

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2012

### Grade 9 and Grade 10

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

- Alexie, Sherman. ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian***. Little, Brown, 2007. Talented Arnold Spirit leaves the reservation school to go to an academically superior one located many miles away. How he copes with this change, both at school and on the reservation, is realistic, thought-provoking, and laugh-out-loud funny. National Book Award Young People's Literature 2007
- 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
- Brown, Jennifer. ***Hate List***. Little, Brown, 2009. Outsiders Nick and Valerie create a "hate list" to vent their anger at the students who bully them, but Nick takes the list too far. Valerie tries to stop him, but she herself is shot before Nick kills himself. What we are left with is a heart-wrenching journey of guilt, hate, fear and self-discovery as Valerie returns to school to finish her senior year.
- Clare, Cassandra. ***City of Bones***. McElderry Books, 2007. Clary Fray is suddenly seeing fairies and demons and finds herself drawn into an alternate reality as a Shadowhunter, teens dedicated to saving the world. Her mother, who is the only one who knows where the Mortal Cup is hidden, disappears and Clary finds herself committed to the Shadowhunter cause. *Series*
- 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. As Mickey follows Ashley's trail to find what happened to her, he 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, witty 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 just as 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*
- 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.

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- 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.
- Ford, Jamie. ***Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet***. Ballantine Books, 2009. A story of commitment and enduring hope, this novel is set in Seattle during one of the most conflicted and volatile times in American history. Henry, a Chinese American, raised by a fiercely nationalistic father, and Keiko, a young Japanese American, develop a bond of friendship and innocent love that transcends time and the long-standing prejudices of their Old World ancestors.
- 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 he has a psychic connection with her. *Series*
- 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.
- Gill, David Macinnis. ***Soul Enchilada***. Greenwillow, 2009. El Paso teen Eunice “Bug” Smoot’s grandfather sold his soul to the devil for a Cadillac and reneged on the deal. When a demon repo agent shows up, she finds out that her deceased grandfather pledged both the car and her soul as collateral . . . and she has sixty hours to figure out what to do.
- 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. Charles Darwin, a brilliant man who was unsure of his faith in God, married Emma Wedgwood who was devoutly religious. The story of their lives together is one filled with science, religion, history, but -- most of all -- love. 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*

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- Herlong, M. H. ***The Great Wide Sea***. Viking, 2008. Still mourning the death of their mother, three brothers go with their father on an extended sailing trip off the Florida Keys and have a harrowing adventure at sea.
- Hornby, Nick. ***Slam***. Putnam's, 2007. When fifteen-year-old skateboarder Sam "Slam" Jones learns that his ex-girlfriend is pregnant, he turns to the only person he feels can help — his hero, skating legend Tony Hawk. Since Tony is only a poster and does not offer answers, it is up to Sam, thrust suddenly into maturity, to figure out the right thing to do.
- 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.
- Johnson, Steven. ***The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic—And How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World***. Riverhead Books, 2006. In 1854, when the existence of bacteria and the concept of waterborne diseases are still unknown, two men, one a physician and the other a clergyman, successfully trace the source of a cholera epidemic to a contaminated well in an impoverished part of London.
- 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.
- 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 each other 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.
- McMann, Lisa. ***Wake***. Simon Pulse, 2008. Despite her best efforts to avoid it, Janie is drawn into other people's dreams. While sometimes this can be funny, it can also be terrifying since not all dreams are sweet. *Series*

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- 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 thoughts. *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. Readers in need of an uplifting thought to reflect upon, as well as nature lovers, will appreciate the wisdom in these simple, sensuous poems.
- 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.
- Pfeffer, Susan Beth. ***Life As We Knew It***. Harcourt, 2006. Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

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- Pollan, Michael. ***In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto***. Penguin Press, 2008. The author challenges current approaches to healthy eating, arguing that the real food consumed by past generations is being replaced with commercialized, scientifically altered foods that offer no health benefits and may cause serious damage.
- 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.
- Pratchett, Terry. ***Nation***. HarperCollins, 2008. Mau is caught in the tidal wave that destroyed his island, and Daphne is her ship's only survivor of that tsunami. Together on the devastated island, they form a new nation. Michael L. Printz Honor Award 2009
- Resau, Laura. ***The Indigo Notebook***. Delacorte. 2009. Zeeta has lived in a different country every year with her flighty mother. Zeeta longs for a boring suburban life, but then she meets Wendell.
- 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, the newly turned sixteen-year-olds are called to select and 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.
- Sofer, Dalia. ***The Septembers of Shiraz***. Ecco, 2007. Following the 1981 revolution against the Shah of Iran, Isaac Amin, a Jewish gem dealer, is imprisoned because of his religion and personal wealth. Members of his family are forced to wrestle with the radical changes forced upon them.
- 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. ***Shiver***. Scholastic, 2009. Beautifully written from alternating points-of-view of star-crossed lovers Grace and Sam, this paranormal romance will do for werewolves what *Twilight* did for vampires. *Series*

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- 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 efficiency of the lead investigator.
- Swanwick, Michael. ***The Dragons of Babel.*** Tor Books, 2007. Will, a half-mortal elf, is forced to be the lieutenant of an evil war-dragon. Will outwits the dragon and escapes to Babel, a post-industrialized faerie city, but finds the dragon lives on in his brain. Alex Award 2009
- 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.
- Thompson, Kate. ***The New Policeman.*** Greenwillow, 2007. Fifteen-year-old musician J.J. Liddy leaves his small, Irish town and travels to the land of the fairies to search for time so he can give it to his busy mother, but when he gets there, he discovers that the inhabitants are in trouble and learns about his family's secret history.
- 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, including 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.
- 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.
- Wiess, Laura. ***Such a Pretty Girl.*** MTV Books/Pocket Books, 2007. Meredith's father, who was sent to jail for molesting her, has just been released from prison, and her oblivious mother wants them to become a family again. Meredith, a victim turned heroine, tries to save herself and other young people from her predatory father.

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- 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.
- 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.
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Compiled by:

Diana Armentor (Chair), *Awty International School*

Julia Beddingfield, *Second Baptist School*

Jenni Elliott, *Episcopal High School*

Pamela Hill, *The John Cooper School*

Deborah Mosichuk, *St. Pius X High School*

Dorian Myers, *The Kinkaid School*

Susan Penny, *Strake Jesuit College Preparatory*

Jean Pfluger, *Duchesne Academy*

Diane Roberts, *St. Thomas High School*

Mia Steincamp, *Houston Christian*

Suzanne Webb, *Episcopal High School*

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