The Soddy-Daisy Community Library is proud to present our 2020 Summer Reading Recommendations. These books were chosen by a panel of librarians, educators and book industry professionals, and represent a diverse cross-section of interests so there is something appealing here for every reader.

We hope that during this challenging time, these recommendations will not only build on your child’s education and reading abilities, but will also provide pleasure, relaxation and fun.

Happy Reading!

These recommendations cover a wide range of grades, ages and subjects. The content may not be appropriate for everyone. If you need help making choices or would like additional recommendations, we’re happy to help.

**Volunteer State Book Award Nominee 2020-21**

**Classics**

*Watership Down*
by Richard Adams
A group of wild rabbits struggles to find their place in the world.

*Little Women*
by Louisa May Alcott
Four sisters grow into adulthood.

*The Scarlet Letter*
by Nathaniel Hawthorne
Hester Prynne conceives a daughter through an affair and is shunned for it.

*The Pearl*
by John Steinbeck
A diver changes his and his family’s fortune by finding a large pearl.

*The Invisible Man*
by H. G. Wells
A scientist discovers a way to make himself invisible, but it drives him crazy.

**Fantasy / SciFi**

*Children of Blood and Bone***
by Tomi Adeyemi
Orphan works to bring back magic and get revenge against the monarchy.

*The Wrath and the Dawn*
by Renée Ahdieh
Retelling of Scheherazade and the Arabian Nights

*The Hazel Wood*
by Melissa Albert
Dark fairy tales come to life.

*The Belles*
by Dhonielle Clayton
Girls with the power to sculpt people beautiful, but at what cost?

*Revolution*
by Jennifer Donnelly
An angry girl finds diary that transports her back to the French Revolution.

*Tiger’s Curse series*
by Colleen Houck
Two Indian princes, turned into tigers by an evil sorcerer, journey through myths to reclaim their humanity.

*Grave Mercy*
by Robin LaFevers
Girls are sent to a nunnery in 1400’s France to train as assassins.

*Night Circus*
by Erin Morgenstern
Two starcrossed magicians engage in a deadly game.

*This Savage Song*
by Victoria Schwab
A young woman and man must choose to become heroes or villains - or monsters.

*Scythe (Arc of the Scythe series)*
by Neal Shusterman
When illness and death are wiped out on Earth, it is up to Scythes to choose who lives and who dies.

*Growing Up Dead*
by Greg Wilkey
A boy discovers he is the child of a mortal woman and a vampire, and enters a centuries old war of the Undead.
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<tr>
<th><strong>Historical Fiction</strong></th>
<th><strong>Realistic Fiction</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Lovely War</strong></td>
<td><strong>With the Fire On High</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by Julie Berry</td>
<td>by Elizabeth Acevedo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set in WWI &amp; WWII, gods hold the fates and hearts of mortals in their hands.</td>
<td>A teenage mom pursues her dream of becoming a chef.</td>
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<td><strong>Once</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Astonishing Color of After</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by Morris Gleitzman</td>
<td>by Emily Pan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish boy sets out to save his parents during WWII.</td>
<td>Girl discovers family, love and art after mother’s death.</td>
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<td><strong>Girl in the Blue Coat</strong></td>
<td><strong>Simon vs The Homo Sapien Agenda</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by Monica Hesse</td>
<td>by Becky Albertelli</td>
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<td>Dutch girl joins the resistance in 1943.</td>
<td>Closeted high school junior must come out before being pushed out.</td>
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<td><strong>Dread Nation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Truly Devious</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>** by Justina Ireland**</td>
<td>by Maureen Johnson</td>
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<td>What happens when the Civil War is stopped by a zombie invasion?</td>
<td>Young detective at private boarding school hunts a murderer who has returned.</td>
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<td><strong>Love is the Higher Law</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dry</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by David Levithan</td>
<td>by Neal &amp; Jarod Shusterman</td>
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<td>Three teens deal with the world after 9/11.</td>
<td>Catastrophic drought forces teen to help her family survive.</td>
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<td><strong>Stalking Jack the Ripper</strong></td>
<td><strong>More Than We Can Tell</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by Kerri Maniscalco</td>
<td>by Brigid Kemmerer</td>
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<td>A girl leading a secret life studying forensic medicine investigates the original serial killer.</td>
<td>Two teens share secrets in the face of trauma.</td>
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<td><strong>The Poe Shadow</strong></td>
<td><strong>On the Come Up</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by Matthew Pearl</td>
<td>by Angie Thomas</td>
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<td>Young lawyer seeks the truth about the questionable death of Edgar Allen Poe.</td>
<td>Young rapper fights for her dreams against the odds.</td>
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<td><strong>The Fountains of Silence</strong></td>
<td><strong>When Dimple Met Rishi</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by Ruta Sepetys</td>
<td>by Sandhya Menon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Love, silence and secrets during the postwar struggles of 1957 Spain.</td>
<td>Parents try to play matchmaker during a web developer summer camp.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Code Name Verity</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rayne &amp; Deilah’s Midnight Matinee</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>by Elizabeth Wein</td>
<td>by Jeff Zentner</td>
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<tr>
<td>A pilot and her best friend, a spy, are shot down in Nazi occupied France and must save each other.</td>
<td>TV show hosts and best friends face graduation and the future.</td>
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**Biography**

*I'll Always Write Back*  
by Caitlin Alifrenka  
Penpal assignment creates two best friends worlds apart.

**Shout**  
by Laurie Halse Anderson  
 BIO of an advocate for survivors of sexual assault.

**Episodes**  
by Blaze Ginsberg  
Highly functioning autistic teen views life in a collection of ‘episodes’.

**The Faithful Spy**  
by John Hendrix  
Graphic Novel bio of Dietrich Bonhoefer and the plot to kill Hitler.

**Strong Inside (Young Reader’s Edition)**  
by Andrew Maraniss  
Perry Wallace, the first African American in the desegregated Southeastern Conference.

**Non-Fiction**

*A Chance In the World*  
by Steve Pemberton  
Abused boy grows into a resilient and visionary man.

**We Should Hang Out Sometime**  
by Josh Sundquist  
Author tracked down old girlfriends to find out ‘what went wrong’.

**The Glass Castle**  
by Jeannette Walls  
Woman escapes abusive, transient family life in West Virginia.

**Educated**  
by Tara Westover  
Daughter of survivalists escapes to better herself.

**We Should All Be Feminists**  
by Chimamanda Adichie  
Unique essay on 21st century feminism derived from her Ted talk.

**6 Most Important Decisions You’ll Ever Make: Updated for the Digital Age**  
by Sean Covey  
Learn to face 6 major challenges of being a teen in the digital age.

**The Warrior’s Heart: Becoming a Man of Compassion and Courage**  
by Eric Greitens  
Inspiring stories of friendship, struggle and hard-earned wisdom.

**Nevertheles, We Persisted**  
by In This Together Media  
48 stories of defiance, strength and courage.

**The Perfect Horse**  
by Elizabeth Letts  
U.S. mission to rescue a priceless horse stolen by the Nazis.

**The Red Bandana**  
by Tom Hinaldi  
Heroic story of 9/11.

**Just Mercy**  
by Bryan Stevenson  
Glimpse into the life of the wrongly imprisoned and fight for freedom.

**The 57 Bus**  
by Dashka Slater  
A teen is set on fire by another teen on a bus in Oakland, CA.
**Graphic Novels**

*Speak*
by Laurie Halse Anderson
A high school student comes to grips with her sexual assault through art.

*The Scarlet Letter: Manga Classic*
by Nathaniel Hawthorne / Adapted by Crystal S. Chin
Hester Prynne conceives a daughter through an affair and is shunned for it.

*Mary's Monster: Love, Madness and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein*
by Lita Judge
The story of Mary Shelley's life and creation of Frankenstein.

*Pumpkinheads*
by Rainbow Rowell
Two teens discover what it means to leave a place - and a person - behind.

*Nimona*
by Noelle Stevenson
Young shapeshifter's mischief escalates to dangerous levels.

**Hey Kiddo**
by Jarrett Krosoczka
Memoir about growing up in a family grappling with addiction, and finding the art that helps you survive.

*The Prince and the Dressmaker*
by Jen Wang
A prince with a secret life and his best friend find identity, art and love.

**Novels in Verse**

*The Poet X*
by Elizabeth Acevedo
Slam poet finds her voice.

*The Crossover*
by Kwame Alexander
Basketball and beat come together.

*Audacity*
by Melanie Crowder
Clara Lemlich fights for equal rights in the largest strike by women in American history.

*Long Way Down*
by Jason Reynolds
60 seconds - the time it takes to decide whether to murder your brother's killer or not.

Get ready for the SDCL Magical Summer of Reading! When you read this summer, you can earn this great T-Shirt - FREE! Details coming in May!

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