

2014 TEXAS LONE STAR

ANNOTATED READING LIST



Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem and Raymond Obstfeld. ***Sasquatch in the Paint.*** Disney-Hyperion, 2013.

ISBN: 978-1423178705

Eighth grade science geek, Theo Rollins, grows 8 inches over the summer and encounters new challenges during the school year.

Try these too:

Travel Team by Mike Lupica

Last Shot by John Feinstein

Charbonneau, Joelle. ***The Testing.*** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0547959108

Malencia hopes to be chosen for The Testing, a program for the brightest graduates and a great honor for her family. When chosen, her father hints that the honor may be more of a nightmare, than a dream come true.

Try these too:

Legend by Marie Lu

Divergent by Veronica Roth

Colfer, Eoin. ***W.A.R.P.: The Reluctant Assassin.*** Disney-Hyperion, 2013.

ISBN: 978-1423161622

A teen-aged FBI agent (in disgrace) and a young orphan trained as an assassin travel back and forth between Victorian and contemporary London via a wormhole. They become family as they battle evil through time.

Try these too:

The Name of the Star by Maureen Johnson

Ripper by Stefan Petrucha

Farrey, Brian. ***The Vengekeep Prophecies.*** HarperCollins, 2012.

ISBN: 978-0062049285

Jaxter Grimjinx comes from a long line of thieves, but his first solo heist gets him and his family thrown in jail. Luckily, a tapestry depicting his family as heroes protecting their town from various disasters appears. Unluckily, it was made from fateskein, which means the fates depicted on the tapestry will come true.

Try these too:

The Thief by Megan Whalen Turner

Plain Kate by Erin Bow

Forde, Jasper. ***The Last Dragonslayer.*** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers, 2012.

ISBN: 978-0547738475

A foundling girl, a quarkbeast, a little bit of old magic, two nations at war, a pinch of political intrigue, a whole lot of greed, and one last dragon equals a recipe for some really big magic.

Try these too:

Iron Hearted Violet by Kelly Barnhill

Slayers by C. J. Hill

Garcia McCall, Guadalupe. ***Summer of the Mariposas.*** Tu Books, 2012.

ISBN: 978-1600609008

Five sisters, abandoned by their father and left to run wild by their mother, who's trying to keep the family together, find a dead body and decide to return it to Mexico which takes them on an adventure that brings Latin myths and legends to life.

Try these too:

The Odyssey by Homer

The Unfortunate Son by Constance Leeds

Greitens, Eric. ***The Warrior's Heart***. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers, 2012.

ISBN: 978-0547868523

An exciting and inspiring memoir of a Navy Seal, the author tells his stories of harrowing training and wartime experiences in multiple, fairly recent conflicts. He occasionally addresses the reader, asking them to consider their own decisions and actions in light of compassion and courage.

Try these too:

Ghosts of War by Ryan Smithson

Kids of Kabul: Living Bravely Through a Never-Ending War by Deborah Ellis

Hawkins, Rachel. ***School Spirits***. Disney-Hyperion, 2013.

ISBN: 978-1423148494

Isolde Brannick comes from a long line of monster hunters. She is finally ready to solve a case on her own, a haunting at a local high school. With the help of her new friends, a cute boy, and a 400 year old warlock trapped in the mirror, Izzy will finally prove to herself and her mother that she has what it takes to be a true Brannick.

Try these too:

Hex Hall by Rachel Hawkins

Every other Day by Jennifer Barnes

Korman, Gordon. ***Ungifted***. Balzer + Bray, 2012.

ISBN: 978-0061742668

Middle school troublemaker and all around average student, Donovan Curtis, is accidentally sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction (a school for gifted students) where he hides out after causing the destruction of the school gym.

Try these too:

33 Minutes by Todd Hasak-Lowy

The Fourth Stall by Chris Rylander

Kizer, Amber. ***A Matter of Days***. Delacorte Press, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0385739733

A worldwide pandemic kills almost every person on the planet. Scavenging, relying on wits, meeting creeps and good folks along the way, surviving siblings Nadia and Rabbit travel cross country, hoping their uncle and hermit grandfather survived.

Try these too:

Life As We Knew It by Susan Beth Pfeffer

The Eleventh Plague by Jeff Hirsch

Leyson, Leon. ***The Boy on the Wooden Box***. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2013.

ISBN: 978-1442497818

Leon Leyson describes growing up in Poland, being forced from home to ghetto to concentration camps by the Nazis, and being saved by Oskar Schindler.

Try these too:

Odette's Secrets by Maryann Macdonal

Shadow on the Mountain by Margi Preus

Lopez, Diana. ***Ask My Mood Ring How I Feel***. Little, Brown and Company, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0316209960

After 13th year old Chia finds out her mother has breast cancer, she visits a church and makes a promise in exchange for her mother's recovery.

Try these too:

Second Chance Summer by Morgan Matson

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

Miller, Ashley Edward and Zack Stentz. **Colin Fischer**. Razorbill, 2012.

ISBN: 978-1595145789

Colin Fischer has Asperger's Syndrome. Because of his robotic mannerisms, he is the target of bullying by many of his classmates. When a gun is shot in the school cafeteria during a birthday party, Colin makes it his mission to find the culprit and clear the name of the school bully who has tormented him since preschool.

Try these too:

Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

The Dark Days of Hamburger Halpin by Josh Berk

Peterfreund, Diana. **For Darkness Shows the Stars**. Balzer + Bray, 2012.

ISBN: 978-0062006141

In this post-apocalyptic retelling of Jane Austen's *Persuasion*, Elliott North, one of the elite Luddites, is in love with Kai, a servant on her family's estate. Four years ago, Kai left to explore the world, but now he has returned as a dashing explorer. Elliott must struggle with her feelings for Kai as she fights to save the estate and all who work on it.

Try these too:

Persuasion by Jane Austen

Keeping the Castle by Patrice Kindl

Sanderson, Brandon. **The Rithmatist**. Tor Teen, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0765320322

Wild Chalklings threaten the American Isles and Rithmatists are humanity's only defense. Joel can only watch as Rithmatist students learn the magical art that he would do anything to practice.

Try these too:

Midnighters: The Secret Hour by Scott Westerfeld

Airborn by Kenneth Oppel

Sheinkin, Steve. **Lincoln's Grave Robbers**. Scholastic Press, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0545405720

In 1876, a group of counterfeiters attempt to get their prized engraver out of jail by hatching an outrageous plan to steal President Abraham Lincoln's body from his tomb and holding the body for ransom.

Try these too:

Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James Swanson

An Acquaintance with Darkness by Ann Rinaldi

Stroud, Jonathan. **Lockwood & Co.: The Screaming Staircase**. Disney-Hyperion, 2013.

ISBN: 978-1423164913

The Problem (a plague of ghosts) has given rise to plenty of work for children who can see ghosts. Unfortunately, it's a risky business, and Lockwood & Co. will face many perils as they attempt to rid homes of Visitors including physical damage, death, and property destruction.

Try these too:

House of Secrets by Chris Columbus and Ned Vizzini

Breathe: A Ghost Story by Cliff McNish

Timberlake, Amy. **One Came Home**. Knopf Books For Young Readers, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0375869259

Not convinced that the girl her family buried is her sister, 13 year old Georgie sets out on a dangerous journey to discover the truth behind her sister's mysterious disappearance.

Try these too:

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly

A Soldier's Secret: The Incredible True Story of Sarah Edmonds by Marissa Moss

Vanderpool, Clare. ***Navigating Early***. Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0385742092

An exciting and sometimes humorous tale of adventure and survival set in the mountains of Maine. One boy is the very picture of Nebraska normal; the other is a Pi (the number) obsessed storyteller. Misfits at their boarding school, they find strength and friendship in each other as they cope with grief and abandonment.

Try these too:

Zebra Forest by Adina Rishe Gewirtz

A Tangle of Knots by Lisa Graff

Zinn, Bridget. ***Poison***. Hyperion Books for Children, 2013.

ISBN: 978-1423139935

Kyra's failed attempt to kill the princess (her best friend) has her on the run. She must use her skills as a Potions Master to stay alive long enough to finish the job and save the entire kingdom.

Try these too:

Princess Ben by Catherine Gilbert Murdock

Graceling by Kristin Cashore

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 annotated 2013 Lone Star Reading List, past Lone Star Reading selections, and additional resources are available at: <http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star>.