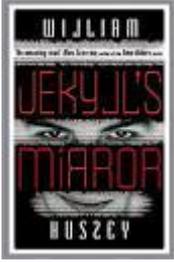


KS3 English Wider Reading

Fiction:



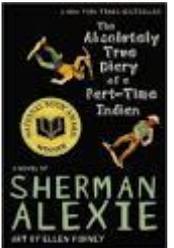
Jekyll's Mirror
By William Hussey

Supernatural YA horror story *Jekyll's Mirror* takes Robert Louis Stevenson's novel as its theme and brings personality distortion into a 21st Century setting – by the way of social media.



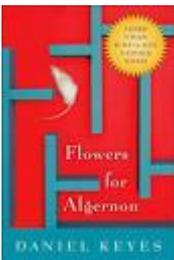
Mister Creecher
By Chris Priestley

A quick and light read which reimagines Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.



The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian
Sherman Alexie

Determined to take his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Explores identity and peer pressure in diary form.



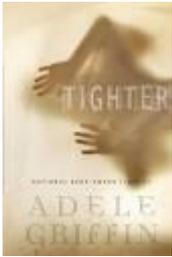
Flowers for Algernon
Daniel Keyes

When brain surgery makes a mouse into a genius, dull-witted Charlie Gordon wonders if it might also work for him. It does ... but then the mouse begins to regress.



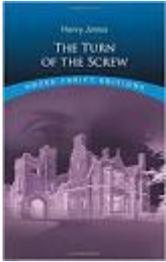
The Art of Being Normal
Lisa Williamson

A powerful tale of a transgender teenager's struggle with identity.



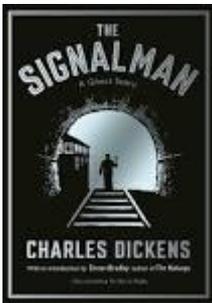
Tighter
Adele Griffin

Based on Henry James's *The Turn of the Screw* (set in Essex!) – tells the story of Jamie Atkinson's summer on an estate in a small Rhode Island beach town, where she fears the estate may be haunted.



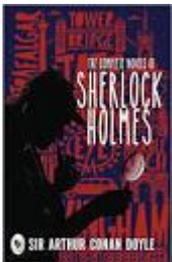
The Turn of the Screw
Henry James

A challenging read, but driven by a ghostly plot, and short.



The Signal Man
Charles Dickens

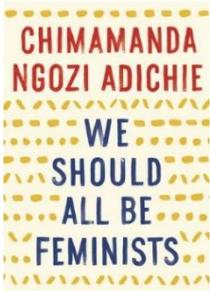
Another of Dickens's superb ghostly reads – engage your imagination and it is sure to haunt you pleasantly.



Sherlock Holmes short stories
Arthur Conan Doyle

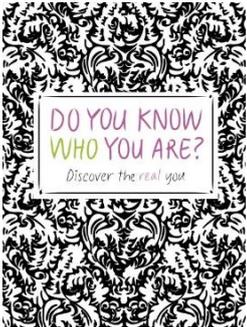
An excellent introduction to detective fiction – and Cumberbatch's acting hasn't done the great detective's reputation any harm!

Non-Fiction:



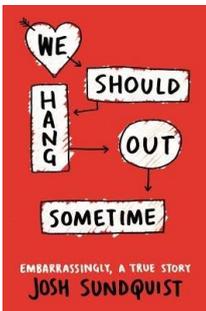
We Should All Be Feminists by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

In December 2015, it was announced that every 16-year-old in Sweden would be given a copy of this book. Adapted from Adichie's award-winning TEDx Talk of the same name (which blew up after Beyoncé sampled it), the book is a great stepping stone for discussions on gender roles and equity. Drawing from Adichie's own experiences, it's a key read for young women and men as they navigate the future together.



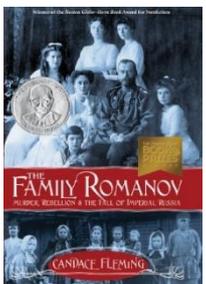
Do You Know Who You Are? by DK

Step away from the online quizzes! However, you want to slice it, there's something much more telling about digging into your true self when you do it in pen and ink. A great book for would-be journalers whose efforts never quite get off the ground, this hybrid quiz/self-help/activity book is filled with questionnaires, creative activities, and wisdom (imparted by both the professional psychologist who helped create it and the reader who does the exercises). Whatever the case, it's a worthwhile pursuit.



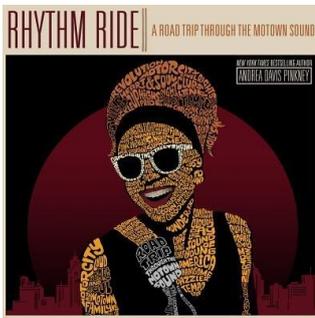
We Should Hang Out Sometime: Embarrassingly, a True Story by Josh Sundquist

The teen years can be awkward. But sometimes the early adult years continue to be awkward. Such is the case with Sundquist who realized at 25 that he'd never had a real girlfriend. So began his quest to review his dating (or non-dating) life since middle school by tracking down every girl he ever liked and asking her, "What went wrong?" The results are hilarious and relatable. Plus, Sundquist wrote it while in a relationship, so even the most hopelessly misguided teen dater will finish the read with some hope.



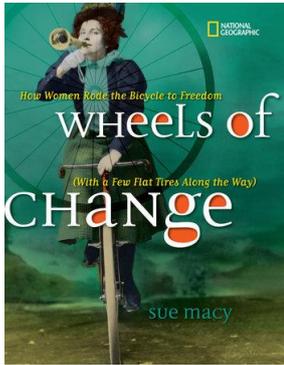
The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia by Candace Fleming

If truth is stranger than fiction, the Romanovs still get some kind of prize. Any teen who claims history is boring should get their hands on this book. (Adults should, too!) Fleming writes about Russia's last royal family and its downfall in a gripping way, covering every spot of doom in its gilded halls (while also tending to the lives of the poor Russian masses). Fans of reality show drama will hold today's camera-ready families to a much higher drama standard after reading this book.



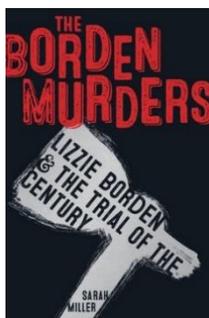
Rhythm Ride: A Road Trip Through the Motown Sound
by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Pinkney’s book delivers a great glimpse into Berry Gordy’s founding of Motown in 1959, while also painting a picture of the social climate of the time. Any teen with an interest in music — no matter what genre they prefer — should get their hands on this history, just for the look at the way Gordy’s early efforts shaped the music teens love today.



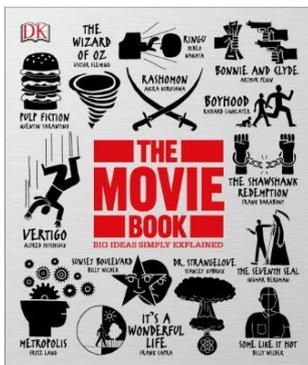
Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom (With a Few Flat Tires Along the Way)
by Sue Macy

Never knock the noble bicycle. Susan B. Anthony once said that the bike “has done more to emancipate women than anything else in the world.” This lively look at bicycles takes a scrapbook-style approach to celebrating how the invention and its availability to females helped grant women freedom of mobility and aided the women’s liberation movement. The read is as fluid as pedaling on smooth streets, portraying the bicycle’s story through news clippings, advertisements, and vintage photographs — not to mention the occasional (and laughable) objection to women having the right to bike. Bonus: This read might even make car-less teens appreciate the wheels they do have.



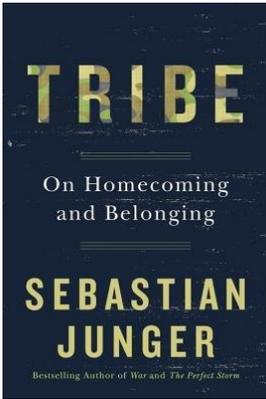
The Borden Murders: Lizzie Borden and the Trial of the Century
by Sarah Miller

There’s a reason why true crime is a genre that’s always popular: It’s addictive and thought-provoking. Miller does her homework, and tries to separate fact from fiction (news stories on Borden’s 1892 double murder trial were highly sensationalized). Readers won’t feel like they’re just gawking at a crime scene; they’ll actually learn something about the legal process in this fascinating account of an unsolved crime that’s hard to put down.



The Movie Book
by DK

Part of DK’s *Big Ideas, Simply Explained* series, *The Movie Book* is a do-it-all compendium of movie history and look at how films have fit into society. Examining 100 films from the silent era onward (and spanning all genres, from “The Wizard of Oz” to “Vertigo” to “Pulp Fiction”), the book’s profiles include great lines, historical significance, and mini-biographies of key industry players. Any teen movie buff will be drawn instantly to the must-see content and — in this age of streaming — may be inclined to seek out older, harder-to-get fare for a true picture of movie-making’s multifaceted history.



Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging
by Sebastian Junger

While technically an adult book, Junger’s work — which spends a lot of its pages on the return of soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) to their former lives — makes frequent appearances on high school reading lists. And it should, because Junger’s writing is compelling and he approaches anthropology with a great deal of empathy. In *Tribe*, Junger learns that it’s not a veteran’s failure to “get back in” to society, but often society’s failure to re-assimilate vets, and he looks at what tribal societies can teach ours about loyalty and belonging. The book is a must-read for any civic-minded teen who’s thoughtfully approaching how they might make a difference in the world.