

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

### 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; Book Sense Book of the Year 2008
- Asher, Jay. ***Thirteen Reasons Why: A Novel***. Razorbill, 2007. When Hannah Baker commits suicide, she leaves behind thirteen cassette tapes to those she feels contributed to her decision to end her life. Clay finds the box of tapes on his front porch, and as he starts listening to Hannah recount the events leading up to her suicide, his heartrending night begins.
- Breashears, David and Audrey Salkeld. ***Last Climb: The Legendary Everest Expeditions of George Mallory***. National Geographic, 1999. In 1924 the explorer, George Mallory, disappeared on Mount Everest only to be found seventy-five years later on the icy slopes. Breashears, himself a renowned mountaineer, reveals the astounding facts of early climbing on Mount Everest, describes the events of Mallory's adventurous life, and suggests scenarios that may have led to his death on this most dangerous climb.
- Clare, Cassandra. ***City of Bones***. McElderry Books, 2007. Suddenly Clary Fray is 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*
- Collins, Suzanne. ***The Hunger Games***. Scholastic, 2008. In the not-too-distant future, the United States has collapsed and has been replaced by the totalitarian regime, Panem. Sixteen-year-old Katniss becomes a contestant in the annual Hunger Games, a televised, gladiator-like contest where teens compete to the death. *Series*
- Cooper, Brenda. ***The Silver Ship and the Sea***. Tor Books, 2007. Abandoned on an environmentally dangerous colony planet where the citizens are hostile toward genetic engineering, six genetically enhanced children must learn to use their special talents to either survive and make the planet their home or find a way to escape in the abandoned silver space ship that lies in the Grass Plains. *Series*
- Croggon, Alison. ***The Naming***. Candlewick, 2002. In the first of a recently completed four-book series, the orphaned Maerad escapes from slavery. As she discovers her magical powers and her heritage, she realizes she is destined to defeat the "Nameless One." *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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- 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.
- 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.
- Haddon, Mark. ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***. Doubleday, 2003. An autistic boy keeps a diary of his efforts to solve the mystery of who killed his neighbor's dog. This funny, touching novel is a revealing look into the mind of an autistic person. Alex Award 2004
- 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. YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award 2010; 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*
- Herlong, M. H. ***The Great Wide Sea***. Viking, 2008. Only two months after the death of their mother, Ben's father sells their house and buys a sailboat. The angry and resentful Ben, along with his two younger brothers, must go with their father on a year-long voyage around the Bahamas. Their father disappears overboard one night. The brothers must battle a terrible storm by themselves and are then stranded on a small island with little food, water or hope of rescue. An action packed survival story.
- 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, he does not offer answers, so it is up to Sam, thrust suddenly into maturity, to figure out the right thing to do.

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- Johnson, Harriet McBryde. ***Accidents of Nature***. Holt, 2006. Seventeen-year-old Jean is wheelchair-bound with cerebral palsy but has always been treated as normal by her family and schoolmates. For the first time in her life, she attends a summer camp for the disabled where she is exposed to the realities of disabled life. As she bonds with new friends who are not “Norms,” she begins to think about being different and questions her old beliefs. What if normal is not the only way to be?
- Johnson, Maureen. ***13 Little Blue Envelopes***. HarperCollins, 2005. Ginny’s beloved, quirky Aunt Peg sends her on one more adventure when she dies, leaving Ginny a series of envelopes. The envelopes lead Ginny on a whirlwind tour of Europe where she finds answers to important questions about her aunt and about herself.
- 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 disease 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.
- King, A. S. ***The Dust of 100 Dogs***. Flux, 2009. Teenage pirate Emer was burying her treasure when she was slain and cursed to live one hundred lives as a dog before returning to a human body with her memories intact. Now she is reincarnated as an American teenager who cannot wait to get to Jamaica with a shovel.
- Kooser, Ted. ***Delights & Shadows: Poems***. Copper Canyon Press, 2004. An award winner and a past Poet Laureate of the United States, Ted Kooser’s verse relates to his country life with a multitude of diverse imagery and acute observations.
- Luttrell, Marcus. ***Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10***. Little, Brown, 2007. Marcus Luttrell was the only survivor of a mission with three American Navy SEALs in the mountainous Afghanistan-Pakistan border. It is a question of which part is more compelling to read: the stories of the brutal Navy and SEAL boot camps or the account of Luttrell’s team fighting on the Afghan border.
- 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; Anthony Award 2008. *Series*
- Marchetta, Melina. ***Finnikin of the Rock***. Candlewick, 2008. Finnikin, son of a former royal guard, has been in exile for a decade following the murder of the royal family. A curse levied on the land creates a magical barrier around the kingdom. Finnikin and his mentor, a former advisor to the murdered king, travel other kingdoms aiding refugees who fled. A young woman fervently believes Finnikin has been chosen to take their people home.

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- Marillier, Juliet. **Wildwood Dancing**. Alfred A. Knopf, 2007. Every full moon, five sisters who live with their father in Transylvania use a hidden portal to cross over into a magical world, the Wildwood, where they dance until morning with the creatures who live there.
- Marr, Melissa. **Wicked Lovely**. HarperTeen, 2007. Urban faeries can be really mean! Aislinn's grandmother warns her not to admit she can see them, but that is hard to do when their king is convinced that she is their rightful queen. This is a smart, funny series sure to delight Twilight fans. *Series*
- McCloud, Scott. **Making Comics: Storytelling Secrets of Comics, Manga and Graphic Novels**. Harper, 2006. Presented in graphic novel format and focusing on the storytelling aspects of drawing comics, the author's avatar uses a skillful mix of dry humor and instruction to offer insights into designing and drawing a comic strip.
- McMann, Lisa. **Wake**. Simon Pulse, 2008. Despite her best efforts to avoid it, Janie can see others' dreams. While sometimes this can be funny, it can also be terrifying to be drawn into the gruesome nightmares of an enigmatic fellow student. "Not all dreams are sweet." *Series*
- Meyer, Stephenie. **Twilight**. Little, Brown, 2005. After transferring to a new school in Forks, Washington, seventeen-year-old Bella is attracted to an exquisitely handsome boy who, she comes to realize, is not wholly human. *Series*
- Michaelis, Antonia. **Tiger Moon**. Translated from the German by Anthea Bell. Amulet Books, 2008. Farhad is a thief destined for greater things. When the god Krishna catches him stealing an amulet, Farhad must make a choice between becoming a great hero or spending the rest of eternity as a worm. He chooses the hero's path and, with the help of a magical white tiger named Nitish, he embarks upon a quest to rescue Krishna's daughter from a demon who is holding her captive. Batchelder Award Honors 2009
- Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. **Dairy Queen**. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. D.J. spends most of her time helping out on the family farm until she is coerced into training Brian, the star quarterback on the town's rival football team. D.J. decides to go out for the opposing team herself. The fact that she has a major crush on Brian complicates matters.
- 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 others' thoughts or hide one's own thoughts. *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.

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- 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. An asteroid has hit the moon and knocked it out of orbit, causing havoc in the world. Life for sixteen-year-old Miranda and her family changes to a mode of survival. Struggling to survive, they find hope and strength to exist even though the future may be short-lived. *Series*
- 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. He encourages people to change the way they eat and return to basic nutrition rules.
- 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 mom Layla, an English teacher. Zeeta writes in a different colored journal for every country, and this year's journal is indigo. She longs for a boring suburban life, but then she meets Wendell.
- 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.
- Sandburg, Carl. ***Selected Poems***. Harcourt Brace, 1996. Sandburg's best and most characteristic poetry is collected and thematically grouped in this one-volume edition edited by George Hendrick and Willene Hendrick.
- Satrapi, Marjane. ***Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood***. Pantheon, 2003. In graphic novel format, Satrapi tells of her childhood growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. Alex Award 2004
- 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
- Shields, Charles J. ***I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee***. Holt, 2008. This biography provides interesting facts and sheds light on the reclusive life of Nelle Harper Lee, author of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Readers will see many parallels between the feisty author's life in a small Southern town and the characters she created in the only novel she has ever written.

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- 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, and 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. This compelling story will make you long for the sequels. *Series*
- 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. Where does the time go? J.J. Liddy's mom just wants more time for her birthday. J.J. finds out that there really is less time than there used to be because there is a leak between the real world and the faerie kingdom. As he begins to unravel the secrets of his history, both recent and distant, the legends of Ireland come to life around him.
- 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. Tittle's work ethic earned him Most Valuable Player in high school and led him to become a four-time MVP in the NFL.
- 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, 2009. 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.

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- 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.
- Wilder, Thornton. ***Our Town: A Play in Three Acts***. First published 1938. With the well-earned reputation of an American classic, the play brings themes of growing up, love, marriage and death to the stage portraying 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.
- 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.
- Zemser, Amy Bronwen. ***Dear Julia***. Greenwillow, 2008. Shy sixteen-year-old Elaine Hamilton wants to be a chef like her hero Julia Child, but her bossy and flamboyant best friend, Lucida Sans, is about to make life much more interesting.

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Compiled by:

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