

Newton South Summer Reading for the 2022-2023 School Year

All-School Summer-Reading Choices: [Nominees from the Mass Teen Choice Book Award Competition](#)

Assignment: Read one of the following books, and be prepared to discuss (and/or do something with) the book at the beginning of the school year. The NSHS Library has copies, and all books are available electronically on the Sora App.

1. ***Cemetery Boys*** by Aiden Thomas
 - Yadriel, a trans boy determined to prove his gender to his traditional Latinx family, summons a ghost who refuses to leave. (352 pages)
2. ***Clap When You Land*** by Elizabeth Acevedo
 - On the day that Camino's father is supposed to return to the Dominican Republic, his plane crashes. In the aftermath of the crash, Camino finds out about Yahaira - her sister she didn't know about who lives in New York. (432 pages)
3. ***Don't Ask Me Where I'm From*** by Jennifer De Leon
 - Liliana, a first-generation American from a gritty Boston neighborhood finds out she's been accepted into a wealthy, suburban high school 20 miles away. The move forces her to take a hard look at who she is, and how to get around anything blocking her path. (352 pages)
4. ***Fallout: Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Showdown*** by Steve Sheinkin
 - A gripping story of spies (and spy catchers), superbombs, the space race, and the global clash between the United States and the Soviet Union. It's the story of the most intense years of the Cold War, building to the most dangerous moment in human history. (352 pages)
5. ***Firekeeper's Daughter*** by Angeline Boulley
 - A thriller about Daunis, a Native teen who must root out the corruption in her community. As the deceptions—and deaths—keep growing, she must learn what it means to be a strong Anishinaabe kwe (Ojibwe woman) and how far she'll go for her community, even if it tears apart the only world she's ever known. (496 pages)
6. ***Flamer*** by Mike Curato
 - It's the summer between middle school and high school, and Aiden Navarro is away at camp. Everyone's going through changes—but for Aiden, the stakes feel higher. As he navigates friendships, deals with bullies, and spends time with Elias (a boy he can't stop thinking about), he finds himself on a path of self-discovery and acceptance. (368 pages)
7. ***The Girls I've Been*** by Tess Sharpe
 - As the daughter of a con artist who targets criminal men, Nora grew up as her mother's protégé. She escapes and lives a "normal" life...until a bank robbery goes awry and Nora needs to dust off her con skills in order to survive. (368 pages)
8. ***Heartstopper (Vol. 1)*** by Alice Oseman
 - Charlie, a highly-strung, openly gay over-thinker, and Nick, a cheerful, soft-hearted rugby player, meet at a British all-boys grammar school. Friendship blooms, but could there be something more.? (288 pgs.)
9. ***In the Wild Light*** by Jeff Zentner
 - Life in a small Appalachian town is not easy. Cash spends his time dodging drug dealers and watching out for his best friend, Delaney. But when Delaney manages to secure both of them full rides to an elite prep school in Connecticut, Cash will have to grapple with his need to protect her and the town he would have to leave behind. (432 pages)
10. ***The Inheritance Games*** by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
 - Avery Grambs' future changes in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves her a fortune. The catch? Avery must solve the secrets of Hawthorne House, where every room holds puzzles, riddles, and codes. (400 pgs.)

11. **Legendborn** by Tracy Deonn
 - After her mother dies in an mysterious accident, sixteen-year-old Bree Matthews discovers there's more to it than what's on the police report. She'll do whatever it takes to find out the truth, even if that means infiltrating the magical society of the Legendborn as one of their initiates. (501 pgs.)
12. **The Magic Fish** by Trung Le Nguyen
 - Fairy tales are the only way Tien can communicate with his Vietnamese immigrant parents. But how will he find the words to tell them that he's gay? A powerful read about family, identity and the enduring magic of stories. (256 pgs.)
13. **Not My Problem** by Ciara Smyth
 - Aideen has plenty of problems she *can't* solve. But when she helps overachiever Meabh Kowalska with an unexpected request, she kicks off a semester of traded favors, ill-advised hijinks, and even an unexpected chance at love. (368 pgs.)
14. **Not So Pure and Simple** by Lamar Giles
 - Del has had a crush on Kiera Westing since kindergarten. And now, during their junior year, she's finally available. So when Kiera volunteers for an opportunity at their church, Del's right behind her. Though he quickly realizes he's inadvertently signed up for a Purity Pledge. (416 pgs.)
15. **Nubia: Real One** by L.L. McKinney
 - Can you be a hero...if society doesn't see you as a person? As a baby Nubia showcased Amazonian-like strength but the world has no problem telling her that she's no Wonder Woman. But Nubia can't deny the fire within her, even if she's a little awkward about it sometimes. (208 pgs.)
16. **Punching the Air** by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam
 - Suddenly, at just sixteen years old, Amal is convicted of a crime he didn't commit and sent to prison. Despair and rage almost sink him until he turns to the refuge of his words, his art. This never should have been his story. But can he change it? (400 pgs.)
17. **Snapdragon** by Kat Leyh
 - Snap's town had a witch. At least, that's how the rumor goes. But in reality, Jacks is just a crocks-wearing, internet-savvy old lady who sells roadkill skeletons online—after doing a little ritual to put their spirits to rest. Snap befriends this witch - and discovers a strange magic within herself. (240 pgs.)
18. **Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix** by Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi
 - This vital volume traces the history of racism and the many political, literary, and philosophical narratives that have been used to justify slavery, oppression, and genocide. (320 pgs.)
19. **This Poison Heart** by Kalynn Bayron
 - Briseis has a gift: with a single touch she can grow plants from tiny seeds to rich blooms. When Briseis's aunt dies and wills her a dilapidated estate in rural New York, Bri and her parents hope that surrounded by plants and flowers, she will finally learn to control her gift. But their new home is sinister in ways they never expected. (384 pgs.)
20. **We Are Not Free** by Traci Chee
 - Fourteen teens who have grown up together in Japantown, San Francisco. Fourteen teens whose lives are turned upside down when over 100,000 people of Japanese ancestry are removed from their homes and forced into desolate incarceration camps. In a world that seems determined to hate them, these young people must rally together as racism threatens to pull them apart. (400 pgs.)
21. **You Should See Me in a Crown** by Leah Johnson
 - Liz Lighty has always believed she's too black, too poor, too awkward to shine in her small, rich, prom-obsessed midwestern town. But Liz has a plan that will get her out of Indiana to attend an elite college. But when the financial aid she was counting on unexpectedly falls through, Liz's plans come crashing down . . . until she's reminded of her school's scholarship for prom king and queen. Is Liz willing to do whatever it takes? (336 pgs.)