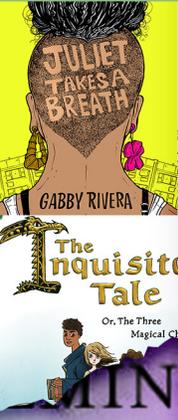




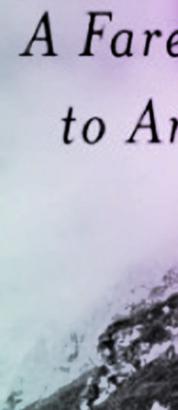
COMPLEMENTING THE CLASSICS

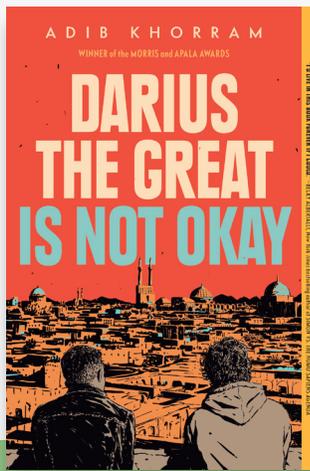


12 TITLES TO MODERNIZE YOUR CLASSROOM LIBRARY



NOTHING IS TIMELESS...
PAIR (OR REPLACE) CLASSICS
WITH THESE TIMELY READS!

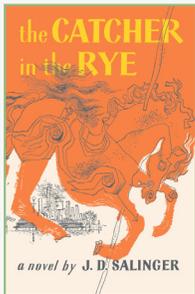




DARIUS THE GREAT IS NOT OKAY BY ADIB KHORRAM

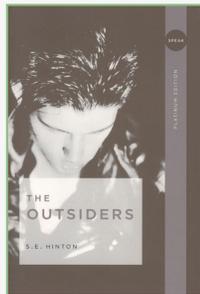
Looking to help students explore the challenges of being a teen? Explore the angst teens have when they can't rely on adults to change things, while also not knowing how to fix things themselves. Take an in-depth look at family structures, new friendships in new settings, and first-generation Americans visiting their family's country of origin. Unpack difficult familial relationships, particularly between father and son, and how those relationships are impacted by mental health.

COULD BE PAIRED WITH (OR REPLACE):



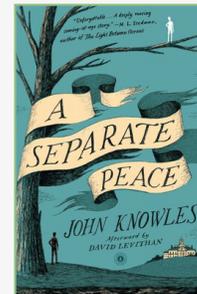
THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

The angst of male youth, especially those who struggle to make deep connections with other people.



THE OUTSIDERS

Looks deeply at the frustrations young people have when they can't rely on adults to change things, while also not knowing how to fix things themselves.

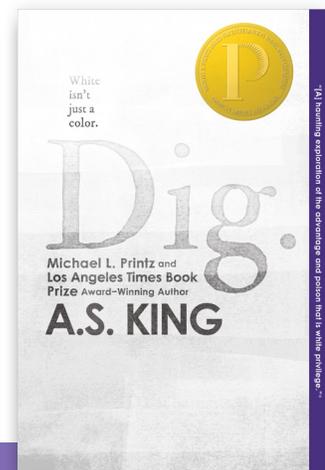


A SEPARATE PEACE

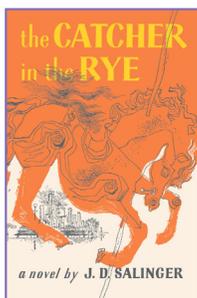
Gene and Finny. Darius and Sohrab. Seemingly unlikely young male friendships anchor both of these texts.

DIG BY A.S. KING

Be ready to go deep with *Dig*—deep into family secrets and sanity, deep into violence and whiteness, deep into reality and magic. If you've ever felt labeled as a thing rather than known as a person, you'll be right at home here. If you've ever felt emotionally scarred by the people nearest you, you'll be right at home here. Nobody reacts to these traumas gracefully—that is, when you're enduring trauma alone. You'll love how author A.S. King fashions a way for those grieving in isolation to thrive together, and for families paralyzed by pain to walk into a new forgiving future for and with each other.

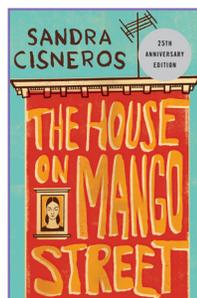


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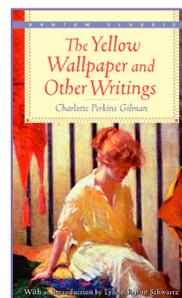
THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

Disaffected young protagonists navigating the choices and phoniness of their parents and grandparents.



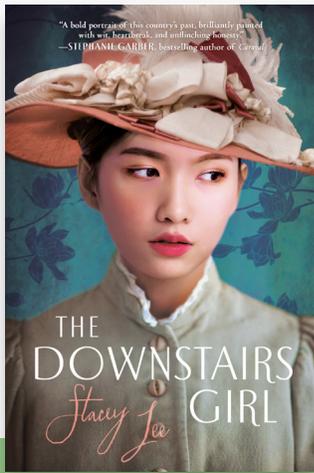
THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET

Young protagonists trying to make peace with how their future makes sense with their upbringing.



THE YELLOW WALLPAPER

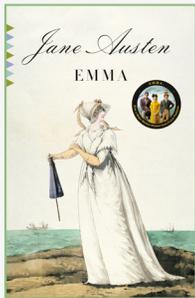
One of the teen protagonists (Loretta) descends into an imaginary world in response to misogynistic trauma at the hands of her father.



THE DOWNSTAIRS GIRL BY STACEY LEE

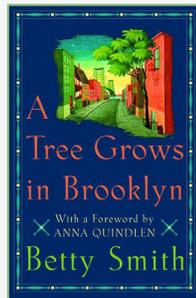
See the Deep South through a lens you didn't know you were missing. Jo Kuan is *The Downstairs Girl*, a witty and thoughtful narrator relegated to the margins of 1890s Atlanta—the wrong gender, the wrong race, the wrong level of society altogether. But the barriers that keep Jo down inspire the best in her in matters of the mind and the heart. It's a historical novel that never feels like homework, featuring a clever protagonist who's not too smart to suffer and learn and grow. And the resolution is, like the times were, difficult for many but beautifully open with possibilities and hope.

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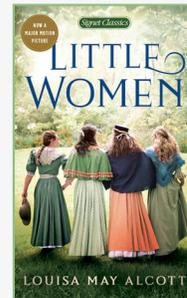
EMMA

Young girl whose wit and determination grow just strong enough for her struggles with love and community.



A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN

Young girl with humble beginnings and personal tenacity comes into her own as a woman, and a thinker.

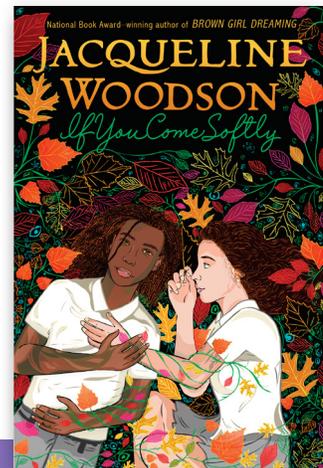


LITTLE WOMEN

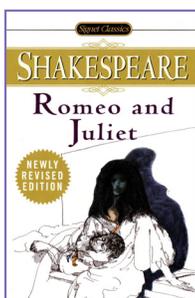
Young protagonist quick with a pen, devoted to her family, and on the cutting edge of what it means to be a woman in her society.

IF YOU COME SOFTLY BY JACQUELINE WOODSON

The lives of two fifteen-year-olds, Ellie and Jeremiah, intersect at the private school they both attend. Their ensuing interracial relationship is scrutinized by their friends, families, and society. Using two points of view, Woodson explores traditional concepts of love and time.

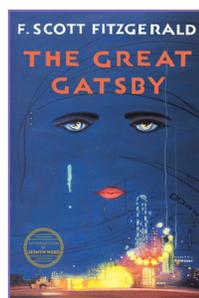


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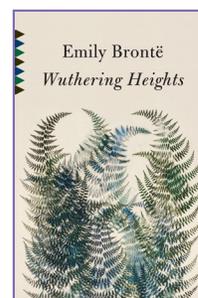
ROMEO AND JULIET

Woodson writes of two star-crossed lovers whose love supersedes all.



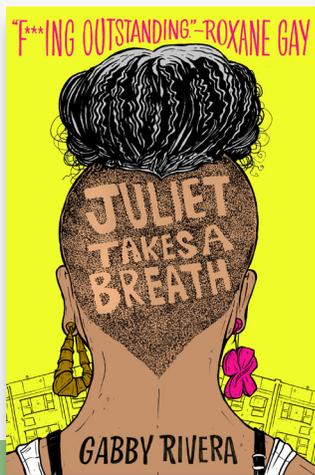
THE GREAT GATSBY

A story with love at the center, a love that external pressures intend to crush.



WUTHERING HEIGHTS

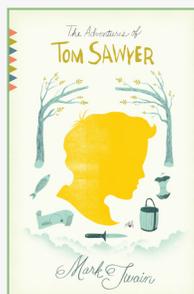
An analysis of love, class, and morality, and of a woman's role in a family, in a relationship, and in a society.



JULIET TAKES A BREATH BY GABBY RIVERA

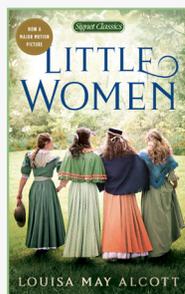
This first-person narrative takes up the mantle of social criticism from classic works. A bildungsroman for the modern age. A coming-of-age story that doesn't shy away from the messiness of adolescence, in which a young lesbian travels from New York to Portland, Oregon, to Miami in search of herself, of her identity, of life. Equal parts funny commentary, heartfelt relationships, and scathing social critique. A revelation.

COULD BE PAIRED WITH (OR REPLACE):



THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER

Juliet navigates her own adventures as she maneuvers through the messiness of adolescence.



LITTLE WOMEN

A modern exploration of roles of women and gender itself.

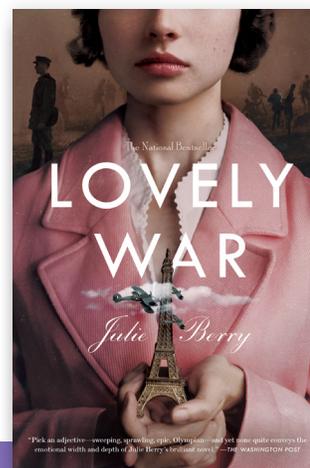


GREAT EXPECTATIONS

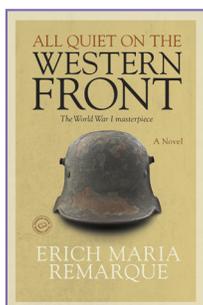
Wealth and poverty, love and rejection, a critical look at the society in which these elements exist.

LOVELY WAR BY JULIE BERRY

A magical merging of Mount Olympus and the Western Front of World War I. Aphrodite, on trial by Hephaestus for her alleged cavorting with Ares, must join her fellow gods to retell the stories of two different World War I romances. Which will prove to be the ultimate power: war, love, or the gods themselves?

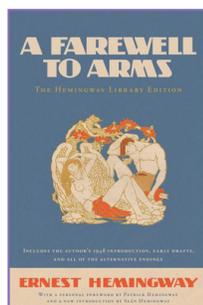


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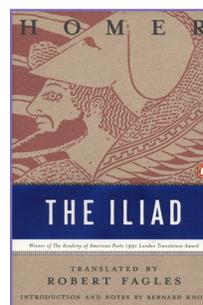
ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT

Berry breathes fresh air into the most famous WWI novel.



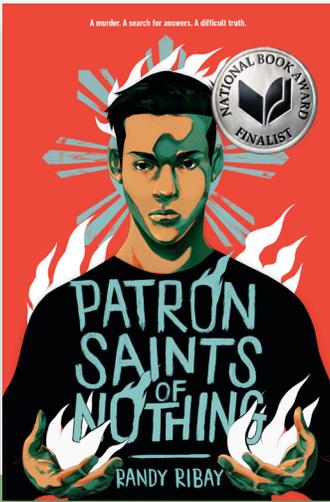
A FAREWELL TO ARMS

How war impacts love affairs among mortals—and even the gods.



THE ILIAD

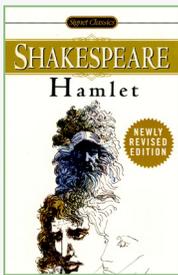
A new, more human side of Aphrodite, Hephaestus, Ares, and Hades.



PATRON SAINTS OF NOTHING BY RANDY RIBAY

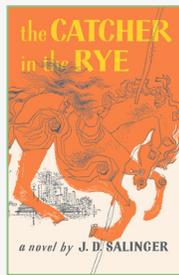
This novel is a whodunit that is also a “who am I?”, a road trip that is also a history lesson, a story about leaving home in order to find your home. The protagonist narrator, Jay, is achingly in-between—between cultures, between high school and college, between his parents’ work schedule. Jay has some friends but no real passions. So a trip to the Philippines to find out who killed his cousin opens him up to personal regret, personal growth and family history, his first-gen status and his own privilege. Read this book to discover that when we look closely enough at any one citizen, any one descendant of a place or a heritage, we will see the richness and difficulties and beauties within all those places we call home.

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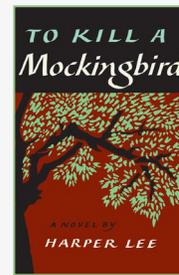
HAMLET

Young student protagonist steps far out of the classroom to seek out—and respond to—the truth about a family death.



THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

Teenager in over his head navigating a dangerous and morally complex adult world, mostly on his own.

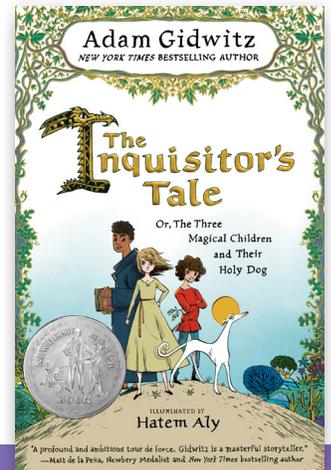


TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

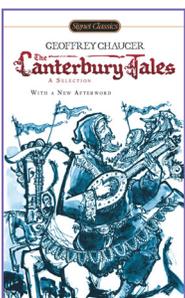
Young protagonists learning hard lessons about justice, family history, and public values.

THE INQUISITOR'S TALE BY ADAM GIDWITZ

Lovers of story will be drawn into this novel immediately. Enter a rough-and-tumble village tavern, and be swept into an engaging and suspenseful adventure story. Gidwitz makes sure that each villager brings a unique piece of the story—and is not shy about probing the consequences of love and hate, about analyzing the varieties of religious experience, and about disrupting our notion of what medieval times meant for peasants, Jews, and POC. The tale-tellers each conclude their respective stories with a cliff-hanger that demands another tale-teller to breathe new life into the saga. You will not want to put down this tale of cunning vs power, good vs evil, and young vs old. It's a morality tale that's never preachy, a joyful and hopeful story about serious and real matters.



COULD BE PAIRED WITH (OR REPLACE):



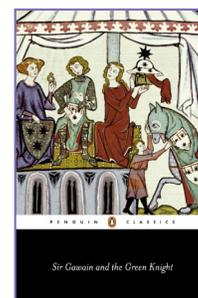
THE CANTERBURY TALES

Irreverent tone paired with reverent characters delighting an audience in a tavern.



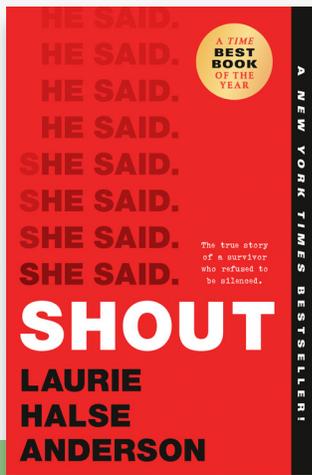
ONE THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS

Seemingly never-ending tales involving cunning and narrow escapes from royal authorities.



SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT

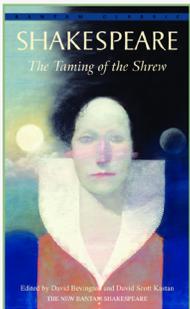
Medieval setting, adventure, and magic.



SHOUT BY LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON

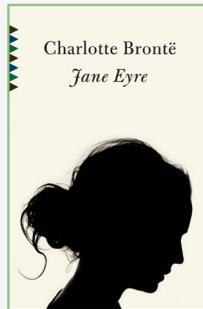
A free verse memoir that moves deftly through Anderson’s life, exploring topics and themes of family, writing, sexual assault, the #MeToo movement, and how little has changed since her groundbreaking novel *Speak*. A captivating and lyrical coming-of-age story that should be read by all genders, and will open up necessary conversations in your classroom.

COULD BE PAIRED WITH (OR REPLACE):



THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

Women show tremendous strength and resolve in taking on the patriarchy.



JANE EYRE

Explores class, feminism, and the psychological depths of the bildungsroman.

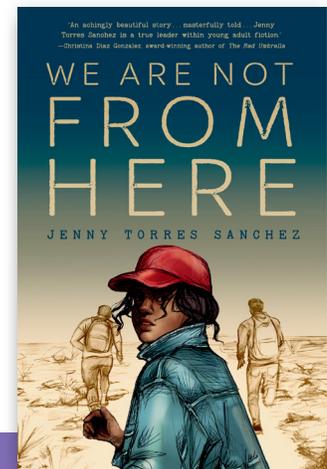


THE LORD OF THE FLIES

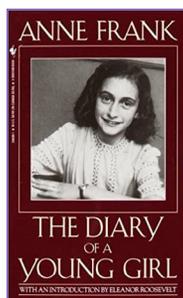
Toxic masculinity, violence, sexual assault.

WE ARE NOT FROM HERE BY JENNY TORRES SANCHEZ

Coming of age is a difficult process for any young person. Some young people, however, are thrust out of their childhoods and into a landscape that is not adulthood, not home, not welcoming, and not safe. In the novel *We Are Not From Here*, Jenny Torres Sanchez depicts such a violent loss of innocence endured by three young Guatemalans. Chico, Pulga, and Pequeña each escape the grasp of a local drug lord, only to have themselves thrown into the predatory dangers of the desert, the law, and La Bestia—the freight train that is their only hope of making it to the United States. A suspenseful and timely narrative told in an imaginative and emotionally rich style.

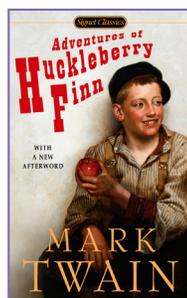


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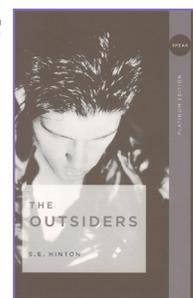
THE DIARY OF A YOUNG GIRL

Young people faced with desperate choices of survival due to historical and political necessity.



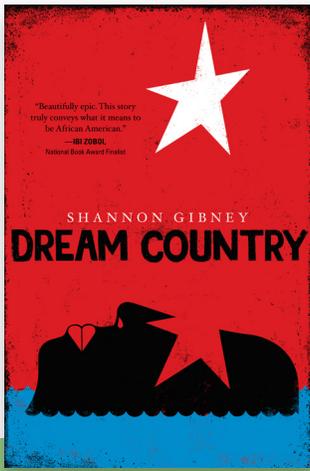
ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN

Young protagonists on a lengthy and hopeful journey toward freedom and hope.



THE OUTSIDERS

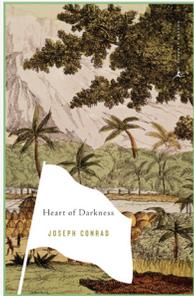
Young protagonists—a family unto themselves—on the margins of society and the law, leaning on one another for life, safety, and hope.



DREAM COUNTRY BY SHANNON GIBNEY

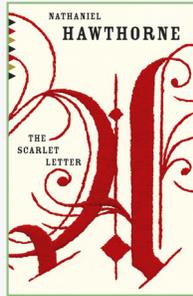
The word “dream” is understood in one of two divergent ways. Either a dream is something optimal, a goal one aspires to; or a dream is something ephemeral, a phantom one never truly experiences. Gibney’s *Dream Country* challenges the reader to hold both meanings at once. This novel follows a single family’s aspirations and sufferings on either side of the Atlantic—the promises of two countries (Liberia and the United States) drive and frustrate members of a single family tree. Gibney depicts recognizable assimilations into American culture as well as the cost of leaving the African continent. A suspenseful and historically engaging narrative told in varied and mature style.

COULD BE PAIRED WITH (OR REPLACE):



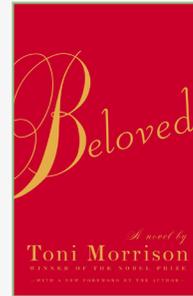
HEART OF DARKNESS

A white, colonial perspective of imperialism, Africa, and its people.



THE SCARLET LETTER

Protagonists enduring the consequences of difficult choices, personally, culturally, and historically.



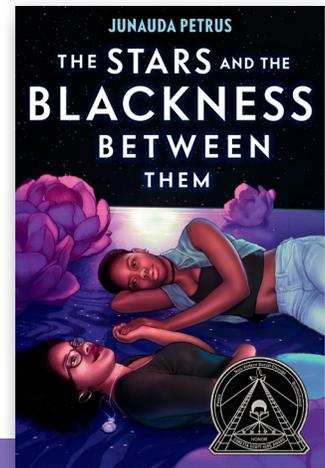
BELOVED

A single family oppressed, enduring, haunted, and struggling to endure on the margins of a nation, leaning on one another for life, safety, and hope.

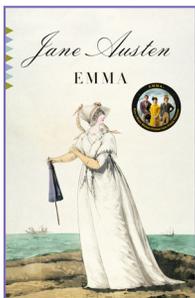
THE STARS AND THE BLACKNESS BETWEEN THEM BY JUNAUDA PETRUS

Written in multiple voices, each lyrical and beautiful, *The Stars and the Blackness Between Them* navigates the life and love of protagonists Audre and Mabel, and their friends and families. From Trinidad to Minnesota, real life is sprinkled with an enchantment that will change them forever.

A story of Black love, Black excellence, and Black Girl Magic.

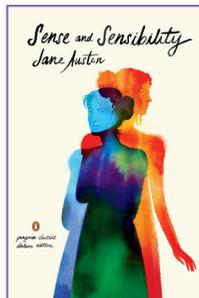


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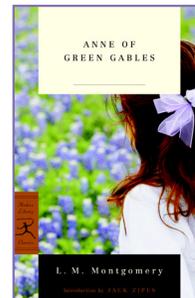
EMMA

The bonds of deep friendship, a community of supportive families, a love that blossoms as a result.



SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Gossip, innuendo, and concealed relationships. *The Stars and the Blackness Between Them* provides a modern contextualization of sensibility and sense, expectations and reality, reason and emotion, happiness and love.



ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

The idea of kindred spirits pervades *The Stars and the Blackness Between Them* and the relationships therein. Whether Queenie and Audre, Mabel’s parents, or the two narrators—these characters were meant to find each other.



WE'D LOVE TO HEAR
FROM YOU!



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