



# WACHUSETT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING 2022



## Fiction

### ***Dominicana*, by Angie Cruz**

The Dominican Republic, 1965: 15-year-old Ana Cancion never dreamed of moving to America, but when Juan Ruiz proposes and promises to take her to New York City, she has to say yes. It doesn't matter that he is twice her age and there is no love between them. As the DR slides into political turmoil, Juan returns to protect his family's assets, leaving his handsome younger brother Cesar to take care of Ana. Suddenly, Ana is free to take English lessons, lie on the beach at Coney Island, and imagine the possibility of a different kind of life in America. [Historical Fiction]



### ***The House in the Cerulean Sea*, by TJ Klune**

Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. As a Case Worker at the Department in Charge Of Magical Youth, he spends his days overseeing the well-being of children in government-sanctioned orphanages. When Linus is unexpectedly summoned by Extremely Upper Management, he's given a curious and highly classified assignment: travel to Marsyas Island Orphanage, where six dangerous children reside. The children's caretaker, the charming and enigmatic Arthur Parnassus, will do anything to keep his wards safe. As Arthur and Linus grow closer, long-held secrets are exposed, and Linus must make a choice: destroy a home or watch the world burn. An enchanting story, masterfully told, *The House in the Cerulean Sea* is about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place. [Fantasy/Magical Realism] Multiple award-winner!



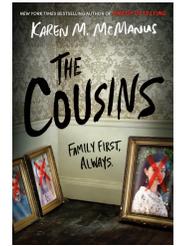
### ***This Rebel Heart*, by Katherine Locke**

Csilla (Chee-lah) lives with her aunt in 1956 Hungary. Eleven years after WWII and the Holocaust, they're all each other has left; When Csilla is followed by an agent of the Hungarian secret police, she's certain she's about to be arrested, but a strange young man helps her. From here on, Csilla becomes involved in the revolutionary struggle to free Hungary from the post-Stalin Communist Soviet regime. History and magic intertwine in a beautifully rendered Budapest that is literally drained of color, where the Danube River becomes a supernatural protector and a childhood friend might be an angel of death. Shining a light on a pivotal but little-known historical moment, *This Rebel Heart* is Katherine Locke's tour de force. [Historical Fiction/Magical Realism]



### ***The Cousins*, by Karen M. McManus**

Milly, Aubrey, and Jonah Story are cousins, but they barely know each other, and they've never even *met* their grandmother. Rich and reclusive, she disinherited their parents before they were born. When they each receive a letter inviting them to work at her island resort for the summer, they're surprised . . . and curious. Their parents are all clear on one point—not going is *not* an option. This could be the opportunity to get back into Grandmother's good graces. But when the cousins arrive on the island, it's immediately clear that she has different plans for them. And the longer they stay, the more they realize how mysterious—and dark—their family's past is. The entire Story family has secrets. Whatever pulled them apart years ago isn't over—and this summer, the cousins will learn *everything*. [Mystery/Suspense]



## Graphic Novels

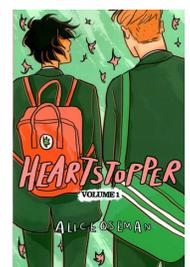
### ***No Ivy League*, by Hazel Newlevant**

When 17-year-old Hazel takes a summer job clearing ivy from the forest in Portland, Oregon, the only plan is to earn some extra cash to put toward concert tickets. Homeschooled, affluent, and sheltered, Hazel soon finds that working side by side with at-risk teens leaves no room for comforting illusions of equality and understanding. This uncomfortable and compelling memoir is an important story of a teen's awakening to the racial insularity of the upper class, the power of white privilege, and the hidden history of segregation in Portland. [Novelized Nonfiction/ Graphic Memoir]



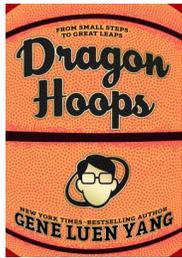
### ***Heartstopper*, by Alice Oseman**

Charlie, a highly-strung, openly gay over-thinker, and Nick, a cheerful, soft-hearted rugby player, meet at a British all-boys grammar school. The past year hasn't been too great for Charlie, but at least he's not being bullied anymore. Nick Nelson has heard a little about Charlie—the kid who was outed last year and bullied for a few months—but he's never had the opportunity to talk to him. They quickly become friends, and soon Charlie is falling hard for Nick, even though he doesn't think he has a chance. But love works in surprising ways, and sometimes good things are waiting just around the corner... [Realistic Fiction/Contemporary/TV tie-in]



## Graphic Novels

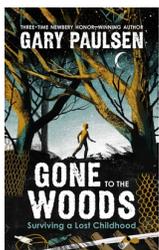
### **Dragon Hoops, by Gene Luen Yang**



Gene doesn't get sports. He lost interest in basketball long ago, but at the high school where he now teaches, it's all anyone can talk about. The men's varsity team, the Dragons, is having a phenomenal season. Each victory brings them closer to their ultimate goal: the State Championships. Once Gene gets to know these young all-stars, he realizes that their story is just as thrilling as anything he's seen on a comic book page. What he doesn't know yet is that this season is not only going to change the Dragons's lives, but his own life as well. [Graphic Novel/Novelized nonfiction]

## Nonfiction & Memoir

### **Gone to the Woods, by Gary Paulsen**



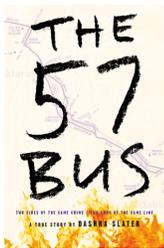
His name is synonymous with high-stakes wilderness survival stories. Now, author Gary Paulsen portrays a series of life-altering moments from his turbulent childhood as his own original survival story. If not for his summer escape from a shockingly neglectful Chicago upbringing to a North Woods homestead at age five, there never would have been a *Hatchet*.

Without the encouragement of the librarian who handed him his first book at age thirteen, he may never have become a reader. And without his desperate teenage enlistment in the Army, he would not have discovered his true calling as a storyteller.

### **The 57 Bus, by Dashka Slater**

One teenager in a skirt. One teenager with a lighter. One moment that changes both of their lives forever. If it weren't for the 57 bus, Sasha and Richard never would have met. Both were high school students from Oakland, California, one of the most diverse cities in the country, but they inhabited different worlds.

Sasha, a white teen, lived in the middle-class foothills and attended a small private school. Richard, a black teen, lived in the crime-plagued flatlands and attended a large public one. Each day, their paths overlapped for a mere eight minutes. But one afternoon on the bus ride home from school, a single reckless act left Sasha severely burned, and Richard charged with two hate crimes and facing life imprisonment. The case garnered international attention, thrusting both teenagers into the spotlight.



## Seen On Screen

Check out the books that inspired the series and films!

### **Shadow and Bone & Six of Crows,**

by Leigh Bardugo [high fantasy, adapted as the series *Shadow and Bone* on Netflix]

### **The Expanse (series),** by John S. A. Corey

[sci-fi space opera, streaming series]

### **Looking for Alaska,** by John Green [realistic

fiction, streaming series]

### **The Summer I Turned Pretty,** by Jenny Han

[realistic fiction, streaming series]

### **Dune,** by Frank Herbert [sci-fi space opera,

movie]

### **Station Eleven,** by Emily St. John Mandel

[speculative fiction, streaming series]

### **One of Us is Lying,** by Karen M. McManus

[mystery/suspense, streaming series]

### **The Sky is Everywhere,** by Jandy Nelson

[realistic fiction, movie]

### **Panic,** by Lauren Oliver [suspense, streaming

series]

### **Just Mercy (adapted for Young Adults),** by

Bryan Stevenson [nonfiction, movie]

### **Summer Days and Summer Nights,** short

stories by multiple authors

[realistic/magical realism/light sci-fi, movie

adapted short story *The Map of Tiny Perfect Things* by Lev Grossman]

Learn more about WRHS's  
Summer Reading List at

[wrhslibrary.weebly.com/summer-reading](http://wrhslibrary.weebly.com/summer-reading)

A. Stern for Wachusett Regional High School  
Holden, MA

• Summer 2022 •