

8th Grade Summer Reading List 2014

***Students must choose one book to read on the **fiction list** and one on the **nonfiction list**.

 = books not available at May Book Fair

 = free download on internet or at project gutenber

 = books suggested but not limited for advanced readers

Fiction (select one from fiction section)



And Then There Were None (Mystery) by Agatha Christie

[Click to see Book Trailer of And Then There Were None](#)

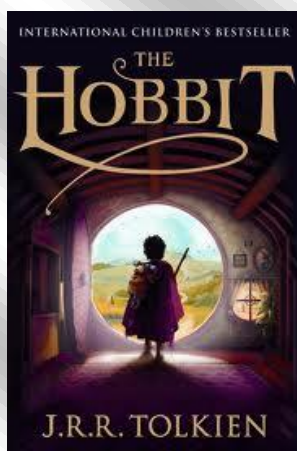
The Queen of Mystery has come to Harper Collins! Agatha Christie, the acknowledged mistress of suspense—creator of indomitable sleuth Miss Marple, meticulous Belgian detective Hercule Poirot, and so many other unforgettable characters—brings her entire oeuvre of ingenious whodunits, locked room mysteries, and perplexing puzzles to Harper Paperbacks...including *And Then There Were None*, the world's bestselling mystery, in which ten strangers, each with a dark secret, are lured to a mansion on an uninhabited island and killed off one by one.



Count of Monte Cristo (Classic/Advanced) by Alexander Dumas (free and advacned)

[Click here for Book Trailer of Count of Monte Cristo](#)

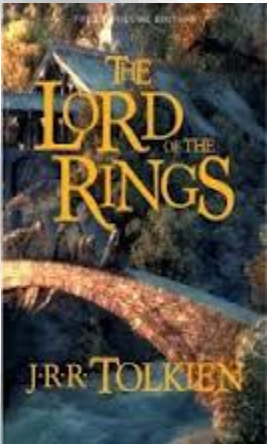
Set against the turbulent years of the Napoleonic era, Alexandre Dumas's thrilling adventure story is one of the most widely read romantic novels of all time. In it the dashing young hero, Edmond Dantès, is betrayed by his enemies and thrown into a secret dungeon in the Chateau d'If -- doomed to spend his life in a dank prison cell. The story of his long, intolerable years in captivity, his miraculous escape, and his carefully wrought revenge creates a dramatic tale of mystery and intrigue and paints a vision of France -- a dazzling, dueling, exuberant France -- that has become immortal.



The Hobbit, by Tolkien

[Click here for book trailer of The Hobbit](#)

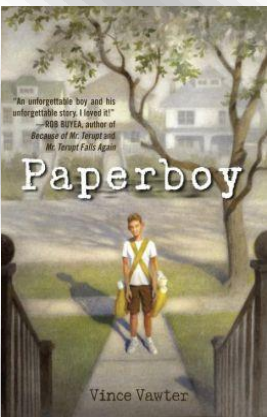
Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.



Lord of the Rings

[Click here to see book trailer of Lord of the Rings](#)

One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them, One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them. In ancient times the Rings of Power were crafted by the Elven-smiths, and Sauron, the Dark Lord, forged the One Ring, filling it with his own power so that he could rule all others. But the One Ring was taken from him, and though he sought it throughout Middle-earth, it remained lost to him. After many ages it fell by chance into the hands of the hobbit Bilbo Baggins. From Sauron's fastness in the Dark Tower of Mordor, his power spread far and wide. Sauron gathered all the Great Rings to him, but always he searched for the One Ring that would complete his dominion.



Paperboy (Hist. Fiction/Multicultural) by Vince Vawter

[Click here to see book trailer of Paperboy](#)

2014 Newberry Honor Winner : An 11-year-old boy living in Memphis in 1959 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 knows he'll be forced to communicate with the different customers, including a housewife who drinks too much and a retired merchant marine who seems to know just about everything. The paper route poses challenges, but it's a run-in with the neighborhood junkman, a bully and thief, that stirs up real trouble--and puts the boy's life, as well as that of his family's devoted housekeeper, in danger.



Gone (Dystopian) by Michael Grant

[Click here to see book trailer of Gone](#)

The first in *New York Times* bestselling author Michael Grant's breathtaking dystopian, sci-fi saga, *Gone* is a page-turning thriller that invokes the classic *The Lord of the Flies* along with the horror of Stephen King. In the blink of an eye, everyone disappears. Gone. Except for the young. There are teens, but not one single adult. Just as suddenly, there are no phones, no internet, no television. No way to get help. And no way to figure out what's happened. Hunger threatens. Bullies rule. A sinister creature lurks. Animals are mutating. And the teens themselves are changing, developing new talents—unimaginable, dangerous, deadly powers—that grow stronger by the day. It's a terrifying new world. Sides are being chosen, a fight is shaping up. Townies against rich kids. Bullies against the weak. Powerful against powerless. And time is running out: On your

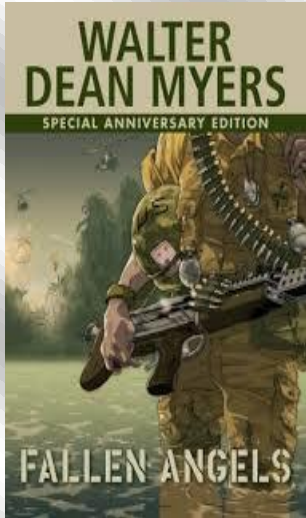
birthday, you disappear just like everyone else...



Emma (Classic) (free and advanced)

[Click here to see book trailer of Emma](#)

The movie Clueless is loosely tied to the plot of Jane Austen's classic Emma. Sparkling comedy of provincial manners concerns a well-intentioned young heiress and her matchmaking schemes that result in comic confusion for the inhabitants of a 19th-century English village. Droll characterizations of the well-intentioned heroine, her hypochondriacal father, plus many other finely drawn personalities make this sparkling satire of provincial life one of Jane Austen's finest novels.



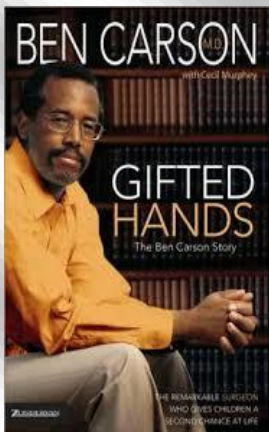
Fallen Angels (Multicultural/War)

[Click here to see book trailer of Fallen Angels](#)

An exciting, eye-catching repackaging of acclaimed author Walter Dean Myers' bestselling paperbacks, to coincide with the publication of SUNRISE OVER FALLUJA in hardcover.

A coming-of-age tale for young adults set in the trenches of the Vietnam War in the late 1960s, this is the story of Perry, a Harlem teenager who volunteers for the service when his dream of attending college falls through. Sent to the front lines, Perry and his platoon come face-to-face with the Vietcong and the real horror of warfare. But violence and death aren't the only hardships. As Perry struggles to find virtue in himself and his comrades, he questions why black troops are given the most dangerous assignments, and why the U.S. is even there at all.

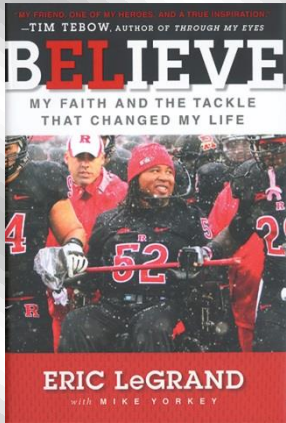
Nonfiction (select one from nonfiction section below)



Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story by Ben Carson

[Click to see Book Trailer](#)

Ben Carson, M.D., works medical miracles. Today, he's one of the most celebrated neurosurgeons in the world. In Gifted Hands, he tells of his inspiring odyssey from his childhood in inner-city Detroit to his position as director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital at age 33. Ben Carson is a role model for anyone who attempts the seemingly impossible as he takes you into the operating room where he has saved countless lives. Filled with fascinating case histories, this is the dramatic and intimate story of Ben Carson's struggle to beat the odds -- and of the faith and genius that make him one of the greatest life-givers of the century.

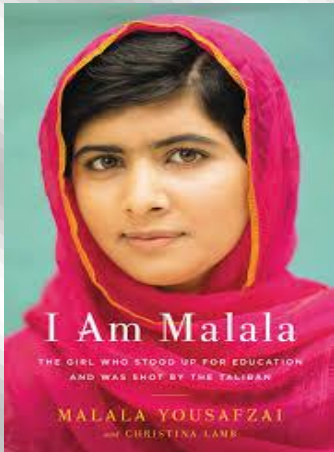


Believe: The Victorious Story of Eric LeGrand (Young Readers' Edition)

[Click to see Believe Book Trailer](#)

Believe is the profoundly moving story of Eric LeGrand, the former defensive tackle for the Rutgers University Scarlet Knights football team, who suffered a severe spinal cord injury and was left paralyzed by a crushing on-field tackle during a heated game with Army. A remarkable true account of a courageous young athlete whose unshakable faith, spirit, positive outlook, and rousing motto, “BELIEVE!” would serve as inspiration to legions of fans—and as motivation in his own quest to walk again—Eric’s story has received national attention, heavily covered by ESPN and *Sports Illustrated*. It will lift the hearts of every reader, not least of all those who were affected by quarterback Tim Tebow’s bestselling

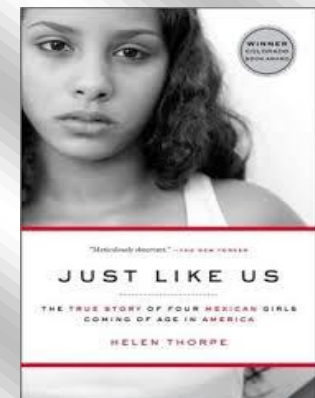
memoir, *Through My Eyes*.



I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up For Education and Was Shot By the Taliban by Malala Yousafzai

[Click here to see the book trailer of I Am Malala](#)

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. 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.



Just Like Us: The True Story of Four Mexican Girls Coming of Age in America

[Click here to see book trailer of Just Like Us](#)

Just Like US tells the story of four high school students whose parents entered this country illegally from Mexico. We meet the girls on the eve of their senior prom in Denver, Colorado. All four of the girls have grown up in the United States, and all four want to live the American dream, but only two have documents. As the girls attempt to make it into college, they discover that only the legal pair sees a clear path forward. Their freinship starts to divide among lines of immigration status.



Chew On This: Everything You Don't Want to Know About Fast Food by Eric Schlosser

[Click on here to see book trailer of Chew On This](#)

In the New York Times bestseller *Chew on This*, Eric Schlosser unwraps the fast-food industry to bring you a behind-the-scenes look at business that both feeds and feeds off the young. Find out what really goes at your favorite restaurants—and what lurks between those sesame seed buns. Praised for being accessible, honest, humorous, fascinating, and alarming, *Chew On This* was also repeatedly referred to as a must-read for kids who regularly eat fast food. Having all the facts about fast food helps young people make healthy decisions about what they eat. *Chew On This* shows them they can change the world by changing what they eat.

**All summaries taken from Amazon.com