

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2014

### 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.
- Bauby, Jean-Dominique. ***The Diving Bell and the Butterfly: A Memoir of Life in Death***. Translated from the French by Jeremy Leggatt. Vintage, 1998. This extraordinary book, a celebration of everyday life, was dictated one blink at a time, recounting the author's struggle with the effects of a massive stroke which left him with a body which had all but stopped working.
- 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
- Blake, Kendare. ***Anna Dressed in Blood***. Tor Books, 2011. Cas Lowood, armed with his late father's mysterious athame, sets out to kill a ghost known as Anna Dressed in Blood, but what he believes will be a routine task turns deadly when he discovers Anna is unlike any ghost he has ever encountered before. *Series*
- 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.

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- 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*
- 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.
- Card, Orson Scott. ***Ender's Game***. Tor Books, 1985. A very young Ender Wiggin might be the human race's last chance to defeat a deadly alien invasion. *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. Mickey enters a world of conspiracy and danger and discovers that nothing is as it seems.
- Crandall, Susan. ***Whistling Past the Graveyard: A Novel***. Gallery Books, 2013. Determined to get to Nashville to find her mother in 1963, nine-year-old spitfire Starla Claudelle runs away from her strict grandmother's Mississippi home, eventually accepting a ride from Eula, a black woman traveling alone with a white baby.
- 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.
- Gagnon, Michelle. ***Don't Turn Around***. Harper, 2012. After waking up on an operating table with no memory of how she got there, Noa must team up with computer hacker Peter to stop a corrupt corporation with a deadly secret. *Series*
- Gaiman, Neil. ***The Ocean at the End of the Lane: A Novel***. William Morrow, 2013. A man returns to his childhood home and relives the harrowing summer when a girl, Lettie Hempstock, and her family save him from the darkness and evil that were unleashed by a suicide that occurred near the pond at the end of their street.

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- Galloway, Steven. ***The Cellist of Sarajevo***. Riverhead Books, 2008. The lives of four people -- a baker, a young father, a sniper, and a cellist who commits to playing Albinoni's "Adagio" once a day for twenty-two days in memory of his neighbors who were killed -- are chronicled as they try to adjust to their new daily routines in war-torn Sarajevo. Inspired by a true story, this novel explores how war can change one's definition of humanity and how music affects our emotional endurance.
- 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.
- Green, John, Maureen Johnson, and Lauren Myracle. ***Let It Snow! Three Holiday Romances***. Speak, 2008. In three intertwining short stories, several high school couples experience the trials and tribulations along with the joys of romance during a Christmas Eve snowstorm in a small town.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Houry, 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.

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- Konigsberg, Bill. ***Openly Straight***. Arthur A. Levine, 2013. Rafe plays soccer, wins skiing prizes, likes to write, and hates tofu. In his junior year of high school, Rafe, tired of being known as "that gay guy," transfers across the country to an all-boys' boarding school and decides to be "openly straight." His scheme is wildly successful but gets complicated when he falls in love with one of his new friends.
- Kontis, Alethea. ***Enchanted***. Harcourt, 2012. When Sunday Woodcutter, the youngest of seven sisters, each named for a day of the week, kisses an enchanted frog, he transforms into Rumbold, the crown prince of Arilland - and a man Sunday's family despises. *Series*
- 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.
- Laybourne, Emmy. ***Monument 14***. Feiwel and Friends, 2012. A strange weather phenomenon drives students into a superstore where fourteen kids take refuge while the world outside gets torn apart from a series of escalating disasters. *Series*
- 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.
- 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*

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- 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.
- 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. She 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.
- 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*
- Rowell, Rainbow. *Eleanor & Park*. St. Martin's Griffin, 2013. Set over the course of one school year in 1986, this is the story of two star-crossed misfits -- smart enough to know that first love almost never lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try. Michael L. Printz Honor Book 2014
- 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.
- Sheinkin, Steve. *Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*. Roaring Brook, 2012. Scientists and spies are central characters in this engaging and informative book describing the process of creating the first atomic weapons. Newbery Honor Book 2013, National Book Award Finalist 2013, Sibert Medal 2013.

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- 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. *Series*
- 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.
- 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 and family history, combined with 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.
- 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. ***Variant***. 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.

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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.
- 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
- Yancey, Rick. ***The 5<sup>th</sup> Wave***. Putnam's, 2013. Cassie Sullivan, the survivor of an alien invasion, must rescue her young brother from the enemy with help from a boy who may be one of them.
- 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*

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Compiled by:

Diana Armentor (Chair), *Awty International School*

Julia Beddingfield, *Second Baptist School*

Pamela Hill, *The John Cooper School*

Krystal Irven, *Episcopal High School*

Dorian Myers, *The Kinkaid School*

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