

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

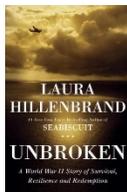
Fairfield High Schools

## Boy 21 by Matthew Quick



Basketball has always been an escape for Finley. He lives in gray, broken Belmont. At home, he takes care of his disabled grandfather, and at school, he's called "White Rabbit" number 21. Russ has just moved to the neighborhood. A former teen basketball phenom from a privileged home, his life has been turned upside down by tragedy. Cut off from everyone he knows, he now answers only to the name Boy21.

## Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand



Louis Zamperini had been an incorrigible delinquent, breaking into houses, brawling, and fleeing his home to ride the rails. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when war had come, the athlete had become an airman, embarking on a journey that led to his doomed flight, a tiny raft, and a drift into the unknown. Choose either the adult or the young adult version.

## Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds



Fifteen-year-old Will has a gun shoved in the back waistband of his jeans. See, his brother Shawn was just murdered. And Will knows the rules. No crying. No snitching. Revenge. That's where Will's heading now.

## Scythe by Neal Shusterman



A world with no hunger, no disease, no war, no misery. Humanity has conquered all those things, and has even conquered death. Now scythes are the only ones who can end life—and they are commanded to do so, in order to keep the size of the population under control.

## Love and Gelato by Jenna Evans Welch



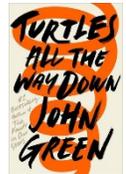
Lina is spending the summer in Tuscany, but she isn't in the mood for Italy's famous sunshine and fairy-tale landscape. She's only there because it was her mother's dying wish that she get to know her father. But what kind of father isn't around for sixteen years?

## Radium Girls by Kate Moore



Moore's book fully illuminates the inspiring young women exposed to the "wonder" substance of radium, and their awe-inspiring strength in the face of almost impossible circumstances. Their courage and tenacity led to life-changing regulations saving hundreds of lives.

## Turtles All the Way Down by John Green



Aza is trying. She is trying to be a good daughter, a good friend, and a good student, while also living within the ever-tightening spiral of her own thoughts. John Green shares Aza's story with shattering, unflinching clarity in this brilliant novel of love, resilience, and the power of lifelong friendship.

## Warcross by Marie Lu



For millions, Warcross isn't just a game, it's a way of life. Teenage hacker Emika Chen works as a bounty hunter, tracking down Warcross players who bet on the game illegally. Emika takes a risk and hacks into the opening game of the Warcross Championships—only to accidentally glitch herself into the action and become an overnight sensation.

## Refugee by Alan Gratz



Three young people will go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers—from drownings to bombings to betrayals. For each of them, there is always the hope of tomorrow.

Although continents and decades separate them, connections will tie their stories together in the end.

## Saints and Misfits by S.K. Ali



Janna Yusuf knows a lot of people can't figure out what to make of her... an Arab Indian-American hijabi teenager who is a Flannery O'Connor obsessed book nerd, aspiring photographer, and sometime graphic novelist is not exactly easy to put into a box. And Janna suddenly finds herself caring what people think.

## When Dimple Met Rishi by Sandhya Menon



Dimple Shah has it all figured out. With graduation behind her she's more than ready for a break from her family who have found the ideal husband for her. She is escaping that by going to a summer program, isn't she?

## Winger by Andrew Smith



Ryan Dean West is a fourteen-year-old junior at a boarding school for rich kids. He's living in Opportunity Hall, the dorm for troublemakers, and rooming with the biggest bully on the rugby team. And he's madly in love with his best friend Annie, who thinks of him as a little boy.