

2008-2009 Lone Star Reading List

Berryhill, Shane. ***Chance Fortune and the Outlaws.*** Starscape, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1468-0 (publisher's hardcover).

Even though he seems to have no superhero powers, Chance is accepted into the school of his dreams, the Burlington Academy for the Superhuman, where he uses his skills to help his team and battle the forces of Evil.

Try These Too:

The Awakening, Michael Owen Carroll
Demonkeeper, Royce Buckingham
PS 238, Aaron Williams
True Talents, David Lubar

Bryant, Jen. ***Pieces of Georgia: A Novel.*** Knopf, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0-375-93259-5 (publisher's hardcover). ISBN-13: 978-0-440-42055-2 (paperback).

In journal entries to her mother, a gifted artist who died suddenly, thirteen-year-old Georgia McCoy reveals how her life changes after she receives an anonymous gift membership to a nearby art museum.

Try These Too:

Runaway, Wendelin Van Draanen
Sand Dollar Summer, Kimberly Jones
Way Down Deep, Ruth White

Flinn, Alex. ***Beastly.*** HarperTeen, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-06-087416-2 (publisher's hardcover). ISBN-13: 978-0-06-087417-9 (library binding).

Kyle Kingsbury has everything going for him - money, good looks, and charm - until the day he mocks the wrong girl (a witch in disguise) who transforms him into a terrifying beast. Kyle has two years to find true love before he becomes a monster forever in this very modern retelling of the classic *Beauty and the Beast* story.

Try These Too:

Beast, Donna Jo Napoli

East, Edith Pattou

Fairest, Gail Carson Levine

The Princess and the Hound, Mettie Ivie Harrison

Tattoo, Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Hale, Marian. ***Dark Water Rising***. Holt, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0-8050-7585-4 (publisher's hardcover).

Almost 8000 people died when a hurricane struck the Galveston coast in 1900. Sixteen-year old Seth survived the storm, found his way home and discovered his talents and strengths while helping to rebuild the island.

Try These Too:

Death Mountain, Sherry Shahan

Hurricane force: In the Path of America's Deadliest Storms, Joseph B. Treaster

The Killing Sea, Richard Lewis

Life as We Knew It, Susan Beth Pfeffer

Halls, Kelly Milner. ***Tales of the Cryptids: Mysterious Creatures That May or May Not Exist***. Darby Creek, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-1-58196-049-5 (publisher's hardcover).

Get the scientific facts about Bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster, Chupacabra, the Mongolian Death Worm, and 50 other legendary creatures, and find out what is true, what is myth, and what just isn't known (yet).

Try These Too:

Cryptid Hunters, Roland Smith

Death Collector, Justin Richards

Oh Rats! The Story of Rats and People, Albert Marrin

Unexplained, Judy Allen

Harper, Suzanne. ***The Secret Life of Sparrow Delaney***. Greenwillow, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-06-113158-5 (publisher's hardcover). ISBN-13: 978-0-06-113159-2 (library binding).

Sparrow is the 7th and most powerful daughter in a family of psychics, but she wants nothing to do with her powers until a persistent ghost convinces her to help him out.

Try These Too:

Ghosts I Have Been, Richard Peck

Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator, Jennifer Allison

Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos, R.L. La Fevers

Haydon, Elizabeth. ***The Floating Island: The Lost Journals of Ven Polypheme***. Starscape, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-0867-2 (publisher's hardcover).

Attacked by pirates and saved by a mermaid, Ven's amazing adventures include a talking cat, ghosts, and a quest for the magical waters of the mysterious floating island.

Try These Too;

Airborn, Kenneth Oppel

Changeling, Delia Sherman

Foundling, D.M. Cornish

The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio, Lloyd Alexander

Holm, Jennifer L. ***Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf: A Year Told Through Stuff***. Atheneum, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-689-85281-7 (publisher's hardcover).

Ginny is ready for seventh grade. If she can just complete the ten items on her to-do list, everything will be perfect. But life gets in the way as she deals with family issues, problems with friends, and mishaps at school. What was supposed to be her greatest year is turning into the worst year ever!

Try These Too:

The Actual Real Reality of Jennifer James, Gillian Shields

Right-Under Club, Christine Hurley Deriso

The Very Ordered Existence of Merilee Marvelous, Suzanne Crowley

Korman, Gordon. ***Schooled***. Hyperion, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-7868-5692-3 (publisher's hardcover).

Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, a former hippie, but when she falls from a tree and breaks her hip, Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school.

Try These Too:

How Ya Like Me Now, Brendan Halpin
No More Dead Dogs, Gordon Korman
Stargirl, Jerry Spinelli

Kostick, Conor. ***Epic***. Viking, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-670-06179-2 (publisher's hardcover).

On New Earth, a world based on a video role-playing game, fourteen-year-old Erik persuades his friends to challenge the system in order to save his father from exile and safeguard the futures of each of their families.

Try These Too:

Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card
The Game of Sunken Places, M.T. Anderson
Head Games, Mariah Fredericks
Heir Apparent, Vivian Vande Velde
Invitation to the Game, Monica Hughes

Lurie, April. ***Brothers, Boyfriends, & Other Criminal Minds***. Delacorte, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-385-73124-9 (publisher's hardcover). ISBN-13: 978-0-385-90152-9 (library binding).

April Lundquist's life has suddenly become very exciting. She lives on a street full of mafia bosses and accidentally becomes employed by Salvatore "Soft Sal" Luciano while her older brother Matt is secretly seeing another mobster's daughter. April and her friend Brandi do all they can to save the sometimes annoying, yet over-protective Matt from his impending doom amidst their own hilarious boyfriend problems.

Try These Too:

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Al Capone Does My Shirts, Gennifer Choldenko
All American Girl, Meg Cabot
Son of the Mob, Gordon Korman

McNish, Cliff. ***Breathe: A Ghost Story***. Carolrhoda, 2006.
ISBN-13: 978-0-8225-6443-0 (publisher's hardcover).

Jack is no stranger to death – he's been close before when his asthma threatened to overpower him. When he and his mother move into an old farmhouse, Jack actually begins to see the spirits of the Ghost Mother and the four ghost children she is terrorizing. As the Ghost Mother decides she wants a real child to love, Jack is drawn into a struggle with the Other World to save not only his life and his mother's, but also to reunite the ghost children's souls with their loved ones.

Try These Too:

Everlost, Neal Shusterman
Jade Green, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
The Presence, Eve Bunting
Werewolf Rising, R.L. La Fevers

Resau, Laura. ***What the Moon Saw: A Novel***. Delacorte, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0-385-73343-4 (publisher's hardcover). ISBN-13: 978-0-385-90360-8 (library binding).

Fourteen-year-old Clara Luna spends the summer with her grandparents in the tiny, remote village of Yucuyoo, Mexico, learning about her grandmother's life as a healer, her father's decision to leave home for the United States, and her own place in the world.

Try These Too:

Chasing the Jaguar, Michele Greene
Defining Dulcie, Paul Acampora
Esperanza Rising, Pam Muñoz Ryan
Feels Like Home, e. E. Charlton-Trujillo

Salisbury, Graham. ***Night of the Howling Dogs***. Wendy Lamb, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-385-73122-5 (publisher's hardcover). ISBN-13: 978-0-385-90146-8 (library binding).

Eleven Boy Scouts, their leaders, and some new friends camping at Halape, Hawaii in 1975 find their survival skills put to the test when a massive earthquake strikes followed by a tsunami.

Try These Too:

Alabama Moon, Watt Key

Touching Spirit Bear, Ben Mikaelson

The Trap, John E. Smelcer

Schmidt, Gary D. ***The Wednesday Wars***. Clarion, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-618-72483-3 (publisher's hardcover).

In a year filled with cream puff disasters, being forced to study Shakespeare, wearing yellow tights and the Vietnam War, Holling also meets the New York Yankees, makes the cross country track team and learns to stand up to his father.

Try These Too:

Edenville Owls, Robert B. Parker

The Loud Silence of Francine Green, Karen Cushman

One-Handed Catch, MJ Auch

The View from Saturday, E.L. Koningsburg

Scott, Michael. ***Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel***. Delacorte, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-385-73357-1 (publisher's hardcover). ISBN-13: 978-0-385-90372-1 (library binding).

Nicholas Flamel, the greatest Alchemyst of his day, supposedly died in 1418. In reality, he and his wife are still alive and well today. When the book that holds the secret to eternal life is stolen from Flamel, twins Sophie and Josh find themselves the subject of a prophecy giving them the power to save the world.

Try These Too:

The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp, Rick Yancey
Harry Potter (series), J.K. Rowling
Percy Jackson and the Olympians (series), Rick Riordan
Shadow Thieves, Anne Ursu
Skulduggery Pleasant, Derek Landy

Smith, Roland. **Peak**. Harcourt, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-15-202417-8 (publisher's hardcover).

Peak was born to be a climber. After getting caught and then arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, 14 year-old Peak is "rescued" by his previously absentee father. Peak's father has an even grander plan for Peak; he wants Peak to be the youngest person to climb Mount Everest, no matter what it takes to make it happen.

Try These Too:

Everest (series), Gordon Korman
Hatchet, Gary Paulsen
Runner, Carl Deuker
Shackelton's Stowaway, Victoria McKernan
Surviving Antarctica: Reality TV 2083, Andrea White

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **Zen and the Art of Faking It**. Scholastic, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-439-83707-1 (publisher's hardcover).

When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer--and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

Try These Too:

I am the Wallpaper, Mark Peter Hughes
If We Kiss, Rachel Vail
Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time, Lisa Yee

Stead, Rebecca. **First Light**. Wendy Lamb, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-375-94017-0 (publisher's hardcover).

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When twelve-year-old Peter and his family arrive in Greenland for his father's research, he stumbles upon a secret his mother has been hiding from him all his life and begins an adventure he never imagined possible.

Try These Too:

City of Ember, Jeanne DuPrau
Downsiders, Neal Shusterman
White Darkness, Geraldine McCaughrean

Stewart, Trenton Lee. ***The Mysterious Benedict Society***. Little, Brown, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-316-05777-6 (publisher's hardcover).

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Try These Too:

Chasing Vermeer, Blue Balliett
Evil Genius, Catherine Jinks
H.I.V.E.: Higher Institute of Villainous Education, Mark Walden
Shakespeare's Secret, Elise Broach
The Westing Game, Ellen Raskin

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.

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<http://www.txla.org/groups/yart/lonestarlists.html>