

The Bay School  
Summer Reading List 2010  
Grades 10-12

While there is no formal summer reading requirement, we encourage you to read books you enjoy this summer. You can use this list to get you started. You will have the opportunity to share your summer reads with Bay students in the fall. Email Rachel Shaw, Bay School Librarian at [rshaw@bayschoolsf.org](mailto:rshaw@bayschoolsf.org) if you have questions or would like more recommendations.

ECO-FRIENDLY

***Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life*, Barbara Kingsolver**

Chronicles the year the author and her family ate only locally grown foods.

***Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things*, William McDonough and Michael Braungart**

A manifesto written by a chemist and an architect that calls for a new kind of ecological consciousness. – *Publisher's Weekly*

***Walden*, Henry David Thoreau**

Thoreau's account of his time spent communing with nature in 1845.

BEING HUMAN

***Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior*, Temple Grandin**

An autistic professor writes about her research on the connections between humans and animals.

***Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5 Billion-Year History of the Human Body*, Neil Shubin**

A compelling scientific adventure story that will change forever how you understand what it means to be human. - Oliver Sacks

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

***Empress of the World*, Sara Ryan**

Two teen girls fall in love at summer camp.

***Brick Lane*, Monica Ali**

A young Bangladeshi woman moves to London for an arranged marriage.

***Shortcomings*, Adrian Tomine**

A graphic novel about modern love and Asian-American identity.

HOW TO DEAL

***The Stress Reduction Workbook for Teens: Mindfulness Skills to Help You Deal with Stress*, Gina Biegel**

A practical guide with activities and guided reflections.

TRUE STORIES

***Tweak: Growing Up on Methamphetamines*, Nic Sheff**

Sheff relates his personal struggle with drugs and alcohol in this poignant and often disturbing memoir. – *Publisher's Weekly*

***A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*, Ishmael Beah**

A gripping account of a child soldier during the civil war in Sierra Leone.

***The Glass Castle*, Jeannette Walls**

A memoir of growing up in chaos and poverty with a family that prized freedom and unconventionality over comfort and safety. - *Outstanding Books for the College Bound*

***Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time*, Greg Mortenson**

A mountain climber takes a wrong turn after a failed K2 summit attempt in Pakistan and ends up building a school in the mountain village that took him in.

HIGH SCHOOL LIFE

***The Battle of Jericho*, Sharon Draper**

A book about the consequences of peer pressure.

***Looking for Alaska*, John Green**

16-year-old Miles moves to a boarding school and meets a girl.

## CLASSICS

### ***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, Betty Smith**

In turn-of-the-century Brooklyn, young Francie Nolan describes her family life in Williamsburg's slums.

### ***A Wizard of Earthsea*, Ursula K. Le Guin**

The story of a reckless youth, hungry for power and knowledge, who tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. - Publisher

### ***Madame Bovary*, Gustave Flaubert**

Emma Bovary finds married life unsatisfying. A shocking book when published in France in 1857.

## MORE FICTION

### ***Different Seasons*, Stephen King**

Four stories about journeys and transitions.

### ***Purple Hibiscus*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

Set in modern Nigeria, this novel follows a fifteen-year old girl who goes to live with her aunt during a military coup.

### ***Caucasia*, Danzy Senna**

Separated when their parents' interracial marriage ends in divorce, light-skinned Birdie and her dark-skinned sister Cole lead very different lives while hoping for a reunion with one another. - *More Outstanding Books for the College Bound*.

## HISTORICAL FICTION

### ***The Other Boleyn Girl*, Philippa Gregory**

A compelling tale of love and betrayal in 16<sup>th</sup> century England.

### ***Pride of Baghdad*, Brian K. Vaughan**

A visually stunning graphic novel based on the 2003 escape of lions at the Baghdad Zoo during the American bombing of the city.

### ***Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, Lisa See**

A woman looks back on her life in 19<sup>th</sup>-century rural China.

## CURRENT ISSUES

### ***Coyotes: A Journey Across Borders With America's Illegal Migrants*, Ted Conover**

Read about the human stories behind the headlines.

### ***Race: A History Beyond Black and White*, Marc Aronson**

A lively book about the history of race written for teenagers.

### ***A Dangerous Place: California's Unsettling Fate*, Marc Reisner**

This narrative describes our earthquake-prone geology and offers a lurid scenario of what the San Francisco Bay Area will look like after the "Big One".

## THOUGHT-PROVOKERS

### ***Outliers: The Story of Success*, Malcolm Gladwell**

Explores the reasons why some people succeed and some don't.

### ***Damned Lies and Statistics: Untangling Numbers from the Media, Politicians, and Activists*, Joel Best**

A guide to spotting bad statistics thinking critically numbers.

## OTHER WORLDS

### ***Hunger Games series*, Suzanne Collins**

There are three books in this very popular series about post apocalyptic America.

### ***Elsewhere*, Gabrielle Zevin**

Killed as a teenager, Lizzie discovers that after you die, you start living your life backwards.

### ***The Name of the Wind*, Patrick Rothfuss**

A hefty but fast-moving fantasy novel.

## POETRY

### ***Poetry 180: A Turning Back to Poetry*, Billy Collins, ed.**

A wonderfully accessible anthology of contemporary poetry.