

9th Grade Reading List 2023



Elison, Meg. Find Layla, 2020. TEEN

Layla lives in an unkempt and neglectful home with her mother and is the sole caretaker of her younger brother Andy. For a science project, Layla posts a video of her home, showing fungi and mold growth, which prompts CPS to take her younger brother as the video goes viral. Now, Layla must try to survive from the bullies at school as well as from the truth that she has exposed to the world.



Fahmy, Huda. Huda F Are You? 2021. TEEN

Huda is used to being one of the only hijabi girls in her town. However, that all changes when she moves to a small town with a big Muslim population. Huda now has a hard time fitting in with the other hijabis and now must figure out who she is beyond her religion.



Hibbert, Talia. Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute, 2023. TEEN

Celine and Bradley were once best friends, but they had a major falling out four years ago. In their social lives, they are complete opposites and manage to avoid each other. However, they both end up running into each other at a camp where the prize is a scholarship, and find themselves teaming up and trying to mend their relationship, possibly into a different kind than before.



Makumokuren. The Summer Hikaru Died, 2023. TEEN

Yoshiki and Hikaru are best friends who grew up in the same village. One day, Hikaru goes missing and turns up a week later. At first, things seem to be going okay with Hikaru's return. However, even though he looks and acts like Hikaru, something eerie is going on with him, and Yoshiki is the only one who seems to notice.



Newsome, Haley. Unfamiliar, 2022. TEEN

Planchette is a witch who is excellent at food magic. She moves into a house that just so happens to be haunted. She attempts to get rid of the ghosts, but is unsuccessful. Instead, she decides to try and help them with their problems so they can move on. On her journey, she gains allies to help her, forming unlikely friendships.



Preston, Natasha. The Island, 2023. TEEN

Five popular teens have been invited to a resort before it officially opens. Although it seems lavish at first, things start to go awry as a storm closes in, the internet and phone connection is sabotaged, and one of them goes missing.



Silvera, Adam. The First to Die at the End, 2022. TEEN

Prequel to the bestseller *They Both Die at the End,* this story follows Orion and Valentino and how they first met. Both of them subscribe to Death-Cast, a new company that can predict the death of those who join. However, only one of them receives the fatal phone call.



Terciero, Ray. Northranger, 2023. TEEN

In this haunting queer reimagining of Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, Cade has to spend his summer working at a ranch with his stepfather to earn money for his family. At first, Cade is not having a good time until he meets Henry, the ranch owner's son, who shares Cade's love for horror movies. Sparks fly between the two, but things start to get weird as Cade learns Henry has secrets he isn't willing to share.



Walther, K. L. What Happens After Midnight, 2023. TEEN

Lily is a scholarly student who is about to graduate high school, but she gets the feeling she has missed out on all the fun. One day, she gets an invitation to join in on a senior prank, and she finds out the invitation was sent from her ex-boyfriend, Tag, whom she still has feelings for. After joining in on the prank, could old feelings for Tag begin to resurface?



Wilson, Kerilynn. The Faint of Heart, 2023. TEEN

In this universe, scientists have figured out a procedure where hearts can be removed in order to take away emotions. Mostly everyone has their hearts taken out, but not June. Over time, June becomes the only one amongst her peers to still have her heart. Her parents then decide she must go through with the procedure, but she hatches a plan to keep her heart where it is.



Xu, Wendy. The Infinity Particle, 2023. TEEN

Clementine landed her dream job on Mars working with Dr. Lin, who specializes in artificial intelligence (AI). Upon working there, she meets Kye, who is a humanoid AI created by Dr. Lin to be her assistant. Clementine and Kye hit it off to the point where they develop feelings for each other, but with Kye being a robot and Clementine's complicated past, she begins to question everything she knows.



Yoon, Nicola. Instructions for Dancing, 2021. TEEN

One day, Evie comes across a dancing book, which leads her to taking dance classes where she meets Xavier. They both decide to sign up and practice for a dance contest. They start to fall for each other, but Evie has her doubts about romance especially considering what happened to her parents.