

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 5

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Angleberger, Tom. ***Darth Paper Strikes Back: An Origami Yoda Book***. Amulet Books, 2011. Harvey, upset when his Darth Paper finger puppet brings humiliation, gets Dwight suspended – but Origami Yoda asks Tommy and Kellan, now in seventh grade, to make a new case file to persuade the School Board to reinstate Dwight. *Series*
- Appelt, Kathi. ***The Underneath***. Atheneum, 2008. An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack and two kittens born underneath the house endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free. Newbery Honor 2009. National Book Award Finalist 2008
- Bolden, Tonya. ***George Washington Carver***. Abrams Books, 2008. Born a slave during the Civil War and raised by his mother's owners, George Washington Carver, also known as the "Peanut Man," became an important African American conservationist, scientist, researcher, and teacher.
- Broach, Elise. ***Masterpiece***. Holt/Christy Ottaviano, 2008. Marvin, a beetle, and his family live in the home of eleven-year-old James and his family. When James' birthday party fails miserably, Marvin surprises James with an elaborately intricate pen and ink drawing Marvin has created. Trouble begins when the drawing is mistaken for James' work, which sets off action that leads to a fast-paced mystery featuring an unlikely friendship, the discovery of art forgery, and thievery.
- Buyea, Rob. ***Because of Mr. Terupt***. Delacorte, 2010. Over the course of a school year, seven kids in the fifth grade narrate their experiences in the classroom with an energetic first-time teacher. *Series*
- Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Al Capone Shines My Shoes***. Dial Books, 2009. Moose Flanagan, who lives on Alcatraz along with his family and the families of the other prison guards, is frightened when he discovers that noted gangster Al Capone, a prisoner there, wants a favor in return for the help that he secretly gave Moose. *Sequel*
- Colfer, Eoin. ***The Atlantis Complex***. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. When an army of fairy space probes programmed to destroy Atlantis returns to Earth, Artemis Fowl attempts to stop the destruction of the city while dealing with his own delusional and obsessive-compulsive disorders. *Series*
- Connor, Leslie. ***Crunch***. Katherine Tegen, 2010. With their parents stuck in New England during a gasoline crisis, Dewey and his siblings struggle to keep open the family bicycle business and solve the mystery of missing bicycle parts.
- Delano, Marfe Ferguson. ***Helen's Eyes: A Photobiography of Annie Sullivan, Helen Keller's Teacher***. National Geographic, 2008. Annie Sullivan grew up in extreme poverty with her own eye problems. Her first and only job was teaching Helen Keller how to "see" despite the fact that she was blind, deaf, and mute.

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- DiTerlizzi, Tony. ***The Search For WondLa***. Simon & Schuster, 2010. Living in isolation with a robot on what appears to be an alien world populated with bizarre life forms, a twelve-year-old human girl called Eva Nine sets out on a journey to find others like her. Features “augmented reality” pages in which readers can access additional information online about Eva Nine’s world. *Series*
- Feldman, Jody. ***The Gollywopper Games***. Greenwillow, 2008. When the Golly Toy & Game Company announces the Gollywopper Games, Gil Goodson wants to be the lucky winner; this could be the perfect opportunity for his family to move away from Orchard Heights. Can he solve the puzzles and complete the stunts? This may remind you of a modern day *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory!*
- Flanagan, John. ***The Emperor of Nihon-Ja***. Philomel, 2011. In a faraway land, a young warrior must protect an emperor from an uprising and train an inexperienced army, with assistance from his Ranger friends. *Series*
- Forester, Victoria. ***The Girl Who Could Fly***. Feiwel and Friends, 2008. “Piper decided to jump off the roof. It wasn’t a rash decision on her part.” And so we meet a strong-willed, generous girl with extraordinary talents.
- Gourlay, Candy. ***Tall Story***. David Fickling Books, 2010. Sixteen-year-old Bernardo, who is eight feet tall and suffers from a condition called Gigantism, leaves the Philippines to live with his mother’s family in London, much to the delight of his thirteen-year-old half-sister Andi, a passionate basketball player.
- Grant, Michael. ***The Magnificent Twelve, Book One: The Call***. Katherine Tegen, 2010. Mack MacAvoy, a seriously average twelve-year-old boy, is faced with a difficult decision when a three-thousand-year-old man appears in the boys’ bathroom and informs him that he is one of the Magnificent Twelve and is needed to find his eleven teammates and save the world. *Series*
- Hale, Shannon. ***Rapunzel’s Revenge***. Bloomsbury, 2008. In this graphic novel, Rapunzel, having grown up in a lovely castle with the woman she thought was her mother, is placed in a very tall hollow tree as punishment after her curiosity prompts her to climb the castle wall and look at the ruin of the world beyond her home. She is able to escape and, with the help of Jack, embarks on a plan to free the land and find her true mother.
- Hannigan, Katherine. ***True (...Sort Of)***. Greenwillow, 2011. For most of her eleven years, Delly has been in trouble without knowing why. Her little brother, R.B., and a strange, silent new friend, Ferris, help her find a way to be good -- and happy -- again.
- Holm, Jennifer L. ***Turtle in Paradise***. Random House, 2010. A girl named Turtle moves to the Florida Keys where she meets her extended family and makes new friends.
- Kehret, Peg. ***Ghost Dog Secrets***. Dutton, 2010. Sixth-grader Rusty is determined to help an injured dog that is chained outdoors in frigid weather with no food, water, or shelter. He calls animal control and takes matters into his own hands, aided by his best friend and a ghost collie that leads Rusty to an even deeper secret.

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- Kelly, Lynne. ***Chained***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. To work off a family debt, ten-year-old Hastin leaves his desert village in India to work as a circus elephant keeper; but many challenges await him, including trying to keep Nandita, a sweet elephant, safe from the cruel circus owner.
- 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.
- Leal, Ann. ***Also Known as Harper***. Holt, 2009. Harper Lee Morgan's family is struggling, but she holds close to her passion for writing poetry and this provides her with an opportunity to express her feelings, even as she must skip school to take care of her younger brother Hemingway.
- Lin, Grace. ***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon***. Little, Brown, 2009. A magical story of a young girl who wishes for fortune and happiness for her village and leaves her family to find the mysterious Old Man of the Moon. Newbery Honor 2010
- Malone, Marianne. ***The Sixty-Eight Rooms***. Random House, 2010. An adventure about the Thorne Rooms, sixty-eight miniature rooms made by Mrs. James Ward Thorne in the 1930s, and a magic key that allows a person to shrink down small enough to explore the rooms' secrets.
- Marino, Nan. ***Neil Armstrong is My Uncle and Other Lies Muscle Man McGinty Told Me***. Roaring Brook, 2009. Set in 1969, Tammy has a difficult summer when her best friend suddenly moves away and a new, know-it-all boy moves into the neighborhood.
- Mass, Wendy. ***11 Birthdays***. Scholastic, 2009. Best friends since their mothers met at the hospital when they were born, Amanda and Leo always celebrate their birthdays together. However, now that they are turning 11, they are no longer speaking to each other and everything is not as normal as it may appear. This is one birthday that does not seem to end!
- Nelson, Peter & Rohitash Rao. ***Herbert's Wormhole***. Harper, 2009. While Alex is getting to know his inventive neighbor Herbert, they unexpectedly travel to the twenty-second century through a space-time wormhole where they encounter aliens, jet packs, and their future selves.
- O'Connell, Caitlin and Donna M. Jackson. ***The Elephant Scientist***. Houghton Mifflin, 2011. While on assignment to study elephants in Namibia, scientist Caitlin O'Connell uncovers fascinating new information about elephant communication. Beautiful photographs of the African landscape and elephants along with the story of a woman's journey to find her professional calling make this a fascinating read.
- O'Connor, Barbara. ***On the Road to Mr. Mineo's***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. Sherman, a one-legged pigeon, sets everyone aflutter in a small southern town.

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- O'Connor, George. ***Hera, the Goddess and Her Glory***. First Second, 2011. Recounts the stories of the many heroes who sought and won the approval and patronage of Hera, the Queen of the Gods, including the story of Heracles. *Series*
- Oliver, Lauren. ***Liesl & Po***. Harper, 2011. A mix-up involving the greatest magic in the world has tremendous consequences for Liesl, an orphan who has been locked away in the attic by her stepmother, Will, an alchemist's apprentice, and Po, a disarming ghost, as they are pursued by friend and foe while making an important journey to set things right.
- Paterson, Katherine and John. ***The Flint Heart: A Fairy Story***. Candlewick, 2011. A magical amulet, created by a Stone Age magic man for an ambitious individual wishing to take control of his tribe, brings power and despair to those who touch it. When the amulet reemerges, Charles and his sister Unity must find a way to rescue the humans, fairies, and animals from the mysterious object.
- Peck, Richard. ***On the Wings of Heroes***. Dial Books, 2007. Set in the time period of World War II, Davy Bowman has two heroes: his dad who fought in World War I and his brother who is currently in the Air Force.
- Philbrick, Rodman. ***The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg***. Blue Sky Press, 2009. Homer P. Figg escapes from his wretched foster home in Pine Swamp, Maine, and sets out to find his beloved older brother, Harold, who has been illegally sold into the Union Army. Newbery Honor, 2010
- Riordan, Rick. ***The Lost Hero***. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. Jason, Piper, and Leo, three students from a school for "bad kids," find themselves at Camp Half-Blood, where they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera, who has been imprisoned by Mother Earth herself. *Series*
- Ross, Stewart. ***Into the Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way By Land, Sea, and Air***. Candlewick, 2011. Fourteen amazing journeys by explorers throughout history and the methods they used by land, sea, and sky to find their way. Includes unfolding cross sections of vessels.
- Rutkoski, Marie. ***The Cabinet of Wonders***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008. Twelve-year-old Petra, accompanied by her magical tin spider, goes to Prague hoping to retrieve the enchanted eyes the Prince of Bohemia took from her father. *Series*
- Say, Allen. ***Drawing from Memory***. Scholastic, 2011. Using watercolor paintings, original cartoons, vintage photographs, and maps, Caldecott medalist Allen Say chronicles his experiences as an artist during World War II and describes his relationship with his mentor Noro Shinpei, Japan's leading cartoonist.
- Scattergood, Augusta. ***Glory Be***. Scholastic, 2012. In the summer of 1964 as she is about to turn twelve, Glory's town of Hanging Moss, Mississippi, is beset by racial tension when town leaders close her beloved public pool rather than desegregate it. Based on real-life events, this is a story of family, friendship, and some of life's tough choices.

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- St. John, Lauren. ***The White Giraffe***. Dial Books, 2006. After losing her parents in a tragic fire, eleven-year-old Martine must live with a grandmother she has never met on a wildlife preserve in Africa where she learns about a mystical white giraffe.
- Standiford, Natalie. ***The Secret Tree***. Scholastic, 2012. Sixth-graders Minty and her new friend Raymond discover a tree with a hollow trunk that holds the secrets of the people in their neighborhood. While watching their neighbors to solve the mysteries of the secrets and break a curse, the friends will have to work through some of their own secrets as well.
- Stead, Rebecca. ***When You Reach Me***. Wendy Lamb, 2009. As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980's television game show "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seem to defy laws of time and space. Newbery Award, 2010
- Stewart, Trenton Lee. ***The Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict***. Little, Brown, 2012. Nine-year-old Nicholas Benedict is moved to one more orphanage: this one filled with nasty bullies who target him, a suspicious orphanage director, and a mystery about lost treasure. Using his superior intellect and fierce determination, Nicholas strives to solve the mystery and makes a couple of fast friends in the process. *Series*
- Stone, Jeff. ***Eagle***. Random House, 2008. After attacking and killing his former grandmaster, sixteen-year-old Ying realizes he has been betrayed. In addition to being wanted for treason now, Ying is forced to turn to Hok, his old temple sister, for help. *Series*
- VanHecke, Susan. ***Raggin' Jazzin' Rockin': A History of American Musical Instrument Makers***. Boyds Mills, 2011. A history of American musical instrument makers and the contributions they made to the changing sound of music.
- 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.
- Weeks, Sarah. ***Pie***. Scholastic, 2011. Alice's Aunt Polly passes away and entrusts the recipe for her world-famous pie crust to her cat, which she leaves in Alice's care. As everyone, including Alice, tries to discover the secret ingredients, Alice learns some important lessons about faith, love, and family.
- Wells, Rosemary. ***On the Blue Comet***. Candlewick, 2010. Searching for his father, Oscar boards a train that takes him on an adventure that crosses the country both forward and backward in time.
- Weston, Robert Paul. ***Zorgamazoo***. Razorbill, 2008. Imaginative and adventurous Katrina eludes her maniacal guardian to help Morty, a member of a vanishing breed of zorgles, with his quest to uncover the fate of the fabled zorgles of Zorgamazoo as well as of other creatures that seem to have disappeared from the Earth.

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Wood, Maryrose. ***The Mysterious Howling***. Balzer + Bray, 2010. Three wild children who were raised by wolves and their young governess, Penelope, are caught up in the mysteries of Ashton Place and the people who live there. *Series*

Compiled by:

Grace Littlefield (Chair), *Second Baptist School*

Ivana Brown, *St. John's School*

Beth Dunn, *St. John's School*

Jenny Filardo, *Presbyterian School*

Judann Luening, *Kinkaid School*

Nita Schriver, *Annunciation Orthodox School*

Aria Tatelman, *formerly at Duchesne Academy*

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HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 6

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Avi. ***The Seer of Shadows***. HarperCollins, 2008. In this intriguing historical ghost story set in New York City in 1872, Horace Carpetine becomes an apprentice to a local society photographer and learns more about deception, ghosts, and photography than he could ever have imagined.
- Bauer, Joan. ***Close to Famous***. Viking, 2011. Twelve-year-old Foster dreams of growing up to become a celebrity chef despite her reading disability. Can the quirky townsfolk of tiny Culpepper help Foster succeed?
- Birdsall, Jeanne. ***The Penderwicks at Point Mouette***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. When the three younger Penderwick sisters go to Maine with Aunt Claire and are separated from oldest sister Rosalind for the first time in their lives, an uncertain Skye is left in charge as the OAP – oldest available Penderwick. *Series*
- Bowen, Fred. ***Throwing Heat***. Peachtree, 2010. Eighth-grader Jack Lerner relies on pitching fast balls until a young college coach teaches him that throwing the heat may not be the best way to win games.
- Bragg, Georgia. ***How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous***. Walker, 2011. “If you don’t have the guts for gore, do not read this book.” This caveat from the publisher warns the reader that they will encounter lots of gory details of the deaths of nineteen famous people . . . fun and informative too.
- Burg, Shana. ***A Thousand Never Evers***. Delacorte, 2008. Addie Ann Pickett, an African American girl in 1963 Kuckachoo, Mississippi, journals about her family, the racial injustices they face, and her fears for her older brother Elias when he goes missing due to her own carelessness.
- Calkhoven, Laurie. ***Will at the Battle of Gettysburg, 1863***. Dutton, 2011. In 1863, twelve-year-old Will, who longs to be a drummer in the Union army, is stuck in his sleepy hometown of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. However, when the Union and Confederate armies meet right there in his town, he and his family are caught up in the fight, and Will learns about the horrors of war. *Series*
- Cody, Matthew. ***Powerless***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2009. Soon after moving to Noble's Green, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Daniel learns that his new friends have super powers that they will lose when they turn thirteen, unless he can use his brain power to protect them.
- Compestine, Ying Chang. ***Revolution is Not a Dinner Party: A Novel***. Holt, 2007. During the Cultural Revolution in China, Ling struggles to make sense of injustice and severe losses of freedom that both she and her well-educated family must endure.
- Connor, Leslie. ***Waiting for Normal***. Katherine Tegen, 2008. Addie would like a normal life. Not only does she live in a trailer in Schenectady, New York, with her mother, who is not at all responsible or parental, but also she is separated from her kind and loving stepfather and younger half-sisters. Schneider Family Book Award, 2009

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- Creech, Sharon. ***The Great Unexpected***. Joanna Cotler, 2012. Orphans Naomi and Lizzie are best friends, but Naomi has a knack for being around when trouble happens, and she knows all the peculiar people in town. Into their lives drops the strangely charming Finn boy. Across the sea, on a grand estate in Ireland, an elderly lady has a plan. These two worlds weave together with the great unexpected gifts of love and forgiveness.
- Crilley, Paul. ***Rise of the Darklings***. Egmont USA, 2010. Twelve-year-old Emily Snow, who sells watercress on the streets of London to support herself and her younger brother, takes the fate of humanity into her hands when she unknowingly involves herself in a war between two factions of piskies -- small, sarcastic fey creatures fighting for control over England -- by rescuing one. *Series*
- DeFelice, Cynthia. ***Wild Life***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011. A gripping adventure story about a boy named Erik and a rescued dog living in the Middle of Nowhere, North Dakota, with grandparents he hardly knows, while his parents have been deployed to Iraq.
- Dowd, Siobhan. ***The London Eye Mystery***. David Fickling Books, 2007. When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.
- Draper, Sharon. ***Out of My Mind***. Atheneum, 2010. Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient, young girl with cerebral palsy discovers a way for her to speak for the first time.
- Dubosarsky, Ursula. ***The Word Snoop***. Dial Books, 2009. Brimming with humor, puzzles, and more, this book offers an entertaining look at the English language, from the origins of the alphabet to texting.
- Engle, Margarita. ***Tropical Secrets: Holocaust Refugees in Cuba***. Holt, 2009. Escaping from Nazi Germany to Cuba in 1939, a young Jewish refugee dreams of finding his parents again, befriends a local girl with painful secrets of her own, and discovers that the Nazi darkness is never far away.
- Erskine, Kathryn. ***Mockingbird: (Mok'ing-burd)***. Philomel, 2010. Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.
- Flanagan, John. ***The Outcasts***. Philomel, 2011. In this action-packed companion series to Flanagan's *Rangers Apprentice* books, a sixteen-year-old Skandian-Araluen named Hal and his group of misfit friends compete against two other, more powerful, brotherbands, enduring three months of grueling training in seamanship, weapons, and battle tactics to determine who will win the coveted prize. *Series*
- 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 story is a classic rags-to-riches story with plenty of personality to spare.

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- Fleming, Candace. ***The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P.T. Barnum.*** Schwartz & Wade, 2009. Filled with reproductions of old photographs, circus posters, and museum flyers, this fascinating biography of the life of showman Phineas Taylor Barnum will both engage and entertain readers.
- Gibbs, Stuart. ***The Last Musketeer.*** Harper, 2011. On a family trip to Paris to sell family heirlooms, fourteen-year-old Greg and his parents are whisked back to 1615 Paris, and Greg teams up with the soon-to-become Three Musketeers in an attempt to free his imprisoned parents from imminent death. *Series*
- Grant, Katy. ***Hide & Seek.*** Peachtree, 2010. This survival story is set in the isolated Arizona mountains and involves a boy, geocaching, and a puzzling message.
- Hiaasen, Carl. ***Chomp.*** Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. A combination of wildlife animals and reality TV is mixed with a dose of humor, adventure, and mystery when the fame-seeking star of the show disappears in the Florida Everglades and Wahoo Cray, the young animal wrangler, and his new friend Tuna are the only ones who can find him.
- Holm, Jennifer L. ***The Trouble with May Amelia.*** Atheneum, 2011. Set on a farm in Washington State in the year 1900, May Amelia is the only girl in a Finnish family with seven brothers, so she is often the one in trouble and is looking to gain her Papa's respect, despite his feeling that girls are useless.
- Johnson, Rebecca L. ***Journey into the Deep: Discovering New Ocean Creatures.*** Millbrook, 2011. Travel with oceanographers discovering new animals during a ten-year project documenting sea life. Learn about new species of interesting creatures such as jellyfish, octopuses, squids, and sea worms found along coral reefs, ocean mountain ranges, and in the deepest, darkest zones of the ocean floor.
- Kelly, Jacqueline. ***The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate.*** Holt, 2009. Calpurnia struggles with growing up as she spends more of her free time with her grandfather, an avid naturalist, examining the beauty of nature, while at the same time her mother wants to teach her the responsibilities of a young woman during the turn of the century in Central Texas. Newbery Honor, 2010
- Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody. ***The Reinvention of Moxie Roosevelt.*** Dial Books, 2010. Tired of her ordinary self, Moxie complicates her life and runs into trouble when she decides to take on a variety of personas at her new boarding school.
- Landon, Kristen. ***The Limit.*** Aladdin, 2010. When his family exceeds its legal debt limit, thirteen-year-old Matt is sent to the Federal Debt Reduction Agency workhouse where he discovers illicit activities are being carried out using children who have been placed there.
- Mass, Wendy. ***The Candymakers.*** Little, Brown, 2010. Four gifted twelve-year-olds, including Logan, the candymaker's son, are set to be contestants in the Confectionary Association's national competition to determine the nation's tastiest sweet, but nobody anticipates that a friendship will form between the children.

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- Miller, Sarah. ***Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller***. Atheneum, 2007. This is Annie Sullivan's story of challenge and determination as she tries to become a teacher of the child Helen Keller, who is blind, deaf, and overindulged by her desperate parents.
- O'Connor, George. ***Athena: Grey-Eyed Goddess***. First Second, 2010. Action and adventure are in store for the Greek goddess Athena in this graphic portrayal that is told through five myths. *Series*
- Pennypacker, Sara. ***Summer of the Gypsy Moths***. Balzar + Bray, 2012. A foster child named Angel and twelve-year-old Stella, who are living with Stella's great-aunt Louise at the Linger Longer Cottage Colony on Cape Cod, secretly assume responsibility for the vacation rentals when Louise unexpectedly dies and the girls are afraid of being returned to the foster care system.
- Prineas, Sarah. ***The Magic Thief***. HarperCollins, 2008. Conn's life is forever changed when he tries to pick the pocket of the wizard Nevery and gets a strong jolt of magic. Instead of punishing the boy, Nevery takes Conn under his wing, teaches him magic, and enlists his help in finding the person responsible for stealing the city's dwindling magic supply. *Series*
- Rex, Adam. ***The True Meaning of Smekday***. Disney-Hyperion, 2007. Aliens called "The Boov" abduct Gratuity "Tip" Tucci's mother, leading Tip to begin a wild adventure to rescue her mother with the help of her cat named Pig and a friendly Boov named J.Lo.
- Ryan, Pam Muñoz. ***The Dreamer***. Scholastic, 2010. A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but still became one of the most widely-read poets in the world.
- Scott, Elaine. ***Space, Stars, and the Beginning of Time: What the Hubble Telescope Saw***. Houghton Mifflin, 2011. Amazing photographs from space illustrate this history of telescopes, astronomy, black holes and the Big Bang theory.
- Selznick, Brian. ***Wonderstruck: A Novel in Words and Pictures***. Scholastic, 2011. Rose and Ben are deaf children living fifty years and worlds apart, yet both marvel and connect with the world around them. The American Museum of Natural History links their separate stories – one narrated in text and the other through cinematic illustrations.
- Smith, Roland. ***Tentacles***. Scholastic, 2009. After the mysterious disappearance of their parents, Marty and Grace go to live with their scientist uncle and accompany him on what soon becomes an increasingly dangerous expedition to New Zealand to track a giant squid.
- Stanley, Diane. ***The Silver Bowl***. Harper, 2011. From the age of seven when she became a scullery maid in a castle, Molly has seen visions of the future which, years later, lead her and friend Tobias on an adventure to keep the heir to the throne, Prince Alaric, safe from a curse on the royal family.

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Grade 6

- Stephens, John. ***The Emerald Atlas***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. Using an enchanted atlas, Kate, Michael, and Emma battle evil as they seek to be reunited with their parents in a magical world. *Series*
- Stone, Tanya Lee. ***Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream***. Candlewick, 2009. A chronicle of the thirteen women who tried to become NASA's first women astronaut trainees in the early 1960s. All were pilots; each earned high scores in preliminary tests; one had more hours in the air than John Glenn or Scott Carpenter. They were not accepted into the program, but their story is riveting.
- Tanner, Lian. ***The Museum of Thieves***. Delacorte, 2010. Goldie, an impulsive and bold twelve-year-old, escapes the oppressive city of Jewel, where children are required to wear guardchains for their protection. She finds refuge in the extraordinary Museum of Dunt, an ever-shifting world where she discovers a useful talent for thievery as well as mysterious secrets that threaten her city and everyone she loves. *Series*
- Thor, Annika. ***A Faraway Island***. Delacorte, 2009. Living with two separate host families on a small island off the coast of Sweden in order to escape the Nazis, two German Jewish sisters, Nellie and Stephanie, face daily life without their parents. Each sister adapts differently to their challenges, not knowing if they will see their parents as planned or when the war will end.
- Tubb, Kristin O'Donnell. ***Selling Hope***. Feiwel and Friends, 2010. This story, set in 1905, is about a smart, savvy girl named Hope who travels the vaudeville circuit with her magician dad and a cast of quirky characters (including Buster Keaton and his family) and invents anti-comet pills in an effort to make money and to save people from Haley's Comet, which some people believe is about to hit the earth.
- Wiles, Deborah. ***Countdown***. Scholastic, 2010. As eleven-year-old Franny Chapman deals with drama at home and with her best friend in 1962, she tries to understand the larger problems in the world after President Kennedy announces that Russia is sending nuclear missiles to Cuba.

Compiled by:

Grace Littlefield (Chair), *Second Baptist School*

Ivana Brown, *St. John's School*

Beth Dunn, *St. John's School*

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Nita Schriver, *Annunciation Orthodox School*

Aria Tatelman, *formerly at Duchesne Academy*

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H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Aguirre, Ann. ***Enclave***. Feiwel and Friends, 2011. Following her fifteenth birthday, Huntress Deuce is sent with topsider Fade to determine the fate of a neighboring enclave. After a shocking discovery, the pair is banished by their own enclave's elders and must face the darkness and dangers unlike any ever seen.
- Anderson, Laurie Halse. ***Chains***. Simon & Schuster, 2008. After being sold to a cruel Loyalist couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War. Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction. *Series*
- Arbuthnott, Gill. ***The Keepers' Tattoo***. Chicken House, 2010. Months before her fifteenth birthday, Nyssa learns that she is a special member of a legendary clan, the Keepers of Knowledge, as she and her uncle try to escape from Alaric, the White Wolf, who wants to use lines tattooed on her scalp to destroy the rest of her people.
- Aronson, Marc. ***If Stones Could Speak: Unlocking the Secrets of Stonehenge***. National Geographic, 2010. Texts, photographs, and explanatory maps and illustrations document archaeologist Mike Parker Pearson's study of Stonehenge and the surrounding area, describing what he found and what the artifacts reveal about the site and its history.
- Asimov, Isaac. ***The Stars, Like Dust***. First published 1951. At the death of his father, Biron Farrill becomes involved in the plot to rebel against the Tyranni who have conquered many worlds. *Series*
- Bachmann, Stefan. ***The Peculiar***. Greenwillow Books, 2012. Scorned by both human and faery creatures, young changeling Bartholomew Kettle sets out on a mysterious and dangerous journey across ancient London to rescue his little sister Hettie. Someone has been kidnapping and murdering changelings. Will Bartholomew find his sister in time or will she meet the same fate as those Peculiars before her?
- Barker, Clive. ***Abarat***. Joanna Cotler, 2002. A journey beyond imagination unfolds when Candy travels to the Abarat, a world composed of twenty-five islands where each island represents a different hour of the day and is filled with strangely imaginative creatures. Will Candy be able to save the Abarat from the dark forces that are beginning to stir? Beautifully bizarre paintings add depth to this unique fantasy story filled with daring adventure and surprises. Bram Stoker Award. *Series*
- Barton, Chris. ***Can I See Your ID? : True Stories of False Identities***. Dial Books, 2011. From the impoverished young woman who enchanted nineteenth-century British society as a faux Asian princess to the lonely but clever Frank Abagnale of "Catch Me if You Can" fame, these ten true vignettes offer riveting insight into mind-blowing masquerades.

H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- Bondoux, Anne-Laure. ***A Time of Miracles***. Translated from the French by Y. Maudet. Delacorte, 2010. In the early 1990s, a boy with a mysterious past and the woman who cares for him endure a five-year journey across the war-torn Caucasus and Europe, weathering hardships and welcoming unforgettable encounters with other refugees searching for a better life. Batchelder Award Winner 2011
- Bradford, Chris. ***Young Samurai: The Way of the Warrior***. Disney-Hyperion, 2008. Orphaned by a ninja pirate attack off the coast of Japan in 1611, twelve-year-old English lad Jack Fletcher is determined to prove himself despite the bullying of fellow students. A legendary sword master who rescues Jack begins training him as a samurai warrior. *Series*
- Card, Orson Scott. ***Pathfinder***. Simon Pulse, 2010. Thirteen-year-old Rigg has a secret ability to see the paths of others' pasts, but revelations after his death set him on a dangerous quest that brings new threats from those who would either control his destiny or kill him. *Series*
- Carson, Rae. ***The Girl of Fire and Thorns***. Greenwillow, 2011. Princess Elisa has been married off to a neighboring king. Unsure about who she is and what to do, she is kidnapped and catapulted into an adventure where she has to blend her own fate with that of her people.
- Carter, Ally. ***Heist Society***. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. A group of teenagers uses its combined talents to re-steal several priceless paintings and save fifteen-year-old Kat Bishop's father, himself an international art thief, from a vengeful collector. *Series*
- Charlton, Blake. ***Spellwright***. Tor Books, 2010. A wizard's apprentice, Nicodemus Weal, has trouble controlling his spells because he is dyslexic. To make matters worse, he is named a suspect in the murder of a powerful wizard and must race against time to clear his name and uncover who is responsible for that crime as well as the destruction of the city around him. *Series*
- Chatterton, Martin. ***The Brain Finds a Leg***. Peachtree, 2009. In Farrago Bay, Australia, thirteen-year-old Sheldon is recruited by a new student, Theo Brain, to help investigate a murder which is tied not only to bizarre animal behavior but also to a diabolical plot to alter human intelligence. *Series*
- Chibbaro, Julie. ***Deadly***. Atheneum, 2011. New York City in 1793 is reeling from typhoid fever and sixteen-year-old Prudence is hired, against convention, by the Sanitation Department to discover how the disease is being spread.
- Chima, Cinda Williams. ***The Demon King***. Disney-Hyperion, 2009. This book is the first in a high fantasy series that tells of the intertwining fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa. As Han takes possession of an amulet that once belonged to an evil wizard, Raisa uncovers a conspiracy in the Grey Wolf Court. *Series*

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- Choldenko, Gennifer. ***No Passengers Beyond This Point***. Dial Books, 2011. With their house in foreclosure, sisters India and Mouse and their brother Finn are sent to stay with an uncle in Colorado until their mother can join them. However, when the plane lands, the children are welcomed by cheering crowds to a strange place where each of them has a perfect house and a clock that is ticking down the time.
- 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 idea about right and wrong.
- Dendy, Leslie A. ***The Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine***. Holt, 2005. Recounts the true and amazing stories of ten scientists and medical researchers who endured extreme hardship and discomfort in order to test new discoveries and inventions in the fields of medicine and science.
- Dionne, Erin. ***Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet***. Dial Books, 2010. Hamlet's attempts to be a "normal" eighth grader become increasingly difficult when her genius seven-year-old sister and her eccentric Shakespeare scholar parents both begin to attend her school.
- Dixon, Heather. ***Entwined***. Greenwillow, 2011. Confined to their dreary castle while mourning their mother's death, Princess Azalea and her eleven sisters join The Keeper, trapped in a magic passageway, in a nightly dance that soon involves romance, mystery and eventually nightmare!
- Doyle, Arthur Conan, Sir. ***The Hound of the Baskervilles***. First published 1902. Sherlock Holmes is asked to investigate the tale of a mysterious death and a hound that haunts the lonely moors around the Baskervilles' ancestral home.
- Draper, Sharon M. ***Fire from the Rock***. Dutton, 2007. In 1957, honor student Sylvia Patterson is thrilled to be chosen to be among the first African American students to attend the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, but threats of violence by racist mobs cause Sylvia to reconsider.
- Dumas, Alexandre. ***The Three Musketeers***. First published 1844. Young d'Artagnan comes to Paris to join the Musketeers who serve King Louis XIV and try to foil the evil plots of Cardinal Richelieu.
- Engle, Margarita. ***The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom***. Holt, 2008. Using free verse poetry, Rosa tells her story of healing, revolution, slavery, survival, and hope for freedom during three revolutions in Cuba between 1868 and 1898.
- Eulberg, Elizabeth. ***Take a Bow***. Scholastic, 2012. The Senior Showcase recital at a performing arts high school in New York is approaching: Sophie is grateful for the support of her friends and boyfriend; Emme and Ethan wonder whether they could be more than friends and band-mates; and Carter does not know how to admit that he would rather be a painter than a performer.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- Evans, Richard Paul. ***Michael Vey, Prisoner of Cell 25***. Simon Pulse, 2011. To everyone at school, fourteen-year-old Michael Vey is nothing special, just the kid with Tourette's syndrome. However Michael is extremely special . . . he has electric powers. Michael and his friends set out to discover how he and a cheerleader named Taylor ended up with their abilities, and their investigation brings them to the attention of a powerful group who wants to use the electric teens to control the world. *Series*
- Falkner, Brian. ***Assault***. Random House, 2012. In the year 2030, six teens have been modified to look like the aliens who are battling for control of Earth. Their mission: to go behind enemy lines to uncover and destroy a shocking, secret alien project.
- Feinstein, John. ***The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. Two teen reporters stumble across an illegal betting ring when they team up with major Washington news reporters to cover one of the fiercest rivalries of college football. *Series*
- Fleischman, Sid. ***Sir Charlie Chaplin: The Funniest Man in the World***. Greenwillow, 2010. Charlie Chaplin, who was raised by a mentally ill mother and an alcoholic, mostly absent, father, spent his childhood in the depths of poverty but grew to international fame as perhaps "the funniest man in the world" in vaudeville, silent movies, and finally "talkies" at the end of his career.
- Freedman, Russell. ***The War to End All Wars: World War I***. Clarion, 2010. This is a narrative history of World War I that features archival photographs and describes how advanced military weaponry impacted the course of the war.
- Frost, Robert. ***Poetry for Young People: Robert Frost***. Edited by Gary D. Schmidt. Sterling, 1994. A selection of twenty-five poems by Robert Frost arranged by the four seasons and illustrated by Henri Sorenson. At the bottom of each poem is a brief editor's note about how the lines could be read.
- Gaiman, Neil. ***The Graveyard Book***. HarperCollins, 2008. Toddler Bod, short for Nobody, crawls into a graveyard after his family is brutally murdered. He is then raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen by the graveyard's ghosts and otherworldly creatures. Newbery Award 2009
- Gier, Kerstin. ***Ruby Red***. Translated from the German by Anthea Bell. Holt, 2011. Sixteen-year-old Gwyneth Shepherd unexpectedly travels through time to the eighteenth century where she discovers a mystery about her real birth date and finds to her dismay that she must work with Gideon -- another time traveler who hates her! *Series*
- Gleitzman, Morris. ***Once***. Holt, 2010. After living in a Catholic orphanage for nearly four years, a naive Jewish boy runs away and embarks on a journey across Nazi-occupied Poland to find his parents. *Series*
- Gonzalez, Christina Diaz. ***The Red Umbrella***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. In 1961, fourteen-year-old Lucia's comfortable life in Cuba ends when communists take control of the country. Lucia and her younger brother are sent by their parents to live with a foster family in Nebraska and must adapt to a new language and way of life.

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Grade 7 and 8

- Green, Tim. ***The Big Time: A Football Genius Novel***. Harper, 2010. Troy has a talent for predicting professional football teams' plays, but his talent complicates his own seventh grade team's drive to the Georgia State Championship, especially when the father he never knew shows up. *Series*
- Grimes, Nikki. ***Planet Middle School***. Bloomsbury, 2011. A series of poems describes all the baffling changes at home and at school in twelve-year-old Joylin's transition from tomboy basketball player to not-quite-girly girl.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. ***Uprising***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Newly arrived in New York from Italy in 1911, Bella gets a job at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory working long hours under terrible conditions alongside hundreds of other immigrants. When a spark ignites a bit of cloth, the factory becomes engulfed in flames.
- Hale, Marian. ***Dark Water Rising***. Holt, 2006. While salvaging and rebuilding in the aftermath of the Galveston flood of 1900, sixteen-year-old Seth proves himself in a way that his previous efforts never could; but he still must face his father man-to-man. Actual eyewitness accounts are incorporated into the story.
- Hale, Nathan. ***One Dead Spy: The Life, Times, and Last Words of Nathan Hale, America's Most Famous Spy***. Amulet Books, 2012. After being swallowed by a giant history book moments before his own execution, Nathan Hale is given the chance to tell his own story as well as many other stories from American History. *Series*.
- Harrington, Kim. ***The Dead and Buried***. Point, 2012. High School senior Jade is horrified to learn her father and stepmother have bought the house of a girl who was mysteriously killed just the year before they moved to town. She is even more horrified to realize the house is being haunted by the dead girl's very mean-spirited ghost.
- Hartman, Rachel. ***Seraphina***. Random House, 2012. Seraphina is half dragon and half human and, if people knew, would be considered an abomination. She lives a life in the shadows until her musical talent, a mysterious death, and her attraction to a handsome prince bring her life to a crisis.
- Higgins, F. E. ***The Eyeball Collector***. Feiwel and Friends, 2009. Homeless and orphaned after his father is blackmailed and dies, Hector seeks revenge against the creepy con man who ruined them and follows him to the mansion of the cruel Lady Mandible.
- Hinds, Gareth. ***The Odyssey: A Graphic Novel***. Candlewick, 2010. Homer's epic tale of Odysseus - the ancient Greek hero who encounters witches and other obstacles on his journey home after fighting in the Trojan War - is retold in graphic novel format.
- Hoffman, Alice. ***Green Witch***. Scholastic, 2010. A year after her family and world are destroyed, Green and her fellow survivors go on a quest for answers about life, love, loss, and their future. *Series*

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- Jablonski, Carla. **Resistance: Book 1.** First Second, 2010. After trying to hide their Jewish friend Henri when his parents disappear, Paul and Marie are asked to join the French resistance. They experience the horrors of World War II in Vichy France as their own father is held by the Nazis. *Series*
- Kincaid, S.J. **Insignia.** Katherine Tegen, 2012. Tom, a fourteen-year-old genius at virtual reality games, is recruited by the United States Military to begin training at the Pentagon Spire as a Combatant in World War III, controlling the mechanized drones that do the actual fighting off-planet. *Series*
- Kipling, Rudyard. **The Jungle Book.** First published in magazines, 1893-1895. This is a collection of stories which center on Mowgli, a “man-cub” raised by wolves. His journey to adulthood is aided by Baloo the bear and Bagheera the black panther. Also included is the story of a mongoose, Rikki-Tikki-Tavi.
- Kirby, Matthew. **The Clockwork Three.** Scholastic, 2010. As mysterious circumstances bring Giuseppe, Frederick, and Hannah together, their lives soon interlock like the turning gears in a clock and they realize that each one holds a key to solving the others' mysteries.
- Korman, Gordon. **Pop.** Balzer + Bray, 2009. Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him, but whose childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water.
- Lane, Andrew. **Death Cloud.** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010. In 1868, with his army officer father suddenly posted to India, and his mother mysteriously “unwell,” fourteen-year-old Sherlock Holmes is sent to stay with his eccentric uncle and aunt in their vast house in Hampshire, where he uncovers his first murder and a diabolical villain. *Series*
- Le Guin, Ursula K. **A Wizard of Earthsea.** First published 1968. After pride causes him to unleash a demon, Zed is compelled to either chase or escape from the ever-pursuing shadow. *Series*
- Lee, Y.S. **A Spy in the House.** Candlewick, 2010. Rescued from the gallows in 1850s London, young orphan and thief Mary Quinn is offered a place at Miss Scrimshaw's Academy for Girls where she is trained to be part of an all-female investigative unit called The Agency. At age seventeen, she infiltrates a rich merchant's home in hopes of tracing his missing cargo ships. *Series*
- Lu, Marie. **Legend.** Putnam's, 2011. In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy. *Series*
- McMann, Lisa. **The Unwanted.** Aladdin, 2011. In a society that purges thirteen-year-olds who are creative, identical twins Aaron and Alex are separated -- one to attend University while the other, supposedly Eliminated, finds himself in a wondrous place where youths hone their abilities and learn magic. *Series*

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- Meloy, Maile. ***The Apothecary***. Putnam's, 2011. During the early days of the Red Scare, Janie and her family must leave their home in Los Angeles and move to London. There, she encounters a fascinating boy named Benjamin Burrows who wants to become a spy. When Benjamin discovers his father has some secrets of his own, Janie and Benjamin begin a race against the Russians to prevent a global disaster.
- Meyer, Marissa. ***Cinder***. Feiwel and Friends, 2012. Cinder, a gifted mechanic and a cyborg with a mysterious past, is blamed by her stepmother for her stepsister's illness while a deadly plague decimates the population of New Beijing. When Cinder's life gets intertwined with Prince Kai's, she finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle. *Series*
- Monaghan, Annabel. ***A Girl Named Digit***. Houghton Mifflin, 2012. After identifying a terrorist plot by cracking their codes, Digit, a brilliant girl from Santa Monica, California, gets involved with the young FBI agent who is trying to ensure her safety.
- Mull, Brandon. ***A World Without Heroes***. Aladdin, 2011. Fourteen-year-old Jason Walker is transported to a strange world called Lyrian, where he joins Rachel and a few rebels to piece together the Word that can destroy the malicious wizard emperor. *Series*
- Mulligan, Andy. ***Trash***. David Fickling Books, 2010. A group of fourteen-year-old boys -- who make a living picking garbage from the outskirts of a large city -- finds something special and mysterious that brings terrifying consequences.
- Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. ***Wisdom's Kiss: A Thrilling and Romantic Adventure, Incorporating Magic, Villainy, and a Cat***. Houghton Mifflin, 2011. Princess Wisdom has been betrothed to the Duke of Farina. Unfortunately, she falls in love with a circus acrobat whose heart already belongs to another. Despite all this, they must band together, along with Magic the cat (to whom there is more than meets the eye), in order to preserve the kingdom and save it from almost certain ruin.
- Ness, Patrick. ***A Monster Calls***. Candlewick, 2011. Troubled by the recurring nightmare that started with his mother's cancer treatments, twelve-year-old Conor is shocked by a monster in the form of a giant yew tree that appears at his window -- a monster who has three stories to tell and who wants "the truth" from Conor.
- O'Brien, Caragh M. ***Birthmarked***. Roaring Brook, 2010. Sixteen-year-old Gaia Stone, a midwife who dutifully delivers at least three babies a month and hands them over to the Enclave, a community within walls where the children are adopted and live with conveniences which are not available to the outside world, begins to question her loyalty to the group after her mother is brutally taken away from her by the people she serves. *Series*
- O'Neal, Eilis. ***The False Princess***. Egmont USA, 2011. Nalia has been raised as the Princess of Thorvaldor, but on her sixteenth birthday she learns that her real name is Sinda and that she is part of a complicated plot that would change the future of her country forever.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- Oppel, Kenneth. ***This Dark Endeavor***. Simon & Schuster, 2011. Victor Frankenstein, his twin brother, and his cousin explore the dark and forbidden depths of the Frankenstein castle, stumbling across the ancient magical texts that Victor later hopes will save his brother's life. A precursor to the classic character first introduced by Mary Shelley in 1818. *Series*
- Park, Linda Sue. ***A Long Walk to Water***. Clarion, 2010. Young Salva survives many dangers growing up in war-torn Sudan and dedicates his life to making a difference for those who live in his native land. Based on a true story.
- Rice, Condoleezza. ***Condoleezza Rice: A Memoir of My Extraordinary, Ordinary Family and Me***. Delacorte, 2011. Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice shares stories of growing up in a black middle class family during the racially turbulent 1950s and 1960s.
- Riggs, Ransom. ***Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children***. Quirk Books, 2011. Sixteen-year-old Jacob, having traveled to a remote island after a family tragedy, discovers an abandoned orphanage, and, after some investigating, he learns the children who lived there may have been dangerous and quarantined but may also still be alive. Haunting vintage photographs are dispersed throughout the book, giving the story a hint of creepiness.
- Ruiz Zafón, Carlos. ***The Prince of Mist***. Little, Brown, 2010. In 1943, in a seaside town where their family has gone to be safe from war, thirteen-year-old Max Carver and his fifteen-year-old sister Alicia, along with new friend Roland, face off against an evil magician who is striving to complete a bargain made before he died.
- Runholt, Susan. ***Rescuing Seneca Crane***. Viking, 2009. While accompanying her mother on a business trip to Scotland, fourteen-year-old Kari and her best friend Lucas attempt to solve a kidnapping mystery. *Series*
- Sachar, Louis. ***The Cardturner: A Novel About a Queen, a King, and a Joker***. Delacorte, 2010. When his wealthy uncle, a champion bridge player who has lost his vision, asks seventeen-year-old Alton to be a cardturner for him, Alton has no idea how much he will ultimately learn from his eccentric relative.
- Schmatz, Pat. ***Bluefish***. Candlewick, 2011. Longing for the country and his missing dog Roscoe, Travis tries to survive in a new school while living with his alcoholic grandfather and burdened by a painful secret. Hope comes in the form of a teacher and a new friend named Velveeta.
- Schmidt, Gary D. ***Okay for Now***. Clarion, 2011. Fourteen-year-old Doug has just moved to a new town. A new town means another chance to start over. Will everyone assume he is like his thug of an older brother? Will everyone assume he is like his corrupt, abusive father? All Doug wants is to be treated fairly and, thanks to a couple of new friends, Doug may just find out what it is like to be "okay for now."
- Scieszka, Jon. ***Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories About Growing Up Scieszka***. Viking, 2008. Part memoir and part scrapbook, this book is a very funny autobiography of growing up in a family of six boys in the 1950s.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- Sepetys, Ruta. ***Between Shades of Gray***. Philomel, 2011. On a calm, beautiful night in 1941 Lithuania, fifteen-year-old Lina's life is torn apart as she and her family are forced from their home and sent to work in labor camps along the harsh Arctic Circle as part of Stalin's forced relocation program.
- Sheinkin, Steve. ***The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery***. Roaring Brook, 2010. An introduction to the life of Benedict Arnold that highlights not only the traitorous actions that made him legendary, but also his heroic involvement in the American Revolution.
- Shulman, Polly. ***The Grimm Legacy***. Putnam's, 2010. High school student Elizabeth gets an after-school job as a page at the "New York Circulating Material Repository." When she gains coveted access to its Grimm Collection of magical objects, she and the other pages are drawn into a series of frightening adventures involving mythical creatures and stolen goods.
- Shusterman, Neal. ***Unwind***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Three teens embark upon a cross-country journey in order to escape from a society that salvages body parts from children ages thirteen to eighteen. *Series*
- Smiley, Jane. ***The Georges and the Jewels***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2009. Seventh-grader Abby Lovitt grows up on her family's California horse ranch in the 1960s, learning to train the horses her father sells and trying to reconcile her strict religious upbringing with her own ideas about life. *Series*
- Sonnenblick, Jordan. ***After Ever After***. Scholastic, 2010. Jeffrey, cancer survivor from *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie*, now confronts eighth grade without Steven, his staunch, supportive older brother; but he bonds with Tad, also a cancer survivor, making a pact to help each other – Tad to walk for graduation without his wheelchair and Jeffrey to pass his standardized test in math to graduate.
- Stiefvater, Maggie. ***The Scorpio Races***. Scholastic, 2011. Some race for fame. Some race for fortune. Then there is the story of Puck Connolly who, for the sake of her family, willingly risks her life as she races the legendary water horses in the bloody and brutal Scorpio Races.
- Stroud, Jonathan. ***The Ring of Solomon***. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. Bartimaeus, a wise-cracking djinni, finds himself in the tenth century and at the court of King Solomon with an unpleasant master and a sinister servant, and he gets himself into trouble with King Solomon's magic ring. *Series*
- Supplee, Suzanne. ***Somebody Everybody Listens To***. Dutton, 2010. When Retta Lee Jones graduates from high school and leaves her small town in search of a big break in Nashville, she encounters warmth and kindness along with cruelty and violence.
- Swanson, James L. ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer***. Scholastic, 2009. This is a nail-biting and detailed telling of the assassination of Lincoln and all the accompanying chaos of the struggle to catch his killer.
- Telgemeier, Raina. ***Smile***. Graphix, 2010. In this charming graphic novel Raina navigates the tough world of middle school all while enduring mountains of dental work after knocking out her two front teeth.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 7 and 8

- TenNapel, Doug. ***Ghostopolis***. Graphix, 2010. Welcome to the afterlife. Terminally ill Garth Hale is accidentally transported to Ghostopolis before his time, and now it is up to washed-up, ghost-wrangler Frank Gallows and Garth's own deceased grandfather to get the boy back among the living in this action-packed, graphic-novel adventure.
- 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. *Series*
- Valente, Catherynne M. ***The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making***. Feiwel and Friends, 2011. The narrator tells a story, not unlike the perils of Alice in Wonderland and Dorothy in Oz, of a twelve-year-old girl named September who is whisked away to Fairyland to retrieve the golden sword for the cruel queen, Marquess. *Series*
- Verne, Jules. ***20,000 Leagues Under the Sea***. First published 1869. This is a nineteenth-century science fiction tale of an electric submarine, its eccentric captain, and an undersea world.
- Westerfeld, Scott. ***Leviathan***. Simon Pulse, 2009. In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using steam-driven iron machines, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts. *Series*
- White, Kiersten. ***Paranormalcy***. HarperTeen, 2010. When a dark prophecy begins to come true, sixteen-year-old Evie of the International Paranormal Containment Agency must not only try to stop it, she must also uncover its connection to herself and to the alluring shape-shifter named Lend.
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HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 9 and Grade 10

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Archer, Jennifer. ***Through Her Eyes***. HarperTeen, 2011. Sixteen-year-old Tansy is used to moving every time her mother starts writing a new book. However, in the small Texas town where her grandfather grew up, she is lured into the world of a troubled young man whose death sixty years earlier is shrouded in mystery.
- Asher, Jay. ***Thirteen Reasons Why: A Novel***. Razorbill, 2007. When Hannah Baker commits suicide, she leaves behind thirteen cassette tapes to the people she feels contributed to her decision to end her life.
- Auburn, David. ***Proof: A Play***. Faber and Faber, 2001. This play explores the unknowability of love and the mysteries of mathematics. Pulitzer Prize, Drama 2001
- Barber, Nathan. ***Resurrecting Lazarus, Texas***. CreateSpace, 2012. When Coach Gabe Lewis accepts a job as girls' basketball coach at Lazarus High School, he cannot anticipate the struggles he will face both on and off the court or the personal investment he will end up making when his team needs him to be more than their coach. A tragedy occurs that rocks not only the team, but also the entire town. The girls might be the spark that can bring life back to Lazarus.
- Bardugo, Leigh. ***Shadow and Bone***. Holt, 2012. Orphaned by the Border Wars, Alina Starkov is taken from obscurity and away from her only friend, Mal, to become the protégé of the mysterious Darkling, who trains her to join the magical elite in the belief that she can destroy the monsters of the Fold.
- Beard, Jo Ann. ***In Zanesville: A Novel***. Little, Brown, 2011. In a small factory town in Illinois during the 1970s, a fourteen-year-old girl navigates life alongside her best friend. From a babysitting disaster in the opening scene through kitten-saving adventures, being noticed by boys, and becoming friends with the popular cheerleaders, the girls survive a test of their friendship in their awkward, often hilarious, transition from childhood to young adulthood. Alex Award 2012
- Bracken, Alexandra. ***The Darkest Minds***. Hyperion, 2012. Sixteen-year-old Ruby breaks out of a government-run rehabilitation camp for teens who acquired dangerous powers after surviving a virus that wiped out most American children.
- Bradley, Alan. ***A Red Herring Without Mustard***. Delacorte, 2011. Eleven-year-old detective Flavia de Luce sorts through clues trying to solve various mysteries involving a missing child, a fortune-teller, and a dead body found in Flavia's own backyard. *Series*
- Brown, Jennifer. ***Hate List***. Little, Brown, 2009. Sixteen-year-old Valerie, whose boyfriend Nick committed a school shooting at the end of their junior year, struggles to cope with integrating herself back into high school life, unsure herself whether she was a hero or a villain.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 9 and Grade 10

- Cameron, Sharon. ***The Dark Unwinding***. Scholastic, 2012. In 1852, when seventeen-year-old Katharine is sent to her family's estate to prove that her uncle is insane, she finds he is an inventor whose work creating ingenious clockwork figures supports hundreds of families; strange occurrences soon have her doubting her own sanity.
- Coben, Harlan. ***Shelter: A Mickey Bolitar Novel***. Putnam's, 2011. After witnessing his father's death and sending his mom to rehab, Mickey is forced to live with his estranged uncle and enter a new high school where, after a few weeks, his new girlfriend vanishes without a trace. Mickey enters a world of conspiracy and danger and discovers that nothing is as it seems.
- Cohn, Rachel, and David Levithan. ***Dash & Lily's Book of Dares***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. While perusing his favorite bookstore, Dash stumbles across a hidden red journal. After accepting the dare written within the journal, he and Lily begin a mysterious, clever scavenger hunt. As they get to know each other only through the journal entries, they both wonder if they should meet.
- Condie, Ally. ***Matched***. Dutton, 2010. Cassia has always had complete trust in the Society to make decisions for her, but the moment she is being paired with her ideal mate, a second face flashes on the screen. Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility as she tries to decide which man she truly loves. *Series*
- Crewe, Megan. ***The Way We Fall***. Hyperion, 2012. Sixteen-year-old Kaelyn challenges her fears, finds a second chance at love, and fights to keep her family and friends safe as a deadly new virus devastates her island community. *Series*
- Crutcher, Chris. ***Deadline***. Greenwillow, 2007. Eighteen-year-old Ben Wolf has been given less than a year to live, but he chooses not to tell anyone so his senior year will be as normal as possible. This surprisingly humorous story tracks that final year as Ben goes out for football, finds romance, and realizes that his secret has a serious impact on others.
- Flack, Sophie. ***Bunheads***. Little, Brown, 2011. A young dancer must decide if she wants to continue to devote her whole life to ballet when a handsome musician enters the picture. The author danced with the New York City Ballet for nine years and gives the reader an authentic glimpse into the world of ballet.
- Garcia, Kami, and Margaret Stohl. ***Beautiful Creatures***. Little, Brown 2009. After graduation, Ethan cannot wait to move out of his unexciting small town of Gatlin, South Carolina. When Lena moves into town, he is immediately drawn to her, and his unusual dreams of saving her leads him to believe they have a psychic connection. *Series*
- Garfield, Simon. ***Just My Type: A Book About Fonts***. Gotham Books, 2010. The author explores the history of type with sharp wit and charm answering questions you never knew to ask such as *Can a font make me cool?* or *Can a font be Jewish or German?*
- Gautreaux, Tim. ***Welding With Children***. Picador, 2009. Set in the hot days and nights of Louisiana, these eleven short fiction stories will make you laugh, cry, and marvel as ordinary people try to survive what life throws at them, whether it be memory loss, a crazed bull, or a thief with a big blade and bad intentions.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 9 and Grade 10

- Gregory, Philippa. **Changeling**. Simon Pulse, 2012. In 1453, seventeen-year-old Luca Vero, accused of heresy and expelled from his monastery, is recruited to help investigate evil across Europe.
- Grenville, Kate. **The Lieutenant**. Atlantic Monthly Press, 2008. This is a story of friendship, self-discovery, and the power of language set along the unspoiled shores of 1788 New South Wales during the early days of Australian colonization.
- Harrington, Kim. **Clarity**. Point, 2011. Sixteen-year-old Clare Fern, a member of a family of psychics, helps the mayor and a skeptical detective solve a murder in a Cape Cod town during the height of tourist season . . . and her brother is a prime suspect.
- Heiligman, Deborah. **Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith**. Holt, 2009. Heiligman reveals a personal look at the life and love of the man whose ideas have caused a stir in the scientific and religious communities since the 1800s. Michael L. Printz Honor Book 2010
- 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 story of a young prince, Paul Atreides, scion of a star-crossed dynasty, and of his journey from boy to warrior to ruler of a dying planet destined to become a paradise regained. *Series*
- Johnson, Maureen. **The Name of the Star**. Putnam's, 2011. An American girl, Rory, enrolls in a London boarding school for her senior year of high school and encounters a suspenseful ghost mystery closely tied to the Jack the Ripper murders of old.
- Khoury, Jessica. **Origin**. Razorbill, 2012. Set in the lush and dangerous Amazon rain forest, this story follows Pia, an immortal girl bred to create an immortal race, and the team of scientists responsible for her mission. Pia, however, starts to question her destiny when she falls for a boy she meets in the jungle.
- Klavan, Andrew. **If We Survive**. Thomas Nelson, 2012. When revolutionaries seize control of a country in Central America where sixteen-year-old Will is serving as a missionary, he and the other volunteers find themselves in a desperate race to escape the violence and return home.
- Kooser, Ted. **Delights & Shadows: Poems**. Copper Canyon Press, 2004. This collection of poems by former Poet Laureate of the United States describes the habits and struggles of daily life.
- Li, Cunxin. **Mao's Last Dancer**. Penguin Press, 2003. The autobiography of Houston Ballet soloist Li Cunxin details his rise from poverty in Communist China to dance stardom and a defection that caused an international incident.
- Luttrell, Marcus. **Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10**. Little, Brown, 2007. American Navy SEAL and team leader Marcus Luttrell tells his story of the loss of his teammates in July 2005 along the mountainous Afghanistan-Pakistan border to al-Qaida insurgents.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 9 and Grade 10

- Lutz, Lisa. ***The Spellman Files***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Izzy Spellman, an irrepressible twenty-eight-year-old sleuth, works for her parents' San Francisco PI firm. The dysfunctional and relentlessly nosy Spellman clan spends as much time spying on one another as they do working their cases. Alex Award 2008. *Series*
- Marchetta, Melina. ***Finnikin of the Rock***. Candlewick, 2008. Finnikin was a child when the royal family of Lumatere was brutally murdered and replaced by an imposter. Now on the cusp of manhood, he reluctantly joins forces with an enigmatic young novice and fellow-exile who claims that her dark dreams will lead them to a surviving royal child and a way to regain the throne of Lumatere. *Series*
- Michaelis, Antonia. ***Tiger Moon***. Translated from the German by Anthea Bell. Amulet Books, 2008. Sold to be the eighth wife of a rich and cruel merchant, Safia, also called Raka, tries to escape her fate by telling stories of Farhad the thief, his companion Nitish the white tiger, and their travels across India to retrieve a famous jewel that will save a kidnapped princess from becoming the bride of a demon king. Batchelder Award Honors 2009
- Morpurgo, Michael. ***Private Peaceful***. Scholastic, 2003. Thomas Peaceful was only fifteen when he joined the British Forces in World War I to fight with his older brother. One unexpected horror separates them.
- Nash, Ogden. ***The Best of Ogden Nash***. Ivan R. Dee, 2007. This delightful book of rhythm and rhyme combines magical word use by the renowned master of light humorous verse. The book is edited by the poet's daughter, Linell Nash Smith.
- Ness, Patrick. ***The Knife of Never Letting Go***. Candlewick, 2008. Settlers on Todd's planet are infected with a virus that kills all the women and causes survivors to hear the thoughts of men and animals. This coming-of-age survival story reveals the psychological impact of being unable to shut out other people's thoughts or to hide one's own. *Series*
- Nielsen, Jennifer A. ***The False Prince***. Scholastic, 2012. To avoid a civil war, four orphans engage in a brutal competition masterminded by a devious nobleman to determine who will impersonate the king's long-missing son. *Series*
- Ogawa, Yoko. ***The Housekeeper and the Professor***. Translated from the Japanese by Stephen Snyder. Picador, 2009. A once brilliant math professor suffers the effects of a head trauma that erases his short term memory every eighty minutes, and he must repeatedly be re-introduced to his housekeeper. However, past equations in the professor's mind enable him to discover surprising connections.
- Oliver, Lauren. ***Delirium***. Harper, 2011. Lena looks forward to receiving the government-mandated cure that prevents the delirium of love and leads to a safe, predictable, and happy life. However, ninety-five days before her eighteenth birthday and her treatment, she falls in love. *Series*
- Oliver, Mary. ***Swan: Poems and Prose Poems***. Beacon Press, 2010. Mary Oliver's adoration and awe of nature shines through in this slim collection of beautiful poetry evocative of the beauty, brutality, and mysteries found in the natural world.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 9 and Grade 10

- Patrick, Cat. ***Forgotten***. Little, Brown, 2011. Each night at precisely 4:33 am, while sixteen-year-old London Lane is asleep, her memory of that day is erased. London relies on reminder notes and a trusted friend to get through the day, but things get complicated when a new boy at school enters the picture.
- Perkins, Lynne Rae. ***As Easy as Falling Off the Face of the Earth***. Greenwillow, 2010. In a hilarious story of the ultimate bad day, fifteen-year-old Ry is left behind when he jumps off the stalled train taking him to summer camp. It is downhill from there until he meets Del. Worried about his grandfather and unable to contact his parents, Ry, with Del's help, sets off on the misadventure of a lifetime that will keep you laughing all the way.
- Portis, Charles. ***True Grit***. First published 1968. With a supersized ration of audacity and her papa's pistol tied to her saddle horn, fourteen-year-old Mattie Ross sets out to avenge her father's murder.
- Roth, Veronica. ***Divergent***. Katherine Tegen, 2011. In post-apocalyptic Chicago, society is divided into five factions -- Amity, Candor, Dauntless, Erudite, and Abnegation -- in order to avoid future wars and preserve peace. Each year, those who just turned sixteen must select and then devote the rest of their lives to a faction. The day of choosing will change Beatrice's life forever . . . for once you choose, you can never go back. *Series*
- Salinger, J. D. ***The Catcher in the Rye***. First published 1951. Holden Caulfield is an alienated, disillusioned youth who drops out of school and spends three days and nights in New York City on a quest for self-discovery.
- Sedgwick, Marcus. ***Revolver***. Roaring Brook, 2009. Set in 1910 just north of the Arctic Circle, the novel opens with fourteen-year-old Sig sitting alone in an isolated cabin with his dead father when a one-thumbed, vengeful man arrives, demanding stolen gold he claims he is owed by Sig's father. Michael L. Printz Honor Award 2011
- Shusterman, Neal. ***Bruiser***. HarperTeen, 2010. Bruiser was the guy nobody knew – or wanted to know. Then Brontë includes him in her group of friends and unusual things start to happen.
- Steinbeck, John. ***Cannery Row***. First published 1945. The antics of Steinbeck's down-at-heel misfit characters bring mirth and sensitivity to a rollicking good read.
- Stiefvater, Maggie. ***The Raven Boys***. Scholastic, 2012. Though she is from a family of clairvoyants, Blue Sargent's only gift seems to be that she makes other people's talents stronger. When she meets Gansey, one of the Raven Boys from the expensive Aglionby Academy, she discovers that he has talents of his own and that together their talents are a dangerous mix.
- Summerscale, Kate. ***The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher: A Shocking Murder and the Undoing of a Great Victorian Detective***. Walker, 2008. Recounts the events surrounding the 1830 murder of three-year-old Saville Kent and explores the police investigation into the crime. Family members became prime suspects and local residents began to doubt the effectiveness of the lead investigator.

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Grade 9 and Grade 10

- Tan, Shaun. ***The Arrival***. Arthur A. Levine, 2006. A man leaves his troubled homeland and travels to an unfamiliar place where he makes a new life and sends for his family. This Australian award-winning wordless book's sepia drawings look like surrealistic snapshots, poignantly expressing the timeless and universal courage of immigrants.
- Taylor, Laini. ***Daughter of Smoke & Bone***. Little, Brown, 2011. Karou, a seventeen-year old art student at a Prague boarding school, seems mysterious to her friends. Her frequent disappearances and her sketch book of terrifying drawings add to the mystery surrounding her. This fast-paced fantasy of mystery, family history, beautiful descriptions of Prague's architecture and country-side is a real page-turner. *Series*
- Tittle, Y. A. with Kristine Setting Clark. ***Nothing Comes Easy***. Triumph Books, 2009. Experience the early hard-hitting, blood-spilling days of the NFL *before* fancy helmets and a lot of protective padding were used. This autobiography of Yelberton Abraham Tittle, who grew up during the Depression in Marshall, Texas, is a history of the NFL and includes game records and statistics.
- Vonnegut, Kurt. ***Slaughterhouse-Five, or, The Children's Crusade: A Duty-Dance with Death***. First published 1969. After surviving the bombing of Dresden in World War II, Billy Pilgrim returns to civilian life and has a successful career until he is kidnapped by aliens and displayed in a zoo on the planet of Tralfamadore.
- Walker, Sally M. ***Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland***. Carolrhoda Books, 2009. Walker provides a detailed and illustrated account of an archaeological dig in Jamestown. The search for human remains and materials from colonial Maryland is revealed layer by fascinating layer.
- Wein, Elizabeth. ***Code Name Verity***. Hyperion, 2012. In World War II, Maddie, a British transport pilot, attempts to deliver her best friend and Resistance spy, Julie (Code Name Verity), into Nazi-occupied France, but the plane crashes. Love, courage, bravado, and intrigue drive the story to its stunning conclusion.
- Wells, Robison. ***Variation***. HarperTeen, 2011. Benson Fisher hopes for a brighter future after being accepted to Maxfield Academy. Shortly after arriving, he realizes that the school is more like a prison because it is run by teens of various warring factions. No one ever escapes, but they do disappear.
- Wilder, Thornton. ***Our Town: A Play in Three Acts***. First published 1938. With the well-earned reputation of an American classic, this play brings themes of growing up, love, marriage, and death to the stage and portrays the dignity of the human spirit through life in Grover's Corner.
- Williams-Garcia, Rita. ***Jumped***. HarperTeen, 2009. Trina has unknowingly insulted the unstable Dominique in the hall, and she is in danger of being jumped after school. Leticia knows what is going on, but she does not want to get involved by telling anyone.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 9 and Grade 10

- Wilson, Daniel H. ***Robocalypse***. Doubleday, 2011. An artificial intelligence program has taken over the world, uniting all the computer programs residing in everything from dolls and toys to domestic service robots, airplanes, and military weapons. Its aim is to destroy all human life . . . and the robots are winning. Alex Award 2012
- 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.
- Young, Moira. ***Blood Red Road***. McElderry Books, 2011. Saba has spent her whole life in Silverlake, a dried-up wasteland. When a monster sandstorm arrives along with four cloaked horsemen, Saba's world is shattered. Her beloved twin brother Lugh is captured, and Saba embarks on an epic quest to get him back.
Series
-

Compiled by:

Diana Armentor (Chair), *Awty International School*

Julia Beddingfield, *Second Baptist School*

Jenni Elliott, *Episcopal High School*

Pamela Hill, *The John Cooper School*

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Mia Steinkamp, *Houston Christian*

Susi West, *St. Pius X High School*

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HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 11 and Grade 12

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Ackerman, Diane. ***The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story***. Norton, 2007. Ackerman works from the diary of Antonina Zabinski to present a dramatic true story based on a little-known chapter from Nazi Poland. Not only was Hitler interested in human genetics but also the purity of animal breeds. At the Warsaw Zoo, Antonina and her director husband struggle with wartime shortages, caring for the animals, their own family's needs, and the hundreds of Jews hidden at the zoo.
- Albright, Madeleine. ***Prague Winter: A Personal Story of Remembrance and War, 1937-1948***. Harper, 2012. Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright shares her childhood experiences in Czechoslovakia amid the horrors of World War II and the discovery of her family's Jewish ancestry.
- Allison, Will. ***Long Drive Home***. Free Press, 2011. In this emotional psychological thriller, a father is driving his six-year-old daughter home when a young driver provokes him to road rage, and a fatal crash ensues. Will his subsequent lies fix the problems that rapidly accumulate?
- Anderson, Laurie Halse. ***Wintergirls***. Viking, 2009. Anderson takes us into the mind of an anorexic teenager. This is a haunting story about Lia's desire to be the thinnest girl in school, her struggle with anorexia, and her path to recovery.
- Archer, Jeffrey. ***Only Time Will Tell***. St. Martin's Press, 2011. Harry Clifton, raised by his uncle who was a shipyard laborer, finds the expectations for his life changing after winning a scholarship to a prestigious boys' school, discovering the truth about his father's death, and questioning his lineage. *Series*
- 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.
- Barbery, Muriel. ***The Elegance of the Hedgehog***. Translated from the French by Alison Anderson. Europa, 2008. Laugh out loud at the unlikely friendship among a secretly educated concierge, a precocious twelve-year-old girl with a philosophical bent, and an older Japanese gentleman in a Paris apartment.
- Bartlett, Allison Hoover. ***The Man Who Loved Books Too Much: The True Story of a Thief, a Detective, and a World of Literary Obsession***. Riverhead Books, 2009. This true crime story discloses the world of rare book dealers and the mind of a serial book thief as it follows the detective who tracks the mysterious and obsessive culprit.
- Beah, Ishmael. ***A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007. Twelve-year-old Ishmael first flees from attacking rebels with his friends, but later he is transformed into a cold-blooded soldier. This is a heartbreaking personal memoir of a boy growing up in Sierra Leone in the 1990s. Alex Award 2008

H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013
Grade 11 and Grade 12

- Brooks, Geraldine. ***Caleb's Crossing***. Viking, 2011. Bethia Mayfield befriends Caleb, the son of a Wampanoag chieftain, as she grows up near Martha's Vineyard in the mid-seventeenth century, and watches her minister father's attempts to convert the Native Americans. The fates of the children are tied together as Bethia's father encourages the education of Caleb, a privilege Bethia has always wanted.
- Brown, Ian. ***The Boy in the Moon: A Father's Journey to Understand His Extraordinary Son***. St. Martin's Press, 2009. Ian Brown, a Canadian journalist, chronicles his life as he and his wife care for their son who was born with a rare and severe genetic disorder. Brown candidly shares the extreme challenges and blessings their special son has brought to their lives.
- Carey, Peter. ***Parrot and Olivier in America***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. An imaginative re-invention of the French aristocrat Alexis de Tocqueville's 1830 visit to America, with rich description, strong characters and amusing events.
- Chandler, Raymond. ***The Long Goodbye***. First published 1953. A classic hard-boiled detective story where Philip Marlowe, private eye, deals with a cast of reprehensible characters in a doom-laden city. Edgar Award 1955
- Chwast, Seymour. ***Dante's Divine Comedy***. Bloomsbury, 2010. Chwast retells Dante's Divine Comedy in a graphic format. The visual presentation of all three stages of Dante's epic is appealing and humorous. The illustrations depict the details and complexity of this classic tale.
- Cline, Ernest. ***Ready Player One***. Crown, 2011. In the year 2044, Wade Watts, like the rest of humanity, chooses to escape reality and spends his waking hours in the limitless, utopian virtual world of the OASIS. When Wade stumbles upon the first of the fiendish puzzles set up by OASIS creator James Halliday, he finds he must compete with thousands of others -- including those willing to commit murder -- in order to claim the prize of a massive fortune. Alex Award 2012
- Collins, Billy. ***Ballistics: Poems***. Random House, 2008. A notable collection of verse from the U.S. Poet Laureate, expressing love, joy, and death in his inimitable language.
- Cronin, Justin. ***The Passage***. Ballantine Books, 2010. In a dystopian future, a virus found in a South American jungle was used to create a super soldier with great strength and healing abilities. The virus becomes an epidemic, and infected people become bloodthirsty monsters. Normal humans are hiding in fortresses trying to survive.
- Cross, Julie. ***Tempest***. Thomas Dunne, 2011. Nineteen-year-old Jackson uses his ability to travel through time after his girlfriend Holly is fatally shot during a violent struggle; but his journey two years into the past leads him to make a startling discovery about his father and the powerful enemies who will stop at nothing to recruit him for their own purposes.
- Cruz, Nilo. ***Anna in the Tropics***. Theatre Communications Group, 2003. In this play set in 1929 Florida in a Cuban-American cigar factory, a new lector unwittingly becomes a catalyst in the lives of his avid listeners.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 11 and Grade 12

- DeWoskin, Rachel. ***Big Girl Small: A Novel***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011. Sixteen-year-old Judy Lohden, a girl whose phenomenal singing voice should have made her the star of the local performing arts high school, instead finds herself hiding out from the national media in a seedy hotel room due to a controversy sparked in part by the fact that she is only three feet, nine inches tall. Alex Award 2012
- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. ***Leaving Yuba City: New and Selected Poems***. Anchor, 1997. Little stories about life in India and the Indian immigrant experience in America told through accessible and enlightening poetry.
- Doctorow, E. L. ***Homer & Langley***. Random House, 2009. Based on the true lives of the very unusual Collyer brothers of New York City, this novel allows the reader a glimpse into the hoarding existence of anonymity of the two reclusive brothers. Both a commentary of the 1940s and, moreover, a tale of human psychology, the story is beautifully written in the voice of one of the eccentric brothers.
- Donoghue, Emma. ***Room: A Novel***. Little, Brown, 2010. Five-year-old Jack has lived his whole life entirely within the walls of a small room where he and his mother are held prisoner. The imaginary world that she creates for him makes it bearable . . . for a while. Alex Award 2011
- Eggers, Dave. ***Zeitoun***. McSweeney's, 2009. A true account of a family caught between America's war on terror and the response to Hurricane Katrina. Following the chaos of the storm, Zeitoun travels the city by canoe, feeding abandoned animals and helping elderly neighbors until the day armed men suddenly burst into his home.
- Ferraris, Zoe. ***City of Veils***. Little, Brown 2010. In this fascinating mystery, policeman Osama Ibrahim, forensic scientist Katya Hijazi, and Bedouin guide Nayir Sharqi investigate the murder of a young Muslim woman washed up on the shores of Jeddah beach. *Series*
- Figueras, Marcelo. ***Kamchatka***. Translated from the Spanish by Frank Wynne. Black Cat, 2010. After the 1976 coup in Argentina, ten-year-old Harry uses his rich imagination, the fantasy territory of "Kamchatka" from the game RISK, and the boundless, endearing love of his family to deal with the chaos in their lives as his parents must hide from the military junta because of their political activities.
- Foer, Jonathan Safran. ***Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close***. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. Oskar Schell is an inventor, Francophile, tambourine player, Shakespearean actor, jeweler, pacifist. He is nine-years-old and on an urgent, secret search through the five boroughs of New York to find the lock that fits a mysterious key belonging to his father, who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center.
- Foer, Joshua. ***Moonwalking With Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything***. Penguin, 2011. Journalist Joshua Foer's informative book on human memory is as entertaining as it is educational. He expounds on the history of human memory and chronicles his experience of training to become the 2006 USA Memory Champion.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2013

Grade 11 and Grade 12

- Follett, Ken. ***Fall of Giants***. Dutton, 2010. A historical fiction epic that follows the lives of five interrelated families – American, German, Russian, English, and Welsh – around the time of World War I. *Series*
- Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. ***Chronicle of a Death Foretold***. Translated from the Spanish by Gregory Rabassa. Alfred A. Knopf, 1983. Nearly thirty years later, a man returns to town in an attempt to discover the truth behind the jumbled murder of Santiago Nasar.
- Grahame-Smith, Seth. ***Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter***. Grand Central, 2010. Many people know about Abe Lincoln’s political successes, but few know that after his mother was killed by a vampire Old Abe became a ruthless vampire hunter. This “biography,” packed full of historical facts, will not disappoint readers who like a good horror story.
- Grann, David. ***The Lost City of Z: A Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon***. Doubleday, 2009. In 1925, Percy Fawcett, eccentric member of the Royal Geographical Society, sets out to find the treasure of El Dorado deep in the Amazon jungle where he mysteriously disappears. This story contains fascinating facts of Fawcett’s quest as well as the attempts of explorers through the years who have tried to solve the mystery of his disappearance and discover the elusive treasure.
- Green, John. ***The Fault in Our Stars***. Dutton, 2012. Sixteen-year-old Hazel meets Augustus at a kids-with-cancer support group and, as they fall in love, they both wonder how they will be remembered.
- Hall, Ron, and Denver Moore, with Lynn Vincent. ***Same Kind of Different as Me***. Thomas Nelson, 2006. In this true story, an art dealer and a homeless man are brought together in a soup kitchen and learn life lessons from each other.
- Harbach, Chad. ***The Art of Fielding***. Little, Brown, 2011. Henry, the star of a small college baseball team located on the shore of Lake Michigan, is overcome with self-doubt which threatens his future; meanwhile, four other teammates also find themselves forced to confront their own secrets.
- Hawking, Stephen and Leonard Mlodinow. ***The Grand Design***. Bantam, 2010. The authors present a new discussion of the laws of the universe and the nature of reality. The journey includes thoughts of the great philosophers and scientists over the centuries as well as questions such as “Are the laws of nature suspended when miracles occur?” Well-placed, clever cartoons provide balance to the weighty discussions.
- Hillenbrand, Laura. ***Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption***. Random House, 2010. This biography chronicles the life of World War II bombardier Louis Zamperini from his wild youth to becoming a world-class runner in the 1936 Olympic Games to his enlistment in the U.S. Air Force where he must survive for forty-seven days in the Pacific Ocean after his plane goes down.

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Grade 11 and Grade 12

- Hosseini, Khaled. ***A Thousand Splendid Suns***. Riverhead Books, 2007. Mariam and Laila, both married to Rasheed, form an uneasy alliance so that they and their children can survive despite horrific circumstances. The story depicts Afghanistan from a woman's point of view during three decades of anti-Soviet jihad, civil war, and Taliban tyranny.
- Ishiguro, Kazuo. ***Never Let Me Go***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2005. A dark secret lurks behind the nurturing façade of Hailsham, a private school in the English countryside where Kathy, now thirty-one years old, lived as a child. Alex Award 2006
- Ivey, Eowyn. ***The Snow Child: A Novel***. Little, Brown, 2012. Homesteaders Jack and Mabel struggle to survive in the harsh Alaskan wilderness, but the couple's quiet life of hard work and routine suddenly changes when a small girl named Faina magically appears on their doorstep.
- Kean, Sam. ***The Disappearing Spoon: And Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of the Elements***. Little, Brown, 2010. Sam Kean presents the rationale behind the organization of the periodic table of the elements as well as many interesting anecdotes about the elements and the scientists who discovered them.
- Kent, Kathleen. ***The Heretic's Daughter***. Little, Brown, 2008. Amid the painful details of jail and persecution, deep-seated suspicion and familial betrayal, ten-year-old Sarah Carrier's world is turned upside down when her family becomes a target of Salem's witchcraft hysteria.
- King, Stephen. ***11/22/63: A Novel***. Scribner, 2011. What if you could go back in time and change the course of American history? High school English teacher Jake Epping finds himself in this exact place and has as his mission stopping Lee Harvey Oswald from assassinating President John F. Kennedy.
- Kwok, Jean. ***Girl in Translation***. Riverhead Books, 2010. When Kimberly Chang and her mother emigrate from Hong Kong to Brooklyn squalor, Kimberly quickly begins a secret double life -- exceptional schoolgirl by day, Chinatown sweatshop worker by night -- and she learns to constantly translate not just her language but herself back and forth between the worlds she straddles. Alex Award 2011
- Kyle, Aryn. ***The God of Animals***. Scribner, 2007. The death of a classmate haunts teen Alice Winston as she learns about love, life and death, and lost dreams as she helps her father run the family's struggling horse ranch in the midst of recurring family problems.
- Lanagan, Margo. ***The Brides of Rollrock Island***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. On remote Rollrock Island, men go to sea to make their livings and to catch a wife. The witch Misskaella knows the way of drawing a girl from the heart of a seal, of luring the beauty out of the beast, and, for a price, a man may buy a lovely sea-wife for himself.
- Lane, Harriet. ***Alys, Always: A Novel***. Scribner, 2012. After sitting with a woman dying in a car crash, Frances Thorpe's attempts to comfort the bereaved family have consequences, leading her to become involved in the family and affecting the relationships among all concerned. A psychological thriller in the manner of Du Maurier's classic *Rebecca*.

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Grade 11 and Grade 12

- Lansdale, Joe. ***Edge of Dark Water***. Mulholland Books, 2012. Teenagers Sue Ellen, Terry, and Jinx dig up the body of their friend May Lynn in order to burn her body and spread her ashes in Hollywood; but on their journey they are chased by the sheriff who is after the money they stole for the trip and by a legendary killer who just wants them dead.
- Larson, Erik. ***In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin***. Crown, 2011. Experience the rise of Hitler in this nonfiction thriller. It is 1933 Berlin and Hitler is in power when a new U.S. Ambassador, William E. Dodd, arrives. Dodd must find ways to deal with the regime, communicate his concerns to the State Department, and keep his family safe.
- Lawrenson, Deborah. ***The Lantern: A Novel***. Harper, 2011. Newly married Eve finds herself in a foreign country with a suddenly moody and uncommunicative husband. This is a modern ghost story of mystery, romance, and murder set in the lavender-covered hillsides of Provence.
- Levithan, David. ***Every Day***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. Every morning, A wakes in a different person's body, in a different person's life, learning over the years to never get too attached. Life goes along smoothly until he wakes up in the body of Justin and falls in love with Justin's girlfriend, Rhiannon.
- McCarthy, Cormac. ***The Road***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2006. In a post-apocalyptic landscape, a man and a boy struggle toward the unknown. This dark and doomed quest offers a spiritual sense of soul and humanity. Pulitzer Prize, Fiction 2007
- McEwan, Ian. ***Atonement: A Novel***. Doubleday, 2001. In the summer of 1935, the lives of three people are changed forever by a young girl's scheming imagination.
- Moalem, Sharon. ***Survival of the Sickest: A Medical Maverick Discovers Why We Need Disease***. William Morrow, 2007. With fascinating insights and cutting-edge research, the author looks at evolutionary history, epigenetics, and modern medical research to try to figure out why we developed as we did.
- Moore, Wes. ***The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates***. Spiegel & Grau, 2010. This book explores the fate of two African-American men with the same name living in the same city -- one becomes a Rhodes Scholar and the other a convicted murderer.
- Morgenstern, Erin. ***The Night Circus***. Doubleday, 2011. The circus arrives without warning, and what looks like clever illusions are actually magic. The two principal illusionists, Celia and Marco, have unknowingly been involved in a deadly contest created by their mentors. When they fall in love, it complicates the circus and their teachers' plans. Alex Award 2012
- Morrison, Toni. ***Beloved***. First published 1987. The Nobel prize-winning author's lyrical expression of the slave experience is built around Sethe, her memories of Sweet Home, and the ghost of her baby. Pulitzer Prize, Fiction 1988

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- Mosley, Walter. ***The Last Days of Ptolemy Grey***. Riverhead Books, 2010. Ptolemy Grey, an elderly man, falls further into his solitary existence and dementia, when his grandnephew -- his only real connection to the outside world -- dies in a drive-by shooting. Robyn, his niece's lodger, motivates him and introduces him to a doctor who is touting an experimental drug that may give Ptolemy a temporary burst of clarity and energy, leading Ptolemy to think of a way to leave a memorable legacy.
- Mullin, Mike. ***Ashfall***. Tanglewood, 2011. When the eruption of the Yellowstone supervolcano destroys his city and its surroundings, fifteen-year-old Alex must journey from Cedar Falls, Iowa, to Illinois to find his parents and sister. He struggles to survive in a transformed landscape and a new society in which all the old rules of living have vanished.
- Nicholls, David. ***One Day***. Vintage, 2009. The single day that Dexter Mayhew and Emma Morley spend together in 1988, the day after college graduation in Edinburgh, makes a distinct impression on each of them and a relationship forms only after they part ways and are reunited once a year on the same day for twenty years.
- Obreht, Tea. ***The Tiger's Wife***. Random House, 2011. The myth of an escaped tiger during the World War II bombing of the Balkans and Natalia's search for details about her beloved grandfather's death are woven together.
- Ondaatje, Michael. ***The Cat's Table***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. Written with nostalgia for childhood, Michael recalls a long sea voyage he took as a boy in the early 1950s to meet his mother. During the trip across the Indian Ocean, the boy meets many colorful characters.
- Patchett, Ann. ***State of Wonder***. Harper, 2011. Anders Eckman has mysteriously died while working on a ground-breaking miracle drug in a remote location in the Amazon rainforest, and Dr. Marina Singh, a friend and colleague, is sent to take his place. The investigation of his death leads her on a gripping adventure that will have her questioning what is right and wrong and how far people are willing to go for science and discovery.
- Percer, Elizabeth. ***An Uncommon Education***. Harper, 2012. In this coming-of-age story, Naomi Feinstein dreams of attending Wellesley College and being a doctor; everything changes in her life when she is introduced to the oldest honor society, the mysterious Shakespeare Society.
- Pérez-Reverte, Arturo. ***The Fencing Master***. Translated from the Spanish by Margaret Jull Costa. Harcourt, 1998. Nineteenth-century fencing master, Don Jaime, finds himself drawn into a plot that includes seduction, politics, secret documents, and murder when he refuses to teach the beautiful and mysterious Dona Adela de Otero how to perform the "unstoppable thrust."
- Powell, Goran. ***Chojun: A Novel***. YMAA, 2012. Kenichi Ota accompanies Chojun Miyagi to China searching for the meaning of karate. Upon their return to Okinawa they learn that the Japanese have just destroyed Pearl Harbor forcing both of them to adapt to a new world order, to rebuild their island, and to preserve Miyagi's brand of karate.

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- Rock, Peter. ***My Abandonment***. Houghton Mifflin, 2009. Thirteen-year-old Caroline lives with her father “off the grid” in a makeshift structure in a Pacific Northwest forest. The forest seems to fulfill their basic needs and hides them from the rest of humanity. The world eventually intrudes upon their solitude, and what Caroline thought was real is not. Alex Award 2010
- Sides, Hampton. ***Hellhound on His Trail: The Stalking of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the International Hunt for His Assassin***. Doubleday, 2010. The gripping true story of the events leading up to King's assassination and the massive FBI manhunt to find his killer, James Earl Ray.
- Simic, Charles. ***The Voice at 3:00 A.M.: Selected Late & New Poems***. Harcourt, 2003. These poems convey vivid and quirky imagery. From “Sunday Papers” to “Frightening Toys” to “Blood Orange,” the originality and sly humor of “everydayness” cheers the reader of this award-winning poet’s work.
- Simonson, Helen. ***Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand***. Random House, 2010. Major Ernest Pettigrew, an honor-bound Englishman, the very embodiment of duty and pride, finds himself drawn into an unexpected friendship with Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper from the village. Based on their shared love of literature and the loss of their respective spouses, their friendship soon blossoms. Can their relationship survive the risks of pursuing happiness in the face of culture and tradition?
- Skloot, Rebecca. ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks***. Crown, 2010. “HeLa” cells, named after Henrietta Lacks, a poor African American woman born in 1920, were taken from a tumor removed during Lacks’ treatment for cervical cancer. While she died from the disease, her cancer cells proved uncommonly robust, reproducing at a rapid rate. Years later, billions of these cells are used in laboratories around the world.
- Small, David. ***Stitches: A Memoir***. Norton, 2009. David Small grew up in the 1950s in a dysfunctional family with an angry mother and an emotionally distant father. This graphic novel by Small, a Caldecott winning illustrator, about the redemptive value of art, is filled with sadness and dark humor. Alex Award 2010
- Stedman, M. L. ***The Light Between Oceans***. Scribner, 2012. A childless couple quietly runs a lighthouse on a remote Australian island until a boat with a baby washes ashore changing their lives forever.
- Stein, Garth. ***The Art of Racing in the Rain: A Novel***. HarperCollins, 2008. Enzo is an old soul who just happens to be a dog. He is devoted to Denny who is a race car driver. The reader will be captivated as Enzo tells his master’s story and prepares for his next life...as a human.
- 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 Oklahoma farmers drives west to California in search of work as migrant fruit pickers. Pulitzer Prize, Fiction 1940

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- Stuart, Julia. ***The Tower, the Zoo, and the Tortoise***. Doubleday, 2010. Beefeater Balthazar Jones finds his already chaotic life living in the Tower of London with a group of eccentric individuals getting even more complicated when he is assigned to set up housing within the attraction's walls for exotic animals gifted to the queen, his wife leaves him, and his 120-year-old tortoise runs away.
- Szyborska, Wislawa. ***Monologue of a Dog: New Poems***. Translated from the Polish by Clare Cavanagh and Stanislaw Baranczak. Harcourt, 2006. Crisp, elegant poetry is presented in original Polish alongside its English translation. Clouds, current events, and revolution are just a few of the themes addressed in this marvelous collection of twenty-six thought-provoking poems.
- Thoreau, Henry David. ***Walden***. First published 1854. Thoreau's observations on nature and life were penned during his solitary stay at Walden Pond, outside Concord, Massachusetts, from 1845 to 1847.
- Vance, Jack. ***The Moon Moth***. Graphic novel adaption by Humayoun Ibrahim. First Second, 2012. Lovers of the science fiction genre and graphic novels will enjoy Vance's classic short story set on planet Sirene where aliens wear masks to indicate their social status and communicate by playing musical instruments. Edwer Thissel is sent to Sirene to solve a murder and find the killer in a world where every face is hidden.
- Walls, Jeannette. ***The Glass Castle: A Memoir***. Scribner, 2005. A successful 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 Award 2006
- Williams, Carol Lynch. ***The Chosen One***. St. Martin's Griffin, 2009. When the Prophet orders thirteen-year-old Kyra to be the seventh wife of her elderly uncle, her family is upset. Kyra knows that running away puts them all at risk.
- Wilson, August. ***Two Trains Running***. Plume, 1992. This historical African-American drama, part of a ten-part series by a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and playwright, takes place during the Civil Rights movement in Memphis Lee's diner in Pittsburg, 1969. Characters wrestle with the changing political and social landscape of this American era expressed through everyday conversations as they gather in booths and the lunch counter. They exude strength with dignity and hope for a better future.
- Yang, Gene. ***Level Up***. First Second, 2011. In this graphic novel, Dennis Ouyang is visited by four angels who prompt him to give up his dream of playing video games professionally and pursue a medical degree as his late father wanted, but a crisis reveals the true nature of the angels and brings Dennis to a crossroads in his path to the future.
- Zusak, Markus. ***The Book Thief***. Alfred A. 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. National Jewish Book Award 2006

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