

SUMMER READING
for students entering
grade 9

Some books to consider...

Speak, Laurie Halse Anderson

FROM THE PUBLISHER

1999 National Book Award Finalist
School Library Journal Best Books of the Year
Booklist Editors' Choice

Melinda is a friendless outcast at Merryweather High. She busted an end-of-summer party by calling the cops, and now nobody will talk to her, let alone listen to her. As time passes, she becomes increasingly isolated and practically stops talking altogether. It is through her work on an art project that she is finally able to face what really happened at that terrible party: she was raped by an upperclassman, a guy who still attends Merryweather and who is still a threat to her. It will take another violent encounter with him to make Melinda fight back. This time she refuses to be silent.

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, Betty Smith

FROM THE PUBLISHER

The American classic about a young girl's coming of age at the turn of the century. "A profoundly moving novel, and an honest and true one. It cuts right to the heart of life...If you miss *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* you will deny yourself a rich experience...It is a poignant and deeply understanding story of childhood and family relationships. The Nolans lived in the Williamsburg slums of Brooklyn from 1902 until 1919...Their daughter Francie and their son Neely knew more than their fair share of the privations and sufferings that are the lot of a great city's poor. Primarily this is Francie's book. She is a superb feat of characterization, an imaginative, alert, resourceful child. And Francie's growing up and beginnings of wisdom are the substance of *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*."
—*New York Times*

Some authors to consider...

Horror: Christopher Pike, Chris Crutcher, R. L. Stine

Male: Robert Cormier, Gary Paulsen, John Sandford, Robert Lipsyte, Walter Dean Meyers

Female: Laurie Halse Anderson, Deborah Tannen, Sharon Creech, Gail Levine Carson, Cecily von Ziegesar

Mystery: James Patterson, Mary Higgins Clark, John Grisham

Advice: Melissa Bank, Lauren Henderson, Rachel Simmons

Sci-Fi: Ray Bradbury, Frank Herbert, Ursula Le Guin

If you liked...

To Kill a Mockingbird,

then you might like:

The Heart is a Lonely Hunter, or

The Member of the Wedding,

both by Carson McCullers

Night,

then you might like:

Mila 18, by Leon Uris or

Dawn, by Elie Wiesel or

The Diary of Anne Frank

The Contender,

then you might like:

The Brave, by Robert Litsyte or

The Natural, by Bernard Malamud