SFA's Spring 2020 Recommendation List

BOOKS

Animorphs
- **About:** Kids fight body-snatching aliens by turning into animals.
- **Aspects:** Child-Focused, Sci-Fi
- **Warnings:** Animal cruelty, Animal/pet injury, Blood, Body horror - general, Eye trauma, Gore, Hospitals, Human abuse/exploitation, Insects - detailed/closeup, Insects - flying, Mosquitoes, Scalp/head trauma, Sexual assault - speech referenced (including slang), Spiders or spider-like creatures, Suicide, Tooth horror (trauma, mutilation, or teeth in weird places), Torture - mental, Torture - physical, Violence - Gun, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), Violence - Realistic

Discworld (Terry Pratchett)
- **About:** On a world that's a disc, carried on 4 elephants who stand on the back of a giant turtle ... things happen. Magic things, city government things, more magic things, allegorical things that *definitely* don't have any basis in reality (that is, they absolutely do reflect reality), MORE magic things (there's a lot of types of magic going on). There's over 40 books, and many possible reading orders (here's a map of some: https://www.lspace.org/books/reading-order-guides/). (also a lot of the books are digitally available with a Northfield library card)
- **Aspects:** Comedy, Drama, Fantasy, Parody, Sci-Fi, There's a lot of books. Not all of them are exactly the same genre.
- **Warnings:** [Recommender chose not to include warnings], (I have only read some of the books & each of them would have different warnings)

Imaginarium Geographica Series by James A Owen
- **About:** Full of literary references, magic, myths, and talking badgers, the Imaginarium Geographica series follows scholars John, Jack, and Charles as they discover a secret archipelago world after the death of their mentor. Unfortunately, the archipelago is under attack, and the destruction of that world would mean the destruction of our own. Later books mess around with time travel, alternate universes, and even more badgers. (first book: Here, There Be Dragons)
- **Aspects:** Fantasy
- **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten]

Secret of the Chimneys by Agatha Christie
- **About:** Anthony Cade is a down-on-his-luck adventurer exploring Africa with his good friend James McGrath. When McGrath is entrusted with the memoir of a famous dead politician, as well as some ominous letters he presumes to be blackmail, Anthony goes on a mission to return both to England. How are they tied up with the prestigious if mysterious house of Chimneys? How is Anthony going to get out of this without getting arrested? And WHO is killing people involved?
- **Aspects:** Mystery
- **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten], Imperialism, Historical liberties taken
**Station Eleven (Emily St. John Mandel)**

- **About:** From the author's website: "a traveling Shakespearean theatre company in a post-apocalyptic North America". It takes place 20 years after a pandemic. MAYBE NOT THE BEST BOOK TO READ RIGHT NOW (but there could be hope in the idea that after everything, art still matters)
- **Aspects:** Adult-Focused, Drama, Horror, Sci-Fi
- **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten], Blood, Body horror - general, Child abuse, Gore, Hospitals, Human abuse/exploitation, Self harm, Sexual assault - implied, Sexual assault - speech referenced (including slang), Suicide, Tooth horror (trauma, mutilation, or teeth in weird places), Torture - mental, Torture - physical, Violence - Gun, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), Pandemic, Air Travel Issues, (There's a LOT in this book - take care of yourself please <3)

**COMICS/WEBCOMICS**

**Homestuck**

- **About:** Four kids play a video game. A dog wearing a hat kills someone's family. It only escalates.
- **Aspects:** Child-Focused, Comedy, Drama, Horror, Parody, Sci-Fi
- **Warnings:** Animal cruelty, Animal/pet injury, Blood, Body horror - general, Child abuse, Eye trauma, Gore, Insects - flying, Sexual content (or enthusiastic amorous behavior), Torture - mental, Torture - physical, Violence - Gun, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), Is really weird

**Lumberjanes**

- **About:** Kinda like Girl Scout camp. Got some NICE wlw + trans rep.
- **Aspects:** Child-Focused, Fantasy
- **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten], Insects - giant

**Tiger, Tiger**

- **About:** A noblewoman in fantasy not-Spain steals her brother’s ship. Her brother has set up a marriage engagement between her and his first mate, who is very buff and very kind. But why does she steal his ship? TO RESEARCH SEA SPONGES!!!
- **Aspects:** Adult-Focused, Comedy, Dramedy, Drama, Fantasy, Boats
- **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten], Blood, Body horror - general, Sexual assault - speech referenced (including slang), Sexual content (or enthusiastic amorous behavior), Spiders or spider-like creatures, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), Vomit - Cartoon

**MOVIES**

**Descendants 3**

- **About:** You know it's cheesy, I know it's cheesy, let's move on. Descendants 3 finally addresses the problem “isn't trapping all the villains and their kids on trash island kind of unethical?” and “can kenny ortega do anything other than choreography?” The first answer is yes. The second, no. While it has fewer boats that D2, D3 has such promising elements as: Uma as a
squid, Hades, Evies gorgeous craft room, the power of friendship, bro chest-bumping, and motorcycles.

- **Aspects:** Child-Focused, Fantasy, Live-Action, Musical
- **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten], Character in coma (discussed or on-screen)

*The Librarian and the Quest for the Spear*

- **About:** Before there were the Librarians, there was The Librarian, who worked with Charlene, Judson, and his guardian to gather artifacts and save the world. Flynn Carson is a lifelong student with 22 degrees who gets fired from school and told to get a real job - which happens to come in the form of a magic letter from the Library. He's still a little dorky and uncoordinated, but he has his first ever Guardian - Nicole Noone - to help him out. Learn character backstories, get more Cal content, and find out what the serpent brotherhood is like without Dulaque in this movie, the first of three. Very cheesy, indiana-jones-esque.

- **Aspects:** Fantasy, Live-Action
- **Warnings:** Insects - flying, Mosquitoes, Needles (injections, IVs, other), Spiders or spider-like creatures, Violence - Gun

### VIDEO GAMES

*Mega Man Sprite Game*

- **About:** You thought Shut Up and Jam Gaiden was the only part of the Space Jam Expanded Universe, but it was I, Mega Man Sprite Game! The only fan game featuring real sprites ripped straight from real Mega Man games. Really, I swear.

  A ghost shows up at Mega Man's house one day and he and his brother Zero need to go figure out why everyone is trying to fight each other now. Featuring appearances by everyone's favorite authentic Mega Man characters: Dad (Dr Light), Uncle Proton (Protoman), Mega Man's archnemesis Quick Man, B-Ball Pasta, and Dogmobile (Rush). Who is behind all of the chaos in Mega Man's world? Will he ever say anything other than "what"? Why does this game exist? All these questions and more will not be answered in this video game equivalent of a shitpost. At least you can speedrun it, and yes, there is a real leaderboard.

  Google Mega Man Sprite Comic before you download this for context. The Mega Man fandom went a little mad in 2013, but it's hard to blame them given context.

- **Aspects:** Cartoon, Comedy, Dramedy, Fantasy, Sci-Fi, Space Jam Expanded Universe, Fan Game, JRPG, Mega Man
- **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten], Blood, Violence - Gun, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), Violence - basketball, MS Paint horrors, mild body horror due to bad art, useless random encounters, sudden random bad end (stay on the path you fool), memes, why does this exist

*Randomizers*

- **About:** Randomizers isn't one specific video game, rather it's a genre of mods for games that "randomize" as much content as possible in the game while still making it beatable. For people who love classic video games but wish they could play them again for the first time, this is the closest you're going to get. Plus, since there are millions of different possible seeds, the randomizer can be a different experience every time you play it. They're really fun, and sort of came out of nowhere in 2018.
If you like the 3D Zelda games, the Wind Waker and Ocarina of Time randomizers are two of the best ones out there. I'm personally a fan of the Final Fantasy 4 Free Enterprise mod, which changes the game from an extremely on-rails experience to an open world RPG. Nearly any game that has significant RPG elements has a randomizer, so go look for your favorite classic game and see what it's like.

Note: most randomizers are designed to be played with emulators, and will require an ISO or ROM for the game. It is possible to rip your own files from legal copies of the game with the proper equipment, which is the way you are intended to obtain the requisite game files. If you instead choose to find the files using google, you should be aware that's not the official way you are meant to play the game.

• **Aspects:** [None Listed]
• **Warnings:** [Recommender chose not to include warnings], Since warnings are on a game-by-game basis warnings for all randomizers don't make much sense, most randomizers are in some form of beta so expect bugs

*Tales of Game's Presents Chef Boyardee's Barkley, Shut Up and Jam: Gaiden*

*Chapter 1 of the Hoopz Barkley SaGa*

• **About:** The events of this description are Canon.
  
  The year is 2041. Thanks to the emergence of advanced robotics from salvaging alien technology after the alien invasion from Space Jam, the most popular athletes of the 90s are still in peak condition several decades later. In post-neo-cyberapocalyptic Neo New York, a cybernetically augmented Charles Barkley accidentally unleashes a Chaos Dunk - leveling the city. As retaliation, the American government outlaws basketball and forms the B-Ball Removal Squad, which begins forcibly retiring, recruiting, or executing basketball players en masse.

  The game begins in 2053, when another Chaos Dunk is performed in Manhattan, killing millions. Barkley is blamed for the incident, forcing him and his teenage son Hoopz to flee their home in the ruins of Neo New York. Who is responsible for the second Chaos Dunk? Can Barkley and his allies escape cyborg Michael Jordan and his B-Ball Removal Squad long enough to find out? Their journey will take them across the world, from the tomb of LeBron James to the factory that created the Ultimate B-Ball that famously stole Barkley's powers back in '96. Get ready to Slam, because we've got a real Jam goin' down. Welcome to the Slam Jam.

• **Aspects:** Comedy, Dramedy, Fantasy, Mystery, Parody, Sci-Fi, Space Jam Expanded Universe, RPG, Basketball Video Game, Memes, surprisingly good game
• **Warnings:** [Some warnings may be forgotten], Blood, Violence - Gun, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), half-basketball half-humans, shamelessly stolen art assets, ghost dad, magic nuclear basketballs, homelessness/ghetto depiction, police brutality, diabetes is a debuff, memes, Hell, mind control via cybernetic implants, cyberpunk resurrection (backed up memories), the basketball dimension, surprisingly good gameplay, deepest lore

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**EVERYTHING ELSE**

*The New Albion Trilogy* (rock opera)

• **About:** Three albums, each telling a separate story that interconnect with each other to tell the tale of a fantasy city and the people living in it. Each album has its own stand-alone plot,
but they're also laden with call-backs to the previous ones, so it's better to listen in order.

Part 1: The Dolls of New Albion: A Steampunk Opera: A steampunk scientist discovers how to raise the dead and put their souls into wooden dolls, and uses it to resurrect her ex-boyfriend. The album follows the story of her descendants and the dead dolls they create. 


Part 3: The New Albion Guide To Analogue Consciousness: An Atompunk Opera: Equal parts 50s-inspired future-tech and Lovecraftian monsters. With an AI companion, an orphaned young woman flees a madhouse and makes her way through a portal to another world to find the source of a radio song that has haunted her all her life. https://mochalab.bandcamp.com/album/an-atompunk-opera-the-new-albion-guide-to-analogue-consciousness

• Aspects: Adult-Focused, Drama, Fantasy, music

• Warnings: [Some warnings may be forgotten], Blood, Body horror - general, Child abuse, Hospitals, Human abuse/exploitation, Needles (injections, IVs, other), Pregnancy loss (miscarriage, stillbirth, etc.), Suicide, Torture - mental, Violence - Gun, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), since this is not a visual medium you don’t see any of these things, but you do hear them referenced

Jekyll & Hyde: The Gothic Musical Thriller (Musical (on spotify))

• About: A retelling of Jekyll and Hyde except it’s a musical. Many overly dramatic songs. Jekyll is a dumbass. Everyone dies in the end. It’s sad, but there’s a really fun song about murder (and the masses’ fascination with it) in the middle.

• Aspects: Sci-Fi, Musical

• Warnings: [Some warnings may be forgotten], Sexual assault - implied, Sexual assault - speech referenced (including slang), Suicide, Violence - Gun, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), So much murder, Inaccurate representations of mental health issues

The Wandering Inn (Webnovel)

• About: Slice of life Isekai about a girl who becomes an Innkeeper

• Aspects: Adult-Focused, Comedy, Drama, Fantasy, Horror

• Warnings: [Some warnings may be forgotten], Blood, Body horror - general, Eye trauma, Gore, Hospitals, Human abuse/exploitation, Insects - detailed/closeup, Insects - flying, Insects - giant, Pregnancy loss (miscarriage, stillbirth, etc.), Sexual content (or enthusiastic amorous behavior), Spiders or spider-like creatures, Surprise/unwelcome physical affection, Torture - mental, Torture - physical, Violence - Miscellaneous (eg, animal attacks), Violence - Realistic, Vomit - Live Action (on-screen)