



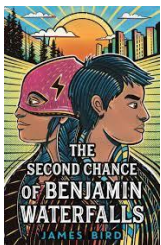
The **LONE STAR READING** list encourages reading for pleasure and is aimed at students in grades 6-8. Each year, up to 30 books—exploring a variety of topics, reading tastes, and maturity levels—are chosen by a committee of school and public librarians from across Texas. **Here is the 2023-2024 EMS-ISD Lone Star List:**



***Iveliz Explains It All*** by Andrea Beatriz Arango

**How this book stands out:** Starting seventh grade, Iveliz struggles with anger issues and depression, feelings come from. The novel -in- verse format makes the novel a quick read and highlights Iveliz's emotions, frustrations, and triumphs.

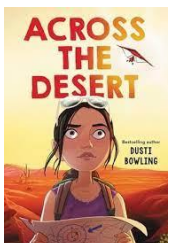
**You might also like:** *Home Is Not a Country*, *When Life Gives You Mangos*, *How to Find What You're Not Looking For*



***The Second Chance of Benjamin Waterfalls*** by James Bird

**How this book stands out:** Due to shoplifting, a judge orders Benjamin to live with his estranged father on the Ojibwe reservation and to begin a "boot camp" that is supposed to grant him a second chance.

**You might also like:** *Rez Dogs*, *Troublemaker*, *Golden Girl*



***Across the Desert*** by Dusti Bowling

**How this book stands out:** Jolene is the only viewer of a livestream where she watches Addie fly a plane across the desert, and when she witnesses Addie crash, Jolene is determined to find her friend.

**You might also like:** *Canyon's Edge*, *Alone*, *Paradise on Fire*



***Falling Short*** by Ernesto Cisneros

**How this book stands out:** Best friends Marco and Isaac are as different as night and day. Marco is a strong student, but not such a strong athlete. Isaac is a fantastic basketball player but struggles to keep his grades up. Can the boys stay friends when middle school starts, or will their friendship fall short?

**You might also like:** *Crossover*, *Restart*, *Ten Thousand Tries*



***The Marvellers*** by Dhonielle Clayton

**How this book stands out:** None of the Marvellers welcome Conjurer Ella on the first day of school. Ella eventually makes friends and begins to find her way. When a dangerous Marveller escapes from prison with the help of a Conjurer, Ella and her friends take it upon themselves to find the escapee.

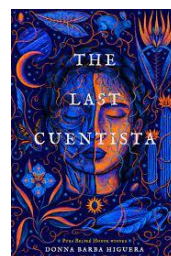
**You might also like:** *Wildseed Witch*, *Witchlings*, *Harry Potter* series



***Concealed*** by Christina Diaz Gonzalez

**How this book stands out:** Witness Protection has taught Katrina how to be adaptable, and when her parents disappear, she must face secrets she never knew and learn to trust other people.

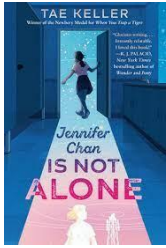
**You might also like:** *Greetings from Witness Protection!*, *The Strangers*, *Last Gamer Standing*



***The Last Cuentista*** by Donna Barba Higuera

**How this book stands out:** Petra wants to be a storyteller like her abuelita, but as the human race is sent into space and she awakens, no one except her even remembers Earth.

**You might also like:** *Last Day on Mars*, *The Giver*, *Solimar: The Sword of the Monarchs*



***Jennifer Chan is Not Alone*** by Tae Keller

**How this book stands out:** Jennifer Chan goes missing, and Mallory is set on finding her. This story asks hard questions about the universe, aliens, social norms, and bullying culture.

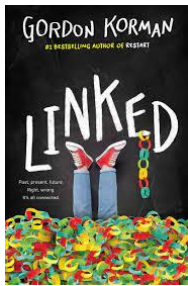
**You might also like:** *The School for Whatnots*, *Those Kids from Fawn Creek*, *Bad Best Friend*



***I Must Betray You*** by Ruta Sepetys

**How this book stands out:** Seventeen-year-old Christian Florescu wants nothing to do with Ceaușescu's regime but is forced to spy on his family and friends and report back. Will Christian betray everyone? Or will he join the fight in overthrowing the dictator?

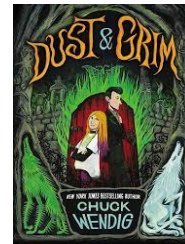
**You might also like:** *Lines of Courage*, *The Fountains of Silence*, *The Genius Under the Table*, *Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain*



***Linked*** by Gordon Korman

**How this book stands out:** When swastikas begin appearing all over town, Link, Michael, and Dana, the only Jewish girl in town, must face crimes both past and present to find the truth.

**You might also like:** *Freak the Mighty*, *Turtle Boy*, *Maizy Chen's Last Chance*



***Dust & Grim*** by Chuck Wendig

**How this book stands out:** Molly meets her brother Dustin for the first time and discovers the family mortuary tends to monsters, not humans. Using cosplay to give her strength, Molly has to overcome her past, embrace her new monster friends, and learn to be a part of a true family.

**You might also like:** *Rules for Vampires*, *The Graveyard Book*, *The Supernatural Society*



***Children of the Fox*** by Kevin Sands

**How this book stands out:** Callan and four other young criminals with unusual and unique talents are recruited to pull off a difficult heist from the city's most powerful sorcerer.

**You might also like:** *Hide and GEEK*, *City Spies*, *The Last Mapmaker*



***Another Kind*** by Trevor Bream

**How this book stands out:** Tucked away in a government facility nicknamed the Playroom, six not-quite-human kids learn to control their strange and unpredictable abilities.

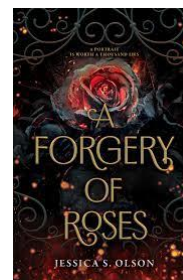
**You might also like:** *The Ham Helsing* series.



***The Clackity*** by Lora Senf

**How this book stands out:** When Evie's aunt disappears, she makes a deal the Clackity to save her aunt. She must unravel the puzzles and traps laid out for her in the town ruled by a dead serial killer.

**You might also like:** *Small Spaces*, *Doll Bones*, *The Monsters of Rookhaven*



***A Forgery of Roses*** by Jessica S. Olson

**How this book stands out:** Myra hides her ability to heal her patrons when she paints them, but when the governor's wife blackmails Myra into painting her deceased son, Myra can't refuse.

**You might also like:** *We Are the Song*, *Luminous*, *Hotel Magnifique*