

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2015

### 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. *Series*
- 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. *Series*
- 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*

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- Carleson, J. C. ***The Tyrant's Daughter***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2014. Exiled to the United States after her father, a Middle Eastern dictator, is killed in a coup, fifteen-year-old Laila must cope with a completely new way of life, the truth of her father's regime, and her mother's and brother's ways of adjusting.
- Coelho, Paulo. ***The Alchemist***. Translated from the Portuguese by Alan R. Clarke. HarperCollins, 1993. In this uplifting fable, Santiago takes a journey to find his personal legend and live the life he is meant to live, meeting friends along the way who provide him with the wisdom he needs to fulfill his dreams.
- 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*
- 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.
- 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.
- Gardner, Sally. ***Maggot Moon***. Candlewick, 2012. Friendship and trust inspire Standish to rise up against an oppressive regime and expose the truth about a planned moon landing. *Printz Honor Book 2014*
- 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?*

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- 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.
- Green, Sally. ***Half Bad***. Viking, 2014. In modern-day England where witches live alongside humans, Nathan, son of a White Witch and the most powerful Black Witch, must escape captivity before his seventeenth birthday to receive the gifts that will determine his future. *Series*
- 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.
- 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*
- Howe, Katherine. ***Conversion***. Putnam's, 2014. When girls at Colleen's high school start experiencing strange tics and other mysterious symptoms, the small town of Danvers, Massachusetts, falls victim to rumors that lead to full-blown panic. Only Colleen connects their fate to Salem Village where three centuries earlier another group of girls suffered a similarly bizarre epidemic.
- Jennings, Ken. ***Maphead: Charting the Wide, Weird World of Geography Wonks***. Scribner, 2011. Jennings, former software engineer turned multimillionaire *Jeopardy* game show winner, used his lifelong obsession with geography to pen this book about geography with topics ranging from historical maps to current geographical trends such as Google Earth and geocaching.
- 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. *Series*
- 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.

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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.
- Lockhart, E. ***We Were Liars***. Delacorte, 2013. Spending summers on her family's private island off the coast of Massachusetts with her cousins and a special boy named Gat, teenaged Cadence struggles to remember what happened during her fifteenth summer.
- 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.
- Maberry, Jonathan. ***Rot & Ruin***. Simon & Schuster, 2010. In a post-apocalyptic world in which zombies have overtaken civilization, fences and border patrols guard the few remaining people. Fifteen-year-old Benny Imura becomes convinced that he must follow in his older brother's footsteps and become a bounty hunter. *Series*
- 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.
- 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, 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, Mitali, ed. ***Open Mic: Riffs on Life Between Cultures in Ten Voices***. Candlewick, 2013. Using a mix of diverse styles and perspectives, ten authors of non-Caucasian background share their personal views on the ways race and discrimination affect children and teenagers.
- 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.
- 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.
- Sowa, Marzena. ***Marzi: A Memoir translated from the French by Anjali Singh***. DC Comics, 2011. This memoir, structured as a series of vignettes that build on one another, is a coming-of-age story that portrays the harsh realities of life behind the Iron Curtain while maintaining the everyday wonders and curiosity of childhood.
- 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*

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- 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*
- Thompson, Holly. ***The Language Inside***. Delacorte, 2013. Emma's mother contracts cancer and the American international high school sophomore moves from Japan to Massachusetts with her family for necessary medical treatment. This novel-inverse touches on feelings of homesickness, but ends in hope as Emma develops new friendships and finds her way in her home country.
- 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. ***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.
- Wilson, Daniel H. ***Robopocalypse***. 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. *Series*
- 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. *Series*
- 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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Zuckoff, Mitchell. ***Frozen in Time: An Epic Story of Survival and a Modern Quest for Lost Heroes of World War II.*** Harper, 2013. One search-and-rescue team is caught in a storm and crashes into the Greenland ice cap, leaving its members struggling to stay alive in the extreme, bitterly cold conditions. A second search-and-rescue team flies into a storm and vanishes. Parallel stories alternate between the crashed teams and a 2012 storyline of an expedition trying to solve the mystery of the vanished plane.

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Compiled by:

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