2013 Texas Lone Star Annotated Reading List

While crossing the vast, horrifying Fold, Alina discovers that she has magical powers. Attracting the attention of her country's most powerful leaders, Alina is whisked away, and her whole life changes in an instant.

Try these too:
The Demon King by Cinda Williams Chima
The Gathering Storm by Robin Bridges
Terrier by Tamora Pierce

Every other day, Kali changes from a normal girl to an invincible monster killer. She is forced to reveal her secret and enlist the help of friends when she sees that a classmate is marked for death - and it's on the wrong day.

Try these too:
Paranormalcy by Kiersten White
Raised by Wolves by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
Hex Hall by Rachel Hawkins

Still grieving her beloved grandfather and with no father to count on, Sugar and her mother suddenly find themselves homeless. Life has dealt them a devastating blow, but Sugar Mae Cole is not one easily knocked down.

Try these too:
One for the Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
Waiting for Normal by Leslie Connor
Runaway by Wendelin Van Draanen

Love him or hate him, one cannot deny the impact Steve Jobs had on the twenty-first century. This is the honest story of the complicated man who truly thought different.

Try these other biographies too:
Bill Gates: Entrepreneur and Philanthropist by Jeanne M. Lesinski
Robert F. Kennedy: A Twentieth-Century Life by Mark Aronson
Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart by Candace Fleming
ISBN 978-0802798176
Some of the most famous people came to the most gruesome of deaths. Read all about it, if you have “the guts for gore!”
Try these other nonfiction titles too:
  - *Poop Happened!: A History of the World from the Bottom Up* by Sarah Albee
  - *Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine* by Leslie Dendy & Mel Boring
  - *Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin

ISBN 978-0061934360
Tad begins the New Year with a blog and a resolution to survive the seventh grade. His blog posts chronicle his struggles with his annoying little sister, science projects, an embarrassing summer job, and many more middle school mishaps.
Try these too:
  - *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger
  - *Middle School: The Worst Years of my Life* by James Patterson
  - *Dork Diaries: Tales from a Not-So-Fabulous Life* by Rachel Renee Russell

ISBN 978-0547390178
Jake and his sister Kas are kidnapped from Burkina Faso, where their father serves as the British Ambassador, and end up in the hands of the famous outlaw Yakuba.
Try these too:
  - *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz
  - *SilverFin* by Charlie Higson
  - *The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp* by Rick Yancey

ISBN 978-0062024145
Kendra from *Beastly* is back and trying to help Emma in this Cinderella story with a modern day twist. Classic tales of *The Little Mermaid*, *Hansel and Gretel*, and *The Princess and the Pea* all play a part as well.
Try these too:
  - *Beastly* by Alex Flinn
  - *Sisters Red* by Jackson Pierce
  - *The Goddess Test* by Aimee Carter
ISBN 978-0062092991
Tom is drifting aimlessly with his washed up, gambler father when his life takes a completely unexpected turn. He is offered a place at the Pentagonal Spire, an elite military academy, where he will be trained as a WWIII operative.
Try these too:
- Brain Jack by Brian Falkner
- Enders Game by Orson Scott Card
- Epic by Conor Kostick

ISBN 978-0670014385
Althea Crawley lives in a deteriorating castle with her mother, younger brother, and two stepsisters. Strong-willed, beautiful, and cunning, Miss Crawley must find a wealthy man to marry in order to preserve her family’s home.
Try these too:
- Emma by Jane Austen
- Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
- Jane Austen: A Life Revealed by Catherine Reef

ISBN 978-0399256448
Marlee finds her voice to speak out against racism and segregation when she makes a real friend in Liz, an African-American girl passing for white, in her 1958 Little Rock junior high school.
Try these too:
- Glory Be by Augusta Scattergood
- We’ve Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children’s March by Cynthia Levinson
- Sources of Light by Margaret McMullen

Lu, Marie. **Legend**. G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 2011.
ISBN 978-0399256752
June, a prodigy and government “golden girl”, is on the hunt for Day, a famous criminal and hero of the people. But when she finds him, he is not what she expected.
Try these too:
- Divergent by Veronica Roth
- The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
- Enclave by Ann Aguirre

ISBN 978-1600604294
Lupita’s heart belongs both in her native Mexico and in her American home in Eagle Pass. The oldest of eight siblings, she is resilient as she struggles to help raise her siblings in the face of a family illness.
ISBN 978-0312641894  
Cinder is the best mechanic in New Beijing, and, unfortunately, she is also an unloved stepchild and a cyborg. When Crown Prince Kai seeks her skills to fix a beloved android, Cinder unwittingly finds herself drawn into a deadly game of planetary politics.

Try these too:  
The Looking Glass Wars by Frank Beddor  
Graceling by Kristin Cashore  
A Long, Long Sleep by Anna Sheehan

ISBN 978-0312593698  
Lizzie, an ailing elderly woman, recounts her childhood memories of life in Dresden, Germany during the 1945 allied bombings that destroyed the city. She and her family fled the city, taking with them an orphaned elephant her mother has cared for since its birth.

Try these too:  
War Horse by Michael Morpurgo  
The Boy Who Dared by Susan Campbell Bartoletti  
Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam by Cynthia Kadohata

ISBN 978-0545284134  
Sir Conner, a nobleman in the kingdom of Carthya, scours the country searching for an orphan who will pass as the long-lost prince and carry out his deceptive plan. The four orphans must compete to be chosen as the prince or face certain death.

Try these too:  
The Unfortunate Son by Constance Leeds  
The False Princess by Ellis O’Neal  
The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan

ISBN 978-0375869020  
Auggie, a boy with extreme facial anomalies, takes a big step entering middle school after a life of homeschooling. Will his classmates accept him as just a normal kid?

Try these too:  
Out of my Mind by Sharon Draper  
Rules by Cynthia Lord  
Reaching for Sun by Tracie Vaughn Zimmer
ISBN 978-0-399255243
Orphan Carver Young is taken in and trained by a retired detective. Carver’s first assignment is to find his long lost father, and all he has to go on is a letter, a letter with handwriting that matches that of the infamous murderer, Jack the Ripper.

Try these too:
The Hunchback Assignments by Arthur Slade
The Name of the Star by Maureen Johnson
The Inquisitor’s Apprentice by Chris Moriarty

ISBN 978-0545320696
How do you go on when your whole life has been about baseball and an elbow injury ends your playing career in an instant? Devastated Peter Friedman is forced to find out.

Try these too:
Notes from the Midnight Driver by Jordan Sonnenblick
Pop by Gordon Korman
The Big Field by Mike Lupica

ISBN 978-0061953408
Overachievers Gigi, Bea and Neerja have been friends forever. They have their sights set on top colleges where their lives will really start. But when the girls realize that grades aren’t everything, they each take on a new challenge to push their own personal envelope and learn that they are more than just the sum total of their GPA.

Try these too:
I’d Tell You I Love You, But Then I’d Have to Kill You by Ally Carter
Anna and the French Kiss by Stephanie Perkins
Fat Cat by Robin Brande

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. The lists, past selections, and additional resources are available at: [http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star](http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star).