

## 7

SEVENTH GRADE RECOMMENDED READING LIST  
2019-2020 | 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 another 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* (TWEEN). 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* (TWEEN). 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.

Hennessey, M. G. *The Other Boy*. Twelve-year-old Shane Woods is just a regular boy. He loves pitching for his baseball team, working on his graphic novel, and hanging out with his best friend, Josh. But Shane is keeping something private, something that might make a difference to his friends and teammates, even Josh.

Hiranandani, Veera. *The Night Diary*. Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.

Lee, Stacey. *Outrun the Moon* (TWEEN). 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.

Lu, Marie. *Warcross* (TWEEN). 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.

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* (series, TWEEN). 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* (TWEEN). 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.

Reynolds, Jason. *The Boy in the Black Suit*. Soon after his mother's death, Matt takes a job at a funeral home in his tough Brooklyn neighborhood and, while attending and assisting with funerals, begins to accept her death and his responsibilities as a man.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. *The Dreamer*. A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely-read poets in the world.

Watson, Renée. *Piecing Me Together* (TWEEN). 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* (TWEEN). 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.

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### FICTION CONT.

Westerfield, Scott. *The Uglies* (series). Just before their sixteenth birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally's best friend runs away and Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty at all.

### NONFICTION

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

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

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

Hendrix, John. *The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler* (B BONHOEFFER).

Jarrow, Gail. *Spooked!: How a Radio Broadcast and the War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America* (791.44 JAR).

Kamkwambe, William. *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* (621.45 KAM).

Prager, Sarah. *Queer, There, and Everywhere: 23 People Who Changed the World* (TEEN 306.76 PRA).

Sandler, Martin W. *1919: The Year That Changed America* (973.913 SAN).

### GRAPHIC NOVELS

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

Craft, Jerry. *New Kid*. Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.

Ha, Gene. *Mae* (series, TWEEN). 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* (TWEEN). 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.

Larson, Hope. *All Summer Long* (TWEEN). Thirteen-year-old Bina faces her first summer without her best friend, Austin, who has left for soccer camp.

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.

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

Westerfeld, Scott. *Spill Zone* (series, TWEEN). Three years ago an event destroyed the small city of Poughkeepsie, forever changing reality within its borders. Uncanny manifestations and lethal dangers now await anyone who enters the Spill Zone, including Addison, who photographs the Zone's twisted attractions to provide for her sister and herself.