

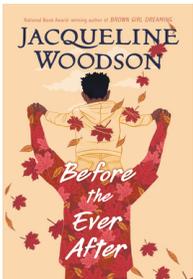


THE KING'S ACADEMY

TKA Summer Reading Challenge 2022 8th Grades

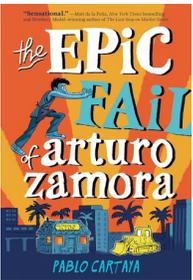
The TKA Summer Reading Challenge is an optional summer reading list created by our library and English faculty. By participating, you will have the opportunity to write personalized, mini-reviews of these books available through a Google Form found on the TKA website. **For each review written (up to 5), you will be entered into the summer reading raffle with a variety of fun prizes!** For example, five reviews equals five raffle entries. Complete the review [HERE](#). So, keep your brain engaged over the summer break, bond with some of your classmates over literature, and get featured on the shelves of the library!

Fiction:



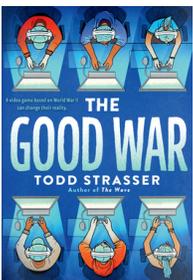
Before the Ever After by Jacqueline Woodson

ZJ loves his dad. He's charming and personable, a living football legend. At least...that was before he starts changing. ZJ knows that it's because of all the hard knocks his father received during his pro football career but it doesn't make it any easier. Can ZJ and his dad find a way to navigate the Ever After? Find out in this award winning novel-in-verse.



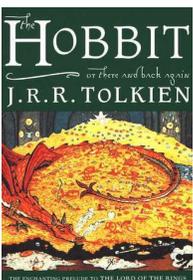
The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya

Arturo has big plans the summer before eighth grade that involve basketball, some shifts as a dishwasher at his grandmother's restaurant, and maybe catching the eye of Carmen. But something big is about to happen to Arturo and his entire neighborhood...something that will derail his plans and just might change the way he views the world. A laugh-out-loud funny debut!



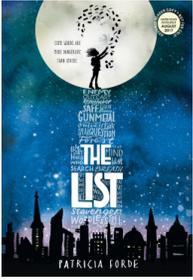
The Good War by Todd Strasser

There's a new after school club at Ironville Middle School. Ms. Peterson agrees to be the staff sponsor to an esports club where students are allowed to play the edgy first person shooter, The Good War, based on World War II. They are divided into two teams: Axis and Allies. But what starts out as a friendly competition, takes an unexpected turn for the worse when one player takes the game too far.



The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

Don't miss this classic novel: Bilbo Baggins enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling farther than the pantry of his hobbit-hole in Bag End. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of thirteen dwarves arrive on his doorstep to whisk him away on a journey to raid the treasure hoard of Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon.



The List by Patricia Forde

Letta is the apprentice wordsmith in Ark, the last remaining community standing after the Melting that shook the world. Her role is important as most words are forbidden in Ark, leaving Letta to dole them out only to those that need them most. When the wordsmith vanishes leaving Letta in charge, she'll learn that life is more sinister than she thought possible and maybe the government hasn't been telling the truth...Please note, this book does contain torture.



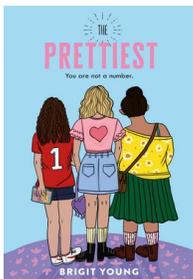
Orphan Island by Laurel Snyder

Everyone knows the plan: a boat comes out of the veiled mists surrounding the island, carrying a small child. The oldest on the island gets in the boat, the small child gets out, joining the island community of children. After the exchange, the boat slowly returns to wherever it came from. Jinny knows that her turn is next but what if she decides not to go? Will the magical island turn on them as legend suggests?



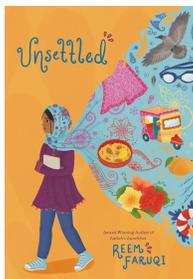
A Place to Belong by Cynthia Kadohata

Deeply wounded by America's treatment of its Japanese citizens, Hanako's family decides to move back to Japan. What they find shocks them: bombed out cities and nuclear fallout. Starvation is rampant. How can Hanako and her family carve out a new life for themselves amidst so much sorrow? Find out by reading this National Book Award nominee for Young People's Literature.



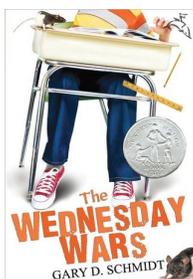
The Prettiest by Brigit Young

When an unknown boy creates a list ranking the top fifty prettiest girls in the eighth grade, it shakes the social order. Eve has always wanted to blend in so when she appears in the top spot, she's horrified. Sophie can't live with the fact that she is only second on the list. Nessa isn't surprised that she didn't make the list but she's weary of being constantly defined by others. Together, these three unlikely allies vow to figure out who made the list and have their revenge.



Unsettled by Reem Faruqi

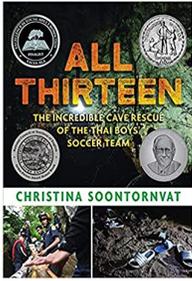
When Nurah moves with her family to Peachtree, Georgia from Karachi, Pakistan, it's overwhelming. Everything is so, so different. Things, however, slowly begin to improve when she meets Starr, a fellow swimmer who just might become her friend. But Starr has some secrets and when they start to become clear, Nurah needs to decide what to do about them.



The Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt

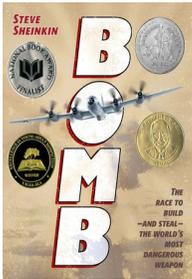
Holling Hoodhood (what a name!) is convinced that his teacher hates him with a fiery, burning passion. What else could explain the reason why she keeps him at school to make him read Shakespeare plays? Meanwhile, his older sister is determined to be a hippie, the last thing his image conscious father wants while the war in Vietnam rages on. A surprisingly funny, heart filled look at what it would be like as a seventh grader during the 1960s.

Nonfiction:

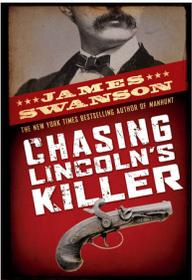


All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team by Christina Soontornvat

The summer of 2018, a kids' soccer team went spelunking in Thai caves with their coach. What was supposed to be a fun outing quickly turned dangerous when water rapidly rose trapping them in the cave. What followed was a global effort to save all the boys and get them home safely. This account won the Newbery honor as well as the Sibert honor.

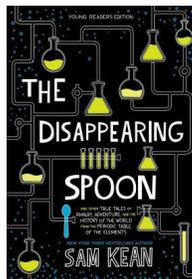


Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin
It's hard to imagine a higher stakes race than that of being the first nation to build a bomb that could wipe a country off the map! This was exactly what happened in the 1930s/40s. With so much on the line, spies, secret missions, and government secrets abounded. Who would get there first and what would the result be?



Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson (8)

Based on rare archival material, trial manuscripts, and interviews, ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer*** is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia. (Others in the same series: *Chasing King's Killer*; and *The President's Been Shot*).



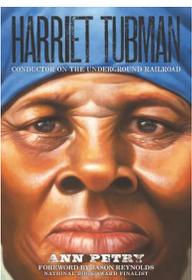
The Disappearing Spoon and Other True Tales of Rivalry, Adventure, and the History of the World by from the Periodic Table of the Elements by Sam Kean

This young readers' edition of ***The Disappearing Spoon*** is a wacky walk through the periodic table. The author did a ton of research about the elements and found all sorts of fascinating stories about their history, uses, and role/portrayal in society.



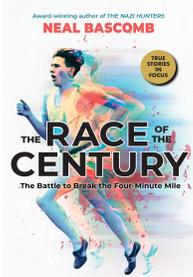
The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler written and illustrated by John Hendrix

What would it have been like to be a pastor in Germany during the rise of Hitler? That is precisely where Dietrich Bonhoeffer finds himself. He is greatly disturbed when those he knows start to embrace Hitler's propaganda and spends much time and prayer figuring out what to do about it. His conclusion? Hitler must be stopped at all costs...by being killed. Please note, this book contains scenes of death and murder.

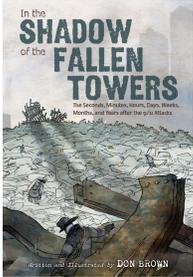


Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad by Ann Petry

Harriet Tubman was born in slavery and dreamed of being free. She was willing to risk everything—including her own life—to see that dream come true. After her daring escape, Harriet became a conductor on the secret Underground Railroad, helping others make the dangerous journey to freedom.



The Race of the Century: The Battle to Break the Four Minute Mile by Neal Bascomb
This young readers' adaptation of *The Perfect Mile* is a gripping account of man's efforts to run the mile in four minutes, a task that most claimed was impossible. Attempts have been made throughout the years including by Roger Bannister, a complete amateur but an ardent fan of running, John Landy, an Australian who came from money, and Wes Santee, a midwestern, down-to-earth farm boy. Which would break the world record?



In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers: The Seconds, Minutes, Hours, Days, Weeks, Months and Years After the 9/11 Attacks written and illustrated by Don Brown
This recently published graphic novel depicts what was like on September 11th, 2001 as well as the massive clean-up and rescue efforts after. It was a YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction nominee in 2022.