

Rise to the Challenge Reading Program: Read a work of speculative fiction

Below are recommendations for speculative fiction novels.

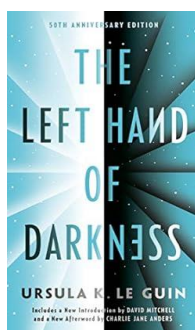


[How Long 'Til Black Future Month](#)

By N. K. Jemisin

Genre: Science Fiction

Descriptors: Short Stories; Thought-provoking; Compelling; Afrofuturism



[The Left Hand of Darkness](#)

by Ursula K. Le Guin

Genre: Fantasy Fiction

Descriptors: World-building; Bleak; Science Fiction Classic; Flawed Characters



[Trail of Lightning](#)

by Rebecca Roanhorse

Genre: Science Fiction

Descriptors: Climate Change Apocalypse; Strong Female Characters; World-Building



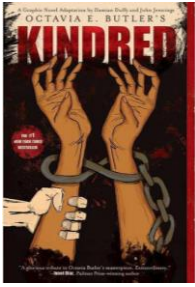
[They Both Die at the End](#)

by Adam Silvera

Genre: Science Fiction

Descriptors: Reflective; LGBTQIA; Multiple Perspectives; Engaging

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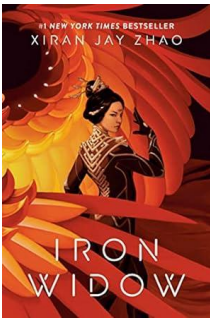


[Kindred](#)

by Octavia Butler

Genre: Science Fiction

Descriptors: Plot-Driven; Time Slip; Compelling; Bleak



[Iron Widow](#)

by Xiran Jay Zhao

Genre: Fantasy Fiction

Descriptors: Women of Steel; Suspenseful; Action-Packed; Compelling

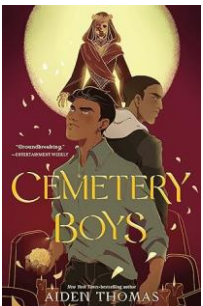


[Siren Queen](#)

by Nghi Vo

Genre: Historical Fantasy

Descriptors: Atmospheric; Fast-Paced; Lyrical; Richly Detailed; Compelling



[Cemetery Boys](#)

by Aiden Thomas

Genre: Paranormal Fiction

Descriptors: Fast-Paced; Engaging; Relatable; Ghosts



[The Mermaid, the Witch, and the Sea](#)

by Maggie Tokuda-Hall

Genre: Epic Fantasy Fiction

Descriptors: Thought-Provoking; Forbidden Love; Romantic; Gruesome