

HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2004
Grade 11 and Grade 12

- Feynman, Richard. ***Six Easy Pieces***. Addison-Wesley, 1995. The essentials of physics are explained in six “easy” chapters from the Nobel Prize-winning physicist’s *Lectures on Physics* (1963), originally prepared for Caltech undergraduate students.
- Flannery, Sarah with David Flannery. ***In Code: A Mathematical Journey***. Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2002. A 16-year-old girl and her father convey their love of mathematics in the book written after Sarah wins Ireland’s Young Scientist of the Year 1999 award for her project on cryptography.
- Flinn, Alexandra. ***Breathing Underwater***. HarperCollins, 2001. Sent to counseling for hitting his girlfriend, Caitlin, and ordered to keep a journal, sixteen-year-old Nick recounts his relationship with Caitlin, examines his controlling behavior and anger, and describes living with his abusive father.
- Frank, E. R. ***America: A Novel***. Atheneum, 2002. The enduring love of his foster mother and a dedicated therapist are fifteen-year-old America’s only positive life forces in this disturbing, powerful story of forgiveness and “against the odds” survival.
- Fuller, Alexandra. ***Don’t Let’s Go To the Dogs Tonight: An African Childhood***. Random House, 2001. Moving from Rhodesia/Zimbabwe to Malawi to Zambia, the author and her family endure tragic crises with humor and strength of character, adding dimension to the volatile events of recent African history.
- Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. ***Chronicle of a Death Foretold***. Knopf, 1983. Murder upsets a wedding in this novel by the Nobel Prize author.
- Golden, Arthur. ***Memoirs of a Geisha: A Novel***. Knopf, 1997. This is a captivating tale of the making of a geisha from young innocent to powerful courtesan. A *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year.
- Haley, Alex. ***The Autobiography of Malcolm X***. First published 1965. A biography of the African-American activist who rose from drug pusher to charismatic leader.
- Hawking, Stephen. ***A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes***. Bantam, 1998. In this 10th, expanded edition the brilliant physicist updates and explains his theory of the nature and creation of the universe, including a chapter on wormholes and time travel.
- Heinlein, Robert. ***Stranger in a Strange Land***. First published 1961. The ways of Earth are strange to the young man from Mars. Hugo Award, 1962.
- Heller, Joseph. ***Catch-22***. First published 1961. A wildly surreal novel describes a group of American servicemen in the Mediterranean during World War II.
- Krakauer, Jon. ***Into Thin Air: a Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster***. Villard, 1997. A riveting account of the 1996 expedition to Mt. Everest that took several lives raises questions about the accountability of those using the mountain.
- Larson, Erik. ***Isaac’s Storm: A Man, a Time and the Deadliest Hurricane in History***. Crown, 1999. Relive the disastrous 1900 Galveston storm that killed at least 6,000 people.
- Mahfouz, Naguib. ***Palace Walk***. Doubleday, 1989. The Nobel Prize-winning author’s novel describes the severe and alluring world of a Muslim family living in Cairo during Egypt’s occupation by British forces in the early 1900’s.

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- Markham, Beryl. ***West with the Night***. North Point, 1983. The British aviator, first to fly west across the Atlantic solo, describes her childhood in British East Africa and her unconventional life.
- McBride, James. ***The Color of Water***. Riverhead Books, 1996. A black man pays tribute to his eccentric, determined white mother.
- McCullough, David. ***John Adams***. Simon & Schuster, 2001. A powerful biography details the adventurous life, extraordinary times and achievements of the second president of the United States.
- McEwan, Ian. ***Atonement: A Novel***. Doubleday, 2001. The lives of three people are changed forever by a young girl's scheming imagination during the summer of 1935. National Book Critics Circle Award, 2002
- McMurtry, Larry. ***Lonesome Dove***. Simon & Schuster, 1985. Augustus McCrae and W. F. Call, former Texas Rangers, partners and friends, face danger and hardships during a cattle drive from Texas to Montana in the late nineteenth century. Pulitzer Prize.
- Morrison, Toni. ***The Bluest Eye***. First published 1969. Nobel Prize-winning author's novel about a young black girl who yearns for beautiful blue eyes like the little white girls she sees.
- Norman, Elizabeth. ***We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese***. Random House, 1999. Nurses are held captive in the jungles of the Philippines in this harrowing World War II tale.
- Packer, Ann. ***The Dive from Clausen's Pier: A Novel***. Knopf, 2002. The conflict between loyalty to oneself and to others is explored in this story of a young woman whose life is suddenly changed when her fiancé is paralyzed in a diving accident.
- Plath, Sylvia. ***The Bell Jar***. First published 1963. This autobiographical novel describes an ambitious and brilliant young woman's search for values and her eventual breakdown.
- Rand, Ayn. ***Atlas Shrugged***. First published 1957. In an age where everyone looks to the state for guidance and protection, one man wants to go it alone.
- Santiago, Esmeralda. ***Almost a Woman***. Perseus, 1998. An ambitious and determined teenager overcomes the challenges of language barriers, cultural stereotypes, poverty, and a fiercely protective mother.
- Schlosser, Eric. ***Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal***. Houghton Mifflin, 2001. The author charges that fast food has hastened the malling of the American landscape, widened the chasm between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and propelled U.S. cultural imperialism abroad.
- Schwartz, Maxime. ***How the Cows Turned Mad***. University of California Press, 2003. A gripping biological detective story traces the history of mad cow and other infectious brain diseases of livestock and people.
- Sijje, Dai. ***Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress***. Knopf, 2002. During the Chinese Cultural Revolution, two boys exiled to the countryside for "reeducation" are distracted first by a violin, then by a beautiful young seamstress and a stash of Western classics.

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- Smith, Bob. *Hamlet's Dresser: A Memoir*. Scribner, 2002. A young man with a troubled family background discovers Shakespeare and his life.
- Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath*. First published 1939. Forced out of their home in the Oklahoma dust-bowl region by economic desperation, a family of "Okie" farmers drives west to California in search of work as migrant fruit pickers. Pulitzer Prize, 1940.
- Tan, Amy. *Bonesetter's Daughter*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2001. Ruth, American-born daughter of a Chinese immigrant mother, arranges for a translation of her mother's handwritten story of her life in China and learns some long-hidden truths about her family that help her understand and appreciate her mother better.
- Temple-Raston, Dina. *A Death in Texas: A Story of Race, Murder and a Small Town's Struggle for Redemption*. Henry Holt & Co., 2002. From the initial investigation through the trials and their aftermath, a journalist follows the turns of events through the eyes of Sheriff Billy Rowles—an enlightened lawman determined to take lessons from the tragedy—and the townspeople trying to come to grips with the dragging death of James Byrd in Jasper, Texas.
- Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden*. First published 1854. Observations on nature and life penned during the author's solitary stay at Walden Pond, outside Concord, Massachusetts, from 1845 to 1847.
- Tucker, Jonathan B. *Scourge: The Once and Future Threat of Smallpox*. Grove Press, 2001. The history of the smallpox virus is traced from the first recorded outbreak around 3700 B.C. through its development as a modern biological warfare agent.
- Welty, Eudora. *One Writer's Beginnings*. Harvard, 1984. Mississippi writer describes her childhood and the influences that shaped her life.
- Wharton, Edith. *The Age of Innocence*. First published 1920. In New York City society in the 1870s, money counted for less than manners and morals.
- Wilson, Edward O. *The Future of Life*. Knopf, 2002. A complex, intelligent look at a plan to save the biosphere for ensuing generations by resolving the conflict between environmentalism and economics.

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