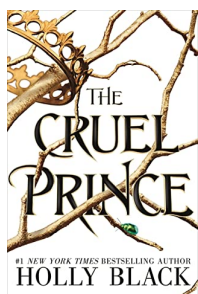


ORRJHS 2020 Summer Reading Grade 8

Putting high-interest books into the hands of our students and developing a school-wide community of readers are the most important goals of our summer reading program. Incoming 8th-grade students will choose one book from the list below to read over the summer and then meet in small groups in September to discuss their books.

Once students have chosen a book to read, they should sign up by using the online form found on our library website: orjhslibrary.weebly.com. The books can all be borrowed from local public libraries, from our school's Sora ebook collection, or purchased at area bookstores or online.

Grade 8 Summer Reading Choices

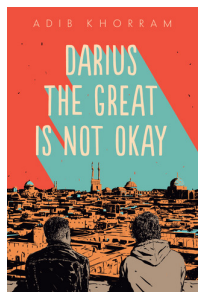


The Cruel Prince by Holly Black (fantasy)

Jude was seven years old when her parents were murdered and she and her two sisters were stolen away to live in the treacherous High Court of Faerie. Ten years later, Jude wants nothing more than to belong there, despite her mortality. But many of the

fey despise humans. Especially Prince Cardan, the youngest and wickedest son of the High King. To win a place at the Court, she must defy him – and face the consequences.

In doing so, she becomes embroiled in palace intrigues and deceptions, discovering her own capacity for bloodshed. But as civil war threatens to drown the Courts of Faerie in violence, Jude will need to risk her life in a dangerous alliance to save her sisters, and Faerie itself.

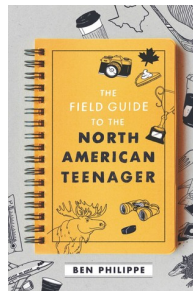


Darius the Great Is Not Okay by Adib Khorram (soccer; mental health; multigenerational family; Iranian culture)

Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones. He's a Fractional Persian – half, his mom's side – and his first-ever trip to

Iran is about to change his life. Darius has never really fit in at home, and he's sure things are going to be the same in Iran. His clinical depression doesn't exactly help matters, and trying to explain his medication to his grandparents only makes things harder. Then Darius meets Sohrab, the boy next door, and everything

changes. Adib Khorram's brilliant debut is for anyone who's ever felt not good enough—then met a friend who makes them feel so much better than okay.

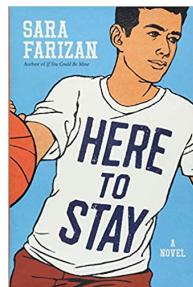


The Field Guide to the North American Teenager by Ben Philippe (humor; dating and relationships)

Norris Kaplan is clever, cynical, and quite possibly too smart for his own good. A Black French Canadian, he knows from watching American sitcoms that those three things don't bode well when you are moving to Austin, Texas.

Plunked into a new high school and sweating a ridiculous amount from the oppressive Texas heat, Norris finds himself cataloging everyone he meets: the Cheerleaders, the Jocks, the Loners, and even the Manic Pixie Dream Girl. Making a ton of friends has never been a priority for him, and this way he can at least amuse himself until it's time to go back to Canada, where he belongs.

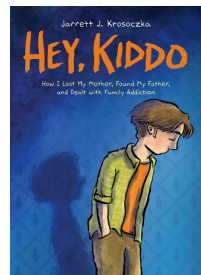
Yet against all odds, those labels soon become actual people to Norris . . . like loner Liam, who makes it his mission to befriend Norris, or Madison the beta cheerleader, who is so nice that it has to be a trap. Could it be time for Norris to stop hiding behind his snarky opinions and start living his life?



Here To Stay by Sara Farizan (basketball; teamwork; friendship)

What happens when a kid who's flown under the radar for most of high school gets pulled off the bench to make the winning basket in a varsity playoff game? If his name is Bijan Majidi, life is suddenly high fives in

the hallways and invitations to exclusive parties – along with an anonymous photo sent by a school cyberbully that makes Bijan look like a terrorist. *Here to Stay* is a painfully honest, funny, authentic story about growing up, speaking out, and fighting prejudice.

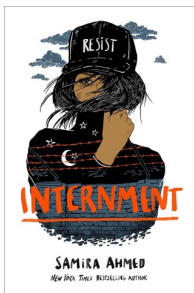


Hey, Kiddo by Jarrett J. Krosoczka (autobiography; nonfiction comics; family)

In kindergarten, Jarrett Krosoczka's teacher asks him to draw his family, with a mommy and a daddy. But Jarrett's family is much more complicated than that. His mom is an addict, in and out of rehab, and in and out of Jarrett's life. His father is a mystery – Jarrett doesn't know where to find him, or even what his name is. Jarrett lives with his

grandparents – two very loud, very loving, very opinionated people who had thought they were through with raising children until Jarrett came along.

Jarrett goes through his childhood trying to make his non-normal life as normal as possible, finding a way to express himself through drawing even as so little is being said to him about what's going on. Only as a teenager can Jarrett begin to piece together the truth of his family, reckoning with his mother and tracking down his father.



Internment by Samira Ahmed
(dystopian fiction; xenophobia)

Set in a horrifying near-future United States, seventeen-year-old Layla Amin and her parents are forced into an internment camp for Muslim American citizens.

With the help of newly made friends also trapped within the internment camp, her boyfriend on the outside, and an unexpected alliance, Layla begins a journey to fight for freedom, leading a revolution against the camp's Director and his guards.

Heart-racing and emotional, *Internment* challenges readers to fight complicit silence that exists in our society today.



Let Me Hear a Rhyme by Tiffany D. Jackson (rap music; murder mystery)

Brooklyn, 1998. Biggie Smalls was right: Things done changed. But that doesn't mean that Quadir and Jarrell are cool letting their best friend Steph's music lie forgotten under his bed after he's murdered – not when

his rhymes could turn any Bed Stuy corner into a party.

With the help of Steph's younger sister Jasmine, they come up with a plan to promote Steph's music under a new rap name: the Architect. Soon, everyone wants a piece of him. When his demo catches the attention of a hotheaded music label rep, the trio must prove Steph's talent from beyond the grave.

As the pressure of keeping their secret grows, Quadir, Jarrell, and Jasmine are forced to confront the truth about what happened to Steph. Only, each has something to hide. And with everything riding on Steph's fame, they need to decide what they stand for or lose all that they've worked so hard to hold on to – including each other.

Note: Summaries are provided by the publishers and/or based on the Library of Congress CIP data.

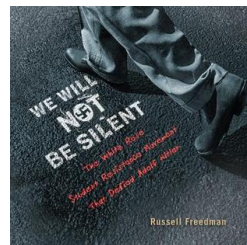


Want by Cindy Pon (science fiction; dystopia; survival)

Jason Zhou survives in a divided society where the elite use their wealth to buy longer lives and wear special suits to protect them from the pollution and viruses that kill the poor.

Frustrated by his city's corruption and still grieving the loss of his mother who died as a result of it, Zhou is determined to change things. With the help of his friends, Zhou infiltrates the lives of the wealthy in hopes of destroying the international Jin Corporation from within. Jinn Corp not only manufactures the special suits the rich rely on, but they may also be manufacturing the pollution that makes them necessary.

Yet the deeper Zhou delves into this new world of excess and wealth, the more muddled his plans become. And against his better judgment, Zhou finds himself falling for Daiyu, the daughter of Jin Corp's CEO. Can Zhou save his city without compromising who he is, or destroying his own heart?



We Will Not Be Silent by Russell Freedman (narrative nonfiction; World War II)

University students Hans and Sophie Scholl were brother and sister who, together with a few friends, formed the White Rose, a

campaign of active resistance to Hitler and the Nazis. Risking imprisonment or even execution, the White Rose members distributed leaflets urging Germans to defy the Nazi government. Filled with photos from the period, this book describes how these former Hitler Youth members came to see through Nazi propaganda and to risk their lives as undercover agents to bring down Hitler.



When You Were Everything by Ashley Woodfolk (friendship; family; music)

You can't rewrite the past, but you can always choose to start again. It's been twenty-seven days since Cleo and Layla's friendship imploded. Nearly a month since Cleo realized they'll never be besties again.

Now Cleo wants to erase every memory, good or bad, that tethers her to her ex-best friend. But pretending Layla doesn't exist isn't as easy as Cleo hoped, especially after she's assigned to be Layla's tutor. Despite budding friendships with other classmates – and a raging crush on a gorgeous boy named Dom – Cleo's turbulent past with Layla comes back to haunt them both.