

HOUSTON AREA INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS LIBRARY NETWORK

**Recommended  
Reading List  
2007**

### ***About the HAISLN Recommended Reading List***

This list of titles has been compiled by librarians at member schools of the Houston Area Independent School Libraries Network (HAISLN). It includes both fiction and nonfiction books by some of the best authors for children and young adults.

Books on the list are evaluated annually by grade-level committees. Committee members rely on recommendations from standard, professionally prepared evaluation aids and on input from students and teachers, as well as the collective HAISLN expertise. A conscious effort is made to appeal to the broad range of interests, maturity levels, and reading abilities of students.

In most cases the number of books by any given author is limited to one or two per grade level list. An older title with superior literary quality may remain on the list despite newer publications by the same author. Before reading a recommended author's book that does not appear on the student's grade list, readers should be aware that authors often write for multiple interest and age levels. Books that are part of a series are also noted, but not all books in a series are necessarily appropriate at the indicated grade level.

Students may find that some titles that are required reading for their classes appear on this list. Be advised that if a book for required reading is selected for independent reading, it may have to be re-read with the class at a later date.

This list is offered as one possible source of reading guidance. Additional lists of award winners and recommended books may be obtained from your school or public librarian. We hope that books from this list bring students many hours of enjoyment and encourage the life-long love of reading.

*Houston, Texas  
March, 2007*



HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Agee, Jon. **Terrific**. Hyperion, 2005. Eugene wins a trip to Bermuda, but when his ship sinks and he ends up on a tiny island with only a parrot, he wonders how he will ever get back home.
- Alborough, Jez. **Duck's Key: Where Can It Be?** Kane/Miller, 2004. Lift the flaps to see where Frog is hiding the keys to Duck's truck.
- Allen, Jonathan. **"I'm Not Cute!"** Hyperion, 2005. Baby Owl wants to be a "scary hunting machine" instead of always being referred to as cute.
- Allen, Judy. **Are You a Ladybug?** Kingfisher, 2000. The life cycle of a ladybug is introduced by telling the readers how they would experience life as that creature as it changes from an egg to an adult.
- Anderson, Peggy Perry. **Chuck's Truck**. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. When too many barnyard friends climb in to go to town, Chuck's truck breaks down, but Handyman Hugh knows just what to do.
- Arnold, Katya. **Elephants Can Paint, Too!** Atheneum, 2005. An artist teaches Asian elephants to paint, which raises funds and awareness for their endangered status.
- Ashman, Linda. **Starry Safari**. Harcourt, 2005. Bedtime becomes a jungle safari until the Big Safari Ranger brings it to a halt.
- Aston, Dianna Hutts. **An Egg Is Quiet**. Chronicle Books, 2006. A variety of beautifully illustrated eggs are described on one level with larger print and simple observations, while smaller print provides additional details about each one and its life cycle.
- Bajaj, Varsha. **How Many Kisses Do You Want Tonight?** Little, Brown, 2004. When animal and human parents lovingly ask their offspring how many kisses each wants at bedtime, the answers start at the number one and end at a million.
- Barton, Byron. **Building a House**. First published 1981. Brief text and illustrations are used to describe the steps in building a house.
- Bergman, Mara. **Snip Snap! What's That?** Greenwillow, 2005. Three siblings are frightened by the wide mouth, long teeth, and strong jaws of the alligator who has crept up the stairs—until they decide they have had enough.
- Bloom, Suzanne. **A Splendid Friend, Indeed**. Boyds Mills, 2005. When a studious polar bear meets an inquisitive goose, they learn to be friends.
- Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. **Ballerino Nate**. Dial, 2006. After seeing a ballet performance, Nate decides he wants to learn ballet but he has doubts when his brother Ben tells him that only girls can be ballerinas.
- Brunelle, Nicholas. **Snow Moon**. Viking, 2005. One wintry night, a child awakens to find at his window a mysterious owl that beckons, and together the two set off on a moonlit journey to a place called Owl Ridge.
- Bunting, Eve. **Flower Garden**. Harcourt, 1994. Helped by her father, a young girl prepares a flower garden as a birthday surprise for her mother.

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- Butler, John. *Can You Cuddle Like a Koala?* Peachtree, 2003. Rhyming text describes how various animals move.
- Butterworth, Christine. *Sea Horse: The Shyest Fish in the Sea*. Candlewick, 2006. This introduction to the sea horse describes its physical characteristics, habitat, life cycle, and behavior in simple text with beautifully rendered illustrations.
- Carlstrom, Nancy White. *Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?* First published 1986. Rhymed text and illustrations describe Jesse Bear's activities from morning to bedtime.
- Cauley, Lorinda Bryan. *Clap Your Hands*. Putnam, 1992. Rhyming text instructs the listener to find something yellow, roar like a lion, give a kiss, tell a secret, spin in a circle, and perform other playful activities along with the human and animal characters pictured.
- Chodos-Irvine, Margaret. *Best Best Friends*. Harcourt, 2006. Mary and Clare do everything together at preschool, but Mary's birthday celebration puts a strain on the girls' friendship.
- Cousins, Lucy. *Hooray for Fish!* Candlewick, 2005. Little Fish has all sort of fishy friends in his underwater home, but loves one of them most of all.
- Crews, Nina. *Below*. Holt, 2006. Jack has adventures and rescues with his action-figure, Guy.
- Cronin, Doreen. *Dooby Dooby Moo*. Atheneum, 2006. While Farmer Brown sleeps, his animals prepare for a talent show at the county fair.
- Crowley, Ned. *Ugh! A Bug*. Millbrook Press, 2006. Illustrations and simple text describe some unusual characteristics of a variety of insects.
- Cunnane, Kelly. *For You Are a Kenyan Child*. Atheneum, 2006. From rooster crow to bedtime, a Kenyan boy plays and visits neighbors all through his village, even though he is supposed to be watching his grandfather's cows.
- Daly, Nikki. *Welcome to Zanzibar Road*. Clarion, 2006. After moving into the house on Zanzibar Road that her neighbors helped her build, Mama Jumbo decides to share it with Little Chico.
- Dewdney, Anna. *Llama Llama Red Pajama*. Viking , 2005. At bedtime, a little llama starts to worry after his mother turns out the light and goes downstairs.
- Dillon, Leo. *Rap A Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles—Think of That*. Blue Sky, 2002. Rhyming text and illustrations describe the dancing of Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, one of the most famous tap dancers of all time.
- Donaldson, Julia. *One Ted Falls Out of Bed*. Holt, 2004. When a teddy bear falls out of bed, he has an exciting playtime before finally managing to get back where he started.
- Dunbar, Joyce. *A Chick Called Saturday*. Eerdmans, 2003. A curious chick is disappointed at all the things his mother says he cannot do, such as swim like a duck, until he discovers one wonderful thing he can do very well.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Gossie & Gertie*. Houghton Mifflin, 2002. Gossie and Gertie are best friends and everywhere Gossie goes, Gertie goes too—except when she doesn't, and sometimes that's even better.

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- Egan, Tim. **Burnt Toast on Davenport Street**. Houghton Mifflin, 1997. Arthur and Stella Crandall, two dogs, are for the most part content with their lives until a fly gets mixed up while granting Arthur three wishes.
- Elya, Susan Middleton. **Eight Animals Bake a Cake**. Putnam, 2002. Eight animals add ingredients to make a cake with unexpected results. Spanish words, a glossary, and a recipe for pineapple upside-down cake are included.
- Emberley, Ed. **Go Away, Big Green Monster!** Little, Brown, 1992. Die-cut pages through which bits of a monster are revealed are designed to help a child control nighttime fears of monsters.
- Falconer, Ian. **Olivia - and the Missing Toy**. Atheneum, 2003. When her best toy mysteriously disappears, Olivia the feisty pig is determined to find out who is responsible.
- Feiffer, Jules. **The Daddy Mountain**. Hyperion, 2004. A little girl makes the perilous climb up her father's body, from his foot to the top of his head.
- Fleming, Denise. **The Cow Who Clucked**. Holt, 2006. When a cow loses her moo, she searches to see if another animal in the barn has it.
- Florczak, Robert. **Yikes!** Blue Sky, 2003. A young boy sees such fearsome and exotic creatures as a cobra, gorillas, and crocodiles when he goes on safari.
- Fore, S. J. **Tiger Can't Sleep**. Viking, 2006. A young boy is kept awake by the noisy, "talented" tiger in his closet that is busy dancing, eating, and making music.
- Frazee, Marla. **Walk On! A Guide for Babies of All Ages**. Harcourt, 2006. Advice is offered not only to babies contemplating their first step but also for anyone beginning a scary new venture.
- French, Vivian. **T. Rex**. Candlewick, 2004. A boy visits a special T. rex exhibit with his grandfather and learns many interesting facts about this meat-eating dinosaur, but realizes that there is much more to be discovered.
- Freymann, Saxton. **Fast Food**. Arthur A. Levine, 2006. Playful rhyming text about different modes of transportation accompanies colorful sculptures of vegetables and fruits on the move.
- Goode, Diane. **The Most Perfect Spot**. HarperCollins, 2006. Jack tries to have a perfect picnic with his mother, but things do not turn out as they expected.
- Grossman, Bill. **My Little Sister Ate One Hare**. Crown, 1996. Little sister has no problem eating one hare, two snakes, and three ants, but when she gets to ten peas, she throws up quite a mess.
- Huneck, Stephen. **Sally Goes to the Vet**. Harry A. Abrams, 2004. Sally the dog goes flying over a tree stump while playing chase in the yard and has to be rushed to the vet's office.
- Hutchins, Pat. **Ten Red Apples**. Greenwillow, 2000. In rhyming verses, one animal after the other neighs, moos, oinks, quacks and makes other appropriate sounds as each eats an apple from the farmer's tree.

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James, Simon. **Little One Step**. Candlewick, 2003. As three duckling brothers cross forest and field to return to their mother, the older ones encourage the youngest by teaching him a game that earns him the name of Little One Step.

Jenkins, Steve. **Move!** Houghton Mifflin, 2006. This playful introduction to animal motion invites the reader to guess some of the unusual ways that animals get around.

King, Stephen Michael. **Mutt Dog!** Harcourt, 2005. A lonely dog finally finds a home after he makes friends with a woman who works at a homeless shelter.

Klinton, Lars. **What Do You Want?** Groundwood Books, 2006. Simple text and illustrations keep readers guessing as to what each character may want.

Knudsen, Michelle. **Library Lion**. Candlewick, 2006. A lion starts visiting the local library but runs into trouble as he tries to obey the rules and help his librarian friend.

Krebs, Laurie. **We're Sailing to Galapagos: A Week in the Pacific**. Barefoot, 2005. Rhyming text introduces the wildlife of the Galapagos Island, such as giant tortoises, black iguanas, and brightly-colored lava crabs.

Kuklin, Susan. **All Aboard!: A True Train Story**. Orchard, 2003. Photographs and simple text are used to describe working steam locomotives of the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad as they travel through the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.

Laminack, Lester L. **Jake's 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School**. Peachtree, 2006. Jake is so excited about his 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School, he runs to catch the school bus without his project, but fortunately, with the help of his principal, Jake is able to find a perfect substitute for the missing project.

Lechner, John. **A Froggy Fable**. Candlewick, 2005. A little frog is upset when his simple life is changed when new neighbors move in, but during an unexpected adventure away from the pond, he learns that change can be good after all.

Lewison, Wendy Chayette. **Raindrop, Plop!** Viking, 2004. A young girl and her dog find many things to count on a rainy day, both as they play outside and after they come home to a warm, dry house.

Lovell, Patty. **Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon**. Putnam, 2001. Even when the class bully at her new school makes fun of her, Molly remembers what her grandmother told her and she feels good about herself.

MacDonald, Margaret Read. **The Squeaky Door**. HarperCollins, 2006. When Little Boy is frightened by a squeaky bedroom door, his grandmother brings in various animals to help him feel secure enough to sleep.

Manning, Mick. **Yuck!** Frances Lincoln, 2005. The slimy, sticky, yucky food that spiders, birds, frogs, and lizards eat is described in simple text with illustrations.

Masurel, Claire. **Ten Dogs in the Window: A Countdown Book**. North-South Books, 1997. After ten dogs are placed in a display window for all to see, one by one their numbers diminish until the last canine departs with its new owner.

McAllister, Angela. **Take a Kiss to School**. Bloomsbury, 2006. Digby's mother helps him make it through the second day of school by sending him off with a pocket full of kisses.

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- McLeod, Bob. **SuperHero ABC.** HarperCollins, 2006. Superheroes with humorous names such as Goo Girl and The Volcano represent the letters of the alphabet from A to Z.
- McPhail, David. **Fix-it.** First published 1984. When the fix-it man is trying to repair the television and her parents are trying to entertain her, Emma becomes so interested in reading that she no longer cares about watching TV.
- McQuinn, Anna. **Lola at the Library.** Charlesbridge, 2006. Every Tuesday Lola and her mother visit their local library to return and check out books, attend story readings, and share a special treat.
- Monks, Lydia. **Aaaaarrghh! Spider!** Houghton Mifflin, 2004. A clever spider is lonely and longs to become a family pet.
- Munro, Roxie. **The Inside-Outside Book of Texas.** SeaStar Books, 2001. Color illustrations show the inside and outside of a variety of places in Texas, including museums, stores, the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, and many others. A fact section is included.
- O'Connor, Jane. **Fancy Nancy.** HarperCollins, 2006. A young girl who loves fancy things helps her family to be fancy for one special night.
- Olsen, K. C. **Construction Countdown.** Holt, 2004. Numbers and subtraction are introduced as the reader counts construction equipment from ten down to one.
- Pinkney, Jerry. **The Little Red Hen.** Dial, 2006. This is a newly illustrated edition of the classic fable of the hen who is forced to do all the work of baking bread and of the animals who learned a bitter lesson after they refused to help her.
- Priceman, Marjorie. **Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot-Air Balloon Ride.** Atheneum, 2005. The first "brave passengers" of the successful 1783 lift-off of a hot-air balloon were a duck, a sheep, and a rooster — and this is their story!
- Prince, April Jones. **What Do Wheels Do all Day?** Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Rhyming text in large print and impressive bas-relief cut-paper collages describe all kinds of wheels and the jobs they do.
- Raschka, Christopher. **Five for a Little One.** Atheneum, 2006. A young rabbit explores the world using his five senses.
- Relf, Adam. **Fox Makes Friends.** Sterling, 2005. When Fox wants someone to play with he takes his Mom's advice and sets out to find a friend, with surprising results.
- Rex, Michael. **Truck Duck.** Putnam, 2004. A variety of animals drive vehicles whose names rhyme with their own.
- Robbins, Jacqui. **The New Girl — and Me.** Atheneum, 2006. Two African-American girls named Shakeeta and Mia become friends when Shakeeta boasts that she has a pet iguana and Mia learns how to help Shakeeta "feel at home" even when she is in school.
- Rosen, Michael. **We're Going on a Bear Hunt.** McElderry, 1989. Brave bear hunters go through grass, a river, mud, and other obstacles before the inevitable encounter with the bear forces a headlong retreat.



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- Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. **Cookies: Bite-size Lessons.** HarperCollins, 2006. As a young girl bakes cookies she learns about cooperation, patience, pride, compassion, trust, and more.
- Rotner, Shelley. **Senses at the Seashore.** Millbrook Press, 2006. A child shares the sights, sounds, smells, touches, and tastes of a day at the seashore.
- Ryan, Pam Munoz. **Mud Is Cake.** Hyperion, 2002. A brother and sister find that when they use their imaginations mud can become cake and they themselves can become almost anything.
- St. Pierre, Stephanie. **What the Sea Saw.** Peachtree, 2006. This lyrical introduction to the sea describes some of its inhabitants and explores the sea's role in the world around it.
- Saltzberg, Barney. **Cornelius P. Mud, Are You Ready for Bed?** Candlewick, 2005. Cornelius the pig has his own style when preparing for bed, but he does not really feel ready until he gets a hug.
- Segal, John. **Carrot Soup.** Margaret K. McElderry, 2006. After working hard on his garden all spring and summer, Rabbit looks forward to harvest time when he can make soup, but when every carrot disappears, Rabbit must find out who has taken them. A recipe for carrot soup is included.
- Sklansky, Amy E. **Where Do Chicks Come From?** HarperCollins, 2005. This book chronicles the amazing changes that take place inside an egg during the three weeks from the time a hen lays an egg until the baby chick hatches.
- Slate, Joseph. **Miss Bindergarten Takes a Field Trip with Kindergarten.** Dutton, 2001. The letters of the alphabet are introduced as Miss Bindergarten and her students visit the bakery, fire station, post office, and library, followed by a picnic in the park.
- Slater, Dashka. **Baby Shoes.** Bloomsbury, 2006. After taking a walk with his mother, Baby's new white shoes with the blue stripe are covered with a variety of colors.
- Spurr, Elizabeth. **Farm Life.** Holiday House, 2003. Rhymed descriptions of life on a farm introduce basic colors and the numbers one to ten.
- Stevens, Janet. **The Great Fuzz Frenzy.** Harcourt, 2005. When a tennis ball lands in a prairie dog town, the residents find that their newfound frenzy for fuzz creates a fiasco.
- Stoeke, Janet Morgan. **Minerva Louise and the Red Truck.** Dutton, 2002. Mischievous hen Minerva Louise jumps on the back of a truck and finds herself on a joyride during which she interprets the sights she sees in her own unique way.
- Sturges, Philemon. **I Love Trucks!** HarperCollins, 1999. A child names many of his favorite trucks and each one's most notable characteristic.
- Sweeney, Joan. **Me on the Map.** Crown, 1996. A child describes how her room, her house, her town, her state, and her country become part of a map of her world.
- Tokuda, Yukihisa. **I'm a Pill Bug.** Kane/Miller, 2006. Simple text and illustrations describe the life cycle of pill bugs: where they live, what they eat, and how they protect themselves.

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Verdick, Elizabeth. *Words Are Not for Hurting*. Free Spirit, 2004. Toddlers and preschoolers are encouraged to express themselves using helpful, not hurtful, words. A note for parents and caregivers is included.

Viorst, Judith. *Just in Case*. Atheneum, 2006. Charlie likes to be ready for anything, imagining that his house could be flooded or a mermaid might kidnap him, but he learns that it is sometimes good to be unprepared.

Votaw, Carol J. *Good Morning, Little Polar Bear*. NorthWord Books, 2005. This rhyming book for early readers describes thirteen Arctic animal families and how they begin their day.

Waddell, Martin. *It's Quacking Time!* Candlewick, 2005. A duckling and his whole family happily await the hatching of his parents' new egg.

Walsh, Ellen Stoll. *Mouse Count*. Harcourt, 1991. Ten mice outsmart a hungry snake.

Wells, Rosemary. *Carry Me!* Hyperion, 2006. Three short poems show how loving parents respond in caring ways to a young child's wish to be sung to, talked to, and carried.

Wheeler, Lisa. *Castaway Cats*. Atheneum, 2006. Fifteen felines find themselves marooned on an island and are not sure what to do.

Willems, Mo. *Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!* Hyperion, 2006. The reader is asked to make sure that the pigeon goes to bed on time—but the bird has a great many reasons for staying up longer even though he is fighting yawns.

Willis, Jeanne. *Gorilla! Gorilla!* Atheneum, 2005. A mother mouse whose baby is lost in the rain forest is chased by a "great, big, hairy, scary ape!"

Wolff, Ferida. *It Is the Wind*. HarperCollins, 2005. As he is going to sleep, a boy tries to imagine what could be making all the noises he hears outside.

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## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grades 1 and 2

*Any unabridged title is acceptable.*

*\*Beginning readers are marked with an asterisk.*

Adler, David. **President George Washington**. Holiday House, 2005. From Washington's youth to his death, this book gives enough details and background to make it an enjoyable biography for new readers.

\*Adler, David. **Young Cam Jansen and the Spotted Cat Mystery**. Viking, 2006. When a cat appears in their classroom one rainy day, Cam and her friend Eric figure out where it came from. *Series*

Ahlberg, Allan. **The Children Who Smelled a Rat**. Candlewick, 2005. Another adventuresome day in the Gatskill family starts when the baby rolls away in a shopping cart, the twin's teacher acts strange, and a lost bird tries to hypnotize the cat.

Bailey, Linda. **Stanley's Party**. Kids Can Press, 2003. Stanley is a good dog, but when his people go out at night, he begins to wonder what it would be like to taste the forbidden pleasure of sitting on the couch, and when he tries it, one thing leads to another.

\*Baker, Keith. **More Mr. and Mrs. Green**. Harcourt, 2004. The two happy alligators have a wonderful day fishing with special bait, a day painting pictures, and a sunny play day in the park. *Series*

\*Bang-Campbell, Monika. **Little Rat Rides**. Harcourt, 2004. Little Rat overcomes her fears and learns how to ride Pee Wee, the very big horse who doesn't always do what Little Rat expects. *Series*

\*Bang-Campbell, Monika. **Little Rat Sets Sail**. Harcourt, 2002. Little Rat is taking sailing lessons but is afraid of the water. Buzzy Bear, the sailing instructor, teaches him to make friends, jump in the water, and sail. *Series*

Barber, Tiki. **Game Day**. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Brothers Tiki and Ronde Barber, two NFL superstars, tell their story and explain how loyalty, determination, and the power of teamwork help all succeed.

Bauer, Marion Dane. **The Blue Ghost**. Random House, 2005. While visiting her grandmother's log cabin, Liz encounters the ghost of her great-great-great grandmother and suddenly finds that she has been transported back in time.

Berenzy, Alix. **Sammy: the Classroom Guinea Pig**. Holt, 2005. Why is Sammy, the classroom guinea pig, squealing on Monday morning? Mrs. B. and her students go through all the possible reasons, as they learn how to care for a pet guinea pig.

Brett, Jan. **Hedgie Blasts Off!** Putnam, 2006. When the spectacular, sparkling explosions at a popular tourist sight slow down, Hedgie the hedgehog is the only one capable of flying to tiny planet Mikkop to see what is wrong.

Chaconas, Dori. **Cork & Fuzz: Short and Tall**. Viking, 2006. The friendship between Cork, a muskrat, and Fuzz, a possum, is in trouble when Cork decides that, since he is older, he has to be taller than Fuzz.

Chesworth, Michael. **Alphabet**. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002. A rhyming text full of puns tells the story of the letters of the alphabet sailing off to look for a buried treasure.

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### Grades 1 and 2

Creech, Sharon. **A Fine, Fine School.** Joanna Cotler Books, 2001. When a principal loves his school so much that he wants the children to attend classes every day of the year, it's up to his students to show him free time is a good thing, too.

Cronin, Doreen. **Diary of a Spider.** Joanna Cotler Books, 2005. In this sequel to *Diary of a Worm*, worm's friend spider gives his view of the world. He discovers that there is a lot to learn about being a spider, including spinning webs, avoiding vacuum cleaners and never falling asleep in a shoe.

Crummel, Susan Stevens. **City Dog, Country Dog.** Marshall Cavendish, 2004. Two French dogs, Henri and Vincent, meet at art school and become good friends despite their differences.

Danneberg, Julie. **First Year Letters.** Whispering Coyote, 2003. Through a series of letters sent to Mrs. Hartwell in the classroom mailbox, we experience the sometimes hilariously funny pleasures and pains of a normal group of kids and an innovative first-year teacher.

\*Danziger, Paula. **Second Grade Rules, Amber Brown.** Putnam, 2004. Amber Brown loves the second grade but wonders if she will ever receive an award from Deskarina, the desk fairy, for keeping her desk clean. *Series*

Davies, Nicola. **Surprising Sharks.** Candlewick Press, 2003. Sharks come in all shapes and sizes. Many species from the smallest to the scariest are described in this informative picture book.

DeFelice, Cynthia. **One Potato, Two Potato.** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. A very poor, humble couple lives such a simple life they share everything, until the husband discovers a pot with magical powers buried under the very last potato in the garden.

De Paola, Tommie. **Stagestruck.** Putnam, 2005. Tommie does not get the leading role of Peter Rabbit in the class play. He is so disappointed he decides to get the audience's attention by making his character Mopsy the star!

Dicamillo, Kate. **Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride.** Candlewick, 2006. Mr. Watson's usual Saturday drive in his Cadillac with his favorite pig, Mercy, turns into an adventure when an unexpected passenger shows up in the back seat and Mercy finds herself behind the wheel. *Series*

Florian, Douglas. **Bow Wow Meow: It's Rhyming Cats and Dogs.** Harcourt, 2003. It's rhyming cats and dogs in Douglas Florian's furr-ocious collection of twenty-one original poems and paintings about our favorite animal friends.

Frazee, Marla. **Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?** Dial, 2006. The pictures practically speak for themselves when fourteen contemporary children's book illustrators offer their unique answers to this age-old question.

Gibbons, Gail. **Dinosaur Discoveries.** Holiday House, 2005. Fabulous, concise, and clear dinosaur information is presented in this book, which comes complete with pronunciations, maps of fossil discoveries, and author's notes.

\*Guest, Elissa Haden. **Iris and Walter and the Field Trip.** Harcourt, 2005. When best friends Iris and Walter go on a field trip to an aquarium, Walter gets lost and a worried Iris helps Miss Cherry look for him. *Series*

Harper, Charise Mericle. **There was a Bold Lady who Wanted a Star.** Little, Brown, 2002. In this variation on the traditional cumulative rhyme, a feisty woman tries roller skates, a bicycle, and even a rocket to reach a star.

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### Grades 1 and 2

- \*Helmer, Marilyn. *Yummy Riddles*. Kids Can Press, 2003. These riddles will provide budding comedians with a fresh batch of food-related material to try out on their friends and family.
- Hoberman, Mary Ann. *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together*. Little, Brown, 2004. This title presents short retellings of familiar fairy tales, each told in two voices, designed especially for young children and adults to read together.
- \*Hoff, Syd. *Danny and the Dinosaur Go To Camp*. HarperCollins, 1996. When Danny brings his favorite dinosaur to camp, the two friends enjoy boating, hiking, and roasting marshmallows. *Series*
- \*Holub, Joan. *Why Do Birds Sing?* Dial, 2004. This colorful book explains why birds sing and presents important facts about bird behavior and characteristics.
- Hort, Lenny. *Did Dinosaurs Eat Pizza? Mysteries Science Hasn't Solved*. Holt, 2006. While much is known about dinosaur anatomy, behavior, and habitat, the author points out the many mysteries that remain to be answered about these extinct creatures.
- \*Howe, James. *Pinky and Rex and the Just-Right Pet*. Simon & Schuster, 2001. Seven-year-old Pinky, a confirmed dog lover, has a change of heart after his family's new pet kitten pounces on his foot in the middle of the night. *Series*
- Hughes, Shirley. *Ella's Big Chance: a Jazz-Age Cinderella*. Simon & Schuster. 2004. Ella, a seamstress in her father's dress shop, surprises her sisters, Ruby and Pearl, at the ball honoring the Duke of Arc - a wonderful variation of the Cinderella story with an unusual ending.
- Isadora, Rachel. *Nick Plays Baseball*. Putnam, 2001. The story of Nick and his teammates' championship baseball game provides an introduction to the aspects of the game of baseball including equipment, player positions, and rules.
- Karas, G. Brian. *On Earth*. Putnam, 2005. The earth and its cycles are simply and beautifully illustrated in this poetic text. Difficult concepts are explained through children's real life experiences.
- Katz, Alan. *Are You Quite Polite? : Silly Ditty Manners Songs*. McElderry, 2006. Presenting humorous lyrics to such familiar children's songs as "Pop Goes the Weasel," "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," and "Hey Diddle Diddle," Katz presents examples of behavior both good and bad.
- Kennedy, Senator Edward M. *My Senator and Me: A Dog's Eye View of Washington D.C.*, Scholastic, 2006. Illustrated by David Small and narrated by Splash, the Portuguese Water Dog, this is a clear and concise introduction to the American political process.
- Kimmel, Eric A. *Anansi and the Magic Stick*. Holiday House, 2001. Part trickster tale, part sorcerer's apprentice story, this cheerful picture book about Anansi the Spider is loosely based on the West African story "The Magic Hoe."
- Knudsen, Michelle. *Library Lion*. Candlewick, 2006. A lion starts visiting the local library, but runs into trouble as he tries to both obey the rules and help his librarian friend.
- \*Krensky, Stephen. *Arthur and the 1,001 Dads*. Little, Brown, 2003. Arthur and his friends try to find a substitute to attend the Father's Day picnic with Buster, whose father isn't around much since his parent's divorce. *Series*

## HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grades 1 and 2

Krensky, Stephen. *Milo the Really Big Bunny*. Simon & Schuster, 2006. A misfit bunny finds out that the characteristic that makes him different helps the Easter Bunny save the day.

Kuskin, Karla. *Toots the Cat*. Holt, 2005. In this series of simple but vivid poems we meet Toots, the calico cat who has adopted the poet's family. Toots is charming, frustrating, quirky, and totally cat. This is for all cat lovers.

\*Labatt, Mary. *Sam Gets Lost*. Kids Can Press, 2004. Sam's fun trip downtown turns scary after he hops out of the car and gets lost in the city.

Landry, Leo. *Sea Surprise*. Holt, 2005. Kate, a mermaid, and her best friend Dave, a shark, have planned a special surprise for their best friend Ed who has lost his zap. A funny story with silly illustrations makes this a delightful tale of friendship.

Leedy, Loreen. *The Great Graph Contest*. Holiday House, 2005. Gonk and Chester, two amphibian friends, hold a contest to see who can make better graphs. This entertaining and easy to follow introduction to various types of graphs includes instructions for children to make their own.

Lester, Helen. *Hooway for Rodney Wat*. Houghton Mifflin, 1999. All his classmates make fun of Rodney because he can't pronounce his name, but it is Rodney's speech impediment that drives away the class bully.

\*Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad Are Friends*. HarperCollins, 1970. Be entertained by the classic, short, delightful tales about best friends Frog and Toad. *Series*

MacLachlan, Patricia and Emily MacLachlan Charest. *Once I Ate a Pie*. Joanna Cotler, 2006. Fourteen free-verse poems and beautiful oil paintings capture the personality of each dog in these examples of a dog's life from the perspective of the animals.

Markle, Sandra. *Spiders: Biggest! Littlest!* Boyds Mills, 2004. From the Goliath Bird Spider to the Crab Spider, amazing photographs show how spiders benefit from their size. Includes a map of where spiders live.

\*Marshall, James. *Fox on the Job*. Puffin, 1988. Fox tries several different jobs to earn money.

McBrier, Page. *Beatrice's Goat*. Atheneum, 2001. A young girl's dream of attending school in her small Ugandan village is fulfilled after her family is given an income-producing goat. Based on a true story about the work of the Heifer Project.

McCall, Francis. *A Huge Hog is a Big Pig: A Rhyming Word Game*. Greenwillow, 2002. A variety of mostly farm animals are introduced with such phrases as a granny nanny, a soggy doggy, and a loose goose.

McDermott, Gerald. *Jabuti the Tortoise: A Trickster Tale from the Amazon*. Harcourt, 2001. All the birds enjoy the song-like flute music of Jabuti, the tortoise, except Vulture who, jealous because he cannot sing, tricks Jabuti into riding on his back toward a festival planned by the King of Heaven.

McDonald, Megan. *Stink and the Super Galactic Jawbreaker*. Candlewick, 2006. Seven-year-old Stink Moody, having discovered that he can get free samples by writing letters of complaint to companies, gets so caught up in his letter writing campaign that he misses his best friend's birthday, and must plan a super surprise to make up for his mistake.

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grades 1 and 2

- McKissack, Patricia. *The Honest-To-Goodness Truth*. Atheneum, 2000. After promising never to lie, Libby learns that it's not always necessary to blurt out the whole truth.
- McNulty, Faith. *If You Decide to Go to the Moon*. Scholastic, 2005. This book tells you how to get to the moon, what to do after you land, and most importantly, how to get back home.
- \*Miller, Sara Swan. *Three Stories You Can Read to Your Teddy Bear*. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. If your teddy bear seems quiet and just sits on your bed staring, maybe he is bored and needs to be entertained. This book has perfect stories for teddy bears to hear.
- Muth, Jon. *Zen Shorts*. Scholastic, 2005. Stillwater, a talking panda, shares *Zen* stories with three children. Each story matches the mood and character of the child.
- Napoli, Donna Jo. *Albert*. Harcourt, 2001. Albert seems to have opted out of life until a pair of cardinals builds a nest in his hand and deposit four eggs in it.
- \*Nixon, Joan Lowery. *Gus and Gertie and the Lucky Charms*. SeaStar, 2002. Fine-feathered heroes Gus and Gertie return for another slapstick, easy-to-read mystery as they arrive at the Animals' Winter Olympics with dreams of winning gold as Antarctica's first synchronized swimming team. *Series*
- O Flatharta, Antoine. *Hurry and the Monarch*. Knopf, 2005. On her way from Canada, a monarch butterfly lands on Hurry the tortoise in Wichita Falls, Texas. Through their friendship, Hurry witnesses the life cycle of a monarch. This story has strong Texas connections and the illustrations depict the beauty of the Monarch and Texas springtime.
- \*Parish, Herman. *Amelia Bedelia Under Construction*. Greenwillow, 2006. Anytime Amelia Bedelia baby-sits for the Hardy family, trouble is sure to follow, this time leading up to some unexpected remodeling of the Hardy's house. *Series*
- Polacco, Patricia. *John Philip Duck*. Philomel, 2004. Set in the Depression, a young boy from Memphis, who works at the Peabody Hotel, trains his pet duck to do tricks and performances set to the music of John Philip Sousa marches.
- Recorvits, Helen. *My Name is Yoon*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Disliking her name as written in English, Korean-born Yoon, or "shining wisdom," refers to herself as "cat," "bird," and "cupcake," as a way to feel more comfortable in her new school and new country.
- Reynolds, Peter. *The Dot*. Candlewick, 2003. "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." This sage advice, offered by her teacher, sets the young heroine on a journey of self-expression, artistic experimentation, and success.
- \*Roberts, Bethany. *Ogre Eats Everything*. Dutton, 2005. A sequel to *Maybelle* and *Ogre*, this humorous easy to read chapter book tells a story about friendship, especially when *Maybelle* tries to teach *Ogre* to read.
- Rodman, Mary Ann. *My Best Friend*. Viking, 2005. At the local swimming pool six year old Lily is doing her best to impress seven-year-old Tamika because she wants to be best friends. No matter how hard Lily tries, Tamika either ignores her or teases her. Could there be another best friend?



## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grades 1 and 2

- Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. **Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons.** HarperCollins, 2006. Cookies provide the framework for this clever book, but the focus is on life lessons to be learned about sharing, regret, cooperation, and patience, terms which are defined in simple, relevant text and made clear by sweet illustrations.
- \*Rylant, Cynthia. **Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover.** Simon & Schuster, 2006. Henry and his dog Mudge are invited to a sleepover in Patrick's attic, where they watch monster movies, eat pizza, and enjoy a contest to determine whose dog is the best popcorn catcher. *Series*
- \*Rylant, Cynthia. **The High-Rise Private Eyes: the Case of the Desperate Duck.** Greenwillow, 2005. In their latest case, animal detectives Bunny and Jack help Mabel the duck find out who stole the sugar cubes from her tea room. *Series*
- Sams, Carl R. and Jean Stoick. **Lost in the Woods: A Photographic Fantasy.** Carl R. Sams II Photography, 2004. In this photographic story, a fawn is discovered sleeping alone in the tall grass at the edge of the forest, which raises the concerns of the animal community.
- Sayre, April Pulley. **Army Ant Parade.** Holt, 2002. The animals in the forest prepare for the army ants to swarm over the ground in a thick stream, searching for food.
- Schorter, Roni. **The Boy Who Loved Words.** Schwartz & Wade, 2006. Selig loves and collects words in this charming story of a boy who finds his life's purpose through his passion for words.
- Schwartz, David. **If You Hopped Like a Frog.** Scholastic, 1999. David Schwartz introduces the concept of ratio by comparing what humans would be able to do if they had bodies like different animals.
- \*Sharmat, Marjorie. **Nate the Great Talks Turkey.** Delacorte, 2006. Nate the Great and his cousin Olivia are on the case of a runaway turkey, but unfortunately the clues appear to contradict each other. *Series*
- Silverman, Erica. **Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: Partners.** Harcourt, 2006. Cocoa the horse herds the cows with Cowgirl Kate, helps her practice her roping skills, and wishes he could wear boots instead of horseshoes. *Series*
- Sis, Peter. **Train of States.** Greenwillow, 2004. An imaginative look at the fifty states using circus trains to display the information. State facts are presented in intricate detail.
- Smothers, Ethel Footman. **Hard-Times Jar.** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Emma, the daughter of poor migrant workers, longs to own a real book. When she turns eight and must attend school for the first time, she is amazed to discover a whole library in her classroom.
- Stanley, Diane. **Goldie and the Three Bears.** HarperCollins, 2003. In this fractured Goldilocks tale, Goldie, who has yet to find a friend to love with all her heart, makes an unplanned visit to the house of some bears.
- Steig, William. **The Amazing Bone.** First published 1976. On her way home from school, Pearl finds an unusual bone that has unexpected powers.
- Stowell, Penelope. **The Greatest Potatoes.** Hyperion, 2005. George Crum, son of a former slave and a Native American was a chef in Saratoga, New York in 1853. As a practical joke, George created the worst fried potatoes in the world. The Saratoga flaky fried potatoes became an instant hit.

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grades 1 and 2

Sturges, Philemon. *She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain*. Little, Brown, 2004. New words to the traditional tune describe a camper-driving, "hooting" and "shouting" guest and the party that will begin when she arrives.

\*Sutcliffe, Jane. *Jesse Owens*. Carolrhoda, 2001. This is a biography of track-and-field athlete Jesse Owens, from his childhood in Alabama to his athletic career which culminated in his winning four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany.

Swope, Sam. *Gotta Go! Gotta Go!* Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2000. Although she doesn't know how or why, a small creepy-crawly bug is certain that she must make her way to Mexico.

Tavares, Matt. *Mudball*. Candlewick, 2005. The year is 1903. Andy Oyler, the shortest player in his baseball league, is battling with two outs and rain is falling hard. Andy's bat connects with the ball, but will it be hard enough to bring in the runs and win the game?

Teague, Mark. *Detective LaRue: Letters from the Investigation*. Scholastic, 2004.

While on vacation, Mrs. LaRue receives letters from her dog, Ike, who has been falsely accused of harming the neighbor's cats and is trying to clear his name.

\*Thomas, Shelley Moore. *Happy Birthday, Good Knight*. Dutton, 2006. The Good Knight tries to help three little dragons make a birthday present for a very special friend. *Series*

Uhlberg, Myron. *Dad, Jackie and Me*. Peachtree, 2005. In 1947, Jackie Robinson is playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers, the first black man to play in major league baseball. The author and his deaf father become fans and share the thrill of Jackie's incredible season.

\*Van Leeuwen, Jean. *Oliver the Mighty Pig*. Dial, 2004. Oliver feels like the superhero Mighty Pig when he wears his Mighty Pig cape, but he finds that being a superhero in the real world has some complications. *Series*

Ward, Jennifer. *The Seed and the Giant Saguaro*. Rising Moon, 2003. A packrat, carrying fruit from the giant saguaro, is chased by various desert animals and inadvertently helps spread the cactus's seeds. Information on saguaros is included.

Weatherby, Brenda. *The Trucker*. Scholastic, 2004. Wesley dreams his toy semi-flatbed truck grows big enough for him to have a trucking adventure but wakes to find he is in the back of his father's truck.

Whatley, Bruce. *Wait! No Paint!* HarperCollins, 2001. Full of surprises, interaction between the illustrator and the characters, and hilarious wordplay, this quirky retelling of "The Three Little Pigs" encourages readers to look at this favorite story in a whole new way.

Whybrow, Ian. *Badness for Beginners: A Little Wolf and Smellybreff Adventure*. Carolrhoda, 2005. Little Wolf and his brother Smellybreff get lessons in badness from their Mom and Dad. They just can't be naughty enough to suit Mom and Dad.

Willems, Mo. *Edwina the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct*. Hyperion, 2006. Edwina the friendly neighborhood dinosaur, friend to children and grown-ups alike, finds a foe in young Reginald Von Hoobie-Doobie, who insists that she is extinct.

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grades 1 and 2

- Winter, Jonah. **Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates.** Atheneum, 2005. This is the story of Roberto Clemente, a young Puerto Rican who followed his baseball dream to the big leagues and went on to help the poor in his homeland.
- Wong, Janet. **Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club.** Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2004. Alex tries lots of different activities — swim team, football, piano lessons — but the Wednesday chess club is his favorite. At the tournament, he tries very hard to win but discovers having fun is more important.
- Wood, Don. **The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear.** First published 1984. Little Mouse worries that the big hungry bear will take his freshly picked red, ripe strawberry for himself.
- Yolen, Jane. **Count Me a Rhyme.** Wordsong, 2006. This handsome rhyming counting book is filled with full-color photographs of animals together with poems that tell stories about them.
- Young, Ed. **What About Me?** Philomel, 2002. In this Sufi tale, a young boy follows the instructions of the Grand Master in the hope of gaining knowledge, only to be surprised as to how he acquires it.
- Zoehfeld, Kathleen Weidner. **Did Dinosaurs Have Feathers?** HarperCollins, 2004. This book discusses the discovery and analysis of Archaeopteryx, a feathered dinosaur, which may have been an ancestor of modern birds.
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HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 3 and Grade 4

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Adler, David A. **Joe Louis, America's Fighter**. Holiday House, 2005. When Joe Louis fought to win the World Heavyweight Championship against Nazi medalist Max Schmeling in 1938, he won an important victory not only for himself and for African-Americans, but also for all Americans.
- Asch, Frank. **Star Jumper: Journal of a Cardboard Genius**. Kids Can Press, 2006. Alex plans to leave planet Earth and his annoying little brother in Star Jumper – the spaceship he designed and built entirely of cardboard, duct tape, and old items from the basement.
- Atwater, Richard. **Mr. Popper's Penguins**. First published 1938. The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortune of Mr. Popper. Newbery Honor book.
- Avi. **Poppy's Return**. HarperCollins, 2005. In this ongoing Dimwood Forest adventure, Poppy travels to her childhood home to save the other mice there from destruction by a bulldozer. *Series*
- Barretta, Gene. **Now and Ben: the Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin**. Holt, 2006. The impact Benjamin Franklin's numerous inventions still have on our world today are recounted in an informative, entertaining picture book format.
- Bateman, Theresa. **Keeper of Soles**. Holiday House, 2006. A shoemaker repeatedly outwits a black-robed figure who knocks on the shoemaker's door and demands his soul.
- Birney, Betty. **Friendship According to Humphrey**. Putnam, 2005. When Humphrey the hamster returns to Mrs. Brisbane's class after the winter break, he finds a new class pet. *Series*
- Blume, Judy. **Double Fudge**. Dutton, 2002. His younger brother's obsession with money and the discovery of long-lost cousins, Flora and Fauna, provide many embarrassing moments for twelve-year-old Peter. *Series*
- Boniface, William. **The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy: the Hero Revealed**. HarperCollins, 2006. Ordinary Boy is the only person in Superopolis that doesn't have superpower, which definitely means trouble when he finds himself in the clutches of arch villain Professor Brain-Drain.
- Brown, Calef. **Flamingos on the Roof: Poems and Paintings**. Houghton, 2006. Vibrant paintings and zany poems combine to tickle the reader's imagination with such things as allicatter gatorpillars, snow flurry curry, and lightbulbs on a birthday cake.
- Brown, Don. **Odd Boy Out: Young Albert Einstein**. Houghton, 2004. Albert Einstein, a subject uncommon to young readers, is introduced in this picture book that portrays how his brilliance often caused him to be the odd boy in school and in life.
- Bunting, Eve. **Reggie**. Cricket, 2006. Eight-year-old Alex is determined to keep the toy mouse he finds tied to a balloon, even after posters appear asking for its return, but when his dog Patch disappears, Alex discovers what it is like to lose something you love more than anything.
- Butcher, Nancy. **It Can't Be Done, Nellie Bly! A Reporter's Race Around the World**. Peachtree, 2003. In this factual account, newspaper reporter, Nellie Bly, races another reporter to travel around the world in fewer than eighty days.

**HAI SLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 3 and Grade 4**

- Byars, Betsy. *The Black Tower*. Sleuth Viking, 2006. Herculeah Jones gets involved in another dangerous mystery. *Series*
- Byrd, Robert. *The Hero and the Minotaur*. Dutton, 2005. This re-telling follows the Greek hero Theseus as he overcomes challenges on the road, defeats the Minotaur, and becomes the wise and just ruler of Athens.
- Child, Lauren. *Clarice Bean Spells Trouble*. Candlewick Press, 2005. Spelling causes lots of trouble for Clarice. *Series*
- Child, Lauren. *The Princess and the Pea*. Hyperion, 2006. In this re-telling of the well-known fairy tale, a young girl feels a pea through twenty mattresses and twenty featherbeds and proves she is a real princess. The miniature castle illustrations distinguish this version.
- Cleary, Beverly. *Ribsy*. First published 1964. When Ribsy gets lost from his family at the shopping center, he begins humorous escapades and wanderings in his quest to find his family. *Series*
- Clements, Andrew. *Room One: A Mystery or Two*. Simon & Schuster, 2006. Ted Hammond works to solve the mystery of the face he sees in an upper window of an abandoned house while being concerned about the possibility of his one-room schoolhouse being forced to close for lack of enough pupils.
- Clements, Andrews. *A Million Dots*. Simon & Schuster, 2006. Illustrations and fun facts demonstrate what one million dots look like.
- Coombs, Kate. *The Secret-Keeper*. Atheneum, 2006. Kalli is entrusted with everyone's secrets until the potter's son reveals the best secret of all.
- Coren, Stanley. *Why Do Dogs Have Wet Noses?* Kids Can Press, 2006. Everything you want to know about how dogs think, talk, and see the world can be found in this short, illustrated book in a question and answer format.
- Coville, Bruce. *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher*. Jane Yolen Books, 1991. In the sequel to *The Monster's Ring*, Jeremy purchases a strange egg which turns out to be a dragon that only he and Mary Lou can see. *Series*
- Crowell, Cressida. *How to Speak Dragonese*. Little, Brown, 2005. Young Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III of the Tribe of the Hairy Hooligans must save his dragon, Toothless, and himself from an island dungeon, ruthless kidnappers, and a frenzy of hungry Sharkworms. *Series*
- Dahl, Roahl. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. First published 1964. Charlie finds the winning ticket in a Wonka Bar and is rewarded for his kindness.
- Davies, Nicola. *Extreme Animals: the Toughest Creatures on Earth*. Candlewick, 2006. This amazing natural history book reveals how animals adapt to and survive the harshest of conditions that would kill any human.
- DiSalvo, Dyanne. *The Sloppy Copy Stipup*. Holiday House, 2006. Brian has to think fast to salvage the situation when he has not done his sloppy copy writing assignment for the second time and faces another zero in Miss Fromme's class.
- Dooling, Michael. *Young Thomas Edison*. Holiday House, 2005. This short biography in picture book format chronicles the life of Thomas Edison and his many inventions.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Hanne's Quest*. Philomel, 2006. On an island off the coast of Scotland, a young hen must prove herself pure, wise and brave in a quest to help save the family farm.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 3 and Grade 4**

- Florian, Douglas. **Zoo's Who: Poems and Paintings.** Harcourt, 2005. Short poems and many illustrations combine in a tribute to favorite zoo animals.
- Friedman, Laurie and Tamara Schmitz. **In Business with Mallory.** Carolrhoda, 2006. Mallory learns a hard lesson when she starts a business in order to make enough money to buy the "perfect purse" that her parents have refused to buy for her. *Series*
- Gardiner, John R. **Stone Fox.** First published 1980. Willie hopes to win the purse in a dog sled race in order to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm.
- Giovanni, Nikki. **Rosa.** Holt, 2005. Beautiful illustrations enhance this account of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955. Caldecott Honor Medal 2006.
- Greenwald, Sheila. **Rosy Cole's Memoir Explosion.** Farrar, 2006. Rosy is surprised when her friends are not thrilled with her memoir project for school. *Series*
- Greenwood, Marie. **Explorer.** Dorling Kindersley, 2006. All types of explorers from the earliest world navigators to astronauts are introduced through colorful photographs and entertaining text.
- Grimes, Nikki. **Thanks a Million.** Greenwillow, 2006. The importance of being thankful and expressing our gratitude are demonstrated in sixteen different ways through poetry.
- Gutman, Dan. **The Homework Machine.** Simon & Schuster, 2006. When three classmates of 5<sup>th</sup> grade computer geek, Brandon, find out that he has invented a machine that does homework in his own handwriting, they all use it secretly to disastrous consequences.
- Haas, Jessie. **Jigsaw Pony.** Greenwillow, 2005. Twins Kiera and Fran have never agreed on anything until their father surprises them with a pony.
- Hamilton, Virginia. **The Girl Who Spun Gold.** Scholastic, 2000. This beautifully illustrated folk tale is a West Indian variant of the Rumpelstiltskin story.
- Hansen, Rosanna. **Panda: A Guide Horse for Ann.** Boyds Mills, 2005. In this photo essay, Panda, a miniature horse and guide animal for Ann, helps her in her daily life.
- Harris, John. **Strong Stuff: Herakles and his Labors.** J. Paul Getty Museum, 2005. Each of the twelve labors of the mythological "he-man", Hercules, is presented in humorous fashion in this fun picture book -- complete with commentary, comic book style illustrations, and all the gory details.
- Hatkoff, Isabella. **Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship.** Scholastic, 2006. Baby hippo Owen and 130-year-old giant tortoise Mzee bond and become unlikely, but fast friends at Haller Park in Kenya.
- Herzog, Brad. **T is for Touchdown: A Football Alphabet.** Sleeping Bear, 2004. Full-page colorful illustrations highlight an alphabetical introduction to both the nuts and bolts and history of football.
- Hobbs, Valerie. **Sheep.** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. A young border collie is sold when his sheep-ranching family falls on hard times, leading him to a series of new owners, new names, and a mixed-bag of new adventures.
- Holm, Jennifer. **Babymouse Beach Babe.** Random House, 2006. Clever black and white drawings, splashed with pink, tell a new story about the adventures of Babymouse and her little brother on summer vacation with her family. *Series*

**HAI SLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 3 and Grade 4**

Holt, Kimberly Willis. *Mister and Me*. Penguin, 1998. In a small Louisiana mill town in 1940, Jolene does not want her Momma to marry the logger who is courting her, but even her bad behavior does not drive him away.

Hopkins, Lee Bennett. *Oh, No! Where Are My Pants? And other Disasters: Poems*. HarperCollins, 2005. Poetry describing those "disaster days" when things go badly is sure to hit home with every reader.

Howe, James. *Bunnacula Meets Edgar Allan Crow*. Atheneum, 2006. An overly-alarmed Chester the cat predicts a gruesome fate for the pets in the Monroe household when a writer of juvenile horror fiction and his bird companion stay overnight. *Series*

Hurwitz, Johanna. *PeeWee's Tale*. SeaStar, 2000. Pee Wee is an extraordinary guinea pig who learns to read from the newspaper scraps in his cage and finds himself in New York City's Central Park where he needs survival skills. *Series*

Jenkins, Emily. *Toys Go Out: Being the Adventures of a Knowledgeable Stingray, a Toughy Little Buffalo, and Someone Called Plastic*. Schwarz & Wade, 2006. Six stories relate the adventures of three best friends, who happen to be toys.

Jenkins, Steve. *Prehistoric: Actual Size*. Houghton, 2005. Actual life-size illustrations show portions of prehistoric animals and give facts about them.

Keating, Frank. *Theodore*. Simon & Schuster, 2006. Told in first person and illustrated with full-page oil paintings, this short biography features the highlights of Teddy Roosevelt's life.

Kehret, Peg. *The Ghost's Grave*. Dutton, 2005. Apprehensive about spending the summer in Washington State with his Aunt Ethel when his parents get an overseas job, twelve-year-old Josh soon finds adventure when he meets the ghost of a coal miner.

King-Smith, Dick. *The Golden Goose*. Knopf, 2005. A golden goose seems to have magical powers which bring much good luck and joy to a farmer and his family.

Kline, Suzy. *Herbie Jones Moves On*. Putnam's, 2005. Readers will be surprised by the ending of this book as Herbie and his friend Raymond, whose family is moving, try to thwart the sale of Raymond's house. *Series*

Krull, Kathleen. *A Woman for President: The Story of Victoria Woodhull*. Walker, 2004. This is a picture biography about the first woman to own a newspaper, to address Congress, and to become the first female candidate for the presidency of the United States, all before American women won the right to vote.

Kudlinski, Kathleen. *Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs!* Dutton, 2005. Information is presented which examines how different the facts often are from what scientists have believed to be true.

Kurlansky, Mark. *The Story of Salt*. Putnam, 2006. This fascinating look at salt's essential role in human life examines its effect on various civilizations throughout history

Levine, Gail Carson. *Fairy Dust and the Quest for the Egg*. Disney, 2005. The fairy Prilla is on a quest to save Never Land despite her feelings of inadequacy and frustration over being a "no-talent fairy."

Lin, Grace. *The Year of the Dog*. Little, Brown, 2006. Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog to her own life.



HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 3 and Grade 4

- Look, Lenore. *Ruby Lu Empress of Everything*. Atheneum, 2006. Ruby Lu's life becomes challenging after her deaf cousin arrives from China.
- Lowry, Lois. *Gooney Bird and the Room Mother*. Houghton, 2005. In this second story about Gooney Bird Greene, the heroine saves the day by finding her class a surprise room mother. *Series*
- Lubar, David. *Punished!* Darby Creek, 2006. Because he was playing tag in the reference section of the library, Logan is punished by Professor Wordsworth, who puts a spell on him that is broken only by finding anagrams, palindromes, and oxymorons.
- MacLachlan, Patricia. *Grandfather's Dance*. Joanna Cutler Books, 2006. Cassie shares the love and comfort of family as the several generations of the Witting family gather for Anna's wedding in this conclusion to the popular *Sarah Plain and Tall* series. *Series*
- Mannis, Celeste. *Snapshots: The Wonders of Monterey Bay*. Viking, 2006. In fabulous double-page photographs, poetic verse, and informative text, the reader is introduced to the amazing Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary on California's coast.
- Markle, Sandra. *Outside and Inside Mummies*. Walker, 2005. This illustrated volume explores a variety of mummies and the new technologies developed to help study them.
- Markle, Sandra. *Little Lost Bat*. Charlesbridge, 2006. A baby Mexican free-tailed bat lives in a cave in Texas and manages to survive after losing its mother.
- Mayer, Marianna. *Pegasus*. Morrow Junior Books, 1998. Young hero Bellerophon and his legendary winged-horse Pegasus battle the fierce Chimera monster in this beautifully illustrated story from Greek mythology.
- McCully, Emily. *Marvelous Mattie: How Margaret E. Knight Became an Inventor*. Farrar, 2006. Margaret E. Knight's inventions ranged from foot warmers to the first paper bag machine and won her the title "Lady Edison".
- McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody Around the World in 8 ½ Days*. Candlewick, 2006. Judy Moody's new friendship causes problems with her old friends as they try to work together on a school project. *Series*
- McDonough, Yona. *Hammerin' Hank: The Life of Hank Greenberg*. Walker, 2006. This picture book biography of Hall of Fame baseball player Hank Greenberg has a winning combination of illustrations and text.
- Micklos, John. *No Boys Allowed: Poems About Brothers and Sisters*. Boyds Mill, 2006. This book of short poems celebrates the rivalry and the love between siblings.
- Mills, Claudia. *Perfectly Chelsea*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. Nine-year-old Chelsea's experiences, which include a fight with her best friend, making mistakes in the handbell concert, and saying goodbye to the only church minister she has ever known, help her to accept that things change and that people, including herself, are not perfect.
- Morpurgo, Michael. *McElderry Book of Aesop's Fables*. Simon & Schuster, 2004. Lively language enriches twenty-one favorite fables—perfect for reading aloud and sharing.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 3 and Grade 4**

Nagda, Ann Whitehead. *Meow Means Mischief*. Holiday House, 2003. A stray kitten turns out to be the perfect way to help Rana make friends in her new school and to feel more comfortable with her grandparents, who are visiting from India while her parents are away.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. *Roxie and the Hooligans*. Atheneum, 2006. Roxie Warbler, the niece of a famous explorer, follows Uncle Dangerfoot's advice on how to survive any crisis when she becomes stranded on an island with a gang of school bullies and a pair of murderous bank robbers.

Nicola-Lisa, W. *How We Are Smart*. Lee & Low, 2006. Famous people are smart in many different ways – eight to be exact according to the author.

Nolan, Lucy. *On the Road*. Marshall Cavendish, 2005. A dog who thinks her name is “Down Girl” goes on a car ride to the beach, goes camping in the woods, and reluctantly pays a visit to the vet with her master, “Rruff”. *Series*

Osborne, Mary Pope. *Pompeii Lost & Found*. Knopf, 2006. This fresco-illustrated book answers questions about the effect of the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius on the people of Pompeii, including Pompeian life before the disaster.

Pennypacker, Sara. *Clementine*. Hyperion, 2006. Free-spirited Clementine is an ingenuous third grader with a talent for disaster and a good heart.

Polacco, Patricia. *Something About Hensley's*. Philomel, 2006. Old John, the manager of Hensley's General Store, sells just about anything a person could want, but also freely supplies kindness and a helping hand to the townsfolk.

Pomerantz, Charlotte. *Thunderboom! Poems for Everyone*. Front Street, 2005. There is a poem for everyone in this diverse collection of poetry – some short, some long, some funny, some not.

Prelutsky, Jack. *What a Day it Was at School! Poems*. Greenwillow, 2006. Homework, backpacks and field trips are some of the topics that make this a fun poetry collection for students.

Rapport, Doreen. *Dirt on Their Skirts: the Story of the Young Women Who Won the World Championship*. Dial, 2000. Margaret experiences the excitement of watching the 1916 championship game of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball league.

Rosen, Michael J. *Balls! Darby Creek*, 2006. This illustrated book includes history, science, records, and some well-rounded trivia about some of your favorite sports balls.

Ryder, Joanne. *A Pair of Polar Bears: Twin Cubs Find a Home at the San Diego Zoo*. Simon & Schuster, 2006. In a factual, yet entertaining account, two orphaned polar bear cubs are rescued and flown to the San Diego Zoo where they find both safety and care in their new home.

Rylant, Cynthia. *The Journey: Stories of Migration*. Blue Sky, 2006. Six migratory animals from the insect, mammal, bird, and fish groups make incredible migrations from one habitat to another every year.

Scieszka, Jon. *Oh Say, I Can't See*. Penguin, 2005. Samantha, Joe, and Fred time warp to Revolutionary War days where they must convince George Washington and his men to cross the Delaware. *Series*

Shaughnessy, Dan. *The Legend of the Bambino*. Simon & Schuster, 2005. A dad tells his daughter about the legendary curve Babe Ruth put upon the Red Sox.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 3 and Grade 4**

- Simon, Seymour. **Horses**. HarperCollins, 2006. Horse-lovers will enjoy this book of photographs and accompanying text which provides interesting information about horses.
- Singh, Vandana. **Younguncle comes to Town**. Viking, 2006. Sarita, Ravi, and the baby enjoy Younguncle's fabulous stories and adventures in this chapter book set in India.
- St. George, Judith. **The Journey of the One and Only Declaration of Independence**. Philomel, 2006. The Declaration of Independence travels through time and space from one resting spot to the next in this chronicle of its path.
- Star, Fleur. **Rain Forest: Around the Clock with Animals of the Rain Forest**. Dorling Kindersley, 2006. With fascinating facts and elaborate photography, many rainforest animals are tracked over a twenty-four hour period.
- Stewart, Melissa. **A Place for Butterflies**. Peachtree, 2006. Using specific species of butterflies, the author effectively explains how the actions and inactions of humans affect the butterfly populations in the United States.
- Tang, Greg. **Math Potatoes**. Scholastic, 2005. Colorful rhymes and riddles help make math more accessible and fun.
- Truss, Lynne. **Eats, Shoots & Leaves : Why, Commas Really Do Make a Difference!** Putnam, 2006. Forgetting to include a comma or placing one in the wrong spot can completely change the meaning of a sentence – with hilarious consequences.
- Turner, Pamela S. **Hachiko: The True Story of a Loyal Dog**. Houghton, 2004. This is the true story of a dog who accompanied his master to and from a Tokyo train station for a year and, after his master died, continued to wait for him there every day for many years.
- Urbigkit, Cat. **Brave Dogs, Gentle Dogs: How They Guard Sheep**. Boyds Mills, 2005. Guardian dogs are trained to guard farm animals and protect them from outside dangers.
- Van Draanen, Wendelin. **Shredderman: Meet the Gecko**. Random House, 2005. Nolan, a true hero, helps his favorite TV hero outsmart a reporter who has been stalking him. *Series*
- Willey, Margaret. **Clever Beatrice and the Best Little Pony**. Atheneum, 2004. Clever Beatrice seeks out the village breadmaker to come up with a plan to protect her pony.
- Winthrop, Elizabeth. **The Castle in the Attic**. First published 1985. A miniature castle comes to life for ten-year-old William when he shrinks to fit into its adventures.
- Wisniewski, David. **The Secret Knowledge of Grown-ups: The Second File**. HarperCollins. 2001. Creative reasons behind rules made by grownups for children are laugh-out-loud funny.
- Yolen, Jane. **Mightier Than the Sword: World Folktales for Strong Boys**. Silver Whistle, 2003. A collection of 14 folktales from around the world demonstrates the triumph of brain over brawn and strength in compassion and kindness.
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**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 3 and Grade 4**

Compiled by:

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**HAI SLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 5**

*Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.*

Alexander, Lloyd. **Xanadu Adventure**. Dutton, 2005. Vesper Holly's adventures continue as she, her guardians, and their friends journey to Asia Minor in search of the ancient city of Troy, but fall into the trap of an old nemesis. Sequel to *The Gawgon and the Boy*

Allen, Thomas B. **George Washington, Spymaster: How the Americans Outspied the British and Won the Revolutionary War**. National Geographic, 2004. This illustrated biography of the Revolutionary War general and first President of the United States, George Washington, focuses on his use of spies to gather the intelligence that helped the colonies win the war.

Armstrong, Alan W. **Whittington**. Random House, 2005. Whittington, a feline descendant of Dick Whittington's famous cat of English folklore, appears at a rundown barnyard plagued by rats and restores harmony while telling his ancestor's story.

Avi. **Never Mind! : A Twin Novel**. HarperCollins, 2004. Twelve-year-old New York City twins Meg and Edward have nothing in common, so they are just as shocked as everyone else when Meg's hopes for popularity and Edward's mischievous schemes coincidentally collide in a hilarious showdown.

Balliett, Blue. **The Wright 3**. Scholastic, 2006. Spring semester at the Lab School in Hyde Park finds Petra and Calder drawn into another mystery when unexplainable accidents and ghostly happenings throw a spotlight on Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House, and it's up to the two junior sleuths to piece together the clues. Sequel to *Chasing Vermeer*.

Barron, T. A. **The Great Tree of Avalon: Child of the Dark Prophecy (Book One)**. Philomel, 2004. In accordance with prophecy, Avalon's existence is threatened in the year that stars stop shining and at the time when both the dark child and Merlin's heir are to be revealed. *Series*

Cheng, Andrea. **Shanghai Messenger**. Lee & Low, 2005. A free-verse novel about eleven-year-old Xiao Mei's visit with her extended family in China, where the Chinese-American girl not only finds many differences, but also the similarities that bind a family together.

Choldenko, Gennifer. **Al Capone Does My Shirts**. Putnam, 2004. A twelve-year old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935, when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister. Newbery Honor.

Codell, Esme Raji. **Sahara Special**. Hyperion, 2003. Struggling with school and her feelings since her father left, Sahara gets a fresh start with a new and unique teacher who supports her writing talents and the individuality of each of her classmates.

Corbett, Sue. **Free Baseball**. Dutton, 2006. Baseball is in eleven-year-old Felix Piloto's blood. His Cuban father plays professionally, but Felix knows little else about him. When he runs away to serve as a batboy for a professional baseball team, Felix ultimately discovers his father's story, as well as his love for his mother, a dog, and of course, the game.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 5**

Coville, Bruce. *William Shakespeare's Hamlet*. Dial, 2004. A simplified prose retelling of Shakespeare's play about the prince of Denmark who seeks revenge for his father's murder.

Creech, Sharon. *Heartbeat*. Joanna Cotler, 2004. Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.

DiCamillo, Kate. *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*. Candlewick, 2006. Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him and travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.

Dixon, Dougal. *The Future Is Wild*. Firefly Books, 2002. This companion book to the Animal Planet series uses a variety of scientific principles to imagine how life on planet Earth may evolve over the next 200 million years.

Frederick, Heather Vogel. *For Your Paws Only*. Simon & Schuster, 2005. In this "James Bond"-styled story, mice and humans save the world from rats.

Fleischman, Sid. *The Giant Rat of Sumatra, or, Pirates Galore*. Greenwillow, 2005. A cabin boy on a pirate ship finds himself in San Diego in 1846 as war breaks out between the United States and Mexico.

Florian, Douglas. *Omnibeasts*. Harcourt, 2004. In this treasure chest of wit and charm, the author weaves information into each poem, combining fun and fact. This collection of poems and art is selected from the author's whimsical, pun-filled previous books

George, Jean Craighead. *Charlie's Raven*. Dutton, 2004. Having heard from his Teton Sioux Indian friend that ravens can cure people, Charlie brings home a baby raven in hopes of helping his ailing grandfather, setting the stage for a learning experience that brings new life to everyone in his family.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Willow Run*. Random House, 2005. Set during World War II, eleven-year-old Meggie learns about different kinds of bravery from all of the people around her after moving with her parents to Willow Run, Michigan, where her father gets a job in the B-24 bomber-building factory.

Gutman, Dan. *Satch and Me: A Baseball Card Adventure*. HarperCollins, 2006. With his ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe takes Flip with him to find out whether Satchel Paige really was the fastest pitcher ever.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Just Ella*. Simon & Schuster, 1999. Fifteen-year old Ella finds that accepting Prince Charming's proposal ensnares her in such a suffocating tangle of palace rules and royal etiquette that she plots her escape.

Hale, Shannon. *The Goose Girl*. Bloomsbury, 2003. Princess Anidori, on her way to marry a prince she has never met, is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers.

## HASLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grade 5

- Halls, Kelly Milner. *Albino Animals*. Darby Creek, 2004. Profiles albino animals of several species, describing their unique features and the special challenges to survival they face. Also, includes human albinism.
- Hannigan, Katherine. *Ida B: ...And Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World*. Greenwillow, 2004. In Wisconsin, Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school.
- Hobbs, Will. *Jackie's Wild Seattle*. HarperCollins, 2003. Fourteen-year-old Shannon and her little brother, Cody, spend the summer with their uncle, helping at a wildlife rescue center named Jackie's Wild Seattle.
- Horvath, Polly. *The Pepins and Their Problems*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. The reader is invited to help solve the Pepin family's unusual problems, which include having a cow that creates lemonade rather than milk and having to cope with a competitive neighbor.
- Hunter, Erin. *Moonrise*. HarperCollins, 2005. As they journey home to warn their clans of the coming destruction, six cats, guided by StarClan's prophecy, meet an unfamiliar tribe of cats with their own set of beliefs and their own mysterious prophecy. *Series*
- Ibbotson, Eva. *Haunting of Granite Falls*. Penguin, 2005. When twelve-year old Alex's Scottish castle of Carra is sold, dismantled, and moved to Texas, the ghosts that raised him from a child have difficulty relocating.
- Jackson, Donna. *M. Hero Dogs: Courageous Canines in Action*. Little, Brown, 2003. Presents a variety of stories about working and rescue dogs, such as those involved in the work at the World Trade Center site after the disaster of September 11, 2001.
- Janezko, Paul B. *World Afire*. Candlewick, 2004. In this novel written as a collection of eyewitness poems, the excitement and anticipation of attending the circus on July 6, 1944 in Hartford, Connecticut, turns to horror when a fire engulfs the circus tent, killing nearly 180 people, mostly women and children.
- Karr, Kathleen. *Exiled: Memoirs of a Camel*. Marshall Cavendish, 2004. A first-person narrative from a camel's viewpoint about being sent from Egypt to serve in the United States Camel Corps, and life on the Mojave Desert before and during the Civil War.
- Kerley, Barbara. *Walt Whitman: Words for America*. Scholastic, 2004. A biography of the American poet whose compassion led him to nurse soldiers during the Civil War, to give voice to the nation's grief after Lincoln's assassination, and to capture the true American spirit in verse.
- Konigsberg, E.L. *The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place*. Atheneum, 2004. Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her grand uncles have been building in their back yard for over forty years.



**HASLBN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 5**

- Koppes, Steven N. ***Killer Rocks from Outer Space: Asteroids, Comets, and Meteorites.*** Lerner, 2004. Describes the role that collisions with meteors, comets, and asteroids have played in the history of Earth and other planets in the solar system and examines what is being done to protect Earth from future collisions.
- Kraske, Robert. ***Marooned: The Strange but True Adventures of Alexander Selkirk, the Real Robinson Crusoe.*** Clarion, 2005. Presents the story of Scottish mariner Alexander Selkirk and his experiences while marooned on a South Pacific island for four years.
- Lasky, Kathryn. ***The Man Who Made Time Travel.*** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Describes the need for sailors to be able to determine their position at sea and the efforts of John Harrison, an eighteenth-century man who spent his life refining instruments to enable them to do this.
- Montgomery, Sy. ***The Tarantula Scientist.*** Houghton Mifflin 2004. Describes the research that Samuel Marshall and his students are doing on tarantulas, including the largest spider on earth, the Goliath bird-eating tarantula.
- Morgan, Clay. ***The Boy Who Spoke Dog.*** Penguin, 2005. After being marooned on an island near New Zealand, Jack, an orphaned cabin boy from San Francisco, becomes allied with a group of dogs that protect the local sheep from wild dogs.
- Napoli, Donna Jo. ***The King of Mulberry Street.*** Wendy Lamb, 2005. When nine-year-old Beniamino, a Jewish boy from Naples, is smuggled onto a ship, he assumes his mother is also on the ship. When he ends up alone in New York, he has to deal with his fear and sadness on the one hand and figure out how to get food and shelter on the other. Told in the first person, he tells the story of his fear and courage as he makes his way in the new world.
- Peck, Richard. ***Fair Weather.*** Dial, 2001. In 1893 thirteen-year-old Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe and attend the World's Columbian Exposition which, along with an encounter with Buffalo Bill and Lillian Russell, turns out to be a life-changing experience for everyone.
- Riordan, Rick. ***The Sea of Monsters.*** Hyperion, 2006. Percy is back and this time to rescue Camp Half Blood from certain disappearance by retrieving the Golden Fleece from an island in the Sea of Monsters, known today as the Bermuda Triangle. Sequel to *The Lightning Thief*.
- Roberts, Willo Davis. ***Hostage.*** Simon & Schuster, 2001. When eleven-year-old Kaci interrupts burglars in the process of robbing her house, she and her nosy elderly neighbor Mrs. Banducci are kidnapped and held hostage by the desperate and ruthless criminals.
- Springer, Nancy. ***Rowan Hood Returns: The Final Chapter.*** Philomel, 2005. When she finds out who murdered her mother, Celandine, Rowan Hood returns to her former home to seek revenge.
- Stewart, Paul. ***Beyond the Deepwoods.*** Random House, 2004. Thirteen-year old Twig, having always looked and felt different from his woodtroll family, learns that he is adopted and travels out of his Deepwoods home to find the place where he belongs. *Series*

**HASLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 5**

Stone, Jeff. **Tiger**. Random House, 2005. Five young warrior monk brothers survive an insurrection and must use the ancient martial arts to avenge their grandmaster. *Five Ancestors* Series: Book One.

Townley, Roderick. **The Great Good Thing**. Atheneum, 2001. Nothing ever changes inside the storybook kingdom inhabited by twelve-year-old Princess Sylvie, her parents, and many other characters until Sylvie discovers that by allying herself with the Reader she can experience new adventures beyond the confines of the book. Sequel is *Into the Labyrinth: A Novel*.

Walker, Alice. **Langston Hughes, American Poet**. HarperCollins, 2002. An illustrated biography of the Harlem poet whose works gave voice to the joy and pain of the black experience in America.

White, Ruth. **Buttermilk Hill**. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. When her parents divorce and gradually begin to make new lives for themselves, Piper faces the difficult changes by finding solace and a means of self-expression through her poetry.

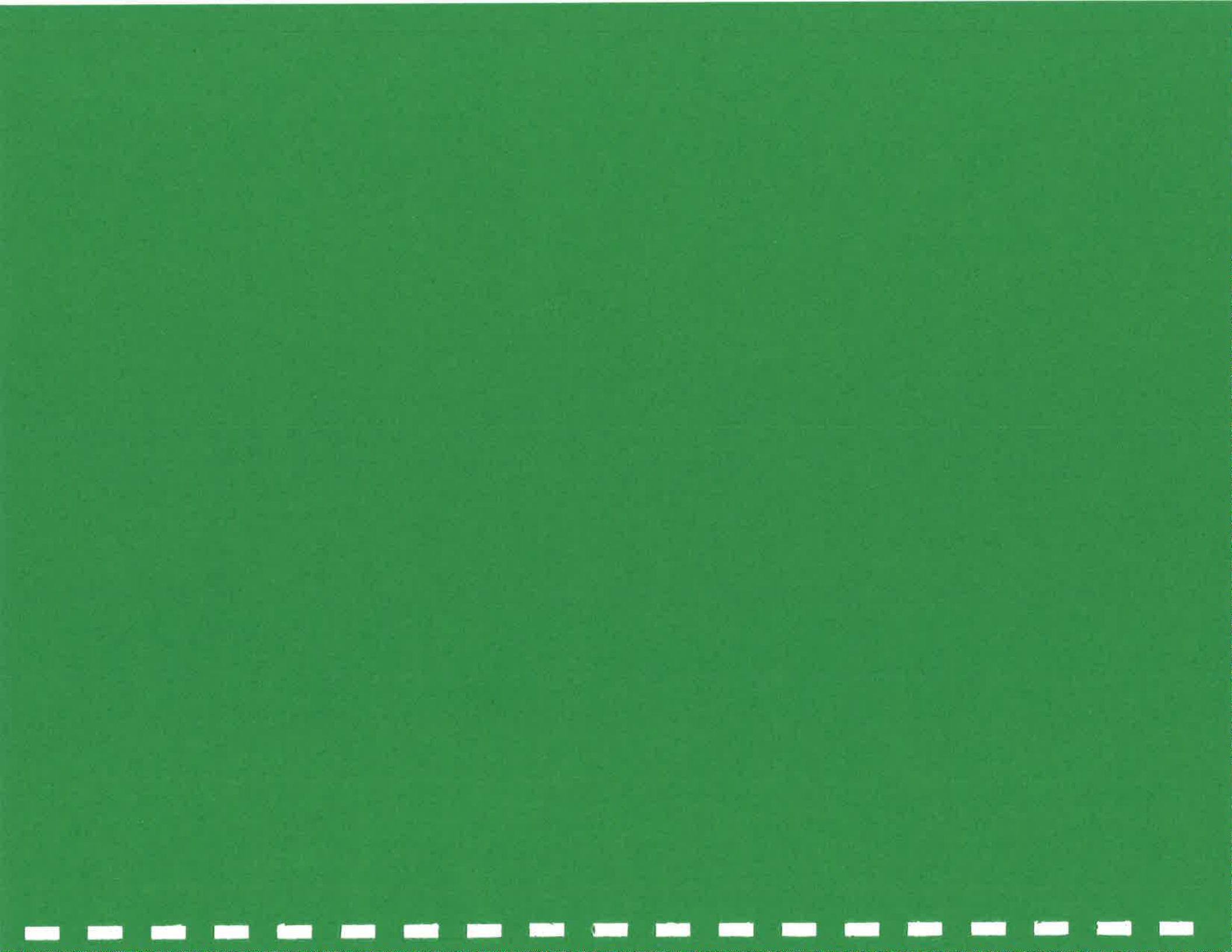
Wiles, Deborah. **Each Little Bird that Sings**. Harcourt, 2005. Comfort Snowberger is well acquainted with death since her family runs the funeral parlor in their small southern town, but even so, the ten-year-old is unprepared for the series of heart-wrenching events triggered by the sudden death of her beloved Great-uncle Edisto.

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Compiled by:

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**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 6**

*Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.*

Abouzeid, Chris. **Anatopsis**. Dutton, 2006. Immortal Princess Anatopsis's new tutor, the demi-god Mr. Pound, is searching for a relic that grants unlimited power to its bearer. It is up to Ana—with the help of a surprising gift, a rebel mortal army, a shockingly powerful metal, and the last dog in the Universe—to stop his evil plan in this fantasy, influenced by Greek mythology.

Allen, Thomas B. **Harriet Tubman, Secret Agent: How Daring Slaves and Free Blacks Spied for the Union During the Civil War**. National Geographic, 2006. Tells the story of Harriet Tubman and other slaves and free African-Americans who risked death to gather information about the Confederacy for the Union during the Civil War.

Allison, Jennifer. **Gilda Joyce**. Dutton, 2005. During the summer before ninth grade, intrepid Gilda Joyce invites herself to the San Francisco mansion of distant cousin Lester Splinter and his thirteen-year-old daughter, where she uses her purported psychic abilities and detective skills to solve the mystery of the mansion's boarded-up tower.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Fever, 1793**. Simon & Schuster, 2000. In 1793, Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, who is separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

Avi. **The Book Without Words: A Fable of Medieval Magic**. Hyperion, 2005. Sybil is a servant girl working for Thorston, an alchemist, who has spent his life trying to figure out the secret to immortality, which can be found in The Book without Words. Just as he is about to succeed, he drops dead, leaving Sybil and Odo, a talking raven, to reap the rewards of his work.

Ayres, Katherine. **Macaroni Boy**. Delacorte, 2003. In Pittsburgh, in 1933, sixth-grader Mike Costa notices a connection between several strange occurrences, but the only way he can find out the truth about what's happening is to be nice to the class bully.

Barry, Dave. **Peter and the Starcatchers**. Hyperion, 2004. Peter, an orphan boy, and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep a secret trunk full of "starstuff" from falling into the hands of the diabolical Black Stache and his evil associate Mister Grin.

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks, A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy**. Knopf, 2005. Four lovable sisters and their father spend their summer vacation in the Berkshire Mountains. While there, they share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of their snobbish mother.

Collins, Suzanne. **Gregor and the Curse of the Warmbloods**. Scholastic, 2005. Eleven-year-old Gregor and his younger sister, Boots, return to the Underworld beneath New York City to find the cure for a terrible plague that threatens the life of their mother, as well as that of the people, bats, and rats who populate the Underworld. *Series*

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007

### Grade 6

Cooper, Susan. **Victory**. McElderry, 2006. Molly, upset by her family's move from London to the U.S., is strangely drawn to an old book about the life of Admiral Lord Nelson, and soon finds her life intertwined with that of Sam, a boy her age who served with Nelson aboard the HMS "Victory" a century earlier.

Crossman, David A. **The Mystery of the Black Moriah**. Down East Books, 2002. Bean and Ab are looking forward to a relaxing vacation after their last case nearly got them killed, but when Spooky turns up some strange things on the banks of Indian Creek and some unusual characters come to stay, it becomes evident that the summer's adventures are far from over. *Series*

Curlee, Lynn. **Seven Wonders of the Ancient World**. Atheneum, 2002. This book explores the mystery and wonder associated with the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Colossus of Rhodes, the Great Pyramid at Giza, and other incredible structures from ancient times.

Cushman, Karen. **Rodzina**. Clarion, 2003. A twelve-year-old Polish American girl is boarded onto an orphan train in Chicago with fears about traveling to the West and a life of unpaid slavery.

Dahl, Roald. **Vile Verses**. Viking, 2005. Presents a collection of rhyming verses and poems by popular children's author Roald Dahl.

Feiler, Bruce, **Walking the Bible**. HarperCollins, 2004. An illustrated journey for kids through the greatest stories ever told. The author describes his journey through places mentioned in the Old Testament.

Fleischman, Sid. **Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini**. Greenwillow, 2006. Born Ehrich Weiss into a poor and struggling family, Harry Houdini sought out fame and went on to perform some of the world's most astonishing magic tricks. Houdini's is a classic rags to riches story with plenty of personality to spare.

Funke, Cornelia Caroline. **Inkspell**. Scholastic, 2005. In this sequel to *Inkheart*, Meggie finds herself more and more drawn to the world of the book *Inkheart*, and longs to go there. She gets a chance when the fire-eater's apprentice, Faird, comes to her with a request to read him into the story using the script written by a mysterious man named Orpheus.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **Double Identity**. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Thirteen-year-old Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight with no explanation, leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself and her family.

Hiaasen, Carl. **Flush**. Knopf, 2005. With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.

Ibbotson, Eva. **Journey to the River Sea**. Dutton, 2001. Sent with her governess to live with the dreadful Carter family in exotic Brazil in 1910, Maia endures many hardships before fulfilling her dream of exploring the Amazon River.

**HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 6**

Johnson, Angela. **Bird**. Dial, 2004. Devastated by the loss of a second father, thirteen-year-old Bird follows her stepfather from Cleveland to Alabama in hopes of convincing him to come home, and along the way helps two boys cope with their difficulties.

Kadohata, Cynthia. **Kira-Kira**. Atheneum, 2004. This is the story of a close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill. Newbery Medal

Ketchum, Lisa. **Into a New Country: Eight Remarkable Women of the West**. Little, Brown, 2000. Born into different cultures and backgrounds, each of these eight women challenged the rules and broke the barriers set down for women of their time. Their extraordinary lives offer inspiring examples of courage and determination.

Lawrence, Caroline. **The Pirates of Pompeii**. Roaring Brook Press, 2003. At a refugee camp following the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius which buried Pompeii, Flavia and her friends discover that children are disappearing and a very powerful citizen might be involved.

Lester, Julius. **Day of Tears**. Hyperion, 2005. This powerful and engaging historical novel is told in dialogue and through monologues by various fictional characters as they look back at the largest slave auction in United States history. Coretta Scott King Award

Levine, Ellen. **Catch a Tiger by the Toe**. Viking, 2005. In the Bronx, New York, during the McCarthy era, twelve-year old Jamie keeps a terrible secret about her family, but when the truth is exposed, her parents lose their jobs and she is fired from the school newspaper.

Matthews, L. S. **Fish**. Delacorte, 2004. As fighting closes in on the village where Tiger's parents have been working, the three of them and a mysterious guide set out on a difficult journey to safety.

McCaughrean, Geraldine (retold by). **Odysseus**. Cricket, 2004. Odysseus begins his long journey home after years of fighting during the Trojan War, but he and his men encounter monsters and ghastly creatures, are imprisoned, and face raging seas that threaten their safe return.

McKay, Hilary. **Saffy's Angel**. Margaret K. McElderry, 2002. Thirteen-year-old Saffron's relationship with her eccentric, artistic family changes when she finds out she was adopted, until they help her return to her birthplace in Italy to bring back a special memento of her past.

McMullen, Margaret. **How I Found the Strong: A Civil War Story**. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. Frank Russell, known as Shanks, wishes he could have gone with his father and brother to fight for Mississippi and the Confederacy, but his experiences with the war and his changing relationship with the family slave, Buck, change his thinking.

Meltzer, Milton. **Ten Kings: And the Worlds They Ruled**. Orchard, 2002. Presents illustrated profiles of ten legendary kings who used their power to change the course of history, including Hammurabi, King David, Kublai Khan, and others.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 6**

Murphy, Jim. ***A Young Patriot: The American Revolution As Experienced By One Boy***. Clarion, 1995. Joseph Plumb Martin, who enlisted in the summer of 1776 at the age of fifteen, details key battles and the life of a soldier during the American Revolution in this memoir retold by Jim Murphy.

Myers, Walter Dean. ***The Greatest: Muhammad Ali***. Scholastic, 2001. A biography of one of the world's greatest boxers chronicles his childhood, his rise as a champion, his politics, and his battle against Parkinson's disease.

Napoli, Donna Jo. ***Bound***. Atheneum, 2004. In a novel based on Chinese Cinderella tales, fourteen-year-old stepchild Xing-Xing endures a life of neglect and servitude, as her stepmother cruelly mutilates her own child's feet so that she alone might marry well.

Nelson, Marilyn. ***Carver: A Life in Poems***. Front Street, 2001. A collection of poems provides a portrait of the life of African-American botanist and inventor George Washington Carver.

Nye, Naomi Shihab, ed. ***Is This Forever or What?: Poems and Paintings from Texas***. Greenwillow, 2004. Full-color artwork accompanies a collection of poems by 140 Texans.

Paolini, Christopher. ***Eldest***. Random House, 2005. In this sequel to *Eragon*, our hero successfully evades an Urgals ambush and is adopted into the Ingeitum clan, then sent to finish his training so he can further help the Varden in their struggle against the Empire.

Papademetriou, Lisa. ***Sixth Grade Glommers, Norks, and Me***. Hyperion, 2005. Allie Kimball discovers that middle school is a very different place than fifth grade and struggles to learn ways to fit in.

Peck, Richard. ***The Teacher's Funeral: A Comedy in Three Parts***. Dial, 2004. In rural Indiana in 1904, fifteen-year-old Russell's dreams of quitting school and joining a wheat threshing crew are disrupted when mean old Myrt Arbuckle "hauls off and dies" and Russell's older sister takes over the teaching at his one-room schoolhouse.

Pierce, Tamora. ***Shatterglass***. Scholastic, 2003. Tris and her mage-student, a young man whose glassmaking magic has been amplified and mixed with lightning, team up to track a killer who may be nearer than they suspect. Book four in *The Circle Opens* series.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. ***Becoming Naomi Leon***. Scholastic, 2004. When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

Sandler, Martin W. ***Trapped in Ice***. Scholastic, 2006. Thirty-two whaling ships find themselves trapped in Arctic ice. As an early winter descended in the fall of 1871, the story reveals the painful decision to abandon the ships and the harrowing escape to safety. Amazingly, all 1, 219 people survived.

**HAIJSLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 6**

Sidman, Joyce. ***Eureka! : Poems about Inventors***. Millbrook, 2002. In sixteen poems, the lives about famous and relatively unknown inventors from ancient times to the present are told from the inventor's point of view.

Skye, Obert. ***Leven Thumps and the Gateway to Foo***. Shadow Mountain, 2005. Fate brings fourteen-year-old Leven Thumps and thirteen-year-old Winter together, as they discover that, for mankind to continue dreaming, the gateway between reality and the land of dreams and hopes must be found and demolished.

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley. ***The Unseen***. Delacorte, 2004. Feeling angry and out of place in her large family, twelve-year-old Xandra finds a magical key to a world of ghostly, sometimes frightening, phantoms that help her see herself and her siblings more clearly.

Stauffacher, Sue. ***Harry Sue***. Yearling, 2005. Although tough-talking Harry Sue would like to start a life of crime in order to be "sent up" and find her incarcerated mother, she must first protect the children at her neglectful grandmother's home day care center and befriend a paralyzed boy.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. ***Swear to Howdy***. Knopf, 2003. Two thirteen-year-old boys share neighborhood adventures, complaints about their older sisters, family secrets, and even guilt that bind them together in a special friendship.

Velmans, Hester. ***Isabel of the Whales***. Delacorte, 2005. On a whale watch trip with her class off the coast of Cape Cod, Isabel, who has always had an affinity for whales, falls overboard and discovers as she finds herself swimming underwater with whales all around her that she is one of the Chosen who can change shape from human to whale and back again.

Warren, Andrea. ***Escape from Saigon: How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy***. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. Chronicles the experiences of an orphaned half-Vietnamese, half-American boy from his birth and early childhood in Saigon, through his departure from Vietnam in the 1975 Operation Babylift, and his subsequent life as the adopted son of an American family in Ohio.

Whelan, Gloria. ***Chu Ju's House***. HarperCollins, 2004. In order to save her baby sister, fourteen-year-old Chu Ju leaves her rural home in modern China and earns food and shelter by working on a sampan, tending silk worms, and planting rice seedlings, all the while wondering if she will ever see her family again.

White, Andrea. ***Surviving Antarctica***. HarperCollins, 2005. In the year 2083, five fourteen-year-olds, deprived by chance of the opportunity to continue their educations, reenact Scott's 1910-1913 expedition to the South Pole as contestants on a reality television show.

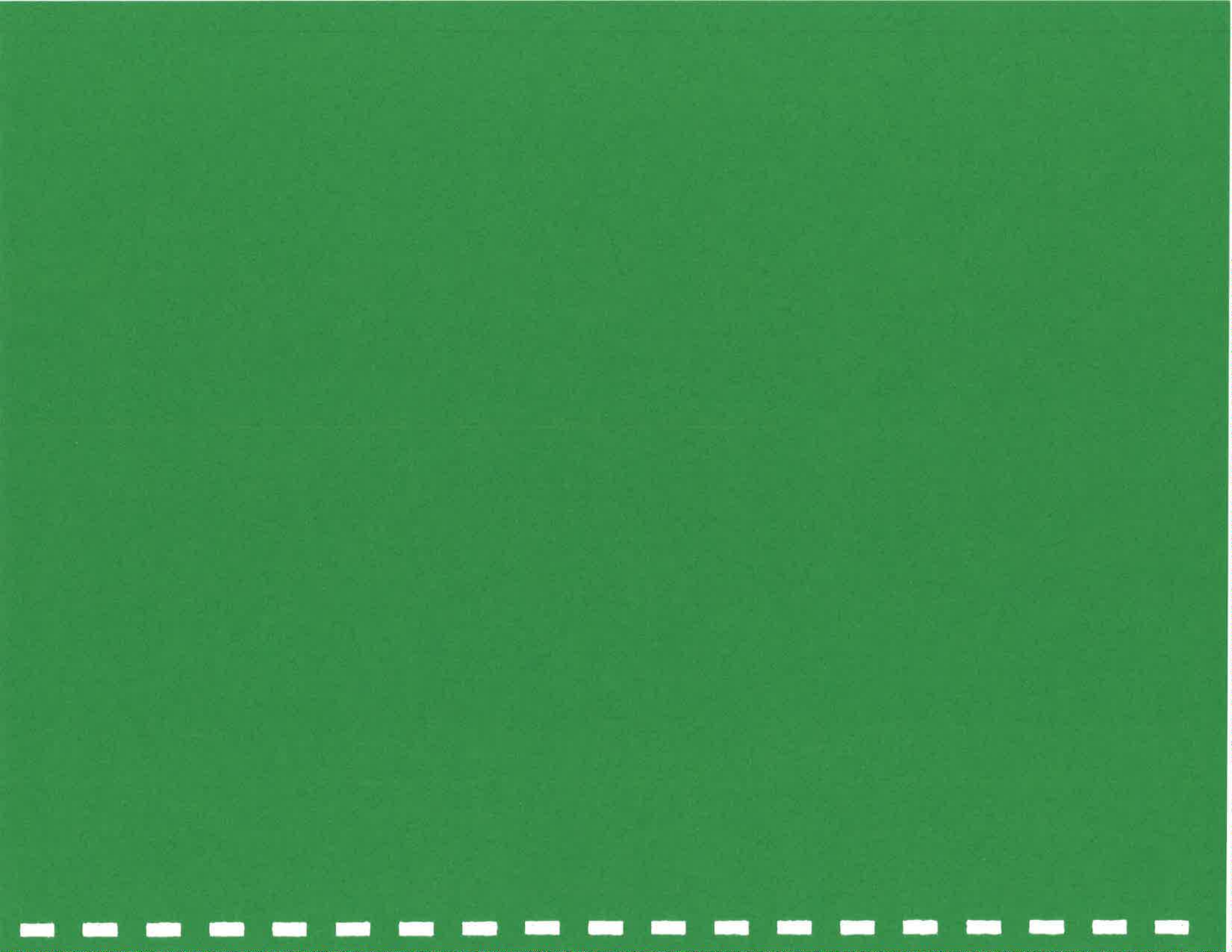
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Compiled by:

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HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 7 and Grade 8

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

Abrahams, Peter. **Down the Rabbit Hole: An Echo Falls Mystery.** Laura Geringer, 2005. Eighth grader Ingrid Levin-Hill idolizes Sherlock Holmes, so it is not surprising when, stumbling across a murder, she opts to keep what she knows a secret and tries to solve the crime herself. Series

Ahmedi, Farah with Tamin Ansary. **The Story of My Life: An Afghan Girl on the Other Side of the Sky.** Simon Spotlight, 2005. Farah Ahmedi, a victim of a land mine at twelve, tells of her childhood before and during the Taliban rule in Afghanistan, and how she and her mother coped after coming to America.

Bauer, Joan. **Best Foot Forward.** Putnam, 2005. This book continues the story from *Rules of the Road*, about Jenna, Gladstone Shoes salesman extraordinaire, and her many personal and business challenges, who is now faced with unscrupulous business partners.

Bell, Hilari. **A Matter of Profit.** HarperCollins, 2001. Sick of the horrors of conquering beings on other planets, Ahvrem will end his service as a soldier and save his sister from an unhappy marriage if he can discover who is behind a rumored plot to assassinate the Emperor.

Blackwood, Gary. **The Shakespeare Stealer.** Dutton, 1998. A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of *Hamlet*.

Bloor, Edward. **Tangerine.** Harcourt, 1997. Twelve-year-old Paul's family revolves around his football-hero brother, failing to notice as Paul fights for the right to play soccer when disqualified by his bad eyesight.

Bradley, James; adapted for young people by Michael French. **Flags of our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima.** Delacorte, 2001. James Bradley examines the lives of the six young men (one of them Bradley's father) who raised the American flag over Iwo Jima in February 1945 and were immortalized by a famous photograph.

Broach, Elise. **Shakespeare's Secret.** Holt, 2005. Hero, named after the character in a Shakespeare play, moves into a new home and suddenly finds a connection between Shakespeare, her new home, and a diamond hidden in the house, with the help of a neighbor and a popular boy from school.

Bruchac, Joseph. **Code Talker.** Dial, 2005. At the age of six, Ned Begay must leave his Navajo home to learn English and later become a U.S. Marine during World War II.

Budhos, Marina. **Ask Me No Questions.** Atheneum, 2006. After September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, Nadira's Bangladesh family members, living in New York City, become extremely anxious when their visas expire, leading to a series of actions and reactions that bring terror and sorrow.

Cabot, Meg. **All-American Girl.** HarperCollins, 2002. Sophomore Samantha Madison stops a presidential assassination attempt, is appointed teen ambassador to the United Nations, and catches the eye of the very cute First Son.

**HAI SLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

Cadnum, Michael. **Ship of Fire**. Viking Penguin, 2003. In 1587, sailing to Spain onboard Sir Francis Drake's ship "Elizabeth Bonaventure," seventeen-year-old surgeon's apprentice Thomas Spyre finds that, with the sudden death of his master, he must take over as ship's surgeon and prove his skill not only as a doctor but also as a fighter when he is enlisted by Drake to face battle.

Carbone, Elisa. **Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607**. Viking, 2006. Samuel Collier comes to the New World as Captain John Smith's page. His experiences in the founding of Jamestown and the evolving relationship with the Algonquin tribes nearby, make for a fascinating book with many details culled from first-hand accounts.

Card, Orson Scott. **Ender's Game**. First published 1984. Andrew "Ender" Wiggins, who spends his childhood at military school in outer space, believes he is playing computer-simulated war games; in fact, he is commanding the last great fleet of Earth. *Series* Hugo Award; Nebula Award

Christie, Agatha. **A Pocket Full of Rye**. First published 1953. The wealthy Rex Fortescue falls dead at a normal tea shortly after partaking of the fare, and when the only clue is rye in his pocket, Miss Marple uses the old nursery rhyme "Sing a Song of Sixpence" to help solve the murder.

Colfer, Eoin. **Supernaturalist**. Hyperion, 2004. In the futuristic Satellite City, Cosmo Hill escapes from an orphanage, teams up with three other teens, and tries to determine the nature of swarming blue creatures that no one else seems to be able to see.

Cooper, Michael. **Dust to Eat: Drought and Depression in the 1930s**. Clarion, 2004. Using photographs and literary quotations to highlight the text, Michael Cooper focuses on the conditions of the people terribly affected by first the Great Depression, and then the Dust Bowl of the 1930's.

Cooney, Caroline. **Code Orange**. Delacorte, 2005. While conducting research for a school paper on smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope containing 100-year-old smallpox scabs and becomes the target of terrorists intent on starting a modern-day plague.

Crossley-Holland, Kevin. **The Seeing Stone**. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2001. During the late twelfth century, thirteen-year-old Arthur enjoys looking at the legendary King Arthur through his seeing stone, a gift from Merlin, and notices the parallels with his own life. *First in Arthur Trilogy*.

Crowe, Chris. **The Mississippi Trial, 1955**. Putnam Penguin, 2002. In Mississippi in 1955, a sixteen-year-old finds himself at odds with his grandfather over issues surrounding the kidnapping and murder of a fourteen-year-old African-American from Chicago.

Cummings, Priscilla. **Red Kayak**. Dutton, 2004. Living near the water on Maryland's Eastern Shore, thirteen-year-old Brady and his best friends J.T. and Digger become entangled in a tragedy which tests their friendship and their ideas about right and wrong.

Deuker, Carl. **High Heat**. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. When sophomore Shane Hunter's father is arrested for money laundering at his Lexus dealership, the star pitcher's life of affluence and private schools begins to fall apart.

**HASLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

- Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan. *Sign of the Four*. First published 1890. Sherlock Holmes is asked by a Miss Morstan to investigate the strange disappearance of her father ten years prior, and learn why she has been receiving a beautiful and very large pearl for her birthday every year since!
- Ellis, Deborah. *Parvana's Journey*. Groundwood, 2002. Parvana buries her father and sets out across Afghanistan, dressed as a boy to protect against attacks from the Taliban, determined to find her mother and the rest of her family.
- Farmer, Nancy. *House of the Scorpion*. Atheneum, 2002. In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.
- Feinstein, John. *Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery*. Knopf, 2005. Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson, eighth grade sports writers, uncover a blackmail mystery while covering the Final Four College Basketball Tournament. *Series*
- Fields, Terri. *After the Death of Anna Gonzalez*. Holt, 2002. Poems written in the voices of forty-seven people (including students, teachers, and other school staff) record the aftermath of a high school student's suicide and the preoccupations of teen life.
- Fletcher, Susan. *Shadow Spinner*. Atheneum, 1998. When Marjan, a thirteen-year-old crippled girl, joins the Sultan's harem in ancient Persia, she gathers for Scheherazade the stories which will save the queen's life.
- Fleischman, Paul. *Whirligig*. Holt, 1998. Brian travels to the four corners of the US to build a whirligig in memory of a girl he killed while he was driving drunk.
- Fox, Helen. *Eager*. Wendy Lamb, 2004. Eager, the Bell family's new robot, is very different from all the other new robots in that it does learn from its experiences and it looks like the Michelin Man instead of all the sleek, but somewhat sinister robots that seem to be taking over.
- Frank, Mitch. *Understanding the Holy Land: Answering Questions about the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Viking, 2005. Using basic questions and answers, the current conflict is explained in a balanced, organized, and understandable approach ending with some hopeful ways teens can add peace to their own lives.
- Gallo, Donald. *First Crossing: Stories about Teen Immigrants*. Candlewick, 2004. This collection of short fictional stories explores the extreme challenges faced by many teen immigrants to America. Contributors are prominent authors of young-adult literature such as Pam Muñoz Ryan, Lindsey Namioka, David Lubar, and Elsa Marston.
- Gardner, Sally. *I, Coriander*. Dial, 2005. Coriander, a seventeenth century Londoner, finds herself friendless after her mother dies and her father leaves her to her Puritanical stepmother - - or is she really a fairy like her mother?
- Grandits, John. *Technically it's not my fault: Concrete Poems*. Clarion, 2004. This is a collection of poems in which the words and the artistry of their placement on the page portray the life of an 11-year-old boy.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

- Hale, Shannon. *Princess Academy*. Bloomsbury, 2005. The king's priests divine that the prince must choose his bride from among the young girls who live in a small mountain village, so the girls are ordered to attend a special academy established to train them in the ways of royalty. When bandits attempt to kidnap and hold the future princess for ransom, Miri, one of the mountain girls, realizes that she can mindpeak and saves herself and the others from harm. Newbery Honor 2006
- Hobbs, Will. *Wild Man Island*. HarperCollins, 2002. After fourteen-year-old Andy slips away from his kayaking group to visit the wilderness site of his archaeologist father's death, a storm strands him on Admiralty Island, Alaska, where he manages to survive, encounters unexpected animal and human inhabitants, and looks for traces of the earliest prehistoric immigrants to America.
- Holt, Kimberly Willis. *Keeper of the Night*. Holt, 2003. Thirteen-year-old Isabel and her family, living on the island of Guam, try to cope with the death of Isabel's mother who committed suicide.
- Horowitz, Anthony. *Stormbreaker*. Puffin, 2000. When his uncle dies, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is asked to continue in his uncle's footsteps—as a spy for the British intelligence agency. *Series*
- Hughes, Dean. *Soldier Boys*. Atheneum, 2001. Two boys, one German and one American, eager to join their respective armies during World War II, cross paths at the Battle of the Bulge.
- Jacques, Brian. *Triss*. Philomel, 2002. Triss, Shogg, and Welfo escape from slavery at Riftgard and are pursued across the sea toward Redwall by Princess Kurdah, Prince Bladd, and a band of freebooters who seek the rumored treasure of Brockhall. *Series*
- Kerr, P.B. *The Akhenaten Adventure*. Orchard, 2004. Can John and Philippa Gaunt, 12-year-old twins who have just discovered they are from a long line of djinn, be strong, skilled, and clever enough to outwit the most evil djinn in the universe? *Series*
- Klass, David. *Danger Zone*. Scholastic, 1996. When he joins a predominantly black "Teen Dream Team" that will be representing the United States in an international basketball tournament in Rome, Jimmy Doyle makes some unexpected discoveries about prejudice, racism, and politics.
- Konigsburg, E. L. *Silent to the Bone*. Atheneum, 2000. When he is wrongly accused of gravely injuring his baby half-sister, thirteen-year-old Branwell loses his power of speech and only his friend Connor is able to reach him and uncover the truth about what really happened.
- Koss, Amy Goldman. *The Girls*. Dial, 2000. Individually the girls are proud to be part of the "in" clique, but some of them question the benefits of belonging to the group when they see through the charming, but manipulative, leader.
- Lawrence, Iain. *B for Buster*. Delacorte, 2004. Sixteen-year-old Kak, escaping his tyrannical parents, lies about his age and enlists in the Canadian Royal Air Force and soon finds himself based in England flying bombing raids over Germany.
- LeGuin, Ursula. *The Wizard of Earthsea*. First published 1968. After pride causes him to unleash a demon, Zed is compelled to chase or escape from the ever-pursuing shadow. *Earthsea Trilogy*

**HAI SLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

Levine, Gail Carson. **Fairest**. HarperCollins, 2006. Aza, who is *not* the fairest, is valued for her beautiful singing voice in this fairy tale that include gnomes, magic mirrors, and a bumbling good fairy, Lucinda.

Littman, Sarah Darer. **Confessions of a Closet Catholic**. Dutton, 2005. Eleven-year-old Justine Silver has given up being Jewish for Lent. A series of events leads Justine to find faith in the most important place—herself.

London, Jack. **The Call of the Wild**. First published 1931. Set during the Gold Rush, this is the story of Buck, a dog stolen from his home and transported to Alaska where he must survive in a pack of wolves.

Lupica, Mike. **Heat**. Philomel, 2006. Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old; and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Martin, Ann M. **A Corner of the Universe**. Scholastic, 2002. The summer Hattii turns twelve she meets Adam, a childlike uncle she never knew existed, who lifts the corners of her universe. Newbery Honor

Mazer, Harry. **Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor**. Simon & Schuster, 2001. While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and, through the chaos of the subsequent days, tries to find his father, a naval officer serving on the U.S.S. Arizona.

McKinley, Robin. **Spindle's End**. Putnam, 2000. The infant princess Briar Rose is cursed on her name day by Pernicia, an evil fairy, and then whisked away by a young fairy to be raised in a remote part of a magical country, unaware of her real identity and hidden from Pernicia's vengeful powers.

Meyers, Ann. **Assassin**. Walker & Co., 2005. In alternating chapters, a young White House seamstress named Bella and the actor, John Wilkes Booth, give personal accounts of the days and events leading up to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

Miklowitz, Gloria. **Secrets in the House of Delgado**. Eerdmans, 2001. In Spain in 1492, fourteen-year-old Maria, a Catholic orphan, becomes a servant to a wealthy family of Conversos, converted Jews, at a time when the Jews are being expelled from the country and when the Inquisition is diligently searching for religious heretics.

Murphy, Jim. **An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793**. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. In 1793, a yellow fever epidemic swept through Philadelphia, creating chaos as people began evacuating in droves, leaving the city without government, goods, or services. Physicians, the Free African Society, and others stayed on to care for the sick.

Namioka, Lensey. **Ties That Bind, Ties That Break**. Delacorte, 1999. Ailin, rebelling against the ancient Chinese tradition of binding girls' feet, loses her family's support and makes a new life in the United States.

Nelson, Peter. **Left for Dead. A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis**. Delacorte, 2002. Fifty years after the sinking of the U.S.S. Indianapolis at the end of World War II, a young boy helps the survivors set the record straight, bringing to light the Navy cover-up and an unfair court-martial of the ship's captain.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

Nix, Garth. **Abhorsen**. HarperCollins, 2003. Abhorsen-in-Waiting Lirael and Prince Sameth, a Wallmaker, must confront and bind the evil spirit Oranis before it can destroy all life. *Series*

Nye, Naomi Shabib. **You & Yours**. BOA Editions, 2005. Nye's poetry is firmly grounded in two geographical locations: small moments in her Texas home, and many larger themes in the Middle East, where part of her family hails from.

Oppel, Kenneth. **Airborne**. Eos, 2004. Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an enormous airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures and to fight pirates.

Oppenheim, Joanne. **Dear Miss Breed**. Scholastic, 2006. Through letters and photographs, this book illuminates the relationships between Clara Breed, a librarian in San Diego during World War II, and Japanese-American children being held in internment camps.

Paolini, Christopher. **Eragon**. Random House, 2003. In Aegaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters. *First of a projected trilogy*

Park, Linda Sue. **Project Mulberry, a novel**. Clarion, 2005. Korean-American seventh grader Julia Song learns about friendship, prejudice, patriotism and biology as she and best friend Patrick develop an original silkworm project on her suburban townhouse porch for the State Fair.

Patterson, James. **Maximum Ride, the Angel Experiment**. Little Brown, 2005. After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "birdkids" take off in pursuit and find themselves battling their seemingly evil creators. *Series*

Paulsen, Gary. **The Rifle**. Bantam, 1995. A priceless, handcrafted rifle, fired throughout the American Revolution, is passed down through the years until it fires on a fateful Christmas Eve in 1994.

Peck, Richard. **The River Between Us**. Dial, 2003. During the early days of the Civil War, the Pruitt family takes in two mysterious young ladies who have fled New Orleans to come north to Illinois. Scott O'Dell Historical Fiction Award.

Philbrick, Rodman. **The Young Man and the Sea**. Blue Sky, 2004. Motherless Skiff Beaman embarks alone on a dangerous trip to catch a giant blue fin tuna in order to earn enough money to buy a new engine for his father's boat.

Pierce, Tamora. **Trickster's Choice**. Random House, 2003. Alianne, kidnapped and put into slavery, calls forth her mother's courage and her father's spying skills in order to survive on the Copper Isles in a royal court rife with political intrigue and murderous conspiracy. *Series*

Rees, Celia. **Sorceress**. Candlewick, 2003. Eighteen-year-old Agnes, a Mohawk Indian descended from a line of shamanic healers, uses her own newly-discovered powers to uncover the story of her ancestor, a seventeenth-century English healer who fled charges of witchcraft in New England. Sequel to *Witch Child*

Riordan, Rick. **Lightning Thief**. Miramax, 2005. Percy Jackson can't figure out why he has such problems with his anger, or why some people seem to be trying to destroy him until he learns that his father is a Greek god. *Series*

**HAI SLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

- Ritter, John H. *Under the Baseball Moon*. Philomel, 2006. Andy Ramos dreams of making it big with his trumpet on the jazz scene but is it worth giving up an unexpected first love with potential soul mate, Glory Martinez, an Olympic-hopeful softball pitcher?
- Rylant, Cynthia. *Boris*. Harcourt, 2005. The narrator of these nineteen poems speaks directly to her cat, Boris, about his life and her own, since his arrival at her door. This book is a good introduction for newcomers to poetry, and especially appropriate for cat lovers.
- Salisbury, Graham. *Eyes of the Emperor*. Random House, 2005. Eddy Okubo graduates from high school at sixteen and promptly volunteers for the army a few weeks before the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor. Immediately Eddy and all his Japanese-descent friends are separated from the rest of the army, repeatedly humiliated, and finally shipped off to the Gulf Coast to act as bait in a dog training experiment.
- Scieszka, Jon, ed. *Guys Write for Guys Read*. Viking, 2005. This collection of short stories, drawings, comics, poems, and memoirs from well-known writers of "guy" fiction, written by boys, for boys includes pieces by Daniel Pinkwater, Neil Gaiman, Will Hobbs, Stephen King, and Gary Paulsen, among others.
- Shulman, Polly. *Enthusiasm*. Putnam, 2006. Julia's best friend Ashleigh has decided that this year Jane Austen's world will be theirs: so, they learn the proper forms of dancing, speech and behavior (sort-of) for the early nineteenth century, then set off to find the boys of their dreams at the exclusive boy's prep boarding school in town.
- Shusterman, Neal. *The Schwa Was Here*. Dutton, 2004. A Brooklyn eighth-grader nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is so nondescript that he blends into his surroundings and goes unnoticed by nearly everyone. Horn Book/Boston Globe Award
- Siegelson, Kim L. *Trembling Earth*. Philomel, 2004. In 1864, two boys, one an escaped slave running toward freedom and the other one a white boy hoping to collect the bounty money for capturing him, make their way through Georgia's Okefenokee Swamp.
- Spinelli, Jerry. *Stargirl*. Knopf, 2000. Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.
- Spinner, Stephanie. *Quiver*. Knopf, 2002. Atalanta, abandoned as an infant, has grown to become a renowned archer and the swiftest mortal alive due to the intervention of Artemis, goddess of the hunt, so when the father who forsook her so many years before issues an ultimatum that Atalanta marry and produce an heir, she counters with the condition that the man she weds must be able to best her in a footrace or die.
- Stroud, Jonathan. *Amulet of Samarkand*. Miramax, 2003. Nathaniel, a young magician's apprentice, calls up the djinni Bartimaeus to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from another magician, which gets them both caught up in a vast conspiracy of treason and murder. *Series*
- Taylor, Mildred. *The Land*. Fogelman, 2001. Paul-Edward, the son of a part Indian, part-African slave mother and a white plantation owner father, finds himself caught between the two worlds of his parents as he pursues his dream of owning land in the aftermath of the Civil War. Prequel to *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry*



**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Hobbit, or There and Back Again*. First published 1937. Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.

Trueman, Terry. *Stuck in Neutral*. HarperCollins, 2000. Fourteen-year-old Shawn McDaniel, who suffers from severe cerebral palsy and cannot function, relates his perceptions of his life, his family, and his condition, especially as he believes his father is planning to kill him.

Updell, Eleanor. *Montmorency: Thief, Liar, Gentleman?* Orchard, 2004. In Victorian London, after his life is saved by a young physician, a thief utilizes the knowledge he gained in prison and from scientific lectures he attended as the physician's case study exhibit to create a new, highly successful, double life for himself.

Vande Velde, Vivian. *Heir Apparent*. Harcourt, 2002. In a futuristic setting, a girl is involved playing a "total immersion" video game in which her mind is integrated with the game. What she soon discovers is that the game is broken, and she can only withdraw her mind and survive if she wins.

Verne, Jules. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*. First published 1869. This nineteenth-century science fiction tale of an electric submarine, its eccentric captain, and an undersea world anticipated many of the scientific achievements of the twentieth century.

Warren, Andrea. *Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps*. HarperCollins, 2001. This biography of Jack Mandelbaum covers the period of his life from 1939 when he was a twelve-year-old in Poland to the end of the World War II, three years of which werespent in concentration camps.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer. *True Believer*. Holt, 2001. Living in the inner city amidst guns and poverty, fifteen-year-old LaVaughn finds that life is what you make of it--an occasion to rise to. Sequel to *Make Lemonade*

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Hush*. Penguin, 2002. Twelve-year-old Toswiah finds her life radically changed when her family must enter the witness protection program.

Wynne-Jones, Tim. *A Thief in the House of Memory*. FSG, 2005. The death of an apparent stranger in the Steeple family's old home triggers troubling questions for sixteen-year-old Declan as he tries to make sense of his fragmented dreams, random memories, and unexplained coincidences, hoping to learn the truth about the mother who suddenly left when he was ten.

Wrede, Patricia. *Sorcery & Cecelia, or, the Enchanted Chocolate Pot*. Harcourt, 2003. In 1817 in England, two young cousins, Cecilia living in the country and Kate in London, write letters to keep each other informed of their exploits, which take a sinister turn when they find themselves confronted by evil wizards.

Yancey, Richard. *The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp*. Bloomsbury, 2005. Orphaned and incurably geeky teen Alfred Kropp is coerced by his unscrupulous uncle into stealing a valuable sword that turns out to be Excalibur, which draws him into a dangerous and violent misadventure.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 7 and Grade 8**

Yee, Lisa. ***Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time***. Arthur A. Levine, 2005. Named after his father's alma mater, Stanford Wong has big expectations to fulfill academically and as the star of his basketball team. When he flunks 6<sup>th</sup> grade, has to go to summer school and can't go to basketball camp, he must hide his secret from his friends and get tutored by his arch enemy. Sequel to *Millicent Min, Girl Genius*

Yolen, Jane. ***Girl in a Cage***. Philomel, 2002. Marjorie Bruce, daughter of Robert the Bruce of Scotland, has been captured in 1306 by Edward I (Longshanks) of England and placed in a cage on public display for months.

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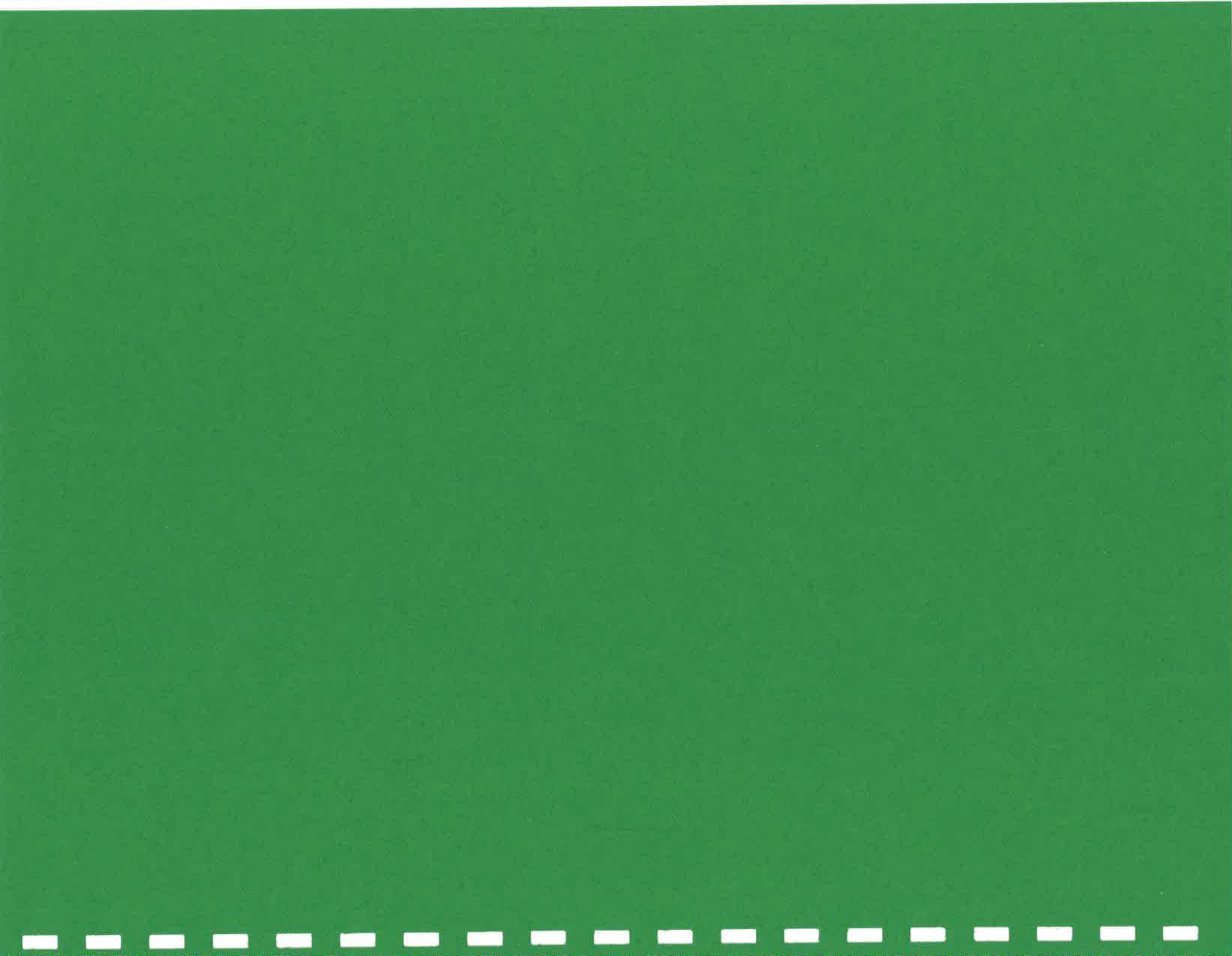
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HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 9 and Grade 10

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Almond, Steve. **Candyfreak: A Journey through the Chocolate Underbelly of America.** Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2004. Former journalist Steve Almond, who admits that he has eaten a piece of candy every day of his life, writes a memoir/report/travelogue about the history of candy in America. A delicious, darkly funny read—without calories or carbs. Alex Awards
- Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Speak.** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1999. A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.
- Ansary, Tamin. **West of Kabul, East of New York: An Afghan American Story.** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002. Begun as an e-mail sent to friends the day after the World Trade Center was attacked, Ansary's story sheds light on the makings of Muslim extremists.
- Armstrong, Jennifer. **What a Song Can Do : 12 Riffs on the Power of Music.** Knopf, 2004. A collection of twelve short stories explores the theme of music's power for teenagers.
- Bissinger, H. G. **Friday Night Lights: A Town, a Team, and a Dream.** HarperCollins, 1991. The author penetrates the culture of high school football as it is lived in Odessa, Texas.
- Brashares, Ann. **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants.** Delacorte, 2001. During summer break, longtime friends Lena, Tibby, Carmen, and Bridget each embark on adventures that they share with one another through a pair of jeans that they have decided will be worn by all and so will absorb all of their stories.
- Bray, Libba. **A Great and Terrible Beauty.** Delacorte, 2003. After her mother dies mysteriously in 1895 India, Gemma is sent to a finishing school in England where she becomes aware of her magical powers.
- Brooks, Geraldine. **March.** Viking, 2005. March, the fictional father from Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, leaves behind his family to serve the Union cause in the Civil War as an idealistic chaplain. His faith in himself and the Union cause are severely tested as he experiences the complex emotions and horrors of war.
- Card, Orson Scott. **Ender's Shadow.** Tor, 1999. Bean begins life as an illegal experiment and ends up a disciple and safety net for Ender Wiggins in the battle to save Earth from the Buggers. *Series*
- Chanoff, David and Ejovi Nuwere. **Hacker Cracker: A Journey from the Mean Streets of Brooklyn to the Frontiers of Cyberspace.** William Morrow, 2002. The author, having grown up in a rough neighborhood of Brooklyn, tells how he became an expert hacker in his teens before becoming a computer security specialist for a large financial firm.
- Chbosky, Stephen. **The Perks of Being a Wallflower.** MTV Books, 1999. In this controversial, coming-of-age novel, freshman Charlie's collection of letters to an unspecified recipient details the humorous trials and tribulations of trying to discover who he is and who he might become. A *Booklist* Best Book of the Year for Young Adults
- Conroy, Pat. **My Losing Season.** Nan A. Talese, 2002. In a tribute to the value of sports in his life, novelist Pat Conroy remembers a year on the basketball team at the Citadel.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 9 and Grade 10

Cox, Lynne. **Grayson**. Knopf, 2006. Seventeen-year-old long distance swimmer Lynne Cox is training alone before dawn in the Pacific when she encounters a lost baby whale. Her true-life adventure that morning as she tries to find the whale's mother is a testimony to athletic discipline and love of the environment.

Crutcher, Chris. **Whale Talk**. Greenwillow, 2001. A high school swim team without a pool, led by an athletic loner, improves its times and bonds of friendship while managing to get team jackets over the objections of coaches of the other school sports. Multiple state awards.

Cutter, Leah R. **Paper Mage**. New American Library, 2003. Xiao Yen defies society to become a magician in Tan Dynasty China and uses her magical skills to defeat a barbaric warlord.

Enger, Leif. **Peace Like a River**. Grove/Atlantic, 2001. Reuben, an asthmatic boy in 1960s Minnesota, tells of his family's search for his older brother Davy, who escaped from jail the morning of his sentencing for murder.

Feiler, Bruce. **Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths**. William Morrow, 2002. This is a biography of Abraham, the father of Islam, Judaism, and Christianity as seen through the beliefs of each religion.

Gantos, Jack. **Hole in My Life**. Farrar, Strauss & Giroux, 2002. Gantos writes a compelling personal memoir of a poor boy's dream to be a writer, his entanglements with drugs, prison, and his ultimate success.

Giles, Gail. **Shattering Glass**. Roaring Brook Press, 2002. A group of cool high school boys transform Simon Glass, the school nerd, into one of the most popular boys in school. Then they kill him. This story sends a powerful message about shouldering responsibility for one's actions.

Grisham, John. **A Painted House**. Dell, 2002. A young country boy experiences dramatic events among clashing migratory workers of different cultures during the 1952 Arkansas cotton harvest.

Haddon, Mark. **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime**. Random House, 2003. An autistic boy keeps a diary of his efforts to solve the mystery of who killed his neighbor's dog. This funny, touching novel gives an eerie impression of autistic thought processes.

Haskins, Don. **Glory Road: My Story of the 1966 NCAA Basketball Championship and How One Team Triumphed Against the Odds and Changed America Forever**. Hyperion, 2006. Texas coach Don Haskins forever changed college sports in 1966 when he chose to field five black players in the formerly segregated NCAA basketball tournament—and his team won.

Hawthorne, Nathaniel. **The House of the Seven Gables**. First published 1851. Hepzibah tries to shelter her brother from the evil of Judge Pyncheon in nineteenth-century Massachusetts.

Hemingway, Ernest. **A Farewell to Arms**. First published 1929. A British nurse and an American ambulance driver fall in love during World War I.

Herbert, Frank. **Dune**. First published 1965. The Atreides family is banished to planet Dune where the ferocious Fremen live. Series

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 9 and Grade 10

Jenkins, A. M. *Damage*. HarperCollins, 2001. Even though senior Austin Reed has everything—good looks, athletic ability, a beautiful girlfriend, and a great mom—he feels detached and barely alive. A powerful, unflinching depiction of teenage depression.

Jordan, Robert. *Eye of the World*. Tor, 1990. During the Third Age, the Age of Prophecy, the world and time itself hang in the balance in danger of falling under the Shadow. *Series*

Kidd, Sue Monk. *The Secret Life of Bees*. Viking, 2002. Searching for a connection to her dead mother, Lily leaves her abusive father and finds shelter with a family of African American sisters.

King, Thomas. *Truth and Bright Water*. Grove/Atlantic, 2000. A coming-of-age tale about two American Indian boys is projected against the literal and symbolic divide between them.

Kooser, Ted. *Weather Central*. University of Pittsburgh Press, 1994. Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner Ted Kooser writes about the simple things of daily life—shoes, a back door, baseball, fireflies—as well as the unusual.

Korman, Gordon. *Son of the Mob*. Hyperion, 2002. Strait-laced Vince, son of a Mafia family, falls for the daughter of the FBI agent who is bugging his house.

Lawson, Mary. *Crow Lake: A Novel*. Dell, 2002. Kate Morrison, on a return visit to the small Ontario farming community where she grew up, recalls the sudden death of her parents in a car accident when she was just seven years old and the continuing impact of the tragedy on her and her family.

MacCullough, Carolyn. *Stealing Henry*. Roaring Brook, 2005. Seventeen-year-old Savannah “brains” her alcoholic stepfather with a frying pan and leaves home with her eight-year-old half brother, Henry. Their journey to their mother’s hometown in Maine mirrors the earlier nomadic life Savannah experienced with her mother.

Mah, Adeline Yen. *Chinese Cinderella*. Delacorte, 1999. The author recounts the cruelty she suffered from her stepmother and the callous indifference of her well-to-do father while growing up in China at the end of World War II.

Markandaya, Kamala. *Nectar in a Sieve*. First published 1955. A life of terrible hardships and disasters is lived with unflagging optimism and courage by a peasant woman and her family in India.

Martel, Yann. *The Life of Pi: A Novel*. Harcourt, 2002. Sixteen-year-old Pi Patel, his family, and their zoo animals emigrate from India to North America aboard a cargo ship. The ship sinks and Pi finds himself sharing a lifeboat with a 450-pound Bengal tiger. Man Booker Prize

Mathabane, Mark. *Kaffir Boy: The True Story of a Black Youth’s Coming of Age in Apartheid South Africa*. First published 1986. Against overwhelming odds, a young boy triumphs over dire poverty and racism in this inspiring autobiography.

Mitchell, Margaret. *Gone with the Wind*. First published 1936. After her genteel, romantic lifestyle is swept away by the Civil War, Scarlett O’Hara summons strength to salvage her plantation home.

**HAIJLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 9 and Grade 10**

Morris, Mary McGarry. *The Lost Mother*. Viking, 2005. Abandoned by their mother and bankrupted out of their home, twelve-year-old Thomas and his eight-year-old sister Margaret are forced to grow up too quickly, surviving hand-to-mouth while living in a tent with their father in the woods of Vermont during the Great Depression.

Myers, Walter Dean. *Fallen Angels*. Scholastic, 1988. Young American soldiers are soon disillusioned and challenged by the realities of the war in Vietnam. Coretta Scott King Award

Novik, Naomi. *His Majesty's Dragon*. Ballantine, 2006. In this historical fantasy, Captain Laurence captures a French frigate in the Napoleonic wars and finds a dragon's egg in the hold. The hatchling dragon, Temeraire, imprints with Laurence, who must then become an aviator in the Aerial Corps.

Nye, Naomi Shihab. *19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East*. HarperCollins, 2002. In response to September 11, 2001, Nye writes profound poems about the Middle East and about life as an Arab American.

Oliver, Mary. *Owls and Other Fantasies: Poems and Essays*. Beacon Press, 2003. The Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winning poet offers twenty-six poems and two essays inspired by birds.

Pont, Sally. *Finding their Stride*. Harcourt Brace, 1999. Members of a track team from a small, private Pennsylvania school, although typically outnumbered and defeated as a team, find success as individuals.

Pratchett, Terry. *Going Postal*. HarperCollins, 2004. Arch-swindler Moist Van Lipwig has an awful choice to make: he can hang or he can try to re-establish the long defunct Ank Morpork Post Office where tons of undelivered letters have been accumulating for decades.

Pullman, Philip. *The Golden Compass*. Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subjects of gruesome experiments in the Far North. Carnegie Medal Series

Quindlen, Anna. *Blessings: A Novel*. Random, 2002. The caretaker on a large estate takes on the care of an abandoned baby with the help of the estate's matriarch.

Reed, Kit. *Thinner than Thou*. Tor, 2005. In a clever science fiction take on our culture's pursuit of youth and physical perfection as the new true religion, food, not sex, is society's forbidden fruit and the Fashion Police are out to get you!

Roach, Mary. *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*. Norton, 2003. Both funny and gruesome, this book is about the many things that happen to human bodies after death, from providing practice for plastic surgeons to enabling research on decomposition.

Rosenberg, Liz, editor. *Light-Gathering Poems*. Henry Holt, 2000. Using light as a metaphor, this collection of poems brings images of light and hope into focus.

Runyon, Brent. *The Burn Journals*. Knopf, 2004. In this fast-moving and excruciatingly true story of a fourteen-year-old burn victim, Brent struggles to recover from his self-inflicted burns and psychological depression.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 9 and Grade 10**

- Salinger, J. D. *Catcher in the Rye*. First published 1951. Holden Caulfield runs away from boarding school to New York City.
- Sandburg, Carl. *Selected Poems*. Harcourt, 1996. Sandburg's best and most characteristic poetry is collected and thematically grouped in this one-volume edition.
- Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*. Pantheon, 2003. In graphic novel format, Satrapi tells of her childhood growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution.
- Saylor, Steven. *The Judgment of Caesar: A Novel of Ancient Rome*. St. Martin's, 2004. In 48 B.C., Roman generals Caesar and Pompey have engaged in a battle to rule the world. Now as Pompey plots a reckless stand on the banks of the Nile, Gordianus the Finder, who has brought his wife Bethesda to the river seeking a cure for her in its sacred waters, finds himself suddenly at the heart of a series of treacherous and history-altering events.
- Shaw, George Bernard. *Pygmalion*. First published 1913. Shaw's satire on British class divisions is based on the classical myth of Pygmalion, in which the sculptor falls in love with his own creation. The witty transformation of Eliza Doolittle from guttersnipe to sophisticate leaves Professor Henry Higgins, our Pygmalion, without his educated Cinderella.
- Smith, Alexander McCall. *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*. Anchor Books, 2002. Upon setting up shop in a small storefront in Botswana, Precious Ramotswe is hired to track down a missing husband, uncover a con man, follow a wayward daughter, and locate a missing boy who may have been snatched by witch doctors. *Series*
- Smith, Betty. *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. First published 1943. Francie Nolan, a sensitive, resourceful young girl, grows up in the Williamsburg slums of Brooklyn with her brother Neelie, her lovable drunkard father, and her tender, determined mother.
- Stratton, Allan. *Chanda's Secrets*. Annick Press, 2004. Sixteen-year-old Chanda Kabelo loves school and dreams of winning a scholarship one day, but people are dying around her. Everyone is afraid to say why, but Chanda knows it is because of AIDS.
- Sumner, Melanie. *The School of Beauty and Charm*. Algonquin Books, 2001. Louise Pepper spirals downward after the accidental death of her brother Roderick.
- Taylor, William. *The Blue Lawn*. Alyson Publications, 1999. A fifteen-year-old boy acknowledges his attraction to an older rugby teammate as he begins to break out of the preconceived notions his family and others have about him.
- Vonnegut, Kurt. *Slaughterhouse Five*. First published 1969. After surviving the bombing of Dresden in World War II, Billy Pilgrim spends time on the planet Trafalmandor.
- Weintraub, Stanley. *Silent Night: The Remarkable 1914 Christmas Truce*. Free Press, 2001. From an acclaimed historian and National Book Award finalist comes the poignant story of the 1914 Christmas truce of World War I—the spontaneous and tantalizingly brief moment when mortal enemies came together as friends to celebrate the holiday.
- Werlin, Nancy. *Double Helix*. Dial, 2004. Eighteen-year-old Eli, whose mother has Huntington's disease, uncovers a disturbing secret about his family while working for a famous scientist whose specialty is genetic engineering.



**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 9 and Grade 10**

White, T. H. *The Once and Future King*. First published 1958. The chivalry and romance of medieval England are transported to the modern world.

Wiggins, Marianne. *Evidence of Things Unseen*. Simon & Schuster, 2003. Set in the years between the two world wars, the characters deal with the changing science of electricity, x-rays, and technology amidst their own delicately balanced lives. National Book Award Finalist

Winspear, Jacqueline. *Maisie Dobbs*. Soho, 2003. In a romantic investigative first novel, Maisie Dobbs finds herself drawn back into the Great War when she begins investigating a crime.

Wood, Michael. *Shakespeare*. Basic Books, 2004. Michael Wood uses investigative techniques to explore the historical perspectives of the tumultuous era of Shakespeare's time. This readable book explores the background influences on Shakespeare's writings and is a companion book to the 2003 PBS series *In Search of Shakespeare*.

Wooten, Jim. *We Are All the Same: A Story of a Boy's Courage and a Mother's Love*. Penguin, 2004. The global battle against AIDS is set against the life and death of Nkosi Johnson, a young South African boy who, having been born with AIDS, comes to symbolize the struggle against the disease and the strength of the human spirit.

Wright, Richard. *Native Son*. First published 1940. A young African American man is trapped in the poverty-stricken ghetto of Chicago's South Side finding release only in acts of violence.

Zevin, Gabrielle. *Elsewhere*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. When fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi, she ends up in "Elsewhere," a place where you grow younger year by year, meet lost relatives, enjoy your service-oriented vocation, and are eventually reborn on earth. ALA Notable Book, 2006

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HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 11 and Grade 12

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Arnold, Marilyn, Bonnie Ballif-Spanville and Kristen Tracy, editors. **A Chorus for Peace: A Global Anthology of Poetry by Women.** University of Iowa Press, 2002. Poets from all ages and all over the world unite with one theme: peace.
- Atwood, Margaret. **Oryx and Crake: A Novel.** Nan A. Talese, 2003. Snowman, near starvation and losing his memory for language, describes his post-plague society stripped of vegetation and all other forms of life except the genetically engineered Children of Crake. *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year
- Austen, Jane. **Pride and Prejudice.** First published 1813. Elizabeth and Jane Bennet overcome obstacles to their happiness with Mr. Darcy and Mr. Bingley in this comedy of manners set in early nineteenth-century England.
- Baldwin, James. **Go Tell It On the Mountain.** First published 1953. In the tenements of Harlem, young John Grimes searches for God while struggling with his identity as the stepson of a stern evangelist preacher in a storefront church in 1935.
- Bodanis, David. **Electric Universe.** Crown, 2005. This enlightening cultural and scientific account of the discovery and development of electricity features entertaining historical and biographical vignettes. Aventis Prizes for Science Books
- Bunting, Josiah. **All Loves Excelling: A Novel.** Bridge Works Press, 2001. Extreme pressure placed on seniors to get into the "right" college leads to tragedy at a highly competitive prep school.
- Caletti, Deb. **Honey, Baby, Sweetheart.** Simon & Schuster, 2004. Ruby McQueen, high school junior, focuses on the relationships in her life. Conflicts arise with teenage issues, her thieving first boyfriend, her parents' separation, and a book club called the Casserole Queens.
- Capote, Truman. **In Cold Blood: A True Account of a Multiple Murder and Its Consequences.** First published 1965. The senseless, brutal murder of four members of the Clutter family by two psychotic young men shocked their small-town community of Holcomb, Kansas and the entire country. Edgar Award
- Chabon, Michael. **The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay: A Novel.** Random House, 2000. Comic strip adventures are interwoven with an escape from war-torn Europe and the maturation of two charming and talented young men. Pulitzer Prize
- Cherryh, C. J. **Foreigner.** DAW, 1994. Bren Cameron, humanity's advisor to the Atevi, builds understanding between a race of giant, black-skinned, golden-eyed warriors and the humans who have been allowed to stay on Atevi in exchange for their technological knowledge.
- Chevalier, Tracy. **The Lady and the Unicorn.** Dutton, 2004. A handsome fifteenth-century artist who is commissioned to create a series of woven tapestry panels becomes smitten with the daughter of his nobleman patron.
- Cisneros, Sandra. **Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories.** Random, 1991. Colorful characters give voice to life on both sides of the Mexican border in this vibrant collection of short stories.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 11 and Grade 12**

Coben, Harlan. **Tell No One.** Delacorte, 2001. After years of struggling with grief over his wife's murder by a serial killer, Dr. David Beck receives a mysterious e-mail which includes a secret word only the two of them knew.

Collins, Billy. **Sailing Alone Around the Room.** Random House, 2001. Former Poet Laureate Collins treats us to poems about his daily life with truth, humor, and descriptive language.

Cone, Marla. **Silent Snow: The Slow Poisoning of the Arctic.** Grove Press, 2005. Traditionally thought of as the last great unspoiled territory on Earth, the Arctic is actually home to some of the most contaminated people and animals on the planet.

Conroy, Pat. **The Lords of Discipline.** First published 1980. Cadets at a southern military academy face hazing, hatred, and prejudice as they confront members of a secret society dedicated to preserving traditions.

Corwin, Miles. **And Still We Rise: The Trials and Triumphs of Twelve Gifted Inner-City Students.** HarperCollins, 2001. The award-winning reporter for the Los Angeles Times chronicles the incredible challenges faced by high school seniors in a South-Central Los Angeles gifted program.

Cox, Lynne. **Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer.** Knopf, 2004. Lynne Cox chronicles her quest to swim the most challenging waters of the world, including the Bering Sea, the Strait of Magellan, the Cape of Good Hope, and the coast of Antarctica. Alex Awards

Cronin, Justin. **The Summer Guest.** Dial, 2004. Overlapping lives and loves reveal their secrets as a dying man lives out his wish to return to a rustic fishing camp in a remote area of Maine.

Desai Hidier, Tanuja. **Born Confused.** Scholastic, 2002. Seventeen-year-old Dimple, whose family is from India, finds that she is not Indian enough for the Indians and not American enough for the Americans, as she sees her beautiful and manipulative best friend take possession of both her heritage and the boy she likes.

Desai, Kiran. **The Inheritance of Loss: A Novel.** Grove/Atlantic, 2005. During the mid-1980s, a crusty old magistrate finds his retirement to a desolate house at the foot of the Himalayas near India's border with Nepal disrupted by an orphaned granddaughter and, eventually, a Nepalese insurgency. Man Booker Prize for Fiction

Doctorow, E. L. **The March.** Random House, 2005. Toward the end of the Civil War, General William Tecumseh Sherman is joined by characters both historical and fictional as he marches 60,000 Union troops on a sixty-mile wide path of pillage and destruction through Georgia and the Carolinas. Among the memorable characters are fifteen-year-old Pearl, a light-skinned former slave, and Arly, a scheming Rebel soldier.

Dostoyevsky, Fyodor. **Crime and Punishment.** First published 1866. Raskalnikov, a student who believes his own intellectual and spiritual superiority place him above the masses, tests his theory of invincibility by committing murder.

Dunn, Mark. **Ella Minnow Pea: A Novel in Letters.** MacAdam/Cage, 2001. On the fictional island of Nollop, so named for the inventor of a 35-letter panagram, letter-writing is the main form of communication. When letters of the alphabet start falling from the inscription on Nevin Nollop's statue, the island's governing council decrees that each falling letter must be removed from both spoken and written language.

**HASLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 11 and Grade 12**

Dylan, Bob. **Chronicles. Volume One.** Simon & Schuster, 2004. The “greatest lyricist of the twentieth century” and spokesman for the hippie generation describes his self-directed journey through music and the process of reaching stardom. Quills Award

Edwards, Kim. **The Memory Keeper’s Daughter.** Penguin, 2005. During a 1964 blizzard, Dr. David Henry is forced to deliver his own twins. Seeing that one twin is normal and the other has Down Syndrome, he makes a split-second decision that will forever alter their lives.

Ehrenreich, Barbara. **Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America.** Henry Holt & Company, 2001. This is a first-person account of life for low wages in America: land of Big Boxes, fast food, and desperate strategies for survival. Alex Awards

Ellison, Ralph. **Invisible Man.** First published 1952. A nameless Black man searches for his own identity in a hostile world. National Book Award

Eugeniades, Jeffrey. **Middlesex.** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002. In order to understand why she is not like other girls, Calliope must uncover a dark family secret and the astonishing genetic history that turns Callie into Cal. Pulitzer Prize

Feynman, Richard. **Six Easy Pieces.** Addison-Wesley, 1995. The essentials of physics are explained in six “easy” chapters from the Nobel Prize-winning physicist’s *Lectures on Physics* (1963), originally prepared for Caltech undergraduate students.

Flinn, Alexandra. **Breathing Underwater.** HarperCollins, 2001. Sent to counseling for hitting his girlfriend Caitlin, and ordered to keep a journal, sixteen-year-old Nick recounts his relationship with Caitlin, examines his controlling behavior and anger, and describes living with his abusive father.

Frank, E. R. **America: A Novel.** Atheneum, 2002. Fifteen-year-old America’s only positive life forces are the enduring love of his foster mother and the dedication of his therapist in this disturbing, powerful story of forgiveness and “against the odds” survival.

Fuller, Alexandra. **Don’t Let’s Go To the Dogs Tonight: An African Childhood.** Random House, 2001. Moving from Rhodesia/Zimbabwe to Malawi to Zambia, the author and her family endure tragic crises with humor and strength of character, adding dimension to the volatile events of recent African history.

Gaiman, Neil. **Anansi Boys.** William Morrow, 2005. Fat Charlie Nancy’s normal life ended the moment his father dropped dead on a Florida karaoke stage. Charlie didn’t know his dad was a god. And he never knew he had a brother. Now brother Spider is about to make Fat Charlie’s life more interesting—and more dangerous. Alex Awards

Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. **Chronicle of a Death Foretold.** Knopf, 1983. Murder upsets a wedding in this novel by the Nobel Prize-winning author.

Gladwell, Malcolm. **The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference.** Little, Brown, 2002. Ideas, behavior, messages, and products often spread like outbreaks of infectious disease. The moment when these social epidemics take off is the Tipping Point.

**HASLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007**  
**Grade 11 and Grade 12**

- Gould, Lewis. *The Modern American Presidency*. University Press of Kansas, 2003. A no-holds-barred analysis of all the modern presidents observes that today's presidency is so bogged down in media manipulation, fund-raising, and self-indulgence that it is no more capable of grappling with difficulties than it was a century ago.
- Greenblatt, Stephen. *Will in the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare*. W.W. Norton, 2004. A noted scholar describes the influences on Shakespeare and the steps in his becoming the great poet and playwright of the English language. National Book Award Finalist
- Ha, Jin. *Waiting*. Pantheon Books, 1999. For seventeen years, Lin Kong, a devoted and ambitious Chinese doctor, has been in love with Manna Wu, an educated, modern woman. He has repeatedly and unsuccessfully tried to divorce the compliant wife his family chose for him back in his home village.
- Haley, Alex. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*. First published 1965. Malcolm X, who rose from drug pusher to charismatic leader of the Black Power movement of the sixties, was murdered in Harlem in 1965.
- Hall, Donald. *White Apples and the Taste of Stone: Selected Poems, 1946-2006*. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. In this representative work, our newest Poet Laureate collects 226 poems from sixty celebrated years of published writing.
- Hawking, Stephen. *A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes*. Bantam, 1998. In this 10<sup>th</sup> (expanded) edition, the brilliant physicist updates and explains his theory of the nature and creation of the universe, including a chapter on wormholes and time travel.
- Heinlein, Robert. *Stranger in a Strange Land*. First published 1961. The ways of Earth are strange to the young man from Mars. Hugo Award
- Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*. First published 1961. A wildly surreal novel describes a group of American servicemen in the Mediterranean during World War II.
- Hosseini, Khaled. *The Kite Runner*. Riverhead, 2003. Amir, haunted by his shocking betrayal of Hassan, the son of his father's servant and a childhood friend, returns to Kabul as an adult in an attempt to redeem himself by rescuing Hassan's son from a Taliban official.
- Hyland, M. J. *Carry Me Down*. Canongate, 2006. With the body of a grown man and the voice of a giant, eleven-year-old John Egan is convinced of his ability to detect lies and is obsessed with keeping track of them. Eventually, he is pushed to a moment of crisis.
- James, Henry. *Washington Square*. First published 1881. Loss of innocence and strength of character are revealed as the story of a rigid father, a naïve daughter, and a handsome suitor unfolds. In drama and film, this classic tale is also known as "The Heiress."
- Jones, Edward P. *The Known World*. Amistad, 2003. Henry Townsend, a Black farmer and former slave, is befriended by the most powerful man in antebellum Virginia's Manchester County and becomes proprietor of his own slave plantation.
- King, Stephen. *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft*. Scribner, 2000. One of today's most prolific and successful writers offers a candid memoir featuring practical writing tips. Bram Stoker Award for Nonfiction

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Krakauer, Jon. ***Under the Banner of Heaven: A Story of Violent Faith***. Doubleday, 2003. On July 24, 1883, a woman and her infant daughter were murdered by two brothers who believed they were ordered to kill by God. The roots of their crime lie deep in the history of an American religion practiced by millions. A *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year, ALA Notable Book of the Year

Kurson, Robert. ***Shadow Divers: True Adventures of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of World War II***. Random House, 2004. Two week-end scuba divers flirt with danger and intrigue in their six-year quest to learn more about a sunken World War II German U-boat they discovered sixty miles off the New Jersey coast. Alex Awards

Lahiri, Jhumpa. ***The Namesake***. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. Gogol Ganguli, born to Indian immigrants newly arrived in Cambridge, Massachusetts after an arranged marriage, grows up resenting both his strange name and the Indian culture imposed by his family.

Larson, Erik. ***Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America***. Crown, 2003. The fates of an architect and a serial killer were linked by the greatest fair in American history: the Chicago World's Exposition of 1893, nicknamed "The White City." Edgar Award, National Book Award Finalist

Le Couteur, Penny and Jay Burreson. ***Napoleon's Buttons: 17 Molecules That Changed History***. Jeremy P. Tarcher/Putnam, 2003. Chemically, tin falls apart in very cold temperatures. That Napoleon's army used tin for many ordinary items, such as buttons, may have hastened his defeat by the Russian Army. The authors recount sixteen more fascinating stories of how chemistry changed history.

Levitt, Steven D. and Stephen J. Dubner. ***Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything***. William Morrow, 2005. Using analytical tools from economics, the authors find quirky ways to tie economics to a range of emotional forces affecting human behavior, from cheating sumo wrestlers to the relative dangers of guns versus swimming pools.

Lynch, Chris. ***Inexcusable***. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Football star Keir Sarafian chronicles his senior year beginning with graduation and flashbacking to previous events. Because he thinks of himself as a "good guy," he is able to rationalize the tackle that cripples an opponent, the recreational drinking, the defacing of a town statue—and the date rape of Gigi Boudakian.

Lynch, Jim. ***The Highest Tide***. Bloomsbury, 2005. Miles O'Malley, obsessed with the ocean life of Puget Sound and the writings of Rachel Carson, discovers a beached giant squid far from its normal habitat and is dubbed "Nature's Spokesman" by the media.

Mahfouz, Naguib. ***Palace Walk***. Doubleday, 1989. The Nobel Prize-winning author's novel evokes the severe and alluring world of a Muslim family living in Cairo during Egypt's occupation by British forces in the early 1900's.

Markham, Beryl. ***West with the Night***. First published 1983. The British aviator, first to fly west across the Atlantic solo, describes her childhood in British East Africa and her unconventional life.



**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2007  
Grade 11 and Grade 12**

Martinez, A. Lee. ***Gil's All Fright Diner***. Tor, 2005. Vampire Earl and Werewolf Duke stop at a diner in the desert town of Rockwood, Texas, where they help Loretta dispose of her zombie problem and agree to stay on to help the town with its other supernatural problems. Alex Awards

McBride, James. ***The Color of Water***. Riverhead Books, 1996. A Black man pays tribute to his eccentric, determined white mother.

McEwan, Ian. ***Atonement: A Novel***. Doubleday, 2001. The lives of three people are changed forever by a young girl's scheming imagination during the summer of 1935. National Book Critics Circle Award

McMurtry, Larry. ***Lonesome Dove***. Simon & Schuster, 1985. Augustus McCrae and W. F. Call, former Texas Rangers, partners, and friends, face danger and hardships during a cattle drive from Texas to Montana in the late nineteenth century. Pulitzer Prize

Meyers, Kent. ***The Work of Wolves***. Harcourt, 2004. A Lakota teenager and a German exchange student join a horse trainer to save a group of abused horses from a land baron with a much-too-attractive wife. Alex Awards

Moehringer, J. R. ***The Tender Bar: A Memoir***. Hyperion, 2005. While growing up, young J.R. found his male role models among the flamboyant characters who were regulars at Publicans, a Long Island bar owned by his uncle.

Morrison, Toni. ***The Bluest Eye***. First published 1969. A young Black girl yearns for beautiful blue eyes like the little white girls she sees in this Nobel Prize winning author's novel.

Neruda, Pablo. ***Twenty Love Poems and a Song of Despair***. First published 1924. This collection of romantic poems was originally published when the Nobel Laureate was just nineteen.

Niffenegger, Audrey. ***The Time Traveler's Wife***. MacAdam/Cage, 2003. Henry, a dashing, adventurous librarian, and Clare, a beautiful artist, are bound by their love and tested by unusual circumstances resulting from Henry's chrono-displacement disorder. Alex Awards

Norman, Elizabeth. ***We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese***. Random House, 1999. Nurses are held captive in the jungles of the Philippines in this harrowing World War II tale.

Packer, Z. Z. ***Drinking Coffee Elsewhere***. Riverhead, 2003. Eight short stories revolve around young African Americans, from little girls in a Brownie troop to a young man accompanying his father on the Million Man March.

Palwick, Susan. ***The Necessary Beggar***. Tor, 2005. The young merchant Darroti and his family are banished to a harsh and hostile land known as America, where they are remanded to an internment camp in the Nevada desert along with thousands of other refugees. The strain of adapting to their new life begins to tear the family apart. Alex Awards

Pamuk, Orhan. ***Snow***. Knopf/Random House, 2004. Upon returning from exile to the city of Kars, a Turkish poet named Ka discovers that Ipek, the beautiful girl he loved as a child, is still there and that the town has been stunned by a rash of suicides of zealously religious girls. A *New York Times* Best Book of the Year

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**Grade 11 and Grade 12**

Pessl, Marisha. **Special Topics in Calamity Physics**. Viking, 2006. After ten years of moving from small college to small college with her professor father, Blue Van Meer spends her senior year in high school in North Carolina, where she joins a group of student intellectuals and tries to solve the murder of their mysterious mentor. A *New York Times* Best Book of the Year

Picoult, Jodi. **My Sister's Keeper**. Atria, 2004. Anna was conceived as a bone marrow match for her older sister, Kate, and up until now she has not challenged her role. Alex Awards

Plath, Sylvia. **The Bell Jar**. First published 1963. This autobiographical novel describes an ambitious and brilliant young woman's search for values and her eventual breakdown. The 2004 edition includes additional poems.

Roberts, Cokie. **Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation**. Morrow, 2004. The ABC news commentator and NPR news analyst offers a social history of the women of the Colonial Period who influenced the Founding Fathers.

Roth, Philip. **The Plot Against America**. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. In this semi-autobiographical fantasy, Charles Lindbergh defeats President Roosevelt in the 1940 Presidential election and acts on his anti-Semitic leanings. Pulitzer Prize

Santiago, Esmeralda. **Almost a Woman**. Perseus, 1998. Struggling to find a balance between her Puerto Rican heritage and her new American way of life, an ambitious and determined teenager faces the challenges of language barriers, cultural stereotypes, poverty, and a fiercely protective mother.

Schlosser, Eric. **Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal**. Houghton Mifflin, 2001. The author charges that fast food has hastened the malling of the American landscape, widened the chasm between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and propelled U.S. cultural imperialism abroad.

Schwartz, Maxime. **How the Cows Turned Mad**. University of California Press, 2003. A gripping biological detective story traces the history of mad cow and other infectious brain diseases of livestock and people.

Seierstad, Asne. **The Bookseller of Kabul**. Little, Brown, 2003. Asne Seierstad recounts the experiences she had while staying with a bookseller named Sultan Khan and his family in Afghanistan just after the fall of the Taliban, describing what it was like for Afghans to adjust to a new way of life and a new government.

Sijje, Dai. **Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress**. Knopf, 2002. During the Chinese Cultural Revolution, two boys exiled to the countryside for "reeducation" are distracted first by a violin, then by a beautiful young seamstress and a stash of Western classics.

Sittenfeld, Curtis. **Prep**. Random House, 2005. Lee Fiora, a scholarship student from the Midwest, constantly feels like an outsider at her exclusive East Coast boarding school, as she painfully lives out the coming-of-age experiences of a modern teenager. A *New York Times* Best Book of the Year

Smith, Bob. **Hamlet's Dresser: A Memoir**. Scribner, 2002. The author weaves stories from his bittersweet boyhood with illuminating passages from Shakespeare's sonnets and plays.

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Solzhenitsyn, Alexander. *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*. Knopf, 1995. Although innocent of any crime, Ivan Denisovich Shukhov is convicted of treason and sentenced to serve ten years in a Soviet work camp in Siberia. ALA Notable Best Books

Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath*. First published 1939. Forced out of their home in the Oklahoma Dust Bowl by economic desperation, a family of Okie farmers drives west to California in search of work as migrant fruit pickers. Pulitzer Prize

Sullivan, Robert. *Rats: Observations on the History and Habitat of the City's Most Unwanted Inhabitants*. Bloomsbury, 2004. Sullivan overlays his observations and study of the brown rat onto the history of New York City in a narrative detailing the rat's seemingly inexhaustible number of connections to mankind.

Tan, Amy. *Bonesetter's Daughter*. Putnam, 2001. Ruth, American-born daughter of a Chinese immigrant mother, arranges for a translation of her mother's handwritten life story in China and learns some long-hidden truths about her family, which help her understand and appreciate her mother better. A *New York Times* Notable Book

Temple-Raston, Dina. *A Death in Texas: A Story of Race, Murder and a Small Town's Struggle for Redemption*. Holt, 2002. From the initial investigation of the dragging death of James Byrd in Jasper, Texas, through the trials and aftermath, a journalist follows the events through the eyes of Sheriff Billy Rowles—an enlightened lawman determined to take lessons from the tragedy—and the townspeople.

Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden*. First published 1854. His observations on nature and life were penned during the author's solitary stay at Walden Pond, outside Concord, Massachusetts, from 1845 to 1847.

Tucker, Jonathan B. *Scourge: The Once and Future Threat of Smallpox*. Grove Press, 2001. The history of the smallpox virus is traced from the first recorded outbreak around 3700 B.C. through its development as a modern biological warfare agent.

Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle*. Scribner's, 2005. The successful MSNBC.com gossip columnist, who "made it" against all odds, shares her astonishing memoir of a childhood lived in a seriously dysfunctional, but uniquely vibrant, family. Alex Awards

Weber, Katherine. *Triangle: A Novel*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. After the death of 106-year-old Ester Gottesfeld, last living survivor of the horrific 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist fire which killed so many but spared Ester, her granddaughter Rebecca, with the help of her partner George Botkin, seek to unravel the truth about Ester's oft-repeated account of the fire.

Welty, Eudora. *One Writer's Beginnings*. First published 1984. A Mississippi writer describes her childhood and the influences that shaped her life.

Wilson, August. *Fences*. Plume, 1986. In the pre-television, pre-air-conditioned era of the fifties when families spent time on their porches and back yards, Troy Maxson, a tough Black man who has struggled against the reality of unequal opportunities in America, spins yarns and tells stories to his circle of family and friends in this play about fences, which are built to keep things and people out or in. Pulitzer Prize

Wilson, Edward O. *The Future of Life*. Knopf, 2002. A complex, intelligent look at a plan to save the biosphere for ensuing generations by resolving the conflict between environmentalism and economics.

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**Grade 11 and Grade 12**

Zusak, Markus. *The Book Thief*. Knopf, 2006. Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel, a young German girl, whose book-stealing and storytelling talents help sustain her family, the Jewish man they are hiding, and her neighbors.

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