

**Junior High Suggested Summer Reading
Summer 2011
Eighth Grade List**

8th grade Fiction:

O'Brien, Caragh. Birthmarked . New York: Roaring Book Press. 2010.

Sixteen-year-old Gaia Stone, a midwife who dutifully delivers at least three babies a month and hands them over to the Enclave, a community within walls where the children are adopted and live with conveniences which are not available to the outside world, begins to question her loyalty to the group after her mother is brutally taken away from her by the people she serves.

Clare , Cassandra. Clockwork Angel (The Infernal Devices, Book 1).New York: Margaret K. McElderry Publishers. 2010.

16 year old Tessa Gray has just arrived in London, England from New York to meet her brother. It is the time of Queen Victoria's reign. As soon as she steps onto the dock in London, she is kidnapped by the Dark Sisters, and through them she discovers she has an amazing power: she is a shape shifter, someone who can change their outward appearance. She is soon swept into a dangerous world of vampires, warlocks, faeries and the Shadowhunters that keep the humans safe.

Barnes, Jennifer. Raised by Wolves. New York: Egmont USA 2010.

After her parents are killed when she is only four years old, Bryn is taken in by Callum, the leader of a werewolf pack. She is the only human living among the werewolves, along with her foster-mother, Ali. Soon she finds out that her pack, her family, has been keeping a prisoner, and a secret, from her. With the help of her friends Chase, Devon, and Lake, Bryn will challenge the pack and rescue each other from danger.

Brennan, Herbie. Shadow Project. New York: Balzer and Bray. 2010.

A young English thief stumbles on, and subsequently is recruited for, a super-secret operation that trains teenagers in remote viewing and astral projection techniques in order to engage in spying.

Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody. The Reinvention of Moxie Roosevelt. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2010.

On her first day of boarding school, a thirteen-year-old girl who feels boring and invisible decides to change her personality to match her unusual name.

Phillbin, Joanna. The Daughters New York: Little Brown, 2010.

In New York City, three fourteen-year-old best friends who are all daughters of celebrities watch out for each other as they try to strike a balance between ordinary high school events, such as finding a date for the homecoming dance, and family functions like walking the red carpet with their famous parents.

Stiefvater, Maggie. Shiver. New York: Scholastic. 2009.

In all the years she has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been particularly drawn to an unusual yellow-eyed wolf who, in his turn, has been watching her with increasing intensity.

Garcia, Kami. Beautiful Creatures , New York: Little, Brown and Company,2009.

Ethan has lived his entire life in the Southern town of Gatlin. He's ready to move away and can't wait until he graduates so that he can leave the town behind. But recently, Ethan has been haunted by a beautiful girl in his dreams. Turn out, that girl shows up at school and Ethan is immediately drawn to her. Her name is Lena and she is mysterious and very different from any of the other girls at school. But Lena is hiding a very powerful secret regarding herself and her family's past. How long can Lena hide her powers and the dark past of her family? It's up to Ethan to help her before her secret destroys everything.

Sparks, Nicholas. The Last Song, New York: Grand Central Publishing, 2009.

Seventeen-year-old Ronnie Miller is resentful when her mother insists she and her ten-year-old brother spend the summer with their estranged father in North Carolina, and while things get off to a rocky start, Ronnie eventually makes friends and begins to better understand her dad and why he wanted her to visit.

Westerfeld, Scott. Leviathan, New York: Simon Pulse, 2009.

In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts.

Summy, Barrie. I So Don't Do Spooky, New York: Delacorte Press, 2009.

Thirteen-year-old Sherry helps her mother, a ghost, to investigate who is stalking Sherry's stepmother, but Sherry is also very busy with school and friends, while her mother is also striving for a gold medal in the Ghostlympics.

Childs, Tera Lynn. Oh My Gods. New York: Dutton Books, 2008.

When her mother suddenly decides to marry a near-stranger, Phoebe, whose passion is running, soon finds herself living on a remote Greek island, completing her senior year at an ancient high school where the students and faculty are descended from gods or goddesses.

Fletcher, Charlie. Stoneheart. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.

On a class trip in an alternative London, George Chapman accidentally awakens and animates the different statues and monuments in the city. While on the quest to fix his mistake, George finds out that some statues are controlled by an evil force determined to destroy him as part of a world dominations plot while others try to protect and help him.

Mackel, Kathryn. Boost. New York: Dial Books, 2008.

After moving to a new city, thirteen-year-old Savvy's dreams of playing for elite basketball team are in danger when she is accused of taking steroids.

Myers, Walter Dean. Sunrise Over Fallujah. New York: Scholastic Press, 2008.

After 9/11, Robin leaves home and joins the army. While stationed in Iraq he begins writing letters home to his family. He experiences the horrors of war. Meyers portrays a soldier's feelings and perspectives of this controversial war.

Snow, Maya. Sisters of the Sword. New York: HarperCollins, 2008.

When their treacherous uncle murders their father and older brothers and seizes power as the local Jito, or Lord Steward, Kimi and Hana barely manage to escape with their lives. Disguised as boys, the sisters get positions as servants in Master Goku's dojo, where they perform household tasks and train in their spare time. While there, the girls make both friends and enemies, as they struggle to keep their identities secret, hone their fighting skills, and plan their revenge.

Yancey, Richard. Alfred Kropp: The Thirteenth Skull. New York: Bloomsbury, 2008.

Alfred's adventures continue in the third novel of spies, magic, and action! Alfred is the last descendent of one of the Knights of the Round Table and must figure out who he can trust in order to find out what the Thirteenth Skull is and save his own life.

Young, E L (Emma). STORM : The Infinity Code. New York : Dial Books for Young Readers, 2008.

Gadget inventing teenager Will is asked to join three other overachieving techno teens in the Science and Technology to Over-Ride Misery group. Their goal is to stop the development of a deadly weapon designed by a secret society of spies bent on destroying the earth as we know it.

8th grade Nonfiction:

Janeczko, Paul B. The Dark Game: True Spy Stories. New York: Candlewick Press. 2010.

A collection of true spy stories from throughout the history of the United States, discussing personalities, missions, traitors, technological advances, and more.

Sullivan, Christine. Saving Cinnamon. New York: St. Martin's Press. 2009.

When Navy Reservist Mark Feffer reports for duty in Afghanistan, he finds an unexpected visitor on base: a stray mixed-breed puppy named Cinnamon. The mutt quickly becomes a base mascot, and morale booster, for the whole unit. At the end of his tour, Feffer is resolved to take Cinnamon home with him to America.

Harness, Cheryl. The Ground-breaking, Chance-Taking Life of George Washington Carver and Science & Invention in America. Washington: National Geographic, 2008.

A biography of George Washington Carver that discusses his childhood, various jobs, education, agricultural skills, travels, legacy and describes the world in which he lived. Includes a time line, a chronology, illustrations, and resources.

Our White House : Looking in, Looking Out. New York: Candlewick P, 2008.

Collection of essays, personal accounts, historical fiction, and poetry that traces the history of the White House through the eyes of the children who have lived and visited there.

Treaster, Joseph B. Hurricane Force : In the Path of America's Deadliest Storms. New York: Kingfisher, 2007.

“They are among the most powerful, most mysterious forces on Earth.” Joseph B. Treaster survived his first hurricane when he was six years old. Since then he has covered many storms as a reporter for the New York Times. In August 2005, he made his way to New Orleans to write about one of the deadliest and costliest hurricanes in history. This book gives a riveting, first-person account of Treaster’s experience covering Hurricane Katrina and examines the history and nature of hurricanes. Full-color photographs and diagrams.

Ballard, Robert. Robert Ballard's Lusitania. Edison, N.J. : Chartwell Books, 2007.

A visually stunning look at the history of the great Cunard Line passenger ship, *Lusitania*, from her birth at Clydebank shipyards in Scotland, to her well publicized and tragic sinking by a German U-boat during WWI. It includes the examination of the wreck by Ballard's underwater exploration team in an effort to answer some of the questions surrounding the sinking.

For more great titles, check out the Texas Lone Star List and the Newberry List on the Library Resources page!