

Reynolds, Jason—**Look Both Ways**

The bell rings and school is out, but the real story begins as kids start to walk home. Told in 10 short stories, the ups and downs of middle school are explored in the ten blocks home. From being chased by the neighborhood dog to scamming to get treats for an unlikely source, the stories are heartfelt and funny. (MG)

Ribay, Randy—**Patron Saints of Nothing**

Filipino-American teen Jay Reguero’s plans for a chill end to his senior year are shattered when his cousin, Jun, is murdered in the Philippines as part of President Duterte’s war on drugs. With no one in the family willing to discuss the tragedy, Jay travels to the Philippines to uncover the real story—only to find himself grappling with many horrible truths about Jun and about his own part in Jun’s death. (YA)

Ruby, Laura—**Thirteen Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All**

This is the story of Frankie, a girl who is left in an orphanage along with her siblings during the Great Depression. We follow her through to the end of the WWII when she is a young woman—we watch her grow through the eyes of a ghost who needs to share her own story about fear and love and abandonment and about the secrets women keep to survive. (YA)

Sepetys, Ruta—**The Fountains of Silence**

In 1957, 18-year-old Daniel is in Madrid with his family and he is hoping to capture an award winning image—he’s a budding photographer trying to prove to his parents that he can succeed through photography. At their hotel he meets Ana, whose life and family will make Daniel question what lies beneath the idyllic facade of Franco’s Spain. (YA)



Thomas, Angie—**On the Come Up**

Bri wants one thing—to be a great rapper, but as the daughter of a rising hip hop star who died before he made it big, she has her work cut out for her. She has other worries though: money is tight at home and she’s been labeled a hoodlum at school. Bri now has to decide if embracing the hoodlum persona is worth the price of fame. (YA)



Warga, Jasmine **Other Words for Home**

Jude is struggling to find her place in the American Midwest, far from her home in Syria. Worried about the father and brother she left behind and dealing with harsh assumptions about her as a “Middle Easterner,” Jude slowly finds her footing among new friends and new opportunities like a school musical. (Novel in verse; MG)

Watson, Renee—**Watch Us Rise**

Jasmine and Chelsea may attend a progressive New York City high school, but they don’t see enough progress in how women are treated and valued. Angry, they start a Women’s Rights Club, but they quickly find that telling truth in the poetry and essays on their blog rubs the establishment the wrong way. How far will they go to be heard? (YA)

Yoon, David—**Frankly in Love**

Frank Li has never had a girlfriend, which is fine with him, until he falls for Brit Means. Brit is funny, smart and likes Frank, but there is one big problem. Brit is not Korean. Frank’s parents disowned his older sister for dating a non-Korean. So Frank does the only rational thing: he pretends to date his Korean friend Joy, so both can date non-Koreans. Frankly, what could go wrong? (YA)



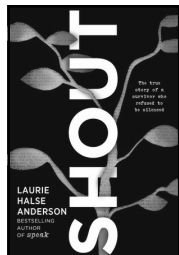
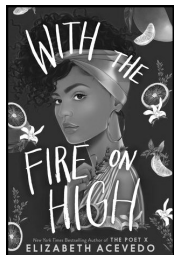
2020 Book Rave

Best books for middle and high school-aged readers, chosen by Oregon’s young adult librarians.



www.oyanpeeps.wordpress.com

www.ola.memberclicks.net



MG=Middle
grade selection

YA=Young
adult selection

Acevedo, Elizabeth
With the Fire on High

Emoni (pronounced E-Mah-Nee) Santiago has magical hands when it comes to cooking. But is cooking enough to give her and baby girl the life they deserve? When a culinary class is introduced at her high school Emoni will learn more than just proper cooking techniques, she will learn to trust, to hope and maybe even to love. (YA)

Ahmed, Samira—*Internment*

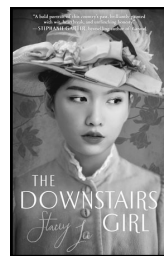
Set in an ultra realistic near future, this timely story introduces us to 17-year-old Layla Amin who is sent with her family to an internment camp for Muslim Americans. There she learns to stand up for what she believes in. With the help of some new friends from the camp and her boyfriend outside of the camp, Layla starts a revolution against the camp’s tyrannical Director. (YA)

Anderson, Laurie Halse—*Shout*

In a powerful poetic memoir, best-selling author Laurie Halse Anderson talks about sexual assault, feminism, and writing. She advocates for survivors of sexual assault, refusing to remain silent on society’s failings. *Shout* is raw , emotional and at times angry. It will encourage others not to remain silent. (YA)

Emezi, Akwaeke—*Pet*

In the mythic or perhaps future city of Lucille, Jam is growing up in a world led by “angels” who have destroyed all the “monsters.” But when Jam accidentally frees Pet from a piece of her mother’s artwork, Pet brings disturbing news—that hidden monsters still exist, that Jam’s best friend Redemption is at risk, and that Jam must risk everything to force the adults to see the truth. (MG/YA)



Gemeinhart, Dan—*The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise*

Coyote Sunrise and her dad, Rodeo, are far from home and far from the life and names that used to be theirs. They have circled the United States for five years in an old school bus, trying to outrun the terrible grief of a family tragedy. Now, Coyote is being pulled back toward home. It will take all her cleverness and a cast of quirky characters to get Rodeo on board. (MG)

Grimes, Nikki—*Ordinary Hazards*

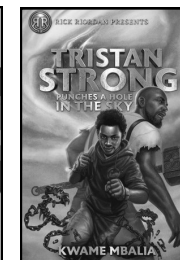
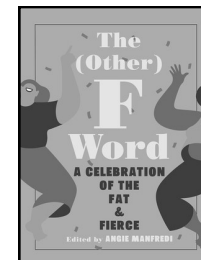
In this lyrical memoir, Nikki Grimes talks about being taken from her mentally ill mother and separated from her sister. Nikki bounced around in foster care before eventually returning to her mother’s care. Nikki endured countless traumas while discovering her talent for writing. While tragic and dark, Nikki’s story is one of hope and resilience. (YA)

King, A.S.—*Dig.*

Five unusual teens with even more unusual identities and pastimes are draw together by the deeds and misdeeds of their wealthy, white grandparents, Gottfried and Marla Hemmings. As the rot beneath the family’s precious suburban respectability begins to show, the grandchildren are drawn together and to face the terrible cost of maintaining the family name. (YA)

Lee, Stacey—*Downstairs Girl*

In late 19th century Atlanta, plucky 17-year-old Jo Kuan learns that smart and sassy doesn’t get you far when you are Chinese American. By day, Jo works as a maid; by night she secretly moonlights as “Miss Sweetie,” authoring an advice column for genteel Southern ladies. Even while challenging others to think differently, Jo faces a choice of her own. (YA)



Manfredi, Angie (Editor)
The Other F Word: A Celebration of the Fat and Fierce

Angie Manfredi brings together many voices, identities, and artistic styles to shout out a single message—fat people are proud, beautiful, strong, and important. Writers and creators share their experiences of being dismissed for their bodies and claim their strength with confidence. (YA)

Mbiliala, Kwame—*Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky*

Struggling under the weight of tragedy and loss, Tristan Strong is set upon by a mysterious creature who leads him to rip open a chasm into the volatile world of MidPass. Fighting with and alongside figures from American legend, Tristan struggles to find his way home. (MG)

Meija, Tehlor Kay
We Set the Dark on Fire

Daniela is set to become one of the fortunate few in the deeply divided society of Medio. She will live a life of wealth and ease as one of two wives in a rich household—as long as no one uncovers her true identity. But as protestors begin to organize uprisings, Daniela is at risk of exposure and the world she lives in just might all be set on fire. (Oregon author; YA)

Nazemian, Abdi—*Like a Love Story*

Three teens struggle in the changing world of 1989 New York. Reza lives in terror that someone will find out he is gay, dating Judy while also growing closer and closer to her out-and-proud best friend, Art. Reza finds himself trapped in his deception, risking breaking Judy’s heart and losing the most meaningful friendship he has ever known. (YA)