



Wayland Public Library



Gift Guide

Handpicked book recommendations
for every reader on your list

TEEN BOOK GIFT GUIDE

2023 titles selected by the Wayland Library Youth Services Staff

Wrecker

by Carl Hiaasen

Fifteen-year-old Valdez Jones VIII, a.k.a. Wrecker, needs to deal with smugglers, grave robbers, and pooping iguanas --just as soon as he finishes Zoom school.



Kween

by Vichet Chum

A searing, joyful YA debut about a queer Cambodian American teen's journey to find her voice and step into her legacy.



Those Pink Mountain Nights

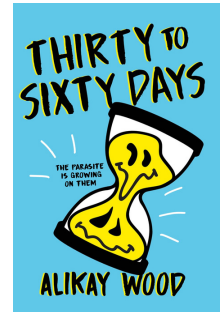
by Jen Ferguson

A trio of teens working at Pink Mountain Pizza search for a missing classmate while attempting to keep the Black-owned pizza shop from being sold.



Thirty to Sixty Days

by Alikay Wood



Facing imminent death from a parasitic infection, three teens elect to spend their final days on a madcap adventure, and discover a lot about themselves along the way.

Rez Ball

by Byron Graves



This compelling debut novel tells the relatable, high-stakes story of a young athlete determined to play like the hero his Ojibwe community needs him to be.

A Little Like Waking

by Adam Rex

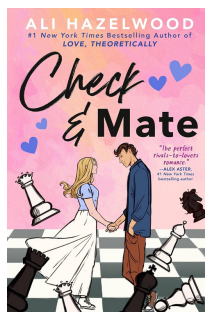


While stuck in a dream, Zelda explores the far reaches of the dreamscape with a timid boy named Langston, in this deeply-felt, surreal love story.

Check & Mate

by Ali Hazelwood

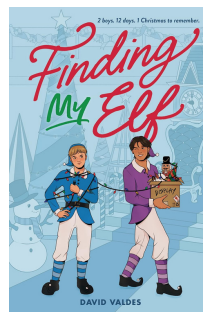
When Mallory returns to chess in one last tournament, her upset against the reigning world champ and bad boy of the chess world sets her on whirlwind adventure.



Finding My Elf

by David Valdes

A festive romcom about Cam, who's trying to find the "the one" and also trying to find himself--while spending winter break working at a hectic Santa's Village.



Love in Winter Wonderland

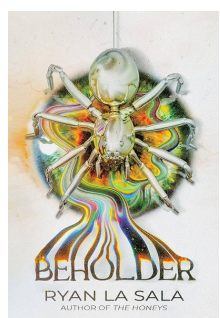
by Abiola Bello

Trey and Ariel embark on a hate-to-love journey to save Trey's family's business, the longest-running Black-owned bookshop in London.



Beholder

by Ryan La Sala



A chilling new contemporary fable about art, aesthetic obsession, and the gaze that peers back at us from behind our reflections.

Gorgeous Gruesome Faces

by Linda Cheng



A spine-tingling sapphic thriller that follows a disgraced teen idol who comes face-to-face with the demons of her past in a glittering, cutthroat K-pop competition.

Godly Heathens

by H.E. Edgmon



The first book in a contemporary fantasy duology, The Ouroboros, in which a teen, Gem, finds out they're a reincarnated god from another world.

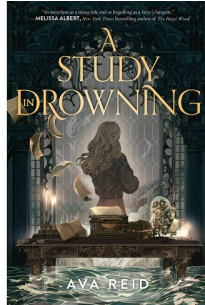
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A Study in Drowning

by Ava Reid

A dark academia novel that is part historical fantasy, part Gothic mystery, part rivals-to-lovers romance, and all haunting, dreamlike atmosphere.



The Stolen Heir

by Holly Black

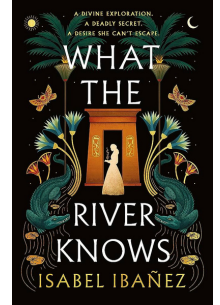
A runaway queen. A reluctant prince. And a quest that may destroy them both. Return to the opulent world of Elfhome, filled with intrigue, betrayal, and dangerous desires.



What the River Knows

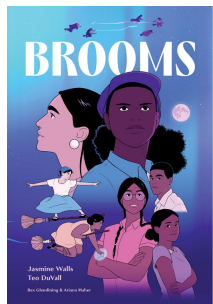
by Isabel Ibañez

An immersive historical fantasy set in Egypt in 1884 and filled with adventure, a rivals-to-lovers romance, and a dangerous race.



Brooms

by Jasmine Walls



Brooms is a queer, witchy *Fast and the Furious* that shines light on history not often told - it's everything you'd ever want to read in a graphic novel.

Cooking with Monsters: The Beginner's Guide to Culinary Combat

by Jordan Alsaqa & Vivian Truong



Hana is the newest face at the Gourmand Academy of Culinary Combat, a school that will teach her how to fight monsters and how to turn them into delicious meals.

unOrdinary

by Uru-Chan

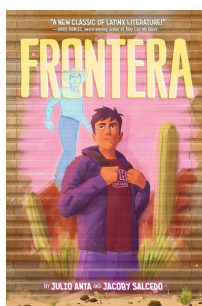


An action-packed series about an ordinary teen trying to survive high school in a world where superpowers dictate social status, and betrayal and conspiracies make up every turn.

Frontera

by Julio Anta & Jacoby Salcedo

Mateo makes the dangerous journey back home to the US through the Sonoran Desert with the help of a ghost named Guillermo in this supernatural borderland odyssey graphic novel.



All You Have to Do

by Autumn Allen

This novel follows the intertwined stories of two Black students decades apart, as they navigate similar forms of insidious racism while discovering who they want to be instead of what society tells them they are.



The Blood Years

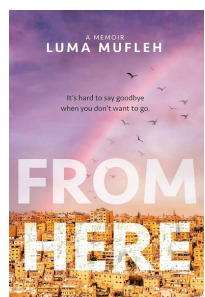
by Elana K. Arnold

Based on true experiences of Holocaust-era Romania, Arnold weaves a tale of love and loss in the darkest days of the twentieth century.



From Here

by Luma Mufleh



Refugee advocate Luma Mufleh writes of her tumultuous journey to reconcile her identity as a gay Muslim woman and a proud Arab-turned-American refugee.

The Twenty-One: The True Story of the Youth Who Sued the U.S. Government Over Climate Change

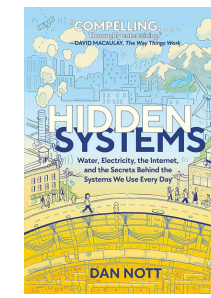
by Elizabeth Rusch



A gripping legal and environmental thriller about the ongoing landmark lawsuit brought against the US government by twenty-one young people.

Hidden Systems: Water, Electricity, the Internet, and the Secrets Behind the Systems We Use Every Day

by Dan Nott



This nonfiction graphic novel reveals how the decisions made while inventing and constructing early technology still affect the way people use it today.