

2011 Texas Lone Star Annotated Reading List



Bacigalupi, Paolo. *Ship Breaker*. Little, Brown, 2010.
978-0-316-05621-2

In a realistic future after global warming has taken its toll, ship breakers scavenge the metal and oil from beached tankers on the Gulf Coast. Nailer is a young ship breaker who comes upon a particularly interesting "lucky strike".

Try these too:

Dark Life – Kat Falls

Maze Runner – James Dashner

Surviving Antarctica – Andrea White

Bell, Cathleen Davitt. *Little Blog on the Prairie*. Bloomsbury, 2010.
978-1-59990-286-9

When Genevieve's mom decides that the family should spend their summer at an authentic frontier community, Genevieve, who does NOT want to be there, sneaks in a cell phone. In between weeding, milking, and doing laundry by hand, she uses it to keep in touch with her friends. When the phone is discovered, Genevieve must choose whether she will stay or return to the modern life. But the choice is not as easy as she thought it would be.

Try these too:

Gimme a Call – Sarah Mlynowski

Hattie Big Sky – Kirby Larson

Brande, Robin. *Fat Cat*. Knopf, 2009.
978-0-375-84449-2

"Fat Cat" is the nickname Catherine Locke heard for the first time 4 years ago. Since then her self-image, her relationships with friends, and her general health has deteriorated. It takes a year-long science experiment involving giving up junk food, forgoing most modern technology, and going out on several dates for Cat to realize it truly is what's on the inside that matters to those closest to you.

Try these too:

Artichoke's Heart – Suzanne Supplee

The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks – E. Lockhart

Flipped – Wendelin Van Draanen

Carter, Ally. *Heist Society*. Disney Hyperion, 2010.
978-1-42311-639-4

Kat's trying to escape the family "business". But when her father's life is in danger, she is pulled back into the art thieving world she worked so hard to escape.

Try these too:

Mystery of the Third Lucretia – Susan Runholt
Chasing Vermeer – Blue Balliett

Childs, Tera Lynn. *Forgive My Fins*. Katherine Tegen Books, 2010.

978-0-06-191465-2

Brody Bennet is the one! Lily cannot wait to share this knowledge with him so that he can become her prince and live with her back home under the sea. Yes, this mermaid has the perfect plan until Quince, her obnoxious yet hot neighbor, steps in at the wrong time and wrecks everything.

Try these too:

Oh. My. Gods. – Tera Lynn Childs
The Princess Diaries – Meg Cabot
The Frog Princess – E.D. Baker

Condie, Ally. *Matched*. Dutton, 2010.

978-0-525-42364-5

The Officials know best. Cassia is thrilled with the Match they've selected for her - her best friend Xander. But, then, for a split second, another Match flashes on the screen, the mysterious Ky. Which one is truly Cassia's perfect Match? And how did this happen when the Officials never make mistakes?

Try these too:

The Giver – Lois Lowry
Among the Hidden – Margaret Peterson Haddix
Candor – Pam Bachorz

Deuker, Carl. *Payback Time*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010.

978-0-547-27981-7

When newspaper writer Mitch is asked to cover the school's sports teams, he is not thrilled. But covering the mysterious new player on the football team might prove to be the story of the year.

Try these too:

Last Shot – John Feinstein
Runner – Carl Deuker
Pop – Gordon Korman

Dionne, Erin. *The Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet*. Dial Books, 2010.

978-0-8037-3298-8

Middle school is hard enough without your genius little sister joining you for 8th grade. Add parents who don't just teach Shakespeare, but LIVE it--daily, and you've got the makings of a tragicomedy even the Bard would love.

Try these too:

The Reinvention of Moxie Roosevelt – Elizabeth Cody Kimmel

A Crooked Kind of Perfect – Linda Urban

Solving Zoe – Barbara Dee

Falkner, Brian. *Brain Jack*. Random House, 2009.

978-0-375-84366-2

Sam, a computer hacker, has just begun using a neuro headset. Neuro headsets have become everyday things and you can hear my thoughts and I can tune in to your world. 24 hour live feeds to the Internet, shopping, and gaming are in your mind's eye. A constant barrage of information is enough to drive anyone insane. Step into Sam's world where nothing is quite as it seems and the fate of the world rests in his mind.

Try these too:

The Gardener – S. A. Bodeen

Z. Rex – Stephen Cole

Goldstrike – Matt Whyman

Fisher, Catherine. *Incarceron*. Dial Books, 2010.

978-0-8037-3396-1

In the bloody and violent world of Incarceron, prisoners like Finn are left to rot while the outside world imagines that Incarceron is a paradise. But Princess Claudia lives in her own ornate prison--a world fabricated according to an artificial "protocol" designed to resemble a deceptively beautiful kingdom of the past. When Claudia is promised to marry a cruel prince after the death of her betrothed, she must find an escape and happiness, and Finn may be her only hope.

Try these too:

Leviathan – Scott Westerfeld

The Hunchback Assignments – Arthur G. Slade

Airman – Eoin Colfer

Gephart, Donna. *How to Survive Middle School*. Delacorte, 2010.

978-0-385-73793-7

David Greenberg dreams of becoming the next Jon Stewart. A farfetched dream, considering he's getting swirlies from the class bully and his best friend leaves him to suffer alone. Can David manage to create his videos solo, keep his audience and his hair dry?

Try these too:

Griff Carver, Hallway Patrol – Jim Krieg

Zen and the Art of Faking It – Jordan Sonnenblick

The Strange Case of Origami Yoda – Tom Angleberger

Golding, Julia. *Dragonfly*. Marshall Cavendish, 2009.

978-0-7614-5582-0

When Princess Taoshira of the Blue Crescent Islands and Prince Ramil of Gerfal are ordered to marry to form an alliance against a powerful warlord, they are horrified. There is no way that

two people from such different worlds could ever get along. But when they are both kidnapped, they must find a way to put their differences aside to save their countries and themselves.

Try these too:

Conspiracy of Kings - Megan Whalen Turner

Finnikin of the Rock – Melina Marchetta

Henderson, Jason. *Vampire Rising*. HarperTeen, 2010.

978-0-06-195099-5

Alex Van Helsing is surprised to discover that he doesn't simply share the name of a legendary vampire hunter; he might actually become one too.

Try these too:

A Banquet for Hungry Ghosts - Ying Chang Compestine

Claire de Lune – Christine Johnson

Eighth Grade Bites – Heather Brewer

Klass, David. *Stuck on Earth*. Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2010.

978-0-374-39951-1

The fate of the human race rests with 14-year-old Tom Filber; social outcast, dysfunctional family, alienated and bullied by his classmates, and host for an extraterrestrial gastropod. We are doomed.

Try these too:

Cosmic – Frank Cottrell Boyce

Repossessed – A. M. Jenkins

Brains for Lunch – K. A. Holt

Shulman, Polly. *The Grimm Legacy*. Putnam, 2010.

978-0-399-25096-5

When Elizabeth's teacher suggests she take a job at the library, she is excited about the chance to earn some extra money. But she quickly learns that the New York Circulating Material Repository is no ordinary library.

Try these too:

Reckless – Cornelia Funke

Princess of Glass – Jessica Day George

Into the Wild – S. B. Durst

Shusterman, Neal. *Bruiser*. HarperTeen, 2010.

978-0-06-113408-1

What might your life be like if you were truly empathic? Empathic the way that Bruiser is, Bruiser who "steals" the pain of those he loves and bears their scars. When Bruiser meets

Bronte and her brother Tennyson, Bruiser must decide just how far he will go, no, how far he can go, for love and friendship.

Try these too:

Thirteen Days to Midnight – Patrick Carman

Bait – Alex Sanchez

You Don't Know Me – David Klass

Sonnenblick, Jordan. *After Ever After*. Scholastic Press, 2010.

978-0-439-83706-4

Jeffrey and Tad are complete opposites and best friends. Both cancer survivors, they now try to survive middle school. Maybe happily ever after isn't all it's cracked up to be.

Try these too:

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie – Jordan Sonnenblick

Ways to Live Forever – Sally Nicholls

Milo: Sticky Notes and Brain Freeze – Alan Silberberg

Stork, Francisco X. *The Last Summer of the Death Warriors*. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2010.

978-0-545-15133-7

Pancho is a good kid whose life has taken a bad turn. After his father's death and sister's murder, he finds himself in trouble with the law and placed at an orphanage where he is introduced to a world where friendship, revenge, and death become intertwined.

Try these too:

Ways to Live Forever – Sally Nicholls

Antsy Does Time – Neal Shusterman

Wiles, Deborah. *Countdown*. Scholastic Press, 2010.

978-0-545-10605-4

1962: Franny Chapman lives in the shadow of the Cold War and life is changing faster than she can imagine. Margie, her best friend, suddenly dislikes her for no apparent reason. Her older sister, Jo Ellen, is mysteriously leaving home for long periods. Crazy Uncle Otts is making a fool of the family in front of the whole neighborhood, and the entire United States is worried about Russia launching a nuclear bomb from Cuba. The world is on edge as President Kennedy tries to negotiate a peaceful settlement, but Franny's world will never be the same.

Try these too:

The Green Glass Sea – Ellen Klages

The Year of the Bomb – Ronald Kidd

The Red Umbrella - Christina Diaz Gonzalez

Yancey, Richard. *The Monstrumologist*. Simon & Schuster, 2009.

978-1-41698-448-1

In 1888, twelve-year-old Will Henry, apprentice-assistant to the Monstrumologist, Dr. Warthrop,

recounts his bizarre and horrific encounters with the mythic creatures known as, Anthropophagi, a brutal species that feed on human prey.

Try these too:

The Enemy – Charles Higson

The Prince of Mist - Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Night Wings – Joseph Bruchac

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/lone-star>