

Youth Summer Reading Club 2008

YOUTH RECOMMENDED BOOKLIST

TEEN PICKS - ANNOTATED TITLES



The Earth, My Butt and Other Big Round Things – [Place Hold](#)

Carolyn Mackler, 2003

Virginia Shreves is 'above average' in size; she has grown to accept this and lives that way. The story floats around Virginia's attempts to lose weight, her struggle to accept who she is and to come to terms with her family's issues.

Looking for Alaska – [Place Hold](#)

John Green, 2006

Award winning book for either gender about the story of growing up, falling in love, dealing with loss, and getting through life as best that you can in an Alabama private boarding school.

The Off Season – [Place Hold](#)

Catherine Gilbert Murdock, 2007

Just when things are starting to go right for high school football player DJ Schwenk, her life is turned upside down by a series of catastrophes.

Oliver Twist – [Place Hold](#)

Charles Dickens, (1812-1870), 1998

"More, please!" 19th century London; great characters, plot and language. A true classic!

Once Upon a Marigold – [Place Hold](#)

Jean Ferris, 2002

Adventure, fantasy, and romance about a troll who must live in a cave for 100 years; a

Boy; and a princess named Marigold!



One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies – [Place Hold](#)

Sonya Sones, 2004

After her mother dies, Ruby goes to live with her father who had not been a big part of her life. The result is a lot of father/daughter confrontations, as well as revelations that will affect Ruby for the rest of her life.

Ophelia – a Novel – [Place Hold](#)

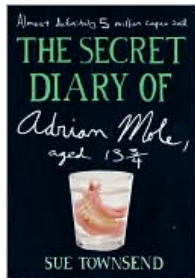
Lisa M. Klein, 2006

Based on Shakespeare's Hamlet. Ophelia is a strong woman who is ruled by the thoughts and deeds of men.

Princess Academy – [Place Hold](#)

Shannon Hale, 2005

"A fairy lives in every girl's heart." A fairy tale-like story about girls and women – their hopes, dreams, reasoning, and challenges.



The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾ – [Place Hold](#)

Sue Townsend, 1989

Before the confessions of Georgia Nicolson or the Royal Diaries of Princess Mia, there was Adrian Mole and his hilarious diary of teenage angst.

Spud – [Place Hold](#)

John Van de Ruit, 2007

In an elite South African boarding school, John's hilarious first steps towards manhood are highlighted by crazy roommates, first crushes and dysfunctional parents.

Tithe: a Modern Faerie Tale – [Place Hold](#)

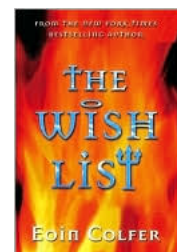
Holly Black, 2002

Back in her childhood home, tough, modern and independent Kate is drawn into an ancient war between rival faerie kingdoms.

The Wish List – [Place Hold](#)

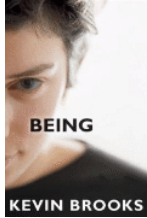
Eoin Colfer, 2003

Bad girl Meg gets a second chance at life when she must help a lonely old man fulfill his wish list.



MORE GREAT TEEN PICKS

Airborn – [Place Hold](#)
Kenneth Oppel, 2004



Being – [Place Hold](#)
Kevin Brooks, 2007

The Blue Girl – [Place Hold](#)
Charles de Lint, 2004

The Book Thief – [Place Hold](#)
Markus Zusak, 2006

City of Bones – [Place Hold](#)
Cassandra Clare, 2007

The Color Purple: a Novel – [Place Hold](#)
Alice Walker, 1982

Copper Sun – [Place Hold](#)
Sharon M. Draper, 2006

Chrysalids – [Place Hold](#)
John Wyndham, 1955

Dead Water Zone – [Place Hold](#)
Kenneth Oppel, 1992

Death Note V. 1 Boredom – [Place Hold](#)
Tsugumi Oba, 2005

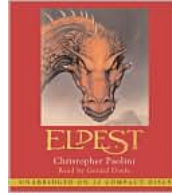
The Demon in the Teahouse – [Place Hold](#)
Dorothy Hoobler, 2001

Don't Tell – [Place Hold](#)
Sandra Glover, 2006



Droughtlanders – [Place Hold](#)
Carrie Mac, 2006

Eldest – [Place Hold](#)
Christopher Paolini, 2005



Eragon – [Place Hold](#)
Christopher Paolini, 2003

Four Steps to Death – [Place Hold](#)
John Wilson, 2005

Goose Girl – [Place Hold](#)
Shannon Hale, 2003

Gothic: Ten Original Dark Tales – [Place Hold](#)
Deborah Noyes, 2004

A Great and Terrible Beauty – [Place Hold](#)
Libba Bray, 2003

Hip-Hop High School – [Place Hold](#)
Alan Lawrence Sitomer, 2006

How to be a Hero on Earth 5 – [Place Hold](#)
Rob Payne, 2006

Impulse – [Place Hold](#)
Ellen Hopkins, 2007

The Lottery – [Place Hold](#)
Beth Goobie, 2002

November Blues – [Place Hold](#)
Sharon M. Draper, 2007

The Old Man and the Sea – [Place Hold](#)
Ernest Hemingway, (1899-1961), 1996



The Outsiders – [Place Hold](#)
S.E. Hinton, 1967

The Road of the Dead – [Place Hold](#)
Kevin Brooks, 2006

Robinson Crusoe – [Place Hold](#)
Daniel Defoe, (1661?-1731), 2001

Romiette and Julio – [Place Hold](#)
Sharon M. Draper, 1999

Shattered – [Place Hold](#)
Eric Walters, 2006

Shattering Glass – [Place Hold](#)
Gail Giles, 2002

Son of the Mob – [Place Hold](#)
Gordon Korman, 2002



Son of the Mob 2: Hollywood Hustle – [Place Hold](#)
Gordon Korman, 2004

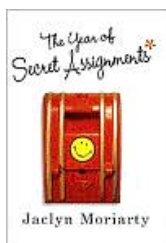
Specials – [Place Hold](#)
Scott Westerfeld, 2006

Stargirl – [Place Hold](#)
Jerry Spinelli, 2000

Stranger in a Strange Land – [Place Hold](#)
Robert A. Heinlein, (1907-1988), 1961

Street Love – [Place Hold](#)
Walter Dean Myers, 2006

Tyrell – [Place Hold](#)
Coe Booth, 2006



The Year of Secret Assignments – [Place Hold](#)
Jaclyn Moriarty, 2004

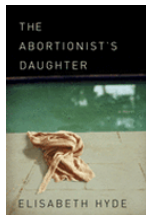
COOL READS FOR HOT TIMES - TEEN AND UP

ANNOTATED TITLES

2001 – A Space Odyssey – [Place Hold](#)

Arthur C Clarke,

This ambitious work deals with themes such as evolution and progress of the human race, space travel, exploration, and the dangers of technology. Pop culture is filled with references to this book (the monolith, HAL), a true sign that Clarke's masterpiece, along with the concurrently developed Stanley Kubrick film, has reached iconic status.



The Abortionist's Daughter – [Place Hold](#)

Elisabeth Hyde, 2006

19 year old Megan's mother is found dead in her home. Megan's mother worked at an abortion clinic and she has made many enemies during her career. Megan discovers both a lot about herself and who her mother really was while the police investigate the murder.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time – [Place Hold](#)

Mark Haddon, 2002

This book is unique for its use of first-person narrative by a 15-year-old autistic boy. There is indeed a curious incident involving a dog in the night-time but this book contains so much more with its insight into the life of a boy with Asperger syndrome.

Angels and Demons: a Novel (Large Print) – [Place Hold](#)

Dan Brown, 2004

Symbologist Robert Langdon tries to stop a secret society from destroying the Vatican.

The Da Vinci Code: a Novel – [Place Hold](#)

Dan Brown, 2003

Robert Langdon is back as he tries to unravel a gruesome murder in the Louvre and uncovers a shocking secret.

Deception Point – [Place Hold](#)

Dan Brown, 2001

White House Intelligence analyst Rachel Sexton travels to the Arctic to authenticate an exciting and rare find hidden in the ice.

Devil's Cure – [Place Hold](#)

Kenneth Oppel, 2000

A serial killer whose blood holds the key to a cure for cancer is determined to withhold his secret.



Diary: a Novel – [Place Hold](#)

Chuck Palahniuk, 2003

A suspense/horror novel by the author of Fight Club, this one told from a female perspective

Digital Fortress – [Place Hold](#)

Dan Brown, 1998

The National Security Agency's top secret super-computer, TRANSLTR is under attack in this techno thriller.

A Dirty Job – [Place Hold](#)

Christopher Moore, 2007

When people all around him start dying for unknown reasons, Charlie Asher comes to the unwelcome conclusion that he, in fact, is Death!

Dune – [Place Hold](#)

Frank Herbert, 1965

Winner of the Hugo and the first Nebula Award, Dune spawned five sequels and is regarded by many as one of the finest science-fiction novels ever written. It combines elements of action and politics as many factions struggle for control of the planet Arrakis and its harvest of the life-extending spice, Melange.

Flyy Girl – [Place Hold](#)

Omar Tyree, 1996

Tracy is the sexiest thing around. She is also spoiled, conceited and emotionally manipulative. Tracy is drawn into the world of drugs and prostitution and finally realizes that this is not the life she wants.



Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café – [Place Hold](#)

Fannie Flagg, 1987

For anyone who likes to eavesdrop, Fried Green Tomatoes feels like sitting down with your best friends for a good long gossip, without being trivial or shallow of course!

Falling – [Place Hold](#)

Christopher Pike – 2007

The “Acid Man” is a particularly vicious serial killer, targeting unfaithful women; but when Kelly Feinman tries to catch him on her own, she puts herself in serious danger.

Fifth Business – [Place Hold](#)

Robertson Davies, 2001

Dunstan Ramsay is shocked when he is depicted as a doddering old fool upon his retirement; his attempt to set the record straight is funny, poignant and profound.

For One More Day – [Place Hold](#)

Mitch Albom, 2006

Charles Benetto is going to kill himself; but first, he has a chance to spend one more day with the mother he lost years earlier. Keep the Kleenex handy...

The Handmaid's Tale – [Place Hold](#)

Margaret Atwood, 2001

In a future world, women are used for reproduction and domestic labour; rebellious women become prostitutes or are sent to clean up nuclear waste.

The House on Mango Street – [Place Hold](#)

Sandra Cisneros, 1989

A year in Esperanza Cordero's life is beautifully told in vignettes and lyrical language, at times in startling contrast to the brutal and coarse events taking place.



If You Could See Me Now – [Place Hold](#)

Cecelia Ahern, 2005

Irish girl Elizabeth is left by her adventurous mother and sister to bring up little brother Luke. Luke has an imaginary friend who can alters lives!

Interview With the Vampire – [Place Hold](#)

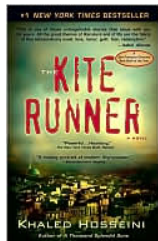
Anne Rice, 1976

In 18th century New Orleans, Louis, a young plantation owner, struggles with the departure of his human tendencies and his acceptance of his new vampire lifestyle.

Jane Eyre – [Place Hold](#)

Charolotte Bronte (1816-1855), 1996

This is the life of Victorian English Jane Eyre from childhood to woman and her relationship with dark and brooding Edward Rochester. A classic!



The Kite Runner – [Place Hold](#)

Khaled Hosseini, 2004

Growing up in Afghanistan, Amir sees the extremes of cruelty, poverty and excess; his life after immigrating to America is much more peaceful, until he is forced to return to Afghanistan to rescue his childhood friend's son.

The Life of Pi – [Place Hold](#)

Yann Martel, 2001

Could you survive 227 days shipwrecked on a raft with a 450 pound Bengal tiger as your only companion?



Lullabies for Little Criminals: a Novel – [Place Hold](#)

Heather O'Neill, 2006

12 year old Baby loses her virginity, smokes pot, shoots heroin and is shunted from foster home to detention home and back to her childish father, all the while desperately searching for love and redemption. Loosely based on the author's own life.

The Master and Margarita – [Place Hold](#)

Mikhail Afanas'evich Bulgakov, 2008

This masterpiece of Russian literature may seem like a daunting read but the story, set in 1930s Moscow, quickly draws you in. Satan and his gang, which includes a fast talking large black cat who can stand on two legs, a visit to the city, and causing complete havoc. In addition, the biblical story of Pontius Pilate and that of the Master, an embittered author, and Margarita, his devoted lover, are masterfully meshed together, leading up to the climax of the book, Satan's Spring Ball.

Murphy's Law: a Molly Murphy Mystery – [Place Hold](#)

Ryhs Bowen, 2001

Historical fiction and an old-fashioned murder mystery combine in the story of plucky red-headed Molly Murphy.

The Namesake – [Place Hold](#)

Jhumpa Lahiri, 2003

Gogol Ganguli, a first generation immigrant in America, struggles to reconcile his Indian culture and upbringing with his American way of life.

The Other Boleyn Girl – [Place Hold](#)

Philippa Gregory, 2001

Everyone knows about Anne, the wife that Henry VIII beheaded; but no one remembers Mary, the sister who was his mistress from the age of 14 and bore him two children.

Once a Thief – [Place Hold](#)

Kay Hooper, 2002

Art, a master thief and a clever woman who struggle to find the truth are the main elements in this fast-paced thriller.

The Picture of Dorian Gray – [Place Hold](#)

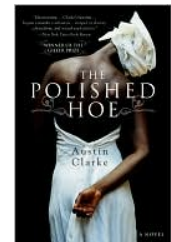
Oscar Wilde, (1854-1900) 1998

A creepy classic tale that illustrates the adage "be careful what you wish for!"

The Polished Hoe – [Place Hold](#)

Austin Clarke, 2002

A grisly murder leads to the story told by Mary, a plantation worker who is abused by the white owner her entire life and who finally takes revenge.



Shenzhen: a Travelogue from China – [Place Hold](#)

Guy Delisle, 2006

This graphic travel guide will suck you in from the first frame; Guy Delisle is ironic and edgy but without any hint of bitterness as he narrates his tale of a three month stint in the Chinese city of Shenzhen.

The Time Machine – [Place Hold](#)

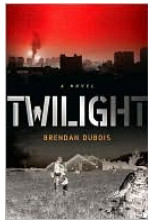
H.G. Wells, (1866-1946), 2004

The classic novel of time travel still has the power to enthral modern readers.

To Kill a Mockingbird – [Place Hold](#)

Harper Lee, 1960

Social injustice and racism are the themes of this classic novel.



The Twilight – [Place Hold](#)

Brendan DuBois, 2007

Canadian UN war crimes investigator Samuel Simpson and his team arrive to probe atrocities in war torn New York after a violent terrorist attack plunges America into a state of chaos.

Veronika Decides to Die – [Place Hold](#)

Paulo Coelho, 1999

Once Veronika has decided to kill herself, she discovers new freedom and a different definition of sanity.

The Virgin Suicides – [Place Hold](#)

Jeffrey Eugenides, 1993

All five Lisbon sisters commit suicide; twenty years later, the men who were boys at the time try to figure out why.

Where Rainbows End – [Place Hold](#)

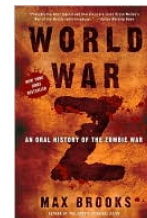
Cecilia Ahern, 2004

Best friends Alex and Rosie are separated as teens when Alex moves to Boston with his family. Will their friendship survive the miles or are they meant to be together?

World War Z: an Oral History of the Zombie War – [Place Hold](#)

Max Brooks, 2006

Various characters from around the world relate their stories of battles against zombies.



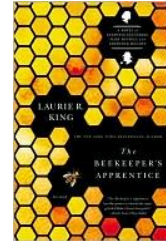
MORE COOL READS FOR HOT TIMES - TEEN AND UP

All Families are Psychotic – [Place Hold](#)

Douglas Coupland, 2001

Beekeeper's Apprentice – [Place Hold](#)

Laurie R, King, 2007



Anthem – [Place Hold](#)

Ayn Rand, 1995

The Catcher in the Rye – [Place Hold](#)

J.D. Salinger, 1951

Confessions of a Shopaholic – [Place Hold](#)

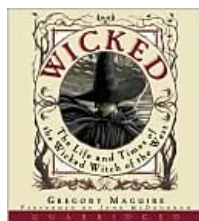
Sophie Kinsella, 2001

The Fountainhead – [Place Hold](#)

Ayn Rand, 1968

The Jane Austen Book Club – [Place Hold](#)

Karen Joy Fowler, 2004



Wicked: the Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West: a Novel – [Place Hold](#)

Gregory Maguire, 1995

SUPER SERIES - ANNOTATED TITLES

Please check the catalogue or the browsing collection of your local library for more titles in these series.

MAXIMUM RIDE

James Patterson

A series of books that has a bit of everything: action, adventure, suspense, romance, and mystery with a group of six kids (the Flock) who can fly. Their mission is to save themselves and the world!

Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment – [Place Hold](#)

2005

School's Out – Forever – [Place Hold](#)

2006



MEDIATOR

Meg Cabot

Shadowland – [Place Hold](#)

2000

Twilight – [Place Hold](#)

2005

Suze communicates with spirits hoping to resolve the problems they had on earth and send them to a peaceful afterlife. However, things get tricky when she falls in love with a ghost.

TWILIGHT

Stephanie Meyer

Twilight – [Place Hold](#)

2005

New Moon – [Place Hold](#)

2006

Eclipse – [Place Hold](#)

2007

After moving to gloomy Forks Washington to live with her Dad, Bella Swan is torn between two worlds when she discovers her boyfriend's dark secret.

MORE SUPER SERIES

ALEX RIDER

Anthony Horowitz

Scorpia – [Place Hold](#)

2005

Snakehead – [Place Hold](#)

2007



ARTEMIS FOWL

Eoin Colfer

Artemis Fowl – [Place Hold](#)

2001

The Eternity Code – [Place Hold](#)

2003

THE EDGE CHRONICLES

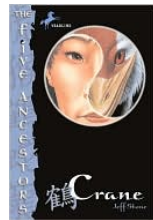
Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell

Beyond the Deep Woods – [Place Hold](#)

1999

Stormchaser – [Place Hold](#)

2000



FIVE ANCESTORS

Jeff Stone

Crane – [Place Hold](#)

2007

Eagle – [Place Hold](#)

2008

HARDY BOYS

Dixon, Franklin W.

The Tower Treasure – [Place Hold](#)

1959

HIS DARK MATERIALS

Philip Pullman

The Golden Compass – [Place Hold](#)

1995

The Subtle Knife – [Place Hold](#)

1997

The Amber

2000



Spyglass – [Place Hold](#)

INITIAL D

Shuichi Shigeno
Initial D 1 – [Place Hold](#)
2003
Initial D 2 – [Place Hold](#)
2003
Initial D 3 – [Place Hold](#)
2003

LORD OF THE RINGS

J. R. R. Tolkien, (1892 – 1973)

The Fellowship of the Rings – [Place Hold](#)

1999

The Two Towers – [Place Hold](#)

1999

The Return of the King – [Place Hold](#)

1999

SAGA OF DARREN SHAN – The Demonata Series

Darren Shan

Blood Beast (Book 5) – [Place Hold](#)

2007

Demon Apocalypse (Book 6) – [Place Hold](#)

2007

THE SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS

Lemony Snicket

The Bad Beginning – [Place Hold](#)

1999

The Reptile Room – [Place Hold](#)

1999

THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES

Tony DiTerlizzi

The Field Guide – [Place Hold](#)

2003

The Seeing Stone – [Place Hold](#)

2003

TIME WARP TRIO

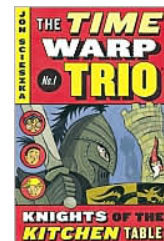
Jon Scieszka

Knights of the Kitchen Table – [Place Hold](#)

1991

The Good, the Bad and the Goofy – [Place Hold](#)

1992



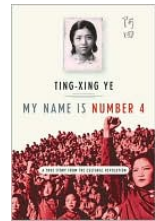
NON-FICTION

French Women Don't Get Fat – [Place Hold](#)
Mirielle Guiliano, 2005

George Orwell's Animal Farm – [Place Hold](#)
George Orwell and Harold Bloom, 2006

My Name is Number 4: A true story – [Place Hold](#)
Ye Ting-xing, 2007

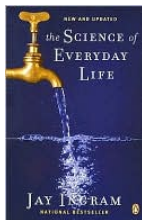
This powerful, autobiographical account chronicles the Cultural Revolution in China and the impact it had on the author and her family.



Night – [Place Hold](#)
Elie Wiesel, 2006

Paper Shadows: A Chinatown Childhood – [Place Hold](#)
Wayson Choy, 1999

A Short History of Nearly Everything – [Place Hold](#)
Bill Bryson, 2005



Science of Everyday Life – [Place Hold](#)
Jay Ingram, 2006

Tuesdays With Morrie: an Old Man, a Young Man and Life's Greatest Lesson – [Place Hold](#)
Mitch Albom, 1997

FUN READS FOR YOUNGER TEENS - ANNOTATED TITLES

Howl's Moving Castle – [Place Hold](#)

Diana Wynne Jones, 1986

Young Sophie's life takes an unexpected turn when she is transformed into an old woman by a jealous witch but when the infamous Howl comes to her rescue the complications really begin.

The Master Puppeteer – [Place Hold](#)

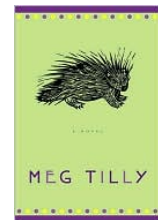
Katherine Paterson, 1975

A mysterious thriller about a bandit named Saburo who robs the rich and helps the poor in 18th Century Japan. Jiro, a 13 year old poor boy, joins a puppet theatre and learns more than he expected.

Porcupine – [Place Hold](#)

Meg Tilly, 2007

Jacqueline, who prefers to be called Jack, watches in horror as her mother crumbles after her father's death in war-torn Afghanistan, but quickly realizes she will have to step up if her family is going to stay intact.



MORE FUN READS FOR YOUNGER TEENS

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – [Place Hold](#)

Roald Dahl, 1998

The Day My Butt Went Psycho! – [Place Hold](#)

Andy Griffiths, 2001

Ella Enchanted – [Place Hold](#)

Gail Carson Levine, 1997



Gemini Summer – [Place Hold](#)

Iain Lawrence, 2006

The Giver – [Place Hold](#)

Lois Lowry, 1993

Holes – [Place Hold](#)

Louis Sachar, 1998

The Hollow Tree – [Place Hold](#)

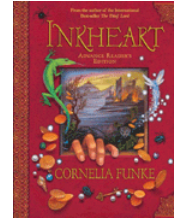
Janet Lunn, 1997

The Hydrofoil Mystery – [Place Hold](#)

Eric Walters, 1999

Inkheart – [Place Hold](#)

Cornelia Caroline Funke, 2003



Inkspell – [Place Hold](#)

Cornelia Caroline Funke, 2005

Lost in the Barrens – [Place Hold](#)

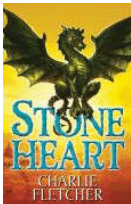
Farley Mowat, 1956

The Phantom Tollbooth – [Place Hold](#)

Norton Juster, 1961

Skud – [Place Hold](#)

Dennis Foon, 2003



Stoneheart – [Place Hold](#)

Charlie Fletcher, 2006