2025 High School Sequoyah Annotated Masterlist

Bourne, Brianna. *The Half-Life of Love*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2023. 360 p. (Grades 9 and up). With only 41 days left in Flint Larsen’s short life, he is living as little as possible to make his approaching death easier; September Harrington is working to cure the half-life phenomenon that determines everyone’s deathday, but the clock is ticking as she and Flint start falling for each other.


Cline-Ransome, Lesa. *For Lamb*. New York: Holiday House, 2023. 304 p. (Grades 10 and up). An interracial friendship in the Jim Crow South sets off a chain of events that culminates in explosive and devastating trauma that will forever change the lives of Lamb Clark and her family. This novel, told through multiple narrators, is well-researched and heartbreaking, exposing a side of history that has been swept under the rug.

Graves, Byron. *Rez Ball*. New York: Heartdrum, 2023. 368 p. (Grades 10 and up). Tre Brun’s basketball dreams on Ojibwe Red Lake Nation Reservation are an attempt to live up to the legacy left by his brother Jaxon, who was killed in a car accident. Tre battles grief, racism, and the pressure of his brother’s shadow as he strives to become the first Division I athlete from his reservation.

Hicks, Faith Erin. *Hockey Girl Loves Drama Boy*. New York: First Second, 2023. 304 p. (Grades 9 and up). Alix is the star of her high school hockey team, but that doesn’t keep her from being bullied by her team captain. After a locker-room confrontation turns physical, Alix witnesses Ezra’s calm takedown of his own bully–with words, not fists!–and enlists his help in learning to control her anger.

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(Grades 9 and up). When high school seniors and best friends Sadie and Logan decide to skip a field trip and find themselves in a creepy corn maze, they soon realize three things: 1) they're trapped, 2) they've been in this maze before, and 3) they've died in it, a lot.

Kirby, Matthew J. Star Splitter. New York: Dutton Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, New York, 2023. 305 p. (Grades 9-12). Seventeen-year-old Jessica Mathers wakes up on the surface of Carver 1061c, a post-extinction planet where she is supposed to meet her parents, who she hasn’t seen since she was six. But her lander is crashed, she’s the only one around, and there are fresh graves. Now she must figure out how she got here, where her parents are, and what steps she can take next to survive.


Shukairy, Ream. The Next New Syrian Girl. New York: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2023. 416 p. (Grades 9-12). Khadija prefers boxing and football to the lavish lifestyle heaped upon her by her traditional Syrian parents. Leene and her mother are newly arrived Syrian refugees trying to start their lives in America. When Leene and her mother move in with Khadija and her family, the girls must face difficult truths and end up on a journey that will test the limits of their strength.

Smith, Cynthia Leitich. Harvest House. Somerville: Candlewick Press, 2023. 308 p. (Grades 7-9). Truth blends with legend in this haunted house mystery as a group of teens work to uncover what is happening in their town during Halloween. Are Indigenous women being targeted? And who was the “Indian maiden” that everyone keeps talking about?

Sortino, Anna. Give Me a Sign. New York: Penguin Young Readers Group, 2023. 303 p. (Grades 7-10). Growing up mostly deaf in a hearing world is challenging enough, but
when Lilah becomes a counselor at a summer camp for deaf kids, that she hasn’t been to since childhood, she faces all new challenges as she learns to communicate in a deaf world.

Stone, Nic. *Chaos Theory*. New York: Random House Children’s Books, 2023. 278 p. (Grades 10 & Up). Two teens, an anonymous text, a car wreck, a friendship contract. Some scars are more visible than others. Not all battles are physical, some of the worst ones are within our own minds.