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SEVENTH GRADE RECOMMENDED READING LIST
2018-2019 | OPPL.ORG/KIDS

FICTION

Blake, Ashley Herring. *Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World*. Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado, and in the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for a girl at school.

Bunker, Lisa. *Felix Yz*. Felix Yz chronicles the final month before an experimental procedure meant to separate him from the fourth-dimensional creature Zyx, with whom he was accidentally fused as a young child.

Diaz, Alexandra. *The Only Road*. Jaime and his cousin Ángela undertake the arduous journey to the North after a gang in Guatemala threatens their family. Diaz portrays with empathy the dangers, decisions, and regrets faced by unaccompanied minors as they migrate in search of refuge.

Gläser, Mechthild. *The Book Jumper*. While visiting her mother's childhood home, Amy discovers she is a book jumper, able to leap into a story and interact with the world inside. As she explores her new power, she finds out someone is stealing from the books she visits and may be after her life.

Hardinge, Frances. *The Lie Tree*. On an island off the south coast of Victorian England, Faith investigates the mysterious death of her father and discovers a tree that feeds upon lies and gives those who eat its fruit visions of truth.

Hautman, Pete. *Slider*. Hoping to win a cash prize in a pizza-eating contest after racking up a tab on his mother's credit card, David must juggle his competitive eating training with the responsibility of looking after his autistic younger brother.

Lee, Stacey. *Outrun the Moon*. In 1906

San Francisco, Mercy Wong thought getting into St. Clare's School for Girls was the hard part. When a historic earthquake strikes and destroys her home and school, she must find her place and how to help and heal.

Lovelace, Maud Hart. *Emily of Deep Valley*. Although she longs to go to college, orphaned Emily Webster tries to reconcile herself to staying behind in Deep Valley and, except for the pleasure of keeping house for her beloved grandfather, facing what she is convinced will be a dreary and uninteresting year.

Lu, Marie. *Warcross*. After hacking into the Warcross Championships' opening game to track illegal betting, bounty hunter Emika Chen is asked by the game's creator to go undercover to investigate a security problem.

Moore, David Barclay. *The Stars Beneath our Feet*. In the wake of his older brother's death in a gang-related shooting, Lolly Rachpaul struggles to avoid being forced into a gang himself while constructing a fantastically creative LEGO city at the Harlem Community Center.

Mullen, Diane C. *Tagged*. When 14-year-old graffiti artist Liam's estranged older brother coerces him to tag a graffiti symbol for a rival gang, Liam's life is threatened. His mother sends him to Lake Michigan for the summer to live with her best friend, Kat, a sculptor and art teacher where he's encouraged to consider his art seriously and how it might contribute to a greater community.

Oh, Axie. *Rebel Seoul*. In 2199 Korea, Jaewon is partnered with supersoldier Tera, but their love is threatened when Jaewon must decide whether to remain loyal to the totalitarian government, to

the nationalist rebels his father followed, or to the crime syndicate staging a coup.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Akata Witch*. An American-born albino child of Nigerian parents, Sunny Nwazue moves back to Nigeria, where she learns she has latent magical powers, which she and three gifted friends use to catch a serial killer.

Older, Daniel José. *Shadowshaper*. When the murals on the walls of her Brooklyn neighborhood start to change in front of her, Sierra Santiago realizes something strange is going on. She discovers her family are shadowshapers and finds herself in a battle with an evil anthropologist.

Pearsall, Shelley. *Jump Into the Sky*. In 1945, 13-year-old Levi is sent to find the father he has not seen in three years. When they're united, he learns his father's unit, the all-black 555th paratrooper battalion, will never see combat but finally has a mission.

Priest, Cherie. *I Am Princess X*. Years after writing stories about a superheroine character she created with a best friend who died in a tragic car accident, May is shocked to see images of the superheroine appearing around Seattle.

Stead, Rebecca. *Goodbye Stranger*. As Bridge makes her way through seventh grade with her best friends, she finds the answer she has been seeking since she barely survived an accident at age 8: "What is my purpose?"

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FICTION CONT.

Watson, Renée. *Piecing Me Together*. Tired of being singled out at her mostly-white private school as someone who needs support, high school junior Jade would rather participate in the school's amazing study abroad program than join Women to Women, a mentorship program for at-risk girls.

Wegelius, Jakob. *The Murderer's Ape*. When her best friend, the sailor Henry Koskela, is falsely accused of murder, a gorilla named Sally Jones visits the run-down docks of Lisbon, embarks on a journey across the seven seas, and calls on the Maharaja of Bhapur's court—all in an attempt to clear Henry's name.

Wright, Barbara. *Crow*. In 1898, Moses Thomas's summer vacation does not go exactly as planned as he contends with family problems and the ever-changing alliances among his friends at the same time as he is exposed to the escalating tension between the African-American and white communities of Wilmington, North Carolina.

NONFICTION

Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem. *Becoming Kareem: Growing Up on and off the Court* (B ABDUL).

Bolden, Tonya. *Searching for Sarah Rector: The Richest Black Girl in America* (BIO REC).

Charleyboy, Lisa and Leatherdale, Mary Beth (eds.). *Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native American Voices* (970.1 DRE).

Engle, Margarita. *Bravo! Poems About Amazing Hispanics* (920.009 ENG).

Heiligman, Deborah. *Vincent and Theo: The Van Gogh Brothers* (B GOGH).

Murphy, Jim. *Invincible Microbe: Tuberculosis and the Never-Ending Search for a Cure* (616.995 MUR).

Schatz, Kate. *Rad Women Worldwide: Artists and Athletes, Pirates and Punks, and Other Revolutionaries Who Shaped History* (920.72 SCH).

Stone, Tanya Lee. *Courage Has No Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickles, America's First Black Paratroopers* (940.54 STO).

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Allison, John. *Bad Machinery: The Case of the Unwelcome Visitor*. Are mystery-solving British school kids any match for a soul-sucking creep lurking around their neighborhood?

Bosma, Sam. *Fantasy Sports* (series). When two mages raid a mummy's tomb for magical items, they run into the mummy itself, who challenges them to a some one-on-one on the basketball court.

Ha, Gene. *Mae* (series). Abbie discovered a portal to a fantasy world as a child. Now she has returned home a hero, but her tales are too hard for her sister Mae to believe—until the monsters start to cross over to our world.

Inzer, Christine Mari. *Diary of a Tokyo Teen: A Japanese-American Girl Travels to the Land of Trendy Fashion, High-Tech Toilets and Maid Cafes*. Just before her 16th birthday, Christine spends the summer in Japan with her grandparents, journaling all the sights, sounds, and amazing characters she meets along the way.

Lewis, John. *March* (series). A firsthand account of Congressman John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights. Rooted in Lewis' personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement.

O'Neill, Katie. *The Tea Dragon Society*. After discovering a lost Tea Dragon in the marketplace, apprentice blacksmith Greta learns about the dying art form of Tea Dragon caretaking from the kind tea shop owners.

Stevenson, Noelle. *Nimona*. Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc.

Waid, Mark. *Archie: The New Riverdale* (series). The bite and hilarious edge of Archie's original tales in a modern world.