



RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING FOR 2016

SOUTH KINGSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

**" Life-transforming ideas have always come to me through books." (Bell Hooks). *O Magazine* 2003
Do you want to earn points towards your first quarter grade in a subject of your choice? Do you want to travel? Instead of flipping on the TV or putting on those headphones, how about picking up a book.**

Reading will take you to wonderful, unexplored worlds in your imagination. These selections can also be counted towards your annotated reading portfolio requirements. We hope that you will read many books this summer. To assist you in this endeavor, we encourage you to read *as many books as possible.*

English Mandatory Summer Reading is included in this suggested list The English Department has its own web site as well.

Finally, if you have any questions, please e-mail the Librarian clavin@sksd-ri.net **This Summer Reading List is also available on the South Kingstown District Webpage <http://hs.skschools.net/departments/Library>**

BIOGRAPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS

Brian's Song by William Blinn

If you enjoyed the movie; *Remember the Titans*, you'll enjoy this book about a friendship between two football players, Gayle Sayers and Brian Piccolo.

Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter by Adeline Yen Ma

A compelling autobiography in which the author's childhood was ruled by a cruel stepmother.

Eastern Sun, Winter Moon by Gary Paulsen

For Gary Paulsen lovers, this is his autobiographical odyssey.

Girl, Interrupted by Susanna Kaysen

The author describes her two-year stay at a psychiatric hospital renowned for its famous clientele and for its progressive methods of treatment.

The Glass Castle: A Memoir by Jeannette Walls

The author recalls her life growing up in a dysfunctional family with an alcohol father and distant mother and describes how she and her siblings had to fend for themselves until they finally found the resources and will to leave home.

Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos

An autobiographical sketch of the author's restless final year of high school, his short-lived career as a drug smuggler, and his harrowing time in prison.

It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life by Lance Armstrong

Inspiring story of Lance Armstrong—a world-class athlete nearly struck down by cancer, only to recover and win the Tour de France, the multi-day bicycle race famous for its grueling intensity.

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography by Jay David

A lively, thorough account of the life and career of this talented actor/comedian.

Mama's Girl by Veronica Chambers

A personal story of perseverance and achievement, this book is Chamber's self-examination as an African American woman.

Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books by Azar Nafisi

The author presents a memoir of her life in post-revolutionary Iran, focusing on her organization of a group of young women in 1997 who met secretly once a week to read and discuss forbidden works of Western literature.

Reason for Hope by Jane Goodall

Goodall breaks the mold of scientist by revealing how her research and worldwide conservation institutes spring from her childhood callings and adult spiritual convictions. It is a smoothly written memoir that does not shy away from facing the realities of environmental destruction, animal abuse, and genocide. Most of all, however, Goodall provides a beautifully written plea for why everyone can and must find a reason for hope.

Tuesdays with Morrie: An Old Man, a Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson by Mitch Albom

The true story of the affection and gratitude between a spiritual mentor and his student. This is a simple book with simple messages....

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson

As Bryson and Katz haul their out-of-shape, middle-aged butts over hill and dale, the reader is treated to both a very personal memoir and a delightful chronicle of the trail, the people who created it, and the places it passes through.

When I Was Puerto Rican by Esmeralda Santiago

Santiago's artful memoir recounts her childhood in rural Puerto Rico and her teenage years in New York City.

Look Me In The Eye: My Life With Asperger's by John Elder Robinson

An engaging, candid and often hilarious account of the author's struggle to come to terms with a condition that was undiagnosed until he was forty. In the process, he mystifies his teachers, works as a techie for the band Kiss, and pioneers the design of computerized toys.

America: A Novel by E.R. Frank

Now in a treatment facility for his destructive behavior, America slowly opens up in an attempt to piece his life together.

Born Blue by Han Nolan

Born Blue is an unflinching look at a girl forced to grow up too fast in a callous world.

Breaking Point by Alexandra Flinn

Paul is ostracized by the students at his new school until Charlie, campus star, approaches him with an offer of friendship—in return for some small "chores."

Catalyst by Laurie Halse Anderson

Super-achiever Kate is sure her life depends on getting into her top college, MIT, until a neighbor's tragedy forces her to look outside herself.

First Part Last by Angela Johnson

When 16-year-old Bobby decides to care for his infant son by himself, there isn't much support for this daunting task. However, his intense love for the baby helps him persevere.

The Friends by Rosa Guy

This is a powerful award-winning novel about friendship. Phyllisia and Edith share a journey like no other in this gripping tale of struggle and cruelty.

Godless by Pete Hautman

When sixteen-year-old Jason Bock and his friends create their own religion to worship the town's water tower, what started out as a joke begins to take on a power of its own.

Hanging on to Max by Margaret Bechard

Sam's life changes forever when he decides to raise his infant son, Max, by himself while living with his father.

In Spite of Killer Bees by Julie Johnston

A funny and unique story of three young ladies who must live in their recently deceased grandfather's house to earn their inheritance.

Inside Out by Terry Trueman

A sixteen-year-old boy with schizophrenia is taken hostage during an attempted robbery.

Ironman by Chris Crutcher

While training for a triathlon, 17-year-old Bo attends an anger management group at school, which leads him to examine his relationship with his father.

Izzy Willy-Nilly by Cynthia Voigt

Izzy's leg is amputated just below the knee due to a car accident with a drunk driver. Although it feels like the end of the world, Izzy begins to put the pieces of her life back together.

Jinx by Margaret Wild

In this story in verse, Jen names herself "Jinx" when, for the second time, a boyfriend dies.

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

A story set against the volatile events of Afghanistan's last thirty years and by the same author as *The Kite Runner*.

The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards

Dr. David Henry, forced to deliver his own twins during a snowstorm in 1964 with only a nurse to help him, makes a decision that has far-reaching effects on his life, and the lives of his wife and son, when his infant daughter is born with Down Syndrome, and in a vain attempt to protect his wife, he orders the nurse to take the baby to an institution.

My Sister's Keeper: A Novel by Jodi Picoult

Thirteen-year-old Anna, conceived specifically to provide blood and bone marrow for her sister Kate who was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia at the age of two, decides to sue her parents for control of her body when her mother wants her to donate a kidney to Kate. **(You may also choose any other title by this author)**

Scorpions by Walter Dean Myers

Jamal, who is pressured to become leader of the Scorpions gang, worries about school, family, and the rough kids on the street. When a fellow gang member gives him a gun, Jamal suddenly gains a new level of respect from his enemies. A realistic look at a boy who wants to do the right thing but gets caught up in the culture of violence.

Slam by Walter Dean Myers

On the basketball court, 17-year-old Greg "Slam" Harris is in control. Off the court, however, there is a great deal of chaos: a grandmother near death, trouble fitting into an all-white school, poor school grades, and his best friend may be dealing crack.

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See

Friends Snow Flower and Lily find solace in their bond as they face isolation, arranged marriages, loss, and motherhood in nineteenth-century China.

Son of the Mob by Gordon Korman

When your father is head of the mob, it's hard for people to treat you normally, let alone have a love life. Also read the sequel: **Son of the Mob: Hollywood Hustle**

Tunes for Bears to Dance To by Robert Cormier

Eleven-year-old Henry escapes his family's problems by watching the woodcarving of Mr. Levine, an elderly Holocaust survivor. When Henry is manipulated into betraying his friend, he comes to know true evil.

What My Mother Doesn't Know by Sonya Sones

Experience the everyday comic, meaningful and triumphant feelings and happenings in the life of a teenage girl!

Where the Heart Is by Billie Letts

Novalee Nation, a 17-year-old pregnant teenager, is abandoned with only ten dollars in her pocket. She makes her home for the next two months at Wal-Mart, sleeping there at night and exploring the town by day.

Witch Child by Celia Rees

In the pages of her secret journal, Mary Nuttall reveals what it is like to live in a climate of mistrust and piety in which differences are dangerous and rumors can kill, where she must hide her heritage as a healer and pagan.

SURVIVOR/ADVENTURE STORIES

FICTION

Backwater by Joan Bauer

Ivy treks into the wilderness to discover more about her family's history.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place by Alden Carter

Teenage cousins Mark and Randy set off on their family's traditional male rite of passage canoe trip-which turns into a race for survival. **Downriver** by Will Hobbs

A group of rebellious teens have many adventures white-water rafting in the Grand Canyon. **A Girl Named Disaster** by Nancy Farmer Nhamo escapes drowning and starvation, but becomes very close to the luminous world of spirits.

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

A group of English schoolboys survives an airplane crash on a desert island, but must learn to survive each other's primitive ways.

Raptor by Paul Zindel

Zack and his Ute Indian friend find themselves trapped in a cave with a living dinosaur.

The Voyage of the Frog by Gary Paulsen

From the bow of his sailboat, a boy puts his beloved uncle's cremated ashes into the ocean.

Then, a hurricane strikes and his adventures begin.

Paulo Coelho, an international best selling, beloved writer has written a series of stories including *The Valkyries*, *By The River Piedra I Sat Down and Wept*, *The Pilgrimage*, *Warrior of the Light* and *Brida*-just to name a few. All Coelho's books are filled with love, passion, joy and sacrifice.

NON-FICTION

Fate is the Hunter by Ernest Kellogg Gann

An episodic log of some of the author's more memorable hours aloft in peace and as a member of the Air Transport Command in war.

Flight of Passage by Rinker Buck

The author tells the story of the cross-country flight he and his brother made in 1966 at the ages of seventeen and fifteen, flying from the East coast all the way to California in a rebuilt Piper Cub, and discusses how their father's influence set them on the course to adventure.

Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer

A disastrous Mt Everest expedition left the climbers and the author stranded and unprotected in a blizzard.

Knockdown: The Harrowing True Account of a Yacht Race Turned Deadly by Martin Dugard

Join a large group of amateur sailors for the exciting annual Sydney to Hobart Regatta across one of the black holes of ocean racing, and watch the event turn into a test of survival during the worst weather bomb in yachting history.

Within Reach: My Everest Story by Mark Pfitzer

Mark spent his teenage years climbing mountains throughout the world hoping to be the person to scale Mt. Everest

Revenge of the Whale: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex by Nat Philbrick

A Nantucket whaleship sank as a result of being deliberately rammed twice by an angry whale. Would the young sailors survive the icy waters?

WELL KNOWN CLASSICS

The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe

It is an exciting book about adventure and survival. The action takes place on a desert island three hundred years ago when Robinson Crusoe braves the hostilities of the elements.

Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery

Anne Shirley, the irrepressible heroine of this classic, is one of the most beloved characters in Canadian literature. This story involves an orphan who comes to live with an elderly brother and sister on their Prince Edward Island farm.

The Complete Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis

Narnia is the land of enchantment, glory, and nobility. It is the home to the magnificent Aslan, cruel Jadis, heroic Reepicheep and kind Mr. Tumnus. This is a great fantasy. This is a series, and

The Count Of Monte Cristo by Alexander Dumas

Set during the Napoleonic era, the book is about a man who is sentenced to life imprisonment for a crime that he did not commit.

The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck

This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is a graphic view of a China when the last emperor reigned and the vast political and social upheavals of the 20th century were but distant rumblings for ordinary people.

The Lord of the Rings by J.R. Tolkien

This is an exciting fantasy trilogy. You may only read one or several of them.

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne

A true classic about adventures beneath the sea.

MYSTERY, INTRIGUE & HORROR

Angels and Demons by Dan Brown

Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon is shocked to find proof that the legendary secret society, the Ulluminati-dedicated since the time of Galileo to promoting the interests of science and condemning the blind faith of Catholicism-is alive, well, and murderously active. Gripping, fast-paced novel by the author of *The Da Vinci Code*. **The Beekeeper's Apprentice** by Laurie King

Fifteen-year-old Mary Russell convinces Sherlock Holmes she is his perfect partner.

The DaVinci Code by Dan Brown

Brown's latest thriller is an exhaustively researched page-turner about secret religious societies, ancient cover-ups and savage vengeance. **Deal With a Ghost** by Marilyn Singer

Deal McCarthy has just come to town and is ready to continue her 'game' of stealing other girls' boyfriends, when a ghost calls her by name and makes her acquainted with some family history.

Deathman Do Not Follow Me by Jay Bennet This book is about a kid who gets in

trouble and cheats death. **The Demon in the Freezer** by Richard Preston

Only two official repositories currently exist for smallpox storage. Read about what happened to eradicate the virus in nature and what could happen if smallpox got into the wrong hands. **Free**

Fall by Kyle Mills

This novel follows the trail of a mysteriously stolen FBI file. Only one person can get that file in time to save the nation from a dangerous U.S. President, who is an expert at manipulating the media-worshipping citizens. **The Haunted One** by Jay Bennet

A ghost haunts a boy, a lifeguard who thinks he is responsible for the drowning of a girl with whom he has fallen in love.

How to Disappear Completely and Never Be Found by Sara Nickerson An offbeat mystery featuring a spooky old mansion, a father's death, and a strange handwritten comic book about a boy who turned into a rat. **Mr. Was** by Pete Hauptman

In order to prevent his mother's death at the hands of his father, Jack travels back in time fifty-five years through a door in his grandfather's house.

Twisted Summer by Willo Davis Roberts Cici may be on the right track but will she live long enough to find out?

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Frederick Douglass

An autobiographical account by the runaway slave Frederick Douglass that chronicles his experiences with his owners and overseers, and discusses how slavery affected both slaves and slaveholders.

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

An eye-opening account of a country's political turmoil-Afghanistan. The characters have heartbreaking struggles and emotional triumphs.

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

A brilliant tale of survival and faith.. The world for the reader of this novel consists of a young boy, a lifeboat, a tiger, and the wide blue ocean.

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

An unsentimental rendering of Nigerian tribal life before and after colonialism. Things Fall Apart packs a powerful punch as Achebe holds up the ruin of one proud man to stand for the destruction of an entire culture.

HISTORY: THROUGH FICTION AND NON-FICTION

FICTION

The Big Burn by Jeanette Ingold

Three teenagers battle the flames of the Big Burn of 1910, one of the century's biggest fires.

Birth of Venus by Sarah Dunant

Alessandra Cecchi becomes enchanted with a young painter her father has brought back from northern Europe to decorate the chapel walls in the family's Florentine palazzo, but their relationship is interrupted when Alessandra's parents arrange her marriage to a wealthy older man.

Caleb's Crossing by Pulitzer prize winning author Geraldine Brooks (2012 Reading Across America)

A serious historical novel told by Bethia, in her confessional style diary, that is suspenseful, involving, tragically recognizable and deeply sad. Caleb, a Wampanoog, travels from Martha's Vinyard to Harvard to study. He graduates with honors but his success is short lived.

A Conspiracy Revealed by Mel Odom

After his parents, Lord and Lady Brockton, were brutally killed by an unknown assailant, Matt Hunter sets out on a dangerous mission to hunt down the attacker not only putting his own life in jeopardy, but also that of the British Empire.

Johnny Got His Gun by Dalton Trumbo

This is an anti-war novel set during World War I. A boy loses his face in battle, and he must somehow learn to communicate.

The Known World by Edward Jones

Jones won the Pulitzer Prize for his book about a former slave who owned slaves himself. Overlapping plots, time shifts, and heartbreaking details of life under slavery.

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

An eye-opening account of the political turmoil in Afghanistan and the heart breaking struggles and emotional triumphs of the characters.

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

A breathtaking story set against the volatile events of Afghanistan's last thirty years-from the Soviet invasion to the reign of the Taliban to post-Taliban rebuilding-that puts the violence, fear,

hope and faith of this country in intimate, human terms.

Incantation-by Alice Hoffman-This heart-wrenching story takes place during the Spanish Inquisition.

Estrella is betrayed by her best friend. You will always remember her story.

6

NON-FICTION

The Children's Blizzard by David Laskin

Presents the true story of the January 1888 blizzard across the Nebraska, Dakota, and Minnesota plains that caught settlers and immigrants off guard and cost the lives of over five hundred people—mostly children on their way home from school.

1776 by David McCullough

Esteemed historian David McCullough covers the military side of the momentous year of 1776 with characteristic insight and a gripping narrative.

Shadow Divers by Robert Kurson

A chronicle of the lives of a group of undersea wreck divers as they discover and investigate the wreck of a WWII German submarine off the coast of New Jersey.

SCIENCE/MATH/TECHNOLOGY

Evidence of Things Unseen: A Novel by Marianne Wiggins

In the years between the two world wars, a passion for science and belief in the future of technology leads Ray Foster to work at a secret government lab developing the atomic bomb, but radiation poisoning ends his great faith in science.

The Gospel According to Larry by Janet Tashjian

An anonymous Larry starts a web site on which he features consumer culture and its obsession with celebrities.

In Code: A Mathematical Journey by Sarah and David Flannery At 16, Sarah Flannery made headlines as Ireland's 1999 Young Scientist of the Year for her discovery and presentation of the Cayley-Purser algorithm, an innovative encryption system roughly 22 times faster than the worldwide RSA algorithm.

Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers by Mary Roach

Explores the sometimes funny, sometimes gruesome uses for human bodies after death: for example, as crash-test dummies, practice for plastic surgeons, and research on decomposition. **The**

Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger

Henry, a dashing, adventuresome librarian, and Clare, a beautiful artist, are bound by their love and tested by unusual circumstances resulting from Henry's chromo-displacement disorder.

SPORTS/HEALTH

Bang the Drum Slow/ by Mark Harris

Baseball player Henry Wiggen relates how he throws a baseball for the sake of his pocket, his family, his teammates, and a dying friend.

Concrete Wave: The History of Skateboarding by Michael Brooke

If you love skateboarding, this is the book for you!

Eat, Drink, and Be Healthy: The Harvard Medical School Guide to Healthy Eating by

Walter Willett

Aimed at nothing less than totally restructuring the diets of Americans, Eat, Drink, and Be Healthy may well accomplish its goal. Dr. Walter C. Willett gets off to a roaring start by totally dismantling one of the largest icons in health today: the USDA Food Pyramid that we all learn in elementary school.

Friday Night Lights: A Town, a Team and a Dream by H.G. Bissinger

Chronicles a football season in Odessa, Texas, exploring the role of high school sports in America and how they can bring communities together, and tear them apart.

Iceman by Chris Lynch

Fourteen-year-old Eric, a ruthless hockey player prone to violence on the ice, tries to reconcile his own needs with those of his parents.

Necessary Roughness by Marie G. Lee

After moving to Minnesota at the beginning of his senior year, Korean-American Chan and his sister Young are feeling isolated. Chan discovers a love of football that helps him learn hard rules about life.

Ultimate Sports: Short Stories by Outstanding Writers for Young Adults edited by Donald R. Gallo

A collection of sixteen short stories about teenage athletes written by well-known authors in the field, including award-winning novelists Robert Lipsyte and Chris Crutcher.

Wrestling with Honor by David Klass

Ron Woods, a captain of the wrestling team, an honor student, and the straightest kid in school is going into his senior year. At first, his only concern is to defeat his biggest wrestling rival until he fails the mandatory drug test for athletes.

THIS AND THAT

The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

Translation of: Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy, sets out from his home in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of buried treasure, but through his encounters with a Gypsy woman, a man who calls himself a king, and an Alchemist, he learns the value of the treasures found within himself.

And One More Thing Before You Go by Maria Shriver A great short book about life after high school.

Angelmonster by Veronica Bennett

Fictionalizes the passionate eight-year relationship of Mary and Percy Bysshe Shelley, dramatizing the genesis of her classic horror novel, "Frankenstein."

Caesar and Cleopatra by George Bernard Shaw Get together with a friend or two and read this

comical spoof about Cleopatra. **Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul** edited by Jack

Canfield et al Enjoy reading any of these books for some soul-soothing...

The Emerald Lizard: 15 Latin American Tales to Tell in English/Spanish by Pleasant DeSpain, For the bilingual reader. **Fast Food Nation** by Eric Schlosser

On any given day, one out of four Americans opts for a quick and cheap meal at a fast-food restaurant, without giving either its speed or thriftiness a second thought. Fast food is so ubiquitous that it now seems as American—and harmless—as apple pie. Why do those French fries taste so good? What really lurks between those sesame-seed buns? Eaters, beware!!! **Harry Potter** series by J.K.. Rowling all books are very popular reads. **Jump Ball** by Mel Glenn Through a series of poems that reflect the feelings of students, their families, teachers, fans, reporters and coaches, a high school basketball team has an exciting season. You won't regret reading this book!

Just Checking: Scenes from the Life of an Obsessive-Compulsive by Emily Colas

Emily Colas explains what it was like to have an obsessive-compulsive disorder and discusses how it affected her life.

Light-Gathering Poems by Liz Rosenberg Gathered from many peoples, times and traditions, these poems blaze, inspire and bring forth light!

The Medusa and the Snail: More Notes of a Biology Watcher by Lewis Thomas

Twenty-nine essays present explorations and observations on a variety of scientific and medical subjects.

The Miracle Worker: A Play for Television by William Gibson

This is the inspiring story of Helen Keller and her teacher, Anne Sullivan. Faced with multiple physical challenges, 12-year-old Helen was like a wild animal who struggled against all who tried to help her. Then, Anne Sullivan arrived...

No Easy Answers: The Truth Behind Death at Columbine by Brooks Brown

Written by someone who knew both killers, this book tries to answer the question of why violence was tolerated at this school.

The Prophet by Khalil Gibran

With prose and poetry, Gibran gives advice to people about life, death, love, marriage, and children.

Profiles in Courage by John F. Kennedy

Through this group of true short stories about courageous people who greatly influenced history, you will learn about the power that one individual can have.

Profiles in Courage for Our Time edited by Caroline Kennedy

Continuing in her father's footsteps, Ms. Kennedy adds her list of courageous people who have influenced history, especially in our post-9/11 world.

Rachel's Tears by Beth Nimmo and Darrell Scott

A spiritual odyssey is presented by one of the victims of the Columbine High School tragedy.

Ten Things I Wish I'd Known Before I Went Out Into the World by Maria Shriver

Everybody can learn important lessons about life from this short book.

The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield

Aging, reclusive author Vida Winter, having given out multiple versions of her life story over the years, decides to finally set the record straight and engages Margaret Lea, a London bookseller's daughter, to write her biography, drawing the young woman into a tale of a governess, a ghost, a willful woman, feral twins, and a gothic mansion.

The Tragedy of Antony and Cleopatra by William Shakespeare

Get together with a friend or two and read the original version of this classic play.

Transformation Soup: Healing for the Splendidly Imperfect by Sark

This is a colorfully illustrated book that explores what healing is all about. There is much to heal and a lot to laugh about.

Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen

Ninety-year-old Jacob Jankowski finds himself haunted by memories of his past in the circus and the freaks, exotic animals, and other people he encountered as a performer.

Recently a popular movie.

What Should I Do With My Life? By Po Branson

Po Branson manages to create a career book that is a page-turner. His 50 vivid profiles of people searching for "their soft spot—their true calling" will engage readers because Bronson is asking himself the same question.

Why We Run: A Natural History by Bernd Heinrich

Originally published: Racing the antelope: what animals can teach us about running and life. Describes the phenomenon of ultra endurance, reveals the causes behind the physical, spiritual, and primal drive to win.

Wicked: The Life and times of Wicked Witch of the West; Mirror, Mirror; and, Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister-all by Gregory Maguire Fairytales from a different perspective often with political themes.

Recommended for High School Students 2010 R. I. Teen Nominees



Audrey, Wait! by Robin Benway

Audrey's ex-boyfriend has written a hit song about their break-up, and now she has become an unwilling paparazzi magnet.

Bog Child by Siobhan Dowd

At the height of Northern Ireland's "troubles," Fergus is distracted by his imprisoned brother's hunger strike, being a courier for terrorists, and the body he discovered in a bog.

***I Child of Dandelions* by Shenaaz Nanki**

I In 1972, the Ugandan president gives 90 days for all Indians to exit the country. Sabine and her family try to preserve a normal life as soldiers terrorize them and J people disappear.

***Freeze Frame* by
Heidi Ayarbe**

Kyle must re-examine his own memory through the eyes of famous movie directors to solve the mystery of whether he killed his best friend on purpose.

***My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, & Fenway Park*
by Steve Kluger**

Follow T.C., Augie and Alejandra for a year as they find their places in the ••v, world while navigating through new friendships and first loves.

**Nevves
Ironi.**

***News From the Dead: Being a True Story of Anne Green, Hanged for Infanticide at Oxford Assizes in 1650, Restored to the World and Died Again in 1665* by Mary Hooper**

After being convicted, Anne is executed, sealed in a coffin, and awaits autopsy and dissection, but she can't awaken from a coma.

V.aper Towns by **John Green**

Quentin goes on an all-night romp with Margo, on whom he has a crush, before she disappears, leaving Q to spend his final of weeks of high school hunting down obscure clues to find her.

Streams of Babel by
Carol Plum-Ucci

Six teens face a bioterrorist attack as four are infected with a mysterious disease and two computer teenies assist the US Intelligence Coalition in tracking the perpetrators.

Ten Cents a Dance by
Christine Fletcher

When her family's rent needs to be paid, Ruby drops out of school to be a taxi hall dancer in 1940s Chicago, where the jazz is hot and the boys are bad.
Discussion Module

Three Little Words: A Memoir
by **Ashley Rhodes-Courter**

Nine years of being tossed around in a terribly flawed foster care system could have ruined Ashley's life forever, but three little words changed her fate.

Two Parties, One Tux and a Very Short Film about the Grapes of Wrath
by **Steven Goldman**

Mitch, a shy and awkward junior, negotiates the difficult social situations he encounters, both with girls and with his best friend David, after David reveals to him that he is gay.

Pulitzer Prize for Fiction
1995-2016



The Truth About Truman School by Dori Hillestad Butler

Zebby and Amr just want to have an uncensored, online school magazine, but someone uses their website to bully a popular girl... should they censor their classmates? [Discussion Module](#)

Word Nerd by Susin Nielsen-Fernlund



Ambrose is a magnet for bullies, making his mother decide to homeschool him. He then befriends the neighborhood ex-con and joins a scrabble club ... all behind his mother's back! [Discussion Module](#)

Recommended for All Teens

R. I. Teen Book Award winner for 2011

Graceling by Kristin Cashore

Cashore introduces readers to a world where the Graced, those gifted in a particular way, are marked by eyes that are different colors. Katsa's Grace is that she is a gifted fighter, and, as much, she is virtually invincible.

Runners up include *The Chosen One* by Carol Lynch Williams and *Leviathan* by Scott Westerfeld



All the Broken Pieces by Ann E. Burg

in a free-verse story, adoptee Matt Pin struggles with the conflict between loving his new family and remembering his birth mother and the little brother he left behind in Vietnam. [Discussion Module](#)

CLAUBIC HAUT;
ANDERSON

Chains: Seeds of America
by Laurie Halse Anderson



Isabel, a young slave in New York, searches for a way to escape her cruel masters during the American Revolution.

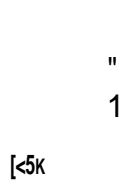
[Discussion Module](#)



The Chosen One by
Carol Lynch Williams

Kyra must decide whether to become her uncle's wife and stay in the strict, polygamous compound where she grew up or risk it all and escape to a world she was taught to fear.

[Discussion Module](#)



Graceling by
Kristin Cashore

Born with the Grace of strength and speed, Katsa is an assassin. Her uncle, King Randa, exploits her for his own purposes, but she wants to use her skills for nobler pursuits.

[Discussion Module](#)



Leviathan by
Scott Westerfeld

Clankers and Darwinists prep for war while orphaned Austro-Hungarian Prince Alek flees danger and Deryn, disguised as a boy, trains as an airman on a British flying whaleship.

[Discussion Module](#)



Project Sweet Life
by Brent Hartinger

Three high school junior boys devise money-making schemes to avoid taking jobs so they can enjoy the "sweet life" one last summer before accepting the responsibilities of the real world.

[Discussion Module](#)



The September Sisters
by Jillian Cantor

What happens to a family when a sister vanishes from her bedroom one summer night? Abby and her parents are trying to deal with Becky's disappearance. Will she ever be found?

[Discussion Module](#)

Recommended for High School Students



Ash by
Melinda Lo

In a Cinderella variation, Ash grew up with a forbidden belief in fairies. Now she must choose between a handsome fairy cursed to love her and her love for the King's Huntress.

[Discussion Module](#)



The Bite of the Mango by Mariatu Kamara
with Susan McClelland

Mariatu Kamara tells how she, a twelve-year-old, survived rape, torture and maiming during the civil war in Sierra Leone.

[Discussion Module](#)



Flash Burnout
by L.K. Madigan

After taking a photograph of a woman living on the streets and discovering she is his friend's meth-addicted mother, Blake is torn between being there for his friend or maintaining his relationship with his girlfriend.

[Discussion Module](#)



Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-Year-Old GI by Ryan Smithson

He was 16 when the Twin Towers fell, 17 when he joined the army, and 19 when he was deployed to Iraq. Join him on a journey from student to soldier, innocence to experience

[Discussion Module](#)



Hold Still by Nina LaCour

Caitlin and Ingrid did everything together, but when Ingrid inexplicably takes her own life, Caitlin is left to wonder why. With Ingrid's journal, she sees a different side of her friend.

[Discussion Module](#)

hold still

King of the Screwups by K.L. Going

Liam Geller can't help being Mr. Popularity, even when he tries not to be. No matter what he does, he manages to screw up in the eyes of his father.

[Discussion Module](#)

II&LL&2



No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row by Susan Kuklin

In their own words, four men who committed murder as teenagers share their stories and reflect on the grim future of life with no parole.

[Discussion Module](#)



Wintergirls by Laurie Halse Anderson

Most people think Lia is too thin, but she wants to be thinner. Despite the fact that she knows better, she lets her eating disorder consume her until she reaches the breaking point.

[Discussion Module](#)

Publisher Information

Lists of Nominees

- [2012](#)
- [2011](#)
- [2010](#)
- [2009](#)
- [2008](#)
- [2007](#)
- [2006](#)
- [2005](#)
- [2004](#)
- [2002](#)
- [2001](#)

Award History

Election Information

Discussion Modules

Documents to Print

Book Labels & Seals

Nominee Bookmark

Nominee Pamphlet

Nominee Presentation

Winner Press Release

List of Nominees for 2012

The 20 books listed below, published between 2009 and 2011, were nominated by the Rhode Island Teen Book Award Committee based on their literary quality and their appeal to teens.

Print up a [promotional poster](#).

Recommended for Middle School Students

***After Ever After* by Jordan Sonnenblick**

Now that Jeffrey is in remission from cancer, he must face his next big challenge - navigating eighth grade without the help of his older brother.

[Discussion Module](#)



***Ghostopolis* by Doug TenNapel**

A boy who is accidentally whisked into the spirit world discovers he has special powers there. But will they help him get back home?

Discussion Module will be posted soon



***Sources of Light* by Margaret McMullan**

In 1962, Samantha and her mother move from Pennsylvania to Jackson, Mississippi, a city on the edge of violence as the civil rights movements begin to shake up the racist status quo.

Discussion Module will be posted soon



***Touch Blue* by Cynthia Lord**

To save their school from closing, the families in Tess's island community take in foster children. She hopes Aaron will like her town and family, but what if he doesn't want to stay? [Discussion Module](#)



***Woods Runner* by Gary Paulsen**

In 1776, Samuel sets out from Pennsylvania to New York to rescue his parents from the British soldiers and Indians who kidnapped them after slaughtering most of their community. Discussion Module will be posted soon



Recommended for All Teens

***Birthmarked* by Caragh M. O'Brien**

In a world split between those who rule and those who serve, Gaia must smuggle herself into the guarded Enclave to rescue her imprisoned parents who face execution. Discussion Module will be posted soon





***Borderline* by
Allan Stratton**

When Sami's Iranian dad is accused of involvement in a terrorist plot, Sami risks his own life to uncover the truth despite the fact that they don't get along.

Discussion Module



***Heist Society*
by Ally Carter**

A group of teens use their combined talents to re-steal several priceless paintings and save Kat's father, himself an international art thief, from a vengeful collector.

Discussion Module will be posted soon

***Matched* by
Ally Condie**

Cassia always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her, but she begins to question just how *perfect* her world really is when she notices things are not what they seem.

Discussion Module



***Ship Breaker* by
Paolo Bacigalupi**

In the near-future, salvager Nailor has the chance of a lifetime when a yacht washes up after a storm. When he finds a survivor on board, he must decide whether to save her life or enrich his own.

Discussion Module will be posted soon



***Shutout* by
Brendan Halpin**

When Amanda's best friend Lena makes the varsity soccer team and she only makes junior varsity, their longtime friendship suffers dramatically.

Discussion Module will be posted soon

***Trash* by Andy
Mulligan**

Three boys in a Third World country find something at the dump and set out to unravel the mystery behind it while lying, stealing, and narrowly escaping death at every turn. Discussion Module will be posted soon

***Yummy: The Last Days of a Southside Shorty*
by G. Neri & Illustrated by Randy DuBurke**

In this graphic novel based on a true story, Roger tries to understand why his classmate joined a gang and shot a girl in their neighborhood before being killed himself. Discussion Module will be posted soon

WS&

Recommended for High School Students

***Amy & Roger's Epic Detour*
by Morgan Matson**

After Amy and Roger stray from a planned cross country road trip, Amy learns to live again as she comes to terms with her guilt over the accidental death of her father.

Discussion Module will be posted soon





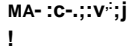
***Before I Fall* by Lauren Oliver**

After Samantha is swept away in a car crash, she finds herself reliving Friday, February 12, over and over until she gets the day "right."
Discussion Module will be posted soon



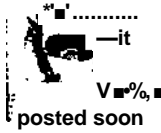
***I Will Save You* by Matt de la Pert**

After living in a group home, Kidd finally has his life on track, until a dangerous friend from his past appears and threatens not only his new life but also the girl he loves.
Discussion Module will be posted soon



Numbers

by Rachel Ward



When looking in someone's eyes, Jem sees the date he will die, a skill that puts Jem and her friend Spider on the run after narrowly escaping an explosion at a London tourist attraction.

Discussion Module will be



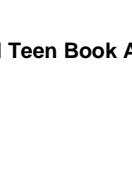
***Revolution* by Jennifer Donnelly**

Angry and grieving the murder of her little brother, musician Andi joins her father in Paris to work on a school project that uncovers a mystery from the French Revolution. Discussion Module will be posted soon



***Split* by Swati Avasthi**

A teenage boy thrown out of his house by an abusive father goes to live with his older brother, who ran away from home years ago to escape the abuse.
Discussion Module will be posted soon



***Teenage Love Affair* by Ni-Ni Simone**

Zsa-Zsa has a car, great clothes, and a boyfriend who hurts her when he is angry. When an old boyfriend moves back to the hood, Zsa-Zsa must decide who is the real love of her life. Discussion Module will be posted soon