

# 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Summer Reading Book Choices

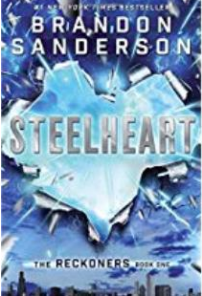
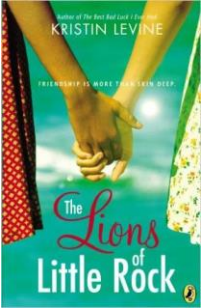
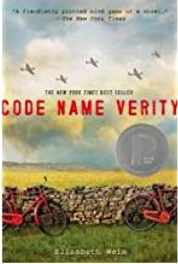
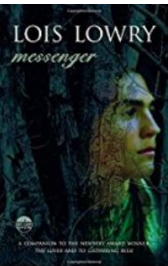
Choose ONE book for this school year that you have **not** read previously.  
See the 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Raider Reading Journal for further directions.

Book Title & Author	Genre & Description
<p>1. <i>Strong Inside: (Young Reader's Edition): The True Story of How Perry Wallace Broke the College Basketball's Color Line</i> By Andrew Maraniss</p> 	<p>This is the inspirational true story of the first African American to play college basketball in the deeply segregated Southeastern Conference. Perry Wallace entered high school at the height of the Civil Rights Movement. When Wallace was recruited to play basketball at Vanderbilt University, he had to summon the courage to face the hostile environment that surrounded him.</p> <p><b>Review:</b> <a href="https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/30008718-strong-inside-young-readers-edition?from_search=true">https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/30008718-strong-inside-young-readers-edition?from_search=true</a></p>
<p>2. <i>Monster</i> By Walter Dean Myers</p> 	<p>Readers quickly become absorbed in sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon's story as he is a teen on trial for murder. Whether Steve is truly guilty or innocent, he must face a judicial system "cluttered with cynical authority figures and unscrupulous inmates who will turn in anyone to shorten their own sentences. For the first time, Steve is forced to think about who he is as he faces prison, where he may spend all the tomorrows of his life" (Goodreads review). In order to cope with his current situation, Steve applies his amateur filmmaking skills to document his trial.</p> <p><b>Review(s):</b> 1) <a href="https://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews/monster">https://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews/monster</a> 2) <a href="http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/44184.Monster">http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/44184.Monster</a></p>
<p>3. <i>Gathering Blue</i> By Lois Lowry</p> 	<p>Although this work of fiction is a part of the <i>Giver</i> series, it is a great story all on its own. Kira is a child who has recently experienced the loss of her mother and faces the Council to decide what to do with her. Much to her surprise, she has a special talent that the Council sees as useful, and assigns her a job based on her abilities.</p> <p><b>Review:</b> <a href="http://www.loislowry.com/index.php?option=com_djcatalog2&amp;view=item&amp;id=18">http://www.loislowry.com/index.php?option=com_djcatalog2&amp;view=item&amp;id=18</a></p>
<p>4. <i>Legend</i> By Marie Lu</p> 	<p><i>Legend</i> takes places in a dark and futuristic Los Angeles where a young prodigy and criminal learn far more about their country than they ever dreamed. A post-apocalyptic thriller based on teenage romance, "<i>Legend</i> delivers...a walloping good ride with an emphasis on believability....Doesn't merely survive the hype; it deserves it" (Pearson, NYT).</p> <p><b>Review:</b> <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/04/books/review/legend-by-marie-lu-book-review.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/04/books/review/legend-by-marie-lu-book-review.html</a></p>

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Book Title & Author	Genre & Description
<p>5. <i>Steelheart</i> By Brandon Sanderson</p> 	<p>In this story set in a post-apocalyptic world, everything is not what it seems. Ordinary men and women have extraordinary powers, but now these once ordinary humans want to rule. David, whose father was killed, has to figure out how to avenge his father's death by finding and defeating the invincible Steelheart.</p> <p><b>Review:</b> <a href="https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/steelheart-brandon-sanderson/1114016095-/">https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/steelheart-brandon-sanderson/1114016095- /</a></p>
<p>6. <i>The Lions of Little Rock</i> By Kristin Levine</p> 	<p>In this work of historical fiction, Marlee and Liz have one problem: race. However, on their first day as friends, Marlee has no idea that race is an issue, until Liz goes missing after school, supposedly because she was pretending to be white. These brave girls stand up to segregation in the name of friendship, even when it threatens their own families.</p> <p><b>Review:</b> <a href="https://pernillesripp.com/2016/05/06/the-best-books-for-middle-school-according-to-my-students/">https://pernillesripp.com/2016/05/06/the-best-books-for-middle-school-according-to-my-students/</a></p>
<p>7. <i>Code Name Verity</i> By Elizabeth Wein</p> 	<p>In this award-winning, historical fiction novel, a British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. After the plane crash almost kills her best friend, Verity is captured by the Nazis. She must figure out how to stay alive without giving the enemy too many secrets. This is a story about friendship and survival.</p> <p><b>Review:</b> <a href="https://www.amazon.com/Code-Name-Verity-Elizabeth-Wein/dp/1423152883/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&amp;qid=1518627476&amp;sr=8-1&amp;keywords=codename+verity+book">https://www.amazon.com/Code-Name-Verity-Elizabeth-Wein/dp/1423152883/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&amp;qid=1518627476&amp;sr=8-1&amp;keywords=codename+verity+book</a></p>
<p>8. <i>Messenger</i> By Lois Lowry</p> 	<p>For those students who have read <i>The Giver</i> and <i>Gathering Blue</i>, this book continues the <i>Giver</i> series with Matty who serves as a messenger, delivering information outside of his community. Now that the village has decided to close their community to the outside, Matty must summon his courage to deliver one more message.</p> <p><b>Review:</b> <a href="https://bookpage.com/reviews/3457-lois-lowry-messenger-.WoRslJM-d0s">https://bookpage.com/reviews/3457-lois-lowry-messenger -.WoRslJM-d0s</a></p>

9. *Firefight*

By Brandon

Sanderson



This is the second book in the Reckoners series following the novel *Steelheart*. For those students who want to journey along in the future world, David continues on his quest. “Somehow, he filled that hole with another Epic— Firefight. And he’s willing to go on a quest darker, and more dangerous even, than the fight against Steelheart to find her, and to get his answers.”

**Review:** [https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15704459-firefight?from\\_search=true&from\\_srp=true&qid=9x69j7WW4g&rank=1](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15704459-firefight?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=9x69j7WW4g&rank=1)

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