

COLLEGE BOUND READING LIST

AUTHOR		TITLE			SUMMARY
Adams	Richard	<i>Tales from Watership Down</i>	1974		The adventures of a group of rabbits searching for a safe place to live in peace.
Alcott	Lousia May	<i>Little Women</i>	1868		Story of the March sisters growing into ladies in 19th century New England.
Anderson	Laurie H.	<i>Catalyst</i>	2002		The story of a high school senior looking toward her future and the dramatic events that ground her to the present.
Angelou	Maya	<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird</i>	1977	B	An African-American writer traces her coming of age.
Austen	Jane	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	1813		This timeless satire on English manners traces the fortunes and foibles of a family of young women and their suitors.
Bradbury	Ray	<i>Farenheit 451</i>	1953		Reading is a crime and firemen burn books in this futuristic society.
Bronte	Charlotte	<i>Jane Eyre</i>	1847		Jane Eyre is an intelligent, passionate young woman who falls in love with a strange moody man tormented by dark secrets.
Bronte	Emily	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>	1847		The Demonic passion of the hero-villain Heathcliff destroys his beloved Catherine, her family, and eventually himself.
Brown	Dee Alexander	<i>Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee</i>	1970	NF	A narrative of the white man's conquest of the American land as the Indian victims experienced it.
Butler	Octavia	<i>Parable of Sower</i>	1993		Lauren, who can feel others' pain physically, travels along the highways of 21st century California.
Card	Orson Scott	<i>Ender's Game</i>	1985		After aliens attack, the government breeds military geniuses like Ender Wiggins (computer games).
Cather	Willa	<i>My Antonia</i>	1918		Immigrant pioneers strive to adapt to the Nebraska prairies
Cervantes	Miguel de	<i>The Adventures of Don Quixote de la Mancha</i>	1604		A novel in which an eccentric old gentleman wetting out as a knight goes "tilting at windmills" to right the wrongs of the world
Chopin	Kate	<i>The Awakening</i>	1899		Edna, an unhappy wife and mother, discovers herself with the Creole elite of New Orleans.
Cisneros	Sandra	<i>The House on Mango Street</i>	1991		Esperanza describes life in a low-income, predominantly Hispanic neighborhood in Chicago.

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Cooper	James Fennimore	<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>	1826	Set on the American frontier during the French and Indian wars a white scout raised by Indians saves colonists.
Cormier	Robert	<i>The Chocolate Was</i>	1974	Jerry Renault challenges the power structure of his school when he refuses to sell chocolates for the annual fundraiser.
Crane	Stephen	<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>	1890	Henry Fleming joins the army during the Civil War, full of romantic visions of battle which are shattered by combat.
Dante		<i>Inferno</i>	1867	Dante's great poem of penance and hope.
Defoe	Daniel	<i>Robinson Crusoe</i>	1719	The adventures of a man who spends 24 years on an isolated island.
DeMaurier	Daphne	<i>Rebecca</i>	1938	The psychological story of a young woman's confrontations with a hostile housekeeper, and the ghost of a past wife.
Diamant	Anita	<i>The Red Tent</i>	1997	Diamant explores the trials and triumphs of ancient Biblical women.
Dickens	Charles	<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	1859	The release of a prisoner from the Bastille during the French Revolution leads to the execution of an innocent Englishman.
Dickens	Charles	<i>Great Expectations</i>	1861	The moving story of the rise, fall, and rise again of a humbly-born young orphan named Pip.
Doris	Michael	<i>A Yellow Raft in Blue Water</i>	1987	Three generations of Native American women recount their searches for identity and love.
Dostoyevsky	Fyodor	<i>Crime and Punishment</i>	1866	A sensitive intellectual is driven by poverty to believe himself exempt from moral law.
Douglas	Frederick	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas</i>	1854	B The informative first person account of the experiences of slaves in Maryland.
Dumas	Alexander	<i>The Three Musketeers</i>	1844	The historic story of heroism and adventure, and the famous code of "one for all and all for one," in 17th century France.
Ellison	Ralph	<i>Invisible Man</i>	1952	A young African American seeking identity relates his terrifying experiences of high school, college and Harlem.
Faulkner	William	<i>The Sound and the Fury</i>	1929	Through four points of view, the deterioration of the Compsons- a Southern family- is presented.
Fitzgerald	F. Scott	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	1925	A young man corrupts himself and the American Dream in order to regain a lost love.

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Flaubert	Gustave	<i>Madame Bovary</i>	1856		In her extramarital affairs, a young wife seeks to find the emotional experiences she has read about in romantic novels.
Frank	Anne	<i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i>	1947	B	The story of a Jewish family forced by encroaching Nazis to live in hiding.
Gaines	Ernest J.	<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>	1993		Teacher Grant Wiggins helps a man gain a sense of dignity and self-esteem before his execution.
Gardner	John	<i>Grendel</i>	1971		The monster Grendel struggles to understand the ugliness in himself and mankind in the brutal world of 14th century Denmark.
Gibbons	Kaye	<i>Ellen Foster</i>	1987		Eleven-year-old Ellen survives her mother's death and an abusive father to find herself a loving foster home and a new mama.
Goeth	Johann Wolfgang von	<i>Faust</i>	1785		A play about the legendary scholar who sells his soul to the devil.
Golding	William	<i>Lord of the Flies</i>	1954		A group of English schoolboys who are stranded on an island without adults become savages.
Gunther	John	<i>Death be not Proud</i>	1949	NF	A father's memoir of a brave, intelligent, and spirited boy who died of a brain tumor.
Hardy	Thomas	<i>Tess of the d'Urbervilles</i>	1891		Victorian Tess confesses that she bore a child as a result of a forced sexual relationship with her employer's son.
Heller	Joseph	<i>Catch 22</i>	1961		Captain Yossarian confronts the hypocrisy of war and bureaucracy as he frantically attempts to survive.
Hemingway	Ernest	<i>A Fairwell to Arms</i>	1929		During World War I, an American lieutenant falls in love and runs away with the woman who nurses him to health.
Herriot	James	<i>All Creatures Great and Small</i>	1972	B	Memoirs of a Scottish veterinarian.
Hesse	Hermann	<i>Siddhartha</i>	1922		Siddhartha transcends experiences to a state of peace and mystic holiness in this strangely simple story.
Houston	Jeanne W.	<i>Farewell to Manzanar</i>	1983	NF	World War I is the setting for this love story of an English nurse and a wounded American ambulance officer.
Hugo	Victor	<i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>	1831		This medieval story tells of the doomed love of Quasimodo, the grotesque bell-ringer and Esmeralda, the beautiful gypsy.
Huxley	Aldous	<i>Brave New World</i>	1932		In a chilling vision of the future, babies are produced in bottles and exist in a mechanized world without soul (satire).

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Joyce	James	<i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i>	1916		Traces an aspiring young writer's rejection of traditional Irish-Catholic culture.
Keller	Helen	<i>The Story of my Life</i>	1959		The story of Helen Keller, who was both blind and deaf, and her relationship with her devoted teacher Anne Sullivan
Keneally	Thomas	<i>Schindler's List</i>	1982		A factory owner risks his life and spends his personal fortune to save Jews listed as his workers during World War II.
Keyes	Daniel	<i>Flowers for Algernon</i>	1966		Mentally retarded Charlie Gordon participates in an experiment which turns him into a genius but only temporarily
King	Laurie	<i>The Beekeeper's Apprentice</i>	1994		Sherlock Holmes meets 15-year-old Mary Russell, who challenges him to investigate yet another case.
Kosinski	Jerzy	<i>The Painted Bird</i>	1965		An abandoned dark-haired child wanders alone through isolated villages of Eastern Europe in World War II
Krakauer	Jon	<i>Into Thin Air</i>	1997	B	Krakauer's powerful, cautionary tale of his ascent of Mt. Everest- an adventure gone horribly wrong.
Le Guin	Ursula	<i>The Left Hand of Darkness</i>	1969		AI must deal with a hostile climate; a suspicious, bickering government; and his own conventional sexual mores.
Lee	Harper	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	1960		In 1930s Alabama, an African American is accused of raping a white woman.
Lewis	C. S.	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>	1950		Four children travel to Narnia through a wardrobe and meet Aslan and help him to battle the evil witch.
London	Jack	<i>The Call of the Wild</i>	1903		Buck is a loyal pet dog until cruel men make him a pawn in their search for Klondike gold.
Mah	Adeline Yen	<i>Chinese Cinderella</i>	1999	B	A riveting memoir of a girl's painful coming-of-age in a wealthy Chinese family during the 1940s.
McCourt	Frank	<i>Angela's Ashes</i>	1996	B	McCourt tells his story of growing up dirt poor in Limerick, Ireland.
McKinley	Robin	<i>Beauty</i>	1978	NF	Love is the only key to unlocking a curse and transforming the Beast into a man.
Melville	Herman	<i>Moby Dick</i>	1851		The story of the voyage of a whaling ship led by the fanatical Captain Ahab in search of the white whale that had crippled him.
Miller	Arthur	<i>The Crucible</i>	1953		A classic play about the witch-hunts and trials in seventeenth-century Salem, Massachusetts.

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Mori	Kyoko	<i>Shizuko's Daughter</i>	1993		Mori poetically conveys the sentiments of an Asian girl who has lost her mother to suicide.
Morrison	Toni	<i>Beloved</i>	1987		Preferring death over slavery for her children, Sethe murders her infant daughter who later mysteriously returns.
Myers	Walter Dean	<i>Monster</i>	1999		Steve, charged with murder, resorts to his passion for filmmaking to put some order to and make some sense of his ordeal.
O'Connor	Flannery	<i>A Good Man is Hard to Find</i>	1955		This timeless collection of nine stories, each with its climactic moment of human weakness, is set at that crossroads.
Orwell	George	1984-	1949		In this futuristic novel the Party is forcing the implementation of Newspeak eliminating all words related to political rebellion.
Pasternak	Boris	<i>Doctor Zhivago</i>	1957		An epic novel of Russia before and after the Bolshevik revolution.
Paton	Alan	<i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i>	1948		The roots of both the generational and racial conflicts of black South Africans are explored in this story.
Pelzer	David	<i>A Child Called "It"</i>	1995	B	This book chronicles the unforgettable account of one of the most severe child abuse cases in California history.
Pipher	Mary Bray	<i>Reviving Ophelia</i>	1994	NF	Today's teenagers face serious pressures at an earlier age than that at which teenagers in the past did (real accounts).
Plath	Sylvia	<i>The Bell Jar</i>	1963		The heartbreaking story of a talented young woman's descent into madness.
Poe	Edgar Allen	<i>Selected Tales</i>	1845		Poe is considered the father of detective stories and a master of supernatural tales.
Potok	Chaim	<i>The Chosen</i>	1967		A baseball injury brings together two Jewish boys, one Hasidic, the other Orthodox, first in hostility but finally in friendship.
Power	Susan	<i>The Grass Dancer</i>	1994		This multigenerational tale of a Sioux family is told in the voices of the living and the dead.
Salinger	J. D.	<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i>	1951		A prep school dropout rejects the "phoniness" he sees all about him.
Shaara	Michael	<i>The Killer Angels</i>	1974		Officers and foot soldiers from both the Union and Confederacy steel themselves for the bloody Battle of Gettysburg.
Shelley	Mary Wollstonecraft	<i>Frankenstein</i>	1831		A gothic tale of terror in which Frankenstein creates a monster from corpses- the monster turns on him in despair.

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Sinclair	Upton	<i>The Jungle</i>	1906		The deplorable conditions of the Chicago stockyards are exposed in this turn-of-the-century novel.
Smith	Betty	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>	1942		A poignant and deeply understanding story of childhood and family relationships in Brooklyn 1902-1919
Speigelman	Art	<i>Maus and Maus II</i>	1986	NF	A story of survival is woven into the author's account of his relationship with his father who lived through the Holocaust.
Steinbeck	John	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	1939		An Oklahoma farmer and his family leave the Dust Bowl during the Great Depression to go to the promised land of California
Stevenson	Robert Louis	<i>Treasure Island</i>	1883		A secret treasure map becomes the key to heart-pounding thrills, danger and swashbuckling action.
Stowe	Harriet Beecher	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>	1850		The classic tale that awakened a nation about the slave system.
Stroker	Bram	<i>The Essential Dracula</i>	1897	NF	A Gothic story of a prim and arrogant society threatened by a supernatural force
Swift	Jonathan	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>	1726		A satire in which an 18th-century Englishman visits lands which illuminate many of the vices and weaknesses of his society.
Thoreau	Henry David	<i>Walden</i>	1854		Walden is about the 26 months Thoreau spent alone in the woods to "front the essential facts of life."
Tolkien	J. R. R.	<i>The Hobbit</i>	1937		Bilbo Baggins is sent by the wizard Gandalf on the adventure of his life.
Tolstoy	Leo	<i>War and Peace</i>	1869		A story of the Russian spirit and the effect of war and peace on every social class during the Napoleonic Wars
Tolstoy	Leo	<i>Anna Karenina</i>	1877		Anna forsakes her husband for the dashing Count Vronsky and brief happiness.
Twain (Clements)	Mark	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>	1884		Huck takes a trip down the river with a runaway slave and learns the worth of life.
Valens	Evans G.	<i>The Other Side of the Mountain</i>	1975	B	The inspiring story of the paralyzed skier.
Verne	Jules	<i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i>	1864		Professor Von Hardwigg and his nephew descend into a mountain crater and begin their adventure.
Vonnegut	Kurt	<i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>	1968		Billy Pilgrim, an optometrist, shuttles between World War II Dresden and a luxurious zoo on the planet Tralfamadore

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Walker	Alice	<i>The Color Purple</i>	1982	A young woman sees herself as property until another woman teaches her to value herself.
Weisel	Elie	<i>Night</i>	1958	A searing account of the Holocaust as experienced by a 15 year old boy
Wharton	Edith	<i>Ethan Frome</i>	1911	A masterpiece of psychological and emotional realism- Ethan is a lonely and downtrodden New England farmer.
Wilde	Oscar	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>	1891	A dreamlike story of a young man who sells his soul for eternal youth and beauty.
Wright	Richard	<i>Native Son</i>	1940	An African American man accused in the white man's world-no extenuating circumstances, no explanations-only death.
X	Malcolm	<i>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</i>	1965	From preacher's son and petty criminal to devout Muslim and charismatic leader of black nationalism.
Yolen	Jane	<i>Briar Rose</i>	1992	Disturbed by her grandmother Gemma's unique version of Sleeping Beauty, Rebecca seeks the truth behind the fairy tale