

Green Mountain Book Award Master List 2016-2017

This is the twelfth year of the Green Mountain Book Award, a reader's choice award for students in grades 9-12. Co-sponsored by the Vermont Department of Libraries and the Vermont School Library Association, this program is designed to introduce to high school students some excellent books for their pleasure reading.

These books, to be read during the 2016-2017 school year, comprise the master list for the award to be made in 2017. Voting forms will be made available to all Vermont schools and public libraries in the spring so that young adults can vote for their favorite book. The master list titles have been selected to satisfy the reading interests of teens in grades 9-12, and include both adult and young adult books. All books on the list were first published in 2014-2015.

Albertalli, Becky. *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*. Balzer & Bray, 2015. \$17.99. ISBN 978-0062348678.

The coming-of-age, coming-out story of Simon Spiers, high school junior, and Blue, his mysterious email correspondent – and Martin, who uses Simon's secret to blackmail him.

Anderson, M.T. *Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad*. Candlewick, 2015. \$25.99. ISBN 978-0763668181.

This is the riveting, true story of the Siege of Leningrad -- and the power of Shostakovich's music to sustain and memorialize his fellow citizens.

Bardugo, Leigh. *Six of Crows*. Henry Holt and Co., 2015. \$18.99. ISBN 978-1627792127.

In this fantastic start to a new fantasy series by Bardugo, six dangerous outlaws team up to pull off an impossible heist. They might even have a chance if they don't destroy each other -- or the world -- in the process.

Coates, Ta-Nehisi. *Between the World and Me*. Spiegel & Grau, 2015. \$24. ISBN 978-0812993547.

Ta-Nehisi Coates writes a powerful letter to his teenage son about what he needs to know about being black in America today. This short book is an explosion of ideas about what race really means in the U.S., and once you've begun, it'd be hard for this book not to change the way you see the whole world.

De Fombelle, Timothee. *Vango: Between Sky and Earth*. Candlewick, 2014. \$17.99. ISBN 978-0763671969.

In the world between the wars, a young man on the cusp of taking priestly vows is suddenly made a fugitive. Fleeing accusations of murder and attempts on his life, Vango crisscrosses Europe on plane, train and even zeppelin, desperately trying to uncover the secrets of his past and prove his innocence before it's too late.

Demetrios, Heather. *I'll Meet You There*. Henry Holt and Co., 2015. \$17.99. ISBN 978-0805097955.

The story of Skylar, whose dream of attending art school in the fall is threatened by her mother's instability, and of Josh, who has returned to their small California town from Afghanistan without a leg.

Graudin, Ryan. *Wolf by Wolf*. Little Brown, 2015. \$18. ISBN 978-0316405126.

It's 1956. Germany and Japan have won World War II, and each year they commemorate their victory with a hold-no-punches motorcycle race from Berlin to Tokyo where the winner gets to meet the reclusive Adolf Hitler. Yael, a victim of Nazi experiments that left her able to skinshift, has one goal: win the race and assassinate Hitler. Can she survive to take her revenge?

Kinsella, Sophie. *Finding Audrey*. Delacorte Press, 2015. \$18.99. ISBN 978-0553536515.

The story of Audrey, a fourteen year old girl living with anxiety, and the funny ups and downs of her family's experiences. Audrey has been receiving professional help, then she meets Linus, her brother's video gaming partner who takes her by surprise and helps her to see things in a new light. This is a story of her progress towards recovery.

Konigsburg, Bill. *The Porcupine of Truth*. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2015, 2015. \$17.99. ISBN: 978-0545648936.

Carson is dreading a summer spent taking care of his terminally ill estranged father, until a chance encounter with Aisha leads to a road trip that helps both teens redefine the meaning of family.

Munroe, Randall. *What If?: Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014. \$24. ISBN 978-0544272996.

How long could a nuclear submarine survive in space? What would happen if you tried to hit a baseball pitched at 90% the speed of light? How long could someone live if they suddenly lost all of their DNA? Are stick figures any good at answering crazy questions? In the case of this last question, yes, at least when they're the creations of Randall Munroe, a former NASA roboticist and creator of the webcomic *xkcd*.

Reynolds, Jason & Brendan Kiely. *All American Boys*. Atheneum, 2015. \$17.99. ISBN 978-1481463331.

One beating, two boys--one black, one white, both American. When Quinn witnesses Rashad, a friend of a friend from school, getting brutally beaten by a white cop, he doesn't know what to do. Likewise, Rashad can't figure out how his trip to a convenience store to buy chips landed him in the hospital. Both boys have to face the reality that racism and prejudice didn't die after the civil rights movement and decide what they're going to do about it.

Schmidt, Gary D. *Orbiting Jupiter*. Clarion Books, 2015. \$17.99. ISBN 978-0544462229.

This is the beautiful and heartbreaking tale of troubled teen father Joseph and Jack, the foster brother who attempts to earn his trust and be his friend.

Tahir, Sabaa. *An Ember in the Ashes*. Razorbill, 2015. \$11.99. ISBN 978-1595148049 (pap.).
Two worlds collide in this epic fantasy, as characters Laia and Elias, both begin searching for the truth. As the story unfolds they realize that the truth might be more powerful than they ever could have imagined.

Warga, Jasmine. *My Heart and Other Black Holes*. Balzer & Bray, 2015. \$17.99. ISBN 978-0062324672.

A very depressed, sixteen-year-old Aysel is ready to die, but she's not sure she can do it alone. Enter suicide partner Roman, a boy equally depressed and discouraged with his life. Will the pair be able to go through with their actions together?

Wilson, G. Willow. *Ms. Marvel Volume 1: No Normal*. Marvel, 2014. \$15.99. ISBN 978-0785190219.

Kamala Khan is a 16-year-old Pakistani-American girl living in New Jersey, who has always dreamed of being a superhero. When she suddenly finds herself in the skin of one (Ms. Marvel herself), she's initially ecstatic. Soon, though, Kamala isn't so sure that this blonde, skinny, American heroine is her true self. A perfect addition to the realm of superhero comics.

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