Alex rescues a stray dog as a birthday gift to himself, he doesn't think his life can get much better. Radar, his new dog, pretty much feels the same way. But this day has bigger things in store for both of them.

This is a story about bullies and heroes. About tragedy and hope. About enemies with two legs and friends with four, and pesky little sisters and cranky old men, and an unexpected lesson in kindness delivered with a slice of pizza. This is *Eleven*: the journey of a boy turning eleven on 9/11.

### **Playing Atari With Saddam Hussein by Jennifer Roy**

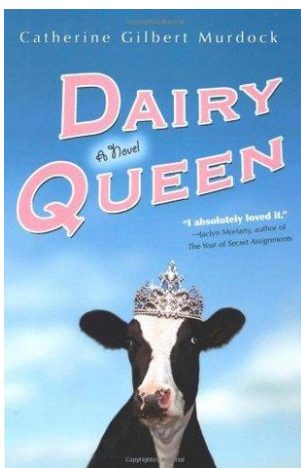


It is in January of 1991 when Iraq goes to war against 34 other countries, including the United States. Eleven-year-old Ali Fadhil and his family must survive in their Basra neighborhood, finding food, suffering through bombings, and hoping Ali's medic father will return from the war. Based on a true story, Roy's book shows how a kid's ordinary life, once filled with video games, soccer, and American TV, can change instantly.



### **Prisoner B-3087 by Alan Gratz**

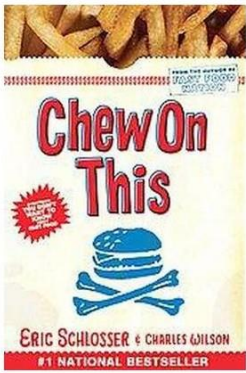
As a Jewish boy in 1930s Poland, Yanek is at the mercy of the Nazis who have taken over. Everything he has, and everyone he loves, have been snatched brutally from him. And then Yanek himself is taken prisoner - his arm tattooed with the words PRISONER B-3087. - *From the publisher*



### **Dairy Queen by Catherine Murdock**

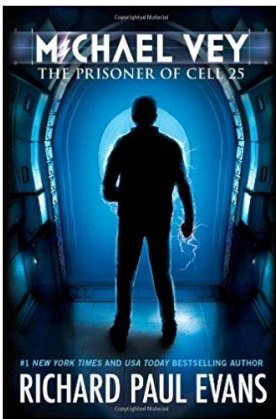
After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her. - *From Follett*





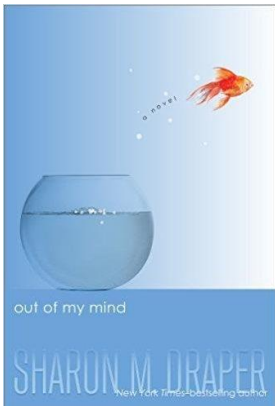
### **Chew On This by Eric Schlosser**

This book, adapted from Eric Schlosser's adult book, *Fast Food Nation*, will change your eating habits! In a fascinating and readable manner, the author takes younger readers through what is in those strawberry shakes they love so well. They also apprise readers of what happens in the slaughterhouses that those little chicken nuggets and hamburger patties come from. The author of *Fast Food Nation* partners with Wilson to serve up a stinging, often startling expose on this country's pervasive, lucrative fast-food industry, for young people. - *Library Media Connection*



### **Michael Vey (series) by Richard Evans**

Fourteen-year-old Michael discovers he has special electrical powers and, with the help of his best friends, becomes aware that there are other teens with similar powers, but something or someone is hunting them and, after Michael's mother is kidnapped, he will need to rely on his powers and his friends to rescue his mom, protect himself, and save the others. - *From Follett*



### **Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper**

Considered by many to be mentally disabled, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time. - *From Follett*



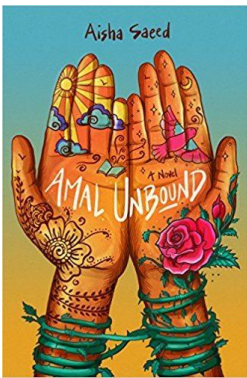
## Washington Township Public Schools Middle School Summer Reading 2018

*"Choose Your Own Reading Adventure!"*



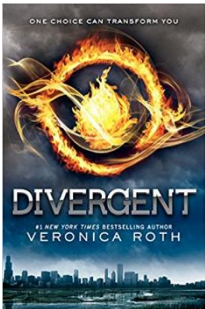
### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Book List

#### ***Amal Unbound* by Aisha Saeed Di**

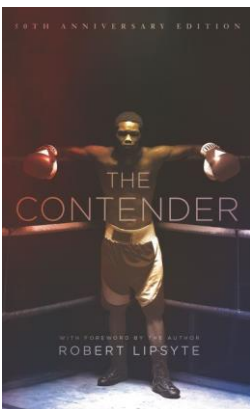


Amal lives in Pakistan where she's been pursuing her dream of becoming a teacher. But as the eldest daughter, she must stay home from school to take care of her siblings. After an incident with a member of the Khan family, her village's corrupt landlords, Amal must work as a servant at the Khan estate to pay off a debt. While there, she makes enemies and learns just how deceptive the Khans really are.

#### ***Divergent* by Veronica Roth (or any in series)**



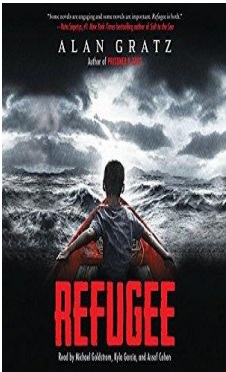
This dystopian series set in a futuristic Chicago has captured the hearts of millions of teen and adult readers. Perfect for fans of the Hunger Games and Maze Runner series, *Divergent* and its sequels, *Insurgent* and *Allegiant*, are the gripping story of a dystopian world transformed by courage, self-sacrifice, and love. Fans of the *Divergent* movie will find the book packed with just as much emotional depth and exhilarating action as the film, all told in beautiful, rich language. One choice can transform you.



#### ***The Contender* by Robert Lipsyte**

After a successful start in a boxing career, a Harlem high school dropout decides that competing in the ring isn't enough of life and resolves to aim for different goals. - *From Follett*

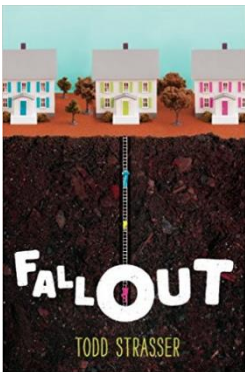
## Refugee by Alan Gratz



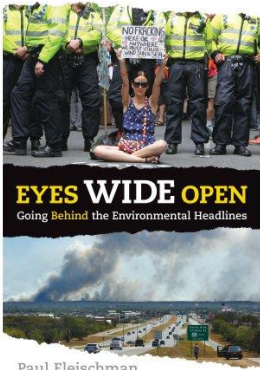
Josef is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world...

Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety in America... Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe.... All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers - from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But there is always the hope of tomorrow. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end.

## Fallout by Todd Strasser



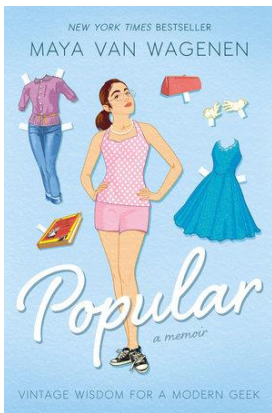
In the summer of 1962, the possibility of nuclear war is all anyone talks about. But Scott's dad is the only one in the neighborhood who actually prepares for the worst. As the neighbors scoff, he builds a bomb shelter to hold his family and stocks it with just enough supplies to keep the four of them alive for two critical weeks. In the middle of the night in late October, when the unthinkable happens, those same neighbors force their way into the shelter before Scott's dad can shut the door. With not enough room, not enough food, and not enough air, life inside the shelter is filthy, physically draining, and emotionally fraught. But even worse is the question of what will -- and won't -- remain when the door is opened again.



## Eyes Wide Open by Paul Fleischman

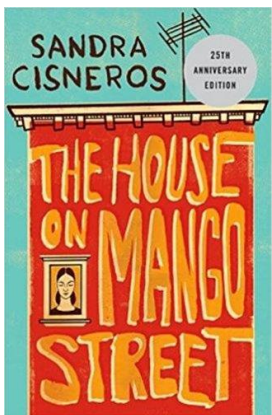
Fleischman issues a wake-up call -- and a challenge -- to today's teens about the environmental crisis. He begins with a call to arms to see through "the everyday world's two biggest illusions: 'it's always been this way' and 'everything's fine,'" urging teens to critically examine the information fed to them through advertising, politics, and "the whole culture we're part of." - *Horn Book Magazine*





### **Popular by Maya Van Wagenen**

Stuck near the bottom of the social ladder at "pretty much the lowest level of people at school who aren't paid to be here," Maya has never been popular. But before starting eighth grade, she decides to begin a unique social experiment: spend the school year following a 1950s popularity guide, written by former teen model Betty Cornell. - *From the publisher*



### **The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros**

A young girl living in a Hispanic neighborhood in Chicago ponders the advantages and disadvantages of her environment and evaluates her relationships with family and friends. - *From Follett*



### **Legend by Marie Lu**

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy. - *From Follett*