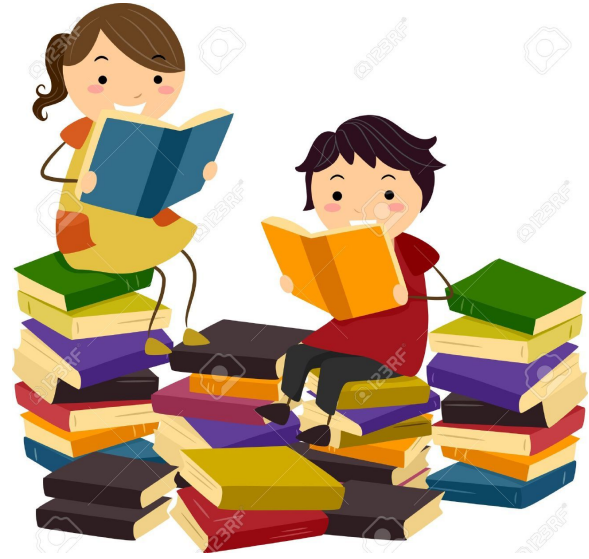


## The Library

Erin Wong (Millburn High School Class of 2018)

I have found  
that if you carry around a book,  
you will find that you  
have more time  
than you realize to read.  
You will find dusty corners  
in your life, with little scraps  
of time tucked into them,  
so collect them like seashells,  
gently dust away the grime  
and rinse them in the sea.  
Listen to the stories  
within the whorls of shells  
spun from the waves that hold the sky,  
and you will find all of this,  
just from the scavenging of time  
to read a book.



Hopefully, you will take Erin's advice this summer and find the chance to explore your passions with meaningful articles, non-fiction texts, novels, poems, songs.

We have an exciting new opportunity for the entire school community to be invited to read the same book. There will be no assignments or assessments attached to this book. It is purely **optional** and intended to open your mind to empathize with children in other places and times.

***Refugee* by Alan Gratz** is a new, compelling, and important book. We hope you will read it and be able to join in global conversations, since it will be featured as the [Global Read Aloud](#) this fall.

---

**Separate from the district-wide opportunity** to read *Refugee*, is the required assignment for English / Language Arts classes at the middle school. Please **click on the title** to find the **mandatory class assignment** related to these readings, which will be utilized by Grades 6-8 teachers this fall.

Incoming Grade 6 students will read: [A Mango-Shaped Space](#) by Wendy Mass

Incoming Grade 7 students will read: [Hoot](#) by Carl Hiaasen

Incoming Grade 8 students will read: [The Old Man and the Sea](#) by Ernest Hemingway