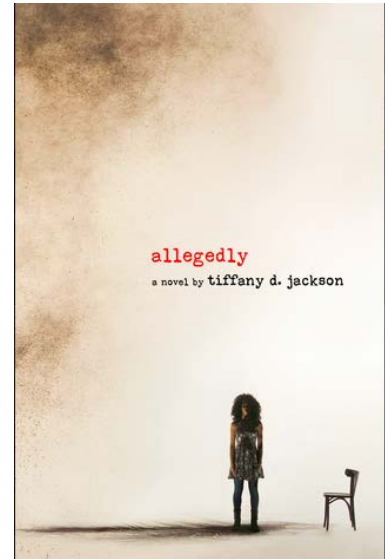


Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Allegedly

Tiffany D. Jackson

At the age of nine, Mary B. Addison *allegedly* did the unthinkable. Accused of killing the baby her mother was in charge of keeping, Mary is conned to “baby jail” and ordered to live in a group home for the remainder of her childhood. Her harrowing journey is now compounded by the fact that she is expecting a child with her boyfriend Ted. Threatened with the thought of losing her baby to the state, Mary must confront some buried truths regarding past skeletons, her contentious relationship with her mother, and what happened on that fateful day.



Discussion Questions:

1. In your opinion, what does Mary’s group home experiences say about the state of foster care in the United States?
2. Could Mary’s traumatizing relationship with her stepfather Ray have impacted the type of man she would later seek solace in (Ted)? In what ways?
3. Mary makes the following statement about her mother: “I want to hate Momma. I want to, but I can’t.” What coping strategies did Mary use throughout the story to justify the toxic relationship she had with her mother?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Aging Out: A True Story about the Pitfalls and Promise of Life After Foster Care, Alton Carter (2016)

The Juvenile Court System: Your Legal Rights, Richard Barrington (2016)

Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/0DQ1m6HAW2k>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Bang

Barry Lyga

Fourteen-year old Sebastian Cody has carried a tremendous burden the past ten years of his life. At the age of four, he accidentally shot and killed his infant sister, a tragedy that rocked his insulated town. Sebastian's fragile life, barely held together by his relationships with his parents and best friend Evan, threatens to boil over when he resolves to go through with the summer plans that will ease his anguish. Then, Aneesa enters his life. She's smart, funny, and different than anyone he's encountered in Brookdale, Maryland. For once, Sebastian is able to carve out an identity that is separate from his dreadful history, but will this be enough to finally mend the wounds that have been open for so long?



Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways could Sebastian's attachment to "old things" be attributed to the early trauma he experienced as a small boy?
2. Sebastian's relationship with his mom and dad reach an emotional climax towards the end of the novel. Contrast the way Sebastian's mother copes with the loss of baby Lola with how his father deals with the tragedy. How have their individual coping strategies impacted Sebastian's healing process?
3. What was Sebastian's "epiphany" in the personal essay to his teacher?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Eight Stories Up: An Adolescent Chooses Hope Over Suicide, DeQuincy A. Lezine (2008)

The PTSD Survival Guide for Teens: Strategies to Overcome Trauma, Build Resilience, and Take Back Your Life, Sheela Raja (2018)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019** Nominees

Don't Get Caught

Kurt Dinan

Max is Just Max. No social life, 2.5 GPA; he is fine flying under the radar at Asheville High School. When he receives an invitation from the Chaos Club, an anonymous, epic, prank-pulling organization, he has no idea why they chose him. Meeting four other students at the newly defaced water tower, each having received an invitation from the Chaos Club, they are caught by campus security and take the fall for the damaged water tower. However, how far is too far in the quest for payback? Will they succeed in taking down the Chaos Club? Is there more going on behind the scenes than they realize? *Don't Get Caught* explores the nuances of revenge, how far is too far to pull a prank, and the consequences that follow. Max's pressure to play it cool against his better judgment as well as the pressure other characters face to stand their ground in the face of shaming, bullying, and abuses of power by school authority figures weaves together a humorous, dark, complex story that will leave you hooked until the very end!



Discussion Questions:

1. When do you think the ends justify the means in revenge? Are the pranks in this book justified?
2. It is said that revenge is a dish best served cold. What does this mean and how does it relate to the story?
3. Max goes back and forth between Just Max and Not Max, dividing them by who he thinks he should be and who he really is. Do other characters experience this in the book? Do you see this in real life?
4. What does the phrase "Write your name in the wet cement of the universe" mean to you? Are there multiple ways to interpret the wording on Mr. Watson's banner? Do you think it's important to leave your mark in the world?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

The Great Pearl Heist: London's Greatest Thief and Scotland Yard's Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Necklace, Molly Caldwell Crosby (2012)

Lincoln's Grave Robbers, Steve Sheinkin (2012)

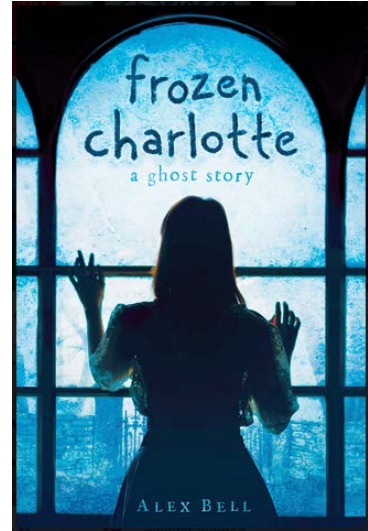
Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/-EZoTwKPU78>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Frozen Charlotte

Alex Bell

Sophie goes to visit her uncle and cousins on the Isle of Skye. Though her cousin Piper immediately takes Sophie under her wing, her cousin Cameron does not seem to want her there. He warns Sophie that Piper is not who she appears to be. Even stranger than her odd family are the dolls in the empty bedroom next to Sophie's. Sophie swears she can hear the dolls whispering to each other at night, but how much trouble can the small porcelain dolls cause when they are locked in a glass case? A case with tiny scratches on the inside. The dolls want out... This is a super-creepy horror novel that will hook readers from the first spooky chapter all the way to the hair-raising conclusion.



Discussion Questions:

1. What were your first impressions of Cameron, Piper, and Liliias? Were they the same as Sophie's first impressions?
2. Besides the storyline about murderous dolls, what other elements did the author use to make this a creepy story (setting, tone, etc.)?
3. Cameron suspects Piper is causing trouble. Why do you think he hasn't done anything to stop her yet?
4. Liliias is influenced by the Frozen Charlotte dolls to do bad things. Has a bad influence ever encouraged you to do something you know is wrong? What can you do to keep this from happening?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Skye: The Island and Its Legends, Otta Swire (2016)

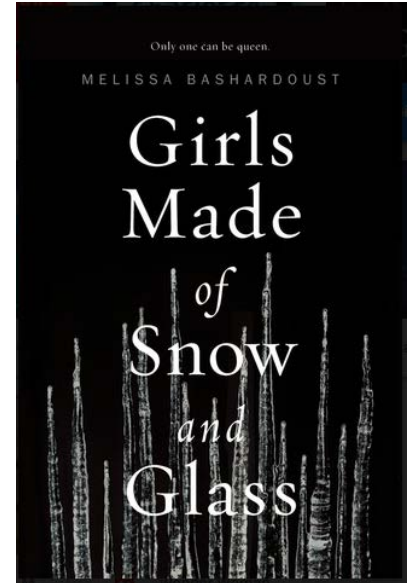
Ghosts Caught on Film: Photographs of the Paranormal, Melvyn Willin (2007)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Girls Made of Snow and Glass

Melissa Bashardoust

Princess Lynet has spent her entire life living in the confines of the snowy castle grounds, spying on the other residents and spending her evenings in the company of her stepmother, Mina. Lynet's daily routine is upended when she spies on the new surgeon, Nadia, and learns secrets she wishes she could unknow: that she was created with magic and snow into the very image of her dead mother. While Lynet struggles with this upsetting truth, Mina must contend with her increasingly distant husband and his plans to take away her power by revoking her control of the southern kingdom and giving it to Lynet. Mina, a woman with a heart of glass, and Lynet, a girl made of snow, find themselves pitted against each other. Will their bonds lead them to reconcile or will they choose power over family?



Discussion Questions:

1. *Girls Made of Snow and Glass* is a retelling of the classic fairy tale *Snow White*. What do you think of the way the author reimagines Mina as the evil queen/step-mother? What other changes were surprising? How does this book compare to other fictional retellings?
2. This novel has been lauded as a feminist retelling of *Snow White*. What are some actions that Mina, Lynet, and Nadia undertake to achieve equality? What are some obstacles that they have to overcome?
3. Both Mina and Lynet struggle with their origins and believing in their own personhood. What actions/choices prove that Mina is not heartless? What action/choices show that Lynet is not simply a replica of her mother?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

The Annotated Classic Fairy Tales, Maria Tatar (2002)

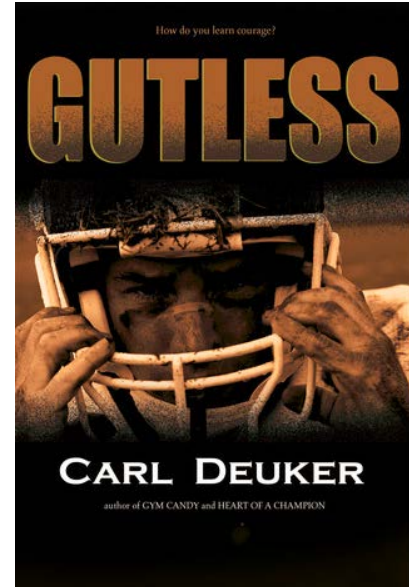
Bygone Badass BROADS: 52 Forgotten Women Who Changed the World, Mackenzi Lee (2018)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Gutless

Carl Deuker

Always shying away from sports, Brock Ripley considers himself to be gutless. He feels responsible for the loss of his soccer team's championship and decides to give up sports. Hunter Gates is a popular football player at his school whom he meets at the park one day. Hunter convinces him to try out for the football team. Brock is fast and has an eye for the ball, but is terrified of getting tackled if he were to play in a real football game. Brock tries out for the team after being convinced and gets a chance to be the wide receiver on the football team. In this new role, he tries to give it all he's got. He's fast and is great at catching the ball, but when things get tough he chickens out at the last minute every time. Meanwhile, he befriends an outgoing student named Richie Fong, who instantly becomes a bullying target by Hunter and his friends. As Brock tries to be friends with Richie and play on the football team, he finds himself overlooking the severe treatment that Richie keeps getting from the older, bigger players. Eventually things intensify and Brock must decide whose side he's going to be on – Richie's or Hunter's?



Discussion Questions:

1. What situations have you been in where you have not stood up for a friend and felt like a coward? What strategies could you have used that worked? What strategies did not work?
2. Richie becomes a target for bullying because of the very qualities that make him interesting and vibrant. Why do you feel that he was a target of Hunter's bullying?
3. Both Richie and Brock have parents with health issues. Why is it particularly difficult for them as teenagers to deal with their situation? How is racism addressed in the novel? How is racism viewed by some of the characters?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Rising Above: How 11 Athletes Overcame Challenges in Their Youth to Become Stars, Gregory Zuckerman, Elijah Zuckerman, Gabriel Zuckerman (2017)

Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team, Steve Sheinkin (2017)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

The Hate U Give

Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter feels trapped between two versions of herself: the Starr that exists in her poor, predominantly black neighborhood Garden Heights, and the Starr that exists at Williamson Prep, her mostly white private school. Although she alters her personality and speech patterns to match her surroundings, she never feels fully accepted anywhere but at home with her parents and siblings. Code-switching is exhausting for Starr, but it's the only way she knows to keep the peace between the very different parts of her life. The balance is broken when Starr witnesses the shooting of her childhood friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Tensions rise quickly in her neighborhood, protests start, and everyone wants to know the truth behind the shooting. While still grieving the loss of her friend, Starr must decide whether or not to come forward with what she knows. She's the only one who can set the record straight, but her choice could tear her community apart - as well as threaten her life.

"Absolutely riveting!"
—JASON REYNOLDS, bestselling coauthor of *All American Boys*



ANGIE THOMAS

Discussion Questions:

1. The title of the book is taken from rapper Tupac Shakur's explanation of the acronym THUG LIFE. Discuss the meaning of the acronym. Why do you think Thomas chose this title for the book?
2. How realistic did you find the outcome of the trial? If the outcome had been different, how would the message of the novel be altered? How does the outcome of this trial compare to those of similar events in the news?
3. What roles do you feel teens and young adults can play in social issues and advocacy? Given the chance, what event or issue would you like to draw attention to and why?
4. Read the poem "The Rose That Grew from Concrete" by Tupac Shakur. How does this poem relate to life in Garden Heights and to which characters does it apply?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Hip-Hop Culture, Judy Dodge Cummings (2017)

Race and Policing, Duchess Harris and Rebecca Rissman (2017)

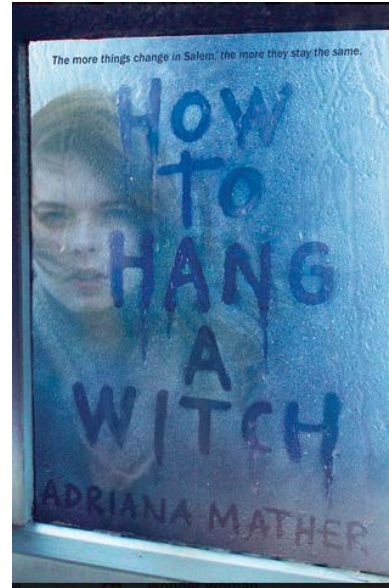
Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/YiI3jtebWu0>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

How to Hang a Witch

Adriana Mather

Samantha Mather's life is not going as planned. When her father's health takes a turn for the worst, her family is forced to relocate to Salem, Massachusetts from New York City. Sam's arrival in her ancestral home is not welcome. The Descendants, a group of girls whose foremothers were accused of being witches and sentenced to death, take notice quickly of the new transplant who happens to be a direct descendant of Cotton Mather, the Puritan minister who put them on trial. Worst still, a curse follows Sam. As relatives of the Descendants begin to die, she and a good-looking and angry ghost named Elijah work to break the deadly cycle of the town.



Discussion Questions:

1. The book's author, Adriana Mather, is a direct descendant of Cotton Mather, like Samantha. Does this affect how you read the book?
2. Reviews call the book "the Salem Witch Trials meets Mean Girls." How does the historical element of the book interact with modern day high school?
3. "Almost everything worth believing in cannot be seen. Love, for instance." What does this quote from HTHAW mean to you?
4. Why do you think witches are a popular symbol of female empowerment?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

The Witches: Suspicion, Betrayal, and Hysteria in 1692 Salem, Stacy Schiff (2015)

A Storm of Witchcraft: The Salem Trials and the American Experience, Emerson Baker (2015)

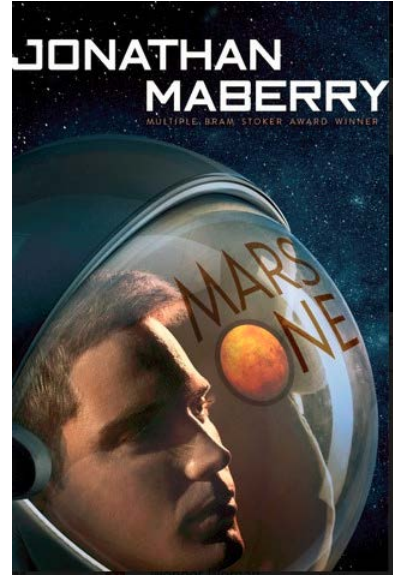
Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/BLoNznxcjDc>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Mars One

Jonathan Maberry

Tristan is going to be a Martian. No, really. Tristan and his parents are among 40 people from all over the world who have been chosen to lead the first ever mission to colonize Mars. They've been preparing for years- anti-gravity training, learning specialized skills to contribute to their new society, dealing with the media scrutiny and terrorist attacks from those that don't think humans should go to Mars, and now it's finally time to go. Tristan thought the hard part would be saying goodbye to his best friend and the girl he loves, or even the nerves and fear surrounding blast-off, but once the Mars One mission gets to space everything seems to go wrong. With a rogue Chinese spaceship that also looks like it's also headed towards Mars and important systems suspiciously breaking on the space ship, Tristan must race against the clock to figure out who is sabotaging the mission or risk not even making it to Mars.



Discussion Questions:

1. Would you move to Mars if it meant leaving behind everything and everyone you've ever known? Why or why not?
2. What would be the hardest part about moving to a completely new place like Mars (or more realistically, a country you've never been to where very few people speak your language and the culture looks unfamiliar to you?)
3. What kind of specialized skills would you want to bring with you if you were starting a new society?
4. What skills would you bring to the new society?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void, Mary Roach (2014)

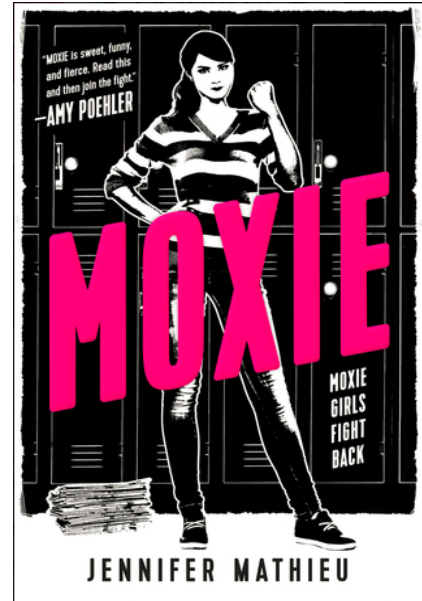
Welcome to Mars: Making a Home on the Red Planet, Buzz Aldrin & Marianne Dyson (2015)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Moxie

Jennifer Mathieu

Vivien Carter has a pretty decent life in her small, football-focused town of East Rockport, Texas. She's a "good girl" who makes good grades and never lets her mom or grandparents down, and certainly doesn't draw any attention to herself. Her simmering frustration with the unchecked sexual harassment at school finally reaches a boiling point just as she discovers her mother's past participation in the Riot Grrl movement. Inspired, Viv starts a zine to start a conversation, and maybe even a revolution, about gender equality and respect. But, not everyone is on board with her newfound zeal, including her best friend and a cute new boy.



Discussion Questions:

1. An unsigned review in Kirkus Reviews garnered a lot of reaction. In part, it read: "Designed to empower, the novel occasionally fails to consider that changing a culture of misogyny requires educating and embracing support from members of all genders." How would you respond to this criticism of the book?
2. Amy Poehler's production company has bought the right to turn Moxie into a movie before it was even published. Who would you cast in it and why?
3. Discuss the author's note at the end of the book. Did reading the note change your perception of the book? Why or why not?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Girls to the Front: The True Story of the Riot Grrrl Revolution, Sara Marcus (2010)

The Riot Grrrl Collection, edited by Lisa Darns (2014)

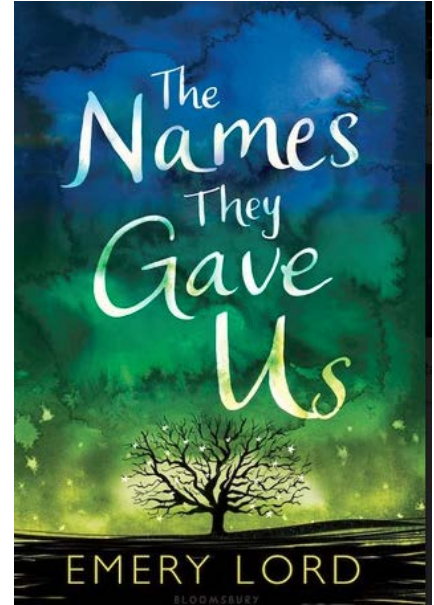
Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/StHIdOpXvV0>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

The Names They Gave Us

Emery Lord

When Lucy's mother is diagnosed with cancer for the second time, she is devastated and confused about her relationship with God. To make matters worse, her mother asks that she attend a summer camp across the lake from the church camp run by her family. Lucy begrudgingly agrees and what follows leads to a test of her faith, friendships in unlikely places, and secrets long ignored.



Discussion Questions:

1. There aren't many faith-based books with positive messages for the LGBTQIA community written for teens. Do you think that the author portrayed a believable relationship between Lucy and Anna? Why or why not?
2. We've all fallen victim to insta-love in YA books. Some readers might say that Lucy becomes insta-friends with the counselors at Daybreak. Would such a tight-knit group of friends be as welcoming to newcomers in real life? Does the summer camp environment enable the counselors to accept Lucy more readily than if she had been the newbie at school? Explain your reasoning.
3. The author presents a diverse cast of characters in the counselor friend group. How do these characters reflect your own circle of friends?
4. At the end of the book, the fate of Lucy's mother was left open, not resolved by the author. How do you feel about open-ended stories? Are you left exasperated by having a definitive resolution or do you like being able to write your own ending.

Related Non-fiction Titles:

The PTSD Survival Guide for Teens: Strategies to Overcome Trauma, Build Resilience, and Take Back Your Life, Sheila Raja (2018)

Breakthrough: How One Teen Innovator Is Changing the World, Jack Andraka (2015)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Orange

Ichigo Takano

Naho is ready to start a new school year with her friends when she receives a letter from her future self that reveals not only what will happen to her throughout the day, but also provides instructions on what Naho must do to avoid regrets. Concerned that the letter may be a prank, Naho goes through her day and is startled when each event that the letter predicts comes true. But is that enough proof to follow the letter's advice, especially when the changes the letter suggests seem so arbitrary? As the days pass and Naho receives more letters, she begins to believe in them and the mission from her future self: to save Kakeru, the new transfer student. With the help of her friends and the letters, Naho does her best to befriend Kakeru and protect him. But will her efforts be enough? And if she does manage to change Kakeru's destiny, what will that mean for her and her friends?



Discussion Questions:

1. In *Orange*, Naho and her friends believe that by changing certain key events they can change the future. What are some other books in which the characters attempt to fix past mistakes in order to get a better outcome? Does this type of interference with time usually work?
2. Why do you think Naho's friends waited so long to let each other know that they had also received letters from the future? What do you think would have happened if they had shared this information earlier?
3. Throughout the manga, Naho and her friends try to change Kakeru's choices in order to save his life. Do you think by doing this they are sabotaging Kakeru's free will by manipulating him into a better path? Or do you think that Kakeru is ultimately in charge of his future?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

The Hidden Reality: Parallel Universes and the Deep Laws of the Cosmos, Brian Greene (2011)

A Geek in Japan, Hector Garcia (2012)

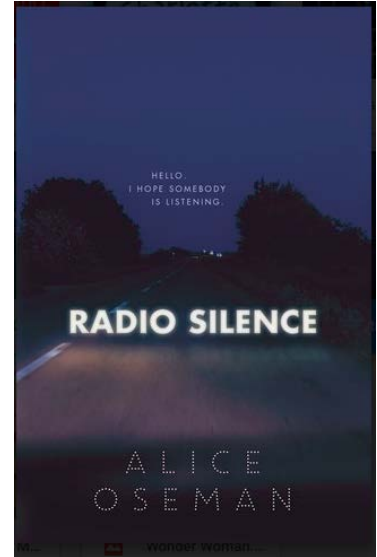
Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/G9CzaN3WyKs>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Radio Silence

Alice Oseman

Frances Javier has been getting top grades for years with the goal of attending Cambridge, one of England's premier universities. In her limited free time, Frances indulges in her favorite fandom by creating fan art and keeping up with the latest updates from the podcast Universe City. All of Frances' fan girl dreams come true when she receives a Twitter message from the creator of Universe City offering her a chance to lend her artistic talents to the podcast. Life gets even more interesting when Frances accidentally discovers that the creator is her next-door neighbor, Aled Last! After an awkward start Aled and Frances soon become the best of friends, spending massive amounts of time hanging out and working on the podcast. But pressures of real life can't be avoided forever. Will school stress, family drama, and the revelation of major secrets spell the end of their friendship and Universe City?



Discussion Questions:

1. Aled and Frances' friendship and platonic love is celebrated and valued. What are some other books that focus on friendship instead of romance? Why do you think many YA novels focus on romance storylines? Which type of story do you prefer to read?
2. In Radio Silence several of the characters decide to skip university and pursue their own interests. Do you agree with their choices? What do you think about the pressure that is placed on them to receive a higher education? Do you think college is necessary for success in life?
3. Aled and Frances both lead secret fandom lives – how does this affect their relationships with their friends and family? What are some of the repercussions that occur once their fandom identities are revealed? What are some real life examples of doxing? Discuss the balance between privacy and celebrity.

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Podcasting for Dummies, Tee Morris (2017)

A New U: Faster + Cheaper Alternatives to College, Ryan Craig (2018)

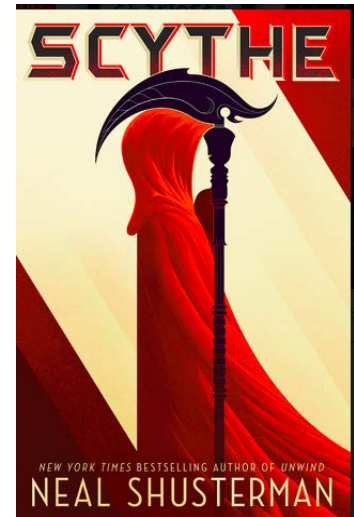
Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/eT4NStHsUPI>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019** Nominees

Scythe

Neal Schusterman

In the not-too-distant future, humanity has conquered disease, aging, and death. The only way to permanently die is to be killed by a scythe, a person specially trained in the art of ending life. Most scythes believe this is a weighty responsibility and that death should be granted with the utmost respect to the person being gleaned. However, there are a few scythes who believe that their power of death entitles them to material luxuries and a higher place in society. This new order of scythes enjoys killing. When Rowan and Citra are chosen as apprentice scythes, they must decide which faction they will follow. The decision will change them in ways they could never imagine, and as a deadly game is played out at the highest levels of scything, they will learn that the only way to keep their own lives is to take the lives of others. This is a gripping sci-fi story that raises some thought-provoking questions about morality, compassion, and what makes life worth living.



Discussion Questions:

1. Compare what you know about Rowan and Citra. In what ways are they similar? Different? Do you believe Rowan would make a good scythe? How about Citra?
2. How do the “old guard” scythes and the new order of scythes view and approach their work differently? By which type of scythe would you prefer to be gleaned?
3. The Thunderhead is prevented from interfering with the scything. Why do you think that law was made?
4. If you could join the utopia society presented in the book, how would your life change? If the threats of sickness, aging, and death were eliminated, what would you do with your time? What would motivate you?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Artificial Intelligence: Building Smarter Machines, Stephanie McPherson (2018)

How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous, Georgia Bragg (2011)

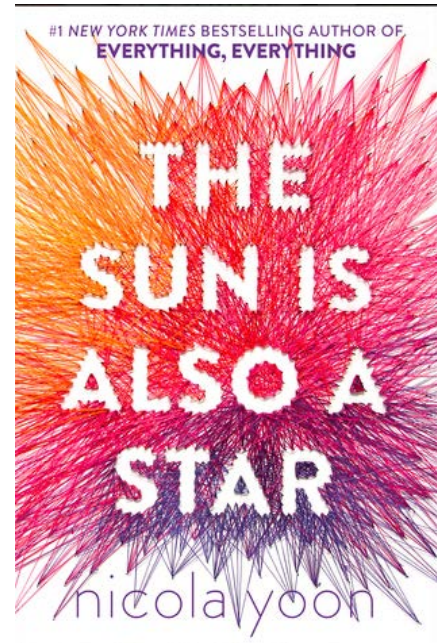
Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/FQcycxxkBZA>

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

The Sun is Also a Star

Nicola Yoon

Instead of packing on the day of her family's deportation, Natasha searches for options to allow her family to stay in America after her father's arrest for drunk driving. While browsing in a record store prior to her appointment with an immigration lawyer, Natasha meets Daniel, a Korean-American student, who has a college interview in a few hours. Later, saved by Daniel after a driver runs a red light and almost hits her, Natasha admits that she is having the worst day. Will the day improve? Will Natasha's family be deported to Jamaica after all? Will Daniel get into Yale and become the doctor his parents expect?



Discussion Questions:

1. What role does music play in *The Sun is also a Star*?
2. What do you think Natasha's pink headphones symbolize?
3. How does Daniel's relationship with his parents and with his brother influence his actions in the novel?
4. Why do you believe the author uses multiple narrators to tell this story?
5. Daniel says, "I am a scholar compiling the Book of Natasha...She's a science geek. She's probably smarter than me. Her fingers are slightly longer than mine and feel good in my hands. She likes her music angsty..." How does Daniel use science to get to know and to impress Natasha?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Debates on 20th-Century Immigration, Melissa Abramovitz (2018)

Deporting Immigrants, Anne Cunningham (2018)

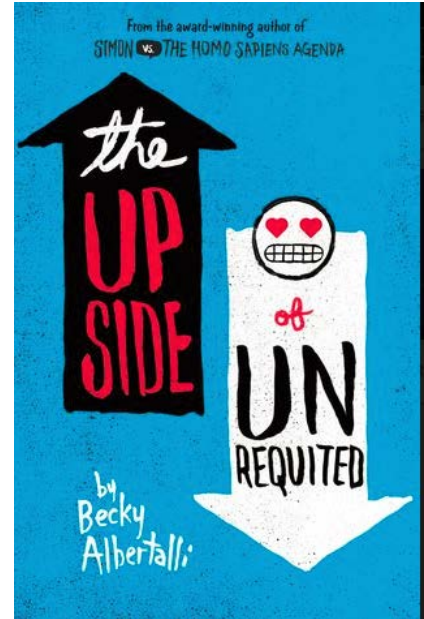
Book Trailer: https://youtu.be/_JfO5sxYuLY

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

The Upside of Unrequited

Becky Albertalli

Seventeen-year old Molly Peskin-Suso has had many crushes and absolutely zero boyfriends. She is the victim of unrequited love. Lacking self-confidence in her appearance, she always falls on her crutch: her twin sister Cassie. When Cassie meets a girl and falls in love, Molly suddenly loses her security blanket. Thankfully, Cassie's new girlfriend introduces Molly to cute, funny Will. Could Will be Molly's first kiss? Then Molly meets Reid: adorable nerdy Reid. She couldn't possibly fall for a guy like Reid because he is nothing like her former crushes. Could she? You will have to read to find out who she chooses, and then you will have a huge crush too. Molly's voice is honest, hilarious, and heartfelt. You will want to hug Molly over and over again.



Discussion Questions:

- 1) Body image is a huge topic in the novel. Molly does not think any of her crushes will find her desirable due to her weight, so her self-confidence is lacking. Why do so many teens struggle with positive body image in today's society?
- 2) The Upside of Unrequited feature such a diverse cast of characters including LGBTQ teens. Albertalli highlights Molly's individual experience of falling in love in the novel. With such a diverse cast, what does this reveal to the reader about the human experience?
- 3) "Because I have to admit: there's something really badass about truly, honestly not caring what people think about you." What does this quote reveal to the reader? Why is it so important to embrace your individuality?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Popular: A Memoir: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence, Maya Van Wagenen, (2015)

How to Like Yourself: A Teen's Guide to Quieting your Inner Critic and Building Lasting Self Esteem, Cheryl M. Bradshaw, (2016)

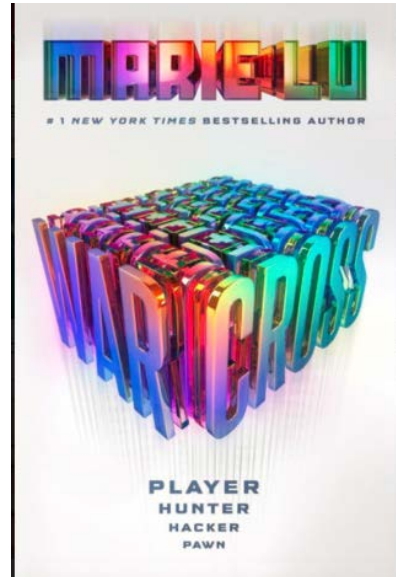
Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Warcross

Marie Lu

In a not too distant future, the virtual reality game Warcross has become a worldwide phenomenon. Its uses have become varied – for some it’s just a game. But for others, it has become a business. Emika Chen is a bounty hunter who captures players who make illegal bets on the game. After losing out on a big bounty, she ends up desperate for cash. She discovers a glitch in the code of the game and attempts to capitalize on it while hidden during the opening game for the Warcross Championships.

Instead, she appears in the middle of the game. Rather than arresting Emika for illegally hacking his creation, Hideo Tanaka, the mastermind behind Warcross, offers her a job. Someone else has been hacking his game, and he needs Emika to figure out who. He flies her to Warcross headquarters in Tokyo and places her on a Championship team so that she can spy on the games from the inside. She thought she would uncover a skilled hacker but her investigation uncovers so much more than she ever imagined.



Discussion Questions:

1. How do you think the obsession with Warcross affects the world outside of the game? Do you think that you would be like Emika, and utilize the game for your own gain, or do you think that you would use it as an escape like Kiera?
2. Do you think that an obsession with virtual reality could take over our world like it has in Warcross?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Game On!: Video Game History from Pong and Pac-Man to Mario, Minecraft, and More, Dustin Hansen (2016)

Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, & Getting it Done, Andrea Gonzales & Sophie Houser (2017)

Book Trailer: https://youtu.be/Zj_Q44ruIuA

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

What to Say Next

Julie Buxbaum

One month after her father dies in a car accident, Kit returns to Mapleview High. Instead of sitting with her friends in the cafeteria and talking about the prom and clothing choices, she chooses to join David. David's autism sets him apart from others. To better cope and understand the world, he wears noise-canceling headphones and records observations of people and events in his notebook. David observes that in the 622 days he has attended high school, no one has ever joined him for lunch. Day after day, Kit ditches her friends and gravitates to David's table. Over time, romance and complications develop.



Discussion Questions:

1. How does Kit's relationship with her Mom evolve over the course of the novel?
2. What role does mathematics play in David's life?
3. If you kept a notebook similar to David's, who would be in your Do Not Trust Club? Why?
4. What type of bond do Miney and David share?
5. How does student perception of David change throughout the novel?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Bullying, Carla Mooney (2018)

Kids and Autism, Kris Hirschman (2018)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

When Dimple Met Rishi

Sandhya Menon

Dimple and Rishi have not met, but their traditional Indian parents have already arranged their marriage. Dimple is ready to go to her first tech conference the summer before she goes to college, the same conference Rishi will attend. She has one goal: win the app developer contest so she can meet her tech idol. She has no plans for boys, even though her mother reminds her every day it is important to meet a man and get married as soon as possible. Rishi has been arranged to meet and marry Dimple, but she does not know it. Rishi attends the same conference with a completely different goal: meet Dimple, woo Dimple, and marry Dimple. When the two meet, you can say that they realize pretty quickly their individual goals could not be more different. Let's just say the meeting involves a tossed cup of coffee-hence the back cover. From there the story develops, and readers will fall in love with both Dimple and Rishi as they both fall for each other



Discussion Questions:

1. Dimple struggles to meet the expectations of her parents. She does not want to get married, and she is very focused on her future. Her parents are very traditional as they attempt to instill these same priorities and values in Dimple. Discuss the cultural differences in this book. Do you think many students struggle with adhering to the traditions of their parents while embracing American cultural norms?
2. The parents in this book believe in arranged marriage. What kind of partner would your parents select for you if they chose your future partner? What characteristics would that person have? Would you and your parents pick the same type of partner?
3. Discuss the role of technology and app development in this novel. Are there gender stereotypes associated with this?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

I Am Nujood: Age 10 and Divorce, Nujood Ali (2010)

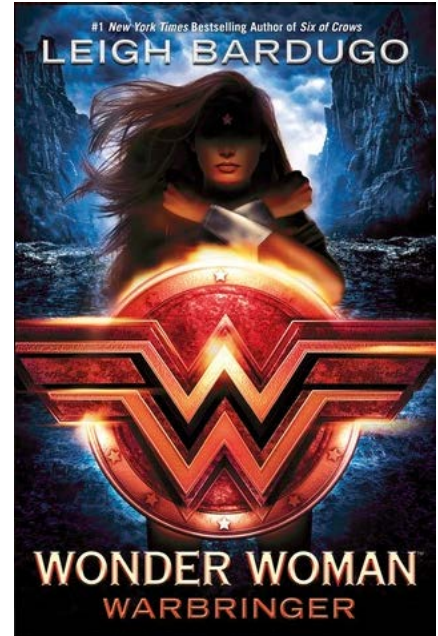
Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, and Getting it Done, Andrea Gonzales & Sophie Houser (2017)

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers **2018-2019 Nominees**

Wonder Woman: Warbringer

Leigh Bardugo

Teenage Princess Diana is determined to bring honor to her people, the Amazons of Themyscira, and to her mother, Hippolyta the Queen of the Amazons. Eager to prove herself worthy, Diana has trained and studied for years to earn her place among the ranks of Amazons and become a guardian of her home and its traditions. During a competition to prove herself, Diana ruins her chance by breaking Amazonian Law and risks exile to save Alia, a mortal. Some wish to see the Warbringers obliterated from existence, while others seek to harness their power to make the world their own. Either way, Alia is in immense danger. Tasked with ending the cycle of Warbringers, Diana and Alia set off on a dangerous quest that accidentally lands them in New York City, Alia's hometown. Diana, Alia, and their friends have to face demons from within and enemies from all sides and complete their quest before it's too late.



Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think Diana's greatest challenge is throughout the book? What do you think is Alia's?
2. How are Alia and Diana's quests the same? How are they different? How do they deal with discrimination when those situations arise?
3. How does Jason's love for the heroes of the past differ from how modern warfare is conducted today? Do you agree or disagree with Jason that war is inevitable no matter how much it changes?

Related Non-fiction Titles:

Wonder Women: 25 Innovators, Inventors, and Trailblazers Who Changed History, Sam Maggs (2016)

The Amazons: Lives and Legends of Warrior Women across the Ancient World, Adrienne Mayor (2014)

Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/RitivQ-6lFQ>