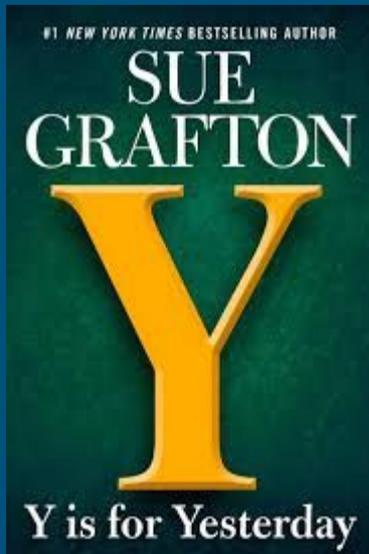
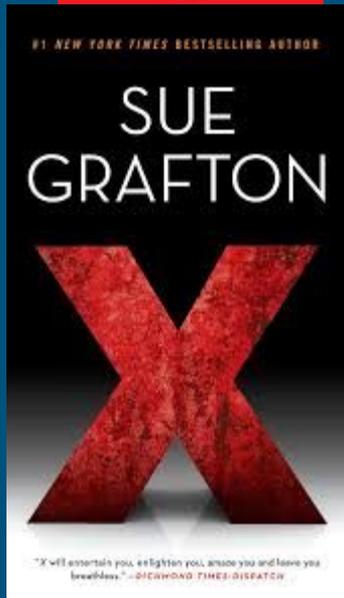
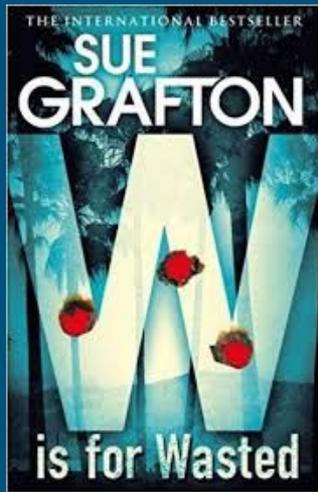
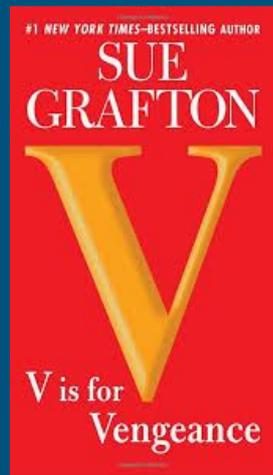




Mrs. Melville's good reads

2019-2020



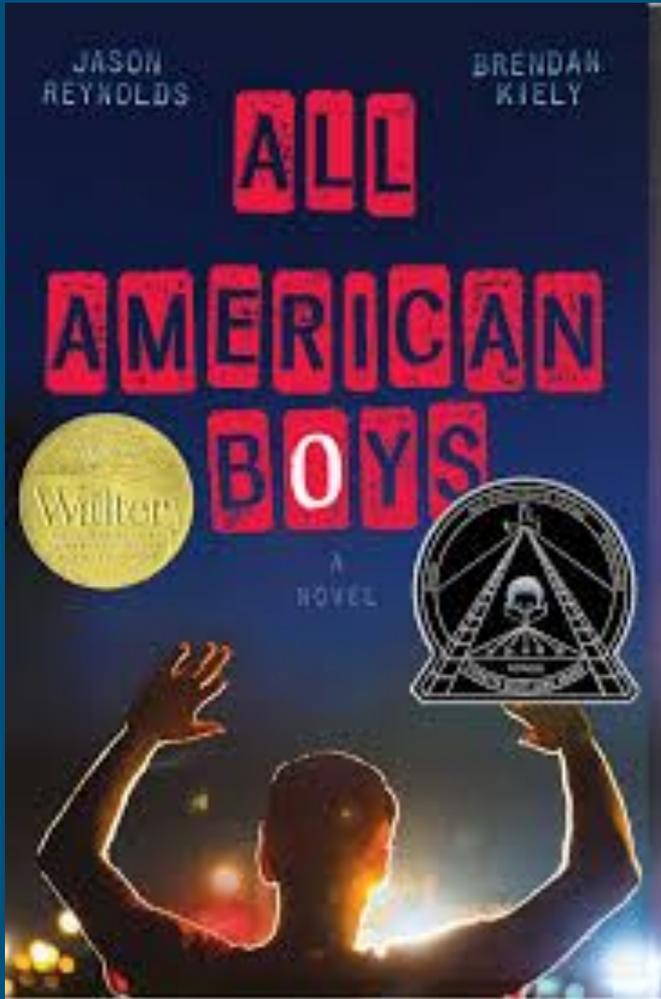


The Kinsey Milhone Alphabet Mysteries

Sue Grafton

Why I like them:

I have been working my way through the series for 4 years. It's like watching a TV series-there's the main story and then side stories with your favorite characters. I am sad that I have read the last one. Sue Grafton passed away before writing Z.



All American Boys

Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely

Why I liked it:

This is an important book-it was when it was written, it is now, it will be in the future. It starts hard conversations that we need to have.

Deluxe Edition

WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING

a novel

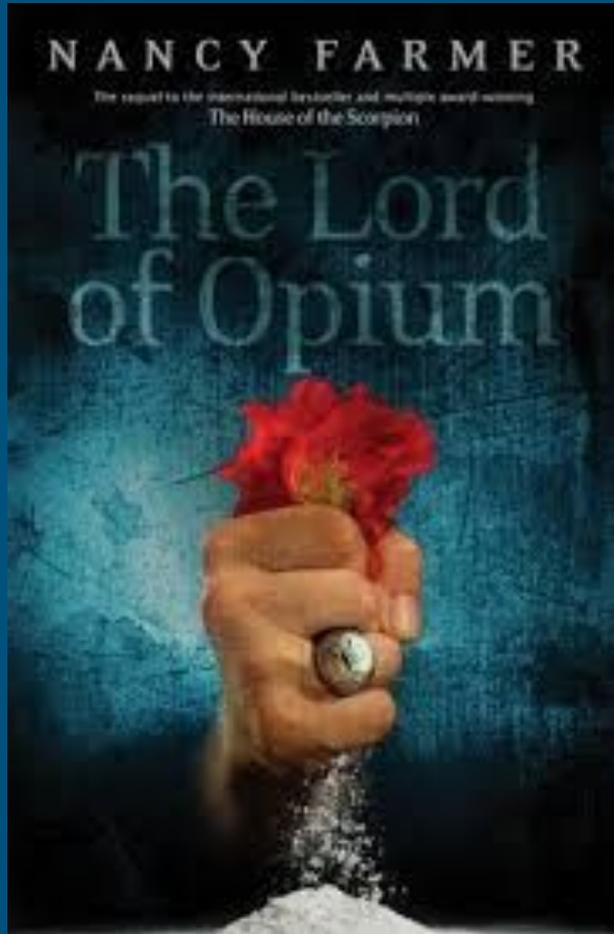
DELIA OWENS

Where The Crawdads Sing

Delia Owens

Why I liked it:

It wasn't what I expected. The characters were well developed and you really connected with them, even when they let you down.



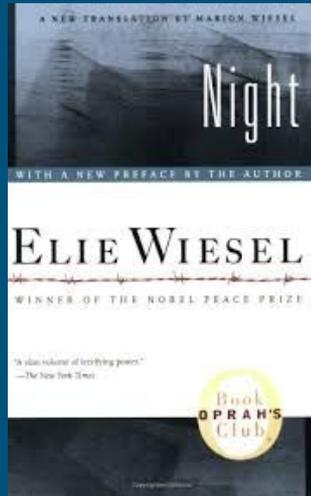
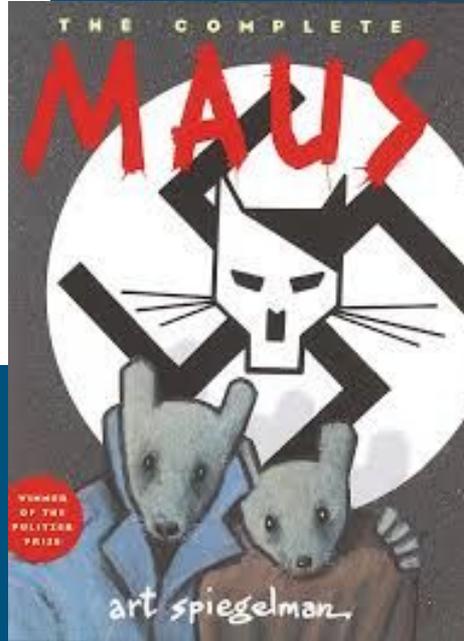
The Lord of Opium

Nancy Farmer

Why I liked it:

It gave me closure to The House of The Scorpion





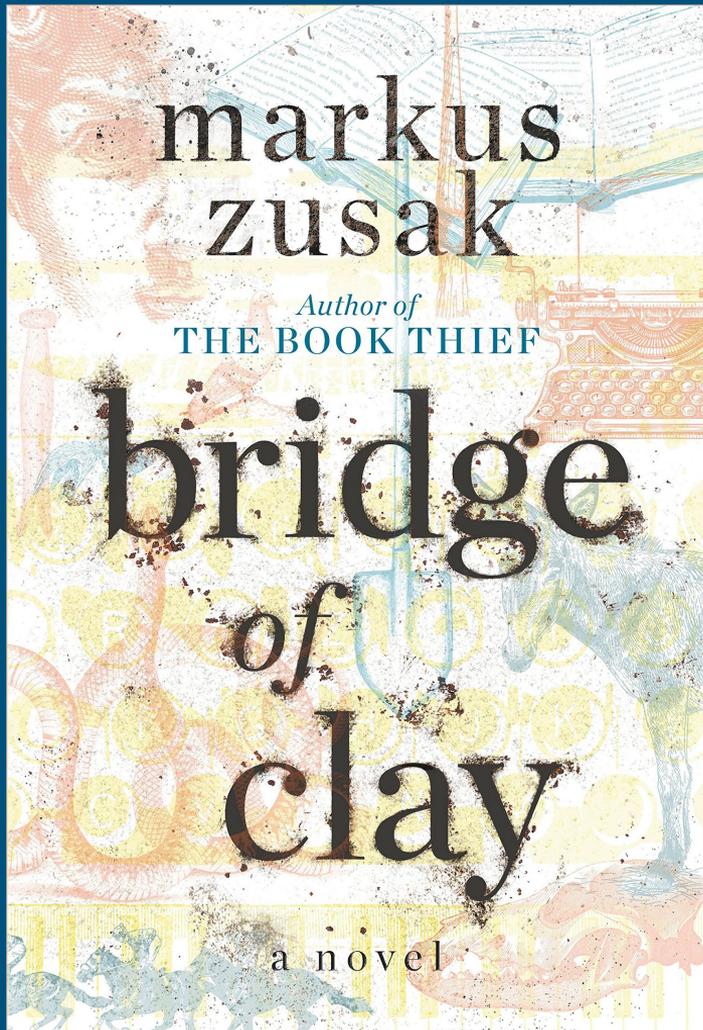
They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

Maus by Art Spiegelman

Night by Elie Wiesel

Why I liked them:

True stories about World War II.

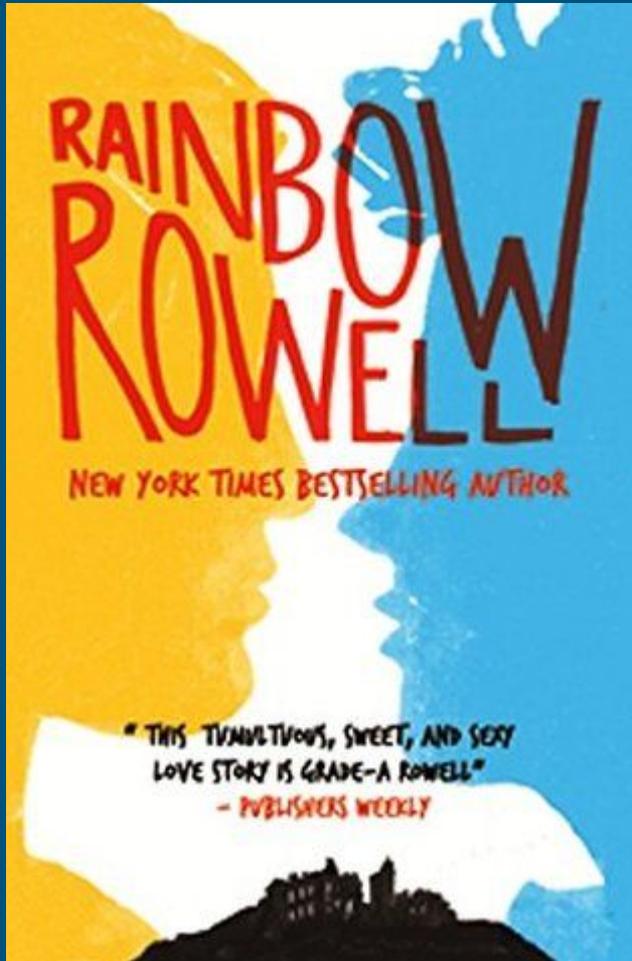


Bridge of Clay

Markus Zusak

Why I liked it:

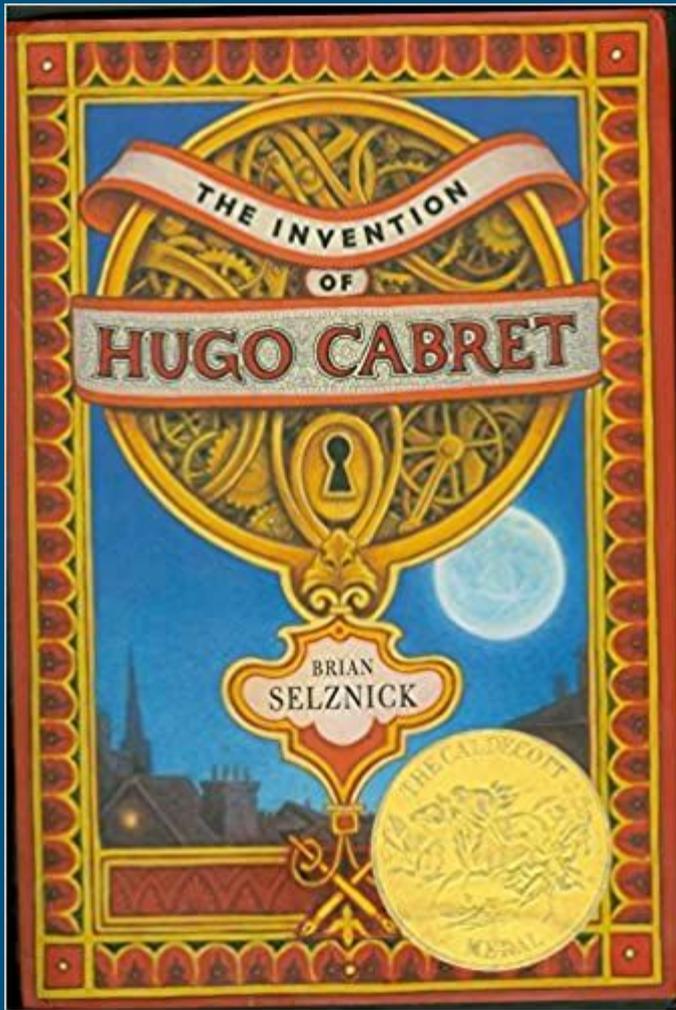
Markus Zusak is an author I read because of how he writes. This is a beautifully written book. The narrative spirals and loops and twists and when you finish the story, it feels complete. And you are sorry for it to end.



Carry On
Rainbow Rowell

Why I liked it:

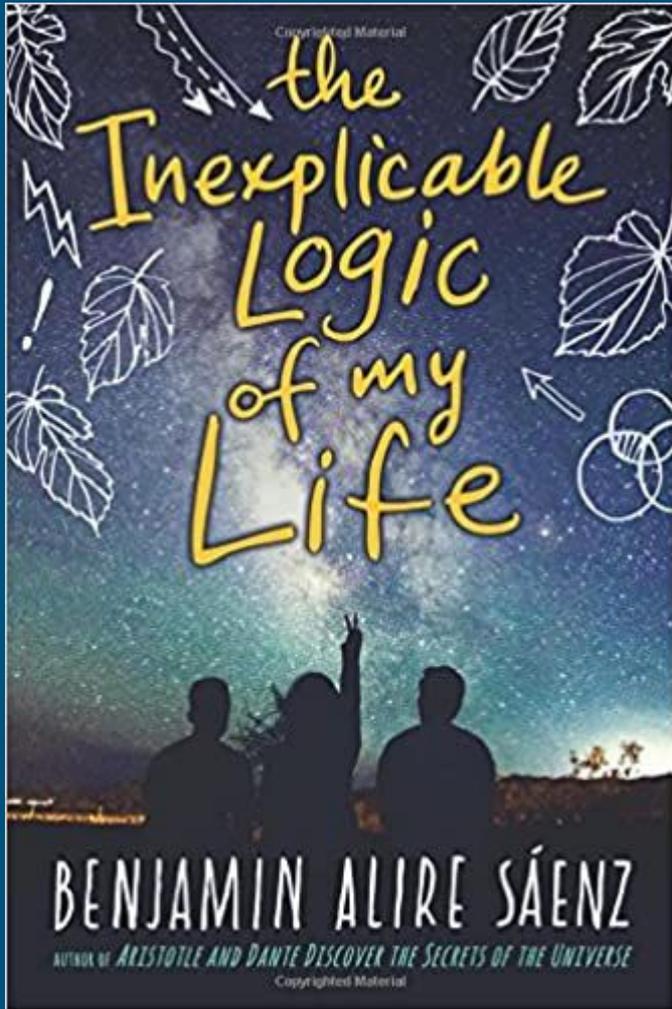
It's a Harry Potter Fan Fiction written by a character in Fangirl (a book by Rainbow Rowell). Basically her character talked about the book she was writing so much, the fans wanted to actually read it. So Rainbow Rowell wrote it. And yes, it was worth it.



The Invention of Hugo Cabret
Brian Selznick

Why I liked it:

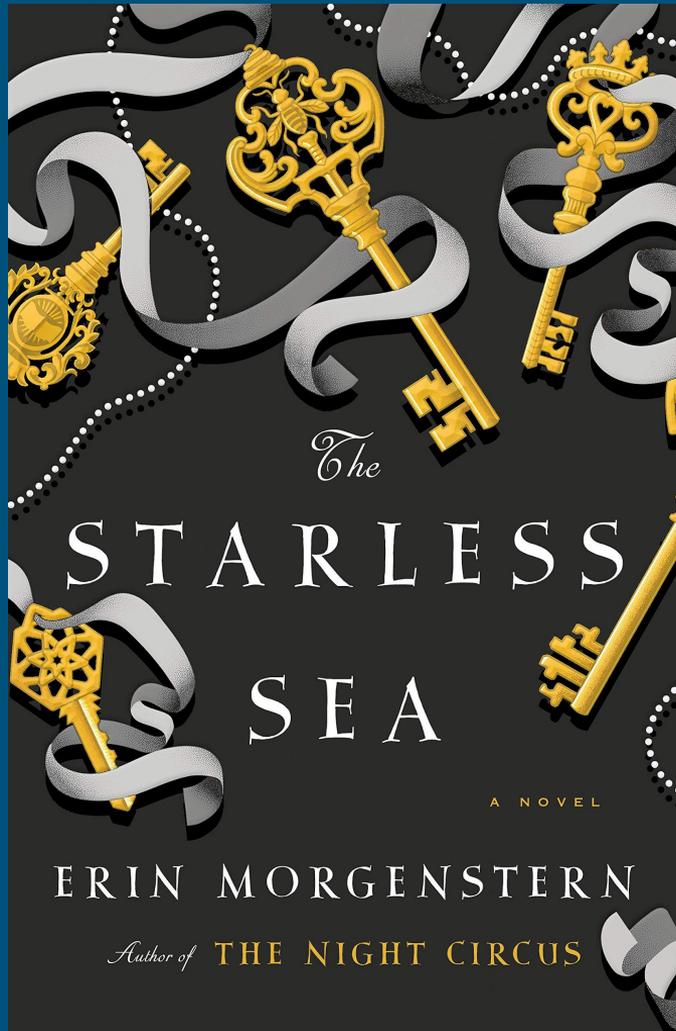
The illustrations! And it was a good story too.



The Inexplicable Logic of My Life Benjamin Alire Saenz

Why I loved it:

Benjamin Alire Saenz is another author I read for the way he writes. This is another beautiful book. I also love that as an LGBTQ+ writer, his characters are real and not forced.



The Starless Sea
Erin Morgenstern

Why I liked it:

I waited 10 years after *The Night Circus* for another book by Erin Morgenstern. I was not disappointed. This is another narrative that is not linear. In fact there are multiple story tellers. And once it is all pieced together, you need to find someone else to read it because the discussion will be that interesting.

The Secret Letter

Inspired by an incredible true wartime story

Debbie Rix

Gripping and heartbreaking WW2 historical fiction

The Secret Letter
Debbie Rix

Why I liked it:

A WWII historical fiction about two women from their teens until adulthood, from the start of the war till the end. I liked the completeness of the book. I also found it interesting to have read just before the pandemic. Just like us, many of the women's plans were altered. And I love that parts of it were true.

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

THE SILENT PATIENT

ALEX
MICHAELIDES

The Silent Patient
Alex Michaelides

Why I liked it:

This was a creepy little thriller. And yes, there was a real surprise twist at the end. I thought it was coming, and then I thought, no, the author wouldn't do that and then he did.

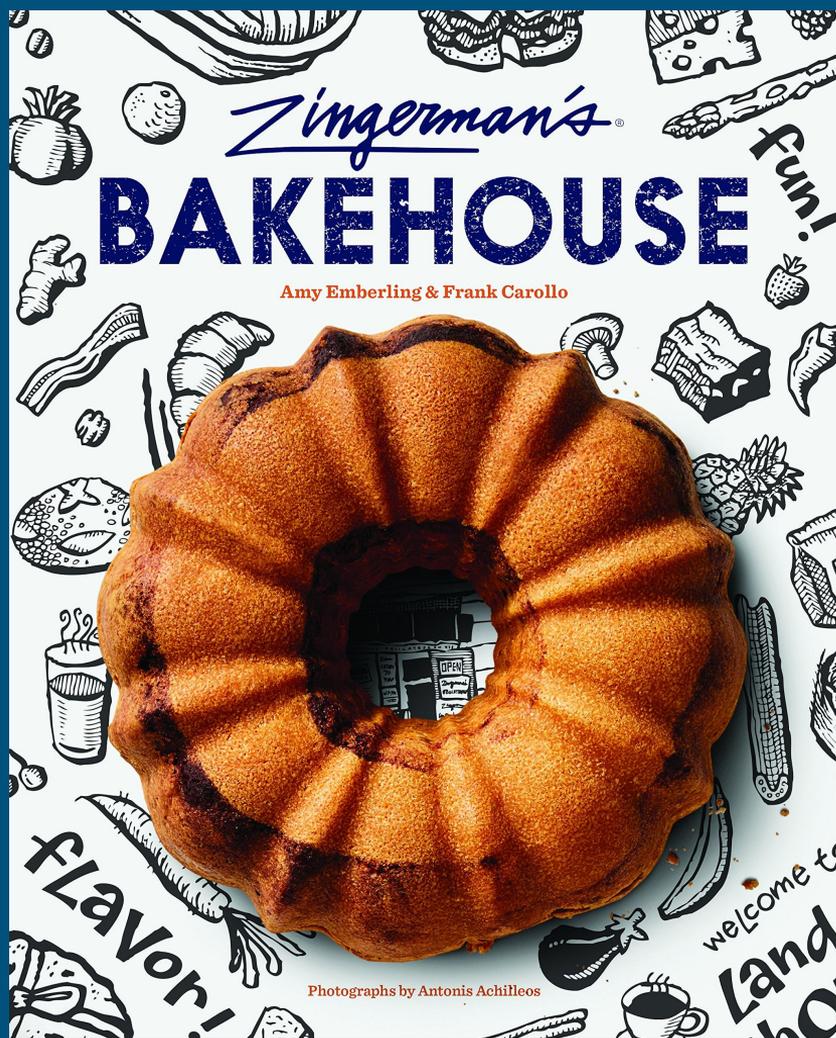


The Crazy Rich Asians Trilogy Kevin Kwan

Why I loved them:

Great characters, outrageous adventures, an excellent escape read.





Zingerman's Bakehouse
Amy Emberling and Frank Carollo

Why I loved it:

Wasn't everyone cooking during the Stay at Home orders? This book was gifted to me. It was Ms. McKinzie's. It is not for the weak. I improved my skills and we ate a lot. Still have more recipes to try but we've also found a few new favorite go tos.
