

8th Grade

Recommended Summer Reading

Archer, Lily. **Poison Apples.**

Alice, Reena, and Molly meet at an elite boarding school in rural Massachusetts. It takes them a while to realize that they've all landed there primarily because of their wicked stepmothers, but once discovered, this fact binds them in friendship and their shared desire to exact revenge on the new women in their lives during Thanksgiving break.

Armstrong, Kelly. **The Summoning.** (Darkest Powers Book #1)

Chloe, 15, has the ability to see dead people, but before she can figure out what is happening, she has a breakdown, is diagnosed with schizophrenia, and placed in a group home. She befriends some of the teens at Lyle House and tries to accept her treatment. However, two of her more mysterious housemates suggest that maybe she isn't crazy.

Bradley, Alex. **Hot Lunch.**

Molly Ollinger can't stand perky Cassie Birchmeyer. When they are forced to collaborate on a school project, their bickering escalates into a food fight in the Sunshine Day School cafeteria. But because Sunshine Day isn't your average high school, the girls' punishment isn't detention—it's to work in the cafeteria as *lunch ladies*.

De La Pena, Matt. **Mexican Whiteboy.**

Biracial Danny Lopez doesn't think he fits anywhere. He feels like an outsider with his Mexican father's family, with whom he is staying for the summer, and at his mostly white school, and he wonders if his confusion drove his father away.

Doctorow, Cory. **Little Brother.**

Seventeen year old techie, gamer, Marcus Yarrow is at the wrong place at the wrong time during a terrorist attack. After being held against his will and being tortured by the Department of Homeland Security, Marcus fights back.

Duey, Kathleen. **Skin Hunger.**

Sadim was born into a time when magic was outlawed. Hahp was born into a time when it had been restored. Both must use their wits to survive.

Fletcher, Chistine. **Ten Cents a Dance.**

In 1941 Chicago, it isn't easy for respectable girls to make a living. So when Ruby discovers a way to make money—make that lots of money—she's willing to take her chance despite the risks.

Giles, Gale. **Right Behind You.**

Kip committed a horrible crime when he was only nine years old. Now he has to live with the guilt and hiding the truth from his friends. When he finally meets someone that he has to tell, he is afraid of the consequences which have troubled him most of his life.

Lipsyte, Robert. **Yellow Flag.**

Kyle Hildebrand comes from a family of legendary NASCAR drivers. His older brother, Kris, is the heir apparent to the family business and shows great promise. Kyle, meanwhile, is seemingly content to play trumpet in a brass quintet. After Kris is injured, Kyle takes his place behind the wheel and proves himself to be a skilled and savvy driver, and he questions if he should pursue his interest in music or turn to racing.

Mazar, Morma Fox. **The Missing Girl.**

He could be any man, any respectable, ordinary man. But he's not. This man watches the five Herbert girls—Beauty, Mim, Stevie, Fancy, and Autumn—with disturbing fascination. Unaware of his scrutiny and his increasingly agitated and forbidden thoughts about them, the sisters go on with their ordinary everyday lives—planning, arguing, laughing, and crying—as if nothing bad could ever breach the safety of their family.

Meehl, Brian. **Suck it Up.**

Are you up to your neck in bloodsucking vampire stories? Tired of those tales about dentally enhanced dark lords? Before I wrote this book I thought all vampires were night-stalking, fang popping, bloodsucking fiends. Then I met Morning McCobb. He's a vegan vampire who drinks a soy-blood substitute called Blood Lite. He believes staking should be a hate crime. And someday he hopes to march in a Vampire Pride Parade. He was also the first vampire to out himself and try to show people of mortality, like you and me, that vampires are just another minority with special needs. Trust me—this is like no other vampire book you'll ever feed on.

Vaught, Susan. **Big Fat Manifesto.**

Jamie is a big girl. No scratch that, a big fat girl. But don't expect her to roll over and apologize or fade into the background, that's just not her style. She's created her alter ego Fat Girl and the world better watch out. Fat Girl is on the move to prove she deserves respect and love just like everyone else.

Vincent, Erin. **Grief Girl.**

Death can bring out the worst in people. In 1983 both of 14 year old, Erin Vincen't parents died in an auto accident. Her parents' friends stole their furniture, the executor of their parents' will won't release any of the money held in trust, even for medical issues, and her unfriendly grandparents try to take away her younger brother. Yet Erin and her siblings somehow manage to survive.