

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

| Title | Author | Summary | Awards & Honors |
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| <i>Land Of Permanent Goodbyes</i> | Abawi, A | Tareq, a teenager, enjoyed a humble but peaceful life with his family in Syria until a bomb strike destroyed their happiness with one fatal blast. Their only hope of survival becomes to escape their homeland, but their new lives as refugees force them to face danger at every turn. | Compendium Winter 2018 Featured as the most anticipated book of 2018 by the Huffington Post Featured on NPR's Morning Edition and Dana Perino's The Five Westchester Fiction Award 2019 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2019-2020 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 Soaring Eagle Award Nominee 2019-2020 |
| <i>Does My Head Look Big In This?</i> | Abdel-fattah, R | Muslim teenager Amal Abdel-Hakim makes a decision to begin wearing the veil full time. When she does, Amal faces an endless string of teasing and bullying from other students at her preppy suburban high school in Australia. | Compendium Fall 2007 SLJ 42 Diverse Titles for Every Library ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2013 Bank Street Best Children's Books 2008 DC Capitol Choices Award IL Abraham Lincoln Award 2010 KLIATT Editor's Choice Hardcover YA MD Black-Eyed Susan Award HS 2009-2010 PA Keystone to Reading YA 2008-2009 PNLA Young Reader's Choice 2010 |
| <i>Becoming Kareem : Growing Up On And Off The Court</i> | Abdul-jabbar, K | Presents the memoir of legendary basketball player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as he reflects on his childhood, career, conversion, and social reform. | Compendium Winter 2018 New York Times Bestseller Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2019 Garden State Teen Nonfiction Award |

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| <p><i>Sasquatch In The Paint</i></p> | <p>Abdul-jabbar, K</p> | <p>Eighth-grader Theo Rollins' growth spurt has definitely captured the attention of everyone around him--especially Coach Mandrake, who has devoted himself to transforming Theo into a basketball star. Unfortunately, Theo has zero experience with the game. Theo's true passion is his school's science club, but basketball practice is hurting the science club's chances of winning the "Aca-lympics." Even worse, a stealing accusation could mean Theo is off both teams—unless he can act quickly and get to the bottom of the strange claim. Tackling issues that will easily be relatable to middle school readers, this excellent novel from Abdul-Jabbar is what Kirkus Reviews calls "fearless, caring sports fiction."</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014 IN Young Hoosiers Award 2016 PA Reader's Choice 2017-2018 TX Lone Star Reading List 2014</p> |
| <p><i>Game For Swallows : To Die, To Leave, To Return</i></p> | <p>Abirached, Z</p> | <p>Zeina relates the life of her grandmother, also named Zeina, who was born during the height of the Lebanese civil war between Christians and Muslims during the 1980s.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2013 Mildred L. Batch Honor CCBC Global Book CCBC Book 2013 ALSC Graphic Novel Reading List 2016 ALA Honor 2013 ALA Notable Children's Books ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA Best Children's Books 2013 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2013 Outstanding International Booklist 2013 TX Maverick Graphic Novels List 2014</p> |
| <p><i>I Remember Beirut</i></p> | <p>Abirached, Z</p> | <p>Zeina Abirached relates her memories in graphic format of the war between the Muslims and the Christians that happened in her hometown of Beirut, Lebanon during the 1980s.</p> | <p>ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society Outstanding International Booklist 2015 TX Maverick Graphic Novel List 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Yes! We Are Latinos</i></p> | <p>Ada, A</p> | <p>A collection of poems representing thirteen young Latinos of diverse backgrounds and starting with "My name is..." Includes nonfictional interludes discussing</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014 CCBC Book 2014 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2013 IL SALSA Spanish Language Books 2014</p> |

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| | | issues pertinent to today's Latinos, and black-and-white illustrations. | |
| <i>I Lived On Butterfly Hill</i> | Agosin, M | When her beloved country, Chile, is taken over by a militaristic, sadistic government, Celeste is sent to America for her safety and her parents must go into hiding before they "disappear." | Compendium Fall 2014 2015 ALA Honor 2015 ALA Medalist 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books Pura Belpre Award 2015 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 IRA Teachers' Choices |
| <i>Down And Across</i> | Ahmadi, A | Scott Ferdowski has a track record of quitting. His best friends know exactly what they want to do with the rest of their lives, but Scott can hardly commit to a breakfast cereal, let alone a passion. With college applications looming and his parents pushing him to settle on a "practical" career, Scott sneaks off to Washington, DC, seeking guidance from a famous psychologist who claims to know the secret to success. He never expects an adventure to unfold. But that's what Scott gets when he meets Fiora Buchanan, a ballsy college student whose life ambition is to write crossword puzzles. When the bicycle she lends him gets Scott into a high-speed chase, he knows he's in for the ride of his life. | Compendium Winter 2018 |
| <i>Green Bicycle</i> | Al mansour, H | In Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, eleven-year-old Wadjda dreams of having a bicycle to race her friend, Abdullah, but it is not proper for girls to own bikes. Wadjda attempts to earn money for a bike by passing notes in class and selling mixtapes of banned music, but she is caught. Although Wadjda is forced to temporarily stop scheming, she is determined to buy a bicycle, and risks everything to make her dream come true. | Amelia Bloomer Project Title 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2016 |

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| <i>Leah On The Offbeat</i> | Albertalli, B | Closeted bisexual teen girl Leah Burke finds her life and her close-knit group of friends--which includes openly gay BFF Simon--fracturing as high school prom and graduation, and the looming aspect of college, draw near. Searching for a way to tell her friends about her identity, she finds herself falling for one of them more than she intended. | #1 New York Times Bestseller Goodreads Choice Award for the Best YA Novel f the Year ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Read for a Lifetime List 2019-2020 |
| <i>Mary Bowser And The Civil War Spy Ring</i> | Alberti, E | Relates the story of African American Union spy Mary Bowser who worked as a maid in Confederate President Jefferson Davis's home during the Civil War while also providing clues to the reader in order for them to discover the location of Mary's secret diary. | Camellia Award Winner Skipping Stones Book Award Texas Topaz Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Booked</i> | Alexander, K | Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. | Compendium Fall 2016 New York Times Best Seller National Book Award Longlist ILA-CBC Children's Book Choice List ALA Notable Children's Book Book Links' Lasting Connections Kirkus Prize YA Nominee 2016 San Francisco Chronicle Best Book Washington Post Best Book BookPage Best Book Beehive YA Book Award Winner Golden Archer Award Winner Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books for the 21st Century Youper Award Honor New York Charlotte Award MS 2018 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 Reader's Choice Award Nominee 2018-2019 |

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| <p><i>Crossover</i></p> | <p>Alexander, K</p> | <p>"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. 'Cuz tonight I'm delivering," raps twelve-year-old Josh Bell. Thanks to their dad, he and his twin brother, Jordan, are kings on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood—he's got mad beats, too, which help him find his rhythm when it's all on the line. As their winning season unfolds, things begin to change. When Jordan meets a girl, the twins' bond unravels. Told in dynamic verse, this fast and furious middle grade novel that started it all absolutely bounces with rhythm and bursts with heart.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2014 New York Times Bestseller Newbery Medal Winner Coretta Scott King Honor Award 2015 YALSA Top Ten Best Fiction for YA 2015 YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers Publishers Weekly Best Book SLJ Best Book Kirkus Best Book Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award Rebecca Caudill Award Iowa Teen Award Buckeye Children's Award Garden State Teen Fiction Award Evergreen Teen Book Award YA Book Award MS Winner New York 3 Apples Teen Award Nominee Massachusetts Children's Book Award Louisiana Young Reader's Choice Award Indian Paintbrush Award Winner Kentucky Bluegrass Award Oklahoma Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award</p> |
| <p><i>Rebound</i></p> | <p>Alexander, K</p> | <p>In the summer of 1988, twelve-year-old Chuck Bell is sent to stay with his grandparents, where he discovers jazz and basketball and learns more about his family's past.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 New York Times Best Seller ALA Notable Book 2019 Texas Bluebonnet Award 2019-2020 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2019 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Beehive Fiction Award Nominee 2019-2020 Black-Eyed Susan Award 2019-2020 Buckeye Children's Award Nominee 2019 ILA Teachers' Choice Reading List 2019 ILA Young Adults' Choice Reading List 2019 Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee 2020</p> |

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| <i>I Will Always Write Back : How One Letter Changed Two Lives</i> | Alifirenka, C | Presents a true story of how twelve-year-old Caitlin Alifirenka from Pennsylvania became a pen pal with Martin Ganda, who lives in Zimbabwe. Describes how the letters they exchanged changed both of their lives and led to a lifelong friendship. | New York Times Best Seller Compendium 2015 Fall YARP MS Teen Choice Winner ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List Soaring Eagle Award Nominee 2018-2019 |
| <i>Growing Up Muslim : Understanding The Beliefs And Practices</i> | Ali-karamali, S | Presents a look at the basic tenets of Islam through the eyes of Sumbul Ali-Karamali and her experiences growing up in southern California as a Muslim. | Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 |
| <i>Before We Were Free</i> | Alvarez, J | In the early 1960s in the Dominican Republic, twelve-year-old Anita learns that her family is involved in the underground movement to end the bloody rule of the dictator, General Trujillo. | Compendium Title Miami Herald Best Book of the Year Winner of the Americas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature Pura Belpre Award ALA-YALSA Best Book for YA ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book |
| <i>Finding Miracles</i> | Alvarez, J | Fifteen-year-old Milly Kaufman is an average American teenager until Pablo, a new student at her school, inspires her to search for her birth family in his native country. | Compendium Title ALA Popular Paperbacks Bank Street College Best Children's Books Chicago Public Library Best of the Best OK Sequoyah YA Book Award 2007 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2005-2006 |
| <i>Border Crossing</i> | Anderson, J | A young Latino named Manz lives in a tough Texas town and longs to escape from his alcoholic mother and her boyfriend. However, Manz is schizophrenic and he hears voices in his head that keep him paranoid and paralyzed with fear. The voices in his head say the Border Patrol is coming for him as part of a deportation scheme called Operation Wetback. Manz must figure out which voice to listen to before it's too late. | |

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| <i>Ashes</i> | Anderson, L | Former slaves Isobel and Curzon have escaped from Valley Forge by the skin of their teeth and have finally found some relief—but it is short-lived. They are reported as runaways and pursued, which makes finding Isobel's younger sister, Ruth, on a South Carolina Plantation even harder. However, when Isobel and Curzon do find Ruth, she refuses to escape with them! Now the bounty hunters are as thick as flies and freedom seems even further away than ever, but Isobel and Curzon have purpose and an unshakeable faith! | Compendium Spring 2017 NCSS Notable Title 2017 |
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| <p><i>Chains</i></p> | <p>Anderson, L</p> | <p>This poignant novel that follows a determined young slave who longs for freedom is "an excellent choice for YA collections; it will almost surely win awards" (KLT). Upon their mistress' death, Isabel and her sister, Ruth, are supposed to be freed. A willfully misguided handling of the will sends Isabel and Ruth to the Locktons, a Loyalist couple in New York City who have vital information about British forces. Encouraged by a fellow slave, Isabel spies for the rebels -- providing the Patriot army with British secrets in exchange for her and her sister's freedom. Isabel suffers greatly, but "there is courage, intelligence, and a grappling with the meaning of freedom" (KLT).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2009 ALA Best Books for YA 2009 ALA Notable Children's Books 2009 ALA Popular Paperbacks YA 2014 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween - 2011 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2011 DC Capitol Choices Award 2009 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2011-2012 IA Teen Award 2011-2012 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2009 IRA Teacher's Choices 2009 MA Children's Award 2010-2011 ME Student Book Award 2009-2010 MI Thumbs Up! 2009 Nominee MO Truman Reading Nominee 2010-2011 National Book Award Honor NCSS Notable Title 2009 NE Golden Sower YA 2010-2011 NJ Garden State Fiction Award 2011 NY Charlotte Award YA 2010 OR Reader's Choice 2010-2011 PA Reader's Choice 2009-2010 Parents' Choice Award Winner 2008 PNLA Young Reader's Choice 2011 SC Junior Book Award 2010-2011 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction TN Volunteer YA Award 2010-2011 TX Tayshas High School Reading Award 2010-2011 UT Beehive YA Book Award 2010-2011 WV Children's Book Award 2010-2011</p> |
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| <i>Forge</i> | Anderson, L | Separated from his friend Isabel after their daring escape from slavery, fifteen-year-old Curzon serves as a free man in the Continental Army at Valley Forge until he and Isabel are thrown together again, as slaves once more. | Compendium Spring 2011 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2011 Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 Delaware Diamonds Award 2012-2013 Horn Book Fanfare 2010 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 IRA Teacher's Choice 2011 TN Volunteer Award 2013-2014 |
| <i>Month Of Mondays</i> | Anthony, J | Middle school is tough for Suze Tamaki; she's always getting into trouble. Then her estranged mother returns after a ten-year absence but Suze's older sister Tracie refuses to welcome her back. If that isn't bad enough, Suze is moved into more challenging classes and her stress level builds. It finally comes to a head when she learns the school board is planning to fire all the school's custodians and replace them with subcontractors, causing Suze to makes some important decisions. | VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 |

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| <p><i>Home Of The Brave</i></p> | <p>Applegate, K</p> | <p>A young African named Kek is separated from his mother and sent to live in Minnesota. He doesn't like the snow and ice but he makes it through the winter with the help of new friends.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2008 Bank Street Best Children's Books of 2008 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2011 Golden Kite Award Honor HI Nene Nominee 2010 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2010 IN Young Hoosier Award 2010 Josette Frank Award KS William Allen White Award 2009-2010 MA Children's Award 2010-2011 ME Student Book Award 2008-2009 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2008-2009 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2009-2010 NCSS Notable Title 2008 NE Golden Sower Award RI Children's Book Award 2008-2009 RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2008-2009 SLJ Best Books TX Bluebonnet Award 2010-2011 VOYA Poetry Picks VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2005-2007 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2008-2009</p> |
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| <p><i>Wishtree</i></p> | <p>Applegate, K</p> | <p>An old red oak tree tells how he and his crow friend, Bongo, help their human neighbors get along after a threat against an immigrant family is carved into the tree's trunk.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 New York Times Best Seller Golden Sower Chapter Books 2019-2020 2019 CCBA Junior Novel Award Louisiana Young Reader's Choice Texas Blue Bonnet Award 2019-2020 William Allen White Award 2019-2020 Grand Canyon Intermediate Nominee 2020 Iowa Children's Choice Award 2019-2020 Missouri Mark Twain Book Award 2019-2020 South Carolina Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Illinois Bluestem Book Award 2020 Triple Crown Children's Award 2019-2020 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Beehive Fiction Award Nominee 2019-2020 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2019-2020 PNLA Young Reader's Choice 4-6 Nominee 2020 Reader's Choice Award 3-5 Nominee 2019-2020 Nene Award Nominees 2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Booklist Editor's Choice Books for Youth 2017 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 Keystone to Reading Intermediate Nominee 2018-2019 Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2018-2019 Junior Book Award Nominee 2018-2019 Notable Books for a Global Society 2018 Cochecho Readers Award Nominee 2018-2018</p> |
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| <i>One-handed Catch</i> | Auch, M | After losing his hand in an accident in his father's butcher shop in 1946, sixth-grader Norman uses hard work and humor to learn to live with his disability and to succeed at baseball, art, and other activities. | AL Emphasis on Reading Award AR Charlie May Simon Award CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2011 IA Children's Choice 2009-2010 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award 2012 IN Young Hoosier Award KS William Allen White Award 2008-2009 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award NH Great Stone Face Award 2007-2008 PA Reader's Choice 2010-2011 TX Bluebonnet Award 2008-2009 TX Horned Toad Tales Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2007-2008 |
| <i>Zombie Baseball Beatdown</i> | Bacigalupi, P | While practicing for their next baseball game, thirteen-year-old friends Rabi, Miguel, and Joe discover that the nefarious activities of the Delbe, Iowa, meatpacking plant have caused cows to turn into zombies. | Best Children's Books of 2014 ME Student Book Award Maud Hart Lovelace Award NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award SC Junior Book Award VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2013 |
| <i>Tasting The Sky : A Palestinian Childhood</i> | Barakat, I | Detailing a Palestinian childhood disrupted by war, Barakat's touching memoir describes becoming separated from her family as a 3-year-old child when they fled their Ramallah home at the start of the Six-Day War. She revisits her experiences as a refugee in poignant and well-framed episodes. The story reveals her developing love affair with reading and writing the Arabic alphabet, and how her literacy helped her to survive. "The author's love for the countryside and her culture shines through her bittersweet recollections" (SLJ). | Compendium Fall 2007 Arab American National Museum Book Award for Children's/YA Literature CCBC Global Book ALA Notable Children's Books of 2008 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2007 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2008 IRA Teachers' Choices 2008 Middle East Book Honor NCSS Notable Title 2008 NH Flume Teen Reader's 2008-2009 SLJ Best Books 2000 TX Tayshas High School Reading Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2008-2009 |

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| <p><i>Anything But Typical</i></p> | <p>Baskin, N</p> | <p>Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2009 ALA Honor 2010 Schneider Family Book Award Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2009 CCBC Book GA Book Award 2011-2012 IA Teen Award 2011-2012 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2013 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2010 KS William Allen White 2011-2012 MA Children's Award 2010-2011 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2010-2011 ME Student Book Award 2010-2011 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2011-2012 NC Young Adult Book Award MN 2010-2011 NCSS Notable Title 2010 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2011-2012 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2012 NM Land of Enchantment YA 2013-2014 NV Intermediate Reader 2013 PA KSRA YA MS Award 2010-2011 RI Children's Book Award 2011-2012 SC Junior Book Award 2011-2012 SD Prairie Pasque Award 2011-2012 TN Volunteer Intermediate Award 2011-2012 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2010-2011 WY Indian Painbrush Award 2014-2015</p> |
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| <p><i>Ajeemah And His Son</i></p> | <p>Berry, J</p> | <p>A father and his eighteen-year-old son are each affected differently by their experiences as slaves in Jamaica in the early nineteenth century.</p> | <p>Notable Children's Book of 1993 (ALA) 1993 Best Books for YA (ALA) 1993 Fanfare Honor List (The Horn Book) 1992 Books for Youth Editors' Choices (BL) Notable 1992 Children's Trade Books in Social Studies (NCSS/CBC) Bulletin Blue Ribbons 1992 1993 Books for the Teen Age (NY Public Library) Children's Books of 1992 (Library of Congress) 1993 Boston Globe-Horn Book Fiction Award Michael Printz Honor</p> |
| <p><i>Drum Roll, Please</i></p> | <p>Bigelow, L</p> | <p>Quiet, unassuming Melissa Goodwin only joined band because Olivia, her best friend, begged her to, but now, to her great surprise, she finds that she loves playing the drums. The next two weeks at Camp Rockaway are looking to be really fun--or they would have been, if the day before they leave Melly's parents hadn't told her they are getting a divorce. Now, miles from home, Melly feels extremely out of place--especially when she meets her bandmate Adeline and instead of dreaming about boys, like the other girls in her tent do, Melly catches herself thinking of Adeline.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 Rhode Island MS Nominee 2020</p> |
| <p><i>Courage To Soar : A Body In Motion, A Life In Balance</i></p> | <p>Biles, S</p> | <p>Highlights the life and career of American Olympic gymnast, Simone Biles from her humble beginnings in foster care to her rise to win four gold medals in the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.</p> | <p>Texas Topaz Reading List 2018</p> |

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| <p><i>Formerly Shark Girl</i></p> | <p>Bingham, K</p> | <p>Picking up where “Shark Girl” (2007) left off, author Bingham's latest novel continues the saga of Jane, the bright young woman whose future was disrupted by the loss of her right arm to a shark in the last book. Jane finds herself at a crossroads: although she lost her dominant hand, her drawing has improved, and she seriously considers pursuing a future in the world of art. At the same time, however, an appreciation for the medical staff that saved her life pulls her toward the field of nursing. Add an attractive crush from the last book, attempts to overcome her hydrophobia, and a decision where to endure yet another surgery to repair damage in her arm, and Jane finds herself thrust into one life-changing decision after another—a situation she handles with a grace that will have readers cheering. “Bingham hits the mark with her completely realistic portrait of a strong girl coping with emotional difficulties” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2013 Best Children's Books of 2014</p> |
| <p><i>Shark Girl</i></p> | <p>Bingham, K</p> | <p>After a shark attack causes the amputation of her right arm, fifteen-year-old Jane, an aspiring artist, struggles to come to terms with her loss and the changes it imposes on her day-to-day life and her plans for the future.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2007 Iowa Teen Award Winner Bank Street Best Children's Books 2008 Florida Teens Read IA Teen Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MO Truman Reading Nominee NE Golden Sower YA Award SD YARP MS Reading List TN Volunteer YA Award TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2008-2009</p> |
| <p><i>Knife Edge</i></p> | <p>Blackman, M</p> | <p>While pregnant Persephone Hadley worries about raising a mixed-race baby in a racially divided society, the baby's father is executed for committing an act of terrorism. When people begin to blame Persephone</p> | |

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| | | for the execution, she takes action to protect herself and her unborn child. | |
| <i>Ivy Aberdeen's Letter To The World</i> | Blake, A | A tornado rips through town and, in demolishing her family's home, flings Ivy Aberdeen's secret notebook of drawings of girls holding hands she knows not where. Those drawings begin showing up in Ivy's locker with notes telling her she should open up about her identity, and Ivy dares to hope they are from the girl she has developed a crush on. | Compendium Spring 2018 Stonewall Children's & YA Honor Book YA Award MS Nominee 2019-2020 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2019 SLJ 2018 Best Books 2019 ALA Honor Just One More Page! List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2019 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2020 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Capitol Choices Award 2019 Sunshine State Young Readers Award 2019-2020 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 Volunteer MS Nominees 2020-2021 |
| <i>Facing Frederick : The Life Of Frederick Douglass, A Monumen</i> | Bolden, T | Examines the life and legacy of Frederick Douglass, the former slave who became an influential abolitionist, author, and speaker during the nineteenth century. Includes a timeline and photographs. | Compendium Winter 2018 SLJ Best Books 2018 CCBC Book 2019 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2018 |

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| <p><i>Pathfinders : The Journeys Of 16 Extraordinary Black Souls</i></p> | <p>Bolden, T</p> | <p>Over the course of centuries, many black men and women in America have achieved amazing things despite the odds stacked against them. Here, author Bolden presents a collective biography of 16 such black men and women who have left their mark on history, from the 18th century throughout the 20th, including James Forten, a powder boy and prisoner of war in the American Revolution who became captain of his own ship and an abolitionist; Richard Potter, who became a great performing ventriloquist, magician, and hypnotist; and Katherine Johnson, a mathematician and physicist who helped make the calculations to launch successful Apollo missions. "A lively volume and an excellent approach to U.S. history" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nonfiction Nominee 2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Quick & Easy Guide To They/them pronouns</i></p> | <p>Bongiovanni, A</p> | <p>Presents a comic book offering readers help in making sense of non-binary gender pronouns, such as when individuals insist on being referred to as "they" or "them" even though these are grammatically third-person plural pronouns. Offers advice for what to do if one mistakenly "misgenders" someone who prefers non-binary pronouns in the workplace.</p> | <p>Compendium Title 2018 Chicago Public Library Best Books of the Year Teen Nonfiction Publishers Weekly Favorite Reads of 2018 Autostraddle 20 Best LGBTQ Graphic Novels of 2018 Chicago Public Library Best Teen Titles 2018 ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019</p> |
| <p><i>Kinda Like Brothers</i></p> | <p>Booth, C</p> | <p>Eleven-year-old Jarrett is angered and dismayed when his mother fosters Kevon, a haughty kid Jarrett's own age with whom he is forced to share a room. But when Jared starts snooping around to uncover the secrets Kevon is hiding, what he finds forces him to see Kevon in a much more sympathetic light.</p> | <p>ALA Notable Children's Books 2015 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate 2017 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 CT Nutmeg Intermediate Award 2015-2016 RI Children's Book Award 2015-2016 TN Volunteer MS Award 2016-2017 WA Sasquatch Reading Award</p> |

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| <p><i>Survivors Club : The True Story Of A Very Young Prisoner Of</i></p> | <p>Bornstein, M</p> | <p>In 1945, four-year-old Michael Bornstein was filmed by Soviet soldiers as his grandmother carried him out of Auschwitz. It is now a famous piece of World War II archival footage, but Bornstein found out that it was being used by Holocaust-deniers, which he could not let stand. Collected here are Bornstein's own recollections of his time in Auschwitz, as well as other stories of his father's courageous wit, his mother's fierce love, and how a perfectly timed illness actually saved his life.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 New York Times Bestseller New York City Public Library Notable Books for Teens Evergreen Teen Book Nominee 2020</p> |
| <p><i>Stand On The Sky</i></p> | <p>Bow, E</p> | <p>Twelve--year-old Aisulu defies the expectations of her Kazakh family and tradition to train an eagle in order to save her brother, Serik, and prevent her family from giving up their nomadic life forever.</p> | |
| <p><i>Smoking Mirror</i></p> | <p>Bowles, D</p> | <p>Carol and Johnny Garza are 12-year-old twins whose lives in a small Texas town are forever changed by their mother's unexplained disappearance. Shipped off to relatives in Mexico by their grieving father, the twins soon learn that their mother is a nagual, a shapeshifter, and that they have inherited her powers. In order to rescue her, they will have to descend into the Aztec underworld and face the dangers that await them.</p> | <p>ALA Honor 2016 Pura Belpre Honor Book</p> |
| <p><i>They Call Me Guero : A Border Kid's Poems</i></p> | <p>Bowles, D</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Mexican American Güero--which is a nickname in Spanish for boys with pale skin, whether they are Latino or Anglo--is red-headed and freckled, a nerd, and loves his friend squad of misfits. His seventh-grade "woke" English teacher helps him express himself through poetry and make it cool.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Tomas Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award Pura Belpre Honor Book SLJ 2018 Best Books 2019 ALA Honor ALA Notable Children's Books of 2019 Americas Award - CLASP - 2019 The Walter Award</p> |

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| <p><i>Insignificant Events In The Life Of A Cactus</i></p> | <p>Bowling, D</p> | <p>The one question Aven Green is sure to get from strangers is, “What happened to your arms?” Sometimes she tells people they got bitten off by an alligator, but the reality is she was born without her arms—a fact she has never let stop her from doing anything she sets her mind to. When her parents' new job running a Western theme park forces them to move to Arizona, Aven discovers adventure with Connor, a new classmate who has his own disability, when the two of them find a hidden room in Stagecoach Pass with a mystery inside.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 Autumn 2017 Kids' Indie Next Pick Junior Library Guild Selection Library of Congress's 52 Great Reads List 2018 Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association Award Louisiana Young Readers' Choice 2020 2019-2020 William Allen White 2020 Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Nominee 2019 Global Read Aloud Contenders 2019 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019-2020 South Carolina Junior Book Award 2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2019-2020 Young Reader's Choice Award 2019-2020 Reader's Choice Middle School Nominee 2020 Illinois Bluestem Book Award 2019-2020 Beehive Fiction Award Nominee 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2018-2019 Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee Keystone to Reading MS Nominee 2018-2019 YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee 2018-2019</p> |
| <p><i>This Promise Of Change : One Girl's Story In The Fight For S</i></p> | <p>Boyce, J</p> | <p>Tells the story of the Clinton 12, the first African American students to desegregate Clinton High School in 1956 Tennessee. One student in particular, Jo Ann Allen, was chosen to be a spokesperson for the group. Popular and eloquent, Jo Ann became a trailblazer of civil rights. For four months Jo Ann was thrust into the national spotlight, but also just wanted to be a normal teenager.</p> | <p>Compendium Title VOYA Poetry Picks</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Call Me By My Name</i> | Bradley, J | Growing up in Louisiana in the late 1960s, where segregation and prejudice still thrive, two high school football players, one white, one black, become friends, but some changes are too difficult to accept. | Compendium Fall 2014 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 Chicago Public Library Best Teen Fiction IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2017-2018 MO Gateway Nominee NCSS Notable Title PA KSRA Young Adult HS 2015-2016 SD YARP HS Reading List 2015-2016 |
| <i>Coming Out As Transgender</i> | Brezina, C | Explores issues and concerns related to coming out as transgender from self-acceptance to dealing with the reactions of others. Includes a glossary, resources for further information, and color photographs. | |
| <i>Usual Suspects</i> | Broadus, M | When a gun is found at a park near Thelonius Mitchell's school, he and his friend, Nehemiah, are among the first to be suspected. The boys have a history of causing trouble and spend their school days in a special education classroom because they've been labeled as being "emotionally delinquent." But while they may be pranksters, they don't want to add the label "criminal" to the list, and they're determined to uncover the truth in order to clear their names. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Moves Make The Man</i> | Brooks, B | An African-American boy and an emotionally troubled white boy in North Carolina form a precarious friendship. | Newbery Honor Book ALA 100 Best Books for Teens 2001 ALA Best Books for YA Boston Globe - Horn Book through 2009 KY Bluegrass Nominee |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Be Prepared</i></p> | <p>Brosgol, V</p> | <p>In <i>Be Prepared</i>, all Vera wants to do is fit in—but that’s not easy for a Russian girl in the suburbs. Her friends live in fancy houses and their parents can afford to send them to the best summer camps. Vera’s single mother can’t afford that sort of luxury, but there’s one summer camp in her price range—Russian summer camp. Vera is sure she’s found the one place she can fit in, but camp is far from what she imagined. And nothing could prepare her for all the "cool girl" drama, endless Russian history lessons, and outhouses straight out of nightmares!</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 Junior Book Award Nominee Texas Maverick Graphic Novels List TX Little Maverick Graphic Novels List Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2019 CCBC Book 2019 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers Capitol Choices Award 2019 Rhode Island MS Nominee 2020 ILA YA Choices Reading List 2019 ILA Children's Choices Reading List 2019</p> |
| <p><i>Caminar</i></p> | <p>Brown, S</p> | <p>Carlos must flee from his village, which has been invaded by soldiers, and join with a small band of guerillas to travel to his grandmother's village to warn her about the danger.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2014 ALA Notable Children's Book 2015 Americas Award - CLASP - 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2015 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Killer Of Enemies</i></p> | <p>Bruchac, J</p> | <p>Previously, Lozen lived in a world of the Ones and everyone else. The Ones were technologically augmented humans. Everyone else served them. Then a mysterious cloud passed through the world making technology useless, plunging the world back to the steam age. The Ones had genetically engineered and mutated pets, who now are out of control and have turned on the Ones and humans alike. Lozen is forced to hunt these monsters when the Ones kidnap her family--but it won't be long before Lozen comes into her destiny, and becomes a hero.</p> | <p>AILA American Indian Youth Literature Award ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for 2014 GA Peach Teen Choice 2015-2016 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award SD YARP HS Reading List 2015-2016</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Ask Me No Questions</i> | Budhos, M | Fourteen-year-old Nadira, her sister, and their parents leave Bangladesh for New York City, but the expiration of their visas and the events of September 11, 2001, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family. | <p>Compendium Title</p> <p>ALA Best Books for YA 2007</p> <p>ALA Notable Children's Books 2007</p> <p>Bank Street Best Children's Books 2008</p> <p>Booklist Editor's Choice</p> <p>CT Nutmeg Children's Award</p> <p>DC Captiol Choices Award</p> <p>NCSS Notable Title 2007</p> <p>NJ Garden State Fiction Award 2009</p> <p>NY Charlotte Award YA 2008</p> <p>PA Reader's Choice YA 2007-2008</p> |
| <i>Tell Us We're Home</i> | Budhos, M | Eighth-graders Lola, Maria, and Jaya all share one thing in common: they're immigrants to America, trying to navigate the harrowing world of middle school within a well-off American suburb. Although their concerns often mirror those of their peers – such as choosing a dress for a dance or getting good grades – their lives are also affected by their minority status and their neighborhood's occasional negativity towards them. When a fight pushes them apart at a time they need each other most, it seems they will have to find solutions on their own until they finally find the will to make up and face their troubles together. | <p>Compendium Fall 2010</p> <p>ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2013</p> <p>Best Children's Books of 2011</p> |
| <i>Zenobia July</i> | Bunker, L | Zenobia moves from Arizona where she lived with her father to Maine to live with her aunts, wanting to start a new life. Instead of improving her coding and hacking skills on the computer, she works at making new friends and living openly as a girl for the first time. Then hateful memes are posted on the school's website. Zenobia knows she has the skills to locate and identify the culprit, but is worried how her new community will react. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Unbound : A Novel In Verse</i> | Burg, A | Grace has only known life as a slave, but it is about to get slightly better—she is called from the slave cabins to come and work in the “Big House.” Her Mama advises her to keep her eyes down. Uncle Jim says to keep her thoughts to herself. But when she sees how heartless and hateful Master and Missus are, she cannot help but cry out against the injustice of slavery. How come white folks can own other people, sell them, separate families forever? Her unintentional outburst sends her family to the auction block, but before that happens, Grace and her whole family decide to flee for freedom. | Compendium Spring 2017 Christopher Award for Adults and Young People Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Nutmeg Intermediate Nominee 2020 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Skipping Stones Book Award 2017 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 |
| <i>Daring Play : How A Courageous Jackie Robinson Transformed B</i> | Burgan, M | Presents an illustrated biography of Jackie Robinson chronicling his life, baseball career, and legacy. Includes a timeline, photographs, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Team Seven</i> | Burke, M | When Andre Battel and his friends come up short on their payments to the gang masters of Team Seven, things get violent, and Andre's future as a basketball star is threatened. | |
| <i>Charlie Hernandez & The League Of Shadows</i> | Calejo, R | Steeped in Hispanic folklore since childhood, middle schooler Charlie Hernández learns the stories are true when, shortly after his parents disappearance, he grows horns and feathers and finds himself at the heart of a battle to save the world. | Compendium Title Booklist's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Title Volunteer MS Nominee 2020-2021 |
| <i>Stealing Freedom</i> | Carbone, E | A novel based on the events in the life of a young slave girl from Maryland who endures all kinds of mistreatment and cruelty, including being separated from her family, but who eventually escapes to freedom in Canada. | Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA 2000 AZ Young Reader Intermediate Award 2002 IN Young Hoosier Award 2003 MD Children's Book Intermediate Award 2002 MO Mark Twain Book Award 2000-2001 SD YARP Reading List 2000 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Epic Fail Of Arturo Zamora</i> | Cartaya, P | Arturo Zamora must save his family's restaurant before a land developer destroys it. He teams up with the funny, cute new girl, Carmen, to thwart the developer's plans and help bring the community together. | Compendium Fall 2017 2018 Pura Belpre Author Honor Book South Carolina Junior Book Award 2019-2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award 2020 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2019-2020 PNLA Young Reader's Choice Nominee 2020 Rhode Island Middle School Nominee 2020 2018 ALA Honor E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honors Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2018 ALA Notable Children's Book |
| <i>Just A Drop Of Water</i> | Cerra, K | High school student Jake Green, who plans on following in the footsteps of his veteran grandfather, faces difficult choices when his Muslim friend Sam is harassed by bullies, Sam's family is targeted in an FBI investigation following the 9/11 attacks, and the truth about Jake's grandfather's past is revealed. | Florida Book Award 2014 HI Nene Nominee 2018 ME Student Book Award 2015-2016 MO Truman Reading Nominee 2016-2017 MS Magnolia Award 2017 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2017 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2014 Crystal Kite Award |
| <i>Storm Runner</i> | Cervantes, J | To prevent the Mayan gods from battling each other and destroying the world, thirteen-year-old Zane must unravel an ancient prophecy, stop an evil god, and discover how the physical disability that makes him reliant on a cane also connects him to his father and his ancestry. | Compendium Title Texas Lone Star Reading List 2019 Booklist's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Title |
| <i>Go-between</i> | Chambers, V | Camilla del Valle is the teen every girl in Mexico City envies, with a father who does voice-overs for American movies and a glamorous mother who acts in telenovela films and a life of luxury. Everything changes when her mother is cast in an American television show and they have to move to Los Angeles. There, Cammi meets with racism at her posh, private Polestar Academy, where the white students assume she is there on scholarship. Cammi plays along, trying to get back at them for their | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | stereotypes, but soon she has to wonder if she isn't fooling herself instead. | |
| <i>Fire And Glass</i> | Chan, M | Being the new kid is hard enough, but for Kristina Mah, her new school also involves a fourth floor that is faking being a storage space; stairs that plummet into an abyss; and a Gothic djinn stalker, who is also a pyromaniac. | SLJ YA Best Books for MS Readers 2016 |
| <i>Pashmina</i> | Chanani, N | Priyanka Das, an Indian girl living in America, has always wondered why her mother abandoned her home in India years ago, taking Priyanka with her, and still refuses to tell Pri anything about India or her father. One day, Pri finds one of her mother's pashminas in a forgotten suitcase, and, putting it on, finds herself transported to a place that very much resembles India--however, it may be another world altogether, and there is danger. | Compendium Winter 2018 Junior Library Guild Selection 2017 Amazon Top 20 Children's Book of the Year 2017 Amazon Best Book of the Month - December 2017 Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2017 Texas Maverick Graphic Novel 2017 Northern California Indie Bookseller Association Long-List Title Isinglass Teen Reader Award Nominee 2019-2020 Blue Hen Middle Graphic Novel Nominee 2020 Amelia Bloomer Project 2019 Great Lakes Great Books Nominee 2019-2020 ALA Top Ten Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2018 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Finding Mighty</i></p> | <p>Chari, S</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Peter's older brother, Randal, has run away. Randal, a graffiti artist and master of parkour, just like their deceased father, left a note telling Peter not to find him; however, Peter won't rest until he does. His search leads him to Myla, a twelve-year-old girl on her own mission in New York City. Together they uncover a mystery that involves gangs, stolen diamonds, and a secret that links both families together and endangers them all.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ILA Children's Reading List Title 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Dreaming In Indian : Contemporary Native American Voices</i></p> | <p>Charleyboy, L</p> | <p>Presents a collection of artistic works, including essays, short stories, poetry, photographs, paintings, and drawings, by Native Americans from the United States and Canada.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library CA Eureka! Nonfiction Children's Award 2014 FW BOTYA Finalist YA Nonfiction 2014 Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominees Outstanding International Booklist SLJ Best Books of 2014 Skipping Stones Book Award 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Urban Tribes : Native Americans In The City</i></p> | <p>Charleyboy, L</p> | <p>For a majority of young Native Americans today, life doesn't mean living on a reservation. In fact, more often than not, millennial Native Americans find themselves moving into the city—like New York, Los Angeles, and Phoenix—to pursue education and their careers. How do they stay in touch with their cultural roots so far away from anything traditionally Native American? Here author Charleyboy presents interviews with and the personal thoughts of over 40 Indigenous contributors on just that question, as well as topics like dating in the big city and dealing with the humiliation of certain school mascots.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Skipping Stones Book Award 2016 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>So Done</i> | Chase, P | Jamila Phillips and Tai Johnson have been inseparable since they were toddlers, having grown up across the street from each other in Pirates Cove, a low-income housing project. As summer comes to an end, Tai can't wait for Mila to return from spending a month with her aunt in the suburbs. But both girls are grappling with secrets, and when Mila returns she's more focused on her upcoming dance auditions than hanging out with Tai. | Compendium Title Volunteer Middle School Nominee 2020-2021 |
| <i>Reader</i> | Chee, T | Sefia is barely surviving with her aunt Nin after the brutal death of her father. When Nin is kidnapped, Sefia's only clue is a book that belonged to her father. But in a world where reading is unheard of, Sefia must teach herself to unlock the clues that lead to the truth. | Compendium Spring 2017 New York Times Bestseller Kirkus Prize Finalist Goodreads Choice Award Nominee Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library Reader's Choice Award Nominee 2018-2019 |
| <i>Etched In Clay : The Life Of Dave, Enslaved Potter And Poet</i> | Cheng, A | Meet Dave, a young African sold into slavery sometime before 1818. Dave worked for a potter and made many items out of clay—pots, jars, anything asked of him, eventually becoming the best potter in the region. When he learned to read, at great personal risk, Dave began etching poems into the pottery he made, and became a poet for all slaves. “Combining visual art with poetry as Dave did, Cheng includes her own striking woodcuts, illustrating both Dave's experiences and his artistry” (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2013 Best Children's Books of 2014 CCBC Book 2014 Grade 4-8 Book Award 2014-2015 IRA Teacher's Choice 2014 Lee Bennet Hopkins Poetry Award NCTE Notable Books 2014 OH Ohioana Juvenile Book Award OR Reader's Choice 2015-2016 Parents' Choice Award Winner 2013 Skipping Stones Book Award 2014 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2014 |
| <i>Hero Ain't Nothin' But A Sandwich</i> | Childress, A | The life of a thirteen-year-old Harlem black boy on his way to becoming a confirmed heroin addict is seen from his viewpoint and from that of several people around him. | ALA 100 Best Books for Teens 2001 ALA Best Books for YA Jane Addams Honor |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Eleven Things I Promised</i> | Clark, C | Catherine Clark has crafted a poignant story about the distances one girl is willing to go in the name of friendship that is at once funny, heartbreaking, and utterly romantic. Seventeen-year-old Frances wouldn't describe herself as adventurous. Until now . . . Frances has one week—while she'll be away from home competing in a high school bike race—to do every single thing on the Fix-It List. Ten crazy, totally out-of-character ideas her best friend, Stella, came up with to make the bike ride unforgettable. However, as each item on the F-It List opens Frances up to new adventures, new friends, and possibly even a new romance, it becomes increasingly difficult for Frances to keep the one promise that she knows she absolutely must obey—her promise to not tell anyone the truth about the accident that left Stella broken and angry, and started Frances on her quest to complete the list. | |
| <i>R Is For Rebel</i> | Coats, J | After her parents are jailed for a failed resistance movement, Malley is sent to reform school, where she plans some resistance of her own. | |
| <i>Passenger On The Pearl : The True Story Of Emily Edmonson's</i> | Conkling, W | In 1848, thirteen-year-old slave Emily Edmonson undertakes a courageous journey from captivity to freedom. | Junior Library Guild Selection Carter G. Woodson Book Award Skipping Stones Book Award |
| <i>Gender Identity : Beyond Pronouns And Bathrooms</i> | Cook, M | Explores the concept of gender identity and LGBTQ rights, sex roles, and transgender discrimination in American history, from the first recorded person to medically transition in the 1930s through the landmark Stonewall Riots and the Transgender Day of Remembrance. Offers critical-thinking activities on topics like the life of Lili Elbe, and comparing and contrasting fictional characters who depict transgender struggles. Includes a glossary. | Compendium Title |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>New Kid</i> | Craft, J | Seventh grade African American boy Jordan Banks dutifully travels from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale private Riverdale Academy Day School. As one of the few kids of color in his new school, Jordan feels out of place. He doesn't really fit in with his new classmates, and it begins to feel like his neighborhood friends live in a different world. Jordan finds comfort in his art as he tries to navigate both worlds. | Compendium Title Great Stone Face Nominee 2019-2020 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Volunteer Middle School Nominee 2020-2021 |
| <i>Uninterrupted View Of The Sky</i> | Crowder, M | In Bolivia in 1999, when their father is unjustly arrested and their mother leaves, Francisco, seventeen, and his sister Pilar, eight, must move to the dirty, dehumanizing, and corrupt prison. | Compendium Fall 2017 Eliot Rosewater Award 2019-2020 Texas Tayshas Reading List 2019-2020 NCSS Notable Title 2018 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2018 Notable Books for a Global Society 2018 |
| <i>Untwine</i> | Danticat, E | Isabella and Giselle Boyer are twin sisters, born holding hands so tightly that the doctor had to separate them finger by finger. Their sisterhood is as close as can be, but their father and mother have separated, and are considering divorce. One day they all are together when their SUV is hit. The accident kills Isabella, and leaves Giselle in a coma where she is left to her own thoughts, having to replay in her mind all the choices that led her and her family to this point. Giselle will have to decide if her love for her friends and family is worth fighting for recovery. | Compendium Spring 2016 Best Children's Books of 2016 CCBC Book 2016 Florida Teens Read 2016-2017 IRA Children's Choice 2016 WI Golden Archer Award 2016-2017 |
| <i>How Puerto Ricans Made The Us Mainland Home</i> | Davila, L | Explores the history of Puerto Rico and the emigration of Puerto Rican citizens to America, highlighting the struggles they faced. Includes maps, archival and color photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and resources for further information. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>In The Shadow Of Liberty : The Hidden History Of Slavery, Fo</i></p> | <p>Davis, K</p> | <p>It is a great tragedy and contradiction that the United States of America was “conceived in liberty” by the Founding Fathers, who fought for liberty and justice while at the same time owning slaves. Some of the names of the slaves of our most important early presidents are known, but their stories have rarely, or never, been told—until now. Here, author Davis presents stories of five slaves, from Billy Lee, George Washington's valet, to Alfred Jackson, a servant of Andrew Jackson, exploring their lives and experiences in a land of contradiction. “A valuable, broad perspective on slavery” (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2019 YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Honor 2017 ALA Honor NCSS Notable Title 2017 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Mare's War</i></p> | <p>Davis, T</p> | <p>When Octavia and Tali are forced to take a road trip with their Grandmother Mare, the girls are anything but excited. Mare is not your typical grandmother, but as the trip progresses the girls find out she has an extraordinary past that explains her flamboyant character, generating an awesome respect for Grandma Mare that never existed before. Grandma Mare's past took her to the front lines of World War II as a member of the Women's Army Corps and as one of a group of remarkable young African-American women who set the stage for equality in the U.S. Army. Soon the girls realize their grandmother's strength and determination is now part of their heritage. "Absolutely essential reading" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2009 Coretta Scott King Honor Book NEA African American Book List ALA Honor ALA Best Books for YA 2010 ALA Popular Paperback for YA Amelia Bloomer Project 2010 CCBC Book 2010 LA Teen Readers' Choice 2012 NCSS Notable Title 2010 NCTE Notable Book 2010</p> |
| <p><i>Something In Between</i></p> | <p>De la cruz, M</p> | <p>When Jasmine de los Santos is presented the opportunity to be considered for a national scholarship award, her Filipino immigrant parents reveal the truth that their visas expired many years ago, making Jasmine an illegal alien. Now facing the threat of deportation rather than a full ride to college, Jasmine rebels as she tries to understand her place in a world she may not be allowed to stay in.</p> | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Star-crossed</i> | Dee, B | When Mattie is cast as Romeo in an eighth-grade play, she is confused to find herself increasingly attracted to Gemma, a new classmate who is playing Juliet. | NCSS Notable Title 2018 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 ALA Rainbow Project Booklist 2018 |
| <i>Us, In Progress : Short Stories About Young Latinos</i> | Delacre, L | Contains a collection of eleven short stories about young Latinos including a young girl spending a day at her father's burrito cart and a Texan boy overcoming the prejudice built from his father's Border Control job. | Compendium Winter 2018 Kirkus Best Book of 2017 New York Public Library Best Book of 2017 Los Angeles Public Library Best Book of 2017 2017 Malka Penn Award for Human Rights in Children's Literature Honor Book Booklist Top 10 Diverse Fiction for Older and Middle Readers CCBC Choices Pick of 2018 CBC Notable in Social Studies Book NCSS Notable Title 2018 |
| <i>Taking Flight : From War Orphan To Star Ballerina</i> | Deprince, M | Biography of Michaela DePrince, covering her early life in war-torn Sierra Leone where she was known as orphan Number 27 and made fun of or demonized for a skin condition, up through her adoption by an American family who helped her become a world-famous ballerina. | Compendium Spring 2015 AL Camellia Award 2015-2016 Best Children's Books of 2015 IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2018-2019 NCSS Notable Title 2015 SC YA Book Award 2016-2017 TN Volunteer MS and HS Award 2016-2017 |
| <i>Swagger</i> | Deuker, C | Jonas Dolan is a high school basketball phenomenon, and his path to stardom in college ball is laid before him like a path of light. Jonas is determined to take his best friend and teammate, Levi, with him into college ball—but outside that bright path is a darkness and evil that Levi begs Jonas not to reveal. If he does, the path will be destroyed—however, bringing evil to light and justice may be more important to Jonas than college ball. | Compendium Fall 2014 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Best Children's Books of 2014 CT Nutmeg Teen Award 2017 IA Teen Award 2017-2018 IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2015-2016 IRA YA Choices WA Evergreen Teen Book Award 2016 |
| <i>Marley Dias Gets It Done : And So Can You!</i> | Dias, M | Examines the life of social media celebrity and social activist Marley Dias, offering advice from Marley on how to become "woke" to social injustices and how to start making a difference to society. | Compendium Winter 2018 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2019 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Battle Of Jericho</i></p> | <p>Draper, S</p> | <p>A high school junior and his cousin suffer the ramifications of joining what seems to be a "reputable" school club.</p> | <p>Coretta Scott King Honor AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween 2007 Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award Chicago Public Library Best of the Best IL Abraham Lincoln Award 2006 IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2006 IN Young Hoosier Award IRA YA Choices KY Bluegrass Award SC YA Book Award 2006-2007 SD YARP Reading List 2005 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2004-2005</p> |
| <p><i>Copper Sun</i></p> | <p>Draper, S</p> | <p>Two fifteen-year-old girls--one a slave and the other an indentured servant--escape their Carolina plantation and try to make their way to Fort Moses, Florida, a Spanish colony that gives sanctuary to slaves.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Award YARP MS Teen Choice Winner ALA Honor 2007 Florida Teens Read Award GA Peach Teen Choice Award Heartland Award IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2009 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society MD Black-Eyed Susan Award HS 2007-2008 MI Thumbs Up! Nominee 2007 NCSS Notable Title NV YA Books Award 2009 Ohioana Juvenile Book Award OK Sequoyah YA Book Award 2009 PA Reader's Choice Award SC YA Book Award 2008-2009 SLJ Best Books SD YARP Reading List and MS Teen Choice Winner TN Volunteer Award YA 2007-2008 TX Tayshas HS Reading List 2007-2008 VA Reader's Choice HS 2007-2008</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Double Dutch</i> | Draper, S | Three eighth-grade friends, preparing for the International Double Dutch Championship jump rope competition in their home town of Cincinnati, Ohio, cope with Randy's missing father, Delia's inability to read, and Yo Yo's encounter with the class bullies. | Chicago Public Library Best of the Best FL Sunshine State Young Reader Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2005-2006 KS William Allen White Award 2004-2005 KY Bluegrass Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2005-2006 NCSS Notable Title PA Reader's Choice 2005-2006 SC Junior Book Award 2006-2007 WY Soaring Eagle Award 2006-2007 |
| <i>Just Another Hero</i> | Draper, S | As Kofi, Arielle, Dana, November, and Jericho face personal challenges during their last year of high school, a misunderstood student brings a gun to class and demands to be taken seriously. | ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA NV Young Adult Books 2011 OH Buckeye Teen Award 2010 |
| <i>November Blues</i> | Draper, S | After losing her boyfriend, Josh, to a pledge stunt gone wrong, a pregnant November Nelson must deal with the pressures the new baby will bring. Meanwhile, Jericho, Josh's cousin, struggles to cope with the loss of his best friend and turns to a variety of activities to distract himself from the pain. | Coretta Scott King Honor Book Delaware Diamonds HS Award ALA Honor MD Black-Eyed Susan HS Award MO Gateway Nominee NC YA Book Award HS 2008-2009 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Out Of My Mind</i></p> | <p>Draper, S</p> | <p>Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2010 New York Times Best Seller Prairie Pasque Award California Young Reader Medal Young Hoosier Award Winner Buckeye Children's Award Maine Student Book Award Massachusetts Children's Book Award Winner Maud Hart Lovelace Award Winner Missouri Mark Twain Book Award Winner Young Reader Award Winner Sunshine State Young Reader Winner Volunteer State Book Award Winner Beehive Fiction Award Winner Sasquatch Reading Award Winner Black-Eyed Susan Award Winner Loe Black Bear Winner New York 3 Apples Children's Award Nominee 2019 North Dakota Flicker Tale MS Fiction Award Young Reader's Choice Award 6-8 Winner Sunshine State Young Reader 6-8 Winner</p> |
| <p><i>Romiette And Julio</i></p> | <p>Draper, S</p> | <p>Romiette, an African-American girl, and Julio, a Hispanic boy, discover that they attend the same high school after falling in love on the Internet, but are harrassed by a gang whose members object to their interracial dating.</p> | <p>Young Hoosier Award 2005 ALA Popular Paperbacks IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2003 IRA YA Choices KY Bluegrass Award 2000-2001 SC YA Book Award 2001-2002 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2001-2002</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Hour Of The Bees</i> | Eagar, L | Due to a rift in her family, 12-year-old Carolina only meets her grandfather, Serge, when her family travels to Albuquerque in order to sell Serge's sheep ranch and help him move into a nursing home. Carol's disappointment at having to give up some of her summer turns to shame when Grandpa asks her, "Why do you spit on your roots, chiquita?" Then her shame turns to wonder as Grandpa tells her stories about her heritage, of the magic tree that heals, of a green-glass lake, of 100 years of no rain, and of the magical bees that brought the rain back. | Compendium Spring 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2019 |
| <i>My Name Is Not Easy</i> | Edwardson, D | Alaskans Luke, Chickie, Sonny, Donna, and Amiq relate their experiences in the early 1960s when they are forced to attend a Catholic boarding school where, despite different tribal affiliations, they come to find a sort of family and home. | Compendium Spring 2012 National Book Honor ALA Best Fiction for YA Best Children's Books of 2012 IRA Notable Children's Books for a Global Society 2012 NCSS Notable Title SLJ Best Books of 2011 TN Volunteer MS and HS 2013-2014 |
| <i>Breadwinner</i> | Ellis, D | After her father is arrested for the crime of having a foreign education, Parvana must transform herself into a boy and earn money for her family in Afghanistan. | Compendium Title CCBC Global Book Amelia Bloomer Project IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award Jane Addams Honor KY Bluegrass Award 2003-2004 MA Children's Award 2002-2003 ME Student Book Award 2002-2003 Middle East Book Honor MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award NH Great Stone Face Award PA Reader's Choice 2004-2005 WI Golden Archer Award WY Indian Paintbrush Award 2003-2004 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Children Of War : Voices Of Iraqi Refugees</i> | Ellis, D | Examines the lives of Iraqi children who have been forced to leave Iraq with their families in order to survive. Draws on interviews with refugees in Jordan to describe lives of poverty, fear, and waiting. | Compendium Fall 2009 CCBC Global Book CCBC Book 2010 Outstanding International Booklist 2010 Skipping Stones Book Award 2010 |
| <i>Bright Lights, Dark Nights</i> | Emond, S | A story about first love, first fights, and finding yourself in a messed up world, from the acclaimed author of Happyface. Walter Wilcox has never been in love. That is, until he meets Naomi, and sparks, and clever jokes, fly. But when his cop dad is caught in a racial profiling scandal, Walter and Naomi, who is African American, are called out at school, home, and online. Can their bond (and mutual love of the Foo Fighters) keep them together? | Compendium Spring 2016 Best Children's Books of 2016 |
| <i>Enchanted Air : Two Cultures, Two Wings : A Memoir</i> | Engle, M | In this beautifully crafted memoir, Margarita Engle, the first Latina to receive a Newbery Honor, presents the story of her childhood in Cuba and Los Angeles during the Cold War. The daughter of an American father and a Cuban mother, Engle often felt pulled between the two worlds, both emotionally and physically, as the family shuttled between her mother's island homeland and L.A. In time, she learned to embrace her Cuban heritage while navigating her American identity as well. | Compendium Fall 2015 Pura Belpre Award YALSA Nonfiction Finalist Walter Dean Myers Award Honoree ALA Honor 2016 ALA Notable Children's Books 2016 Americas Award - CLASP - 2016 Best Children's Books of 2016 CA Eureka! Nonfiction Children's Award CCBC Book 2016 CCBC Global Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2015 DC Capitol Choices Award KA William Allen White Award Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award NCSS Notable Title 2016 NCTE Notable Books 2016 NJ Garden State Teen Nonfiction Award Skipping Stones Book Award The Walter Award WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2016 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Firefly Letters : A Suffragette's Journey To Cuba</i> | Engle, M | Presents the thoughts of Fredrika Bremer as she describes her journey to Cuba and the women she came to know that transformed the life of this nineteenth century women's rights pioneer. | Compendium Fall 2010 Pura Belpre Honor Book ALA Notable Children's Book Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year |
| <i>Hurricane Dancers : The First Caribbean Pirate Shipwreck</i> | Engle, M | Award-winning author Margarita Engle presents a historical novel that follows young Quebrado, the son of a Taino Indian mother and a Spanish father. Taken from his village and enslaved on a pirate ship, Quebrado must help Captain Bernardino de Talavera navigate the Caribbean world. When a hurricane destroys the ship and most of the crew, Quebrado manages to escape, pulled to safety by a kind fisherman, Narido. As Quebrado slowly adjusts to living in the village, surrounded by people who care about him, he realizes that he can't escape his horrible past. Written in verse, Engle's "powerful, original story" (BL) uses "potent rhythms, sounds, and original, unforgettable imagery" (BL). | Compendium Fall 2011 Pura Belpre Honor Book ALA Honor 2012 ALA Notable Children's Book 2012 Americas Award - CLASP - 2012 Best Children's Books of 2012 California Collection MS 2013-2014 CCBC Book 2012 NCSS Notable Title 2012 VOYA Poetry Picks |
| <i>Lightning Dreamer : Cuba's Greatest Abolitionist</i> | Engle, M | In free verse, evokes the voice of Gertrudis Gomez de Avellaneda, a book-loving writer, feminist, and abolitionist who courageously fought injustice in nineteenth-century Cuba. Includes historical notes, excerpts from her writings, biographical information, and source notes. | Pura Belpre Honor Book ALA Honor 2014 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2014 ALA Notable Children's Books 2014 Amelia Bloomer Project List 2014 Americas Award - CLASP - 2014 Best Children's Books of 2014 California Collection 2014 CCBC Book 2014 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2014 NCSS Notable Title 2014 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2015-2016 VOYA Poetry Picks VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2013 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Lion Island : Cuba's Warrior Of Words</i></p> | <p>Engle, M</p> | <p>Antonio Chuffat, a young man of Chinese and African descent, works as a messenger for Chinese diplomats in Cuba during the 1870s. Surrounded by African slaves and indentured Chinese servants, Antonio meets a boy named Wing and his sister Fan, both refugees who fled San Francisco during the anti-Chinese riots. The three become determined to fight for freedom, and while Antonio prefers to use words, Wing would rather use force. Presented in verse, this novel showcases the power of words to create change.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 NCSS Notable Title 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Poet Slave Of Cuba : A Biography Of Juan Francisco Manzano</i></p> | <p>Engle, M</p> | <p>Presents the life of eighteenth-century Cuban poet Juan Francisco Manzano in the children's poems of Margareta Engle. Accompanied by black-and-white drawings.</p> | <p>Compendium Title 2008 Pura Belpre Medal for Narrative 2007 Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year CCBC Global Book ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books for 2008 Americas Award - CLASP AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award 2010 Booklist Editor's Choice Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award 1990-2007 California Collection MS 2011 CCBC Book 2007 Delaware Diamonds Award HS NCTE Notable Book 2007 NJ Garden State Nonfiction Award</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Silver People : Voices From The Panama Canal</i> | Engle, M | Fourteen-year-old Mateo and other Caribbean islanders face discrimination, segregation, and harsh working conditions when American recruiters lure them to the Panamanian rain forest in 1906 to build the great canal. | Compendium Fall 2014 Americas Award - CLASP - 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Reading Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2015 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 Jane Addams Honor Book NCSS Notable Title 2015 VOYA Poetry Pick |
| <i>Tropical Secrets : Holocaust Refugees In Cuba</i> | Engle, M | Escaping from Nazi Germany to Cuba in 1939, a young Jewish refugee dreams of finding his parents again, befriends a local girl with painful secrets of her own, and discovers that the Nazi darkness is never far away. | Compendium Spring 2010 Sydney Taylor Book Honor Americas Award - CLASP - 2010 California Collection MS 2011-2012 NCSS Notable Title 2010 |
| <i>Wild Book</i> | Engle, M | In early twentieth-century Cuba, bandits terrorize the countryside as a young farm girl struggles with dyslexia. Based on the life of the author's grandmother. | Compendium Fall 2012 Best Children's Books of 2013 CA Collection 2013-2014 VOYA Poetry Picks |
| <i>Standing Up Against Hate : How Black Women In The Army Helpe</i> | Farrell, M | Examines the prejudice faced by African American women who enlisted in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps during WWII by sharing stories of their bravery as they stood up against segregation and racism. Includes a glossary and archival photographs. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Better Nate Than Ever</i> | Federle, T | An eighth-grader who dreams of performing in a Broadway musical concocts a plan to run away to New York and audition for the role of Elliot in the musical version of "E.T." | Compendium Fall 2013 Stonewall Book Award New York Times Notable Book of the Year Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year Slate Favorite Book of the Year Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 |
| <i>Five, Six, Seven, Nate!</i> | Federle, T | Now on Broadway as second understudy for E.T., Nate Foster keeps in close contact with his best friend, Libby, as he faces his nemesis, Jordan Rylance, | Compendium Spring 2014 Lambda Literary Award |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | and his own insecurities as the cast member with the least training and experience. | |
| <i>Begging For Change</i> | Flake, S | Teenaged Raspberry Hill tries to sort out her confused feelings of disgust, shame, and love for her homeless, drug addicted father and worries that she may have inherited his lying and stealing ways. | Compendium Title ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2004 Bank Street College Best Children's Books Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best IRA Young Adults' Choices TX Lone Star Reading List 2004-2005 |
| <i>Money Hungry</i> | Flake, S | All thirteen-year-old Raspberry can think of is making money so that she and her mother never have to worry about living on the streets again. | Compendium Title CCBC Book IRA Children's Choices KY Bluegrass Award |
| <i>You Don't Even Know Me : Stories And Poems About Boys</i> | Flake, S | Contains a collection of short stories and poems depicting life of urban male teenagers. | TX Tayshas HS Reading List 2011-2012 VOYA Poetry Picks |
| <i>He Who Dreams</i> | Florence, M | When John stumbles into an indigenous peoples dance class at the local community cultural center, he decides to become a dancer. He faces ridicule from his soccer teammates and hostility from the dancers at the cultural center. In order to dance at the Pow Wow, he has to learn to balance his responsibilities, confront his fears, and embrace both the Irish and Cree sides of his heritage. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>90 Miles To Havana</i></p> | <p>Flores-galbis, E</p> | <p>Two young brothers are sent by their mother from Cuba to escape the revolution there. After they arrive in Miami they enter a strange world where they feel isolated and confused and miss their homeland.</p> | <p>2011 Pura Belpre Honor Book for Narrative 2011 Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year ALA 2011 Honor ALA Notable Children's Books 2011 Best Children's Books 2011 CCBC Book 2011 FL Sunshine State Young Readers 2012-2013 MA Children's Award 2013-2014 NCSS Notable Title 2011 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2013 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2013</p> |
| <p><i>American Road Trip</i></p> | <p>Flores-scott, P</p> | <p>With a strong family, the best friend a guy could ask for, and a budding romance with the girl of his dreams, life shows promise for Teodoro "T" Avila. But he takes some hard hits the summer before senior year when his nearly perfect brother, Manny, returns from a tour in Iraq with a devastating case of PTSD. In a desperate effort to save Manny from himself and pull their family back together, T's fiery sister, Xochitl, hoodwinks her brothers into a cathartic road trip. Told through T's honest voice, this is a candid exploration of mental illness, socioeconomic pressures, and the many inescapable highs and lows that come with growing up—including falling in love.</p> | <p>Compendium TX Tayshas HS Reading List 2019-2020 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019</p> |
| <p><i>Bone Sparrow</i></p> | <p>Fraillon, Z</p> | <p>Subhi, a refugee, has grown up knowing only the confines of an Australian detention center. It would be intolerable, but every night Subhi's imagination brings him the songs of whales in a faraway sea, the stories of birds, and gifts from the magical Night Sea of his mother's tales. Then Subhi meets a scruffy girl named Jimmie who lives on the other side of the center's fence. She brings him a cherished notebook that her late mother wrote in that she cannot read. When Subhi helps Jimmie read it, her family's love</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Carnegie Medal 2017 Finalist NCSS Notable Title 2018 CCBC Book</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | songs and tragedies are revealed, and together Subhi and Jimmie find freedom. | |
| <i>Gold Medal Winter</i> | Freitas, D | Esperanza Flores's place on the United States Olympic figure skating team has come at the expense of an injured skater, so in addition to the pressure of sudden fame and outsized expectations, Espi has to deal with the resentment of her teammates--and their efforts to sabotage her routine. | |
| <i>Endangered People</i> | Ganeri, A | Everyone has heard about endangered animals, but many people don't realize that humans can be endangered too. All around the world, groups of indigenous peoples' land and lives are being taken over, putting them at risk of being lost forever. This captivating book encourages readers to be globally conscious and offers a glimpse at what is being done to help save these unique communities. Colorful photographs and accessible text provide readers with a comprehensive look at some of the people and cultures that are at risk. This fascinating volume will attract readers of many levels and is sure to be a popular addition to any library or classroom. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>If I Ever Get Out Of Here</i></p> | <p>Gansworth, E</p> | <p>Seventh-grader Lewis "Shoe" Blake from the Tuscarora Reservation has a new friend, George Haddonfield from the local Air Force base, but in 1975 upstate New York there is a lot of tension and hatred between Native Americans and Whites--and Lewis is not sure that he can rely on friendship.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014 AL Camellia Award ALA Best Fiction For YA Best Children's Books of 2014 CCBC Book 2014 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NCSS Notable Title 2014 Skipping Stones Award 2014</p> |
| <p><i>I Wanna Be Your Shoebox</i></p> | <p>Garcia, C</p> | <p>Like all teens, Yumi Ruiz-Hirsch's life is constantly changing, and she wishes she could make time stand still. Her parents are divorced, and her Cuban mother is moving them to a different California town and about to remarry. Her father (who has a Japanese mother and Jewish father) is a member of a punk-rock band and struggles with depression. Now Yumi has just discovered that her beloved grandfather is dying. When she visits him and hears his stories about life, Yumi begins to appreciate her own life and realize that change is inevitable. "The large personalities propel the story and bring tenderness and credibility to a classic message about change" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2009 National Book Award Finalist</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Lily And Dunkin</i></p> | <p>Gephart, D</p> | <p>Lily is a young transgender girl, in the body of a boy, who is in the eighth grade. Dunkin is a young boy in her class with bipolar disorder. Both know what it is like to be different, but for Dunkin, who has just moved to Lily's school, things are a bit more painful because Dunkin harbors deep secrets that even he can't face. When Lily and Dunkin meet, they slowly become friends, even though Dunkin at first tries to fit in with a popular but bullying crowd, and Lily faces challenges of her own from her friends and family when she "comes out." A "valuable portrait of two teenagers whose journeys are just beginning" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 2017 Southern Book Award Winner Voice Award from the Palm Beach County Action Alliance for Mental Health NPR's Best Kids' Books of 2016 Chicago Public Library Best Fiction for Older Readers 2016 New York Public Library Best Books for Kids 2016 Amazon's Top 20 Children's Books of 2016 Top 10 Audiobooks of 2016 SLJ YALSA 2017 Best Fiction for YA YALSA 2017 Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers ALA 2017 Rainbow Book List - GLBTQ Books for Children and Teens Georgia Book Award 2017-2018 Nominee Rhode Island Middle School Book Award Nominee 2018 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2017 Indie Next Pick Summer 2016 Junior Library Guild Selection Goodreads Choice Awards 2016 2016 Nerdy Book Club Award 2016 Rainbow Awards - Best Transgender Book 2016 Spring Okra Pick - the Best in Southern Literature Iowa Teen Award 2019-2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 Nutmeg Teen Nominee 2019</p> |
| <p><i>As The Crow Flies</i></p> | <p>Gillman, M</p> | <p>Thirteen-year-old Charlie Lamonte is stuck on a girls only Christian youth backpacking trip designed to teach a lesson on pioneering women. But being queer and the only person of color, Charlie feels left out--until she meets the secretly transsexual fellow camper, Sydney.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Texas Maverick Graphic Novel List 2019 Amelia Bloomer Project Title ALA Honor 2018 Stonewall Book Award ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P!</i></p> | <p>Gino, A</p> | <p>When her new baby sister is born deaf, Jilly makes an online connection with a fellow fantasy fan, who happens to be black and deaf, and begins to learn about the many obstacles that exist in the world for people who are different from her.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020</p> |
| <p><i>Distance Between Us : Young Readers Edition</i></p> | <p>Grande, R</p> | <p>Forced to live with her stern grandmother while her parents trek across the dangerous and illegal Mexican border, young Reyna and her siblings can't wait for their parents to return and build a new life for them. Things don't go as planned, however. Now Reyna has to go herself to "El Otro Lado" to live with her biological father, a man she never knew, who has haunted her imagination throughout her childhood. Living in the United States brings other challenges as well, such as figuring out her own identity and how she fits into this new world.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 CCBC Global Book Americas Award - CLASP - 2017 Best Children's Books of 2017 CA Eureka! Nonfiction Award 2016 ILA YA Choices 2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Refugee</i></p> | <p>Gratz, A</p> | <p>Three children. Three different countries. Three harrowing stories of survival under the shadow of war. Josef's Jewish family flees Nazi Germany in 1938. Isabel's family braves the ocean in a homemade raft in 1994 in the hopes of a better life in America. And in 2015, Mahmoud's family hopes to find refuge from the war raging in Syria. Each protagonist navigates the uncertainty of leaving behind the only life they've ever known, revealing the fear and heartache associated with being a refugee. Author "Gratz accomplishes a feat that is nothing short of brilliant, offering a skillfully wrought narrative laced with global and intergenerational reverberations that signal hope for the future" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 Isinglass Teen Read Award Nominee Sydney Taylor Book Award Buckeye Children's Award Winner Maine Student Book Award YARP MS Teen Choice Winner Junior Book Award Golden Sower YA Novel Nominee Texas Bluebonnet Award Louisiana Young Readers' Choice William Allen White Award Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nominee Arkansas Teen Book Award The Global Read Aloud Contender 2018 Missouri Truman Reader Award Iowa Teen Award Young Reader Medal Rebecca Caudill Young Reader Award Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee NCSS Notable Title 2018 PNLA Young Reader's Choice Nominee Maud Hart Lovelace Award North Dakota Flicker Tale MS Fiction Award <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>Between The Lines</i></p> | <p>Grimes, N</p> | <p>A group of high school students grow in understanding of each other's challenges and forge unexpected connections as they prepare for a boys vs. girls poetry slam. Includes author's note about foster home care.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Eliot Rosewater Award ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2019 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 VOYA Poetry Picks 2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Bronx Masquerade</i> | Grimes, N | While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates. | <p>Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Award Global Read Aloud Contender 2018 NEA African American Booklist SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks ALA Quick Picks for YA Bank Street College Best Children's Books CA Young Reader Medal Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Literature Choices CT Nutmeg Children's Award Heartland Award Nominee 2004 IL Abraham Lincoln Award 2005 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society MD Black-Eyed Susan Award HS MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award NE Golden Sower YA Award OK Sequoyah YA Book Award SC YA Book Award TN Volunteer YA Award TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2003-2004 UT Beehive YA Book 2003-2004</p> |
| <i>Dark Sons</i> | Grimes, N | Alternating poems compare and contrast the conflicted feelings of Ishmael, son of the Biblical patriarch Abraham, and Sam, a teenager in New York City, as they try to come to terms with being abandoned by their fathers and with the love they feel for their younger stepbrothers. | <p>Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Award Best Books for YA 2006 Bank Street College Best Children's Books NCTE Notable Books NJ Garden State Fiction Award TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2006-2007</p> |
| <i>Girl Named Mister</i> | Grimes, N | A pregnant teenager finds support and forgiveness from God through a book of poetry presented from the Virgin Mary's perspective. | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 NAPPA Best Kids' Books 2010</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>My Family Divided : One Girl's Journey Of Home, Loss, And Ho</i> | Guerrero, D | Guerrero was the daughter of undocumented immigrants living in Boston. When she was fourteen, she came home to find that her parents had been arrested and would be deported. Alone (neither ICE nor Child Protective Services ever checked on her), she had to rely on friends to survive. Guerrero details the financial and emotional troubles that resulted from this childhood trauma, as well as how she ended up on the show "Orange Is the New Black." | Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2018 NV Intermediate Reader Award 2020 |
| <i>Dangerous</i> | Hale, S | When aspiring astronaut Maisie Danger Brown, who was born without a right hand, and the other space camp students get the opportunity to do something amazing in space, Maisie must prove how dangerous she can be and how far she is willing to go to protect everything she has ever loved. | NM Loe Black Bear Award Best Children's Books of 2015 IRA YA Choices 2015 NM Land of Enchantment Award YA 2015-2016 |
| <i>Days Of The Dead</i> | Hamilton, K | Glorieta Magdalena Davis Espinosa is glad Papi married Alice and can now smile again after years of missing Mamá. However, the day Alice moves in with them, the urn with Mamá's ashes disappears. Everything in Glorieta's life seems to be changing, but Glorieta will fight to keep the memory of her beloved Mamá alive, and to do that she will have to convince Tía Diosonita to allow Mamá to be buried in holy ground with the rest of the Espinosa family. | |
| <i>Always And Forever, Lara Jean</i> | Han, J | High School Senior Laura Jean thinks her life couldn't get more perfect, but when she receives some unexpected news she has to rethink all her plans for the future. | Compendium Fall 2017 Colorado Blue Spruce YA Award 2019-2020 |
| <i>P.s. I Still Love You</i> | Han, J | Just as Lara Jean Song is navigating a new relationship with Peter, a former crush reenters her life and causes her to question which boy she is really meant to be with. | APALA YA Literature Award Best Children's Books of 2016 IRA YA Choices Award 2016 |
| <i>To All The Boys I've Loved Before</i> | Han, J | Lara Jean writes love letters to all the boys she has loved and then hides them in a hatbox until one day | Compendium Fall 2014 New York Times Bestseller Louisiana Teen Readers' Choice Honor |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | those letters are accidentally sent and Lara Jean's love life spins out of control. | |
| <i>Perfect Place</i> | Harris, T | Twelve-year-old Treasure Daniels and her younger sister must move in with Great-aunt Grace until their mother sorts herself out, but life in Black Lake, Virginia, where segregation lingers, is hard and Grace is a nightmare--at least on the surface. | Compendium Spring 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 LA Young Reader's Choice 2017 |
| <i>Shahana</i> | Hawke, R | Shahana lives alone with her young brother in the shadow of the Line of Control, the border patrolled by Pakistani and Indian soldiers that divides Kashmir in two. Life is hard, but Shahana ekes out a living with her beautiful embroidery. Then she finds a boy lying unconscious near the border. Zahid is from across the Line of Control, and Shahana takes a terrible risk by sheltering him. But how can she give Zahid up to the authorities when she knows he'll be imprisoned—or worse? | |
| <i>Nothing But The Truth (And A Few White Lies)</i> | Headley, J | Fifteen-year-old Patty Ho, half Taiwanese and half white, feels she never fits in, but when her overly-strict mother ships her off to math camp at Stanford, instead being miserable, Patty starts to become comfortable with her true self. | Compendium Title APALA Children's Literature Award ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA |
| <i>Naveed</i> | Heffernan, J | Living in war-torn Afghanistan has forced Naveed to grow up quickly so he can help his widowed mother make ends meet and take care of himself and his younger sister. His truest hope is for peace, and when he meets a street dog named Nasere who has extraordinary abilities, he sees his chance to help make peace a reality. But a friend's betrayal might crush his dreams altogether. | |
| <i>Gay-straight Alliances : Networking With Other Teens And All</i> | Heitkamp, K | Offers guide for students, teachers, and administrators to creating a gay-straight alliance club in a school to promote tolerance. Discusses how to network with teens and allies and how to spread that tolerance. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Girl, Stolen</i> | Henry, A | When an impulsive carjacking turns into a kidnapping, Griffin, a high school dropout, finds himself more in sympathy with his wealthy, blind victim, sixteen-year-old Cheyenne, than with his greedy father. | Compendium Spring 2011 YARP HS Teen Choice Winner Black-Eyed Susan HS Award Missouri Truman Readers Award ALA Best Fiction for YA ALA Quick Picks for YA Delaware Diamonds MS Award IA Teen Award 2014-2015 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2012-2013 NH Isinglass Teen Read List 2011-2012 OK Sequoyah HS Book Award SC YARP HS Teen Choice Winner and MS Reading List 2012 |
| <i>Sal & Gabi Break The Universe</i> | Hernandez, C | In order to heal after his mother's death, thirteen-year-old Sal learns to reach into time and space to retrieve things--and people--from other universes. | Compendium Title Booklists's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Title |
| <i>Laughing Out Loud, I Fly : Poems In English And Spanish</i> | Herrera, J | A collection of poems in Spanish and English about childhood, place, and identity. | Juan Felipe Herrera (Author) is U.S. Poet Laureate Pura Belpre Honor Book SALSA - Spanish Language Books 2016 VOYA Poetry Picks |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Witness</i> | Hesse, K | A series of poems express the views of various people in a small Vermont town, including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl, during the early 1920s when the Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate the town. | <p>Compendium Title Christopher Award for Adults and Young People ALA Notable Children's Books 2002 Book Sense of the Year Award CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best IRA Notable Books for a Global Society KS William Allen White Award ME Student Book Award MO Gateway Nominee NCTE Notable Book PNLA Young Reader's Choice 2004 SLJ Best Books 2000-2007 SD YARP Reading List 2003 VOYA Poetry Picks VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2002-2003</p> |
| <i>Malini</i> | Hillman, R | During Sri Lanka's civil war, Malini and her family are captured by soldiers to be human shields. Malini and her sister Banni escape and begin a dangerous journey to safety in their grandfather's village. Includes an author's note, a glossary, resources, and a timeline. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Night Diary</i></p> | <p>Hiranandani, V</p> | <p>Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 2019 Newbery Honor Book Great Stone Face Nominees 2019-2020 The Global Read Aloud Contenders 2018 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2019 SLJ 2018 Best Books 2019 ALA Honor Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 2019 CCBC Book Beehive Fiction Award Nominee 2019-2020 Capitol Choices Award 2019 Notable Books for a Global Society 2019 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 ILA Teachers' Choices Reading List 2019 Volunteer Intermediate Nominees 2020-2021 The Walter Award</p> |
| <p><i>One True Way</i></p> | <p>Hitchcock, S</p> | <p>Allie and Samantha, two middle school girls in the 1970s American South, struggle with their growing feelings for each other, and find challenges and support from unlikely places.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Crossing The Wire</i></p> | <p>Hobbs, W</p> | <p>Fifteen-year-old Victor Flores journeys north in a desperate attempt to cross the Arizona border and find work in the United States to support his family in central Mexico.</p> | <p>Americas Award - CLASP AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award 2009 Bank Street College Best Children's Books Florida Teen Read Award 2007-2008 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2007-2008 Heartland Award Nominee 2008-2009 IA Teen Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award IRA Children's Choices IRA Notable Books for a Global Society LA Young Readers' Choice 2009 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award NE Golden Sower YA Award SC Junior Book Award 2008-2009 SLJ Best Books TN Volunteer YA Award 2008-2009 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2007-2009</p> |
| <p><i>Ugly</i></p> | <p>Hoge, R</p> | <p>Memoir from writer Robert Hoge, born with a tumor in his face that left him looking different than everyone he knew. Discusses how Hoge dealt with bullying, accepting his appearance, and creating a positive identity for himself.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Iowa Teen Award Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Everything Else In The Universe</i></p> | <p>Holczer, T</p> | <p>Lucy and her mother have moved to California to be near her father's Italian family while he was an Army doctor in Vietnam. But now he is on his way home, and though a little different ("don't say amputate"), Lucy can't wait for things to get back to normal. But instead, Lucy is sent to her uncle's place to give her father some space. Lonely, she meets Milo whose father is in Vietnam. When they find some military artifacts buried nearby, they set off to find the rightful owner.</p> | <p>ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 ILA Teachers' Choice Reading List</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Harvey Milk : The First Openly Gay Elected Official In The U</i> | Hollander, B | Describes the life of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay elected official in the United States. Focuses on how he hid his sexuality in school, the U.S. Navy, and on Wall Street; his various love interests and coming out; and his political career until he was assassinated. Also discusses Milk's legacy today. Includes color photographs, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Claudette Colvin : Twice Toward Justice</i> | Hoose, P | On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders. Undaunted, a year later she dared to challenge segregation again as a key plaintiff in <i>Browder v. Gayle</i> , the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South. | Compendium Fall 2009 National Book Award Winner for Young People's Literature Newbery Honor Book YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Finalist Robert F. Sibert Honor Book Carter G. Woodson Book Award Writers' League of Texas Children's Book Award SLJ 42 Diverse Titles for Every Library List |
| <i>New Boy</i> | Houston, J | As a new sophomore at an exclusive boarding school, a young black man is witness to the persecution of another student with bad acne who is also Jewish. | Compendium Title Bank Street College Best Children's Books NCSS Notable Title TN Volunteer YA Award 2009-2010 |
| <i>Totally Joe</i> | Howe, J | When seventh-grader Joe Bunch is instructed to write his life's story alphabetically for a school assignment, he bares his soul about his family, friends, and blossoming homosexuality. After being bullied at school, his coming-out leads to "No-Name Day." | Compendium Title NEA LGBTQ Reading Recommendations ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2008 ALA Notable Children's Books 2006 Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book 2006 Lambda Literary Award ME Student Book Award MI Thumbs Up! 2006 Nominee NCTE Notable Book NH Isinglass Teen Read List 2010-2011 NJ Garden State Fiction Award 2008 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Human Rights For All</i> | Hunt, J | Provides a broad overview and case studies which highlight different concepts regarding human rights. Includes photographs, a timeline, a glossary, sources for further learning, and an index. | |
| <i>Somali Immigrants : In Their Shoes</i> | Hutchison, P | Explores the modern history of Somali immigrants to the United States, beginning in 1991 with the start of the Somali civil war and ending up at the statistics for Somali American immigrants in 2015. | |
| <i>Lgbtq Rights</i> | Hyde, N | Examines primary and secondary sources to discuss the history of LGBTQ rights, from the Stonewall riots in the 1960s through the decriminalization of homosexuality and marriage rights. Helps young readers analyze the concepts of freedoms in a democracy. | |
| <i>Midnight Without A Moon</i> | Jackson, L | Rose Lee Carter, a thirteen-year-old African-American girl, dreams of life beyond the Mississippi cotton fields during the summer of 1955, but when Emmett Till is murdered and his killers are unjustly acquitted, Rose is torn between seeking her destiny outside of Mississippi or staying and being a part of an important movement. | Compendium 2017 Nutmeg Middle School Nominee 2020 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>La Linea</i></p> | <p>Jaramillo, A</p> | <p>When fifteen-year-old Miguel's time finally comes to leave his poor Mexican village, cross the border illegally, and join his parents in California, his younger sister's determination to join him soon imperils them both.</p> | <p>Compendium Title CCBC Global Book ALA Best Books for YA 2007 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2009-2010 Americas Award - CLASP Bank Street College Best Children's Books Booklist Editor's Choice CCBC Book 2007 DC Capitol Choices Award FL Sunshine State Young Reader Award IA Teen Award IN Young Hoosier Award KY Bluegrass Award MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award NCSS Notable Title 2007 TX Lone Star Reading List 2007-2008 VA Readers' Choice MS VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2005-2007</p> |
| <p><i>Being Jazz : My Life As A (Transgender) Teen</i></p> | <p>Jennings, J</p> | <p>The author, Jazz Jennings, shares her journey from being a girl toward becoming a young woman as a transgender teen.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Best Children's Books of 2017 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award</p> |
| <p><i>Here We Are : 44 Voices Write, Draw, And Speak About Feminis</i></p> | <p>Jensen, K</p> | <p>Features writing and interviews on topics of feminism from people like Mindy Kaling, Laverne Cox, and Wendy Davis.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Skipping Stones Book Award 2017 SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Chicago Public Library Best Teen Titles 2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Red Scarf Girl : A Memoir Of The Cultural Revolution</i></p> | <p>Jiang, J</p> | <p>Gives a child's-eye view of a terrifying time in 20th century history, and of one family's indomitable courage under fire.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books CO Blue Spruce YA Award DC Captiol Choices Award ME Student Book Award NCSS Notable Title Northern California Book Award Parents' Choice Award VOYA Books in the Middle VOYA Nonfiction Honor List 2003-2006</p> |
| <p><i>Circuit : Stories From The Life Of A Migrant Child</i></p> | <p>Jimenez, F</p> | <p>Presents several intertwined stories of a family of Mexican American farm workers as they move from camp to camp, adding members to their family along the way.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA Americas Award - CLASP CCBC Book IN Young Hoosier Award 2001 Jane Addams Honor Book VOYA Books in the Middle</p> |
| <p><i>Taking Hold : From Migrant Childhood To Columbia University</i></p> | <p>Jimenez, F</p> | <p>This memoir is the fourth book in author Jiménez's autobiographical series, in which he chronicles his experiences as a young migrant worker who draws strength from his family and culture to escape poverty and build a better life for himself. Here, he recounts the difficult decision he made to leave behind his family, beloved girlfriend, and community in California to move to New York City to attend Columbia University, and the hard-won success that followed as a result of pursuing his dreams. "Simply written but full of beautiful details, this book should inspire every citizen of our diverse and changing world" (VOYA).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 CCBC Book 2016</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>First Part Last</i></p> | <p>Johnson, A</p> | <p>Bobby's carefree teenage life changes forever when he becomes a father and must care for his adored baby daughter.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Michael Printz Award and Honor Georgia Peach Teen Choice Award Winner Green Mountain Book Award Winner ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers ALA Top Ten Quick Picks 2004 Booklist Editor's Choice Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Literature Choices DC Capitol Choices Award Florida Teens Read Award GA Peach Teen Choice Heartland Award Nomiee IA Teen Award IL Abraham Lincoln Award IN Eliot Rosewater Award IRA YA Choices <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>Heaven</i></p> | <p>Johnson, A</p> | <p>Fourteen-year-old Marley's seemingly perfect life in the small town of Heaven is disrupted when she discovers that her father and mother are not her real parents.</p> | <p>ALA Best Books for YA Coretta Scott King Award Chicago Public Library Best of the Best KY Bluegrass Award SC Junior Book Award</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Breakaways</i> | Johnson, C | <p>Quiet, sensitive Faith starts middle school already worrying about how she will fit in. To her surprise, Amanda, a popular eighth grader, convinces her to join the school soccer team, the Bloodhounds. Having never played soccer in her life, Faith ends up on the C team, a ragtag group that's way better at drama than at teamwork. Although they are awful at soccer, Faith and her teammates soon form a bond both on and off the soccer field that challenges their notions of loyalty, identity, friendship, and unity.</p> | |
| <i>Great Greene Heist</i> | Johnson, V | <p>Jackson Greene has a reputation as a prankster at Maplewood Middle School, but after the last disaster he is trying to go straight--but when it looks like Keith Sinclair may steal the election for school president from Jackson's former best friend, Gabriela, he assembles a team of talented troublemakers to make sure Keith does not succeed.</p> | <p>ALA Notable Children's Books 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2016-2017 NAPPA Best Kids' Books 2014-2015 NCSS Notable Title 2015 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction 2017 OR Reader's Choice 2016-2017 PA KRSA Young Adult MS Award 2015-2016 SD Prairie Pasque Award 2016-2017 TX Lone Star Reading List 2015 Spirit of Texas MS Award 2015-2016 WI Just One More Page! List 2015</p> |
| <i>To Catch A Cheat</i> | Johnson, V | <p>Just when Jackson Greene gets his life together—he's retired from conning, gotten in the good graces of the principal, and inched closer to his first kiss with Gaby—he gets blackmailed. Some bullies doctored a video that seems to show Jackson and his friends flooding the school gym. If Jackson and his Gang Greene do not steal an upcoming exam for the blackmailers, they will release the video. It is time for Gang Greene to reunite and outwit the school's security, steal the exam, and set a trap for the blackmailers in order to clear their names. “A satisfying stand-alone sequel” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2016 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Bridge</i> | Jones, P | José can't keep up. As the only English speaker in a family of undocumented immigrants, he handles everything from taking family members to the doctor to bargaining with the landlord. Plus he works two jobs. With all this responsibility, he's missing a lot of school. When he does make it, he falls asleep in class. José knows he has to turn things around if he wants to graduate from Rondo Alternative High School. Can he raise his grades enough to have a shot at college and a better life? Or will he be forced to drop out of school for good? | Compendium Spring 2015 |
| <i>Combat Zone</i> | Jones, P | Justin, a bully at his high school in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, is confused and angry when his father, a respected Navy SEAL returning home from duty, admits he's gay. | |
| <i>Silhouetted By The Blue</i> | Jones, T | Seventh-grader Serena Shaw is trying to keep up at school while rehearsing for the lead role in the spring musical and dealing with a father so "blue" he is nearly catatonic. With the aid of a not-so-secret admirer, as well as a growing sense of self-confidence, she faces the challenges of caring for herself and her ball-of-charm younger brother—all while attempting to lead the life of a normal pre-teen. Readers will be drawn into this convincing portrait of a vivacious young person who is on a path to discovering that taking on responsibility sometimes means finding the best way to ask for help. | Compendium Spring 2012 CCBC Book 2012 DC Capitol Choices Award 2012 LA Young Readers' Choice 2014 MO Truman Reading Nominee 2013-2014 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Kira-kira</i></p> | <p>Kadohata, C</p> | <p>Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Newbery Medal APALA Children's Literature Award ALA Notable Children's Book 2005 Booklist Editor's Choice Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Literature Choices CO Blue Spruce YA Award 2006-2007 DC Capitol Choices Award HI Nene Nominee 2006-2009 MI Thumbs Up! 2005 Nominee NJ Garden State Fiction Award PNLA Young Reader's Choice 2007 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award</p> |
| <p><i>Place To Belong</i></p> | <p>Kadohata, C</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Hanako and her family, reeling from their confinement in an internment camp, renounce their American citizenship to move to Hiroshima, a city devastated by the atomic bomb dropped by Americans.</p> | <p>Compendium Title</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Thing About Luck</i></p> | <p>Kadohata, C</p> | <p>Just when twelve-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year of bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.</p> | <p>National Book Award Winner Compendium Fall 2013 APALA Children's Literature Award AR Charlie May Simon Award Best Children's Books of 2014 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2013 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth CCBC Book 2014 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award Horn Book Fanfare 2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction NM Land of Enchantment 2014-2015 PA KRSA Young Adult MS 2014-2015 Parents' Choice Award School Library Journal Best Books 2013 TN Volunteer MS Award VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award WA Sasquatch Reading Award Just One More Page! Reading List 2014</p> |
| <p><i>Boy Who Harnessed The Wind : Young Readers Edition</i></p> | <p>Kamkwamba, W</p> | <p>When a severe drought descended on his Malawi village, 14-year-old William Kamkwamba felt helpless. His family was already so poor that not only could they not afford to send him to school, but they barely had enough food to eat, living on insects and a mouthful of rationed food per day. It was not long, however, before William came up with an idea, inspired by time spent in the local library reading about engineering—he decided to build a windmill to draw water for irrigation. William's project was immensely successful, resulting in both water and energy for his family and neighbors, as well as a prototype for future projects in famine-stricken areas.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 Children's Africana Book Award CCBC Book</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>If It Makes You Happy</i> | Kann, C | Winnie's plans for one last great summer before heading off to college were all coming together--she has her job in her granny's diner, getting great tips, and her loving family and "ungirlfriend" are by her side in support of everything--and then she is nominated to be her town's Summer Queen. Now she must be crowned and take center stage in all sorts of "community royal engagements," and Winnie finds she is afraid, terribly afraid, of everything. For her to salvage her summer, Winnie will have to dig deep and find her courage. | |
| <i>Blackbird Fly</i> | Kelly, E | After her father dies, Apple Yengko and her mother move from the Philippines to Louisiana. Now in middle school, Apple's life is falling apart. The first friends she made after the move are trying to become popular, so continuing to hang out with Apple, a girl on the stupid boys' "Dog-Log" list of unpopular and ugly girls, is a no go. Apple's only refuge is music and her father's Beatles cassette tape. She thinks if she can learn to play guitar and some of those songs, "Blackbird" in particular, she will be transformed. Fortunately for Apple, some new friends come along who teach her she's special just the way she is. | Compendium Fall 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2016 Best Children's Books 2016 CCBC Book 2016 Delaware Diamonds Award Winner Golden Kite Award Winner IRA Children's Choices 2016 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2018 School Library Journal Best Books 2015 |
| <i>Riding Chance</i> | Kendall, C | After Troy's mother dies and he gets into trouble on the streets of Philadelphia, he's assigned to the city stables to care for the horses there. Troy begins to work through his grief and discovers the game of polo. It is through polo that he finds redemption, hope, and a second chance at life. | Compendium 2016 |
| <i>Wanting Mor</i> | Khan, R | Jameela, a young girl living in war-torn Afghanistan, struggles to find her place in the world after her mother dies and she moves to Kabul with her drunken father where she clashes with her stepmother and ends up in an orphanage. | Middle East Book Award DC Capitol Choices Award 2010 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2010 Outstanding International Booklist 2010 Skipping Stones Book Award 2010 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Darius The Great Is Not Okay</i> | Khorram, A | Clinically-depressed Darius Kellner, a high school sophomore, travels to Iran to meet his grandparents, but it is their next-door neighbor, Sohrab, who changes his life. | <p>Compendium Title Winner of the William C. Morris Debut Award Westchester Fiction Award 2019 ALA Honors Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Booklist 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Young Reader's Choice Award YA 2019-2020 Capitol Choices Award OK Sequoyah HS Book Award 2020 RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2020 ALA Teens' Top Ten Nominee 2019 Volunteer HS Nominee 2020-2021 APALA YA Literature Award</p> |
| <i>Running Through Sprinklers</i> | Kim, M | When Nadine skips a grade and enters high school a year ahead of her best friend Sara, it seems their close friendship could be falling between the cracks. As the two girls navigate the sudden shift in dynamics, Sara finds that while she is losing some things that have been dear to her, she is gaining a deeper understanding about herself. | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 CCBC Book 2019</p> |
| <i>Dear Rachel Maddow</i> | Kisner, A | She watches her daily, and after writing to Rachel for a school project--and actually getting a response--Brynn starts drafting e-mails to Rachel but never sending them. Brynn tells Rachel about breaking up with her first serious girlfriend, about her brother Nick's death, about her passive mother and even worse stepfather, about how she's stuck in remedial courses at school and is considering dropping out. Then Brynn is confronted with a moral dilemma. One student representative will be allowed to have a voice among the administration in the selection of a new school superintendent. Brynn's archnemesis, Adam, and ex-girlfriend, Sarah, believe only Honors students are worthy of the selection committee seat. | <p>Compendium Title Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2019-2020 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 Capitol Choices Award</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | Brynn feels all students deserve a voice. When she runs for the position, the knives are out. So she begins to ask herself: What Would Rachel Maddow Do? | |
| <i>Love Drugged</i> | Klise, J | Fifteen-year-old Jamie is dismayed by his attraction to boys, and when a beautiful girl shows an interest in him, he is all the more intrigued by her father's work developing a drug called Rehomoline. | ALA Stonewall Honor Book in Children's and YA Literature ALA Honor Book 2011 Lambda Literary Award |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>See You At Harry's</i></p> | <p>Knowles, J</p> | <p>Seventh grader Fern has a full (and somewhat complicated) life: Her high school freshman brother, Holden, has taken the first steps toward acknowledging he is gay, and their older sister Sara is spending her first year after high school helping with the family restaurant, allowing her overly critical eye to land wherever it pleases. Then there's three-year-old Charlie, oftentimes messy but always loved, and the children's distant parents who leave them all desperate for more attention. When a sudden tragedy rips the family apart, Fern is at the forefront of their efforts to manage the pain and vividly describes the process by which her siblings come together to find some semblance of healing.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2012 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2013 ALA Notable Children's Books 2013 Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2012 CT Nutmeg Teen Award DC Capitol Choices Award IA Teen Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MO Truman Reading Nominee NCTE Notable Books 2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award RI Teen Book Award Nominee SC Junior Book Award SC YARP MS Reading List TN Volunteer MS Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award</p> |
| <p><i>Promise Me Something</i></p> | <p>Kocek, S</p> | <p>Just beginning her high school career, Reyna Fey learns that her house has been “redistricted.” That means that she will have to go to a new high school, leaving all her friends from her previous district behind. Her plan to survive? Keep her head down and hope the worst doesn't happen. This works for a few days, until the outcast Olive Barton takes notice of her. Olive is bossy, blunt, and unpopular, but still there is something about her that makes Reyna want to be her friend. Things seem to be going well in spite of all the changes: Reyna is helping her father recover from a car accident, and her new school doesn't totally suck. Then Reyna learns Olive's secret, and she will have to make a painful choice.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Life As A Nigerian American</i> | Kovacs, V | Briefly explores the history of Nigerians in America, discussing the history of Nigeria and the slave trade, to ways in which modern Nigerian immigrants make a home in the United States. Includes a list of famous Nigerian Americans, a glossary, and resources for further information. | |
| <i>We Are Here To Stay : Voices Of Undocumented Young Adults</i> | Kuklin, S | Profiles nine individuals who came to America as undocumented children and now as young adults, reflect on what being an America means, and the struggles they've endured to survive a harsh environment that is significantly better than the one they left. | |
| <i>Shadow Warrior</i> | Kyi, T | Presents a fictionalized picture book account of the true story of Mochizuki Chiyome, a girl from sixteenth-century Japan who created an all-female spy network of ninjas. | |
| <i>Listen, Slowly</i> | Lai, T | In this “superb, sometimes humorous, always thought-provoking coming-of-age story” (BL), 12-year-old Mai cannot wait to spend her summer at the beach. There she plans on getting to know “HIM,” the boy she's crushing on. Her parents crush those plans when they tell her she must fly to Vietnam with her grandmother to meet her large extended family—get in touch with her roots and all that. At first Mai hates Vietnam, considering herself a true American; but as she spends more time there and gets to know some distant cousins as friends, she decides Vietnam is not so bad after all. | Compendium Spring 2015 New York Times Book Review Notable Book Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year CCBC Book Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2018-2019 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Don't Fail Me Now</i> | Lamarche, U | Michelle and her little siblings Cass and Denny are African-American and living on the poverty line in urban Baltimore, struggling to keep it together with their mom in jail and only Michelle's part-time job at the Taco Bell to sustain them. Leah and her stepbrother Tim are white and middle class from suburban Maryland, with few worries beyond winning lacrosse games and getting college applications in on time. Michelle and Leah only have one thing in common: Buck Devereaux, the biological father who abandoned them when they were little. | Compendium Spring 2016 SC Young Adult Book Award 2017-2018 |
| <i>Goldie Vance : 1</i> | Larson, H | When Walter, the current in-house hotel detective, encounters a case he can't crack, he agrees to mentor Goldie in exchange for her help solving the mystery utilizing her smarts, random skills, and connections with the hotel staff and various folks in town. | TX Maverick Graphic Novel Award 2017 |
| <i>Absolute Brightness</i> | Lecesne, J | In the beach town of Neptune, New Jersey, Phoebe's life is changed irrevocably when her gay cousin moves into her house and soon goes missing. | William C. Morris Debut Award Finalist NCSS Notable Title 2017 ALA Honor 2009 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Teen Award 2013 |
| <i>Outrun The Moon</i> | Lee, S | In 1906 San Francisco, fifteen-year-old Mercy Lee talks her way into the elite, all-white St. Clare's School for Girls by posing as a Chinese heiress. Determined to make a better life for herself and her sickly little brother, Jack, Mercy tries to fit in. | Compendium Fall 2016 Winner of the PEN Center USA Literary Award for YA Winner of the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Great Texas Mosquito List 2019-2020 Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominee 2016 APALA YA Literature Award Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Nutmeg Teen Nominee 2019 |
| <i>Guardian</i> | Lester, J | In a rural southern town in 1946, a white man and his son witness the lynching of an innocent black man. Includes historical note on lynching. | Compendium Spring 2009 ALA Best Books for YA 2009 CCBC Book 2009 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Gorilla Dawn</i> | Lewis, G | Deep in the forests of the Democratic Republic of Congo, rebel soldiers take children captive in order to make them into child soldiers and workers in their illegal coltan mine. Imara, a girl soldier with a disfiguring scar that some soldiers believe gives her supernatural powers, and Bobo, a teen intent on clearing the name of his missing father, band together to save Kitwana, a baby gorilla the rebels have also captured to sell into captivity. "Using a narrative that shifts among all three characters, [author] Lewis ... weaves an enrapturing tale of survival as the orphans hatch a plan to return the gorilla to his family while plotting their own escape" (PW). | Compendium Fall 2017 |
| <i>Famous Immigrant Scientists</i> | Lo bosco, M | Profiles famous scientists in the United States who came to America as immigrants, including Joseph Priestley, Enrico Fermi, Nikola Tesla, and Albert Einstein. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Wonderful Feels Like This</i></p> | <p> Lovestam, S</p> | <p>For girls like Steffi, just going to school feels like a struggle for survival. Never fitting in with any cliques, she finds escape through music. Jazz music, to be precise. One day while walking home, Steffi hears someone playing her favorite jazz piece through the window of a retirement home. Going in she meets Alvar, who was a teenager in Sweden during World War II who dreamed of being in a jazz band, and escaped the horrors of the war through music. Through their unconventional friendship, Alvar shows Steffi that she doesn't have to be lonely and stuck in her hometown. She might, in fact, be able to go to Stockholm to chase her dream ... “Empathy, identity, and the transformative power of music bind this tale of an atypical friendship between a teenage outcast and a jazz musician” (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017</p> |
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Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Heat</i></p> | <p>Lupica, M</p> | <p>Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.</p> | <p>Compendium Title California Young Reader Medal Winner Maine Student Book Award Librarians' Top 10 Choices ALA Notable Children's Books 2007 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA Colorado Children's Book Jr. Award 2009 CT Nutmeg Children's Award Delaware Diamonds MS Award FL Sunshine State Young Readers Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award IA Teen Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award IN Young Hoosier Award IRA Children's Choices LA Young Readers' Choice MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award ME Student Book Award MO Truman Reading Nominee <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>From Another World</i></p> | <p>Machado, A</p> | <p>Mariano and his friends Elisa, Leo, and Tere spend weekends restoring an old Brazilian coffee plantation with their parents. One night in the shed, a transparent girl appears named Rosario. Rosario shares her story from long ago when she was a slave on the plantation. Mariano wants to record her story of slavery and share it with others, but he struggles to write it all down in a way that accurately reflects the events and the emotions he feels about it.</p> | <p>Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Fire In The Streets</i></p> | <p>Magoon, K</p> | <p>A companion to "The Rock and the River" (2009), author Magoon's riveting story is narrated by 14-year-old Maxie. It's 1968, and Maxie and her brother Raheem join the Black Panthers. She can't wait until she is allowed on street patrol. For now, Maxie willingly helps out in a health clinic and attends the Panthers' education classes to escape her troubled home life. Rumor has it there is a traitor among the Panthers, and Maxie, in an effort to prove herself a real Panther, is determined to uncover the traitor's identity. She succeeds in finding out the truth, but knowing what to do with her newfound knowledge is complicated and threatens everything.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2013 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2013 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2012 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2012 CCBC Book 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award IRA Teachers' Choices 2013</p> |
| <p><i>Rebellion Of Thieves</i></p> | <p>Magoon, K</p> | <p>Robyn Loxley plans to seize the opportunity to rescue her parents from the governor's mansion by competing in the Iron Teen contest, although success could bring unwanted attention from Crown.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Rock And The River</i></p> | <p>Magoon, K</p> | <p>In 1968 Chicago, thirteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to the civil rights movement and his older brother's involvement with the Black Panther Party.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2009 John Steptoe New Talent Award ALA Honor 2011 ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books of 2010 AR Teen Book Award AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award 2013 CCBC Book 2010 CT Nutmeg Children's Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader Award IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2011-2012 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award HS NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2011-2012 VA Readers' Choice MS Award 2011-2012</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Chinese Cinderella : The True Story Of An Unwanted Daughter</i> | Mah, A | The autobiography of a young girl growing up with her stern step-mother and her spoiled siblings in China. | PW Best Book of the Year ALA-YALSA Best Book for Young Adults ALA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults IN Eliot Rosewater/Rosie Award 2002 IRA Young Adults' Choices 1998-2007 Lamplighter Award 2001-2002 NJ Garden State Nonfiction 2002 Publishers Weekly Best Books SD YARP Reading List 2002 |
| <i>Autobiography Of Malcolm X</i> | Malcolm X | Describes the life of Malcolm X and the factors that led to his involvement with the civil rights movement. | One of Time's Ten Most Important Nonfiction Books of the 20th Century |
| <i>Secret Saturdays</i> | Maldonado, T | Twelve-year-old boys living in a rough part of New York confront questions about what it means to be a friend, a father, and a man. | ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2011 Delaware Diamonds MS Award 2011-2012 |
| <i>Tight</i> | Maldonado, T | After his quick-tempered father gets in a fight and is sent back to jail, sixth-grader Bryan, known for being quiet and thoughtful, snaps and follows new friend Mike into trouble. | Compendium Title Christopher Award for Adults and Young People The Global Read Aloud 2019 Contender ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 2019 CCBC Book Volunteer Middle School Nominees 2020-2021 |
| <i>Becoming Maria : Love And Chaos In The South Bronx</i> | Manzano, S | Actress Sonia Manzano, known as "Maria" on the television show "Sesame Street" since the early 1970s, writes about the realities of growing up in an inner-city barrio with a loving yet dysfunctional immigrant family, and pursuing her dream of acting. | Compendium Spring 2016 SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library Best Children's Books of 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2016 SLJ Best Books of 2015 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Revolution Of Evelyn Serrano</i></p> | <p>Manzano, S</p> | <p>Author Manzano draws from her own experiences to craft this "wry, moving debut" (BL) about 14-year-old Rosa Serrano. It's 1969, and Rosa just wants to blend in with the status quo amid her conservative Puerto Rican surroundings. So she changes her name to Evelyn and attempts to stay off the radar of her political activist grandmother who has just arrived from Puerto Rico, ready to engage in fighting and protests for Puerto Rican rights. Gradually, inspired by her grandmother and intrigued by the Young Lords and Black Panthers, Evelyn grows interested in the revolution, despite her mother's objections to the violence and uncertainty.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2013 2013 ALA Honor ALA Notable Children's Book of 2013 Pura Belpre Honor Book Amelia Bloomer Project 2013 Americas Award - CLASP - 2013 Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2012 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2015-2016 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2013 NCSS Notable Title 2013 TN Volunteer MS Award 2015-2016</p> |
| <p><i>My Life As A Diamond</i></p> | <p>Manzer, J</p> | <p>Ten-year-old Caz Cadman lives for baseball. He loves everything about it and has a great arm. When his family moves from Toronto to a suburb of Seattle, one of the first things he does is try out for the local summer team. He's thrilled when he makes the team, but also nervous because back in Toronto, Caz used to be Cassandra, a girl. When a player on a rival team reveals Caz's secret, he's worried that he'll lose the support of his team.</p> | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Click Here To Start</i></p> | <p>Markell, D</p> | <p>What if playing video games was prepping you to solve an incredible real-world puzzle and locate a priceless treasure? Twelve-year-old Ted Gerson has spent most of his summer playing video games. So when his great-uncle dies and bequeaths him the all so-called treasure in his overstuffed junk shop of an apartment, Ted explores it like it's another level to beat. And to his shock, he finds that eccentric Great-Uncle Ted actually has set the place up like a real-life escape-the-room game! Using his specially honed skills, Ted sets off to win the greatest game he's ever played, with help from his friends Caleb and Isabel. Together they discover that Uncle Ted's "treasure" might be exactly that—real gold and jewels found by a Japanese American unit that served in World War II. With each puzzle Ted and his friends solve, they get closer to unraveling the mystery—but someone dangerous is hot on their heels, and he's not about to let them get away with the fortune.</p> | <p>School Library Guild Selection Amazon Best Books of the Month Selection Rhode Island Middle School Nominee 2018-2019</p> |
| <p><i>Rough Patch</i></p> | <p>Markotic, N</p> | <p>When fifteen-year-old Keira starts high school, she almost wishes she could write "Hi, my name is Keira, and I'm bisexual!" on her nametag. Needless to say, she's actually terrified to announce--let alone fully explore--her sexuality. Quirky but shy, loyal yet a bit zany, Keira navigates her growing interest in kissing both girls and boys while not alienating her BFF, boy-crazy Sita. As the two acclimate to their new high school, they manage to find lunch tablemates and make lists of the school's cutest boys. But Keira is caught "in between"--unable to fully participate, yet too scared to come clean.</p> | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>In The Footsteps Of Crazy Horse</i></p> | <p>Marshall, J</p> | <p>Though you probably wouldn't guess by his name, fair hair, and blue eyes, Jimmy McClean is a Lakota boy. The Scottish features come from his half-Lakota father. When kids at school make fun of him for not being a real Indian, Jimmy's grandfather, Nyles High Eagle, plans a little day trip to go learn about Tasunke Witko, another Lakota of fair hair and skin. Tasunke Witko is, of course, better known as Crazy Horse, a very important Indian in history!</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2016 American Indian Youth Literature Award Midwest Booksellers' Choice Awards NEA Native American Booklist Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate Award Best Children's Books of 2016 CCBC Book GA Club Tome Society It List 2017-2018 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society ME Student Book Award 2016-2017 NCSS Notable Title 2016 SLJ Journal Best Books of 2015 SD Prairie Pasque Award 2017-2018 TX Bluebonnet Award VA Readers' Choice Elementary 2017-2018</p> |
| <p><i>Emilio</i></p> | <p>Masson, S</p> | <p>An ordinary school day in Mexico City turns into a nightmare for Emilio when police inform him that his mother has disappeared from a city carpark. They think she has been kidnapped and is being held for ransom by a drug gang. Desperate, Emilio tries to find help.</p> | |
| <p><i>Devoted</i></p> | <p>Mathieu, J</p> | <p>Seventeen-year-old Rachel has always embraced the rules and directives of her strict fundamentalist church in Clayton, Texas. She devotes herself to caring for her younger siblings and preparing herself to serve the Lord and her future husband. But when Rachel defies her father's orders by communicating with Lauren, a teen who fled the community, Rachel begins to realize that she wants more in life. Her disobedience discovered, Rachel is ordered to attend a religious reprogramming retreat that will brainwash her, which ultimately prompts her to leave home and strike out on her own in an unknown world.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2016 Amelia Bloomer List Top Ten Book AR Teen Book Award 2016-2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Summer Of The Mariposas</i> | Mccall, G | When the five Garza sisters find the body of a dead man near the Rio Grande, they discover he is a native of Mexico and take it upon themselves to return his body to his family. As they venture forth, their party becomes the target of supernatural forces both benevolent and malevolent, causing minor obstacles that test their resolve and their commitment to their journey. Even as they contend with such creatures as a warlock and the vampiric chupacabra, their path is laid before them by the mysterious mariposas - butterflies - that make sure they never lose their way. | Compendium Spring 2013 Amelia Bloomer Project 2013 Andre Norton Award Best Children's Books of 2013 CA Westchester Fiction Award 2013 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 School Library Journal Best Books 2012 TX Lone Star Reading List Spirit of Texas HS Award 2015-2016 |
| <i>Sacred Stories : Wisdom From World Religions</i> | Mcfarlane, M | Presents a collection of stories from various faiths around the world, including Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Hinduism. | Compendium Fall 2012 |
| <i>Pioneers Of Lgbtq+ Rights</i> | Mcgrody, E | Profiles a number of important LGBTQ+ individuals and chronicles the contributions they made. Includes a timeline, color photographs, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>From Twinkle, With Love</i> | Menon, S | Aspiring teen filmmaker Twinkle Mehra is asked by fellow film geek Sahil Roy to direct a movie for a summer arts festival. Twinkle is thrilled to show off her talent and get close to Sahil's twin brother, Neil. Then a mystery man begins emailing her, causing Twinkle to rethink who and what she wants. And before she knows it, she finds herself falling for Sahil instead. Told through text messages, emails, blog posts, and letters, Twinkle writes to her favorite female filmmakers, trying to express herself while deciphering what her heart is telling her. | Compendium Spring 2018 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2019 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>When Dimple Met Rishi</i></p> | <p>Menon, S</p> | <p>When Dimple Shah and Rishi Patel meet at a Stanford University summer program, Dimple is avoiding her parents' obsession with "marriage prospects" but Rishi hopes to woo her into accepting arranged marriage with him.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 New York Times Bestseller Flume Teen Reader's Award Nominee 2020 Arkansas Teen Book Award 2018-2019 Eliot Rosewater Award 2019-2020 Texas Teyshas HS Reading List 2019-2020 Colorado Book Award YA Winner SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library ALA Best Fiction for YA Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Chicago Public Library Best Teen Titles 2017 Amelia Bloomer Project 2018 Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee VOYA Perfect Tens 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Temple Grandin : How The Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism</i></p> | <p>Montgomery, S</p> | <p>Enhanced with personal photographs, this "powerful biography" (VOYA) examines the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Temple Grandin. Diagnosed with autism as a toddler, Temple grew up realizing she was very different. While her father demanded that she be institutionalized, Temple's mother believed she could unlock Temple's abilities and strove to give her daughter a good education. Her mother was right. Temple went on to revolutionize the livestock industry and become an advocate for autism.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2012 AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence ALA Notable Children's Books of 2013 AR Charlie May Simon Award AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nonfiction Award Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award IN Young Hoosiers Award Jane Addams Honor KS William Allen White Award MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NCSS Notable Title 2013 ND Flicker Tale Nonfiction Award NM Land of Enchantment Award NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Sparrow</i> | Moon, S | Fourteen-year-old Sparrow Cooke of Brooklyn has always been the kind of child who prefers reading books to playing with the few friends she has, and since fifth grade the one person who seemed to understand her was the school librarian, Mrs. Wexler. So when Mrs. Wexler was killed in an accident, Sparrow was devastated. When Sparrow was found on the edge of the school roof everyone assumed that it was a suicide attempt, which Sparrow denied, but she can't find the words to explain what happened. | NCSS Notable Title 2018 ALA Top Ten Best Fiction for YA 2018 VOYA Poetry Picks 2017 |
| <i>Stars Beneath Our Feet</i> | Moore, D | Lolly is having a terrible time--his brother Jermaine got in a fight and then got shot. He doesn't know how to go on, but using the two giant bags of LEGOs his mom's girlfriend gave him, Lolly finds himself caught up in making a gigantic city--so big it goes outside his apartment. Then, he and his friend Vega get jumped by a few older guys, and Lolly will have to decide either to join a "crew" and get revenge, or find a different path. | Compendium Winter 2018 Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent New York Times Notable Book A Time Top 10 Children's Books of the Year A Boston Globe Best Children's Book of the Year Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year Kirkus Reviews Best Children's Books of the Year ALA-YALSA Quick Pick ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2020 E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honor Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 |
| <i>Make Something Of It</i> | Moore, S | After witnessing abusive high school and adult relationships, seventeen-year-old Shelby must decide how to respond, especially considering that one of the abused women is the wife of the man opposing Shelby's father in the mayoral race. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Marco Impossible</i> | Moskowitz, H | When Marco discovers that his crush will be performing at the high school prom, he enlists the help of his friend Stephen to find a way to get on stage and profess his love. They soon discover, however, that not all missions go smoothly, and they run into more than a few hiccups along the way. | Rainbow Project Book List 2014 Best Children's Books of 2014 |
| <i>Black Women Who Dared</i> | Moyer, N | Profiles ten black women from primarily Canada and the United States who have made an impact on their respective communities. Includes individuals like businesswoman Rosa Pryor journalist May Miles Bibb, and singer Jackie Shane. | Compendium Title |
| <i>145th Street : Short Stories</i> | Myers, W | Ten stories portray life on a block in Harlem. | Compendium Title Walter Dean Myers (author) was National Ambassador for Young People's Literature 2012-2013, Recipient of Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement and Children's Literature Legacy Award ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA CCBC Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2000 KY Bluegrass Award 2001-2002 ME Student Book Award 2001-2002 MO Gateway Nominee 2002-2003 NJ Garden State Fiction Award 2003 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2001-2002 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2001-2002 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Bad Boy : A Memoir</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>A memoir of the author's childhood in Harlem.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Walter Dean Myers (author) was National Ambassador for Young People's Literature 2012-2013, Recipient of Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement and Children's Literature Legacy Award NEA African American Booklist ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA CCBC Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2001 KY Bluegrass Award NCSS Notable Title NCTE Notable Books 1997-2006 Parents' Choice Award TN Volunteer YA Award 2003-2004 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2002-2003</p> |
| <p><i>Cruisers</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>Friends Zander, Kambui, LaShonda, and Bobbi, caught in the middle of a mock Civil War at DaVinci Academy, learn the true cost of freedom of speech when they use their alternative newspaper, The Cruiser, to try to make peace.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 Book Link Lasting Connections of 2010 PA KSRA Young Adult MS Award 2011-2012 Parent's Choice Award Winner 2010</p> |
| <p><i>Greatest : Muhammad Ali</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>Details the life of boxer Muhammad Ali, including his rise to athletic fame, the hazards of his sport which permanently affected him, and his battle with Parkinson's disease.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA 2002 ALA Notable Children's Books 2002 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2002 Booklist Editor's Choice CCBC Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2002-2003 Michigan Reading Award 2003 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2002-2003</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Here In Harlem : Poems In Many Voices</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>A collection of poetry by African-American poet Walter Dean Myers.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books of 2005 Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Literature Choices Claudia Lewis Award (Poetry) DC Capitol Choices Award Lee Bennet Hopkins Poetry Award TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2005-2006 VOYA Nonfiction Honor List VOYA Poetry Picks</p> |
| <p><i>Hoops</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake.</p> | <p>ALA-YALSA Best Book for YA Walter Dean Myers (Author) is National Ambassador for Young People's Literature (2012-2013) Walter Dean Meyers received the Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement ALA 100 Best Books for Teens 2001</p> |
| <p><i>It Ain't All For Nothin'</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>A young black boy must decide whether to go along with his father, who is a thief, or reject his father's way of life and risk losing him.</p> | <p>ALA Notable Book Walter Dean Myers (author) was National Ambassador for Young People's Literature 2012-2013, Recipient of Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement and Children's Literature Legacy Award</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Jazz</i> | Myers, W | An illustrated collection of poems for children about jazz music. Includes a glossary of jazz terms and a chronology. | Walter Dean Myers (author) was National Ambassador for Young People's Literature 2012-2013, Recipient of Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement and Children's Literature Legacy Award Compendium Spring 2007 Coretta Scott King Honor Book Kirkus Best Children's Book Editor's Choice Coretta Scott King Honor for Illustration ALA Notable Children's Book Lee Bennet Hopkins Poetry Award Publishers Weekly 100 Best Books of the Year Booklist Editor's Choice Booklist Top Ten in Black History Book Link's Best New Books for the Classroom Golden Kite Award: Picture Book Text |
| <i>Juba!</i> | Myers, W | In Five Points, New York, in the 1840s, African American teenager William Henry "Juba" Lane works hard to achieve his dream of becoming a professional dancer but his real break comes when he is invited to perform in England. Based on the life of Master Juba; includes historical note. | CCBC Book 2016 Walter Dean Myers (author) was National Ambassador for Young People's Literature 2012-2013, Recipient of Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement and Children's Literature Legacy Award |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Monster</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.</p> | <p>Compendium Title National Book Award Coretta Scott King Honor Book Michael Printz Award Insignia Award Winner Kentucky Bluegrass Award NEA African American Booklist ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA AZ Young Reader Award Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award CCBC Book Capitol Choices Award IA Teen Award IL Abraham Lincoln Award IN Eliot Rosewater Award KY Bluegrass Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MO Gateway Nominee 2001-2002 <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>Riot</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>In 1863, fifteen-year-old Claire, the daughter of an Irish mother and a black father, faces ugly truths and great danger when Irish immigrants, enraged by the Civil War and a federal draft, lash out against blacks and wealthy "swells" of New York City.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2010 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2009</p> |
| <p><i>Shooter</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>Written in the form of interviews, reports, and journal entries, the story of three troubled teenagers ends in a tragic school shooting.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2012 TN Volunteer YA Award 2006-2007 VT Green Mountain Book Award 2007</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Slam!</i> | Myers, W | Sixteen-year-old "Slam" Harris is counting on his noteworthy basketball talents to get him out of the inner city and give him a chance to succeed in life, but his coach sees things differently. | Coretta Scott King Award Winner South Carolina YA Book Award ALA 100 Best Books for Teens 2001 ALA Best Books for YA ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA AZ Young Reader Middle Award 2000 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best IRA YA Choices SC YA Book Award Winner |
| <i>Somewhere In The Darkness</i> | Myers, W | A teenage boy accompanies his father, who has recently escaped from prison, on a trip that turns out to be a time of discovery for them both. | Newbery Honor Book Coretta Scott King Honor Book Thumbs Up! Award Winner ALA 100 Best Books for Teens 2001 ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA Boston Globe - Horn Book through 2009 ME Student Book Award 1994 |
| <i>Street Love</i> | Myers, W | This story, told in free verse, is set against a background of street gangs and poverty in Harlem in which seventeen-year-old African American Damien takes a bold step to ensure that he and his new love will not be separated. | Compendium Spring 2007 ALA Best Books for YA 2007 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Boston Globe - Horn Book through 2009 DC Capitol Choices Award 2007 Florida Teens Read 2008-2009 KLIAT Editor's Choice Hardcover YA Fic. VOYA Poetry Picks |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Step From Heaven</i></p> | <p>Na, A</p> | <p>A young Korean girl and her family find it difficult to learn English and adjust to life in America.</p> | <p>Compendium Title National Book Award Finalist Michael Printz Award APALA Children's Literature Award NEA Asian American Booklist SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books 2002 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA Amelia Bloomer Project Booklist Editor's Choice CCBC Book IRA Notable Books for a Global Society KS William Allen White Award KY Bluegrass Award ME Student Book Award NCTE Notable Book Northern California Book Award PA Reader's Choice YA 2003-2004 Publishers Weekly Best Books VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2002-2003</p> |
| <p><i>Sita : Daughter Of The Earth</i></p> | <p>Nagpal, S</p> | <p>When Sita, princess of Videha, is kidnapped by the evil demon-king Ravana, she tries to survive while waiting for her husband Rama, prince of Ayodhya, to send an army to rescue her.</p> | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Other Side Of Truth</i></p> | <p>Naidoo, B</p> | <p>Smuggled out of Nigeria after their mother's murder, Sade and her younger brother are abandoned in London when their uncle fails to meet them at the airport and they are fearful of their new surroundings and of what may have happened to their journalist father back in Nigeria.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books 2002 Amelia Bloomer Project Title Booklist Editor's Choice Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award Carnegie Medal CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best DC Capitol Choices Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award IRA Teachers' Choices Jane Addams Honor KY Bluegrass Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award ME Student Book Award NCSS Notable Title Nestle Children's Book Prize PNLA Young Reader's Choice Publishers Weekly Best Books SC Junior Book Award SLJ Best Books</p> |
| <p><i>Embrace The Chicken</i></p> | <p>Narsimhan, M</p> | <p>Even though she only left Mumbai a few months ago, Shivani isn't feeling like such an outsider anymore. She likes her new school. She finally has a best friend. But when her mother volunteers for the school's annual fundraiser, Shivani is sure she will completely embarrass her. Especially if she cooks one of the "stinky" dishes that Shivani loves but is too ashamed to eat in front of her friends. On the day of the fair, the moment Shivani walks into the gym she knows her worst fears have come true: the unmistakable scent of Indian spices is in the air. But then she sees that dozens of people are lined up at her mom's stall. It's the most popular one!</p> | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Enrique's Journey : The True Story Of A Boy Determined To Re</i></p> | <p>Nazario, S</p> | <p>When he was only five years old, Enrique's mother left him in Honduras so she could look for work in the United States. Eleven years later, Enrique sets off alone to illegally enter the U.S. and find his long-lost mother. Nazario carefully narrates Enrique's harrowing journey, which involved riding on top of train cars throughout much of Central America. Alongside Enrique's story, Nazario presents up-to-date data on immigration, the economic states of the U.S. and Central America, and the growth of drug-related violence, especially in Mexico. The book serves not only as a moving portrait of one young man's resolve, but also as a launching point for readers looking to tackle this timely issue. "Provides a human face, both beautiful and scarred, for the undocumented--a must read" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014 NCSS-CBC Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People Kirkus Reviews Best Teen Book of the Year Junior Library Guild Selection</p> |
| <p><i>Ghetto Cowboy</i></p> | <p>Neri, G</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Cole's behavior causes his mother to drive him from Detroit to Philadelphia to live with a father he has never known, but who soon has Cole involved with a group of African-American "cowboys" who rescue horses and use them to steer youths away from drugs and gangs.</p> | <p>IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award 2014 ME Student Book Award 2012-2013 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Div. 2 Award 2016-2017 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2014 PA Reader's Choice YA 2012-2013 SC Junior Book Award 2013-2014 TN Volunteer MS Award 2013-2014 TX Bluebonnet Award 2013-2014 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2011 WA Evergreen Teen Book Award 2014</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Yummy : The Last Days Of A Southside Shorty</i></p> | <p>Neri, G</p> | <p>Tells the true story of an eleven-year-old gang member from Chicago who shoots a girl and is then shot by members of his own gang.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 Coretta Scott King Honor Book ALA Top Ten Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2017 ALA Notable Children's Book ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth CCBC Book 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society IN Eliot Rosewater Award LA Teen Readers' Choice NJ Garden State Teen Nonfiction Award Once Upon a Children's Book Award RI Teen Book Award Nominee TX Maverick Graphic Novel List 2012 VA Readers' Choice HS 2011-2012</p> |
| <p><i>Cloud And Wallfish</i></p> | <p>Nesbet, A</p> | <p>Noah Keller is surprised when his parents pick him up from school and drive directly to the airport, telling him they're immediately traveling to East Germany so his mother can do dissertation research. Even more shocking to Noah, they inform him that he will now be called Jonah Brown and that he must follow very strict rules that include never talking about important matters inside the house because "they" are always listening. Unsure who "they" are or why they would want to listen in on his family's conversations, Noah's mind is overloaded with questions he's unable to even ask.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 CCBC Book NCSS Notable Title 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Moonshot : The Indigenous Comics Collection</i></p> | <p>Nicholson, H</p> | <p>A collection of native folk stories in graphic novel format that include traditional and futuristic tales based on tribal teachings.</p> | <p>SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library SLJ Best Books of 2015</p> |
| <p><i>No Fixed Address</i></p> | <p>Nielsen, S</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Felix appears on his favorite trivia game show and accidentally reveals that he and his mother, Astrid, are homeless. He fears the Canadian</p> | <p>Compendium Title CCBC Book 2019 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | agency that could take him away from his mother, but soon learns to have faith in people. | |
| <i>We Are All Made Of Molecules</i> | Nielsen, S | Stewart, a smart, emotionally mature 13-year-old, is excited to be getting a stepmom and stepsister. He and his dad are moving in with Caroline and her daughter, Ashley, who happens to be the queen bee (and not a very bright one) in the grade ahead of him. So how mortified is Ashley when she discovers that Stewart is being advanced a grade to her class! Ashley has more pressing concerns, though, as she fears what other kids will think when they find out her estranged dad is gay. Meanwhile, her boyfriend Jared proves himself a bully to Stewart, as the two are in the same gym class. Can Stewart and Ashley learn to be siblings and help each other out? A “savvy, insightful take on the modern family” (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2015 NCSS-CBC Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People Nominated for the Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers Nominated to the Pacific Northwest Young Reader's Choice Award Texas Lone Star Reading List New York Charlotte Award MS 2018 Best Children's Books of 2016 NH Isinglass Teen Read List Outstanding International Booklist PNLA Young Reader's Choice SD YARP MS Reading List WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2016 |
| <i>Starglass</i> | North, P | For all of her sixteen years, Terra has lived on a city within a spaceship that left Earth five hundred years ago seeking refuge, but as they finally approach the chosen planet, she is drawn into a secret rebellion that could change the fate of her people. | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>19 Varieties Of Gazelle : Poems Of The Middle East</i></p> | <p>Nye, N</p> | <p>Presents the author's new and collected poems of the Middle East.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA 2003 ALA Notable Books of 2003 Bank Street College Best Children's Books Boston Globe Horn Book through 2009 CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Literature Choices Award DC Capitol Choices Award 2002 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society KY Bluegrass Award 2003-2004 ME Student Book Award 2003-2004 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award Winner 2003-2004 Middle East Book Honor National Book Award Honor NJ Garden State Nonfiction Award 2005 Parents' Choice Award Winner School Library Journal Best Books TX Teyshas High School Reading Award 2003-2004 VOYA Poetry Picks</p> |
| <p><i>Auma's Long Run</i></p> | <p>Odhiambo, E</p> | <p>When AIDS devastates thirteen-year-old Auma's village in Kenya during the 1980s, Auma must choose between staying to help her family and working toward a track scholarship that will take her away from home.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee 2019-2020</p> |
| <p><i>Akata Warrior</i></p> | <p>Okorafor, N</p> | <p>Now stronger, feistier, and a bit older, Sunny Nwazue, along with her friends from the the Leopard Society, travel through worlds, both visible and invisible, to the mysterious town of Osis, where they fight in a climactic battle to save humanity.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Children's Africana Book Award CCBC Global Book Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Booklist Editor's Choice Books for Youth 2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Akata Witch</i></p> | <p>Okorafor, N</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Sunny has trouble fitting in anywhere: born in America, she now lives in Nigeria after moving there with her family when she was nine. Adding to her predicament is the fact that, although her features are African, her skin is albino white. Called an “akata” (bush animal) witch by her classmates, Sunny exists on the fringes of normal society. But when she discovers she has magical powers, she joins three others to study, learn, and change reality – a task made all the more difficult by the machinations of a career criminal and serial killer who knows magic too. “This fantasy features one of the most charming, feisty, and memorable heroines of the genre” (VOYA).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2012 Andre Norton Award SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library</p> |
| <p><i>Shadowhouse Fall</i></p> | <p>Older, D</p> | <p>Sierra and her friends love their new lives as shadowshapers, making art and creating change with the spirits of Brooklyn. Then Sierra receives a strange card depicting a beast called the Hound of Light -- an image from the enigmatic, influential Deck of Worlds. The Deck tracks the players and powers of all the magical houses in the city, and when the real Hound begins to stalk Sierra through the streets, the shadowshapers know their next battle has arrived.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Shadowshaper</i></p> | <p>Older, D</p> | <p>Teen Sierra Santiago and her friend, a fellow artist named Robbie, discover that someone is murdering the shadowshapers--ancestral spirits who inhabit music and art--in their Latino neighborhood in Brooklyn.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 SLJ Best Books 2015 Andre Norton Award Kirkus Prize Honor SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library ALA Best Fiction for YA Top 10 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers ALA Top Ten Quick Picks 2016 Book List Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2015 CCBC Book 2016 Chicago Public Library Best Teen Fiction DC Capitol Choices Award IL Abraham Lincoln Award 2018 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2018 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2016-2017</p> |
| <p><i>Beasts Made Of Night</i></p> | <p>Onyebuchi, T</p> | <p>In the city of Kos, mages can call forth the sins of any sinner in the form of sin-beasts, and people like Taj, who is a sin-eater called an aki, kill these beasts, taking the guilt of the sin into their minds and bearing the tattoo of the beasts on their bodies forever. When Taj and his fellow aki Bo are called to eat the sin of King Kolade himself, the sin is so horrible it manifests in the form of a ferocious dragon. Taj and Bo barely defeat the creature, but once the dragon tattoo appears on Taj, he is immediately threatened with arrest, unless he agrees to work for the king. Taj suddenly finds himself in the midst of a dark plot, and he must fight to save Kos, a princess he's beginning to care for, and his own life.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 VOYA Perfect Tens 2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Cuba 15</i></p> | <p>Osa, N</p> | <p>Violet Paz, a Chicago high school student, reluctantly prepares for her upcoming "quince," a Spanish nickname for the celebration of an Hispanic girl's fifteenth birthday.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Pura Belpre Honor Book ALA Notable Book ALA Best Books for YA Booklist Top Ten Youth First Novels Americas Award - CLASP Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Delaware Diamonds Award MS 2008-2009 LA Young Readers' Choice Award NCSS Notable Title NJ Garden State Fiction Award SC YA Book Award 2006-2007 TN Volunteer Award YA 2006-2007 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2004-2005 VA Young Readers Award 2005-2006</p> |
| <p><i>Anger Is A Gift</i></p> | <p>Oshiro, M</p> | <p>Moss Jeffries is many things—considerate student, devoted son, loyal friend and affectionate boyfriend, enthusiastic nerd. But sometimes Moss still wishes he could be someone else—someone without panic attacks, someone whose father was still alive, someone who hadn't become a rallying point for a community because of one horrible night. And most of all, he wishes he didn't feel so stuck. Moss can't even escape at school—he and his friends are subject to the lack of funds and crumbling infrastructure at West Oakland High, as well as constant intimidation by the resource officer stationed in their halls. That was even before the new regulations—it seems sometimes that the students are treated more like criminals. Something will have to change—but who will listen to a group of teens? When tensions hit a fever pitch and tragedy strikes</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 31st Annual Lammy Finalist for LGBTQ Children's/YA Category 2019 ALA Schneider Family Book Award Teen Winner Buzzfeed's 24 Best YA Books of 2018 Vulture's 38 Best LGBTQ YA Novels Book Riot's Best Books of 2018 Hyable's Most Anticipated Queer YA Books of 2018 The Mary Sue's 18 Books You Should Read in 2018 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | <p>again, Moss must face a difficult choice: give in to fear and hate or realize that anger can actually be a gift.</p> | |
| <p><i>Between Two Skies</i></p> | <p>O'sullivan, J</p> | <p>Bayou Perdu, a tiny fishing town way, way down in Louisiana, is home to sixteen-year-old Evangeline Riley. She has her best friends, Kendra and Danielle; her wise, beloved Mamere; and back-to-back titles in the under-sixteen fishing rodeo. But, dearest to her heart, she has the peace that only comes when she takes her skiff out to where there is nothing but sky and air and water and wings. It's a small life, but it is Evangeline's. And then the storm comes, and everything changes. Amid the chaos and pain and destruction comes Tru — a fellow refugee, a budding bluesman, a balm for Evangeline's aching heart. Told in a strong, steady voice, with a keen sense of place and a vivid cast of characters, here is a novel that asks compelling questions about class and politics, exile and belonging, and the pain of being cast out of your home. But above all, this remarkable debut tells</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 Evergreen Teen Book Nominee MS 2020 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2018</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | a gently woven love story, difficult to put down, impossible to forget. | |
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Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Long Walk To Water</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>In alternating chapters, Park's novel illuminates the stories of two young people living in Sudan. First there is 11-year-old Salva, whose school is attacked by rebels in 1985, launching him on a three-year journey to refugee camps in Ethiopia and Kenya. Eventually, Salva is chosen to travel to America and is adopted by a family there. The other side of the story focuses on Nya, a young girl living in Sudan in 2008 who must walk eight hours each day to gather water for her family. Desperate for help and change, Nya's prayers are answered when a now-grown Salva returns home and builds a well, helping his people find the water they need to survive.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 New York Times Best Seller Book Links Lasting Connections of 2010 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2013 FL Sunshine State Young Readers Award 2012-2013 HI Nene Nominees 2013 IA Children's Choice Awards 2013-2014 IL Read for a Lifetime Award 2011-2012 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 Jane Addams Honor KY Bluegrass Award 2011-2012 Lamplight Award 2012-2013 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2011-2012 ME Student Book Award 2011-2012 MN Great Lakes Great Books Award 2011-2012 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Div. 2 Award 2012-2013 MS Magnolia Award 2013 NC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 NCSS Notable Title 2011 ND Flicker Tale Award 2011-2012 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2012-2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2013 NY 3 Apples Teen Nominee 2018-2019 SC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 PA Reader's Choice 2012-2013 Smithsonian Notable Books for Children TN Volunteer MS Award 2012-2013 VA Reader's Choice MS Award 2013-2014 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2013 WY Indian Paintbrush Award 2012-2013</p> |
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Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Project Mulberry</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>Newbery-winning writer Park covers the big issues of conservation, prejudice, patriotism, and biology in her latest novel. Julia Song doesn't want to do a silkworm project for the state fair. It's too Korean; she wants to do something American, but she becomes interested in caring for the eggs, the caterpillars, and the moths and then sewing the silk thread. Kind, elderly Mr. Dixon donates the mulberry leaves the silkworms eat, but why is Mom against Julia spending time with him? The first-person narrative alternates with lively interchanges between Julia ("Me") and the author ("Ms. Park"), which may seem distracting, but will eventually rope children in with the funny conversations.</p> | <p>Compendium Title APALA Children's Literature Award Blue Hen Book Award Winner</p> |
| <p><i>Single Shard</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself.</p> | <p>Newbery Medalist APALA Children's Literature Award NEA Asian American Booklist Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>When My Name Was Keoko</i> | Park, L | With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely. | <p>Compendium Title</p> <p>ALA Best Books for YA 2003</p> <p>ALA Notable Children's Books of 2003</p> <p>AR Charlie May Simon Award 2004-2005</p> <p>Bank Street College Best Children's Books</p> <p>CCBC Book</p> <p>Chicago Public Library Best of the Best</p> <p>Children's Literature Choices Award</p> <p>DC Capitol Choices Award 2002</p> <p>DE Blue Hen Book Award 2004</p> <p>FL Sunshine State Young Reader 2005-2006</p> <p>IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2005</p> <p>IRA Notable Books for a Global Society</p> <p>IRA Teachers' Choices</p> <p>Jane Addams Honor Book</p> <p>KY Bluegrass Award 2003-2004</p> <p>Lamplighter Award</p> <p>MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2004-2005</p> <p>ME Student Book Award 2003-2004</p> <p>MI Mitten Award</p> <p>MO Mark Twain Book 2004-2005</p> <p>NCSS Notable Title</p> <p>NJ Garden State Fiction 2005</p> <p>NM Land of Enchantment Award 2006-2007</p> <p>Skipping Stones Book Award</p> <p>UT Beehive Fiction Award 2003-2004</p> <p>VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2003-2004</p> |
| <i>Matter Of Souls</i> | Patrick, D | A series of vignettes reveal life in the Deep South for African Americans as they experience discrimination in a doctor's office, lynching, and other forms of oppression, especially during the 1960s. | Best Children's Books of 2015 |
| <i>Sentries</i> | Paulsen, G | The common theme of nuclear disaster and human vulnerability interweaves the lives of four young people, an Ojibway Indian, an illegal Mexican migrant worker, a rock musician, and a sheep rancher's | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | daughter with the lives of three veterans of past wars. | |
| <i>Seventh Most Important Thing</i> | Pearsall, S | <p>Arthur T. Owens grabbed a brick and hurled it at the trash picker. Arthur had his reasons, and the brick hit the Junk Man in the arm, not the head. But none of that matters to the judge—he is ready to send Arthur to juvie forever. Amazingly, it’s the Junk Man himself who offers an alternative: 120 hours of community service . . . working for him.</p> <p>Arthur is given a rickety shopping cart and a list of the Seven Most Important Things: glass bottles, foil, cardboard, pieces of wood, lightbulbs, coffee cans, and mirrors. He can’t believe it—is he really supposed to rummage through people’s trash? But it isn’t long before Arthur realizes there’s more to the Junk Man than meets the eye, and the “trash” he’s collecting is being transformed into something more precious than anyone could imagine.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2016 ALA Notable Book ILA Teacher's Choice Kirkus Review Best Book of the Year AR Charlie May Simon Award 2017-2018 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Best Children's Books of 2016 CT Nutmeg Teen Award 2018 DC Capitol Choices Award Delaware Diamonds Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award IA Teen Award IN Young Hoosier Award KS William Allen White Award MA Children's Award ME Student Book Award MI Great Lakes Great Books Award MO Mark Twain Preliminary NE Golden Sower Intermediate Award NH Isinglass Teen Read List NY Charlotte Award MS Ohioana Juvenile Book Award OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Transgender Role Models And Pioneers</i></p> | <p>Penne, B</p> | <p>While transgender people have become more visible and gained a measure of acceptance from our cisnormative society in recent years, the need for trans role models to inspire young transgender people is still very real. This title profiles a host of accomplished transgender people who have made their names in a wide range of fields, including sports, politics, activism, entertainment, and the arts. It includes historical pioneers—such as Christine Jorgensen, Marsha P. Johnson, and Sylvia Rivera—as well as present-day figures—such as Lana and Lilly Wachowski, Kye Allums, and Laverne Cox. A valuable resource for an underserved community.</p> | |
| <p><i>What Can't Wait</i></p> | <p>Perez, A</p> | <p>Marooned in a broken-down Houston neighborhood--and in a Mexican immigrant family where making ends meet matters much more than making it to college--smart, talented Marisa seeks comfort elsewhere when her home life becomes unbearable.</p> | <p>ALA Best Fiction for YA 2012 GA Peach Teen Choice 2012-2013 IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2012-2013 KY Bluegrass Award 2012-2013 RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2013-2014 SC YA Book Award 2013-2014 TX Spirit of Texas HS Award 2012-2013</p> |

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| <p><i>Bamboo People</i></p> | <p>Perkins, M</p> | <p>Two Burmese boys, one a Karenni refugee and the other the son of an imprisoned Burmese doctor, meet in the jungle and in order to survive they must learn to trust each other.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 ALA Best Fiction for YA Top 10 2011 APALA Children's Literature Award Best Children's Books of 2011 APALA Children's Literature Award Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 CCBC Global Book IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader Award 2014 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 Indies Choice - YA IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 IRA Teacher's Choice 2011 Lamplighter Award 2012-2013 ME Student Book Award 2011-2012 PA KSRA Young Adult HS Award 2011-2012 Skipping Stones Book Award 2011 TN Volunteer HS Award 2013-2014</p> |
| <p><i>Groundbreaking Guys : 40 Men Who Became Great By Doing Good</i></p> | <p>Peters, S</p> | <p>Presents short profiles of forty diverse men who have made a positive impact on the world while still being good people, ranging from an escaped slave, a Supreme Court Justice, and diplomats to activists, activists, and musicians.</p> | <p>Compendium Title</p> |

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| <i>Red Pencil</i> | Pinkney, A | Twelve-year-old Amira, a resident of a Sudanese refugee camp following the murder of her parents in a Janjaweed attack, finds hope in the gift of a simple red pencil that allows her to express her creativity and formulate her hopes for the future. | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2014 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 Children's Africana Book Award DC Capitol Choices Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award HI Nene Nominee 2016 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award NCSS Notable Title 2015 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award RI Children's Book Award School Library Journal Best Books 2014 VOYA Poetry Picks WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2015</p> |
| <i>Stonewall Riots : Coming Out In The Streets</i> | Pitman, G | Traces the history of LGBTQ life since the 1800s, focusing specifically on the events of the Stonewall Riots and how that sparked a focused gay rights movement. Discusses activism before Stonewall, the Stonewall Inn, the night of the riot and the following days, and the legacy of Stonewall. | |
| <i>Gracefully Grayson</i> | Polonsky, A | Transgender high school student Grayson Sender struggles with the urge to live openly as a girl, the identity he is inside. Support from unexpected places helps him embrace his true identity. | <p>AR Teen Book Award 2015-2016 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2017 WI Just One More Page! List 2016</p> |
| <i>Amina</i> | Powers, J | After her family is torn apart by the civil war in Somalia, young Amina turns to street art to express herself and hopefully inspire people to effect real change. However, if she is found out as the artist | <p>Outstanding International Booklist 2016</p> |

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| | | behind the outspoken work, it will completely destroy her family. | |
| <i>This Thing Called The Future</i> | Powers, J | Fourteen-year-old Khosi's mother wants her to get an education to break out of their South African shantytown, although she herself is wasting away from an untreated illness, while Khosi's grandmother, Gogo, seeks help from a traditional Zulu healer. | Kirkus Best Teen Books 2011 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2012 Texas Institute of Letters Best Children's Books Best Children's Books of 2012 |
| <i>Queer, There, And Everywhere : 23 People Who Changed The Wor</i> | Prager, S | Presents twenty-three brief biographical sketches of men and women throughout history who are considered to be part of the queer community for one reason or another, including Abraham Lincoln and Joan of Arc, as well as openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people like Lili Elbe and Alan Turing, who have greatly influenced history and paved the way for the modern gay and transgender rights movement. | Compendium Fall 2017 New York Public Library Best Book of 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Books for Teens 2017 Junior Library Guild Selection Garden State Nonfiction Award NCSS Notable Title Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee Chicago Public Library Best Teen Titles 2017 |
| <i>I Came As A Stranger : The Underground Railroad</i> | Prince, B | Describes the new lives started by slaves who escaped via the underground railroad. | Honor Book for the Society of School Librarians International Best Book Award 2005 Children's Nautilus Book Awards Nonfiction |
| <i>Beneath My Mother's Feet</i> | Qamar, A | Fourteen-year-old Nazia is proud to honor her father and mother as a good Muslim girl should. She helps take care of the household and her younger siblings, and prepares for her future in an arranged marriage. When her father is disabled in an accident at work, Nazia must grow up quickly, secretly helping her mother clean houses to make a living for the family. | Compendium Fall 2008 Amelia Bloomer Project 2002-2009 NCSS Notable Title 2009 Ohioana Juvenile Book Award SC Junior Book Award 2010-2011 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2009-2010 |

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| <i>Good Kind Of Trouble</i> | Ramee, L | All twelve-year-old Shayla wants to do is follow the rules, but when she starts seventh grade, the rules have changed. Her two best friends seem to be going their own ways and some people at school are saying that she's not black enough. After a ruling in a controversial court case involving the shooting of a black man by a white police officer, Shayla decides to join the Black Lives Matter movement and begins passing out black armbands at school. As the unrest in both Los Angeles and her school spreads, Shayla must figure out if some things are worth breaking the rules. | Compendium Title Booklist's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Titles |
| <i>Sorry Not Sorry</i> | Reed, J | The relationship between former best friends Janelle and Alyssa has deteriorated with Janelle committing to activist work and Alyssa leading her group of self-absorbed teenage friends. But one day, Alyssa collapses--the result of diabetes that has destroyed her body--and her only hope at survival is a kidney transplant. After signing up for the donor program, it just so happens that Janelle is a perfect match. The two must reconcile their past to save Alyssa's life. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Tokyo Heist</i> | Renn, D | Sixteen-year-old Violet is ecstatic when she learns that she gets to come with her painter father to Japan, where he has been commissioned for a job. Violet loves manga, kimonos, and everything Japanese already, but what begins as a dream-come-true summer vacation turns into a nightmare when her father's patrons, the Yamadas, are attacked by thieves. Priceless van Gogh sketches have been stolen from their Seattle mansion, and now the thieves demand the Yamadas give them the corresponding painting--a painting lost for centuries. It will be up to Violet to find the painting before her father's life is put in any more danger. | |

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| <p><i>What The Moon Saw</i></p> | <p>Resau, L</p> | <p>Clara Luna, a 14-year-old Mexican American living in Maryland, feels confused about her heritage. Her father, a successful businessman, never speaks of the life in Mexico that he left behind 20 years ago. A journey of discovery begins for Clara when she receives an invitation from her grandparents to visit Mexico for the summer. Surprisingly, the simple village life suits Clara. She also becomes fascinated by her grandmother's healing talents. A touch of romance and adventure makes for a memorable story that speaks to the importance of family and identity.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2007 Colorado Book Award YA Winner ALA Best Books for YA Americas Award - CLASP ME Student Book Award 2007-2008 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2008-2009 NCSS Notable Title 2007 Parents' Choice Award Winner SLJ Best Books TN Volunteer YA Award TX Lone Star Reading List 2008-2009</p> |
| <p><i>As Brave As You</i></p> | <p>Reynolds, J</p> | <p>Genie's summer is full of surprises. The first is that he and his big brother, Ernie, are leaving Brooklyn for the very first time to spend the summer with their grandparents all the way in Virginia—in the COUNTRY! The second surprise comes when Genie figures out that their grandfather is blind. Thunderstruck, Genie peppers Grandpop with questions about how he hides it so well (besides wearing way cool Ray-Bans).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Kirkus Award Finalist Schneider Family Book Award Winner Coretta Scott King Honor Book 2017 Best Children's Books of the Year 2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honors 2017 ALA Honor</p> |

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| <p><i>Boy In The Black Suit</i></p> | <p>Reynolds, J</p> | <p>Soon after his mother's death, Matt takes a job at a funeral home in his tough Brooklyn neighborhood and, while attending and assisting with funerals, begins to accept her death and his responsibilities as a man.</p> | <p>2016 Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book Compendium Fall 2015 ALA 2016 Honor ALA Top Ten Best Fiction for YA 2016 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Teen Award 2017 Best Children's Books of 2016 Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award CCBC Book 2016 CT Nutmeg Teen Award 2018 DC Capitol Choices Award 2016 IL Abraham Lincoln Award 2017 IN Eliot Rosewater Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MI Great Lakes Great Books Award MO Gateway Nominee 2017-2018 Preliminary NC YA Book Award HS NY Charlotte Award HS OK Sequoyah Award RI Teen Book Award Nominee SC YA Book Award TX Lone Star Reading List TX Tayshas HS Reading Award WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2016</p> |
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| <p><i>Ghost</i></p> | <p>Reynolds, J</p> | <p>If they can get their acts together, Ghost, Lu, Patina, and Sunny—four kids with widely different backgrounds and explosive personalities—could potentially become their middle school track team's elite squad, and maybe even qualify for the Junior Olympics. Ghost has outstanding natural talent, but no formal training, and his discipline is lacking ever since his father chased him and his mother out of the house. He will have to do everything he can to stay on track, physically and figuratively, to be the best sprinter in the city. Author Reynolds “uses a light hand to delve into topics that include gun violence, class disparity, and bullying in this compelling series opener”(PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read Illinois Rebecca Caudill Award Winner Buckeye Children's Award Maine Student Book Award Winner National Book Award Honor William Allen White Winner Young Adult Book Award MS Winner Great Lakes Great Books Award winner South Carolina Junior Book Award Winner Nutmeg Teen Award Winner Reader's Choice 6-8 Winner 2020 Nene Award Nominee Virginia Reader's Choice Award MS Winner 2016 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2017-2018 Delaware Diamonds MS Award 2019 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 Sasquatch Reading Award Nominee 2018-2019 Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2018-2019 Reader's Choice Award Nominee Nutmeg Teen Nominee 2019 2018-2019 MA Children's Book Award</p> |
| <p><i>Miles Morales : Spider-man</i></p> | <p>Reynolds, J</p> | <p>Teen Miles Morales, the current Spider-Man, worries that his spidey-sense is broken. A misunderstanding gets him suspended from school and makes him doubt himself and his abilities. After all, his father and uncle were once criminals. He begins having nightmares and his spidey-sense continues to buzz in history class where he listens to his teacher talk about the benefits of slavery. Then his scholarship at his private school is threatened, and Miles's</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 South Carolina Junior Book Award 2019-2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2020 Texas Lone Star Reading List ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers 2018</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | investigations uncover a plot that puts all he loves at risk. | |
| <i>Patina</i> | Reynolds, J | Four kids are chosen for an elite middle school track team—Ghost, Lu, Patina, and Sunny—a team that might even make it to the Junior Olympics if they can learn to work together. But they come from very different backgrounds and have wildly different personalities that often clash. Patina runs to get away from her problems at home, but can she learn to control her anger enough to work as a team? “Another stellar lap—readers will be eager to see who's next” (KIRK). | Compendium Winter 2018 New York Times Best Seller Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers 2018 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 |
| <i>Sunny</i> | Reynolds, J | Sunny always has a goofy smile and is the happiest person on the Defenders team. But Sunny's mom died giving birth to him and it seems like his dad blames him since he ignores Sunny and makes him call him "Darryl" and never "Dad." The only thing Sunny can do right in his dad's eyes is to win first place ribbons in running the mile, just like his mother. Sunny hates running and loves to dance and when he discovers a track event that allows him to incorporate elements of dance that he loves, he learns to let go of everything that's eating him up inside. | Compendium Spring 2018 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Booklist's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Titles Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2019-2020 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Ghost Boys</i></p> | <p>Rhodes, J</p> | <p>Seventh-grader Jerome is mistakenly shot by a white police officer, and as a ghost, observes the turmoil in his community as a result of his death. He then meets the ghost of Emmett Till who helps Jerome understand how systemic racism led to his death, but also understand how far the effects of his death really go by introducing him to the grieving daughter of the police officer who struggles with her father's actions.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 New York Times Bestseller Indie Bound Bestseller #1 Kids' Indie Next Pick Walter Award Winner YA Award MS Nominee 2019-2020 E.B. White Read Aloud Winner YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee 2019-2020 Texas Bluebonnet Award 2019-2020 Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Nominee Texas Lone Star Reading List Just One More Page! Reading List ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 Great Lakes Great Books Award Nominee Black-Eyed Susan Award Capitol Choices Award Notable Books for a Global Society Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 ILA Children's Choices Reading List 2019 Volunteer MS Nominee 2020-2021 Children's Choice Book of the Year Winner</p> |
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Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Sugar</i> | Rhodes, J | In 1870, Reconstruction brings big changes to the Louisiana sugar plantation where spunky ten-year-old Sugar has always lived, including changes to her friendship with Billy, the son of her former master, and the arrival of workmen from China. | <p>Compendium Fall 2013 ALA Notable Children's Books 2014 Best Children's Books of 2014 CCBC Book 2014 IA Children's Choice 2016-2017 Jane Addams Honor KA William Allen White Award 2015-2016 LA Young Readers' Choice 2016 MD Black Eyed Susan Award 2014-2015 ME Student Book Award 2014-2015 MS Magnolia Award 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2014 NJ Garden State Children's Book Award 2016 OK Sequoyah Children's Book Award 2016 SC Children's Book Award 2014-2015 SD Prairie Pasque 2015-2016 TN Volunteer Intermediate Award 2015-2016 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2013 WI Just One Page! Reading List 2014 WY Indian Paint Brush Award 2014</p> |
| <i>8th Grade Super Zero</i> | Rhoday-perkovich, O | After half-heartedly joining his church youth group's project at a homeless shelter near his Brooklyn middle school, eighth-grade "loser" Reggie McKnight is inspired to run for school office on a platform of making a real difference in the community. | <p>Compendium Fall 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 NCSS Notable Title 2011</p> |
| <i>Hammer Of Thor</i> | Riordan, R | As Magnus Chase and his friends adjust to Hotel Valhalla, they train for Ragnarok and settle into the afterlife. But when Magnus's friends Hearthstone and Blitzen disappear and he hears that Thor's hammer has gone missing, Magnus knows he needs to summon Jack, the Sword of Summer, to take action before it's too late. | <p>Stonewall Book Award 2017 ALA Honor</p> |
| <i>Swim That Rock</i> | Rocco, J | After his father disappears in a fishing accident, Jake works as a quahogger to earn money to save the family diner. | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2015-2016</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Hurt Go Happy</i> | Rorby, G | When thirteen-year-old Joey Willis, deaf since the age of six, meets Dr. Charles Mansell and his chimpanzee Sukari, who use sign language, her world blooms with possibilities but that of the chimp begins to narrow. | Compendium Spring 2017 Schneider Family Book Award International Literacy Association Teachers' Choice Book Sense Children's Pick KLIATT Editor's Choice: Best of the Year's Hardcover YA Fiction New York Public Library "Books for the Teen Age" Selection |
| <i>My Awesome/awful Popularity Plan</i> | Rudetsky, S | Chubby, Jewish, and gay high school sophomore Justin Goldblatt plans to become popular by the end of the year, but instead of dating the star quarterback he catches the eye of Becky, the quarterback's girlfriend, while his best friend, Spencer, stops speaking to him. | |
| <i>Dreamer</i> | Ryan, P | A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely-read poets in the world. | Compendium Fall 2010 Pura Belpre Award Winner ALA Honor 2011 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2011 Americas Award - CLASP - 2011 Charlie May Simon Award 2012-2013 Best Children's Books of 2011 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2010 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2010 Boston Globe - Horn Book 2010 California Collection 2011 CCBC Book 2011 DC Capitol Choices Award 2011 HI Nene Nominee 2012 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 IRA Children's Choices 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 NAPPA Best Kids Books 2010 NC Young Adult Book Award MS 2011-2012 NCSS Notable Title 2011 Smithsonian Notable Books for Children 2010 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Esperanza Rising</i></p> | <p>Ryan, P</p> | <p>Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for Young Adults Pura Belpre Award Americas Award CLASP AR Charlie May Simon Award 2002-2003 AZ Young Reader Teen Award 2003 Bank Street Best Children's Books 2008 CA Young Readers Medal 2002-2003 CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Colorado Children's Book Award 2002-2003 CT Nutmeg Children's Book Award 2004 FL Sunshine State Young Readers Award 2004-2005 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2002-2003 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award 2004 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 1996-2007 Jane Addams Honor Book NCTE Notable Books 1997-2006 NH Great Stone Face Award 2001-2003 Publishers Weekly Best Books <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
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Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Amal Unbound</i></p> | <p>Saeed, A</p> | <p>In Pakistan, Amal holds onto her dream of being a teacher even after becoming an indentured servant to pay off her family's debt to the wealthy and corrupt Khan family.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 Great Stone Face Nominee 2019-2020 The Global Read Aloud 2018 Contender SLJ 2018 Best Books Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 Amelia Bloomer Project 2019 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 CCBC Book 2019 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2020 Black-Eyed Susan Award 2019-2020 Notable Books for a Global Society 2019 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 Rhode Island Middle School Nominee 2020 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 Mississippi Magnolia Award Nominee 2020 ILA Teacher's Choice Reading List 2019 Volunteer Intermediate Nominees 2020-2021</p> |
| <p><i>Moon Within</i></p> | <p>Salazar, A</p> | <p>Describes in verse how eleven-year-old Celi Rivera is anxious about her approaching period because her mother wants to hold a traditional Mexican moon ceremony to celebrate the occasion. Meanwhile, Celi's best friend explores what it means to be gender fluid, and Celi explores her feelings for a boy. However, when the boy she has a crush on makes mean comments about her best friend, Celi must make a decision.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Booklist's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Titles</p> |
| <p><i>Hunt For The Bamboo Rat</i></p> | <p>Salisbury, G</p> | <p>Zenji Watanabe, seventeen, is sent from Hawaii to the Philippines to spy on the Japanese during World War II and, after he is captured and tortured, must find a way to survive months of being lost in the jungle behind enemy lines.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 Nebraska Golden Sower Award Finalist South Carolina Book Award Finalist Best Children's Books of 2015 SC Young Adult Book Award 2016-2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Awakening</i> | Sandler, K | Fifteen-year-old Kayla's life has changed completely, but now she must save her fellow GENs from a deadly virus before she can focus on freeing them from slavery. | |
| <i>Tankborn</i> | Sandler, K | Kayla and Mishalla, two genetically engineered non-human slaves (GENs), fall in love with higher-status boys, discover deep secrets about the creation of GENs, and find out what it means to be human. | |
| <i>Harriet Tubman</i> | Sawyer, K | Chronicles the events in the life of Harriet Tubman. Includes sketches, photographs, and images. | |
| <i>Rooting For Rafael Rosales</i> | Scaletta, K | A young man from the Dominican Republic who dreams of playing professional baseball in the United States crosses paths with a young environmentalist from Minneapolis who is passionate about saving bees. | Compendium Fall 2017 |
| <i>Fight To Learn : The Struggle To Go To School</i> | Scandiffio, L | Highlights the struggles children face around the world to obtain an education from poverty stricken children in India to war torn Chile where students fight for their right to learn. Includes resources for further information and color photographs. | Compendium Spring 2017 |
| <i>Dog In The Wood</i> | Schroder, M | Set during World War II, this novel details the experiences of 12-year-old Fritz, who has been told, with the war nearing its end, that the "worst is over." The death of his soldier father and Nazi sympathizer grandparents, along with his family's eviction from their farm, only makes things seem worse, however. Then his mother is falsely accused of committing a crime, leading Fritz to wonder whether he will ever find happiness. Amidst the turmoil, a few caring individuals take Fritz under their wing and help him find the courage, hope and friendship he needs to get by. | Compendium Spring 2010 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2010 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>She Is Not Invisible</i> | Sedgwick, M | A London teenager who is blind and her younger brother travel to New York to find their missing father, using clues from his notebook. | Compendium Fall 2014 ALA Best Fiction for YA MI Thumbs Up! 2015 Nominee VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2015-2016 |
| <i>Saving Kabul Corner</i> | Senzai, N | Twelve-year-old Ariana is worlds apart from her proper Afghan cousin Laila, who just moved into their California home. Ariana is a tomboy; Laila cooks, sews, and sings. When a revival Afghan grocery store opens in their town, Laila and Ariana fall on opposite sides of an ancient feud, only to realize that they might be the only ones to end it. | Best Children's Books of 2015 Edgar Award Honor MO Mark Twain Preliminary 2016-2017 SC Children's Book Award 2016-2017 |
| <i>Shooting Kabul</i> | Senzai, N | After moving to the United States from his native Afganistan, Fadi wants to return there to find his missing six-year-old sister, Mariam. Includes a glossary. | APALA Young Adult Literature Award Best Children's Books of 2011 California Collection MS 2012-2014 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award 2013 IRA Teacher's Choice 2011 MA Children's Award 2012-2013 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2012-2013 Middle East Book Honor NCSS Notable Title 2011 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2013 SC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 |
| <i>Betty Before X</i> | Shabazz, I | In Detroit, 1945, eleven-year-old Betty's house doesn't quite feel like home. She believes her mother loves her, but she can't shake the feeling that her mother doesn't want her. Church helps those worries fade, if only for a little while. The singing, the preaching, the speeches from guest activists like Paul Robeson and Thurgood Marshall stir African Americans in her community to stand up for their rights. Betty quickly finds confidence and purpose in volunteering for the Housewives League, an organization that supports black-owned businesses. Soon, the American civil rights icon we now know as Dr. Betty Shabazz is born. | Compendium Winter 2018 2019 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 Amelia Bloomer Project 2019 CCBC Book 2019-2020 MA Children's Book Award |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>This Is Just A Test</i></p> | <p>Shang, W</p> | <p>David Da-Wei Horowitz is busily preparing for his bar mitzvah, in which he must try to please both his Jewish and his Chinese grandmothers, who love to argue with one another. David tries making everyone in his life happy, including his friend Scott, who is determined to win their upcoming trivia tournament. However, Scott dislikes their teammate—and David's best friend—Hector. When David and Scott start building a fallout shelter (just in case the Cold War gets hot), David finds himself thinking that Hector would be a better underground bunker-mate. Hector, and the cute Kelli Ann, if only he could find a way to talk to her.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 ILA Children's Choices Reading List 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Growing Up In Iran</i></p> | <p>Sheen, B</p> | <p>Explores what it is like living in Iran, including home and family life, education and work, social life, and how religion affects everyday life.</p> | |
| <p><i>Port Chicago 50 : Disaster, Mutiny, And The Fight For Civil</i></p> | <p>Sheinkin, S</p> | <p>On July 17, 1944, a horrible explosion rocked the naval base at California's Port Chicago. It was a segregated base, and the explosion hit the African-American side the hardest. Over 300 sailors, of all skin colors, died. In the following month over 200 sailors refuse to go back to work, resulting in 50 being jailed and court-martialed for dereliction of duty. Thankfully this event did not end in complete tragedy, as it helped to end segregation in America's military. Author "Sheinkin delivers another meticulously researched WWII story" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014 Carter G. Woodson Book Award National Book Award YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award NEA African American Booklist</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Undefeated : Jim Thorpe And The Carlisle Indian School Footb</i></p> | <p>Sheinkin, S</p> | <p>Features the underdog story of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School football team which under the leadership of coach Pop Warner and player Jim Thorpe became known as "the team that invented football." Highlights the systematic governmental persecution by the government and the players determination and grit, on and off the field, that led them to defeat more privileged schools like Army and Harvard.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 2017 Horn Book - Boston Globe Nonfiction Honor Book VOYA Nonfiction Honor List YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee 2019-2020 NCSS Notable Title 2018 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2019-2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 Booklist Editor's Choice - Books for Youth 2017 Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee 2018-2019 Keystone to Reading HS Nominee 2018-2019 Jefferson Cup Award</p> |
| <p><i>Keeping Corner</i></p> | <p>Sheth, K</p> | <p>In India in the 1940s, thirteen-year-old Leela's happy, spoiled childhood ends when her husband since age nine, whom she barely knows, dies, leaving her a widow whose only hope of happiness could come from Mahatma Ghandi's social and political reforms.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2008 APALA Children's Literature Award</p> |
| <p><i>Junior High Drama : A Graphic Novel</i></p> | <p>Simonson, L</p> | <p>Four girls at Memorial Middle School try to overcome the pressures of adolescence. First, Kamilla struggles with body image prior to the school play; then, Lilly is forced to deal with a pack of mean girls; next, Allie is forced to confront a rumor surrounding her diabetes; finally, Lucia is invited to a boy-girl party and must figure out her feelings about a first date. Between each story is information and statistics on the particular theme of the story and an interview between the girl and an expert.</p> | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Homeboyz</i> | Sitomer, A | Teddy Anderson plans revenge when his sister Tina is killed in a drive-by shooting. Teddy is caught and put on house arrest, where he is ordered to mentor a twelve-year-old named Micah. Teddy continues to plan his revenge, but Micah presents an opportunity to heal. | International Reading Association YA Choices ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA ALA Top Ten Quick Picks 2008 Florida Teens Read Award IRA YA Choices 2009 |
| <i>57 Bus : A True Story Of Two Teenagers And The Crime That Ch</i> | Slater, D | Explores the true stories of Sasha and Richard, two teens from Oakland, California, who never would have met if not for the 57 Bus which they both were taking home one day. Richard, an African American boy, had a lighter; Sasha, a white boy, wore a skirt. | Compendium Winter 2018 Stonewall Book Award Mike Morgan & Larry Romans Children's and YA Literature Award YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for YA Finalist Isinglass Teen Reader Award Nominee 2019-2020 Flicker Tale Older Readers Nominee 2020 Louisiana Teen Readers' Choice Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nominee 2020 Eliot Rosewater Award 2019-2020 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2019 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2019-2020 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 Black-Eyed Susan Award HS 2019-2020 Abraham Lincoln Award 2020 Evergreen Teen Book Nominee HS 2020 Readers' Choice HS Nominee 2019-2020 NCSS Notable Title Florida Teens Read Award Nominee Garden State Teen Nonfiction Award ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2018 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2018 Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee 2018-2019 Green Mountain Book Award Nominee 2018-2019 Notable Books for a Global Society |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Short</i></p> | <p>Sloan, H</p> | <p>Julia is very short for her age, but by the end of the summer run of <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>, she'll realize how big she is inside, where it counts. She hasn't ever thought of herself as a performer, but when the wonderful director of Oz casts her as a Munchkin, she begins to see herself in a new way. As Julia becomes friendly with the poised and wise Olive—one of the adults with dwarfism who've joined the production's motley crew of Munchkins—and with her deeply artistic neighbor, Mrs. Chang, Julia's own sense of self as an artist grows. Soon, she doesn't want to fade into the background—and it's a good thing, because her director has more big plans for Julia!</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2018 FL Sunshine State Young Reader Award MS Magnolia Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award</p> |
| <p><i>Twelve Rounds To Glory : The Story Of Muhammad Ali</i></p> | <p>Smith, C</p> | <p>A biography of champion boxer Muhammad Ali featuring rap-inspired verse and collage artwork. Describe's Ali's successes as an Olympian and a professional boxer, his protest against the Vietnam war, and his battle with Parkinson's disease.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2008 Coretta Scott King Honor ALA Honor 2008 NCSS Notable Title 2008</p> |
| <p><i>Speaking Our Truth : A Journey Of Reconciliation</i></p> | <p>Smith, M</p> | <p>Examines the fissure in the relationship between Canada and its Indigenous people as a result of the Residential Schools system. Explores the historical and current impact of this system, and highlights how lack of understanding and awareness hinders healing as survivors and their families move forward in repairing the relationship between themselves and their country. Includes a list of Residential Schools, a glossary, resources for further information, and color photographs.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 The Global Read Aloud Contenders 2018 CCBC Book 2018</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Black Panther : The Young Prince</i> | Smith, R | Twelve-year-old T'Challa is content spending his days learning how to one day rule his nation, Wakanda. But trouble in his homeland leads his father, the reigning Black Panther, to send him to Chicago where he must assimilate into American life alongside his best friend M'Baku. Hiding his true identity becomes increasingly difficult when strange things start happening at his middle school. And he'll have to step into his destiny as future superhero in order to stop an ancient evil. | 2019 TX Lone Star Reading List |
| <i>Flygirl</i> | Smith, S | During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots. | <p>Compendium Fall 2009 ALA Best Books for YA Amelia Bloomer Project AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Awar California Book Award CCBC Book 2010 Capitol Choices Award GA Peach Teen Choice Heartland Award Nominee IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award IN Eliot Rosewater Award and Young Hoosier Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award NCSS Notable Title SC Junior Book Award SC YARP MS Reading List TN Volunteer YA Award TX Tayshas HS Reading Award UT Beehive YA Book VA Reader's Choice MS</p> |
| <i>Che Guevara's Face : How A Cuban Photographer's Image Became</i> | Smith-Ilera, D | Examines the life of Che Guevara and the famous photograph of his face,a spur-of-the-moment snapshot in 1960, which was turned into a now-world famous poster. | Compendium Spring 2017 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Lunch Counter Sit-ins : How Photographs Helped Foster Peacef</i> | Smith-llera, D | Presents a history of the lunch counter sit-in protests of the civil rights movement, particularly the January 31, 1960 lunch counter protest when four college students sat at the counter at the local Woolworth's in Greensboro, North Carolina. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Baseball In April And Other Stories</i> | Soto, G | A collection of eleven short stories focusing on the everyday adventures of Hispanic young people growing up in Fresno, California. | ALA Best Book for YA Booklist Editor's Choice Horn Fanfare Selection Judy Lopez Memorial Honor Book Parenting Magazine's Reading Magic Award John and Patricia Beatty Award |
| <i>Warden's Daughter</i> | Spinelli, J | Cammie O'Reilly is an unusual kid with an even more unusual home life. She hangs with a flamboyant black shoplifter named Boo Boo, her housekeeper is a sullen arsonist named Eloda Pupko, and she lives above the entrance of a prison where her dad is the warden. Trying to cope with the death of her mother, who died saving Cammie's life, causes Cammie to become a depressed, angry tween, driven mad by her life in prison. The more Cammie tries to figure out who she is, the more she spirals into depression, until someone close to her makes the ultimate sacrifice to free Cammie from her past. | Compendium Spring 2017 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2019-2020 ILA Children's Choices Reading List 2018 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Sachiko : A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story</i></p> | <p>Stelson, C</p> | <p>This striking work of narrative nonfiction tells the true story of six-year-old Sachiko Yasui's survival of the Nagasaki atomic bomb on August 9, 1945, and the heartbreaking and lifelong aftermath. Having conducted extensive interviews with Sachiko Yasui, Caren Stelson chronicles Sachiko's trauma and loss as well as her long journey to find peace. This book offers readers a remarkable new perspective on the final moments of World War II and their aftermath.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 National Book Award Robert F. Sibert Award Delaware Diamonds Award ALA Honor 2017 SLJ 42 Diverse Titles for Every Library NCSS Notable Book 2017 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 AR Teen Book Award Best Children's Books of 2017 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth CA Eureka! Nonfiction Children's Award CCBC Book 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Flora Stieglitz Straus Award IRA Notable Books for a Global Society IRA Teachers' Choices Jane Addams Honor NJ Garden State Teen Nonfiction SC Young Adult Book Award TX Topaz Reading List 2017</p> |
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Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Nimona</i></p> | <p>Stevenson, N</p> | <p>Nimona is a young shapeshifter, the sidekick to the Lord Ballister Blackheart, a villain with a vendetta--he wants to prove that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his allies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes they say they are.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 Indies Choice Best Book of the Year National Book Award Finalist New York Times Bestseller New York Times Notable Book Kirkus Best Book SLJ Best Book Publishers Weekly Best Book NPR Best Book New York Public Library Best Book Chicago Public Library Best Book YARP HS Teen Choice Winner Eliot Rosewater Award 2019-2020 Andre Norton Award SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library ALSC Graphic Novel Reading List 2016 Nutmeg High School Nominee 2019</p> |
| <p><i>Pride : Celebrating Diversity & Community</i></p> | <p>Stevenson, R</p> | <p>Highlights the history of Pride. Shares its roots, how it's celebrated today, and how others around the world celebrate Pride. Includes a glossary, resources for further information, and color photographs.</p> | <p>Stonewall Book Award 2017 ALA Honor NEA LGBTQ Reading Recommendations Outstanding International Booklist 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Just Like Jackie</i></p> | <p>Stoddard, L</p> | <p>Robbie is determined to stay out of trouble so that she does not worry her grandfather whose memory is failing and to make sure that she and her grandfather stay together as he is the only family she has left.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Great Stone Face Nominees 2019-2020 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019-2020 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award Rhode Island Children's Book Award 2020</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Almost Astronauts : 13 Women Who Dared To Dream</i></p> | <p>Stone, T</p> | <p>Stone "offers great insight into how deeply ingrained sexism was in the American society and its institutions" (KIRK) in this amazing story of "Mercury 13." The group of determined female aviators were skilled fliers, intelligent, courageous, and physically and psychologically fit. They passed all the same tests as their male counterparts – but they were rejected by NASA because they were women. The story follows the efforts of Jerrie Cobb, the first American woman to pass all three phases of NASA's testing. Though she and her colleagues persevered in their quest to become astronauts, they met hostility, ridicule and challenge at every corner. It would take 20 years before NASA would select its first female astronaut candidate.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2009 ALA Best Books for YA YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award and Honor SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library ALA Notable Books of 2010 Amelia Bloomer Project 2010 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nonfiction Award Boston Globe - Horn Book Award CA Eureka! Nonfiction Children's Award CCBC Book Flora Stieglitz Straus Award Horn Book Fanfare 2009 IRA Teachers' Choices 2010 Jane Addams Honor NCSS Notable Title NJ Garden State Teen Nonfiction Award NM Land of Enchantment Award NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award Orbis Pictus Honor Science Books and Films - Best Books 2009 UT Beehive International Award 2010-2011 VOYA Nonfiction Honor List 2009</p> |
| <p><i>Disappeared</i></p> | <p>Stork, F</p> | <p>In Juárez, Mexico, Sara Zapata's best friend is abducted and Sara is desperate to get her back. Meanwhile, Sara's brother Emiliano is in love with a wealthy girl and gets roped into Juárez's dangerous underbelly as a way to find the means to impress her.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2019-2020 Texas Institute of Letters Best Children's Books The Walter Award ALA Best Fiction for YA 2018 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 and Best Teen Titles 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Girls Like Me</i></p> | <p>Stvil, L</p> | <p>Novel in verse telling the story of a teenage girl facing cyber bullying, first romance, and adolescent angst.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 VOYA Poetry Picks</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Artichoke's Heart</i></p> | <p>Supplee, S</p> | <p>It's not so easy being Rosemary Goode and tipping the scales at almost two hundred pounds - especially when your mother runs the most successful (and gossippiest!) beauty shop in town. After a spectacularly disastrous Christmas break when the scale reaches an all-time high - Rosemary realizes that things need to change. (A certain basketball player, Kyle Cox, might have something to do with it.) So begins a powerful year of transformation and a journey toward self-discovery that surprisingly has little to do with the physical, and more to do with an honest look at how Rosemary feels about herself.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2009 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2010 IA Teen Award 2012-2013 IL Abraham Lincoln Award 2011 IRA Young Adult's Choices 2010 KY Bluegrass Award 2009-2010 NCSS Notable Title 2009 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2010-2011 SC YA Book Award 2010-2011 SD YARP HS Reading List 2010 VA Reader's Choice HS 2010-2011 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2008</p> |
| <p><i>Saving Montgomery Sole</i></p> | <p>Tamaki, M</p> | <p>Montgomery Sole is a square peg in a small town, forced to go to a school full of jocks and girls who don't even know what irony is. It would all be impossible if it weren't for her best friends, Thomas and Naoki. The three are also the only members of Jefferson High's Mystery Club, dedicated to exploring the weird and unexplained, from ESP and astrology to super powers and mysterious objects. Then there's the Eye of Know, the possibly powerful crystal amulet Monty bought online. Will it help her predict the future or fight back against the ignorant jerks who make fun of Thomas for being gay or Monty for having two moms? Maybe the Eye is here just in time, because the newest resident of their small town is scarier than mothmen, poltergeists, or, you know, gym.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2017 AR Teen Book Award 2017-2018</p> |
| <p><i>Krishna : Defender Of Dharma</i></p> | <p>Taneja, S</p> | <p>When evil overtakes the world in the form of Kansa, the evil king of Mathura, the god Vishnu allows himself to be born into a human child on Earth named Krishna. Over the course of Krishna's life, he destroys evil wherever he can find it and fights to set mankind on the path to righteousness.</p> | |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Let The Circle Be Unbroken</i> | Taylor, M | Four black children growing up in rural Mississippi during the Depression experience racial antagonisms and hard times, but learn from their parents the pride and self-respect they need. | Coretta Scott King Award Winner ALA Best Books for YA Jane Addams Honor KY Bluegrass Nominee |
| <i>Road To Memphis</i> | Taylor, M | In 1941 a black youth, sadistically teased by two white boys in rural Mississippi, severely injures one of them with a tire iron and enlists Cassie's help in trying to flee the state. | Coretta Scott King Award Winner Thumbs Up! Award Winner ALA Best Books for YA |
| <i>Drama</i> | Telgemeier, R | Callie loves theater. And while she would totally try out for her middle school's production of Moon over Mississippi, she can't really sing. Instead she's the set designer for the drama department's stage crew, and this year she's determined to create a set worthy of Broadway on a middle-school budget. But how can she, when she doesn't know much about carpentry, ticket sales are down, and the crew members are having trouble working together? Not to mention the onstage AND offstage drama that occurs once the actors are chosen. And when two cute brothers enter the picture, things get even crazier! | Compendium Spring 2013 ALA Honor 2013 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2013 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2013 Stonewall Book Award AR Teen Book Award AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Best Children's Books of 2013 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2012 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2012 DC Capitol Choices Award 2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2015 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2015 PNLA Young Reader's Choice RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2013-2014 TN Volunteer Award 2014-2015 TX Maverick Graphic Novels List 2013 VA Reader's Choice MS 2014-2015 WA Evergreen Teen Book Award 2015 WY Soaring Eagle Award 2015-2016 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Ghosts</i></p> | <p>Telgemeier, R</p> | <p>Cat's little sister Maya is battling cystic fibrosis, so their mother decides that moving to a beachfront town in Northern California is just what the doctor ordered. What's worse than moving away from all her friends? It seems that everyone in Cat's new town is obsessed with ghosts, but Cat wants nothing to do with any of it. But when Maya's determination to see one lands her in the hospital for weeks, Cat begins to realize she'll need to accept her sister's passion for the spirits in order to help her. "The bright tones and wonderfully expressive figures of the racially diverse cast ... make this compassionate, approachable, and gentle story about death irresistible" (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Colorado Children's Book Award Winner Garden State Teen Fiction Winner Volunteer State Book Award Winner Great Stone Face Award Winner Delaware Diamonds Award 2018-2019 New York 3 Apples Children's Award Nominee 2019 Young Reader's Choice Award Winner South Carolina Children's Book Award Winner Eisner Award Winner Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel Award Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Isinglass Award Winner NCSS Notable Title 2017 Beehive Graphic Novel Award Garden State Children's Graphic Novel Award 2019</p> |
| <p><i>High Drama</i></p> | <p>Terrell, B</p> | <p>After seeing her best friend, Kat, kissing another girl, Dessa keeps the secret but her anger over Kat not confiding in her causes trouble.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016</p> |
| <p><i>Yes We Can : A Biography Of President Barack Obama</i></p> | <p>Thomas, G</p> | <p>This updated version of the bestseller, originally published in June 2008, includes 32 additional pages about the presidential campaign and election of Barack Obama as the first African-American President of the United States. Garen paints a humanistic picture of a man raised by a single mother in Indonesia and Hawaii who had many successes, yet many struggles. This book is clear and concise, presents well-documented information and stresses the fact that Obama rose above difficulties by believing in himself and the good he could accomplish.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2010 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2010</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Trust Your Name</i> | Tingle, T | Bobby Byington and Cherokee Johnny, high school basketball teammates and best buds, are surprised and happy when Coach Robison tells them he has been asked by the Choctaw Nation to for the first all-Indian basketball team that will play in the national basketball tournament. Trouble comes even as the team becomes tight-knit and victorious as a team they defeated seeks payback on them in devious ways. | |
| <i>Samurai Rising : The Epic Life Of Minamoto Yoshitsune</i> | Turner, P | Author Turner brilliantly explores the life of Minamoto Yoshitsune, a 12th-century samurai hero whose life and death was immersed in bravery and violence. Despite being raised in a Buddhist monastery after the beheading of his samurai father, Yoshitsune could not deny his warrior spirit. When his people rose up against their enemies, he threw himself into battle with a bravery that bordered on lunacy, securing his place in history as a samurai legend. | Compendium Spring 2016 YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Honor Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominees 2016 2017 ALA Honor SLJ Battle of the Kids' Books 2017 SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library |
| <i>Well, That Was Awkward</i> | Vail, R | Eighth-grade student Gracie Grant has a huge crush on handsome, popular AJ Rojanasopondist. The only problem is, AJ likes her best friend, Sienna. Grace quickly overcomes the tinge of jealousy she feels upon learning the news, and happily helps Sienna craft responses to AJ's surprisingly funny text messages. Unbeknownst to the girls, there's a good reason the messages seem out of character for AJ—his buddy Emmett is writing them on his behalf. “A modern, multicultural version of Cyrano de Bergerac ... This tween romance proves that some stories stand the test of time” (SLJ). | Compendium Fall 2017 Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee 2020 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2018 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 VOYA Perfect Tens 2017 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Running Dream</i> | Van draanen, W | When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again. | Schneider Family Book Award Maud Hart Lovelace Award Golden Sower YA Novel Award Beehive YA Book Award Winner Louisiana Young Readers' Choice South Carolina Junior Book Award Winner |
| <i>Super Max And The Mystery Of Thornwood's Revenge</i> | Vaught, S | Twelve-year-old Max is determined to investigate the connection between a hacker's online attacks of her grandfather and other town officials and suspicious activity at the supposedly haunted Thornwood Manor, even though her grandfather, who is Blue Creek's police chief, wants to keep Max and her souped-up wheelchair out of police business. | Parents' Choice Recommended Book South Carolina Children's Book Award 2019-2020 |
| <i>Things Too Huge To Fix By Saying Sorry</i> | Vaught, S | Dani is the biracial granddaughter of black scholar and writer Ruth Beans, a former civil rights activist who is now succumbing to Alzheimer's. Dani's friend Mac is the white grandson of Ruth's estranged friend and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, Avadelle Richardson. When Dani's grandmother gives her a mysterious envelope and a key, the middle-school friends set off on a quest to unravel the mystery of what drove a wedge between their grandmothers in the 1960s, an experience which leaves them pondering the continued legacy of slavery in their own lives today. | Compendium Spring 2017 CBC/NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book Finalist for the Edgar Allan Poe Award ILA YA Choices Award Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominees 2016 MO Truman Readers Nominee TN Volunteer Award MS 2018-2019 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Climbing The Stairs</i> | Venkatraman, P | Fifteen-year-old Vidya dreams of going to college—an unusual aspiration for a girl living in British occupied India during World War II. Then tragedy strikes, and Vidya and her brother are forced to move into a traditional household with their extended family, where women are meant to be married, not educated. Breaking the rules, Vidya finds refuge in her grandfather's library. But then her brother does something unthinkable, and Vidya's life becomes a whirlwind of political and personal | Compendium Fall 2008 ALA Best Books for YA 2009 Amelia Bloomer Project CCBC Book 2009 DC Capitol Choices Award 2009 ME Student Book Award 2009-2010 NCSS Notable Title NJ Garden State Fiction Award SC YA Book Award UT Beehive YA Book 2009-2010 |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | <p>complications. The question is, will she be strong enough to survive?</p> | |
| <p><i>Time To Dance</i></p> | <p>Venkatraman, P</p> | <p>In India, a girl who excels at Bharatanatyam dance refuses to give up after losing a leg in an accident.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2014 CCBC Global Book ALA Best Fiction for YA 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth CCBC Book 2015 CT Nutmeg Teen Award 2017 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award IN Eliot Rosewater Award 2016-2017 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award PA KSRA Young Adult HS Award 2015-2016 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Summer I Wasn't Me</i></p> | <p>Verdi, J</p> | <p>Lexi Hamilton's mother has not been the same since the death of Lexi's father. Despite Lexi's attempts to help out, her mother is struggling with the most basic daily tasks. So when Lexi's mother takes the discovery of Lexi's homosexuality hard, Lexi agrees to attend the religious camp New Horizons, which promises to transform her into a heterosexual. Once at the camp, she experiences growing unease with the practices of the counselors, and when one camper is publicly beaten to drive off his "homosexual demons," Lexi is finally forced to reexamine her beliefs about right and wrong.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Trouble With Half A Moon</i> | Vigilante, D | Overwhelmed by grief and guilt over her brother's death and its impact on her mother, and at odds with her best friend, thirteen-year-old Dellie reaches out to a neglected boy in her building in the projects and learns from a new neighbor to have faith in herself and others. | FL Sunshine State Young Reader Award 2012-2013 |
| <i>Rucker Park Setup</i> | Volponi, P | While playing in a crucial basketball game on the very court where his best friend was murdered, Mackey tries to come to terms with his own part in that murder and decide whether to maintain his silence or tell J.R.'s father and the police what really happened. | ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2008 GA Peach Teen Choice 2008-2009 IL Abraham Lincoln Award 2011 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2008-2009 |
| <i>Spinning</i> | Walden, T | Author Tillie Walden offers a graphic novel memoir about her childhood years in figure skating, illustrating how skating helped her escape stress from school, bullies, and family. However, as she came of age, she began to have other passions for art, and another girl, and wondered how figure skating would fit in with her life. When her senior year arrived, Tillie was forced to make important decisions about her future. | Compendium Winter 2018 Eisner Award Winner New York City Public Library Notable Best Books for Teens 2018 YALSA Great Graphic Novel 2017 Booklist Youth Editor's Choice Isinglass Teen Read Award Nominee 2019-2020 Garden State Teen Nonfiction Award 2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 Booklist Editors' Choice Books for Youth 2017 ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2018 Excellence in Graphic Literature YA 2018 |
| <i>Life Of Frederick Douglass : A Graphic Narrative Of A Slave'</i> | Walker, D | Presents a graphic novel biography of Frederick Douglass, an escaped slave, abolitionist, public speaker, and the most photographed man of the nineteenth century. Includes additional background on the history of slavery in the United States, the development and impact of photography, and the Civil War. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Anything Could Happen</i> | Walton, W | Fifteen-year-old Tretch Farm has hesitated to reveal that he is gay to his family, since he is worried they will face hostility from their small-town neighbors, | Lambda Literary Award |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | but Tretch's biggest concern is what to do about his crush on his best friend Matt. | |
| <i>Prince And The Dressmaker</i> | Wang, J | Prince Sebastian has a secret--he loves to wear women's dresses and go out at night in Paris. His best friend and dressmaker, Frances is his secret weapon, but while she keeps Sebastian's secret, she puts off pursuing her own dreams. Includes a glimpse inside the author's process with images of the script and sketches. | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 TX Tayshas HS Reading List 2019-2020 TX Maverick Graphic Novels List 2019 SLJ 2018 Best Books Chicago Public Library Best Teen Titles 2018 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers 2019 ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books Thumbs Up! Award Nominee 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award ALA Rainbow Project Book List Black-Eyed Susan Graphin Novel Award Georgia Peach Teen Choice Award CCBC Book 2019 Beehive YA Book Award 2019-2020 Capitol Choices Award Notable Books for a Global Society Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee Great Lakes Great Books Nominee ALA Teens' Top 10 Nominee Maine Student Book Award Reading List ILA Young Adults' Choices Reading List Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee Volunteer MS Nominee 2020-2021 Teen Choice Book of the Year Winner</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Enemy Child : The Story Of Norman Mineta, A Boy Imprisoned I</i></p> | <p>Warren, A</p> | <p>Provides an illustrated biography discussing the life and career of former U.S. congressman Norman Mineta. Describes how ten-year-old Norman and his family were interned at Heart Mountain Internment Camp during World War II, and how his experiences there gave him a spirit of public service. Details how he became the first Asian mayor of a major city then served ten terms in the U.S. House of Representatives where he was instrumental in passing the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. Chronicles the history of Asian immigration to put the internment into historical context, and explores the lasting legacy of the government's policy of imprisoning Japanese immigrants. Includes black-and-white photographs throughout.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Junior Library Guild Selection</p> |
| <p><i>Watch Us Rise</i></p> | <p>Watson, R</p> | <p>Frustrated by the way women are treated--even at their progressive New York City high school--two best friends start a Women's Rights Club, post their essays and poems online, and watch it go viral, attracting positive support as well as trolls.</p> | <p>Compendium Title</p> |
| <p><i>What Momma Left Me</i></p> | <p>Watson, R</p> | <p>After the death of their mother, thirteen-year-old Serenity Evans and her younger brother go to live with their grandparents, who try to keep them safe from bad influences and help them come to terms with what has happened to their family.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 ALA Camellia Award 2011-2012 Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011</p> |
| <p><i>You Can Fly : The Tuskegee Airmen</i></p> | <p>Weatherford, C</p> | <p>The poster of Uncle Sam said "I WANT YOU!" But for a young black man in 1940, it probably did not seem like Uncle Sam wanted him. Certainly not behind the stick of a warplane! Nevertheless, young black men from around America wanted to serve their country in the skies, and so the Tuskegee Airmen were born. Dozens of men began learning engineering, mechanics, code communication, and map reading. Before long, they were in the air, on the front lines of Europe, making history!</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominee 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2017</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Length Of A String</i> | Weissman, E | Twelve-year-old Imani, the only black girl in Hebrew school, is preparing for her bat mitzvah and hoping to find her birthparents when she discovers the history of adoption in her own family through her great-grandma Anna's Holocaust-era diary. | Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 |
| <i>Lucky In Love</i> | West, K | On a whim, Maddie buys a lottery ticket, which is very out of character for her. She knows her family has financial problems, so she has worked hard during school to be eligible for college scholarships. Then she finds out that she has won the lottery! No more money worries for her or her family! But there are problems associated with her wealth, and Maddie wonders how to balance who she was with her new life. | ILA YA Choices 2018 |
| <i>Genesis Begins Again</i> | Williams, A | Thirteen-year-old Genesis tries again and again to lighten her black skin, thinking it is the root of her family's troubles, before discovering reasons to love herself as is. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Broken China</i> | Williams, L | China Cup Cameron, a fourteen-year-old single mother with only her paralyzed Uncle Simon for support, takes on tremendous personal debt in hopes of a beautiful funeral after her daughter dies. | ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2006 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2006-2007 |
| <i>Saturdays With Hitchcock</i> | Wittlinger, E | Twelve-year-old movie-loving Maisie is in need of a distraction from her current romantic dilemma when her Uncle Walt comes to stay with her family after being hurt on the set of the movie he's filming in Hollywood. | ALA Rainbow Project Booklist 2019 |
| <i>Unsung Hero Of Birdsong Usa</i> | Woods, B | Twelve-year-old Gabriel gains new perspective when he becomes friends with Meriwether, an African American World War II hero who has recently returned to the unwelcoming Jim Crow South. | Compendium Title |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>After Tupac And D Foster</i></p> | <p>Woodson, J</p> | <p>In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur's music, as together they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2008 Newbery Honor Book Global Read Aloud Contender 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List ALA Best Books for YA 2009 ALA Notable Children's Books 2009 CCBC Book 2009 DC Capitol Choices Award 2009 Josette Frank Award KLIATT - Editor's Choice Hardcover YA NJ Garden State Fiction Award OR Reader's Choice 2010-2011 TN Volunteer YA Award VA Readers' Choice MS 2010-2011</p> |
| <p><i>Behind You</i></p> | <p>Woodson, J</p> | <p>After fifteen-year-old Jeremiah is mistakenly shot by police, the people who love him struggle to cope with their loss as they recall his life and death, unaware that 'Miah is watching over them.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Jacqueline Woodson is the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature Global Read Aloud Contender 2019 ALA Best Books for YA 2005 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book 2005 DC Capitol Choices Award 2005</p> |
| <p><i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i></p> | <p>Woodson, J</p> | <p>Free verse autobiography of Jacqueline Woodson about her childhood growing up in the sixties and seventies in both the North and the South, from South Carolina to Brooklyn, New York.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2014 National Book Award Winner Newbery Honor Jacqueline Woodson (author) is he 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature A President Obama "O" Book Club Pick E.B. White Read Aloud Award Winner Coretta Scott King Award Robert F. Sibert Award National Book Honor The Global Read Aloud 2019 Contender</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | | Loe Lizzard Winner NEA African American Booklist |
| <i>Dear One</i> | Woodson, J | Twelve-year-old Feni has to adjust when the pregnant young daughter of an old friend of her mother's comes to stay with them. | Global Read Aloud 2019 Contender |
| <i>From The Notebooks Of Melanin Sun</i> | Woodson, J | Almost-fourteen-year-old Melanin Sun's comfortable, quiet life is shattered when his mother reveals she has fallen in love with a woman. | Coretta Scott King Honor Book Jaqueline Woodson (author) is the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature Global Read Aloud Contender 2019 ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA IRA Notable Books for a Global Society Jane Addams Honor Lambda Literary Award |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Harbor Me</i></p> | <p>Woodson, J</p> | <p>Everything changes when six kids are sent to a room in school by themselves with no adults to listen in. Dubbing it the ARTT room, A Room To Talk, they find themselves discussing things they never thought they could with anyone else, finding outlets for fears about parents, racial profiling, deportation scares, and ultimately their shared longing for a place to belong.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Jacqueline Woodson (Author) is 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature New York Times Best Seller 2019-2020 Texas Bluebonnet Award 2019 Global Read Aloud Contender Intermediate Reader Award Nominees 2020 2018 SLJ Best Books 2019 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 ALA Best Fiction for Young Adults 2019-2020 GA Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Great Lakes Great Books Nominee 2019 CCBC Book 2019-2020 Young Reader's Choice Award Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century 2019-2020 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019 IRL Teachers' Choices Reading List 2020-2021 Volunteer Intermediate Nominee Kirukus Prize Honor</p> |
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Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>If You Come Softly</i></p> | <p>Woodson, J</p> | <p>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 people's reactions.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Jacqueline Woodson (author) is the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature Black-Eyed Susan HS Award Global Read Aloud Contender 2019 Virginia Readers' Choice Award HS ALA 100 Best Books for Teens 2001 ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award CA Young Reader Medal 2000-2001 CCBC Book DC Capitol Choices Award IRA Notable Books for a Global Society MO Gateway Nominee 2000-2001 NJ Garden State Fiction Award RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2001-2002 SD YARP Reading List 2000 TN Volunteer YA Award TX Lone Star Reading List 2000-2001 VA Readers' Choice HS Winner VOYA Books in the Middle</p> |
| <p><i>Miracle's Boys</i></p> | <p>Woodson, J</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Lafayette's close relationship with his older brother Charlie changes after Charlie is released from a detention home and blames Lafayette for the death of their mother.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Award Winner Los Angeles Times Book Prize Jacqueline Woodson (author) is the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature The Global Read Aloud 2019 Contender</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Putting Makeup On The Fat Boy</i> | Wright, B | Sixteen-year-old Carlos Duarte is on the verge of realizing his dream of becoming a famous make-up artist, but first he must face his jealous boss at a Macy's cosmetics counter, his sister's abusive boyfriend, and his crush on a punk-rocker classmate. | Stonewall Book Award NEA LGBTQ Reading Recommendations ALA Rainbow Project Book List ALA Honor 2012 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA Best Children's Books of 2012 Lambda Literary Award |
| <i>American Born Chinese</i> | Yang, G | A graphic novel which examines issues of self-image, cultural identity, transformation, and self acceptance as Jin Wang moves with his family from Chinatown to an upper class suburb in San Francisco. | Compendium Title Gene Luen Yang (Author) is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature 2006 National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature Eisner Award for Best Graphic Album 2007 Eisner Nominee for Best Coloring 2007 Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year New York Times Bestseller |
| <i>Boxers</i> | Yang, G | Author Yang's historical fiction, told in paired graphic novels, brings to light the events of the Boxer Rebellion in 1890s China. "Boxers" follows young Bao, whose small village is ruthlessly disturbed by "foreign devils," missionaries and soldiers. Bao decides to fight back, though. He learns how to defend himself and gathers an army of peasants, summoning the powers of the Chinese gods. "Saints" tells the story of a lonely, unwanted girl known as Four-Girl, who lives in Bao's neighboring village. Converting to Catholicism, Four-Girl is baptized and named Vibiana. Vibiana soon discovers that being a Christian in China is very difficult, and her faith is tested in matters of life and death. "The juxtaposition of these opposing points of view, both of them sympathetic, makes for powerful, thought-provoking storytelling about a historical period that is not well known in the West" (SLJ). | Compendium Spring 2014 Gene Luen Yang (author) is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature New York Times Bestseller National Book Award Honor CCBC Book |

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| <p><i>Saints</i></p> | <p>Yang, G</p> | <p>China, 1898. An unwanted fourth daughter, Four-Girl isn't even given a proper name by her family. She finds friendship-and a name, Vibiana-in the most unlikely of places: Christianity. But China is a dangerous place for Christians. The Boxer Rebellion is murdering Westerners and Chinese Christians alike. Torn between her nation and her Christian friends, Vibiana will have to decide where her true loyalties lie . . . and whether she is willing to die for her faith.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014 Gene Luen Yang (Author) is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature New York Times Bestseller National Book Award Honor CCBC Book 2014 CCBC Global Book ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2014 Best Children's Books of 2014 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2013 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2013 Boston Globe-Horn Book 2014 Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award 2013 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award Eisner Nominee GA Tome Society Honorable Mention Horn Book Fanfare 2013 Lynd Ward Graphic Novel Prize MI Thumbs Up! 2014 Nominee NCSS Notable Title 2014 SLJ Best Books 2013 TN Volunteer MS Award 2015-2016 TX Maverick Graphic Novels List 2014</p> |
| <p><i>Shadow Hero</i></p> | <p>Yang, G</p> | <p>Presents the origins and adventures of Asian American superhero, the Green Turtle.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 Gene Luen Yang (Author) is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature New York Times Best Seller APALA Young Adult Literature Award</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Good Enough</i></p> | <p>Yoo, P</p> | <p>A Korean American teenager tries to please her parents by getting into an Ivy League college, but a new guy in school and her love of the violin tempt her in new directions.</p> | <p>APALA Children's Literature Award California Collection HS 2011 CCBC Book 2009 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award MO Gateway Nominee 2010-2011 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2011-2012 NJ Garden State Fiction Award 2011 SC YA Book Award 2009-2010</p> |
| <p><i>Sun Is Also A Star</i></p> | <p>Yoon, N</p> | <p>Natasha wakes up with one goal—to prevent the deportation of her family back to Jamaica. And she only has 12 hours to do it. Daniel is a poet, torn between the life he wants and the life his Korean family expects of him as he makes his way toward an interview that will secure his place in an Ivy League medical program. When the two meet on the busy streets of NYC, they are both surprised to fall quickly and deeply in love as fate seems to unexpectedly intertwine their lives. “Lyrical and sweeping, full of hope, heartbreak, fate, and free will ... Encompasses the cultural specifics of diverse New York City communities and the universal beating of the human heart” (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 #1 New York Times Bestseller National Book Award Finalist 2017 Michael L. Printz Honor Book New York Times Notable Book Buzz Feed Best YA Book of the Year POPSUGAR Best Book of the Year Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year Booklist Editor's Choice New York Public Library Best Book for Teens Recipient of the John Steptoe New Talent Award Walter Award Honor Book Black-Eyed Susan HS Award Abraham Lincoln Award 2020 Iowa High School Book Award Colorado Blue Spruce YA Award 2019-2020 Young Reader's Choice Award YA South Carolina YA Book Award Winner Kentucky Bluegrass Award SLJ 42 Diverse YA Titles for Every Library Texas Tayshas HS Reading List Missouri Gateway Readers Award Reader's Choice Award Nominee 2018-2019</p> |

Grade 8 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>I Am Malala : How One Girl Stood Up For Education And Change</i></p> | <p>Yousafzai, M</p> | <p>Describes the life of the young Pakistani student who advocated for women's rights and education in the Taliban-controlled Swat Valley, survived an assassination attempt, and became the youngest nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> | <p>Nobel Peace Prize Winning Author Compendium 2016 Spring Amelia Bloomer Project 2015 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nonfiction 2017 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Reading Book CO Blue Spruce YA Award 2016-2017 IRA Teacher's Choices 2015 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2015-2016 ME Student Book Award 2015-2016 NCSS Notable Title 2015 NH Isinglass Teen Read List 2015-2016 NV YA Books 2017 Parents' Choice Award Winner 2015 SD Prairie Pasque 2016-2017</p> |
| <p><i>Out Of The Dragon's Mouth</i></p> | <p>Zeiss, J</p> | <p>After the fall of South Vietnam, fourteen-year-old Mai is forced to flee to a refugee camp on an island off the coast of Malaysia, where she must navigate numerous hardships while waiting to be sponsored for entry into America.</p> | |
| <p><i>It's Not All Black And White : Multiracial Youth Speak Out</i></p> | | <p>Offers firsthand accounts of what it's like to be biracial or multiracial by over forty teens. Features poems, personal reflections, and interviews discussing family dynamics, prejudice, identity confusion, and other related topics.</p> | |