

Anchorage School District  
**Battle of the Books Titles 2022-2023**  
High School

*ASD Board Policy requires that summaries be given to all participants prior to participation.*

**Banned Book Club** by Kim Hyun Souk

When Kim Hyun Sook started college in 1983 she was ready for her world to open up. After acing her exams and sort-of convincing her traditional mother that it was a good idea for a woman to go to college, she looked forward to soaking up the ideas of Western Literature far from the drudgery she was promised at her family's restaurant. But literature class would prove to be just the start of a massive turning point, still focused on reading but with life-or-death stakes she never could have imagined.

**Death on the Nile** by Agatha Christie

The tranquility of a luxury cruise along the Nile was shattered by the discovery that Linnet Ridgeway had been shot through the head. She was young, stylish, and beautiful. A girl who had everything . . . until she lost her life. Under the searing heat of the Egyptian sun, nothing is ever quite what it seems.

**Dry** by Neil Shusterman

The drought, or the Tap-Out, has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't fill up your pool, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turn against each other on the hunt for water. And when her parents don't return and her life is threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible choices if she's going to survive.

**Fellowship of the Ring** by J.R.R. Tolkein

In ancient times, the Rings of Power were crafted by the Elven-smiths, and Sauron, the Dark Lord, forged the One Ring, filling it with his own power so that he could rule all others. But the One Ring

was taken from him, and after many ages, it fell into the hands of Bilbo Baggins. In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself faced with an immense task, as his elderly cousin Bilbo entrusts the ring to his care. Frodo must leave his home and make a perilous journey across Middle-earth to destroy the Ring.

**Inheritance Games** by Jennifer Barnes

Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future: survive high school, win a scholarship, and get out. But her fortunes change in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery his fortune. Avery has no idea who Tobias Hawthorne is and to receive her inheritance, Avery must move into Hawthorne House, where every room bears the old man's love of puzzles, riddles, and codes. Unfortunately for Avery, Hawthorne House is also occupied by the family that grew up with every expectation that they would inherit billions. Avery will have to play the game herself just to survive.

**Lockdown: Escape to Furnace** by

Alexander Gordon Smith

Furnace Penitentiary: the world's most secure prison for young offenders, buried a mile beneath the earth's surface. Convicted of a murder he didn't commit, sentenced to life without parole, "new fish" Alex Sawyer knows he has two choices: find a way out, or resign himself to a death behind bars. Soon Alex discovers that the prison is a place of pure evil. Together with a bunch of inmates Alex plans an escape.

**They Both Die at the End** by Adam

Silvera

September 5th, a little after midnight, Death-Cast calls Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio to give them some bad news: They're going to die today. Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to

make a new friend on their End Day. The good news: There's an app for that. It's called the Last Friend, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up for one last great adventure—to live a lifetime in a single day.

**Thirteen Doorways: Wolves Behind Them All** by Laura Ruby

When Frankie's mother died and her father left her and her siblings at an orphanage in Chicago, it was supposed to be only temporary.. That's why Frankie's not prepared for the day that he arrives for a visit with a new woman on his arm and train tickets in his pocket. Now Frankie and her sister are abandoned alongside many other orphans. And as the embers of the Great Depression are kindled into the fires of World War II, it will be up to Frankie to find something worth holding on to in the ruins of this shattered America.

**We Are Not Free** by Traci Chee

Fourteen teens who have grown up together in Japantown, San Francisco. Fourteen teens whose lives are turned upside down when over 100,000 people of Japanese ancestry are removed from their homes and forced into desolate incarceration camps. In a world that seems determined to hate them, these young Nisei must rally together as racism and injustice threaten to pull them apart.

**Wild Lands** by Paul Grecci

Natural disasters and a breakdown of civilization have cut off Alaska from the world and destroyed its landscape. As food runs out and the few who remain turn on each other, Travis and his younger sister, Jess, must cross hundreds of miles in search of civilization. Travis and Jess will make a few friends and a lot of enemies on their terrifying journey across the ruins of today's world.