



Bulldogs Read 2020- 2021

To enter the monthly **Bulldogs Read** prize drawing, read a book from this list and then fill out an online form for each book read at <https://bit.ly/2AbaJlJ>. Be sure to track the books you've read and submitted on the form below. Bulldogs Read winners will be announced monthly and receive prizes. Students who read and submit 30+ Bulldogs Read books will also be invited on an end-of-year field trip. But, don't forget—the greatest prize of all is experiencing a great book! So, first and foremost, please use this list to get ideas for your next great read! For digital copies of our *Bulldogs Read* books, go to <https://bit.ly/2XGZH2k>.

* = story contains more mature content

***Aftermath** by Kelley Armstrong

Three years after losing her brother Luka in a school shooting, Skye Gilchrist is moving home. But there's no sympathy for Skye and her family because Luka wasn't a victim; he was a shooter. Jesse Mandal knows all too well that the scars of the past don't heal easily. The shooting cost Jesse his brother and his best friend--Skye. Ripped apart by tragedy, Jesse and Skye can't resist reopening the mysteries of their past. And the closer Skye and Jesse get to the truth of what happened that day, the closer they get to a new killer.

Read Submitted

Allies by Alan Gratz

It is June 6, 1944, D-Day, and Dee Carpenter, an underage private in the United States Army, is headed for Omaha Beach, seeking revenge for his uncle, who was arrested by Nazis when Dee was a little boy; meanwhile, Samira Zidano, an eleven-year old French-Algerian girl is looking for the French resistance, desperate to deliver the message that the invasion is about to begin, and get their help in freeing her mother--this is the most important day of the twentieth century, and both children want to fight, and survive.

Read Submitted

***All Your Twisted Secrets** by Diana Urban

What do the queen bee, star athlete, valedictorian, stoner, loner, and music geek all have in common? They were all invited to a scholarship dinner, only to discover it's a trap. Someone has locked them into a room with a bomb, a syringe filled with poison, and a note saying they have an hour to pick someone to kill--or else everyone dies.

Read Submitted

The Blackbird Girls by Anne Blankman

On a spring morning, neighbors Valentina and Oksana wake up to an angry red sky. A reactor at the nuclear power plant where their fathers work--Chernobyl--has

exploded. Before they know it, the two girls, who've always been enemies, find themselves on a train bound for Leningrad to stay with Valentina's estranged grandmother, Rita Grigorievna. In their new lives in Leningrad, they begin to learn what it means to trust another person. And both of them discover something they've wished for: a best friend. But how far would you go to save your best friend's life? Would you risk your own?

Read Submitted

Black Brother, Black Brother by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Suspended unjustly from elite Middlefield Prep, Donte Ellison studies fencing with a former champion, hoping to put the racist fencing team captain in his place.

Read Submitted

Bloom by Kenneth Oppel

The invasion begins with rain. Rain that carries seeds. Seeds that sprout--overnight, everywhere. These new plants take over crop fields, twine up houses, and burrow below streets. They bloom and release toxic pollens and form Venus flytrap-like pods that swallow animals and people. They bloom--everywhere, unstoppable. Or are they? Three kids on a remote island seem immune to the toxic plants. They each have strange allergies--and yet not to these plants. What's their secret? Can they somehow be the key to beating back this invasion? They'd better figure it out fast, because it's starting to rain again.

Read Submitted

***Clap When You Land** by Elizabeth Acevedo

Sixteen-year-olds Camino Rios, of the Dominican Republic, and Yahaira Rios, of New York City, are devastated to learn of their father's death in a plane crash and stunned to learn of each other's existence. A novel in verse told in two voices.

Read Submitted

****A Curse So Dark and Lonely* by Brigid Kemmerer**

Eighteen for the three hundred twenty-seventh time, Prince Rhen despairs of breaking the curse that turns him into a beast at the end of each day until feisty Harper enters his life.

Read Submitted

***Dancing at the Pity Party* by Tyler Feder**

Tyler Feder shares her story of her mother's first oncology appointment to facing reality as a motherless daughter in this frank and refreshingly funny graphic memoir.

Read Submitted

***Dragon Hoops* by Gene Luen Yang**

Gene Luen Yang understands stories -- comic book stories, in particular. But Gene doesn't get sports. But at the high school where he now teaches, it's all anyone can talk about. The men's varsity team, the Dragons, is having a phenomenal season that's been decades in the making. Each victory brings them closer to their ultimate goal: the California State Championship. Once Gene meets these young all-stars, he knows he has to follow this epic to its end. What he doesn't know yet is that this season is not only going to change the Dragons' lives, but his own life as well.

Read Submitted

***Efrén Divided* by Ernesto Cisneros**

While his father works two jobs, seventh-grader Efrén Nava must take care of his twin siblings, kindergartners Max and Mia, after their mother is deported to Mexico.

Read Submitted

***Fever Year: the Killer Flu of 1918* by Don Brown**

New Year's Day, 1918. America has declared war on Germany and is gathering troops to fight. But there's something coming that is deadlier than any war. When people begin to fall ill, most Americans don't suspect influenza. The flu is known to be dangerous to the very old, young, or frail. But the Spanish flu is exceptionally violent. Soon, thousands of people succumb. Then tens of thousands . . . hundreds of thousands and more. What made the influenza of 1918 so exceptionally deadly--and what can modern science help us understand about this tragic episode in history?

Read Submitted

***Field Notes on Love* by Jennifer Smith**

Two teens, Hugo and Mae, are strangers until they share a cross-country train trip that teaches them about love, each other, and the futures they can build for themselves.

Read Submitted

****Fighting Words* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley**

Ten-tear-old Della has always had her older sister, Suki: When their mom went to prison, Della had Suki. When their mom's boyfriend took them in, Della had Suki. When that same boyfriend did something so awful they had to run fast, Della had Suki. Suki is Della's own wolf--her protector. But who has been protecting Suki? Della might get told off for swearing at school, but she has always known how to keep quiet where it counts. Then Suki tries to kill herself, and Della's world turns so far upside down, it feels like it's shaking her by the ankles. Maybe she's been quiet about the wrong things. Maybe it's time to be loud.

Read Submitted

***Fireborne* by Rosaria Munda**

Two dragonriders must go head-to-head for the top position in the Callipolan fleet and protect the new regime from those who lost power.

Read Submitted

***For Black Girls Like Me* by Mariama Lockington**

Eleven-year-old Makeda dreams of meeting her African American mother, while coping with serious problems in her white adopted family, a cross-country move, and being homeschooled.

Read Submitted

***The Fountains of Silence* by Ruta Sepetys**

At the Castellana Hilton in 1957 Madrid, eighteen-year-old Daniel Matheson connects with Ana Moreno through photography and fate as Daniel discovers the incredibly dark side of the city under Generalissimo Franco's rule.

Read Submitted

***Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle**

Rex Ogle recounts his first semester in sixth grade in which he and his younger brother often went hungry, wore secondhand clothes, and were short of school supplies and he was on his school's free lunch program. Grounded in the immediacy of physical hunger and the humiliation of having to announce it every day in the school lunch line, Rex's is a compelling story of a more profound hunger -- that of a child for his parents' love and care.

Read Submitted

***From the Desk of Zoe Washington* by Janae Marks**

Avid baker Zoe Washington receives a letter on her twelfth birthday from her biological father, who is in prison for a terrible crime.

Read Submitted

Golden Arm by Carl Deuker

Lazarus Weathers, a high school senior from the wrong side of the tracks, seeks to protect his half-brother while pitching his way out of poverty, one strike at a time.

Read Submitted

****A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson***

As her senior capstone project, Pippa Fitz-Amobi is determined to find the real killer in a closed, local murder case, but not everyone wants her meddling in the past.

Read Submitted

The Good Hawk by Joseph Elliott

Agatha is a Hawk, brave and fierce, who protects her people by patrolling the high walls of their island home. She is proud of her job, though some in her clan whisper that it is meant to keep her out of the way because of the condition she was born with. Jaime, thoughtful and anxious, is an Angler, but he hates the sea. Worse, he's been chosen for a duty that the clan hasn't required for generations: to marry. When disaster strikes and the clan is kidnapped, it is up to Agatha and Jaime to save the day.

Read Submitted

****A Heart in a Body in the World by Deb Caletti***

Followed by Grandpa Ed in his RV and backed by her brother and friends, Annabelle, eighteen, runs from Seattle to Washington, D.C., becoming a reluctant activist as people connect her journey to her recent trauma.

Read Submitted

****Here to Stay by Sara Farizan***

When a cyberbully sends the entire high school a picture of basketball hero Bijan Majidi, photo-shopped to look like a terrorist, the school administration promises to find and punish the culprit, but Bijan just wants to pretend the incident never happened and move on.

Read Submitted

A High Five for Glenn Burke by Phil Bildner

After researching Glenn Burke, the first major league baseball player to come out as gay, sixth-grader Silas Wade slowly comes out to his best friend Zoey, then his coach, with unexpected consequences.

****The Hive by Barry Lyga***

Cassie McKinney has always believed in the Hive. Social media used to be out of control, but then the Hive came. A better way to sanction people for what they do online. Cause trouble, get too many "condemns," and a crowd can come after you, teach you a lesson in real life. It's safer, fairer and perfectly

legal. After Cassie makes an edgy joke online, her viral comment whips an entire country into a frenzy and the Hive demands retribution. One moment Cassie is anonymous; the next, she's infamous. And running for her life.

Read Submitted

It's Trevor Noah: Born a Crime by Trevor Noah (Young Reader's edition)

Comedian Trevor Noah shares his remarkable story of growing up in South Africa with a black South African mother and a white European father at a time when it was against the law for a mixed-race child to exist. But he did exist--and from the beginning, the often-misbehaved Trevor used his keen smarts and humor to navigate a harsh life under a racist government.

Read Submitted

****I Wish You all the Best by Mason Deaver***

When Ben De Backer comes out to their parents as non-binary, they're thrown out of their house and forced to move in with their estranged older sister, Hannah, and her husband, Thomas. Struggling with an anxiety disorder compounded by their parents' rejection, they come out only to Hannah, Thomas, and their therapist, and try to keep a low profile in a new school. But Ben's attempts to survive the last half of senior year unnoticed are thwarted when Nathan Allan, a funny and charismatic student, decides to take Ben under his wing.

Read Submitted

Killing November by Adriana Mather

November is trapped. At the mysterious Academy Absconditi, a school that's completely off the grid, there's no electricity, no internet, and a brutal eye-for-an-eye punishment system. Classes include everything from knife-throwing and poisons to the art of deception. And the other students? All children of the world's most elite strategists, in training to become assassins, spies, and master manipulators. November Adley doesn't know why she's been sent to this place, or the secrets that make up its legacy, but she'll quickly discover that allies are few in a school where competition is everything. When another student is murdered, all eyes turn to November, who must figure out exactly how she fits in before she is found guilty of the crime...or becomes the killer's next victim.

Read Submitted

Klawde: Evil Alien Warlord Cat by Johnny Marciano

Klawde is not your average cat. He's an emperor from another planet, exiled to Earth. He's cruel. He's cunning. He's brilliant...and he's about to become Raj Banerjee's best friend. Whether he likes it or not.

Read Submitted

***The Line Tender* by Kate Allen**

Following a tragedy that further alters the course of her life, twelve-year-old Lucy Everhart decides to continue the shark research her marine biologist mother left unfinished when she died years earlier.

Read Submitted

****The Loop* by Ben Oliver**

Luka Kane has spent 736 days wrongfully imprisoned inside the Loop awaiting his execution. Each day is the same. Each day is torturous. But things are starting to change. Whispers of war are circulating. Strange things are happening to the prisoners. And then the warden delivers a message: Luka, you have to get out...

Read Submitted

****The Lost Causes of Bleak Creek* by Rhett McLaughlin**

It's 1992 in Bleak Creek, North Carolina. Beneath the town's cheerful facade teens live in constant fear of being sent to The Whitewood School, a local reformatory with a record of putting unruly teens back on the straight and narrow--a record so impeccable that almost everyone is willing to ignore the mysterious deaths that have occurred there.

When the shoot for their low-budget horror masterpiece goes awry and their best friend, Alicia Boykins, is sent to Whitewood as punishment, Rex and Leif are forced to piece together the unsettling truth of the school and its mysterious founder.

Read Submitted

***The Mighty Heart of Sunny St. James* by Ashley Herring Blake**

Twelve-year-old Sunny St. James must navigate heart surgery, reconnections with a lost mother, the betrayal of a former best friend, first kisses, and emerging feelings for another girl.

Read Submitted

***Most Likely* by Sarah Watson**

In 2049, as the President of the United States waits to be sworn in, she reflects on senior year in high school when she and her three dear friends vied for the attention of the future First Gentleman.

Read Submitted

***Once Upon an Eid: Stories of Hope and Joy by 15 Muslim Voices* edited by S.K. Ali and Aisha Saeed**

For Muslims, there's no better time to gather with family and reflect upon the joy of giving than during Eid. In this story, fifteen Muslim authors highlight the diversity within Islam and explore the meaning of and otherworldly feelings associated with Eid.

Read Submitted

***Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga**

Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. At first, everything in America seems so different and Jude's not quite prepared for her new label of 'Middle Eastern.' But this new life also brings unexpected surprises. Maybe America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is.

Read Submitted

****Pitch Dark* by Courtney Alameda**

Tuck Durante, a shipraider, and Lana Gray, a curator, must work together to try to rescue a space capsule hijacked by nightmarish creatures who kill with a scream.

Read Submitted

***Prairie Lotus* by Linda Sue Park**

In Dakota Territory in the 1880s, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves.

Read Submitted

***Redwood and Ponytail* by K.A. Holt**

Told in verse, this is a story of two girls, opposites in many ways, who are drawn to each other. Kate appears to be a stereotypical cheerleader with a sleek ponytail and a perfectly polished persona. Tam is tall, athletic and frequently mistaken for a boy. Their deepening friendship inevitably changes and reveals their true identities in ways they did not anticipate.

Read Submitted

***Shuri* by Nic Stone**

Shuri is a skilled martial artist, a genius, and a master of science and technology. But she's also a teenager and the sister of the Black Panther. For centuries, the the Black Panther has gained his powers through the juices of the Heart-Shaped Herb. Much like Vibranium, the Heart-Shaped Herb is essential to the survival and prosperity of Wakanda. But something is wrong. The plants are dying. No matter what the people of Wakanda do, they can't save them. And their supply is running short. It's up to Shuri to travel from Wakanda in order to discover what is killing the Herb, and how she can save it.

Read Submitted

****Slay* by Brittney Morris**

An honors student at Jefferson Academy, seventeen-year-old Keira enjoys developing and playing Slay, a secret, multiplayer online role-playing game celebrating black culture, until the two worlds collide.

Read Submitted

***Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh**

Snap's town has a witch. At least, that's the rumor. In reality, Jacks is just a Crocs-wearing, internet-savvy old lady who sells the skeletons of roadkill online. When Snap begins helping Jacks with her strange work, she gets to know her and realizes that Jacks may in fact have real magic--and an unlikely connection to Snap's family's past.

Read Submitted

***Spin the Dawn* by Elizabeth Lim**

Maia dreams of becoming the greatest tailor in the land, but as a girl, the best she can hope for is to marry well. When a royal messenger summons her ailing father, once a tailor of renown, to court, Maia poses as a boy and takes his place. But Maia's task is complicated when she draws the attention of the court magician, Edan, whose piercing eyes seem to see straight through her disguise.

Read Submitted

***Stamped* by Jason Reynolds**

This is NOT a history book. This is a book about the here and now. A book to help us better understand why we are where we are. A book about race... This book reveals the history of racist ideas in America and inspires hope for an antiracist future.

Read Submitted

***Stepping Stones* by Lucy Knisley**

Jen moves out to the country and has to put up with her mom and her mom's new boyfriend, as well as his kids. Suddenly part of a larger family in a new place, Jen isn't sure there is a place for her in this different world.

Read Submitted

****Stepsister* by Jennifer Donnelly**

Isabelle is one of Cinderella's ugly stepsisters who cut off her toes in an attempt to fit into the glass slipper. But there is more to her story than a maimed foot, for the Marquis de la Chance is about to offer her a choice and the opportunity to change her fate. There will be blood and danger, but also the possibility of redemption and triumph, and most of all the chance to find her true self.

Read Submitted

***Summer and July* by Paul Mosier**

Twelve-year-old Juillet is preparing for the worst summer vacation ever in the seaside neighborhood of Ocean Park, California. Then Juillet meets Summer, a local surfer girl who knows the coolest people and places around town. With free-spirited and adventurous Summer, Juillet begins to come out of her shell and face the things weighing her down. But when Summer reveals her own painful secret, it's Juillet's turn to be the strong and supportive friend.

Read Submitted

***The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates* by Jenny Pearson**

After his grandmother dies and Freddie discovers his biological father might be alive and well in Wales, he decides to follow the facts. Together with his best friends Ben and Charlie, he sneaks off on the adventure of a lifetime to track down Freddie's father. When the three unwittingly set off a chain of inexplicable events via an onion-eating competition, a couple of superhero costumes, and some very angry antique thieves, Freddie discovers that some things can't always be explained--and sometimes what you're looking for has been with you the whole time.

Read Submitted

***They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei**

Actor, author, and activist George Takei recounts his childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps for Japanese Americans during World War II and the impact the experience had on his later life.

Read Submitted

****They Went Left* by Monica Hesse**

Zofia, a teenage Holocaust survivor, travels across post-war Europe as she searches for her younger brother and seeks to rebuild her shattered life.

Read Submitted

***This Book Is Anti-Racist* by Tiffany Jewell**

Who are you? What is racism? Where does it come from? Why does it exist? What can you do to disrupt it? Learn about the history of racism and resistance and how you can use your anti-racist lens and voice to move the world toward equity and liberation.

Read Submitted

***Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwame Mbalia**

Seventh-grader Tristan Strong tumbles into the MidPass and, with allies John Henry and Brer Rabbit, must entice the god Anansi to come out of hiding and seal the hole Tristan accidentally ripped in the sky.

Read Submitted

***Tweet Cute* by Emma Lord**

Meet Pepper, swim team captain, chronic overachiever, and the voice behind the Twitter account for her family's Big League Burger business. Enter Jack, class clown and constant thorn in Pepper's side. When he isn't trying to duck out of his obscenely popular twin's shadow, he's busy working in his family's deli. When Big League Burger steals his grandma's iconic grilled cheese recipe, he'll do whatever it takes to take them down, one tweet at a time.

Read Submitted

****A Very Large Expanse of Sea* by Tahereh Mafi**

It's 2002, a year after 9/11. It's an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who's tired of being stereotyped. Shirin is tired of the rude stares, the degrading comments--even the physical violence--she endures as a result of her race, her religion, and the hijab she wears every day. But then she meets Ocean James. He's the first person in forever who really seems to want to get to know Shirin. It terrifies her--they seem to come from two irreconcilable worlds--and Shirin has had her guard up for so long that she's not sure she'll ever be able to let it down.

Read Submitted

***We Dream of Space* by Erin Entrada Kelly**

Cash, Fitch, and Bird Thomas are three siblings in seventh grade together in Park, Delaware. In 1986, as the country waits expectantly for the launch of the Space Shuttle Challenger, they each struggle with their own personal anxieties. As the launch of the Challenger approaches, their teacher Ms. Salonga gives her students a project; they are separated into spacecraft crews and must create and complete a mission. When the fated day finally arrives, it changes all of their lives and brings them together in unexpected ways.

Read Submitted

***When Stars Are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson**

Somali refugee Omar and his younger brother Hassan live in a refugee camp in Kenya. When an opportunity for Omar to get an education comes along, he must decide between going to school every day or caring for his nonverbal brother in this intimate and touching portrayal of family and daily life in a refugee camp.

Read Submitted

***Wink* by Rob Harrell**

After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, twelve-year-old Ross discovers how music, art, and true friends can help him survive both treatment and middle school.

Read Submitted

****With the Fire on High* by Elizabeth Acevedo**

Teen mother Emoni Santiago struggles with the challenges of finishing high school and her dream of working as a chef.

Read Submitted

***Woven in Moonlight* by Isabel Ibañez**

Ximena is the decoy Condesa, a stand-in for the last remaining Illustrian royal. Her people lost everything when the usurper, Atoc, used an ancient relic to summon ghosts and drive the Illustrians from La Ciudad. Now Ximena's motivated by her insatiable thirst for revenge, and her rare ability to spin thread from moonlight. When Atoc demands the real Condesa's hand in marriage, it's Ximena's duty to go in her stead. She relishes the chance, as Illustrian spies have reported that Atoc's no longer carrying his deadly relic. If Ximena can find it, she can return the true aristocrata to their rightful place.

Read Submitted