

Alan Gratz

Authors in April 2019 - Middle School Brief Book Summaries

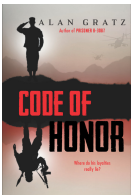
Middle School



The Brooklyn Nine

From baseball's beginnings in old New York through the Civil War, the birth of professional baseball, the women's league of the 40s, the Cold War, and into the 2000s, The Brooklyn Nine follows nine generations of kids in one family as they experience the ups and downs of baseball and American history.

320 pages – recommended 6th grade



Code of Honor

Kamran Smith has it all. He's the star of the football team, dates the most popular girl at school, and can't wait to go to West Point like his big brother, Darius. Although Kamran's mother is from Iran, Kamran has always felt 100% American. Accepted. Then Kamran's older brother goes online claiming credit for a terrorist attack, and everything implodes.

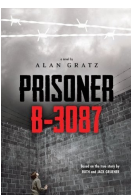
288 pages – recommended 7th or 8th grade



The League of Seven

Archie Dent's parents are members of the Septemberist Society, who protect humanity from giant monsters called Mangleborn. When his parents and the other Septemberists are brainwashed by a Mangleborn, Archie must assemble a new team of seven young heroes to save the world: the League of Seven.

352 pages – recommended 6th, 7th or 8th grade



Prisoner B-3087

10 different concentration camps. 10 different encounters with death. Can Yanek make it through the terror without losing his hope, his will to live, and, most of all, his identity? Based on the astonishing true story of one extraordinary boy.

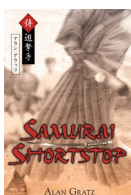
260 pages – recommended 6th, 7th or 8th grade



Projekt 1065

World War II is raging. Michael O'Shaunessey, the son of the Irish ambassador to Nazi Germany, lives in war-torn Berlin with his parents. Like the other boys at his school, Michael is a member of the Hitler Youth. But Michael has a secret: He and his parents are spies.

320 pages – recommended 6th, 7th or 8th grade



Samurai Shortstop

Tokyo, Japan. 1890. When his beloved Uncle Koji commits ritual suicide, 16-year-old Toyo Shimada must learn to blend bushido — the samurai way of the warrior — with his baseball practices to prevent his father from following in Koji's footsteps, all while navigating his first year at the punishing First Higher School of Tokyo.

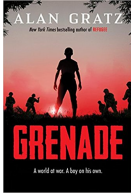
280 pages – recommended 8th grade



Refugee

A Jewish boy flees Nazi Germany for Cuba aboard the MS St. Louis in 1939. A Cuban girl escapes Cuba on a raft bound for America in 1994. A Syrian boy travels from Syria to Germany in the present day. Three different kids, all connected by one goal: ESCAPE.

352 pages - recommended 6th, 7th & 8th grade



Grenade – Comes out October 9th!

It's 1945, and the world is in the grip of war.

Hideki lives with his family on the island of Okinawa, near Japan. When WWII crashes onto his shores, Hideki is drafted into the Blood and Iron Student Corps to fight for the Japanese army. He is handed a grenade and a set of instructions: Don't come back until you've killed an American soldier.

Ray, a young American Marine, has just landed on Okinawa. This is Ray's first-ever battle, and he doesn't know what to expect -- or if he'll make it out alive. He just knows that the enemy is everywhere.

Hideki and Ray each fight their way across the island, surviving heart-pounding ambushes and dangerous traps. But then the two of them collide in the middle of the battle... and choices they make in that single instant will change everything.

288 pages – recommended 6th, 7th & 8th grade