

# CARROLL MIDDLE SCHOOL

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Summer Reading List Page 1

## Summer Reading List

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### **Draper, Sharon: *Fire from the Rock***

Sylvia Patterson is shocked and confused when she is asked to be one of the first black students to attend Central High School, which is scheduled to be integrated in September 1957, whether the citizens or governor of Arkansas like it or not. Before Sylvia makes her final decision, smoldering racial tension in the town ignites into flame. When the smoke clears, she sees clearly that nothing is going to stop the change from coming. It is up to her generation to make it happen, in as many different ways as there are colors in the world.

#### **Vande-Velde, Vivian: *Heir Apparent***

In *Heir Apparent* there are as many ways to win as there are to get killed. Giannine can testify to how many ways there are to die – it's about all she's been able to do since she started playing. When the virtual game is interrupted by a power surge, Giannine must find a way to win before her lives run out, or she will lose not only the Game but her life!

#### **Westerfield, Scott: *Uglies***

Everybody gets to be supermodel gorgeous. What could be wrong with that? In Tally's world, your sixteenth birthday brings an operation that turn you from a repellent ugly into an attractive pretty and catapults you into a high-tech paradise where your only job is to have a really great time. In just a few weeks Tally will be there. But Tally's new friend Shay isn't sure she wants to be pretty. She'd rather risk life on the outside. When Shay runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the pretty world – and it isn't very pretty. The authorities offer Tally the worst choice she can imagine: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. The choice Tally makes changes her world forever.

#### **Hinton, S.E.: *The Outsiders***

When it was first published in 1967, "The Outsiders" defied convention with its immediate, deeply sympathetic portrayal of Ponyboy and his struggle to find a place for himself in a difficult world. Thirty years later, it speaks to teenagers as powerfully as ever.

#### **Preller, James: *Bystander***

Eric is the new kid in seventh grade. Griffin wants to be his friend. When you're new in town, it's hard to know who to hang out with and who to avoid. Griffin seems cool, confident, and popular. But something isn't right about Griffin. He always seems to be in the middle of bad things. And if Griffin doesn't like you, you'd better watch your back. There might be a target on it. As Eric gets drawn deeper into Griffin's dark world, he begins to see the truth about Griffin: he's a liar, a bully, a thief. Eric wants to break away, do the right thing. But in one shocking moment, he goes from being a bystander . . . to the bully's next victim. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: WC Summer Reading List Page 2

**Patterson, James: *Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment***

Fourteen year old Maximum Ride and all the members of the “flock” are just like ordinary kids – only they have wings and can fly. And their lives can morph into a living nightmare at any time . . . like when Angel, the youngest member of the flock, is kidnapped and taken back to the “School” where she and the others were experimented on by scientists. This begins a journey that goes from Death Valley to New York City and involves fighting off half-human, half-wolf “Erasers.” Along the way Max discovers from her old friends and father-figure Jeb – now her greatest enemy – that her purpose is to save the world – but can she?

**Bartoletti, Susan: *The Boy Who Dared***

In Germany during WWII, 16 year old Helmut Hubner listens to the BBC news on an illegal short-wave radio and quickly discovers Germany is lying to the people. But when he tries to expose the truth with leaflets, he’s tried for treason. Sentenced to death and waiting in a jail cell, Helmut’s story emerges in a series of flashbacks that show his growth from a naïve child caught up in the patriotism of the times to a sensitive and mature young man who thinks for himself.

**Rorby, Ginny: *Hurt, Go, Happy***

Thirteen year old Joey Willis is used to being left out of conversations. Though she’s been deaf since the age of six, Joey’s mother has never allowed her to learn sign language. She strains to read the lips of those around her, but often fails. Everything changes when Joey meets Dr. Charles Mansell and his baby chimpanzee, Sukari. Her new friends use sign language to communicate, and Joe secretly begins to learn to sign. Spending time with Charlie and Sukari, Joey has never been happier. But as Joey’s world blooms with possibilities, Charlie’s and Sukari’s choices begin to narrow – until Sukari’s very survival is in doubt.

**Van Draanen, Wendelin: *Runaway***

Holly is in her fifth foster home in two years and she’s had enough. She’s run away before and always been caught quickly. But she’s older and wiser now – she’s twelve – and this time she gets away clean. Through tough and tender and angry and funny journal entries, Holly spills out her story. We travel with her across the country – hopping trains, scamming food, sleeping in pars or homeless encampments. And we also travel with her across the gaping holes in her heart – as she finally comes to terms with her mother’s addiction and death. *Runaway* is a remarkably uplifting portrait of a girl still young and stubborn and naïve enough to hold out hope for finding a better place in the world.

**Meyers, Marissa: *Cinder***

Humans and androids crowd the raucous streets of New Beijing. A deadly plague ravages the populations. From space, a ruthless lunar people watch, waiting to make their move. No one knows that Earth’s fate hinges on one girl . . . Cinder, a gifted mechanic, is a cyborg. She’s a second-class citizen with a mysterious past, reviled by her stepmother and blamed for her stepsister’s illness. But when her life becomes intertwined with the handsome Prince Kai’s, she suddenly finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle, and a forbidden attraction. Caught between duty and freedom, loyalty and betrayal, she must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect her world’s future. In this thrilling debut young adult novel, the first of a quartet, Marissa Myer introduces readers to an unforgettable heroine and a masterfully crafted new world that’s enthralling.