**The Book Challenge﻿**

The below books are just for fun and for your enjoyment. The challenge is to be able to read as much as you can in ADDITION to the required readings.   
  
  
A Voice in the Wind by Francine Rivers  
  
“The city was silently bloating in the hot sun, rotting like the thousands of bodies that lay where they had fallen in street battles.”  With this opening sentence, A Voice in the Wind transports readers back to Jerusalem during the first Jewish-Roman War, some seventy years after the death of Christ. Atretes, a captured soldier from Germania, is forced to become a gladiator. This is the time of Rome's decline and the decadence of a civilization on the verge of self-destruction serves as a powerful backdrop to the Barbarian’s struggle for survival in the arena.  Simultaneously, after surviving the massacre of her family and the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans, Hadassah is captured and sold to a well-to-do merchant’s family.  
  
   
The Echoes series by Jamilah Linda Kolocotronis  
  
Echoes is the first book in the Echoes series. It is followed by Rebounding, Turbulence, Ripples and Silence. These books are fantastic and are a must read In her work, Kolocotronis addresses a wide range of issues that affect the Muslim family in general. I cried, laughed and grinned at events of love, betrayal, support, sorrow, hope, fear etc. throughout the series. These books are sure to boost your iman and are great for da’wah too.  
  
Where The Streets Had A Name by Randa Abdel Fattah  
Thirteen-year-old Hayaat is on a mission. She has the childish belief that a handful of soil from her grandmother's ancestral home in Jerusalem will save her beloved Sitti Zeynab's life since she once heard her wishing to ‘touch the soil again’. Hayaat and her best friend Samy decide to make good use of a curfew-free day to travel to Jerusalem. However, the only problem is the impenetrable wall that divides the West Bank, as well as the checkpoints. Though their journey is only few kilometres long, it may take a lifetime to complete.  
  
Flygirl by Sherri L. Smith  
  
When America enters World War II, the Army creates the Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP). Having always dreamed of flying, Ida Mae Jones, a young African-American woman, suddenly sees a way to fly as well as do something significant to help her brother stationed in the Pacific.  
  
Orleans  by Sherri L. Smith  
  
First came the storms.  
Then came the Fever.  
And the Wall.  
After a string of devastating hurricanes and a severe outbreak of Delta Fever, the Gulf Coast has been quarantined. Years later, residents of the Outer States are under the assumption that life in the Delta is all but extinct…but in reality, a new primitive society has been born.    
  
Invasion  by [Walter Dean Myers](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/13291.Walter_Dean_Myers)  
  
It's May 1944. World War II is ramping up, and so are these young recruits, ready and eager. In small towns and big cities all over the globe, people are filled with fear. When Josiah and Marcus come together in what will be the greatest test of their live  
  
Allende, Isabel. City of the Beasts  
  
Fifteen-year-old Alex is sent to stay with his grandmother when his mother falls ill. His grandmother happens to be an adventuring magazine reporter, and soon they are off on a magical-realism quest through the Amazon to find a mythical beast  
  
Alvarez, Julia. Before We Were Free  
  
This is the story of Anita de la Torre, a 12-year-old girl living in the Dominican Republic in 1960. Most of her relatives have immigrated to the United States, her Tio Toni has disappeared, Papi has been getting mysterious phone calls about butterflies and someone named Mr. Smith, and the secret police have started terrorizing her family for their suspected opposition to the country's dictator.  
  
Jiménez, Francisco. Breaking Through.  
  
Francisco and his Mexican-immigrant family are struggling to survive and be accepted in the United States when they are arrested by immigration authorities and deported. He and his brother come back to the U.S. on their own, hoping to make enough money to support themselves and their family until the rest of the family can return.  
  
Beacon Hill Boys Mass Market Paperback by [Ken Mochizuki](http://www.amazon.com/Ken-Mochizuki/e/B001IZPT7U/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1)  
  
Like other Japanese American families in the Beacon Hill area of Seattle, 16-year-old Dan Inagaki's parents expect him to be an example of the "model minority." But unlike Dan's older brother, with his 4.0 GPA and Ivy League scholarship, Dan is tired of being called "Oriental" by his teachers, and sick of feeling invisible; Dan's growing self-hatred threatens his struggle to claim an identity. Sharing his anger and confusion are his best friends, Jerry Ito, Eddie Kanagae, and Frank Ishimoto, and together these Beacon Hill Boys fall into a spiral of rebellion.  
  
Eyes of the Emperor Hardcover by [Graham Salisbury](http://www.amazon.com/Graham-Salisbury/e/B000APFRE4/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1)  
  
Eddy Okubo lies about his age and joins the army in his hometown of Honolulu only weeks before the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor. Suddenly Americans see him as the enemy—even the U.S. Army doubts the loyalty of Japanese American soldiers.  
Then the army sends Eddy and a small band of Japanese American soldiers on a secret mission to a small island off the coast of Mississippi. Here they are given a special job, one that only they can do. Eddy’s going to help train attack dogs. He’s going to be the bait.  
  
Girl in Translation by [Jean Kwok](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3246397.Jean_Kwok)  
  
When Kimberly Chang and her mother emigrate from Hong Kong to Brooklyn squalor, she quickly begins a secret double life: exceptional schoolgirl during the day, Chinatown sweatshop worker in the evenings.