

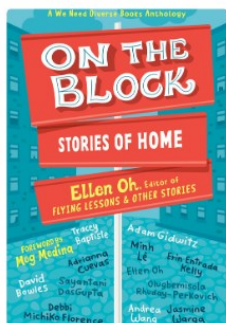


The Trouble with Heroes

Messner, Kate

A deeply moving novel-in-verse about a boy, a dog, and the healing power of nature.

YAJF MES

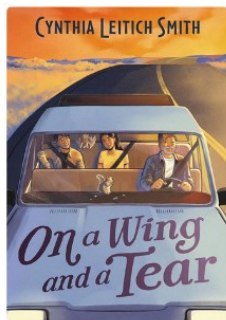


On the Block

Oh, Ellen

A collection of 12 stories about the residents of the Entrada apartment building & how their lives are linked as multigenerational immigrant families.

YAJF ONT



On a Wing and a Tear

Smith, Cynthia Leitich

Close friends Melanie & Ray join Grampa Charlie Halfmoon on a road trip to bring Great-Grandfather Bat, a living legend, to a historic game, facing adventure, danger & a hair-raising mystery along the way.

YAJF SMI

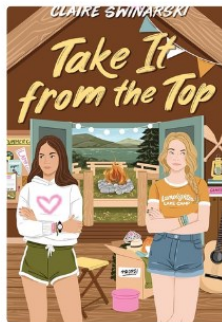


Please Pay Attention

Sumner, Jamie

After surviving a school shooting that left her feeling helpless in her wheelchair, Bea finds healing & empowerment through horseback riding therapy & begins to advocate for change.

YAJF SUM

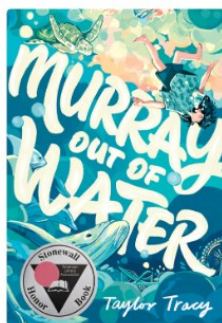


Take it from the Top

Swinarski, Claire

Set at a camp over the course of 6 summers, this novel dives into the falling-out of 2 girls from different backgrounds who thought they'd be friends forever.

YAJF SWI



Murray Out of Water

Tracy, Taylor

This novel in verse explores one girl's struggle to regain her magic after a hurricane forces her to move away from her beloved ocean that, she believes, has given her special powers.

YAJF TRA

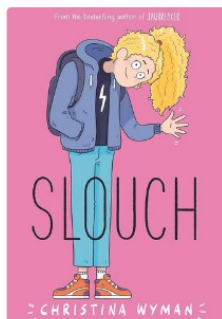


All the Blues in the Sky

Watson, Renée

When 13-year-old Sage's best friend dies, Sage struggles with grief & feels that she is at fault, but when she joins a grief group, she slowly learns to heal.

YAJF WAT



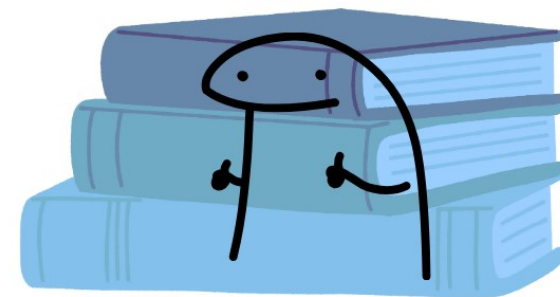
Slouch

Wyman, Christina

As the tallest girl in 7th grade, 12-year-old Stevie receives unwanted attention that weighs on her self-esteem as she navigates family issues & struggles to stand tall on the debate team.

YAJF WYM

JUNIOR HIGH



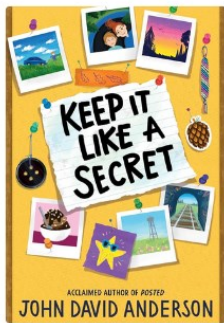
Realistic Fiction

**RECOMMENDED
READING FOR
GRADES 6-8**



Montgomery Campus - 1111 Reading Drive, 60538
Oswego Campus - 32 West Jefferson, 60543

630-978-1655
www.oswego.lib.il.us

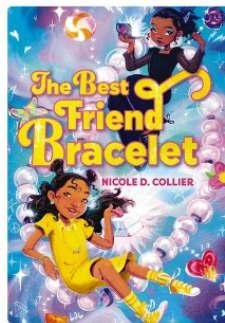


Keep it Like a Secret

Anderson, John David

After his sister Claire leaves home after a fight with their mother, Morgan tries to convince her to come home, but Claire has her own plan for the day she told Morgan she wanted to spend with him.

YAJF AND

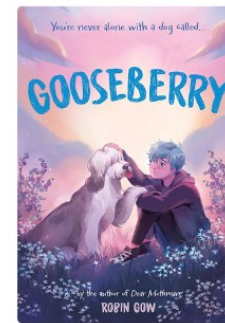


The Best Friend Bracelet

Collier, Nicole D.

Zariah wants to make friends & accidentally crafts a magical friendship bracelet that turns anyone who wears it into her best friend, with disastrous—and hilarious—results.

YAJF COL



Gooseberry

Gow, Robin

12-year-old nonbinary B forms a connection with stray dog, Gooseberry, prompting them to pursue their dream of becoming a dog trainer while navigating the complexities of trust & building a family in their newest foster home.

YAJF GOW

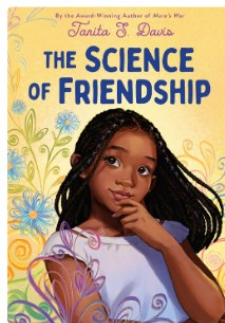


It's All or Nothing, Vale

Arango, Andrea Beatriz

Valentina Camacho was the top athlete at her fencing gym until a life-changing accident, but now her body doesn't move the same & there's a new number one, in a story about a girl finding her way back to her passion.

YAJF ARA

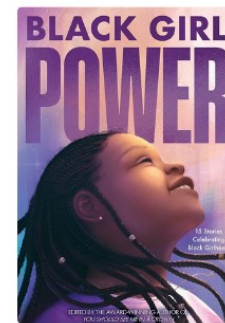


The Science of Friendship

Davis, Tanita S.

Rylee, starting 8th grade with zero friends, works with science geek DeNia to research what makes & breaks friendships. But the more she learns, the more she wonders if there's a science to it.

YAJF DAV

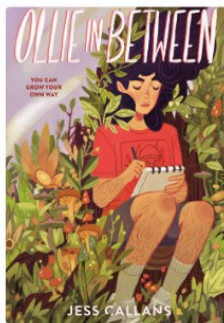


Black Girl Power

Johnson, Leah

From 15 legendary Black female authors comes a collection of stories & poems about the power we find in the everyday and the beauty of Black girlhood.

YAJF BLA

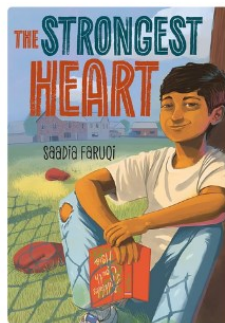


Ollie in Between

Callans, Jess

A nonbinary middle-schooler must choose between pretending to be the girl everyone expects them to be & forging their own path forward.

YAJF CAL



The Strongest Heart

Faruqi, Saadia

Mo got used to tuning out his father's rage, & after mama leaves, Mo and Abbu move to Texas to live with family, but as Mo starts to see a future, he knows the monster within his father can come out anytime.

YAJF FAR



Mallory in Full Color

Leahy, Elisa Stone

Mallory's true feelings come out in her sci-fi web comic, but when it goes viral, classmates recognize the unflattering characters, leading Mallory to reckon with her lies, in a story about identity & friendship.

YAJF LEA

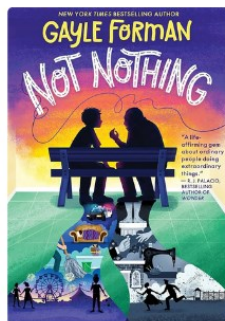


The Tenth Mistake of Hank Hooperman

Choldenko, Gennifer

When their mother doesn't come home for a week, Hank & his toddler sister seek out help, even though it means a lot of changes and having to answer questions about his mom that he has been trying to keep secret.

YAJF CHO



Not Nothing

Forman, Gayle

Assigned to work at a nursing home for the summer, Alex meets Josey, a 107-year-old Holocaust survivor who stopped talking years before, & forming an unlikely bond, he starts to believe he can make a difference in the world.

YAJF FOR



The Beautiful Game

Méndez, Yamile Saied

When 13-year-old Valeria, former star player on the Overlords boys' team, joins the girls' team for the first time, she must find her place & learn how to play "like a girl".

YAJF MEN