



# SHADY SIDE ACADEMY

## Middle School Summer Reading 2019

### FORM II (8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Summer Reading List

Directions: I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition) is **required**, and you must choose **three** other books from this list. A student may not read more than one graphic novel. Otherwise, students are free to select three books from anywhere on the list.

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#### All-Form Book

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Yousafzai, Malala

**I Am Malala** (Young Readers Edition)

Malala Yousafzai's describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to pursue an education, and how the Taliban retaliated against her by trying to kill her.

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#### Classics

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Austen, Jane

**Pride and Prejudice**

In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters.

Bradbury, Ray

**Martian Chronicles**

The first Earth people to attempt the colonization of Mars try to build their new world in the image of the civilization they left behind.

Christie, Agatha

**The Murder of Roger Ackroyd**

Inspector Hercule Poirot, having retired to the small English village of King's Abbot, is drawn into the investigation of the murders of the widow Mrs. Ferrars and her suitor, local squire Roger Ackroyd.

Doerr, Anthony

**All the Light We Cannot See**

A blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

Frank, Anne

**The Diary of a Young Girl**

In 1942, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, the Franks and another family lived cloistered in the "Secret Annexe" of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death.

Goldman, William

**The Princess Bride**

Westley, a farm boy, goes off to seek his fortune shortly after declaring his love for Buttercup, the most beautiful woman in the world, but their relationship is put to the test when his ship is captured by pirates and she is summoned to become the bride of the prince.

Stockett, Kathryn

**The Help**

Skeeter returns home to Mississippi from college in 1962 and begins to write stories about the African-American women who are found working in white households.

Tolkien, J.R.R.

**The Hobbit**

Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.

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## Realistic Fiction

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Perkins, Mitali

**You Bring the Distant Near**

From 1965 through the present, an Indian American family adjusts to life in New York City, alternately fending off and welcoming challenges to their own traditions.

Quick, Matthew

**Boy 21**

Finley, an unnaturally quiet boy who is the only white player on his high school's varsity basketball team, lives in a dismal Pennsylvania town that is ruled by the Irish mob. When his coach asks him to mentor a troubled African American student who has transferred there from an elite private school in California, he finds that they have a lot in common in spite of their apparent differences.

Schmidt, Gary

**Okay for Now**

Fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck faces many challenges, including an abusive father, a brother traumatized by Vietnam, suspicious teachers and police officers, and isolation, but when he meets a girl known as Lil Spicer, he develops a close relationship with her and finds a safe place at the local library.

Schmidt, Gary

**Orbiting Jupiter**

Jack, 12, tells the gripping story of Joseph, 14, who joins his family as a foster child after spending time in juvenile detention. Joseph wants nothing more than to find his baby daughter, Jupiter, whom he has never seen. When Joseph has begun to believe he'll have a future, he is confronted by demons from his past that force a tragic sacrifice.

Sonnenblick, Jordan

**Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip**

After an injury ends former star pitcher Peter Friedman's athletic dreams, he concentrates on photography which leads him to a girlfriend, new fame as a high school sports photographer, and a deeper relationship with the beloved grandfather who, when he realizes he is becoming senile, gives Pete all of his professional camera gear.

Stone, Tamara Ireland

**Every Last Word**

On the surface, Samantha McAllister has it all—success in the pool as a competitive swimmer and a group of popular friends. But inside she struggles with a secret that she fears could unravel everything: her purely obsessional OCD. At the start of junior year, Sam meets Caroline, who helps her manage her obsessions and draws her into the secret Poet's Corner.

Venkatraman, Padma

**A Time to Dance**

In India, a girl who excels at Bharatanatyam dance refuses to give up after losing a leg in an accident.

Watson, Renee

**Piecing Me Together**

Tired of being singled out at her mostly-white private school as someone who needs support, high school junior Jade would rather participate in the school's amazing Study Abroad program than join Women to Women, a mentorship program for at-risk girls.

Woodson, Jacqueline

**If You Come Softly**

After meeting at their private school in New York, fifteen-year-old Jeremiah, who is black and whose parents are separated, and Ellie, who is white and whose mother has twice abandoned her, fall in love and then try to cope with peoples' reactions.

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## Science Fiction and Fantasy

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Adeyemi, Tomi

**Children of Blood and Bone**

Seventeen-year-old Zélie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi, but they are ruthlessly pursued by the crown prince, who believes the return of magic will mean the end of the monarchy.

--From Amazon.com

Bacigalupi, Paolo

**Ship Breaker**

In a futuristic world, teenaged Nailer scavenges copper wiring from grounded oil tankers for a living, but when he finds a beached clipper ship with a girl in the wreckage, he has to decide if he should strip the ship for its wealth or rescue the girl.

Graudin, Ryan

**Wolf by Wolf**

The first book in a duology about an alternate version of 1956 where the Axis powers won WWII and hold an annual motorcycle race across their conjoined continents to commemorate their victory.

Lu, Marie

**Legend**

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy.

Okorafor-Mbachu, Nnedi

**Akata Witch**

Twelve-year-old Sunny Nwazue, an American-born albino child of Nigerian parents, moves with her family back to Nigeria, where she learns that she has latent magical powers which she and three similarly gifted friends use to catch a serial killer.

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## Historical Fiction

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Bruchac, Joseph

**Code Talker**

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Hesse, Monica

**Girl in the Blue Coat**

In 1943 Nazi-occupied Amsterdam, teenage Hanneke--a 'finder' of black market goods--is tasked with finding a Jewish girl a customer had been hiding, who has seemingly vanished into thin air, and is pulled into a web of resistance activities and secrets as she attempts to solve the mystery and save the missing girl.

Hughes, Dean

**Four-Four-Two**

Like many other Japanese Americans, Yuki and his family have been forced into an internment camp in the Utah desert. But Yuki isn't willing to sit back and accept this injustice—it's his country too, and he's going to prove it by enlisting in the army to fight for the Allies.

--From Amazon.com

Sepetys, Ruta

**Salt to the Sea**

Racing to freedom with thousands of other refugees as Russian forces close in on their homes in East Prussia, Joana, Emilia, and Florian meet aboard the doomed Wilhelm Gustloff and are forced to trust each other in order to survive.

Zusak, Markus

**The Book Thief**

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

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**Non-Fiction**

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Asgedon, Mawi

**Of Beetles and Angels**

An autobiography in which Mawi Asgedom tells the story of how, at the age of three, he fled civil war in Ethiopia by walking with his mother and brother to a Sudanese refugee camp, and later moved to Chicago and earned a full scholarship to Harvard University.

Bascomb, Neal

**Nazi Hunters**

Presents the history of the group of spies, Holocaust survivors, and lawyers who pursued Adolf Eichmann, a Nazi war criminal, for fifteen years in order to bring him to justice for his leadership role in the killing of thousands of Jews during World War II.

Davis, Kenneth

**In the Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery, Four Presidents and Five Black Lives**

This powerful examination of five enslaved individuals and their presidential owners-Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Jackson-delves into these closely interwoven relationships while offering a broader look at America's history with slavery. At the heart of this chronicle is what Davis calls "America's great contradiction," the glaring dichotomy between the presidents' espoused beliefs in equality and their financial, domestic, and even emotional dependency on the individuals they owned.

Fleming, Candace

**The Family Romanov**

Here is the tumultuous, heartrending, true story of the Romanovs--at once an intimate portrait of Russia's last royal family and a gripping account of its undoing. Using captivating photos and compelling first person accounts, award-winning author Candace Fleming (*Amelia Lost; The Lincolns*) deftly maneuvers between the imperial family's extravagant lives and the plight of Russia's poor masses, making this an utterly mesmerizing read.

Hillenbrand, Laura

**Unbroken** (young readers edition)

A biography of Olympic runner and World War II bombardier, Louis Zamperini, who had been rambunctious in childhood before succeeding in track and eventually serving in the military, which led to a trial in which he was forced to find a way to survive in the open ocean after being shot down.

Sheinkin, Steve

**Bomb**

Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.

## Graphic Novels

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Craft, Jerry

### **New Kid**

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one.

Krosoczka, Jarrett J.

### **Hey, Kiddo**

In graphic novel format author and illustrator Jarrett J. Krosoczka discusses growing up in a family grappling with addiction.

Wang, Jen

### **The Prince and the Dressmaker**

Prince Sebastian is looking for a bride--or rather, his parents are looking for one for him. Sebastian is too busy hiding his secret life from everyone. Sebastian's secret weapon (and best friend) is the brilliant dressmaker Frances--one of only two people who know the truth: sometimes this boy wears dresses.

## Hot Off the Press

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Anderson, M.T.

### **The Assassination of Bragwain Spurge**

Uptight elfin historian Brangwain Spurge is on a mission: survive being catapulted across the mountains into goblin territory, deliver a priceless peace offering to their mysterious dark lord, and spy on the goblin kingdom - from which no elf has returned alive in more than a hundred years. Brangwain's host, the goblin archivist Werfel, is delighted to show Brangwain around. They should be the best of friends, but a series of extraordinary double crosses, blunders, and cultural misunderstandings throws these two bumbling scholars into the middle of an international crisis that may spell death for them -- and war for their nation.

Arce, Julissa

### **Someone Like Me**

Born in the picturesque town of Taxco, Mexico, Julissa Arce was left behind for months at a time with her two sisters, a nanny, and her grandma while her parents worked tirelessly in America in hopes of building a home and providing a better life for their children. That is, until her parents brought Julissa to Texas to live with them. From then on, Julissa secretly lived as an undocumented immigrant, went on to become a scholarship winner and an honors college graduate, and climbed the ladder to become a vice president at Goldman Sachs.

Oh, Ellen

### **A Thousand Beginnings and Endings**

Fifteen best-selling and acclaimed authors reimagine the folklore and mythology of East and South Asia in short stories that are by turns enchanting, heartbreakingly romantic, and passionate.

Reynolds, Jason

**Miles Morales, Spider Man**

Brooklyn Visions Academy student Miles Morales may not always want to be a super hero, but he must come to terms with his identity--and deal with a villainous teacher--as the new Spider Man.

Sanderson, Brandon

**Skyward**

When a long-term attack against her world by the alien Krell escalates, Spensa's dream of becoming a pilot may come true, despite her deceased father being labeled a deserter.

Wilson, Kip

**White Rose**

Disillusioned by the propaganda of Nazi Germany, Sophie Scholl, her brother, and his fellow soldiers formed the White Rose, a group that wrote and distributed anonymous letters criticizing the Nazi regime and calling for action from their fellow German citizens. The following year, Sophie and her brother were arrested for treason and interrogated for information about their collaborators. This debut novel recounts the lives of Sophie and her friends and highlights their brave stand against fascism in Nazi Germany.

*-from Amazon.com*

All annotations courtesy of Follett Library Resources or as otherwise noted