



Dear Families:

Abington School District is pleased to suggest books your children might enjoy reading over the summer months, curated by our senior high school librarians. They have selected several titles from the past few years that will make for good summer reading. They invite you to share what you are reading with them at the ASHS Library [FlipGrid](#). You may also enjoy other books by these authors! For more suggestions about books and reading aloud, consult your school and public librarians. Have a great summer and happy reading!

Janine Sack, Supervisor of Literacy  
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Please visit either the [ASD Libraries website](#) or the [ASHS Summer Reading Sites](#) for terrific resources!

Find these books at the Abington Free Library when it reopens or purchase at Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble or any online book retailer.

Titles with a \* indicate they are available on ebook or audio from the ASHS Library on [Destiny Discover](#). Login in with your student ID# and password.

Titles with \*\* indicate they are available on ebook or audio from the [Abington Free Library](#).

### GRAPHIC NOVELS

*Bloom* By Kevin Panetta - A recent high school graduate, Ari, works in his family-owned bakery and plays in an indie band with 4 of his best friends in a small coastal town. When an accident occurs at the bakery, Ari has to rethink what he wants to do with his life and what will bring him happiness.

*March Trilogy*, by John Lewis.  
Representative John Lewis is a living legend of the 20th century civil rights era. That makes him sound like Captain America, and in a way he is, except he's real. March covers John's early life and the beginnings of his involvement in peaceful protest. He embraced nonviolence fully then and continues to do so today.

*Pumpkinheads* by Rainbow Rowell. Josiah and Deja have been working at the Succotash Hut together for the past three years and this is their last night working together before they go off to college. Deja is on a mission to help Josiah talk to his dream girl and eat snacks along the way. This dreamy graphic novel tells the cute story of these two teens' last night at the pumpkin patch.

### REALISTIC FICTION

*All American Boys*, by Jason Reynolds & Brendan Kiely.  
*All-American Boys* is the story of Rashad, a black teen who is assaulted by a white cop, and Quinn, a white classmate of his who witnesses the crime (and who also happens to be friends with the cop). It's quite a painful story to read because it's all too familiar.

*Dear Martin* by Nic Stone.

A lightning fast read--and it's structurally neat with almost play-like dialogue exchanges--and it's telling a heartbreaking and important and hard-to-look-away-from story. I love Jus. He's a wonderful character. His mom is so real, and his teacher Doc is awesome. And his friends are people I want to know.

*Felix Ever After* by Kacen Callender.

An engaging story of a transgender teen in today's New York City, navigating the waters of his gender identity while also competing for an art award that will determine his college plans.

*The Field Guide to the North American Teenager* by Ben Phillipe. Norris Kaplan, a hilarious, snarky black French-Canadian teen, has to move from Montreal to Austin, Texas with his single mother. In his less-than-ideal new environment, he meets new people and starts categorizing them with his trademark Kaplan-wit in a notebook, for his own amusement. He makes new friends and experiences brief romance but is overall hilarious and painfully honest about his experience on uncharted grounds.

*The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas.

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.

*Jackpot* by Nic Stone.

"When Rico sells a jackpot-winning lotto ticket, she thinks maybe her luck will finally change, but only if she and her popular and wildly rich classmate, Zan can find the ticket holder who hasn't claimed the prize".

*Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds.

As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know.

*\*\*On the Come Up* By Angie Thomas. Bri, an aspiring rapper who wants to step out of the shadow of her famous but dead father, helps her family survive after her mother loses her job.

*Patron Saints of Nothing* by Randy Ribay. After Jay, a Filipino American high school senior gets word that his once-close cousin and pen pal Jun is dead, he travels to the Philippines to uncover the truth.

*The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo .

Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking.

*The Revolution of Birdie Randolph* by Brandy Colbert. Birdy has controlling parents, so when she begins dating a boy who was in juvie and her aunt comes back from rehab, Birdy needs to decide who she is and wants to become.

*\*The Serpent King* by Jeff Zentner. The son of a Pentecostal preacher faces his personal demons as he and his two outcast friends try to make it through their senior year of high school in rural Forrestville, Tennessee without letting the small-town culture destroy their creative spirits and sense of self.

*Slay*, by Brittney Morris. By day, seventeen-year-old Kiera Johnson is an honors student, a math tutor, and one of the only Black kids at Jefferson Academy.

*The Sun is Also a Star* by Nicola Yoon. "Natasha is a girl who believes in science and facts. Daniel has always been a good son and good student. But when he sees Natasha he forgets all that and believes there is something extraordinary in store for both of them".

**\*\**With the Fire on High*** by Elizabeth Acevedo. Emoni Santiago is a senior in high school and has a fiery passion for cooking and her family. With a young daughter and a grandma to take care of, Emoni is struggling to choose whether to follow her dreams of becoming a chef or stay with her family.

### HISTORICAL FICTION & MYSTERY

***Black Girl Unlimited: the Remarkable Story of a Teenage Wizard***, by Echo Brown. A coming of age story set in the 1990's with an element of magic as a way to conceptualize and process trauma. This follows Echo Brown, a young Black girl (and eventually teenager) from the East Side of Cleveland where housing is run down, kids get into trouble, and adults party with drugs.

**\*\**Librarian of Auschwitz*** by Antonia Iturbe. Based on the real-life experience of Dita Kraus, imprisoned in Auschwitz by the Nazis, this is the incredible story of a fourteen-year-old girl who risked her life to keep the magic of books alive during the Holocaust. Out of one of the darkest chapters of human history comes an extraordinary story of courage and hope.

***Lovely War*** by Julie Berry. Aphrodite leads her legal self-defense in front of Hephaestus and Ares to justify her infidelity. Her proof? The love stories—that she helped create—of two couples during WWI. When her tale is done, both lives and love will be different in this beautiful book.

**\**Two Can Keep a Secret*** by Karen McManus. While true-crime aficionado Ellery and her twin brother are staying with their grandmother in a Vermont community known for murder, a new friend goes missing and Ellery may be next. **Mystery**

### FANTASY and SCIENCE FICTION

***A Blade So Black***, by L.L. McKinney. "The first time the Nightmares came, it nearly cost Alice her life. Now she's trained to battle monstrous creatures in the dark dream realm known as Wonderland with magic weapons and hardcore fighting skills. Yet even warriors have a curfew. Life in real-world Atlanta isn't always so simple, as Alice juggles an overprotective mom, a high-maintenance best friend, and a slipping GPA. Keeping the Nightmares at bay is turning into a full-time job. But when Alice's handsome and mysterious mentor is poisoned, she has to find the antidote by venturing deeper into Wonderland than she's ever gone before. And she'll need to use everything she's learned in both worlds to keep from losing her head . . . literally"--Provided by publisher.

***Stepsister*** by Jennifer Donnelly. Isabelle is one of Cinderella's ugly stepsisters, who cut off her toes in an attempt to fit into the glass slipper; but there is more to her story than a maimed foot, for the Marquis de la Chance is about to offer her a choice and the opportunity to change her fate--there will be blood and danger, but also the possibility of redemption and triumph, and most of all the chance to find her true self. **Fantasy**

**\*\* *Children of Blood and Bone*** by Tomi Adeyemi. Seventeen-year-old Zolie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi, but they are ruthlessly pursued by the crown prince, who believes the return of magic will mean the end of the monarchy. **Fantasy**

## NONFICTION OR BIOGRAPHY

*Stamped: Racism, Anti-Racism, and You* by Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi.

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. It takes you on a race journey from then to now, shows you why we feel how we feel, and why the poison of racism lingers.

*Untamed* by Glennon Doyle. In her most revealing and powerful memoir yet, the activist, speaker, bestselling author, and "patron saint of female empowerment" (People) explores the joy and peace we discover when we stop striving to meet others' expectations and start trusting the voice deep within us.

*We Are Not Yet Equal: Understanding Our Racial Divide* by Carol Anderson & Tonya Bolden.

Presents the argument that since the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment, when African Americans make advances toward full participation in our democracy, white reaction feeds deliberate and relentless rollback of their progress.

*Facing Frederick: The Life of Frederick Douglass, a Monumental American Man* by Tonya Bolden.

Chronicles the life of Frederick Douglass, discussing his years as a slave, escape to freedom, acclaim as a famous orator, journalist, and presidential advisor, work as an abolitionist, and other related topics.

*Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case* by Chris Crowe.

Presents a true account of the murder of fourteen-year-old, Emmett Till, in Mississippi, in 1955.

*She Came to Slay: The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman* by Erica Armstrong. Dunbar Harriet Tubman was an activist throughout her long life. She fought slavery by escaping and then returning again and again to free other slaves. She raised her own funds for each trip by working in the North and by touring amongst northern abolitionists with the likes of Frederick Douglass to speak out against slavery.

## AUDIO & E BOOK

Free access to Audiobooks -SYNC These selected audiobooks and many others for teen summer reading are available online at

<https://www.audiobooksync.com/>.

Register at the site and download the SORA app. You can then download the featured titles each week and listen at any time.

*The Music of What Happens* by Bill Konigsberg. A coming-of-age story about gay teens Max and Jordan, who find themselves manning a food truck. Both have their struggles but learn a lot about themselves and life through "the music of what happens." LGBTQ.

Download 6/18 through 6/24

*Mexican Whiteboy* by Matt de la Pena. Danny has a talent for pitching a fastball but cannot seem to fit in at school in San Diego, where his Mexican and white heritage causes people to judge him before he even speaks. Multicultural Fiction. Download 6/25 through 7/1

*Fresh Ink* edited by Lamar Giles. This collaboration with We Need Diverse Books features 13 standalone stories from award-winning and best-selling authors including Melissa de la Cruz, Sara Farizan, Eric Gansworth, Malinda Lo, Daniel José Older, Jason Reynolds, Aminah Mae Safi, Gene Luen Yang, and Nicola Yoon. The

stories are distinct in themes, subjects, genres, and formats, creating an inclusive, authentic, and incredible collection. Each entry features realistic, well-rounded characters and plots. **Realistic Fiction, Story Collection.** Download 7/2 through 7/8

*Fake* by Eric Simonsen. This live recording of Oscar winner Simonsen's 2009 play explores the most famous archeological hoax in history. Alternating between 1914 and 1953, journalists and scientists set out to uncover who planted the Piltdown Man skull. Everyone's a suspect, including legendary Sherlock Holmes author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. **Non Fiction.** Download 7/16 through 7/22

### POPULAR AUTHORS

Elizabeth Acevedo  
Becky Albertalli  
Laurie Halse Anderson  
Sharon Draper  
John Green  
Nikki Grimes  
Khaled Hosseini  
A.S. King  
E. Lockhart  
Walter Dean Myers  
Jason Reynolds  
Rainbow Rowell  
Steve Sheinkin  
Neal Shusterman  
Nic Stone  
Sobaa Tahir  
Angie Thomas  
Paul Volponi  
Elizabeth Wein  
Scott Westerfeld  
Nicola Yoon  
Jeff Zentner  
Ibi Zoboi

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*Last Boy and Girl in the World* by Siobhan Vivian. With their town sliding underwater and everyone being ordered to leave, Keeley

and her friends gather to make the most of every minute they have left together, prompting Keeley to take a final chance at winning over a longtime crush. **Dystopian /Science Fiction.**

*In Praise of Difficult Women: Life Lessons from 29 Heroines Who Dared to Break the Rules* by Karen Karbo. Looks at the lives of twenty-nine charismatic women in modern history, including Frida Kahlo, Carrie Fisher, Janis Joplin, and many others. **Non Fiction.**

### CHECK OUT THESE SERIES

Arc of the Scythe - Neal Shusterman

Legend - Marie Lu

Lunar Chronicles - Marissa Meyer

Bluford series - Paul Langan and others

Grisha trilogy - Leigh Bardugo

To All the Boys I've Loved Before - Jenny Han

Unwind Dystology - Neal Shusterman

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