

BOOKS TOO GOOD TO MISS

Grades 7-8

Some titles may be available through interlibrary loan. Please ask if you need assistance.

FICTION



Alkaf, Hanna. **QUEEN OF THE TILES**
Set in the world of competitive Scrabble, Najwa is forced to investigate her best friend's mysterious death when her inactive Instagram comes back to life a year later with cryptic posts.

Alston, B.B. **AMARI AND THE NIGHT BROTHERS***
Amari gets an invitation from her missing brother to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs and join in the fight against an evil magician.

Avi. **LOYALTY**
The Revolutionary War is brewing and Noah must decide if he stays true to the Loyalists or betray his father's beliefs and join the rebels.

Chad, Lucas. **THANKS A LOT, UNIVERSE**
When his anxiety spirals into panic attacks after being placed in foster care, Brian is offered assistance by basketball teammate Ezra, who is concealing a secret crush.

Clark, Yvette. **GLITTER GETS EVERYWHERE**
In the aftermath of her mother's death, Kitty must deal not only with her loss, but with the surprising turn of events that lands her in NYC, far away from her London home.



Craft, Jerry. **NEW KID***
Jordan must learn to navigate his new school, where art classes aren't valued as much as academics and he is one of only a few students of color. GN

Dukes, Rachel. **FRANKIE COMICS**
The popular webcomic comes to life in book form. Fall in love with mischievous Frankie the Siamese cat. GN

Finlay, Adrienne. **CUT OFF**
When something goes horribly wrong during the filming of a new virtual reality show, teenage contestants are trapped in a simulation, questioning how much of the game is real.

Fipps, Lisa. **STARFISH**
Ellie, a girl who has been bullied for her weight learns that she deserves to take up space.

Firestone, Carrie. **DRESS CODED**
Molly starts a podcast discussing the unfair treatment of girls in her middle school. Little does she know she starts a movement.



Florence, Debbi Michiko. **JUST BE COOL, JENNA SAKAI***
"Heartbreak is for Suckers" may be Jenna Sakai's new motto after she is dumped by her boyfriend over winter break and her parents begin a messy divorce.

Gratz, Alan. **ALLIES***
Four young teens: a US soldier, a paramedic, a paratrooper, and a spy behind German lines, must fight to complete their high-stakes missions to survive D-Day.

Higuera, Donna Barba. **THE LAST CUENTISTA**
After spending four centuries in suspended animation on a journey to another planet, Petra must rely on her Mexican storytelling heritage to save memories of Earth from being wiped out by a nefarious cult.

LaRocca, Rajani. **RED, WHITE, AND WHOLE**
When Reha's mom is diagnosed with leukemia, her world is split in two; her life at school and staying true to her Indian heritage.



*Title is one in a series/companion novel

GN—Graphic Novel



Lord, Emma. **TWEET CUTE***
All's fair in love and [grilled] cheese until Pepper and Jack's spat turns into a viral Twitter war about their family's businesses. Could they also unknowingly be falling for each other?

Lu, Marie. **THE KINGDOM OF BACK**
Talented musician Nannerl Mozart has one wish, to be remembered for her musical talents. But her younger brother Wolfgang's musical brilliance and her oppressive father push her to accept an offer from a mysterious stranger that may cost her everything.

Lukoff, Kyle. **TOO BRIGHT TO SEE**
In the summer before middle school, Bug finds himself on a journey to self-realization and acceptance as a transgender boy.



Melleby, Nicole. **HOW TO BECOME A PLANET**
After a diagnosis of severe depression and anxiety, an aspiring astronomer finds the help she needs in a new friend, a new tutor, and the Hayden Planetarium Hotline.

Nayeri, Daniel.
EVERYTHING SAD IS UNTRUE (A TRUE STORY)
The author's own refugee story written in the tradition of Scheherazade's 1,001 Arabian Nights.

Oh, Ellen. **FINDING JUNIE KIM**
When racist graffiti appears at her middle school, Junie must decide between staying silent or speaking out.

Patterson, James & Kwame Alexander.
BECOMING MUHAMMAD ALI: A NOVEL
A fictionalized novel in verse about the famous boxer's young life and struggles before he was Muhammad Ali.

Paulsen, Gary. **HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DAD**
Could a pamphlet on puppy training which says to reward good behavior and ignore less desirable ones (like dumpster diving for shoes) help Carl train his dad?



Philbrick, Rodman. **WILD RIVER**
When a dam fails and their adult supervisors and all their supplies are swept away, five middle schoolers on a rafting adventure learn how to work together to survive.

Saeed, Aisha. **OMAR RISING***
Scholarship student Omar must decide if it's worth fighting to stay at the elite boys academy when he learns that the odds are deliberately stacked against him.

Schmidt, Gary D. **JUST LIKE THAT**
Two teen lives are irrevocably changed when tragedy strikes. When they meet in Maine in 1968, they form an unlikely bond.



NON-FICTION

Bascomb, Neal. **THE RACE OF THE CENTURY: THE BATTLE TO BREAK THE FOUR-MINUTE MILE**
Three world-class runners, one impossible dream: to run a four-minute mile.

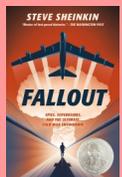
Dommermuth-Costa, Carol.
QUIET FIRE: EMILY DICKINSON'S LIFE AND POETRY
A revised edition with a new look at one of the most famous women poets of our time.

Hood, Susan.
ALIAS ANNA: A TRUE STORY OF OUTWITTING THE NAZIS
Two Ukrainian teen musicians assume aliases to escape the Nazis during WWII.

Jamieson, Victoria & Omar Mohamed.
WHEN STARS ARE SCATTERED
Omar and his nonverbal brother's true story about growing up in a refugee camp and how he perseveres to make a better life for them. GN

Paulsen, Gary.
GONE TO THE WOODS: SURVIVING A LOST CHILDHOOD
How a master storyteller found his voice.

Sheinkin, Steve. **FALLOUT: SPIES, SUPERBOMBS, AND THE ULTIMATE COLD WAR SHOWDOWN**
The U.S. and Soviet Union compete to build even more destructive bombs, leading to a close call with a third World War.



Soontornvat, Christina. **ALL THIRTEEN: THE INCREDIBLE CAVE RESCUE OF THE THAI BOYS' SOCCER TEAM**
The true story of the life-or-death mission to save 12 young soccer players and their coach who get trapped in a cave while on an adventure in Northern Thailand.