

# PEABODY VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

## SUMMER READING 2020

THE PEABODY K-12 SUMMER READING PROGRAM SUPPORTS THE EDUCATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENTS AS LIFELONG LEARNERS. DID YOU KNOW THAT STUDENTS CAN LOSE UP TO [2 MONTHS OF READING SKILLS](#) OVER THE SUMMER? SUMMER READING HELPS TO MAINTAIN THE CHILD'S READING ABILITY, THUS ENSURING A SMOOTHER TRANSITION FROM GRADE TO GRADE. IN ADDITION, SUMMER READING ENCOURAGES AN APPRECIATION OF LITERATURE, AND ENHANCES LEARNING BY OFFERING A VARIETY OF THEMES.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- \* STUDENTS CHOOSE **ONE** BOOK FROM THE LIST BELOW. DURING THE FIRST WEEKS OF SCHOOL, TEACHERS WILL ADMINISTER AN ASSESSMENT OF THE READING.
- \* STUDENTS MAY TAKE ORIGINAL NOTES OF CHARACTERS, EVENTS, CONFLICTS, SETTING AND THEMES IF THEY CHOOSE. IT IS **NOT** REQUIRED.
- \* TO SEE BOOK TALKS ON THE DIFFERENT BOOKS, CLICK [HERE](#). THERE IS ALSO A LINK ON THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE. STUDENTS MUST USE THEIR STUDENT EMAIL ACCOUNT TO LOG IN.

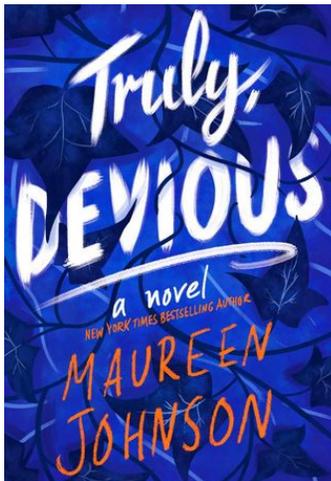


### ***PUDDIN'*** BY JULIE MURPHY

GENRE: CONTEMPORARY YOUNG ADULT

IT IS A COMPANION NOVEL TO *DUMPLIN'*, WHICH FOLLOWS SUPPORTING CHARACTERS FROM THE FIRST BOOK IN THE MONTHS AFTER WILLOWDEAN'S STAR TURN IN THE CLOVER CITY PAGEANT.

MILLIE MICHALCHUK HAS GONE TO FAT CAMP EVERY YEAR SINCE SHE WAS A GIRL. NOT THIS YEAR. THIS YEAR SHE HAS NEW PLANS TO CHASE HER SECRET DREAM—AND TO KISS HER CRUSH. CALLIE REYES IS THE PRETTY GIRL WHO IS NEXT IN LINE FOR DANCE TEAM CAPTAIN AND HAS THE POPULAR BOYFRIEND. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO OTHER GIRLS, SHE'S MORE FRENEMY THAN FRIEND. WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES BRING THE GIRLS TOGETHER OVER THE COURSE OF A SEMESTER, THEY WILL SURPRISE EVERYONE (ESPECIALLY THEMSELVES) BY REALIZING THEY MIGHT HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN THEY EVER IMAGINED.



### ***TRULY, DEVIOUS*** BY MAUREEN JOHNSON

GENRE: YOUNG ADULT MYSTERY

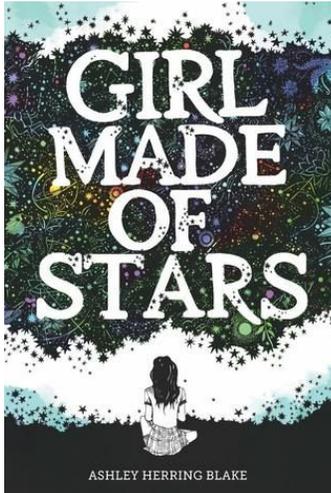
ELLINGHAM ACADEMY IS A FAMOUS PRIVATE SCHOOL IN VERMONT FOR THE BRIGHTEST THINKERS, INVENTORS, AND ARTISTS. IT WAS FOUNDED BY ALBERT ELLINGHAM, AN EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY TYCOON, WHO WANTED TO MAKE A WONDERFUL PLACE FULL OF RIDDLES, TWISTING PATHWAYS, AND GARDENS. "A PLACE," HE SAID, "WHERE LEARNING IS A GAME."

SHORTLY AFTER THE SCHOOL OPENED, HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER WERE KIDNAPPED. THE ONLY REAL CLUE WAS A MOCKING RIDDLE LISTING METHODS OF MURDER, SIGNED WITH THE FRIGHTENING PSEUDONYM "TRULY, DEVIOUS." IT BECAME ONE OF THE GREAT UNSOLVED CRIMES OF AMERICAN HISTORY.

TRUE-CRIME AFICIONADO STEVIE BELL IS SET TO BEGIN HER FIRST YEAR AT ELLINGHAM ACADEMY, AND SHE HAS AN AMBITIOUS PLAN: SHE WILL SOLVE THIS COLD CASE. THAT IS, SHE WILL SOLVE THE CASE WHEN SHE GETS A GRIP ON HER DEMANDING NEW SCHOOL LIFE AND HER HOUSEMATES: THE INVENTOR, THE NOVELIST, THE ACTOR, THE ARTIST, AND THE JOKESTER. BUT SOMETHING STRANGE IS HAPPENING. TRULY DEVIOUS MAKES A SURPRISE RETURN, AND DEATH REVISITS ELLINGHAM ACADEMY. THE PAST HAS CRAWLED OUT OF ITS GRAVE. SOMEONE HAS GOTTEN AWAY WITH MURDER.

\*THIS BOOK CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECT MATTER.

[TEACHER BOOK TALKS](#)



## **\*GIRL MADE OF STARS BY ASHLEY HERRING BLAKE**

GENRE: CONTEMPORARY YOUNG ADULT

"I NEED OWEN TO EXPLAIN THIS. BECAUSE YES, I DO KNOW THAT OWEN WOULD NEVER DO THAT, BUT I ALSO KNOW HANNAH WOULD NEVER LIE ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT."

MARA AND OWEN ARE ABOUT AS CLOSE AS TWINS CAN GET. SO WHEN MARA'S FRIEND HANNAH ACCUSES OWEN OF RAPE, MARA DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK. CAN THE BROTHER SHE LOVES REALLY BE GUILTY OF SUCH A VIOLENT CRIME? TORN BETWEEN THE FAMILY SHE LOVES AND HER OWN SENSE OF RIGHT AND WRONG, MARA IS FEELING LOST, AND IT DOESN'T HELP THAT THINGS HAVE BEEN STRAINED WITH HER EX-GIRLFRIEND AND BEST FRIEND SINCE CHILDHOOD, CHARLIE.

AS MARA, HANNAH, AND CHARLIE NAVIGATE THIS NEW TERRAIN, MARA MUST FACE A TRAUMA FROM HER OWN PAST AND DECIDE WHERE CHARLIE FITS IN HER FUTURE. WITH SENSITIVITY AND OPENNESS, THIS TIMELY NOVEL CONFRONTS THE DIFFICULT QUESTIONS SURROUNDING CONSENT, VICTIM BLAMING, AND SEXUAL ASSAULT.



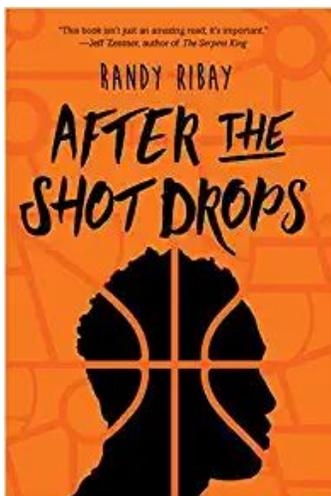
## **THESE WITCHES DON'T BURN BY ISABEL STERLING**

GENRE: YOUNG ADULT FANTASY

HANNAH'S A WITCH, BUT NOT THE KIND YOU'RE THINKING OF. SHE'S THE REAL DEAL, AN ELEMENTAL WITH THE POWER TO CONTROL FIRE, EARTH, WATER, AND AIR. BUT EVEN THOUGH SHE LIVES IN SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, HER MAGIC IS A SECRET SHE HAS TO KEEP TO HERSELF. IF SHE'S EVER CAUGHT USING IT IN FRONT OF A REG (READ: NON-WITCH), SHE COULD LOSE IT. FOR GOOD. SO, HANNAH SPENDS MOST OF HER TIME AVOIDING HER EX-GIRLFRIEND (AND FELLOW ELEMENTAL WITCH) VERONICA, HANGING OUT WITH HER BEST FRIEND, AND WORKING AT THE FLY BY NIGHT CAULDRON SELLING CANDLES AND CRYSTALS TO TOURISTS, GOTHS, AND LOCAL WICCANS.

BUT DEALING WITH HER EX IS THE LEAST OF HANNAH'S CONCERNS WHEN A TERRIFYING BLOOD RITUAL INTERRUPTS THE END-OF-SCHOOL-YEAR BONFIRE. EVIDENCE OF DARK MAGIC BEGINS TO APPEAR ALL OVER SALEM, AND HANNAH'S SURE IT'S THE WORK OF A DEADLY BLOOD WITCH. THE ISSUE IS, HER COVEN IS LESS THAN CONVINCED, FORCING HANNAH TO TEAM UP WITH THE LAST PERSON SHE WANTS TO SEE: VERONICA.

WHILE THE PAIR ATTEMPT TO SMOKE OUT THE BLOOD WITCH AT A HOUSE PARTY, HANNAH MEETS MORGAN, A CUTE NEW BALLERINA IN TOWN. BUT TRYING TO DATE AMID A SUPERNATURAL CRISIS IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE, AND HANNAH WILL HAVE TO TEST THE LIMITS OF HER POWER IF SHE'S GOING TO SAVE HER COVEN AND GET THE GIRL, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ATTACKS ON SALEM'S WITCHES BECOME DEADLIER BY THE DAY.



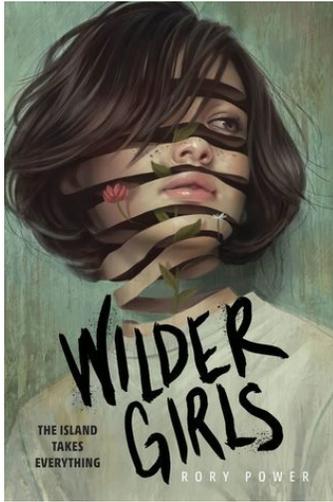
## **AFTER THE SHOT DROPS BY RANDY RIBAY**

GENRE: YOUNG ADULT SPORTS FICTION

BUNNY AND NASIR HAVE BEEN BEST FRIENDS FOREVER, BUT WHEN BUNNY ACCEPTS AN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP ACROSS TOWN, NASIR FEELS BETRAYED. WHILE BUNNY TRIES TO FIT IN WITH HIS NEW, PRIVILEGED PEERS, NASIR SPENDS MORE TIME WITH HIS COUSIN, WALLACE, WHO IS BEING EVICTED. NASIR CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHY THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS FALLING OVER ITSELF TO HELP BUNNY WHEN WALLACE IS IN TROUBLE.

WHEN WALLACE MAKES A BET AGAINST BUNNY, NASIR IS FACED WITH AN IMPOSSIBLE DECISION—MAYBE A DANGEROUS ONE.

TOLD FROM ALTERNATING PERSPECTIVES, *AFTER THE SHOT DROPS* IS A HEART-POUNGING STORY ABOUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF GREAT TALENT AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPASSION.



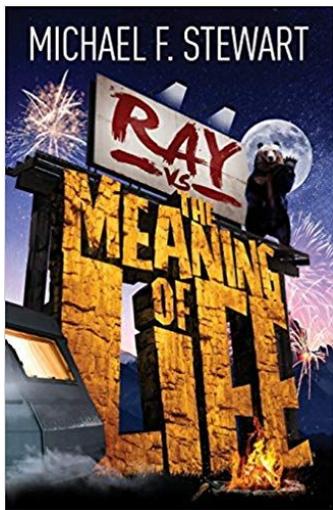
## **WILDER GIRLS BY RORY POWER**

GENRE: YOUNG ADULT MYSTERY

IT'S BEEN EIGHTEEN MONTHS SINCE THE RAXTER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS WAS PUT UNDER QUARANTINE. SINCE THE TOX HIT AND PULLED HETTY'S LIFE OUT FROM UNDER HER.

IT STARTED SLOW. FIRST THE TEACHERS DIED ONE BY ONE. THEN IT BEGAN TO INFECT THE STUDENTS, TURNING THEIR BODIES STRANGE AND FOREIGN. NOW, CUT OFF FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD AND LEFT TO FEND FOR THEMSELVES ON THEIR ISLAND HOME, THE GIRLS DON'T DARE WANDER OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL'S FENCE, WHERE THE TOX HAS MADE THE WOODS WILD AND DANGEROUS. THEY WAIT FOR THE CURE THEY WERE PROMISED AS THE TOX SEEPS INTO EVERYTHING.

BUT WHEN BYATT GOES MISSING, HETTY WILL DO ANYTHING TO FIND HER, EVEN IF IT MEANS BREAKING QUARANTINE AND BRAVING THE HORRORS THAT LIE BEYOND THE FENCE. AND WHEN SHE DOES, HETTY LEARNS THAT THERE'S MORE TO THEIR STORY, TO THEIR LIFE AT RAXTER, THAN SHE COULD HAVE EVER THOUGHT TRUE.

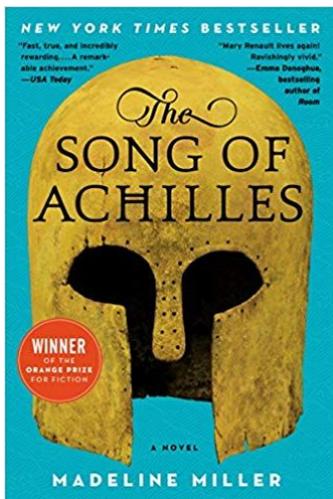


## **RAY vs. THE MEANING OF LIFE BY MICHAEL F. STEWART**

GENRE: YOUNG ADULT HUMOR CONTEMPORARY

GRANDMA'S LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT NAMES RAY TO INHERIT THE TRAILER PARK. IT'S A MILLION-DOLLAR ESTATE WITH ONE HITCH: TO PROVE HE'S NOT AS AIMLESS AS HE SEEMS, RAY MUST DISCOVER THE MEANING OF LIFE BY THE END OF THE MONTH. (SHE LEFT THE ANSWER IN AN ENVELOPE.) IF HE FAILS, THE CAMP GOES TO HIS ESTRANGED FAMILY.

HOW DOES ANYONE FIND THE MEANING OF LIFE WHILE RUNNING A PARK FULL OF MISFIT MINERS, WOULD-BE TRUCK RACERS, AND ONE DEMANDING LITTLE GIRL? THERE'S A BEAR TOO. A GRIZZLY. MAYBE THAT'LL HELP?



## **\*THE SONG OF ACHILLES BY MADELINE MILLER**

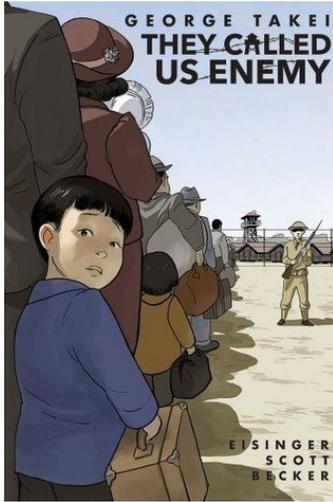
GENRE: MYTHOLOGICAL FICTION

GREECE IN THE AGE OF HEROES. PATROCLUS, AN AWKWARD YOUNG PRINCE, HAS BEEN EXILED TO THE COURT OF KING PELEUS AND HIS PERFECT SON ACHILLES. BY ALL RIGHTS THEIR PATHS SHOULD NEVER CROSS, BUT ACHILLES TAKES THE SHAMED PRINCE AS HIS FRIEND, AND AS THEY GROW INTO YOUNG MEN SKILLED IN THE ARTS OF WAR AND MEDICINE THEIR BOND BLOSSOMS INTO SOMETHING DEEPER – DESPITE THE DISPLEASURE OF ACHILLES' MOTHER THETIS, A CRUEL SEA GODDESS. BUT THEN WORD COMES THAT HELEN OF SPARTA HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED. TORN BETWEEN LOVE AND FEAR FOR HIS FRIEND, PATROCLUS JOURNEYS WITH ACHILLES TO TROY, LITTLE KNOWING THAT THE YEARS THAT FOLLOW WILL TEST EVERYTHING THEY HOLD DEAR.

PROFOUNDLY MOVING AND BREATHTAKINGLY ORIGINAL, THIS RENDERING OF THE EPIC TROJAN WAR IS A DAZZLING FEAT OF THE IMAGINATION, A DEVASTATING LOVE STORY, AND AN ALMIGHTY BATTLE BETWEEN GODS AND KINGS, PEACE AND GLORY, IMMORTAL FAME AND THE HUMAN HEART.

*\*THIS BOOK CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECT MATTER.*

[TEACHER BOOK TALKS](#)



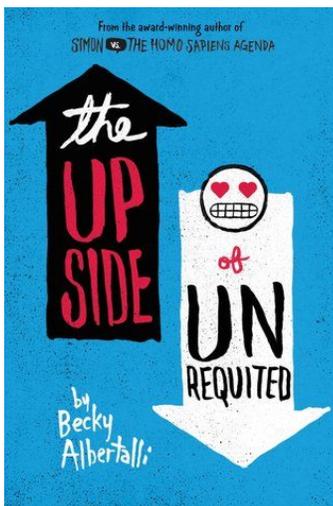
## ***THEY CALLED US ENEMY* BY GEORGE TAKEI, JUSTIN EISINGER, STEVEN SCOTT, AND HARMONY BECKER**

GENRE: GRAPHIC NOVEL MEMOIR

LONG BEFORE GEORGE TAKEI BRAVED NEW FRONTIERS IN *STAR TREK*, HE WOKE UP AS A FOUR-YEAR-OLD BOY TO FIND HIS OWN BIRTH COUNTRY AT WAR WITH HIS FATHER'S -- AND THEIR ENTIRE FAMILY FORCED FROM THEIR HOME INTO AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE.

IN 1942, AT THE ORDER OF PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, EVERY PERSON OF JAPANESE DESCENT ON THE WEST COAST WAS ROUNDED UP AND SHIPPED TO ONE OF TEN "RELOCATION CENTERS," HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM HOME, WHERE THEY WOULD BE HELD FOR YEARS UNDER ARMED GUARD.

*THEY CALLED US ENEMY* IS TAKEI'S FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF THOSE YEARS BEHIND BARBED WIRE, THE JOYS AND TERRORS OF GROWING UP UNDER LEGALIZED RACISM, HIS MOTHER'S HARD CHOICES, HIS FATHER'S FAITH IN DEMOCRACY, AND THE WAY THOSE EXPERIENCES PLANTED THE SEEDS FOR HIS ASTONISHING FUTURE.



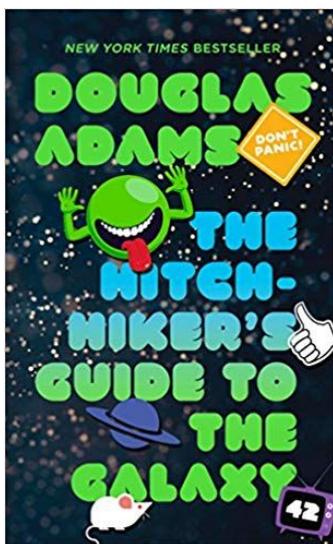
## ***\*THE UPSIDE OF UNREQUITED* BY BECKY ALBERTALLI**

GENRE: YOUNG ADULT CONTEMPORARY

SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD MOLLY PESKIN-SUSO KNOWS ALL ABOUT UNREQUITED LOVE—SHE'S LIVED THROUGH IT TWENTY-SIX TIMES. SHE CRUSHES HARD AND CRUSHES OFTEN, BUT ALWAYS IN SECRET. BECAUSE NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES HER TWIN SISTER, CASSIE, TELLS HER TO WOMAN UP, MOLLY CAN'T STOMACH THE IDEA OF REJECTION. SO SHE'S CAREFUL. FAT GIRLS ALWAYS HAVE TO BE CAREFUL.

THEN A CUTE NEW GIRL ENTERS CASSIE'S ORBIT, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, MOLLY'S CYNICAL TWIN IS A LOVESICK MESS. MEANWHILE, MOLLY'S TOTALLY NOT DYING OF LONELINESS—EXCEPT FOR THE PART WHERE SHE IS. LUCKILY, CASSIE'S NEW GIRLFRIEND COMES WITH A CUTE HIPSTER-BOY SIDEKICK. WILL IS FUNNY AND FLIRTATIOUS AND JUST MIGHT BE PERFECT CRUSH MATERIAL. MAYBE MORE THAN CRUSH MATERIAL. AND IF MOLLY CAN WIN HIM OVER, SHE'LL GET HER FIRST KISS AND SHE'LL GET HER TWIN BACK.

THERE'S ONLY ONE PROBLEM: MOLLY'S COWORKER REID. HE'S AN AWKWARD TOLKIEN SUPERFAN WITH A SEASON PASS TO THE REN FAIRE, AND THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO WAY MOLLY COULD FALL FOR HIM. RIGHT?

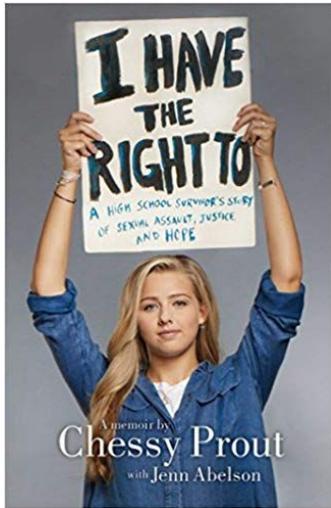


## ***HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY* BY DOUGLAS ADAMS**

GENRE: SCIENCE FICTION

SECONDS BEFORE THE EARTH IS DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR A GALACTIC FREEWAY, ARTHUR DENT IS PLUCKED OFF THE PLANET BY HIS FRIEND FORD PREFECT, A RESEARCHER FOR THE REVISED EDITION OF *THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY* WHO, FOR THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS, HAS BEEN POSING AS AN OUT-OF-WORK ACTOR.

TOGETHER THIS DYNAMIC PAIR BEGIN A JOURNEY THROUGH SPACE AIDED BY QUOTES FROM *THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE* ("A TOWEL IS ABOUT THE MOST MASSIVELY USEFUL THING AN INTERSTELLAR HITCHHIKER CAN HAVE") AND A GALAXY-FULL OF FELLOW TRAVELERS: ZAPHOD BEEBLEBROX—THE TWO-HEADED, THREE-ARMED EX-HIPPIE AND TOTALLY OUT-TO-LUNCH PRESIDENT OF THE GALAXY; TRILLIAN, ZAPHOD'S GIRLFRIEND (FORMALLY TRICIA McMILLAN), WHOM ARTHUR TRIED TO PICK UP AT A COCKTAIL PARTY ONCE UPON A TIME ZONE; MARVIN, A PARANOID, BRILLIANT, AND CHRONICALLY DEPRESSED ROBOT; VEET VOOJAGIG, A FORMER GRADUATE STUDENT WHO IS OBSESSED WITH THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ALL THE BALLPOINT PENS HE BOUGHT OVER THE YEARS.



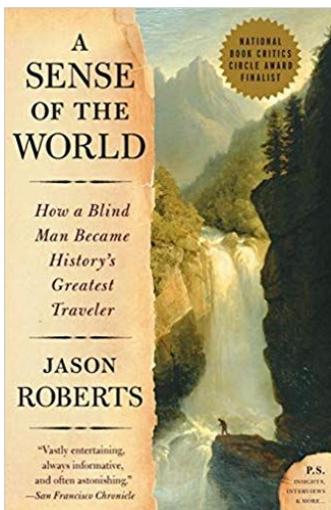
## ***\*I HAVE THE RIGHT TO: A HIGH SCHOOL SURVIVOR'S STORY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, JUSTICE, AND HOPE* BY CHESSY PROUT**

GENRE: MEMOIR

THE NUMBERS ARE STAGGERING: NEARLY ONE IN FIVE GIRLS AGES FOURTEEN TO SEVENTEEN HAVE BEEN THE VICTIM OF A SEXUAL ASSAULT OR ATTEMPTED SEXUAL ASSAULT. THIS IS THE TRUE STORY OF ONE OF THOSE GIRLS.

IN 2014, CHESSY PROUT WAS A FRESHMAN AT ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL, A PRESTIGIOUS BOARDING SCHOOL IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, WHEN A SENIOR BOY SEXUALLY ASSAULTED HER AS PART OF A RITUALIZED GAME OF CONQUEST. CHESSY BRAVELY REPORTED HER ASSAULT TO THE POLICE AND TESTIFIED AGAINST HER ATTACKER IN COURT. THEN, IN THE FACE OF UNEXPECTED BACKLASH FROM HER ONCE-TRUSTED SCHOOL COMMUNITY, SHE SHED HER ANONYMITY TO HELP OTHER SURVIVORS FIND THEIR VOICE.

THIS MEMOIR IS MORE THAN AN ACCOUNT OF A HORRIFIC EVENT. IT TAKES A MAGNIFYING GLASS TO THE INSTITUTIONS THAT TURN A BLIND EYE TO SUCH BEHAVIOR AND A SOCIETY THAT BLAMES VICTIMS RATHER THAN PERPETRATORS. CHESSY'S STORY OFFERS REAL, POWERFUL SOLUTIONS TO UPEND RAPE CULTURE AS WE KNOW IT TODAY. PREPARE TO BE INSPIRED BY THIS REMARKABLE YOUNG WOMAN AND HER STORY OF SURVIVAL, ADVOCACY, AND HOPE IN THE FACE OF UNSPEAKABLE TRAUMA.



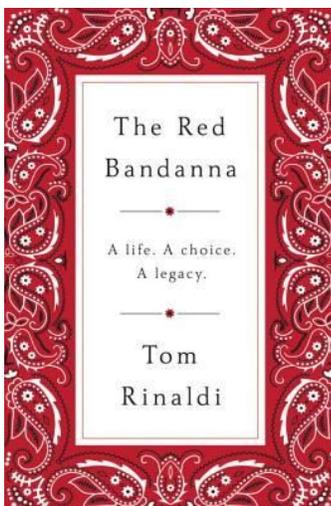
## ***A SENSE OF THE WORLD: HOW A BLIND MAN BECAME HISTORY'S GREATEST TRAVELER* BY JASON ROBERTS**

GENRE: NONFICTION BIOGRAPHY

HE WAS KNOWN SIMPLY AS THE BLIND TRAVELER. A SOLITARY, SIGHTLESS ADVENTURER, JAMES HOLMAN (1786-1857) FOUGHT THE SLAVE TRADE IN AFRICA, SURVIVED A FROZEN CAPTIVITY IN SIBERIA, HUNTED ROGUE ELEPHANTS IN CEYLON, HELPED CHART THE AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK; AND, ASTONISHINGLY, CIRCUMNAVIGATED THE GLOBE, BECOMING ONE OF THE GREATEST WONDERS OF THE WORLD HE SO SAGACIOUSLY EXPLORED. A SENSE OF THE WORLD IS A SPELLBINDING AND MOVING REDISCOVERY OF ONE OF HISTORY'S MOST EPIC LIVES; A STORY TO AWAKEN OUR OWN SENSES OF AWE AND WONDER.

## ***THE RED BANDANNA: A LIFE, A CHOICE, A LEGACY* BY TOM RINALDI**

GENRE: NONFICTION MEMOIR (MAKE SURE YOU READ THE RED COVER BOOK)

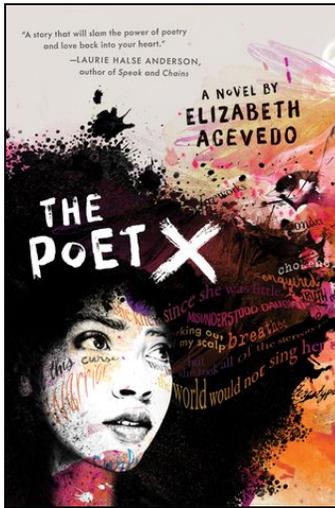


ONE SUNDAY MORNING BEFORE CHURCH, WHEN WELLES CROWTHER WAS A YOUNG BOY, HIS FATHER GAVE HIM A RED HANDKERCHIEF FOR HIS BACK POCKET. WELLES KEPT IT WITH HIM THAT DAY AND JUST ABOUT EVERY DAY TO COME; IT BECAME A FIXTURE AND HIS SIGNATURE.

A STANDOUT ATHLETE GROWING UP IN UPPER NYACK, NEW YORK, WELLES WAS ALSO A VOLUNTEER AT THE LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT ALONG WITH HIS FATHER. HE CHERISHED THE NECESSITY AND THE CAMARADERIE, THE MEANING OF THE ROLE. FRESH FROM COLLEGE, HE TOOK A WALL STREET JOB ON THE 104TH FLOOR OF THE SOUTH TOWER OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER, BUT THE DREAM OF BECOMING A FIREFIGHTER WITH THE FDNY REMAINED.

WHEN THE TWIN TOWERS FELL, WELLES' PARENTS HAD NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM. IN THE UNBEARABLE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, THEY CAME TO ACCEPT THAT HE WOULD NEVER COME HOME. BUT THE MYSTERY OF HIS FINAL HOURS PERSISTED. EIGHT MONTHS AFTER THE ATTACKS, HOWEVER, WELLES' MOTHER READ A NEWS ACCOUNT FROM SEVERAL SURVIVORS, BADLY HURT ON THE 78TH FLOOR OF THE SOUTH TOWER, WHO SAID THEY AND OTHERS HAD BEEN LED TO SAFETY BY A STRANGER CARRYING A WOMAN ON HIS BACK DOWN NEARLY 20 FLIGHTS OF STAIRS. AFTER LEADING THEM DOWN, THE YOUNG MAN TURNED AROUND. "I'M GOING BACK UP" WAS ALL HE SAID.

THE SURVIVORS DIDN'T KNOW HIS NAME, BUT DESPITE THE SMOKE AND PANIC, ONE OF THEM REMEMBERED A SINGLE DETAIL CLEARLY: THE MAN WAS WEARING A RED BANDANNA.



## ***\*The Poet X* BY ELIZABETH ACEVEDO**

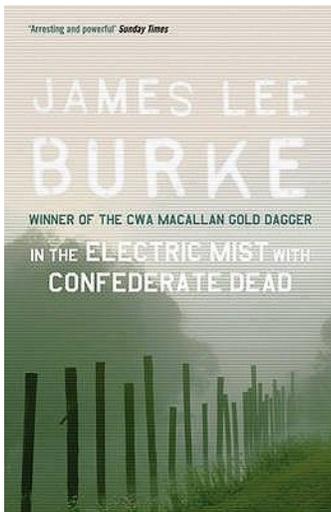
GENRE: YOUNG ADULT IN VERSE

XIOMARA BATISTA FEELS UNHEARD AND UNABLE TO HIDE IN HER HARLEM NEIGHBORHOOD. EVER SINCE HER BODY GREW INTO CURVES, SHE HAS LEARNED TO LET HER FISTS AND HER FIERCENESS DO THE TALKING.

BUT XIOMARA HAS PLENTY SHE WANTS TO SAY, AND SHE POURS ALL HER FRUSTRATION AND PASSION ONTO THE PAGES OF A LEATHER NOTEBOOK, RECITING THE WORDS TO HERSELF LIKE PRAYERS—ESPECIALLY AFTER SHE CATCHES FEELINGS FOR A BOY IN HER BIO CLASS NAMED AMAN, WHO HER FAMILY CAN NEVER KNOW ABOUT. WITH MAMI'S DETERMINATION TO FORCE HER DAUGHTER TO OBEY THE LAWS OF THE CHURCH, XIOMARA UNDERSTANDS THAT HER THOUGHTS ARE BEST KEPT TO HERSELF.

SO WHEN SHE IS INVITED TO JOIN HER SCHOOL'S SLAM POETRY CLUB, SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW SHE COULD EVER ATTEND WITHOUT HER MAMI FINDING OUT, MUCH LESS SPEAK HER WORDS OUT LOUD. BUT STILL, SHE CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT PERFORMING HER POEMS.

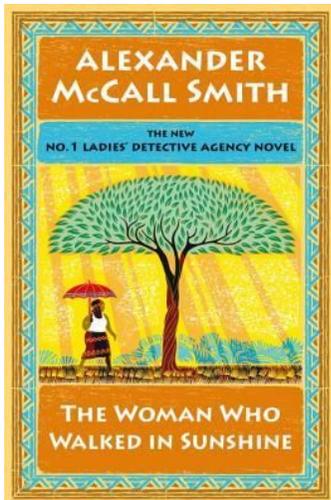
BECAUSE IN THE FACE OF A WORLD THAT MAY NOT WANT TO HEAR HER, XIOMARA REFUSES TO BE SILENT.



## ***\*In the Electric Mist with Confederate Dead* BY JAMES LEE BURKE**

GENRE: MYSTERY THRILLER

WHEN HOLLYWOOD INVADES NEW IBERIA PARISH TO FILM A CIVIL WAR EPIC, RESTLESS SPECTERS WAITING IN THE SHADOWS FOR LOUISIANA DETECTIVE DAVE ROBICHEAUX ARE REAWAKENED—GHOSTS OF A HISTORY BEST LEFT UNDISTURBED. HUNTING A SERIAL KILLER PREYING ON THE LAWLESS YOUNG, ROBICHEAUX COMES FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE ELUSIVE GUARDIANS OF HIS DARKEST TORMENTS— WHO HOLD THE KEY TO HIS ULTIMATE SALVATION . . . OR A FINAL, FATAL DOWNFALL.



## ***The Woman Who Walked in Sunshine* BY ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH**

GENRE: MYSTERY THRILLER

MMA RAMOTSWA MUST CONTEND WITH HER GREATEST CHALLENGE YET—A VACATION!

BUSINESS IS SLOW AT THE NO. 1 LADIES' DETECTIVE AGENCY, SO SLOW IN FACT THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HER ESTIMABLE CAREER PRECIOUS RAMOTSWA HAS RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO TAKE A HOLIDAY. THE PROMISE OF A WEEK OF UNINTERRUPTED PEACE IS SHORT-LIVED, HOWEVER, WHEN SHE MEETS A YOUNG BOY NAMED SAMUEL, A TROUBLEMAKER WHO IS HIMSELF IN SOME TROUBLE. ONCE SHE LEARNS MORE ABOUT SAMUEL'S SAD STORY, MMA RAMOTSWA FEELS COMPELLED TO STEP IN AND HELP HIM FIND HIS WAY OUT OF A BAD SITUATION.

DESPITE THIS UNEXPECTED DIVERSION, MMA RAMOTSWA STILL FINDS HERSELF CONCERNED ABOUT HOW THE AGENCY IS FARING IN HER ABSENCE. HER WORRIES GROW WHEN SHE HEARS THAT MMA MAKUTSI IS HANDLING A NEW AND RATHER COMPLICATED CASE. A WELL-RESPECTED BOTSWANAN POLITICIAN IS UP FOR A MAJOR PUBLIC HONOR, AND HIS REPUTATION IS NOW BEING CALLED INTO QUESTION BY HIS RIVALS. THE MAN'S SISTER HAS CONTACTED THE NO. 1 LADIES' DETECTIVE AGENCY TO INVESTIGATE THESE TROUBLING CLAIMS, BUT, AS IN SO MANY CASES, ALL IS NOT AS IT SEEMS. IN THE END, THE INVESTIGATION WILL AFFECT EVERYONE AT THE AGENCY AND WILL ALSO SERVE AS A REMINDER THAT ORDINARY HUMAN FAILINGS SHOULD BE TREATED WITH A LARGE HELPING OF CHARITY AND COMPASSION.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT SUMMER READING

**\*\*\* PLEASE SEE AP TEACHERS ON SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENT \*\*\***

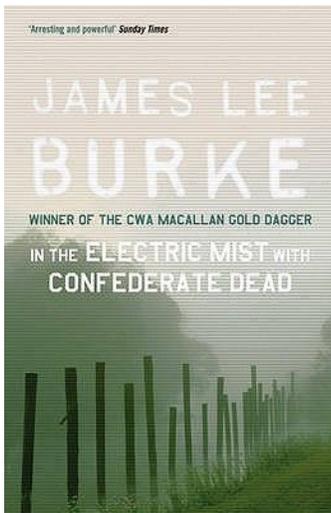
### AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

SEE THE FOLLOWING ASSIGNMENT SHEET. THE WRITING ASSIGNMENT AND BOOK OPTIONS APPEAR ON THIS ASSIGNMENT SHEET.

[AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION ASSIGNMENT SHEET](#)

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### AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION



#### ***\*IN THE ELECTRIC MIST WITH CONFEDERATE DEAD* BY JAMES LEE BURKE**

GENRE: MYSTERY THRILLER

WHEN HOLLYWOOD INVADES NEW IBERIA PARISH TO FILM A CIVIL WAR EPIC, RESTLESS SPECTERS WAITING IN THE SHADOWS FOR LOUISIANA DETECTIVE DAVE ROBICHEAUX ARE REAWAKENED—GHOSTS OF A HISTORY BEST LEFT UNDISTURBED. HUNTING A SERIAL KILLER PREYING ON THE LAWLESS YOUNG, ROBICHEAUX COMES FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE ELUSIVE GUARDIANS OF HIS DARKEST TORMENTS— WHO HOLD THE KEY TO HIS ULTIMATE SALVATION . . . OR A FINAL, FATAL DOWNFALL.

*\*THIS BOOK CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECT MATTER.*

[TEACHER BOOK TALKS](#)