The Influencing Machine: Brooke Gladstone on the Media
by Brooke Gladstone
“The cohost of NPR’s “On the Media” narrates, in cartoon form, two millennia of history of the influence of the media on the populace, from newspapers in Caesar’s Rome to the penny press of the American Revolution to today.”

Cinderella Man
by Jeremy Schaap
“Offers a portrait of an American icon, boxer James J. Braddock, who staged a remarkable comeback during the Depression that captured the imagination of millions of working-class Americans.”

Fall River Dreams
by Bill Reynolds
“A profile of Fall River’s Durfee High School basketball team is set against the backdrop of a once-prosperous textile mill town turned poor and disheartened and follows the team’s annual rekindling of community spirit.”

Fever Pitch
by Nick Hornby
“An autobiographical memoir by a humorous British author and obsessed soccer fan captures the intensity of a sports fan who measures his life in seasons rather than years.”

Francona: The Red Sox Years
by Dan Shaughnessy, Terry Francona, & Jeff Gurner
“The former Red Sox coach discusses his eight-year tenure with the team, chronicling the challenges posed by managing difficult players, satisfying multiple owners with different expectations, and dealing with both championship and losing seasons.”

My Losing Season: A Memoir
by Pat Conroy
“The author reflects on the place of sports in his life, describing his love of basketball, the role of the athlete for young men searching for their own identity, his education at the Citadel, and his journey to best-selling writer.”

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Check out the FREE print & e-books / audiobooks
Key GN = Graphic Novel
NON-FICTION

Historical / War

Daughters of the Samurai by Janice P. Nimura
"In 1871, five young girls were sent by the Japanese government to the United States. Their mission: learn Western ways and return to help nurture a new generation of enlightened men to lead Japan."

Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans by Don Brown
“In illustrated graphic novel style, this book tells the story of Hurricane Katrina from its beginnings as a wind over Africa to its destructive force and the enormous cost in lives and property.”

First They Killed My Father by Loung Ung
“Chronicles the brutality of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, from the author's forced "evacuation" of Phnom Penh in 1975 to her family’s subsequent movements from town to town & eventual separation.”

Grunt: the curious science of humans at war by Mary Roach
“Explores the science of keeping humans healthy and focused in the extreme environments of war, drawing on interviews with doctors, trainers, and weapons testers to illuminate how soldiers are conditioned to survive traumas.”

March. Book One by John Lewis
“A first-hand account of the author's lifelong struggle for civil and human rights spans his youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr., and the birth of the Nashville Student Movement.”

Sachiko: a Nagasaki bomb survivor's story by Caren Barzeloff Stelson
“Tells the story of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki through the eyes of Sachiko Yasui, who was six when the devastation was wrought, describing her experiences in the aftermath of the attack as well as her long journey to find peace.”

Symphony for the city of the dead by M. T. Anderson
“An account of the Siege of Leningrad reveals the role played by Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich and his Leningrad Symphony in rallying and commemorating their fellow citizens.”

FICTION

Magical Realism

City of the Beasts by Isabel Allende
“When fifteen-year-old Alexander Cold accompanies his individualistic grandmother on an expedition to find a humanoid Beast in the Amazon, he experiences ancient wonders and a supernatural world as he tries to avert disaster for the Indians.”

Everybody Sees the Ants by A.S. King
“Overburdened by his parents' bickering and a bully's attacks, fifteen-year-old Lucky Linderman begins dreaming of being with his grandfather, who went missing during the Vietnam War, but during a visit to Arizona, his aunt and uncle and their beautiful neighbor, Ginny, help him find a new perspective.”

Glory O'Brien's History of the Future by A.S. King
“As her high school graduation draws near, Glory O'Brien begins having powerful and terrifying visions of the future as she struggles with her long-buried grief over her mother's suicide.”

Horror / Supernatural

Anya’s ghost by Vera Brougal
“Anya, embarrassed by her Russian immigrant family and self-conscious about her body, has given up on fitting in at school but falling down a well and making friends with the ghost there just may be worse.”

Raising Stony Mayhall by Daryl Gregory
“After a zombie attack, Wanda Mayhall rescues a near-dead infant on the side of a frozen Iowa highway and decides to raise him without telling the authorities, but as the boy gets older he realizes that there are other living dead in the world like him.”

Through the Woods by Emily Caroll
“Five mysterious, spine-tingling stories follow journeys into (and out of?) the eerie abyss. These chilling tales spring from the macabre imagination of acclaimed and award-winning comic creator Emily Caroll. Come take a walk in the woods and see what awaits you there...”

Graphic Novels Are Serious Literature
They come in all shapes, sizes, and genres and can be found on our list with.

Cultural Identity

American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang
“Alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans trying to participate in the popular culture.”

The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven by Sherman Alexie
“In this brilliantly amusing fiction, Alexie artfully couples the harsh details of the struggle to survive on the Spokane Indian Reservation with a wry and often wistful humour.”
Half Broke Horses: A True-Life Novel by Jeannette Walls

"Presents a novel based on the life of the author’s grandmother, Lily Casey Smith, who learned to break horses in childhood, journeyed five hundred miles as a teen to become a teacher, and ran a vast ranch in Arizona with her husband while raising two children."

A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean

"Two novellas and one short story, based on the author’s own experiences, center on a young man’s discovery of life and art in the woods of western Montana."

What Is the What by Dave Eggers

"A biographical novel traces the story of Valentino Achak Deng, who as a boy of seven was separated from his family when his village in southern Sudan was attacked by government helicopters and became one of the estimated 17,000 "lost boys of Sudan" before relocating from a Kenyan refugee camp to Atlanta in 2001."

Yummy: the last days of a Southside Shorty by Greg Neri

"A graphic novel based on the true story of Robert "Yummy" Sandifer, an eleven-year-old African American gang member from Chicago who shot a young girl and was then shot by his own gang members."

Defending Jacob by William Landay

"Andy Barber has been an assistant district attorney in his suburban Massachusetts county for more than twenty years. He is respected in his community, but when a shocking crime shatters their New England town, Andy is blindsided by what happens next. His fourteen-year-old son is charged with the murder of a fellow student."

I Am the Messenger by Markus Zusak

"After capturing a bank robber, nineteen-year-old cab driver Ed Kennedy begins receiving mysterious messages that direct him to addresses where people need help, and he begins getting over his lifelong feeling of worthlessness."

Thriller / Suspense / Mystery cont.

Monster: A Graphic Novel by Walter Dean Myers, Guy A. Sims

"While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken."

Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz

"After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle’s dangerous work for Britain’s intelligence agency, MI6."

We Were Liars by E. Lockhart

"This brilliant and heartbreaking novel tells the story of a prestigious family living on a private island off the coast of Massachusetts. Full of love, lies, secrets, no shortage of family dysfunction, and a shocking twist that you won’t see coming."

Science / Fantasy

The Circle by Dave Eggers

"Hired to work for the Circle, the world’s most powerful Internet company, Mae Holland begins to question her luck as life beyond her job grows distant, a strange encounter with a colleague leaves her shaken, and her role at the Circle becomes increasingly public."

Daytripper by Gabriel Ba & Fabio Moon

"Presents key moments in the life of Bras de Oliva Domingos, a Brazilian writer and sometime journalist, and the son of a prominent author, as if each episode would turn out to be the day in which he was about to die."

Hidden Talents by David Lubar

"A 13-year-old boy who has been sent to an alternative school for mouthing off, discovers that he and his classmates have psychic powers."

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien

"Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return."

Ready Player One: A Novel by Ernest Cline

"Immersing himself in a mid-twenty-first-century technological virtual utopia to escape an ugly real world of famine, poverty, and disease, Wade Watts joins an increasingly violent effort to solve a series of puzzles by the virtual world’s creator."

The Shadow Hero by Gene Luen Yang

"In the comics boom of the 1940s, a legend was born: the Green Turtle. He solved crimes and fought injustice just like the other comics characters. But this mysterious masked crusader was hiding something more than your run-of-the-mill secret identity... The Green Turtle was the first Asian American super hero."

Y: The Last Man, Vol. 1 by Brian K. Vaughan

"A plague suddenly kills every mammal and cell on earth with a Y chromosome except, inexplicably, a man named Yorick and his pet monkey. Yorick’s escape artist talents come in handy as various groups try to kill him, protect him, study him, or use him for purposes he cannot even imagine."

Zeroboxer by Fonda Lee

"As seventeen-year-old Carr ‘the Raptor’ Luka rises to fame in the weightless combat sport of zeroboxing, he learns a devastating secret that jeopardizes not only his future in the sport, but interplanetary relations."
**FICTION**

**Realistic Fiction**

**All American Boys** by Jason Reynolds
*When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of her best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn’s alternating viewpoints.*

**Beneath a Meth Moon** by Jacqueline Woodson
*After losing her mother and grandmother during Hurricane Katrina, Laurel moves to another town and becomes a methamphetamine addict.*

**Eleanor & Park** by Rainbow Rowell
*Set over the course of one school year in 1986, this is the story of two star-crossed misfits--smart enough to know that first love almost never lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try.*

**Freaks and Revelations** by Davida Will Wurwin
*Tells, in two voices, of events leading up to a 1980 incident in which fourteen-year-old Jason, a gay youth surviving on the streets as a prostitute, and seventeen-year-old Doug, a hate-filled punk rocker, have a fateful meeting in a Los Angeles alley.*

**In Real Life** by Cory Doctorow and Jen Wang
*Immerging herself in an online role-playing game where she enjoys fantasy heroics, Anda confronts a difficult choice when she befriends a disadvantaged Chinese kid who works illegally to collect valuable objects and sell them to other players for real money.*

**Marcelo in the Real World** by Francisco X. Stork
*Marcelo Sandoval, a seventeen-year-old boy on the high-functioning end of the autistic spectrum, faces new challenges, including romance and injustice, when he goes to work for his father in the mailroom of a corporate law firm.*

**The Running Dream** by Wendelin Van Draanen
*When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.*

**The Silver Star** by Jeannette Walls
*Abandoned by their artist mother at the age of 12, Bean and her older sister, Liz, are sent to live in the decaying antebellum mansion of their widowed uncle, where they learn the truth about their parents and take odd jobs to earn extra money before an increasingly withdrawn Liz has a life-shattering experience.*

**Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda** by Becky Albertalli
*Sixteen-year-old, not-so-openly-gay Simon Spier is blackmailed into playing wingman for his classmate or else his sexual identity—and that of his pen pal—will be revealed.*

**The Skin I'm In** by Sharon Flake
*Thirteen-year-old Maleeka, uncomfortable because her skin is extremely dark, meets a new teacher and makes some discoveries about how to love who she is and what she looks like.*

**This One Summer** by Mariko Tamaki & Jillian Tamaki
*Rose’s latest summer at a beach lake house is overshadowed by her parents’ constant arguments, her younger friend’s secret sorrows, and the dangerous activities of older teens.*

**The Tragedy Paper** by Elizabeth LaBan
*While preparing for the most dreaded assignment at the prestigious Irving School, the Tragedy Paper, Duncan gets wrapped up in the tragic tale of Tim Macbeth, a former student who had a clandestine relationship with the wrong girl, and his own ill-fated romance with Daisy.*

Please let us know if you have any books that you think should be on the 2018 Summer Reading List. Thank you!

**JOIN SAILS / BPL THIS SUMMER!**
They have wicked awesome BOOKS, EVENTS, and GIVEAWAYS for FREE that will make your summer great!

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**REQUIREMENTS**

**9A**
All entering grade 9A students will choose and read one book from the list of grades 9th/10th choices or a teacher approved book of their choice.

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**9Honors**
All entering 9 Honors students will read the introduction and PART ONE: “The Gods, the Creation, and the Earliest Heroes” in Mythology by Edith Hamilton AND a book of your choice from the 9th/10th grade list.

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**10A**
All entering grade 10A students will choose and read one book from the list of grades 9th/10th choices or a teacher approved book of their choice.

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* Summaries were not written by ORRHS staff members. They were provided by publishers and/or review sites.*