

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2015

Grade 11 and Grade 12

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- 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.
- Alexie, Sherman. ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian.*** Little, Brown, 2007. Alexie tells the story of Junior a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the "rez" to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. *National Book Award for Young People's Literature 2007*
- 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. ***The Impossible Knife of Memory.*** Viking, 2014. Hayley and her father, who suffers from PTSD, return to their hometown to start over, but the Iraq war continues to haunt him and threatens to disrupt their lives.
- Backman, Fredrik. ***A Man Called Ove.*** Translated from the Swedish by Henning Kock. Atria Books, 2014. A grumpy yet loveable man finds his solitary, well-ordered world turned on its head when a boisterous young family and their two daughters move in next door.
- 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.
- Barry, Max. ***Lexicon.*** Penguin Press, 2013. Emily Ruff belongs to a secret organization whose "poets" can break down individuals by psychographic markers in order to take control of their thoughts. Then she makes a catastrophic mistake and falls in love, breaking her organization's rules. *Alex Award 2013*
- 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.
- Brontë, Charlotte. ***Jane Eyre.*** First published 1847. Jane finds terror and romance when she becomes a governess in a mysterious mansion.
- 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.

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- Brown, Dan. ***Inferno: A Novel***. Doubleday, 2013. Harvard professor Robert Langdon is once again drawn into a deadly quest, this time based on clues from Dante's *Inferno*.
- 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.
- Cain, Susan. ***Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking***. Crown, 2012. In our American culture that values extroversion, the value of "quiet" people is often overlooked, but the one third of the population that fits the definition of introvert has much to offer.
- 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.
- Chamberlain, Diane. ***Necessary Lies***. St. Martin's Press, 2013. On a tobacco farm in rural North Carolina in the 1960s, fifteen-year-old Ivy Hart struggles with her grandmother's aging, her sister's mental illness, and her own epilepsy. When Jane Forrester takes a position as Grace County's newest social worker, she is asked to recommend which of her clients should be sterilized due to poverty, illness, or is in some other way unfit to have children. Based on real cases, this is the story of two young women who seem worlds apart, but are both faced with a life-changing battle.
- 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
- Choo, Yongsze. ***The Ghost Bride***. William Morrow, 2013. When she agrees to become a ghost bride for the wealthy Lim family's son, who recently died under mysterious circumstances, Li Lan must dive into a shadowy parallel world of the Chinese afterlife to find the truth about the son's death.
- 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.

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- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Doerr, Anthony. ***All the Light We Cannot See***. Scribner, 2014. The paths of a blind French girl and a young Nazi soldier collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. *Alex Award 2015, National Book Award for Fiction 2014*
- Donovan, Jim. ***The Blood of Heroes: The 13-day Struggle for the Alamo -- and the Sacrifice That Forged a Nation***. Little, Brown, 2012. Exhaustively researched and based on new primary sources in U.S. and Mexican archives, this book is the definitive account of this epic battle and is populated with larger-than-life characters, audacity, valor, and redemption.
- Egan, Timothy. ***Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis***. Houghton Mifflin, 2012. Edward Curtis was charismatic, handsome, a passionate mountaineer, and a famous portrait photographer. In 1900, when he was thirty-two years old, he gave it all up to pursue his Great Idea: to capture on film the continent's original inhabitants before the old ways disappeared. Curtis spent the next three decades documenting the stories and rituals of more than eighty North American tribes, thus creating the most definitive archive of the American Indian.
- Foer, Joshua. ***Moonwalking With Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything***. Penguin Press, 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.
- 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*
- Fromm, Pete. ***Indian Creek Chronicles: A Winter in the Bitterroot Wilderness***. Lyons & Burford, 1993. The author recounts his seven months working for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in an isolated location that changed him from a college kid to a man.
- 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.

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- 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.
- 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.
- Hosseini, Khaled. ***And the Mountains Echoed: A Novel***. Riverhead Books, 2013. Pari and Abdullah are siblings and best friends. When their father takes them across the desert in a red wagon to Kabul, Abdullah loses Pari and is forced to return to the village without her. The children live separate lives, but Abdullah never loses hope that he will find Pari. The children’s separate lives unfold with incidents of love and hate, bravery and cowardice, want and fulfillment.
- 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.
- Jacobs, Harriet A. ***Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl***. First published 1861. This autobiographical account by a former slave is one of the few extant narratives written by a woman. It delivers a powerful portrayal of the brutality of slave life. Jacobs speaks frankly of her master's abuse and her eventual escape, in a tale of dauntless spirit and faith.
- Johnson, James Weldon. ***The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man***. First published 1912. In this emotionally gripping and poignant look into race relations, a half-white, half-black man of very light complexion must choose between his heritage and the art that he loves or the ability to escape the inherent racism that he faces by passing as a white.
- 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.

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- Kibler, Julie. ***Calling Me Home: A Novel***. St. Martin's Press, 2013. In a novel based on a family story of her grandmother's forbidden love in 1930's Kentucky, the author chronicles the journey of an elderly woman and her hairdresser en route to a funeral and explores race relations both then and now.
- 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.
- Kline, Christina Baker. ***Orphan Train***. William Morrow, 2013. Seventeen-year-old Molly Ayer, a foster child in Maine, and elderly widow Vivian Daley who, as a child, had been sent by train from New York City to depression era Minnesota, discover they have much in common.
- Knisley, Lucy. ***Relish: My Life in the Kitchen***. First Second, 2013. This graphic novel is a humorous memoir of cartoonist Lucy Knisley, the daughter of a chef and a gourmet, and her obsession with cooking and food. Alex Award 2014
- Koontz, Dean. ***The City***. Bantam, 2014. In a musically talented African American family living in New York in the sixties, a mother, her young son, and his grandfather lovingly interact with each other as well as with their diverse neighbors. However, something sinister threatens them all. Woven into the plot are a crime story and a thread of the supernatural.
- Kostova, Elizabeth. ***The Historian: A Novel***. Little, Brown, 2005. A young woman discovers an ancient book and a cache of old letters in her father's library; and thus begins her adventurous quest for the truth about Vlad the Impaler, a search that will span continents and generations as well as a confrontation with the darkest powers of evil.
- 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*.
- 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.

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- 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.
- Marra, Anthony. ***A Constellation of Vital Phenomena***. Hogarth, 2013. Behind the backdrop of the Chechen conflicts, two doctors protect a girl named Havaa as they provide triage health care to a society experiencing loss and trauma from the atrocities of war. Both the extraordinary determination of the human spirit and its dark side are evident throughout the novel.
- Mathieu, Jennifer. ***The Truth About Alice***. Roaring Brook, 2014. When ugly rumors and lies about Alice Franklin start after one of the guys she allegedly slept with at a party dies in a car accident, questions about truth arise in her small town.
- 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
- McCullough, David G. ***1776***. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Based upon both American and British historical documents, the author presents a comprehensive history of the American Revolution in 1776, including George Washington and those who followed him.
- McDermott, Alice. ***Someone***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2013. Scattered recollections -- of childhood, adolescence, motherhood, and old age -- come together in this transformative narrative, stitched into a vibrant whole by McDermott's deft, lyrical voice.
- 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.
- 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
- Morton, Kate. ***The Secret Keeper***. Atria Books, 2012. Fifty years after she witnessed a shocking crime at her family's farm in the English countryside, Laurel, now a successful London actress, returns to the farm and is overwhelmed by family secrets she has not thought of in decades.

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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.
- Moyes, Jojo. ***Me Before You: A Novel***. Viking, 2012. A twenty-seven-year-old woman accepts a job caring for a paraplegic man, unaware that the experience will allow her to learn new skills, consider a bigger life than she could have ever imagined, and break her heart.
- 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.
- 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.
- Petry, Ann. ***The Street***. First published in 1946. Lutie Johnson, a single African American mother in 1940s Harlem, struggles to raise her young son Bub in a world of racism and socioeconomic inequality. Based on a true story.
- 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. *International Book Award Finals 2013*
- 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
- Rowell, Rainbow. ***Fangirl***. St. Martin's Griffin, 2013. Feeling cast off when her twin sister outgrows their shared love for a favorite fictional character, Cath, a dedicated fan-fiction writer, struggles to survive on her own in her first year of college while avoiding a surly roommate, bonding with a handsome classmate who only wants to talk about words, and worrying about her fragile father.

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- Ruiz Zafón, Carlos. ***The Shadow of the Wind***. Translated from the Spanish by Lucia Graves. Penguin Press, 2004. In 1945 Spain, the young son of an antique-book dealer searches for more books by Julian Carax, an author he has recently discovered, and finds that everything Carax has ever written has been destroyed . . . and that his search has put his friends and family in danger.
- Sales, Leila. ***This Song Will Save Your Life: A Novel***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2013. Nearly a year after a failed suicide attempt, sixteen-year-old Elise discovers that she has the passion and talent to be a disc jockey. This is a novel about identity, friendship, and the power of music to bring people together.
- Schneider, Robyn. ***The Beginning of Everything***. Katherine Tegen, 2013. Star athlete and prom king Ezra Faulkner's life is irreparably transformed by a tragic accident and the arrival of eccentric new girl Cassidy Thorpe.
- Semple, Maria. ***Where'd You Go Bernadette: A Novel***. Little, Brown, 2012. When her notorious, hilarious, volatile, talented, troubled, and agoraphobic mother goes missing, teenage Bee begins a trip that takes her to the ends of the earth to find her. Alex Award 2013
- Sepetys, Ruta. ***Out of the Easy***. Philomel, 2013. Josie, the seventeen-year-old daughter of a French Quarter prostitute, is striving to escape 1950s New Orleans and enroll at prestigious Smith College when she becomes entangled in a murder investigation.
- 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.
- Simsion, Graeme. ***The Rosie Project***. Simon & Schuster, 2013. A college professor's analytical survey to find the perfect wife leads to a relationship with Rosie Jarman even though she is the opposite of his scientific criteria for a wife.
- Sittenfeld, Curtis. ***Sisterland: A Novel***. Random House, 2013. Identical twins Kate and Violet have always been different -- able to sense other people's secrets and know about future events. As they grow up, Vi embraces her gift and pursues a career as a psychic medium, while Kate denies it and settles down with a family. An earthquake in their hometown of Saint Louis and Vi's vision of a more devastating quake to come force Kate to reconcile the strained relationship with her twin and come to grips with the truth about herself.
- 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.
- Sloan, Robin. ***Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. Clay Jannon is released from his job in San Francisco during the Great Recession and accepts a position working the night shift at a local bookstore. Clay soon realizes that there is something very strange and mysterious about that bookstore. Alex Award 2013

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- 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
- 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.
- Towles, Amor. ***Rules of Civility***. Viking, 2011. In 1938 Katey Kontent moves to New York City to find her first job. With a group of newly acquired friends she enjoys the jazz and glamour of the city and the adventure that comes with youth, relationships, and differing social classes.
- Vance, Jack. ***The Moon Moth***. Graphic novel adaptation 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.
- Wecker, Helene. ***The Golem and the Jinni***. Harper, 2013. Two magical creatures -- Chava, a golem made out of clay, and Ahmad, a jinni made of fire -- find themselves in New York City in 1899 in unfamiliar surroundings. The two eventually meet and form an unlikely friendship, only to realize the looming threat to their lives and to those around them.
- 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 Luen. ***Boxers***. First Second, 2013. Companion volume to ***Saints***. In 1898 during the Boxer Rebellion, a boy named Little Bao recruits an army of Boxers to rid China of foreign missionaries and soldiers who bully and rob Chinese peasants.

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- Yang, Gene Luen. **Saints**. First Second, 2013. Companion volume to **Boxers**. In 1898 during the Boxer Rebellion, a girl named Vibiana who is unwanted and unwelcome turns to Christianity, but she finds herself torn between her nation and her Christian friends who are being murdered by bands of young men.
- Zevin, Gabrielle. **The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry**. Algonquin, 2014. Bookstore owner A.J. Fikry's prized book of rare Poe poems disappears, and he becomes increasingly isolated until a package in the mail compels him to rethink his life.
- 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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