

## HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017

### Grade 6

*Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.*

- Abbott, Tony. ***The Copernicus Legacy: The Forbidden Stone***. Katherine Tegen, 2014. Wade, Lily, Darrell, and Becca fly from Texas to Germany for the funeral of an old family friend. But instead of just paying their respects, they wind up on a dangerous, mind-blowing quest to unlock an ancient, guarded secret that could destroy the fate of the world. *Series*
- Allen, Crystal. ***The Laura Line***. Balzar + Bray, 2013. When Laura Dyson's seventh grade history teacher schedules a class trip to the slave shack on her grandmother's farm, Laura is forced to come to terms with her family's past and what it means for her future.
- Anderson, John David. ***Ms. Bixby's Last Day***. HarperCollins, 2016. When Ms. Bixby unexpectedly announces that she is very sick and won't be able to finish the school year, three students come up with a hilarious and heart-warming plan to tell her how much she means to them.
- Avi. ***Catch You Later, Traitor***. Algonquin, 2015. It's 1951, and twelve-year-old Pete Collison is a regular kid in Brooklyn, New York, who loves Sam Spade detective books and radio crime dramas. But when FBI agents show up at Pete's doorstep, accusing Pete's father of being a Communist, Pete is caught in a real-life mystery. Could there really be Commies in Pete's family?
- Balliett, Blue. ***Hold Fast***. Scholastic, 2013. On a cold winter day in Chicago, Early's father disappeared. Now she, her brother, and mother have been forced to flee their apartment and join the ranks of the homeless – leaving it up to Early to hold her family together and solve the mystery surrounding her father.
- Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. ***Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America***. Houghton Mifflin, 2015. In 1906, Irish immigrant Mary Mallon was a cook for some of the wealthiest families in New York City, never realizing she was passing on the typhoid disease through the food she cooked. Once health officials discovered she was a carrier, Mary was unwillingly imprisoned for much of her life to be studied by medical professionals, raising questions of human and civil rights for those who are held against their will in the name of science.
- Bausum, Ann. ***Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog***. National Geographic, 2014. Smuggled onto a naval ship heading to battle in France by his faithful human friend, Stubby earned his place in World War I history by warning troops of gas attacks, killing rats that plagued the soldiers' barracks, and even capturing a German soldier by biting the seam of his pants.
- Benjamin, Ali. ***The Thing About Jellyfish***. Little, Brown, 2015. Twelve-year-old Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.

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- Blakemore, Megan Frazer. ***The Spy Catchers of Maple Hill***. Bloomsbury, 2014. Hazel Kaplansky and new student Samuel Butler investigate rumors that a Russian spy has infiltrated their small Vermont town, amidst the fervor of Cold War era McCarthyism, but more is revealed than they could ever have imagined.
- Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. ***The War That Saved My Life***. Dial Books, 2015. A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.
- Bragg, Georgia. ***How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous***. Walker, 2011. "If you don't have the guts for gore, do not read this book." This caveat from the publisher warns the reader that they will encounter lots of gory details of the deaths of nineteen famous people . . . fun and informative too.
- Brown, Don. ***The Great American Dust Bowl***. Houghton Mifflin, 2013. This graphic novel explores the American plains in the 1930's when millions of kinetic dust particles "rained down" causing the catastrophe known as the Dust Bowl.
- DeFelice, Cynthia. ***Fort***. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2015. Wyatt and his friend Augie are enjoying the fort they built, but when two older boys mess with it and with another kid who can't fight back, they launch Operation Doom to get back at the bullies.
- Draper, Sharon. ***Out of My Mind***. Atheneum, 2010. Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient, young girl with cerebral palsy discovers a way for her to speak for the first time.
- Engle, Margarita. ***Lion Island: Cuba's Warrior of Words***. Atheneum, 2016. A biographical novel about Antonio Chuffat, a Chinese-African-Cuban messenger boy in 1870s Cuba who became a translator and documented the freedom struggle on indentured Chinese laborers in this country.
- Flanagan, John. ***The Outcasts***. Philomel, 2011. In this action-packed companion series to Flanagan's *Rangers Apprentice* books, a sixteen-year-old Skandian-Araluen named Hal and his group of misfit friends compete against two other, more powerful, brotherbands, enduring three months of grueling training in seamanship, weapons, and battle tactics to determine who will win the coveted prize. *Series*
- Fox, Janet. ***The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle, 2017***. Puffin, 2017. In 1940, during the Blitz, Katherine, Robbie and Amelie Bateson are sent north to a private school in Rookskill Castle in Scotland, a brooding place, haunted by dark magic from the past--but when some of their classmates disappear Katherine has to find out if the cause is hidden in the past or very much in the present.
- Freedman, Russell. ***Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship***. Clarion, 2012. This fascinating account focuses on the lives of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, including their friendship and its effect on emancipation and the Civil War.

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- Gibbs, Stuart. ***Space Case: a Moon Base Alpha Novel***. Simon & Schuster, 2014. You'd think it would be awesome to be the first people to live on the moon, right? For 12-year old Dashiell Gibson and the other civilians on the base, however, life is extremely dull until the base's top scientist is found dead. Dash takes it upon himself to solve the mystery and find out what exactly happened to the doctor.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. ***Under Their Skin***. Simon & Schuster, 2016. Twelve-year-old twins Nick and Eryn investigate why their mother and new stepfather are keeping secrets; why they are forbidden to meet their stepsiblings; and most importantly, why their lives are in danger.
- Hale, Nathan. ***The Underground Abductor***. Amulet Books, 2015. With his characteristic humor and clever illustrations, the author relates the story of Harriet Tubman and her work with the Underground Railroad, in this fifth book of the popular graphic novel series, Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales. *Series*
- Haskell, Merrie. ***Handbook for Dragon Slayers***. Harper, 2013. Yearning for life in a cloistered scriptorium, thirteen-year-old Princess Matilda, whose lame foot brings fear of the evil eye, escapes her scheming cousin Ivo and joins her servant Judith and an old friend, Parz, in hunting dragons and writing about them. Schneider Family Book Award for 2014.
- Hiaasen, Carl. ***Chomp***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. A combination of wild animals and reality TV is mixed with a dose of humor, adventure, and mystery when the fame-seeking star of the show disappears in the Florida Everglades and Wahoo Cray, the young animal wrangler, and his new friend Tuna are the only ones who can find him.
- Hoffman, Alice. ***Nightbird***. Wendy Lamb, 2015. Due to a 200-year-old curse on her family and an enormous secret, twelve-year-old Twig and her mother avoid people and certainly do not have friendships in their quaint hometown of Sidwell, Massachusetts; yet when the descendants of the witch who placed the curse moves into the house next door, big changes begin to blossom.
- Hopkinson, Deborah. ***The Great Trouble: a Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Eel, an orphan, and his best friend Florrie must help Dr. John Snow prove that cholera is spread through water, and not poisonous air, when an epidemic sweeps across their London neighborhood in 1854.
- Jamieson, Victoria. ***Roller Girl***. Dial Books, 2015. Twelve-year-old Astrid decides she wants to try something new this summer and signs-up for a Roller Derby Camp, but her long time best friend Nicole makes a different choice. How will this summer change Astrid and her friendship with Nicole?
- Johnson, Jaleigh. ***The Mark of the Dragonfly***. Delacorte, 2014. Since her father's death in a factory in the Dragonfly territories, thirteen-year-old Piper has eked out a living as a scrapper in Merrow Kingdom, but the arrival of a mysterious girl sends her on a dangerous journey to distant lands.

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- Kadohata, Cynthia. ***The Thing About Luck***. Atheneum, 2013. Just when twelve-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year of bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.
- Kennedy, Caroline, ed. ***Poems to Learn by Heart***. Disney-Hyperion, 2013. A wonderful selection of poems -- some old favorites, some new -- arranged by everyday subjects like school, family, self, sports, etc., accompanied by watercolor illustrations so charmingly done by Jon J. Muth. A book to treasure and share!
- Kidd, Chip. ***Go: a Kidd's Guide to Graphic Design***. Workman, 2013. This is an appealing introduction to graphic design with chapters covering: form, typography, content, and concepts, including 10 design projects for you to try.
- Kirby, Matthew. ***Spell Robbers***. Scholastic, 2014. Ben Warner is invited to join a "science camp" led by a quantum physicist. With his new friend Peter he discovers the secret art of Actuation--the ability to change reality by imagining it differently--but he also finds that there are people willing to kill for that secret. Book One of the exciting spy, sci-fi adventure, *The Quantum League*.
- Korman, Gordon. ***Masterminds***. Balzer + Bray, 2015. The tiny town of Serenity, New Mexico, appears to be the most perfect town in the world, however, when thirteen-year-old Eli and his friend try to leave the city limits for the first time, Eli gets his first clue that all may not be as it seems, and that something sinister is going on all around them. *Series*
- LeGrand, Eric. ***Believe: the Victorious Story of Eric LeGrand***. HarperCollins, 2012. Eric LeGrand reflects on his life, discussing his childhood, family, success in high school and college sports, and the football injury which resulted in paralysis, rehabilitation, and more.
- Leyson, Leon. ***The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible...on Schindler's List***. Atheneum, 2013. This memoir recounts the life and perseverance of the youngest survivor on Schindler's list. Mr. Leyson's incredible remembrances remind us of the atrocities of war and the humanity that one person can show to make a difference.
- Loftin, Nikki. ***Nightingale's Nest***. Razorbill, 2014. In this twist on "The Nightingale," Little John, despite his own poverty and grief, reaches out to Gayle, an unhappy foster child living next-door who sings beautifully and hides a great secret.
- Lupica, Mike. ***Fantasy League***. Philomel, 2014. Twelve-year-old Charlie gets a chance to work with a real NFL owner once his skills for picking Fantasy Football winners is discovered. On the field, the game is much more challenging.
- MacHale, D.J. ***Curse of the Boggin***. Random House, 2016. When supernatural phenomenon start following Marcus O'Mara around, he discovers a key that leads to The Library, a place where all the stories of the living and dead are kept that help him and his friends solve a terrifying mystery. *Series*

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- Napoli, Donna Jo. ***Treasury of Egyptian Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Monsters & Mortals.*** National Geographic, 2014. Presents illustrated retellings of Egyptian myths, sharing the stories of Ra, Isis, Osiris, Anubis, and Bastet with sidebars for each god, goddess, monster and mortal that link the tales to history, geography, and culture, and includes a timeline and other resources.
- Nelson, S.D. ***Sitting Bull: Lakota Warrior and Defender of His People.*** Abrams Books, 2015. Native American author combines archival images and his own drawings in the style of Lakota ledger book art of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to enhance this life story of one of the most important Lakota/Sioux chiefs to ever live, Sitting Bull.
- Nielsen, Jennifer A. ***The Mark of the Thief.*** Scholastic, 2015. In this fast-paced historical fantasy, Nic is a slave in the Roman mines who finds a magical amulet that once belonged to Julius Caesar. He learns very quickly that there are others who seek the amulet who want to use its powers to overthrow the Emperor and control Rome. *Series*
- Pearsall, Shelley. ***The Seventh Most Important Thing.*** Alfred A. Knopf, 2015. In 1963, thirteen-year-old Arthur is sentenced to community service helping the neighborhood Junk Man after he throws a brick at the old man's head in a moment of rage, but the junk he collects might be more important than he suspects. Inspired by the work of American folk artist
- Shusterman, Neal and Eric Elfman. ***Tesla's Attic.*** Disney-Hyperion, 2014. With a plot combining science and the supernatural, four kids are caught up in a dangerous plan concocted by the eccentric inventor, Nikola Tesla. *Series*
- Sloan, Holly Goldberg. ***Counting by 7s.*** Dial, 2013. Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.
- Smith, Roland. ***The Edge.*** Houghton Mifflin, 2015. Fifteen-year-old Peak Marcello is invited to participate in an "International Peace Ascent" in the Hindu Kush, with a team made up of under-eighteen-year-old climbers from around the world--but from the first something seems wrong, so when the group is attacked, and most of the climbers are either killed or kidnapped, Peak finds himself caught up in a struggle to survive, shadowed by the Shen, a mysterious snow leopard. *Series*
- Stevens, Robin. ***Poison is Not Polite.*** Simon & Schuster, 2016. A tea party takes a poisonous turn leaving Daisy and Hazel with a new mystery to solve in the second novel of the Wells & Wong Mystery series.
- Stone, Tanya Lee. ***Courage Has No Color: the True Story of the Triple Nickles: America's First Black Paratroopers.*** Candlewick, 2013. Examines the role of African-Americans in the military through the history of the Triple Nickles, America's first black paratroopers, who fought against attacks perpetrated on the American West by the Japanese during World War II.

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***When on Earth: History as You've Never Seen it Before.*** DK, 2015. Divided into four sections covering the ancient, medieval, and modern worlds, this book features beautiful illustrations, 3-D graphics, clear text boxes, and fun facts that bring history to life and show how it fits into the world at large.

Wiles, Deborah. ***Revolution.*** Scholastic, 2014. It's 1964 in Greenwood, Mississippi, and Sunny's town is being invaded by people from up north who are coming to help people register to vote. Her personal life isn't much better, as a new stepmother, brother, and sister are crowding into her life, giving her little room to breathe. *Series*

Woodson, Jacqueline. ***Brown Girl Dreaming.*** Nancy Paulsen, 2014. The author shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in the North and South. *National Book Award Winner, The Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner*

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