2019 Intermediate Annotated Masterlist

Fifteen-year-old Janna Yusef, a self-proclaimed misfit, navigates her Muslim culture while also trying to be a normal teenager with friends, a somewhat unrequited crush, and divorced parents. Life becomes all the more complicated when well-respected member of her family’s mosque assaults her, and she must work to find her voice and speak up before he attempts to hurt her further.

Anderson, Jodi Lynn. *Midnight at the Electric*. New York: HarperTeen, 2017. 272 p. (Grades 7 and up). In 2065, Adri has been chosen as a colonist on a prestigious mission to Mars, but something is keeping her rooted to Earth. In 1934, Catherine fights to keep her family together as the dust bowl ravages their farm. In 1919, Lenore struggles to reconcile her feelings of grief for her brother with her blossoming love for a mysterious stranger. Three beautifully interwound stories of loss, love, and finding your way in the world… even when it means believing in the impossible.

Cheng, Jack. *See You in the Cosmos*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2017. 314 p. (Grades 5-7). Determined to launch his golden iPod full of Earth sounds into space, eleven-year-old Alex Petroski stocks the fridge with meals for his mom, leaves his older brother a voicemail, and takes a train to a rocket festival in New Mexico with his dog Carl Sagan - named after his real life hero astronomer Dr. Carl Sagan. The simple trip begins a journey full of unlikely friendships, bumps in the road, and answers to questions Alex didn’t even think to ask.

Years before the marriage act is signed into law, sisters Fella and her sister Zany are separated after the death of Mama Lacy, leaving Zancy with Mama Shannon and Fella with her biological grandmother. Looking to bring their family back together, Fella and Zancy kidnap Mama Lacey’s ashes and embark on a crazy road trip to fulfill Mama Lacey's dying wish, to spread her ashes in the last place they all were a family, Asheville, North Carolina. Find out if they make it to their destination and fulfill their mothers wish.

Frank, Steven B. *Armstrong & Charlie*. City published: HMH Books for Young Readers, 2017. 304 p. (Grades 6-7). Set in 1974 Los Angeles, Armstrong and Charlie find themselves living out court-ordered integration. Armstrong is one of the 6th graders selected to travel to Wonderland Elementary in Hollywood Hills. Charlie has attended the school forever but his best friends are changing schools because "times are changing." This is where it all begins with two very different boys, or are they?
Gerber, Alyson. *Braced*. New York: Arthur A. Levine, 2017. 287 p. (Grades 6-8). Rachel Brooks plays on her school’s soccer team, navigates the minefield of junior high friendships, and hopes her crush will notice her— all while dealing with progressive idiopathic scoliosis. Wearing a brace twenty-three hours a day changes the way others see her and how she sees herself.

Gratz, Alan. *Refugee*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2017. 338 p. (Grades 4 and up). Though they live in different time periods, Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud all have something in common: they are refugees. Josef is a Jewish boy fleeing Nazi Germany. Isabel, a Cuban girl, heads for the United States on just a homemade raft so she can escape riots in her country. Mahmoud leaves Syria with his family after a bomb destroys their home. Though they each have their own harrowing journey, they find their lives intersect in an unexpected way.

Khan, Hena. *Amina’s Voice*. New York: Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2017. 197 p. (Grades 4-7). Amina loves to sing, but only when no one but her best friend, Soojin, can hear her. But Soojin has made some popular new friends in middle school, and now she wants to change her name to sound more “American.” Feeling unheard at home, Amina struggles with the changes happening all around her. But when her mosque is vandalized, Amina finally finds her voice to speak up for what matters.

Latham, Jennifer. *Dreamland Burning*. New York: Little, Brown, and Company, 2017. 371 p. (Grades 7 and up). It is the first day of summer vacation. Rowan Chase is trying to sleep in when workers find a body in the garage floor at her home. Though the murder is a century old, Rowan is intrigued. Through her research, she learns about Will, who lived in the same house. The story then unfolds from two perspectives: Rowan, who lives in present day Tulsa, and Will, a teen who lived in Tulsa during the Nation’s deadliest race riot.

O’Sullivan, Joanne. *Between Two Skies*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2017. 267p. (Grades 7 and up). Sixteen-year old Evangeline Ray lives what she considers an idyllic life in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, with her two best friends, Mamere, her beloved grandmother, and time spent in her skiff on the bayou. When Hurricane Katrina’s destruction changes everything for Evangeline, she has to fight for her family, her friends, a buddy relationship, and to find her way back to the life she loves on the bayou.

Reynolds, Jason. *Long Way Down*. New York: Atheneum, 2017. 306 p. (Grades 7 and up). Where Will lives there are three rules: No crying, No snitching, Take revenge. On level 7 of his apartment building, fifteen year old Will enters the elevator with his dead brother’s gun and the three rules creating chaos in his head. Should he follow the rules he was raised by or create his own? Will has 60 seconds to decide.
Reynolds, Jason. *Miles Morales: Spider-Man*. New York City: Marvel Press, 2017. 261p. (Grades 6 and up). “You’re just like me.” Uncle Aaron was always running afoul with the law, and those were his last words to his nephew, sixteen-year-old Miles Morales. Miles really hopes he wasn’t referring to his current suspension from an elite and exclusive prep school in New York City. Miles was following his spidey-sense but lately it’s been wonky and…wrong. When Miles returns to his classes, sticking closely to the rules is priority and immediately his spidey-sense starts tingling again. In discovering a deviously hidden plot, Miles must balance the great responsibilities of holding onto his scholarship, his school work, a budding romance, and keeping other students safe while fighting against generations of evil.

Sheinkin, Steve. *Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian Football Team*. New York: Roaring Brook Press, 2017. 280p. (Grades 6 and up). In 1907, Jim Thorpe, a student at the Carlisle Indian School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, is introduced to Pop Warner. And so begins the story of one of the winningest football teams in the country, even though Thorpe and his teammates had to overcome huge obstacles, including playing powerhouse teams like Harvard and Yale, lack of adequate funding—not only for the team, but for all the students at the Indian School, and the biggest obstacle of all—the intense hatred and distrust of Native Americans around the country.

Watson, Renée. *Piecing Me Together*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2017. 320 p. (Grades 7 and up). Jade Butler attends a mostly white private school, loves to collage and create beautiful art, and fully understands that education is her way out of the rough neighborhood where she has grown up. When she is put in a mentorship program for at-risk youth instead of a prestigious study abroad trip she has worked so hard for, Jade finds her voice to become more than just a charity case to her teachers and friends.

Zentner, Jeff. *Goodbye Days*. New York: Crown Books for Young Readers, 2017. 416p. (Ages 14 and up). "Are you on your way?" That was the last text Carver Briggs sent his friends before they died in a horrific car accident. Now he is faced with accusations of negligent manslaughter, feelings for his best friend’s girl, and three families that want to say goodbye one last time.