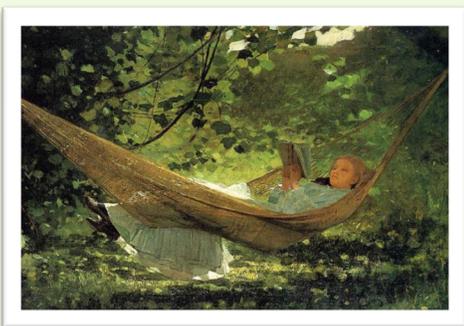
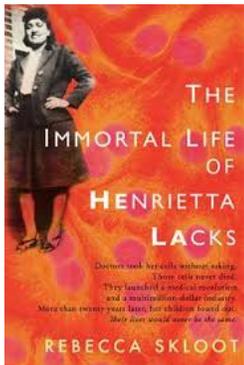


# Summer Reads

Recommendations for your reading pleasure from the Library & English Departments



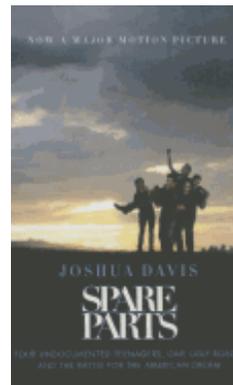
Begin the lazy days of summer with one of these refreshing recommendations! Whether lying on the beach, travelling on an airplane, sitting in a café, or just lounging in the comfort of your home, we hope you find a book that sparks your interest & imagination!



**The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks** by Rebecca Skloot

A fascinating work of non-fiction recounting one woman's cells and their use for scientific purposes. It's a great dive into issues pertaining to American History, race, scientific ethics, and journalism.

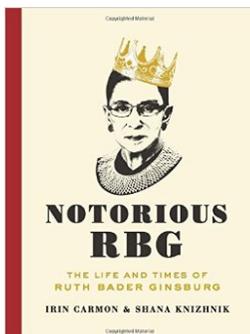
*Recommended by Mr. Ciuni*



**Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot and the Battle for the American Dream** by Joshua Davis

The true story of four Latino teenagers who won the Marine Advanced Technology

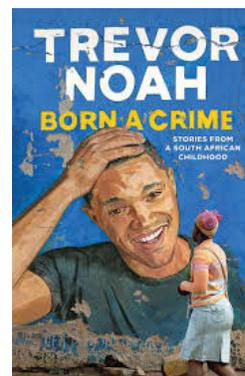
Education Robotics Competition in 2004. *Spare Parts* is a true a story about overcoming insurmountable odds and four young men who proved they were among the most patriotic and talented Americans in this country--even as the country tried to kick them out.



**Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg** by Irin Carmon

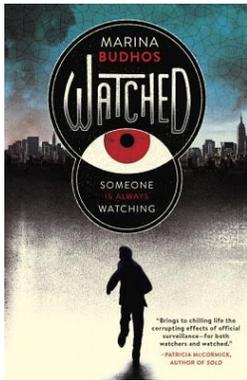
Notorious RBG, inspired by the Tumblr that amused the Justice herself and brought to you by its founder and an award-winning feminist journalist, is more than just a love letter. It draws on intimate access to Ginsburg's family members, close friends, colleagues, and clerks, as well an interview with the Justice herself. The book tells a never-before-told story of an unusual and transformative woman who transcends generational divides.

*Recommended by Ms. Armstrong*



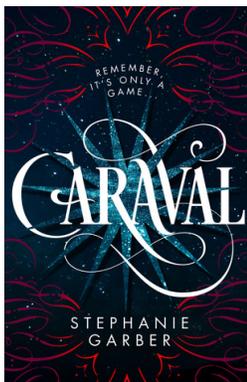
**Born a Crime** by Trevor Noah

Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of *The Daily Show* began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white father and a black mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. *Born a Crime* is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless mother, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.



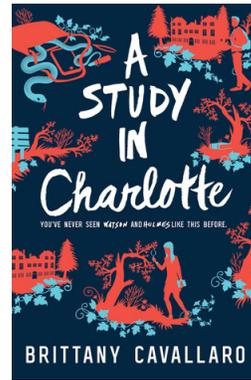
### **Watched** by Marina Budhos

Naeem has learned that moving fast in his immigrant neighborhood in Queens is the only way he can outrun the eyes of his hardworking Bangladeshi parents and their gossipy neighbors. But they are not the only ones watching. Everyone knows: Be careful what you say and who you say it to. Anyone might be a watcher. Naeem thinks he can charm his way through anything, until his mistakes catch up with him and the cops offer him a dark deal. In it, Naeem sees a way to be a hero—a protector. But what is a hero? What is a traitor? And where does Naeem belong?



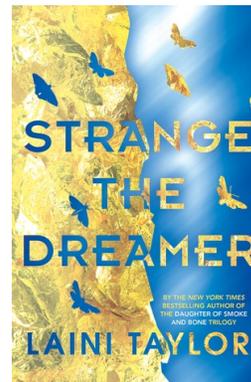
### **Caraval** by Stephanie Garber

Living on a tiny island with her father and sister, Scarlett has always dreamed of seeing Caraval—the faraway, once-a-year performance where the audience participates in the show. With the help of a mysterious sailor, Scarlett and her sister, Tella, are whisked away to the show. When Tella is kidnapped, Scarlett is thrown into an elaborate game of love, heartbreak, and magic.



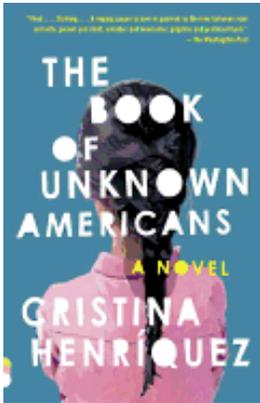
### **A Study in Charlotte** by Brittany Cavallaro

When Jamie Watson receives a scholarship to attend Sherringford, a Connecticut prep school, he meets Charlotte Holmes, the famous detective's great-great-great-granddaughter, who has inherited not only Sherlock's genius but also his volatile temperament. When a Sherringford student dies under suspicious circumstances, Jamie and Charlotte find themselves framed for murder, and only Charlotte can clear their names.



### **Strange the Dreamer** by Laini Taylor

Lazlo Strange, an orphaned infant who grew up to be a librarian, lives a quiet life. When a group of warriors from a mysterious city called Weep come seeking help, Lazlo, never before a man of action, arises to the challenge. In Weep, Lazlo finds a city reeling from the aftermath of a brutal war and encounters a girl named Sarai and her four companions, all of whom have singular talents and devastating secrets. Laini Taylor's newest story is filled with beautiful prose, strange and whimsical fantasy worlds, sympathetic monsters, and wrenching, star-crossed romance.

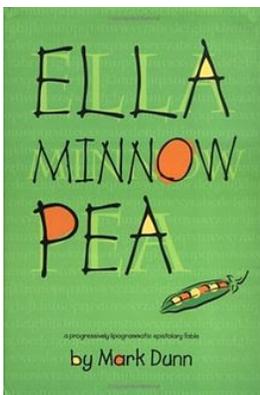


## The Book of Unknown Americans

by Cristina Henríquez

Arturo and Alma Rivera have lived their whole lives in Mexico. When their daughter, Maribel, sustains a horrible accident, the Riveras come to America with a single dream: that in

this country of great opportunity and resources, Maribel can get better. When Mayor Toro, whose family is from Panama, sees Maribel in a Dollar Tree store, it is love at first sight. It's also the beginning of a friendship between the Rivera and Toro families, whose web of guilt and love and responsibility is at this novel's core.



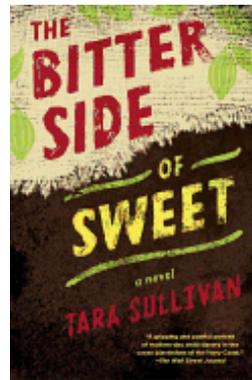
## Ella Minnow Pea

by Mark Dunn

Ella Minnow Pea is a girl living happily on the fictional island of Nollop off the coast of South Carolina. Nollop was named after Nevin Nollop, author of the immortal pangram, \*

"The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog." Now Ella finds herself acting to save her friends, family, and fellow citizens from the encroaching totalitarianism of the island's Council, which has banned the use of certain letters of the alphabet as they fall from a memorial statue of Nevin Nollop. The result is both a hilarious and moving story of one girl's fight for freedom of expression, as well as a linguistic tour de force sure to delight word lovers everywhere. \*pangram: a sentence or phrase that includes all the letters of the alphabet.

*Recommended by Ms. Armstrong*



## The Bitter Side of Sweet

by Tara Sullivan

Fifteen-year-old Amadou and his younger brother, Seydou, work at an Ivory Coast cacao plantation. Each day is an exhaustive effort as Amadou watches out for Seydou, the youngest worker there, and

struggles to meet the day's quota for the both of them. Just after a new worker arrives a teenage girl, Khadija, who is bent on fleeing the worst thing happens: Seydou loses his arm in a work accident. Suddenly Amadou thinks Khadija is onto something. But could they really escape?

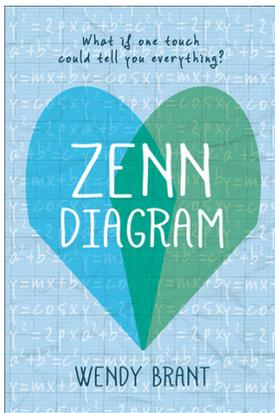


## The Hate U Give

by Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr

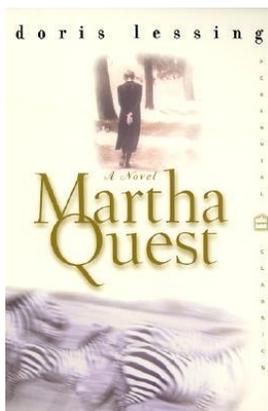
witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. His death soon becomes a national headline. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what *really* went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does or does not say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.



### **Zenn Diagram** by Wendy Brant

Eva Walker is a seventeen-year-old math genius. She also has the special ability to see vision of a person's emotions when she touches them or anything that belongs to

them. This is helpful for her work as a math tutor, but it means she can never get close to people. When Eva meets Zenn, a handsome and soulful artist who also has a troubled home life, she is immediately captivated and her feelings only grow when she realizes that she can touch Zenn's skin without having visions. But when she discovers the history that links them, the truth threatens to tear the two apart.

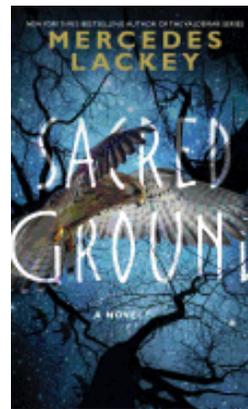


### **Martha Quest** by Doris Lessing

Martha Quest is the first of five novels that "follow the life of the protagonist Martha Quest from adolescence until her death. The first four novels are set during the 1930s and 1940s, in the

former British colony of Southern Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, where Lessing lived from 1925 until 1949. The fifth work, *The Four-Gated City*, is a science fiction dystopia set in London, from the 1950s into a future where World War Three takes place.

*Recommended by Ms. Armstrong*



### **Sacred Ground** by Mercedes Lackey

Jennifer Taldeer is Osage and Cherokee, granddaughter of a powerful Medicine Man. A shaman-in-training herself, Jennifer is also a freelance private investigator who tracks down stolen Native American

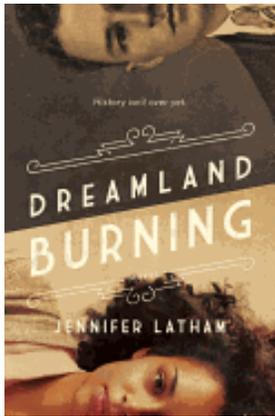
artifacts. When the construction of a new shopping mall uncovers fragments of human bone, revealing possible desecration of an ancient burial ground, it is discovered that the grave of a legendary Medicine Man has been destroyed and that it has let loose a great evil. Jennifer must solve the mystery of her Medicine Man's grave before the world falls into oblivion.



### **And I Darken** by Kiersten White

Lada Dragwlya and her gentle younger brother, Radu, were wrenched from their homeland of Wallachia and abandoned by their father to be raised in the Ottoman courts. Lada despises the Ottomans and

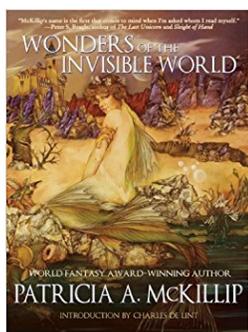
bides her time, planning her vengeance for the day when she can return to Wallachia and claim her birthright. Radu longs only for a place where he feels safe. When they meet Mehmed, the defiant and lonely son of the sultan, Radu feels that he's made a true friend—and Lada wonders if she's finally found someone worthy of her passion. But Mehmed is heir to the very empire that Lada has sworn to fight against—and that Radu now considers home. Together, Lada, Radu, and Mehmed form a toxic triangle that strains the bonds of love and loyalty to the breaking point.



### **Dreamland Burning** by Jennifer Latham

When Rowan Chase finds a skeleton on her family's property, she has no idea that investigating the brutal century-old murder will lead to a summer of painful discoveries about the past... and the

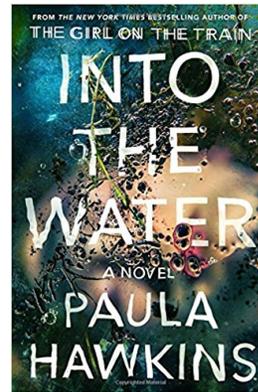
present. Nearly one hundred years earlier, a misguided violent encounter propels Will Tillman into a racial firestorm. In a country rife with violence against blacks and a hometown segregated by Jim Crow, Will must make hard choices on a painful journey towards self discovery and face his inner demons in order to do what's right the night Tulsa burns. Jennifer Latham's lightning-paced page-turner brings the Tulsa race riot of 1921 to blazing life and raises important questions about the complex state of US race relations.



### **Wonders of the Invisible World** by Patricia McKillip

Stylistically rooted in fairy tale and mythology, these short stories are sure to enchant! There are princesses dancing with

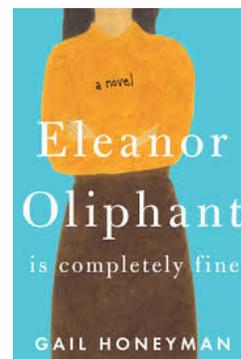
dead suitors, a knight in love with an official of exotic lineage, and fortune's fool stealing into the present instead of the future. Bewitching, bittersweet, and deeply intoxicating, this collection draws elements from the fables of history and re-creates them in startlingly magical ways.



### **Into the Water** by Paula Hawkins

When Jules Abbott receives word that her estranged sister Nel has drowned, she returns to her hometown. Rumors swirl among the townspeople, linking Nel to the long history of women

who have drowned over the years, this sinister sisterhood lost to the Drowning Pool. As the police conduct their investigation, Jules mounts her own informal one. Piecing together clues from the townspeople, Jules unearths decades-old mysteries and finds secrets from her own past bubbling to the surface. In the popular tradition of her best-selling debut, *The Girl on the Train*, Hawkins guides readers through a muddled labyrinth of twists and turns, secrets and lies, and misdirections.



### **Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine** by Gail Honeyman

Eleanor Oliphant struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of

avoiding social interactions. But everything changes when Eleanor meets Raymond, the IT guy from her office. When she and Raymond together save Sammy, an elderly gentleman who has fallen on the sidewalk, the three become the kind of friends who rescue each other from the lives of isolation they have each been living. And it is Raymond's big heart that will ultimately help Eleanor find the way to repair her own profoundly damaged one.



# Summertime Quotes from Literature

**“One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by.”**

—Jeanette Walls, *The Glass Castle*

**"It was rapture enough just to sit there beside him in silence, alone in the summer night in the white splendor of moonshine, with the wind blowing down on them out of the pine woods."**

—L.M. Montgomery, *The Blue Castle*

**"And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer."**

—F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

**“In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different.”**

—John Steinbeck, *The Winter of Our Discontent*