

McLean School

ENTERING GRADE 9 SUMMER READING

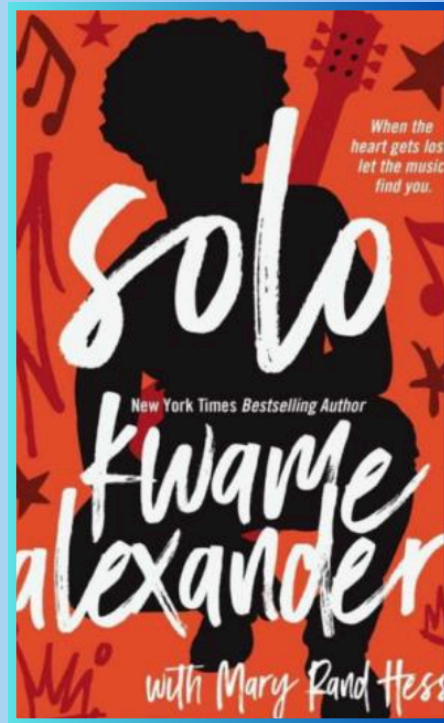
Book Title: [Solo](#)

Author: Kwame Alexander

Genre: Verse

[Review](#) (Linked)

Haunted by his mother's death and his father's addictions, Blade Morrison is shaken by a family secret and travels to Ghana, where he begins a journey of healing and self-discovery.



Book Title: [All-American Muslim Girl](#)

Author: Nadine Jolie Courtney

Genre: Realistic Fiction

[Review](#) (Linked)

In Providence, Georgia, Allie, who appears "all-American," must confront local Islamophobia and find the courage to reveal that she and her family are Muslim. As she embraces her faith, she faces bigotry but also finds support along the way.



Book Title: [Legend](#)

Author: Marie Lu

Genre: Dystopian

[Review](#) (Linked)

In a dystopian Los Angeles, a prodigy and a criminal uncover government secrets after a murder and a deadly plague bring them together.



Book Title: [Goldfish](#)

Author: Nat Luurtsema

Genre: Humor

[Review](#) (Linked)

Fifteen-year-old Lou, a competitive swimmer, faces a crisis of identity when she comes in last at the biggest meet of her life and must figure out who she is without the sport that once defined her.



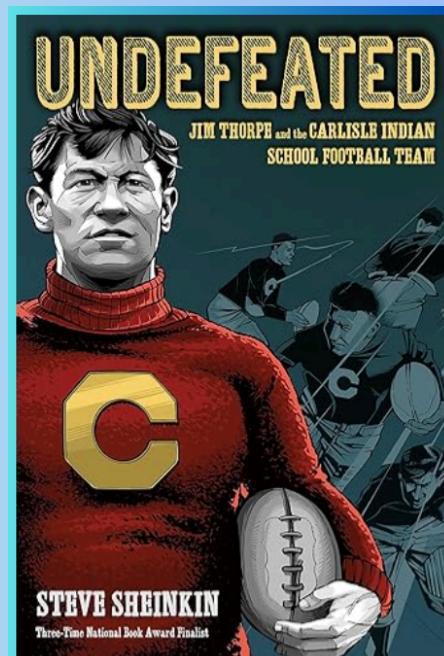
Book Title: [Undeclared](#)

Author: Steve Sheinkin

Genre: Sports Nonfiction

[Review](#) (Linked)

Hailed as "the greatest all-around athlete," Jim Thorpe led Carlisle's football team to greatness—but his story also exposes the persecution of Native Americans and the dark roots of American sports.



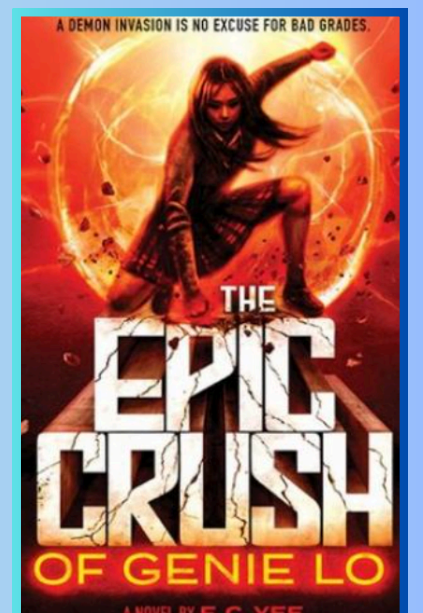
Book Title: [The Epic Crush of Genie Lo](#)

Author: F.C. Yee

Genre: Fantasy / Mythology

[Review](#) (Linked)

Genie Lo, a driven Chinese-American teen, discovers she's the reincarnation of a mythical weapon and must team up with the Monkey King to battle demons threatening her world.



READ ONE OR MORE OF THE ABOVE BOOKS, AND COMPLETE A NOVEL REVIEW. DIRECTIONS AND A TEMPLATE LINK CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 2.

Please include the following information in your Novel Review.
Linked [HERE](#) is a Google Document **TEMPLATE** for you to complete all parts of this assignment.

BOOK INFORMATION

Title, Author, & Genre

SYNOPSIS (SUMMARY)

In 5–7 sentences, summarize the plot without giving away the ending. Focus on the **setting, important characters or people**, and the **main conflict**.

CHARACTERS

Select **two characters or people** from the story and describe who they are and how they change (or don't) over the course of the story.

THEME(S)

Explain one or two **major themes** (e.g., friendship, power, betrayal) from the novel. Use examples from the book to support your ideas.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

What **did you enjoy** most about the book?
Was there anything you **disliked**?
Could you **relate** to any characters or situations?

RECOMMENDATION & RATING

Did you like the book?
Would you recommend it? If so, to whom?
How many stars would you give the book?



REMINDERS:

- Please write in complete sentences.
- Students are **not** permitted to have any additional support with this assignment, including: help from a parent, help from a tutor, help from a classmate, and the use/support of internet research and AI.
- Students may use Spellcheck and Grammarly to edit their mistakes (and **not** to improve their writing).