

2010 Texas Lone Star Annotated Reading List



Alexander, Jill S. *The Sweetheart of Prosper County*. Feiwel and Friends, 2009.
978-0-312-54856-8.

Austin decides her goal for the upcoming year is to be a “hood ornament” in the annual No-Jesus Christmas Parade, and figures joining the FGA and raising a chicken is the way to make it happen.

Try these too:

Artichoke's Heart – Suzanne Suplee

The Cupcake Queen – Heather Hepler

Dairy Queen – Catherine Gilbert Murdock

Beil, Michael D., *The Red Blazer Girls: The Ring of Rocamadour*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2009.
978-0-375-84814-8.

Sophie and her friends must unravel an intricate puzzle that leads to the location of the Ring of Rocamadour before it can be found by the despicable Mr. Winterbottom.

Try these too:

The Puzzling World of Winston Breen and The Potato Chip Puzzles - Eric Berlin

Chasing Vermeer – Blue Balliett

Enola Holmes – Nancy Springer

The Mystery of the Third Lucretia – Susan Runholt

Solving Zoel – Barbara Dee

The Unknowns – Benedict Carey

Burg, Ann E. *All the Broken Pieces: A Novel in Verse*. Scholastic Press, 2009.
978-0-545-08092-7.

Matt Pin, the son of an American soldier and Vietnamese mother, was airlifted out of war-torn Vietnam at the age of ten. Two years later, with a loving family, baseball, and music, he's still haunted by what was left behind.

Try these too:

Bat 6 – Virginia Euwer Wolff

Cracker!: The Best Dog in Vietnam – Cynthia Kadohata

The Rock and the River – Kekla Magoon

Shooting the Moon – Frances O'Roark Dowell

Tropical Secrets – Margarita Engle

Cashore, Kristin. *Graceling*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2008. 978-0-15-206396-2.

Katsa, gifted with a fierce warrior Grace, has met Prince Po, another Graceling with unusual talents. They join together on a quest to save a kingdom and perhaps one another in the process.

Try these too:

Eon: Dragoneye Reborn – Alison Goodman

Fire – Kristin Cashore

Heir Apparent – Vivian Vande Velde

Young Samauri: The Way of the Warrior – Chris Bradford

Chima, Cinda Williams. *The Demon King*. Disney/Hyperion Books, 2009. 978-1-42311-823-7.

Meet a princess who wants to be a warrior queen, but is trapped in her fancy dresses and tea parties. And a former thief lord of the streets who just wants to protect his family, and then discovers he has the powers of a wizard. How will their paths cross to save their people and themselves from corruption?

Try these too:

Angel – Cliff McNish

The Sea of Trolls – Nancy Farmer

Wings – Aprilynne Pike

Clayton, Emma. *The Roar*. Chicken House, 2009. 978-0-439-92593-8.

In a future where the people live behind walls in fear of The Animal Plague, a horrific disease that causes animals to go rabid and turn violent, Mika holds out hope that his twin sister, Ellie, is still alive. What he doesn't know is that she *is alive*, and both he and Ellie have mutations that give them special powers they will need in order to fight the evil that threatens the innocent.

Try these too:

Ender's Game – Orson Scott Card

Full Tilt – Neal Shusterman

The Hunger Games – Suzanne Collins

Invitation to the Game – Monica Hughes

Dashner, James. *The Maze Runner*. Delacorte Press, 2009. 978-0-385-73794-4.

With no memory of his past life and thrust into an alternate place called the Glade, Thomas must orient himself to a new life of survival in a world where teens are in charge. Life is about beating the maze and the Grievers, half animal/machines, whose only mission is to kill. Thomas must harness his memories and skill as a runner to break out of the Maze. The Maze- a puzzle like no other.

Try these too:

House of Stairs – William Sleator

The Hunger Games – Suzanne Collins

Lord of the Flies – William Golding

Uglies – Scott Westerfeld

Headley, Justina Chen. *North of Beautiful*. Little, Brown, 2009. 978-0-316-02505-8.

Terra wishes she had a map to help her navigate the complications in her life: a large birthmark that covers her cheek, a controlling father that has made her home life miserable, and now a Goth boy with the ability to see beyond the mark on her face.

Try these too:

Absolutely Maybe – Lisa Yee

King of the Screwups – K.L. Going

Vibes – Amy Ryan

Kantor, Melissa. *Girlfriend Material*. Disney/Hyperion Books, 2009. 978-1-42310-849-8.

Kate's summer plans are dashed when her mom drags her off to Cape Cod to stay with some old friends. But things start looking up when she meets cute, witty Adam.

Try these too:

The Kind of Friends We Used to Be – Frances O'Roark Dowell

Shug – Jenny Han

The Summer I Turned Pretty – Jenny Han

Violet Raines Almost Got Struck by Lightning – Danette Haworth

Kelly, Jacqueline. *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*. Henry Holt, 2009. 978-0-8050-8841-0.

In Texas in 1899, Calpurnia Tate explores the natural world around her – studying and questioning nature while getting to know her grandfather.

Try these too:

The Penderwicks – Jeanne Birdsall

The True Adventures of Charley Darwin – Carolyn Meyer

When the Whistle Blows – Fran Cannon Slayton

A Year Down Yonder, *A Long Way from Chicago*, and *A Season of Gifts* – Richard Peck

Korman, Gordon. *Pop*. Balzer + Bray, 2009. 978-0-06-174228-6.

Football. That's Marcus' ticket to finding a spot in his new school and town. But when he angers the team's star quarterback and his only friend keeps getting him into trouble, Marcus wonders if he has a chance to ever fit into this unfriendly town.

Try these too:

Boost – Kathy Mackel

Football Genius – Tim Green

Heart of a Champion – Carl Deuker

Million Dollar Throw – Mike Lupica

Rash – Pete Hautman

MacLean, Sarah. *The Season*. Orchard Books, 2009. 978-0-545-04886-6.

Lady Alexandra Stafford is not looking forward to her first "Season", the term given by high society Londoners in 1815 describing the season in which matchmakers are busy finding the right match for their charges. Her attitude changes when she begins to see Lord Gavin Blackmoor, a lifelong family friend, in a different light. The Season turns out to be full of surprises for Alex and Blackmoor.

Try these too:

A Kiss in Time – Alex Flinn

The Luxe – Anna Godbersen

The Red Necklace – Sally Gardner

Morton-Shaw, Christine. *The Hunt for the Seventh*. Katherine Tegen Books, 2008. 978-0-06-072822-9.

When Jim's father takes the head gardener position at Minerva Hall, the 12-year-old becomes caught up in an ancient, deadly curse, and he must figure it out before disaster strikes.

Try these too:

All the Lovely Bad Ones – Mary Downing Hahn

I Heart You, You Haunt Me – Lisa Schroeder

The Secret Life of Sparrow Delaney – Suzanne Harper

Shadowed Summer – Sandra Mitchell

Stir of Bones – Nina Kiriki Hoffman

Potter, Ellen. *Slob*. Philomel Books, 2009. 978-0-399-24705-7.

Owen -brilliant, overweight, inventor- has the ability to look at things in a unique way. He forgives the most horrendous behavior directed towards him on a daily basis until his three Oreo cookies go missing from his lunchbox.

Try these too:

Fat Kid Rules the World – K.L. Going

Flavor of the Week – Tucker Shaw

Stead, Rebecca. *When You Reach Me*. Wendy Lamb Books, 2009. 978-0-385-90664-7.

The note read: "I am coming to save your friend's life, and my own . . . you must write me a letter." Miranda wonders what it means. Is she being influenced by the time travel in her favorite book *A Wrinkle in Time* or could it really be possible?

Try these too:

First Light – Rebecca Stead

A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L'Engle

Taylor, Greg. *Killer Pizza: A Novel*. Feiwel and Friends, 2009. 978-0-312-37379-5.

With dreams of becoming a chef, Toby gets a job at Killer Pizza hoping to learn some cooking skills. He is shocked to find out that the pizza chain is a front for a totally unexpected secret operation.

Try these too:

The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod series – Heather Brewer

Goosebumps series - R.L. Stein

Heck: Where the Bad Kids Go – Dale E. Basye

Night Wings – Joseph Bruchac

Suck it Up – Brian Meehl

Walker, Sally M. *Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland*. Carolrhoda Books, 2009. 978-0-8225-7135-3.

Travel back in time to Colonial Era Virginia and Maryland through archaeological digs of settlers' grave sites to discover mysteries and our country's burgeoning cultural practices that are only written in bone.

Try these too:

Bodies from the Ice – James Deem

Phineas Gage – John Fleischman

Williams, Suzanne Morgan. *Bull Rider*. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2009. 978-1-41696-130-7.

Cam O'Mara is a skateboarder in a family of bull-riders. When his older brother, a champion bull-rider and a young marine, returns home paralyzed from a brain injury, Cam's world is turned upside down.

Try these too:

Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-Year-Old GI - Ryan Smithson

Heart of a Shepherd – Rosanne Parry

Zielin, Lara. *Donut Days*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2009. 978-0-399-25066-8.

People are coming from miles around to await the opening of a new donut franchise. Emma joins in the campout, but not for a hot donut; instead she is hoping for a scholarship! If she writes the best article about the opening, she can win her way to the college of her choice.

Try these too:

Evolution, Me and Other Freaks of Nature – Robin Brande

The Homeschool Liberation League – Lucy Frank

Leap of Faith – Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Zink, Michelle. *Prophecy of the Sisters*. Little, Brown, 2009. 978-0-316-02742-7.

Victorian era twin sisters, battling their own destinies, are part of an ancient prophecy that makes them mortal enemies. They both have a role to play - one good, one evil. If events are not stopped, it could bring about the end of the world.

Try these too:

A Great and Terrible Beauty – Libba Bray

Jade Green – Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Need – Carrie Jones

Sorcery and Cecelia, or, The Enchanted Chocolate Pot – Patricia C. Wrede

The Texas Lone Star list is a recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table. The purpose of the list is to encourage students in grades 6, 7, or 8 to explore a variety of current books. The Lone Star list is intended for recreational reading, not to support a specific curriculum. Due to the diversity of this age range, Texas librarians should purchase titles on this list according to their individual collection policies. Each book on the list has been favorably reviewed for grades 6, 7, or 8 in a professional review source.

The annotated 2010 Lone Star Reading List and the past Lone Star Reading Lists are located at: <http://www.txla.org/groups/yart/lonestarlists.html>