

2009 Tayshas

Reading List w/ Annotations

Alexie, Sherman. Flight. Grove Atlantic, 2007. AD/YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

15 year old "Zits" has a whole bunch of anger and 2 guns in his pocket. But just as he's about to exact his revenge he mind jumps into an FBI agents brain.

Archer, Lily. The poison apples. Feiwel and Friends, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

When they first arrive at their exclusive Massachusetts boarding school, 15-year-olds Molly, Reena, and Alice appear to have little in common. Soon, though, the girls discover that each has a much-loathed, recently acquired stepmother.

Armstrong, Kelley. The Summoning. Harper, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Chloe sees ghosts. At least she thought she did before being sent to a group home and told she has schizophrenic hallucinations. So how come she isn't so sure they're telling the truth?

Asher, Jay. Thirteen Reasons Why. Razorbill for the Penguin Group, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Clay comes to find a package on his porch with his name on it. His crush, Hannah, who committed suicide two weeks earlier, has recorded tapes explaining why she killed herself. There are thirteen reasons, and Clay's one of them.

Bradbury, Jennifer. Shift. Atheneum, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Before starting college Chris and his best friend Win decide to bicycle across the United States. The trouble starts when Chris is the only one who returns.

Bradley, Alex. Hot Lunch. Dutton Children's Books, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

After an epic food fight Molly and Cassie are forced to work in the school cafeteria to create a hot lunch each day for their fellow students.

Brooks, Kevin. Black Rabbit Summer. Scholastic/Chicken House, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

It was supposed to be one last get together before everyone moved on to college. It was supposed to be about reminiscing. It was supposed to be fun. It wasn't.

Caletti, Deb. The Fortunes of Indigo Skye. Simon & Schuster, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

What would you do if you were given two and a half million dollars unexpectedly? Indigo Skye, a high-school senior, with a fairly normal life, finds out just what impact that kind of money has on her life.

Clare, Cassandra . City of Bones: The Mortal Instruments Book One. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

In 24 hours, Clary Fray's mother disappears, Clary is attacked by demons, she discovers she has the Sight, and she meets the mysterious Shadowhunters. Clary's entire life has been one big lie.

Collins, Suzanne. Hunger Games. Scholastic, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Every year 24 teens are chosen to play in the Hunger Games. The only way to win is to survive. You might make alliances, you might try to avoid killing, but if you want to win everyone else has to die

Crocker, Nancy. Billie Standish Was Here. Simon & Schuster. 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Billie is abused, shy, and lonely, but finds herself forging an unlikely, rich, loving friendship with her elderly neighbor when the levee threatens to break in their rural 1968 Missouri community.

Cross, Shauna. Derby Girl. Henry Holt and Company, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Bliss Cavendar is an Indie rock kind of a girl that finds her passion for life in the roller rink of an Austin based Girls Roller Derby League and not in her tiny hometown of Bodeen, Texas, known for its beauty pageants and ice cream factory. Bliss's roller derby participation, of course, is unknown to her parents, who would not approve, and it's just a matter of time before Bliss's lying ways catch up with her.

De La Pena, Matt. Mexican Whiteboy. Delacourte Press, 2008. YA. Fiction

Annotation:

Danny is angry at his Caucasian mom because he thinks she left his Hispanic father. While spending the summer with his father's family, he practices his pitching, falls in love, and discovers himself.

De Lint, Charles. Dingo. Firebird, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Love at first sight, that is what Miguel feels when he lays eyes on Lainey. But Lainey isn't what she appears to be and Miguel must risk everything, including his life to save her.

Deuker, Carl. Gym Candy. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

His father, a former NFL player, made sure his son Mick always played football, beginning at age four. Mick wants nothing more than to be the best football player on the team, number one in the eyes of his dad, his teammates, and coaches. When he falls short as a freshman, Mick decides to go down a dangerous path to be the best.

Doctorow, Cory. Little Brother. Tor, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Seventeen year old techie, gamer, Marcus Yarrow is at the wrong place at the wrong time during a terrorist attack. After being held against his will and tortured by the DHS, Marcus fights back.

Downham, Jenny. Before I die. David Fickling Books, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Tessa is dying. But she's not willing to go without living first.

Duey, Kathleen - Skin Hunger. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Sadima was born into a time when magic was outlawed; Hahp was born into a time when it had been restored. Both must use their wits to survive.

Felin, M. Sandy - Touching Snow, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Karina knows the best way to avoid being picked on by high school bullies is to kill someone. And even if you haven't, just letting them think you have gets the same effect. She also knows that this is the year that everything is going to change.

Fletcher, Chistine. Ten Cents a Dance. Bloomsbury, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

In 1941 Chicago, it isn't easy for respectable girls to make a living. So when Ruby discovers a way to make money - make that lots of money - she's willing to take her chances despite the risks.

Friedman, Aimee. Breaking Up. Graphix, 2007. YA. Graphic Novel.

Annotation:

Four girls, Mackensie, Isabel, Erika, and Chloe, have been best friends since grade school. Starting their junior year of high school, at the school they have dubbed Fashion High, their feelings start to change and each becomes their own person, risking the tight bond they have shared for years.

Gaiman, Neil and Michael Reaves. Interworld. HarperCollins Publishers, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Joey Harker is so bad with directions, he can't find his way out of his own room sometimes. So when he and two classmates are dropped off somewhere in the middle of his hometown with instructions from their History teacher to find their way to a rendezvous point, Joey knows they are in trouble. Although the street they are on looks somewhat familiar, it doesn't take Joey long to get lost...really, really lost. Parallel universe lost.

Gallagher, Liz. The Opposite of Invisible. Wendy Lamb Books, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

What is the difference between love and a crush? Alice must decide this when she is confronted with the choice between Jewel (Julian) , her best friend since age three and Simon, the new guy in town

Gardner, Sally. The Red Necklace. Dial Books, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Set against the backdrop of the French Revolution, an imprisoned girl of noble birth and a Gypsy boy with mysterious powers must outwit their enemies before it is too late.

Giles, Gale. Right Behind You. Little, Brown, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Kip committed a horrible crime when he was only nine years old. Now he has to live with the guilt and hiding the truth from his friends. When he finally meets someone that he has to tell, if he wants a relationship, he is afraid of the consequences which have troubled him most of his life.

Green, John. Paper Towns. Dutton Books, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Quentin is shocked when Margo shows up at his window and enlists his help in an ingenious scheme. But he's even more shocked when she disappears the next day leaving a series of clues for him to decode

Hale, Shannon. Book of a Thousand Days. Bloomsbury. 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

On the first day of her service as a princess' maid, fifteen-year-old Dashti, and her princess, Lady Saren, are locked in a tower for seven years because Lady Saren refuses to marry the horrible prince her father has selected for her. After several years pass, the world seems to have forgotten about them, and in order to survive they must escape.

Halpern, Julie. Get Well Soon. Feiwel and Friends, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

In funny, easygoing prose, 16-year-old Anna writes letters while spending three difficult, involuntary weeks in a mental institution. Anna's parents placed her there because she stopped going to school due to panic attacks, crying jags and death wishes.

Harmon, Michael. The Last Exit to Normal. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Ben Campbell thought the worst day of his life was when he was 14 and his dad announced that he was gay. He changed his mind, however, when his dad's announced they were moving to podunk Rough Butte, Montana, aka Hicksville, USA.

Hearn, Julie. Ivy. Simon & Schuster, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

After running away from school, Ivy must learn to thwart a variety of scalawags, hungry pythons, thieves, jealous mothers, overly avid artists, and a host of incorrigible scoundrels that mean her harm

Henderson, Lauren. Kiss Me Kill Me. Delacorte Books, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Two minutes after Dan kisses Scarlett he drops dead. No one knows how or why he died. The only thing Scarlett can be sure of is she wants to clear her reputation as the girl with the "Kiss of Death."

Hoffman, Mary. The Falconer's Knot: A Story of Friars, Flirtation and Foul Play. Bloomsbury, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Sixteen-year-old, prince, Silvano is infatuated with Angelica. Angelica is already married to a wealthy merchant. Angelica's husband is murdered, Silvano is the prime suspect. Hiding out in a nearby friary until he can prove his innocence, Silvano meets Chiara who has been forced to enter the nunnery next door.

Hornby, Nick. Slam. Putnam's Sons, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Fifteen-year-old Sam lives for skateboarding and often gets advice from his hero, champion skater Tony Hawk, but his life drastically changes when his girlfriend reveals that she's pregnant.

Jocelyn, Marthe. Would You. Wendy Lamb Books, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Natalie and her friends are always playing the game "Would you rather". When Natalie's older sister is involved in a terrible accident, Natalie wonders if she would rather die than have her sister die.

Johnson, Maureen. Suite Scarlett. Scholastic, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Scarlett knows her summer's going to suck. All her friends on adventures and she's stuck working at her parents' hotel. Then Mrs. A checks in, an out of work actress who shakes everything up.

Johnson, Varian. My Life as a Rhombus. Flux, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Rhonda has sworn off boys and popular kids all together. When she starts tutoring Sarah in trig, she is faced with both. The popular Sarah, her sweet, good looking brother, David, and a secret threaten to pull Rhonda from the pulled-together, school centered life she has made for herself.

Juby, Susan. Another Kind of Cowboy. HarperTeen, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Quiet self-effacing cowboy meets egocentric spoiled rich girl. Sparks fly...but not the kind you'd expect.

Kephart, Beth. Undercover. HarperTeen, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Elisa is undercover. She secretly writes love notes for the boys in her class. Not to them, understand, but for them. Not a problem until she writes for Theo, a boy she begins to notice more and more. With their increasing contact, will she be able to stay undercover?

Kim, Derek Kirk – Good as Lily, Minx, 2007. YA. Graphic Novel.

Annotation:

Little did Grace know when she bought the piñata on her 18th birthday that it would turn her world completely upside down. The very next day she meets three different versions of herself. Will Grace be stuck with her selves forever or will she get them back where they need to go?

Kuklin, Susan. No Choirboy- Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row. Henry Holt, 2008. YA. Non-fiction.

Annotation:

Teenagers do end up on death row for the crimes they have committed. Kuklin takes readers insider their lives and explores the thoughts and feelings these young offenders have about their crimes.

Lipsyte, Robert. Yellow Flag. HarperCollins, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Kyle is born into a legendary NASCAR racing family, but loves playing trumpet. When his brother Kris is injured, he feels pressured to give up music and do what his family thinks he's born to do.

Lockhart, E. The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks. Hyperion, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Everyone has always underestimated Frankie. But when she is kept out of a secret society at her boarding school, she sets out to prove that she is just as smart and worthy as any of its male members.

Malley, Gemma. The Declaration. Bloomsbury, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

It's 2140 and you can now live indefinitely, if you agree to not have children. Anna—born outside this agreement—is surplus, and must work to pay back society for being a burden on its resources, and she's content with that. Then Peter arrives. Is the chance at *life* worth the risks?

Marillier, Julie. Wildwood Dancing. Knopf, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

When they were young girls, Jenica and her four sisters discovered a magical portal that allows them to travel between their Romanian estate of Piscul Dracului and the fairy world each full moon. But when their father must become ill and their power-hungry cousin, Cezar, comes to oversee their affairs, their lives take a turn for the worse.

Mazer, Morra Fox. The Missing Girl. HaperTeen, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Someone is watching the five Herbert sisters. Someone is trying to decide which sister he likes best. Someone is trying not to make the same mistake he made when he took the last little girl.

McCarthy, Maureen. Rose by any other name. Roaring Brook Press, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

While her family is unraveling, Rose embarks on a roadtrip up the Australian coast to visit her dying grandmother, a trip she had planned to take alone until her mother jumped in as she was leaving.

McNish, Cliff. Angel. Carolroada Books, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Angels. Are they real? Stephanie believes. Freya wants to believe. No one understands and thinks they're crazy. When the truth is revealed, will the girls truly believe then?

Meldrum, Christina. Madapple. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. YA. Fiction,

Annotation:

Fifteen year old, Aslaug Helling, has never spoken anyone other than her mother. When her mother suddenly dies, Aslaug must interact with a world she has never known and face accusations that she murdered her mother

Myers, Walter Dean. Sunrise over Fallujah. Scholastic Press, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Army enlistee Robin Perry is a member of the Civil Affairs Unit in the initial invasion of Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His story illustrates the struggles of the soldiers fighting the war.

Myracle, Lauren. Bliss. Amulet, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Dumped at her grandmother's by her hippie parents, Bliss must survive at an elite private school where the spirit of a dead girl longs to pull students into her deadly grasp.

Napoli, Donna Jo. Hush: An Irish Princess' Tale. Atheneum, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Melkorka is an Irish princess who has always looked down her nose at the slaves in her father's castle. As far as she is concerned they are stupid, disgusting and deserve to be slaves. All of changes when she is suddenly abducted by slave traders.

Nelson, R.A. Breathe My Name. Razorbill for the Penguin Group, 2007. YA.

Fiction.

Annotation:

Frances's family adopted her away from her birth mother's imaginary country of Fireless where she was happy. Until her mother's madness led her to suffocate her children, all except Frances. Now her mother's been released and wants to finish what was started.

Ness, Patrick. Knife of Never Letting Go. Candlewick Press, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Todd Hewitt, the only boy left in Prentisstown, stumbles across an impossible pool of silence amidst the chaos of The Noise. What he discovers forces him to have to run for his life.

Noyes, Deborah. The Ghosts of Kerfol. Candlewick Press, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Throughout the centuries Kerfol Manor haunts its inhabitants. Neither servant, nor lord, nor visitor will be able to escape its grasp.

Pearson, Mary E. The Adoration of Jenna Fox. Henry Holt and Company, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

After 18 months of being in a coma, 17-year old Jenna Fox wakes up in a houseful of secrets with no memories of who she is. While she relearns how to live, she peels away layers of lies to uncover the terrifying truth about her current existence.

Pow, Tom. Captives. Roaring Brook Press, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Martin and his family are kidnapped on their vacation in the Caribbean. It is all a plot to overthrow the government using US tourists. Martin's dad keeps a dairy of the events and after the ordeal and after becoming famous for the kidnapping, Martin tells his own version.

Reinhardt, Dana. How to build a House. Wendy Lamb, 2009. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Harper's family in LA is falling apart and instead of dealing with it, she runs away from it by going to Tennessee to build a house for a family who lost their home in a recent tornado.

Scott, Elizabeth. Stealing Heaven. HarperTeen, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Dani and her mom are professional thieves. No real connections, no real home, no real life. But when they move to the town of Heaven, Dani finds there are things she may want more than money.

Shanahan, Lisa. The Sweet, Terrible, Glorious Year I Truly, Completely Lost It. Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Fourteen year old, Gemma is about to become the world's oldest flower girl in her bridezilla older sister's wedding. Gemma's sister has even picked a theme for her wedding- "Animals who mate for life", meaning Gemma's flower girl dress isn't a dress at all, its a hideous swan costume.

Shusterman, Neal. Unwind. Simon & Schuster, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

In the future, abortions are outlawed until the unwanted child is thirteen years old at which time they may be become an unwind, still living but in multiple pieces. Conner, Risa, and Lev all find themselves in the situation of being an unwind fighting for their life no matter the price.

Sitomer, Alan. The Secret Story of Sonia Rodriguez. Hyperion, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Tenth-grader Sonia reveals secrets about her life and her Hispanic family as she studies hard to become the first Rodriguez to finish high school.

Thompson, Kate. The New Policeman. HarperTeen, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Irish teenager, J.J. Liddy's mother jokingly asks her son for more time for her birthday. J.J. discovers that there is indeed less time then there used to be because time is leaking from his world into the world of the Fairy or Tir na nOg. He must find a way to stop the leak before it is too late

Valentine, Jenny. Me, the Missing, and the Dead. HarperTeen, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Lucas' dad just up and disappears one day. No one knows if he is dead or alive. When Lucas takes a cab home from a friends house late one evening he encounters an urn that just might have the answers

Vaught, Susan. Big Fat Manifesto. Bloomsbury, 2008. YA, Fiction.

Annotation:

Jamie is a big girl. No, scratch that, a big fat girl. But don't expect her to roll over and apologize or fade into the background, that's just not her style. She's created her alter ego Fat Girl and the world better watch out. Fat Girl is on the move to prove she deserves respect and love just like everyone else.

Venkatraman, Padma. Climbing the Stairs. G. P. Putnam Sons, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Vidya leads a privileged life with her family in 1940s Bombay, India. When tragedy occurs, family traditions and her own dreams lead her to take her future into her own hands.

Vincent, Erin. Grief Girl. Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2007. YA. Non-Fiction.

Annotation:

Death can bring out the worst in people. In 1983 both of 14 year old, Erin Vincent's parents died in an auto accident. Her parents' friends stole their furniture, the executor of their parents' will won't release any of the money held in trust, even for medical issues, and her unfriendly grandparents try to take away her younger brother. Yet Erin and her iblings somehow manage to survive.

Voorhees, Coert. The brothers Torres. Hyperion, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Frankie Towers lives in the shadow of his older brother Steve who is the local soccer star. When Steve starts running with the wrong crowd, Frankie comes to realize that not everything is as it seems.

Werlin, Nancy. Impossible. Dial, 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Can the women of her family really be cursed? Could that be the cause of all the horrible things that have been happening to 17 year old Lucy Scarborough? If it is a curse, will she be able to break it?

Wizner, Jake. Spanking Shakespeare. Random House, 2007. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

High school senior, Shakespeare Shapiro hates his name. Unfortunately, his name is just one in the long list of injustices Shakespeare feels his parents have committed against him. To top it off, he has never kissed a girl, has only two friends, and his younger brother, Gandhi, one of the popular crowd.

Zarr, Sara. Sweethearts. Little, Brown & Co., 2008. YA. Fiction.

Annotation:

Jennifer and Cameron are inseparable friends in elementary school. When a horrible event occurs, Cameron inexplicably disappears. Jennifer presumes he's dead until Cameron unexpectedly shows up her senior year and her past comes rushing back.