

2018 TAYSHAS Reading List			
Title (Top Ten *)	Author	Publisher	Annotation
AHGOTTAHANDLEONIT	Mixon, Donovan	Cinco Puntos Press	Tim thinks he's "gottahandleon" all the things going wrong in his life, but he couldn't be more wrong. Failing school, fighting, and family problems all might be the things that keep him from making it out of the tough life of his neighborhood.
Akata Warrior	Okorafor, Nnedi	Penguin Random House / Viking	Set in Nigeria, Sunny and her friends take on dark magic in the fantastical world of The Leopard Society. Get ready for Ekwensu (an evil spirit), Udide (a giant spider spirit), Lambs (think Muggles) and Leopard People (think wizards) as a battle rages to save the world!
Alex, Approximately	Bennett, Jenn	Simon Pulse	When Bailey "Mink" Rydell moves to California with her father, she finally has the chance to meet the boy she's been crushing on through an online site for film fanatics. The only thing standing in her way of finding "Alex" seems to be her new arch nemesis, Porter Roth, the hot security guard at her quirky new summer job.
All in Pieces*	Young, Suzanne	First Simon Pulse	Savannah was kicked out of school for stabbing her boyfriend's hand with a pencil repeatedly after he insulted her disabled brother whom she cares for. Savannah is the parent in her poverty-stricken household.
Allegedly	Jackson, Tiffany D.	Katherine Tegen Books	Fifteen-year-old Mary spent nine years in "baby jail" for killing an infant. Now she's pregnant, living in a group home, and determined to make a life for herself and her baby.

American Street	Zoboi, Ibi	Balzer + Bray	Fabiola Toussaint and her mother embark on a trip to the United States to join her aunt and cousins in Detroit, Michigan. However, her mother is detained at the airport, and she must continue her journey and begin her life in America without her mother. She relies on her beliefs (Haitian Voodoo) and the hope that her mother will join the family in Detroit as she navigates her new life in the U. S. But when a detective asks her for information on her cousin's boyfriend, who is involved in dealing drugs, in exchange for her mother's release, she ends up placing herself and her cousins in peril.
Avalanche	Braun, Melinda	Simon Pulse	A group of teenagers embark on a back country ski trip and encounter many obstacles along the way including multiple injuries and one death.
Bad Romance	Demetrios, Heather	Henry Holt and Company	When Grace's fairy tale romance begins to resemble her mother/stepfather's controlling, abusive relationship, she spirals into depression.
Between Two Skies	O'Sullivan, Joanne	Candlewick Press	Between Two Skies explores the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Evangeline's world is blown apart by the storm. Her family leaves her beloved Bayou Perdu for Atlanta. So where, now, is home?
The Black Witch	Forest, Laurie	Harlequin Teen	The Black Witch delves into race and prejudice via the lens of fantasy. Amazing world-building transports readers to "Erthia", which teems with the same social, political and religious issues contemporary teens face. Magical. Lyrical. Engaging.
Born a Crime	Noah, Trevor	Penguin / Randomhouse	Trevor Noah, host of The Daily Show, shares the tale of growing up under South African apartheid. Born to a black Xhosa mother and white Swiss father, his existence was illegal. His parents violated the Immorality Act of 1927 and Trevor was proof of the violation.

Bull	Elliott, David	HMH Books for Young Readers	David Elliott casts a mythological magic spell over the reader of Bull, a retelling of the Myth of the Minotaur. You will laugh with Poseidon and weep with the Bull.
Carve the Mark	Roth, Veronica	Katherine Tegen Books, HarperCollins	Cyra and Akos, bound to opposing cultures, are attracted to each other, despite cultural abuses of each other's family members. They yearn and plot to be free in this complicated dystopian and violent setting.
City of Saints and Thieves*	Anderson, Natalie C.	Putnam's Sons	A mystery thriller set in the streets of Africa-a girl seeks revenge for the murder of her mother, but is the man she believes did it REALLY responsible? Or is there a more sinister plot that she doesn't yet realize?
Crossing Ebenezer Creek	Bolden, Tonya	Bloomsbury	Mariah has dreamed of freedom for herself and her brother. After being set "free" by the Yankee soldiers marching through Georgia, her perilous journey will test her beyond anything she ever imagined. Based on a true event.
A Crown of Wishes	Chokshi, Roshani	St. Martin's Griffin	Just before she is about to be executed, Princess Gauri makes a deal with Prince Vikram to be his partner in the Tournament of Wishes. With the hopes of both their kingdoms on the line, they will push through many challenges in a mystical world to hopefully find their hearts' desires.
The Cruelty	Bergstrom, Scott	Feiwel & Friends	Gwendolyn Bloom's father, a diplomat, goes missing while working in Paris. When the American government loses interest in finding him, Gwendolyn decides to go undercover and find him herself.
Dear Martin	Stone, Nic	Crown Books	Fourth in his class and heading to Princeton, Justyce McAllister seems to have life all figured out. Then he is arrested while trying to help his ex-girlfriend and turns to Martin Luther King to help him confront racism and cope with his new reality.

The Diabolic	Kincaid, S.J.	Simon and Schuster Children's UK	Diabolics are lethal, humanoid creatures. Fashion dictated the ruling class purchase them to protect their children. Now Diabolics are illegal, though they still secretly exist in some families. Nemesis is sent in her "owners" place to court and must blend in to keep her mistress safe.
Dreamland Burning	Latham, Jennifer	Hatchette/Little Brown for Young Readers	Told in overlapping voices from 1920's Tulsa and today, the racist history of a town is revealed when a mysterious skeleton is discovered buried in the garage.
Eliza and Her Monsters	Zappia, Francesca	Greenwillow Books, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers	Eliza Mirk, creator of the famous online comic <i>Monstrous Sea</i> , prefers life on the computer to interacting with the students at her high school. But when a new student arrives at school who shares her passion for her comic, she soon realizes there is a whole world waiting for her outside her online life.
Exo	Lee, Fonda	Scholastic Press	The Zhree have controlled Earth for the last 100 years, and Exo Soldiers like Donovan have adapted well to life with aliens. But when Donovan is kidnapped by humans hoping to kick the Zhree aliens off the planet, he may be forced to accept the fact that life with aliens isn't everything he thought it was.
Factory Girl	La Valley, Josanne	Clarion Books	Roshen bravely "volunteers" to work in a far away factory to save her family farm. Once she gets there, she realizes the conditions are worse than anyone could imagine. She befriends many of the girls, and they form a bonds that create resilience and help them survive the brutal conditions.
The Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virture	Lee, Mackenzi	Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollinsPublishers	When witty Monty and his best friend (and unrequited love) escort his sister to 1700s Paris, their Grand Tour of Europe results in a wild adventure.
Genuine Fraud	Lockhart, E.	Random House Children's Books	Omnisciently narrated in reverse order from end to beginning, two older teens, one wealthy, one lying about who she is, explore a friendship with deadly consequences.

The Girl from Everywhere	Heilig, Heidi	Greenwillow	Nix has spent most of her life navigating her time-traveling father's ship, but their next trip could put her very existence in jeopardy. Is she willing to risk everything for her father's happiness?
Girl Mans Up	Girard, M-E	Harper Teen	Gamer Pen dresses like a boy, likes girls, and just wants to be herself, but her parents and her friend Colby keep getting in her way.
Goodbye Days	Zentner, Jeff	Crown	Carver is just your average high school senior, except he's pretty sure he killed his three best friends with a text message. Carver must come to terms with the death of his friends and figure out a way to move on and forgive himself.
Gutless	Deuker, Carl	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	More than anything, Brock Ripley wants to be the guy who can make his team, and family, proud of him, but when the game is on the line, he tends to be "gutless." When his new friend Richard Fang makes an enemy of the school football star, Brock has to decide whether or not he wants to be popular or "gut it up" and stand up for his friend.
The Hate U Give*	Thomas, Angie	Balzer + Bray	Starr lives in a poor black neighborhood but attends a suburban prep school. After witnessing a cop fatally shoot her friend Kahlil, she must make choices that affect her life, her family, and her community.
Here We Are: Feminism for the Real World	Jensen, Kelly (editor)	Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill / Algonquin Young Readers	Feminism is a complex topic best explored through stories. Through essays, comics, poems and lists, these 44 voices share tales of body image, female empowerment, finding your voice and more. Get empowered!
A Hope More Powerful Than the Sea	Fleming, Melissa	Flatiron Books	Doaa's journey from happy Syrian teenager to war refugee, then global refugee, will build a bridge of empathy about the refugee crisis for the high school reader. Her miraculous survival against the ocean elements illuminates courage borne of desperation.

The Impossible Fortress	Rekulak, Jason	Simon & Schuster	It's May 1987, and fourteen-year-old Billy and his friends are desperate to get a copy of Playboy. In their scheme to steal one, Billy agrees to seduce the store owner's daughter for the store's alarm code.
In The Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery, Four Presidents, and Five Black Lives	Davis, Kenneth C	Henry Holt and Company	Follow the stories of four slaves of American presidents as they bear witness to some of the most important events in American history.
The Inexplicable Logic of My Life*	Sáenz, Benjamin Alire	Clarion Books	Sal has always known he was adopted, but he soon begins questioning who he really is and if his sudden violent streak is more like his biological father. Luckily, Sal has his best friends Sam and Fito, and an amazing adoptive father, to help him, even as they struggle with their own personal issues.
Landscape with Invisible Hand	Anderson, M. T.	Candlewick Press	Adam Costello is a high school student and a talented artist. However, when the vuvv land on Earth it has a negative impact on everyone. The advanced technology that the vuvv bring puts people out of work and everyone is struggling to survive. Adam's life seems to be falling apart as well. He is suffering from Merrick's Disease, has difficulties with his girlfriend, and is trying to find ways to help bring in income for his family. Adam is presented with an opportunity to enter an art contest and if he wins it could be a difference maker for him and his family. Will this be the solution to all of his problems?
Life in a Fishbowl	Vlahos, Len	Bloomsbury	Jackie's father sells the rights to his life and turns it into a reality TV show in order to provide for his family after he learns that he is dying of a brain tumor.
A List of Cages	Roe, Robin	Disney/Hyperion	Adam reunites with a former foster brother Julian while working as a counseling office aid at school. He soon discovers Julian's home life with his step uncle is not what it seems.

Little & Lion	Colbert, Brandy	Little, Brown	When Suzette's brother was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, their parents hustled her away to boarding school. Returning to LA for summer vacation, she must face changes in her brother and herself.
Loving Vs. Virginia*	Powell, Patricia Hruby	Chronicle Books	Loving Vs. Virginia is a novel in verse that tells the story of Mildred Jeter and Richard Loving. Through illustrations, pictures, primary source documents, and verse (in Richard's and Mildred's point of view) readers see the story of the Lovings unfold: courtship, the wedding in Washington, D. C. (as it was not legal for them to marry in Virginia), and their challenge to the anti-miscegenation law that banned their marriage in Virginia.
Maid of the King's Court	Worsley, Lucy	Candlewick Press	The rise and fall of Katherine Howard, 5th wife of Henry VIII, through the eyes of her fictional cousin Elizabeth "Eliza" Rose Camperdowne. The women are basically cards to be played by the men in their world (father, brother, husband). The women in this book (and of this time) gain power through exploiting their youth and beauty.
Midnight at the Electric	Anderson, Jodi Lynn	HarperTeen	Adri, selected to colonize Mars in 2065, spends her last days with her only relative in Canon, Kansas learning about the fascinating history of her family and the Galapagos turtle in the back yard.
Moxie	Mathieu, Jennifer	Roaring Brook Press	Vivian Carter is not having it. Boys getting away with misogynist comments, and dress coding of girls but not guys. When she starts the <i>Moxie</i> zine, she wants to bring attention to what's happening to the girls at her school. Hopefully, she can use her voice to help others because, after all, Moxie Girls Fight Back!
Mr. 60%*	Smith, Clete Barrett	Crown	Matt Nolan is his high school's drug dealer. Students see him as their party bag hookup and teachers view him as a future dropout. But Matt's hiding a secret: he's the sole caretaker of his uncle, who's dying of cancer. Will anyone ever notice the real Matt?

North of Happy	Alsaid, Adi	Harlequin Teen	Feeling as if his whole life is mapped out for him, Carlos decides to run away from his overbearing parents. What he brings with him is his love of cooking and the ghost of his murdered brother. When he meets Emma, a Chef's daughter, he must decide if he will follow his parents directions or cut his own path.
One of the Boys	Magariel, Daniel	Scribner	One of the Boys allows the reader to experience alienation from a mother, drug fueled abuse at the hands of a charismatic father, a strong brotherly bond, shame for a mistake made, and a path of awakening to the fact that we all do the best we can given some terrible circumstances.
Our Chemical Hearts	Sutherland, Krystal	G.P. Putnam's Sons	Henry Page knows that Grace Town is broken, physically and mentally, but he can't change what he feels in his heart. Will he be able to help Grace heal enough to love him, or is he heading for heartbreak of an epic proportion?
Outrun the Moon	Lee, Stacey	Putnam	Mercy Wong, daughter of Chinese immigrants, is determined to escape the poverty of 1906 San Francisco. Once admitted to an elite boarding school, she seems on her way, but a devastating earthquake changes everything.
Piecing Me Together	Watson, Renée	Bloomsbury	Jade wants to be appreciated for the person she is: a budding artist, a stellar student, and a fierce young woman. Unfortunately, the people around her, even those trying to help her, still see her as a poor, black girl in need of saving. Will Jade continue to keep quiet about her concerns, or will she be able find her voice and speak her truth?
Playing For the Devil's Fire	Diederich, Phillippe	Cinco Puntos Press	Boli's once small, quiet Mexico village has been taken over by drug cartels. With his parents missing, Boli looks to a Lucha Libre wrestler named El Chicano Estrada to help him find his parents and win back his town.

Ramona Blue	Murphy, Julie	Balzer + Bray	Out lesbian Ramona Blue has long acted as the adult in her family and plans to forego college to help care for her unmarried sister's baby. The return of childhood friend Reggie makes her question her plan and more.
Ronit & Jamil	Laskin, Pamela L.	Harper Collins / Katherine Tegen Books	A contemporary Romeo and Juliet verse novel pairing an Israeli girl and Palestinian boy living on opposite sides of the barrier fence slicing through the Israeli West Bank. Can their love overcome fence and the conflict it represents?
Saint Death	Sedgwick, Marcus	Roaring Brooks Press	Arturo chooses to use his card skills to make money and get his best friend Faustino out of trouble with the drug cartel he double crossed. A gritty story of loyalty, crime, and circumstances beyond our control.
Saints and Misfits	Ali, S.K.	Salaam Reads	Janna, an American hijabi teen, struggles with the knowledge that a "Monster" lives in her community. Although she feels like a Misfit, her faith, and the many Saints in her life, work to help her realize her own strength in defeating the "Monster."
Saving Red	Sones, Sonya	Harper Collings / Harper Teen	Molly is determined to save Red, a homeless girl with mental health issues, but Molly has panic attacks of her own. With her service dog, Pixel, by her side, Molly begins to sort out Red's life, and then her own. This free-verse novel will tug at your heart and leave you thinking.
Scythe	Shusterman, Neal	Simon & Shuster	Two principled teens are trained in the art of killing in a perfect society where all wants have been eliminated. Their training reveals and brings corruption upon them. Will they bow to the intense pressure to debase their consciences in order to save their lives?
Shame the Stars	McCall, Guadalupe Garcia	Tu Books, an imprint of Lee & Low Books, Inc.	As the Mexican Revolution heats up on the Texas border, Joaquin and Dulcena find their childhood friendship turn to love. But with violence erupting around them, they may have to sacrifice their young love to save the lives of those around them.

Soldier Boy	Hutton, Keely	Farrar Straus Giroux	Riveting novel that is based on Ricky Richard Anywar's experience as a child soldier in the Ugandan Civil War. His story is juxtaposed with that of Samuel who also is a child soldier in Joseph Kony's army. Samuel is a fictional character who is a composite of the real children who Ricky has helped through the charity he founded Friends of Orphans.
Still Life With Tornado	King, A.S.	Dutton Books	Sarah's art has always been her passion, except now something is blocking her from being able to create. It will take Sarah's nine year old self, along with her several other "Sarah"s of various ages to help present day, 16 year old Sarah to come to terms with traumas from her past.
The Sun is Also a Star*	Yoon, Nicola	Delacorte Press	Whether it is science or love that bring Natasha and Daniel together, they don't know. But with Natasha and her family being deported back to Jamaica in a matter of hours, the star crossed lovers try to make the most of their time which may very well determine the fate of not only the two of them, but a group of bystanders who unknowing participate in their love story.
Suspect Red	Elliott, L.M.	Disney Book Group / Disney-Hyperion Imprint	Richard, son of an FBI agent, has goals to become a spy hunter. And McCarthyism, a mass political hysteria which gripped the United States in 1953 and '54, makes spy hunting a patriotic act. So Richard spies on his best friend Vlad's family. Are they commie pinkos? Or loyal Americans?
Symptoms of Being Human	Garvin, Jeff	Balzer + Bray, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers	The first question you might ask Riley is "Are you a boy or a girl?" But there is so much more to Riley than their gender, like being a good writer and possible activist. It will take a community of "Q" friends to help Riley find the strength to come out and be the person they truly are on the inside.
Tash Hearts Tolstoy	Ormsbee, Kathryn	Simon & Schuster	Tash and her friends are producing a web series based on Tolstoy's Anna Karenina. Problems abound when it goes viral.

A Taste for Monsters	Kirby, Matthew	Scholastic Press	Disfigured by work in a matchstick company, Ellen hides in London Hospital, working as maid for John Merrick, the Elephant Man. Haunted by ghosts of Jack the Ripper's victims, Ellen is forced to confront her fears.
Tell Me Something Real	Devlin, Calla	Simon and Schuster Children's Publishing Division	The Babcock Sisters navigate life and love all the while helping their mother who has cancer. But none of them can predict that something worse than cancer would enter their lives and threaten to tear their family apart.
Things I Should Have Known	LaZebnik, Claire	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	Chloe adores her autistic sister Ivy which is why she decides it's a good idea to try to find Ivy a boyfriend. When the boyfriend hunt doesn't go as planned, Chloe learns there is a lot more to Ivy than she ever realized.
This Is the Part Where You Laugh	Hoffmeister, Peter Brown	Alfred A. Knopf	All Travis wants to do for the summer is work on his jump shot, hang out with his best friend Creature, and possibly kiss the new girl. But between his grandmother's cancer and his mother's heroin addiction, life can never be as easy as Travis would like.
Turtles All the Way Down	Green, John	Dutton Books	Aza's fear has become an obsession, one that she is trying to control. Despite counseling and mediation, Aza realizes that she could lose everything, a boyfriend, her best friend, even her mind.
Undefeated*	Sheinkin, Steve	Roaring Book Press	Nonfiction thriller! The US Government tried to erase Indian culture from Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team. Instead, they became national heroes by transforming the game of football and proudly representing their heritage.
Uprooted*	Marrin, Albert	Alfred A. Knopf	Uprooted summarizes the history of the Japanese and Chinese relationship, and then delves deeply into the racial tension and then the Japanese "internment" in America caused by the bombing of Pearl Harbor. It addresses racism with stunning detail at every level.

The UpSide of Unrequited	Albertalli, Becky	Balzer+Bray/ Imprint of Harper Collins	Molly has had 26 crushes and no kisses. She's just too scared to take a chance. After all, fat girls don't get kissed. When her twin sister Cassie begins dating Mina, they decide to help Molly out. But when Molly meets Reid, she might finally be able to "woman up."
The Valiant	Livingston, Lesley	Razorbill	Fallon is a Celtic princess turned Roman slave and gladiator. Fallon brings the reader along on her tragic fall to slavery and her rise to beloved gladiator of the Roman empire.
Vincent and Theo	Heiligman, Deborah	Goldwin Books, Henry Holt and Company	The world is familiar with Vincent Van Gogh's most famous paintings such as <i>Starry Night</i> . What they may not know is that there would be no Vincent paintings without the support of his beloved brother Theo.
Waste of Space	Damico, Gina	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	To boldly go where no Reality TV show has gone before. That is Chazz Young's idea when he recruits ten teenagers to shoot into space and find out what happens when "people stop being polite...and get real." The real question though is how "real" is this Reality TV show?
We Are Okay	LaCour, Nina	Dutton Books for Young readers	Marin deals with her first semester of college, far away from home, immediately after the death of her grandfather who is her only living relative. The book begins during the winter break in a dorm which is empty except for Marin who is still processing the death of her Gramps.
We Are Still Tornadoes	Kun, Michael and Susan Mullen	St. Martin's Griffin	Scott and Cath have been friends forever. Through deaths and divorce, they stand by each other's sides. Can their friendship withstand college and crushes?
What to Say Next	Buxbaum, Julie	Delacorte Press	When popular Kit Lowell sits with school "weirdo" David Drucker during lunch, all she wants is a quiet place to be away from her old life. What she finds is a true friendship...and maybe more.

When the Moon Was Ours	McLemore, Anna-Marie	Thomas Dunne Books-an imprint of St. Martin's Press	From the day Miel spilled from a water tower, she and Sam have been close. As they've grown older, only the Bonner sisters, who are rumored to be witches, threaten to tear them apart. Only by accepting their true selves will they be able to move past the threats to their future.
Words in Deep Blue*	Crowley, Cath	Alfred A. Knopf	Depressed by the death of her brother, Rachel moves back to Melbourne to work in the bookstore with Henry, her crush from before who can't get over Amy. Letters left in books narrate multiple heart affecting romances.
You Bring the Distant Near	Perkins, Mitali	Farrar Straus Giroux	Over five decades, the Das women blaze a trail of independence while still trying to keep in touch with their Indian culture.
The You I've Never Known	Hopkins, Ellen	Margaret K. McElderry Books	Two perspectives and prose styles add up to a unique book that alternates between Ariel and Maya. The reader really roots for both characters to resolve the myriad of problems they encounter with grace and grit.
You're Welcome, Universe	Gardner, Whitney	Alfred A Knopf	Kicked out of her School for the Deaf for spray painting over a slur against her friend, Julia must make her way at a school for "hearies."