

Summer Reading 2008



Beah, Ishmael
A Long Way Gone: memoirs of a boy soldier

Ishmael Beah, now twenty-six years old, tells a story: at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts. At sixteen, he was removed from fighting by UNICEF, and through the help of the staff at his rehabilitation center, he learned how to forgive himself, to regain his humanity, and finally, to heal. *Includes graphic details of war.*

Beddor, Frank
The Looking Glass Wars

When she is cast out of Wonderland by her evil aunt Redd, young Alyss Heart finds herself living in Victorian Oxford as Alice Liddell and struggles to keep memories of her kingdom intact until she can return and claim her rightful throne.



Bray, Libby
A Sweet Far Thing

At Spence Academy, sixteen-year-old Gemma Doyle continues preparing for her London debut while struggling to determine how best to use magic to resolve a power struggle in the enchanted world of the realms, and to protect her own world and loved ones.

Brewer, Heather
The Chronicles of Vladimir

For thirteen years, Vlad, aided by his aunt and best friend, has kept secret that he is half-vampire, but when his missing teacher is replaced by a sinister



substitute, he learns that there is more to being a vampire, and to his parents' deaths, than he could have guessed.



Brooks, Kevin
The Road of the Dead

Two brothers, sons of an incarcerated gypsy, leave London traveling to an isolated and desolate village, in search of the brutal killer of their sister.

Brooks, Martha
Mistik Lake

After Odella's mother leaves her, her sisters, and their father in Manitoba and moves to Iceland with another man, she then dies there, and the family finally learns some of the many secrets that have haunted them for two generations.



Cassanova, Mary
The Klipfish Code

Sent with her younger brother to Godøy Island to live with her aunt and grandfather after Germans bomb Norway in 1940, ten-year-old Merit longs to join her parents in the Resistance and when her aunt, a teacher, is taken away two years later, she resents even more the Nazis' presence and her grandfather's refusal to oppose them.



Cullen, Lynn
I am Rembrandt's Daughter

In Amsterdam in the mid-1600s, Cornelia's life as the illegitimate child of renowned painter Rembrandt is marked by plague, poverty, and despair at ever earning her father's love, until she sees hope for a better future in the eyes of a wealthy suitor



Summer Reading 2008

Downham, Jenny **Before I Die**

A terminally ill teenaged girl makes and carries out a list of things to do before she dies.

Mature



the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids. A reimagined, little-known classic fairy tale from the Brothers Grimm, reset on the central Asian steppes.



Feline, Sindy **Touching Snow**

After her stepfather is arrested for child abuse, thirteen-year-old Karina's home life improves but while the severity of her older sister's injuries and the urging of her younger sister,

their uncle, and a friend tempt her to testify against him, her mother and other well-meaning adults persuade her to claim responsibility.

Gallagher, Liz **Opposite of Invisible**

Artistic Seattle high school sophomore Alice decides to emerge from her cocoon and date a football player, which causes a rift between her and her best friend, a boy who wants to be more than just friends.

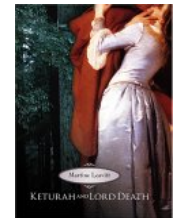


Hale, Shannon **Goose Girl**

On her way to marry a prince she's never met, Princess Anidori is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers

Leavitt, Martine **Keturah and Lord Death**

Sixteen-year-old Keturah is lost and hungry in the forest when she encounters Lord Death, who carries her off as his own. Desperate to live, she makes a deal with Lord Death--if she can find her true love in one day, he must let her go free. Searching her village for a potential husband, overlooking the handsome son of Lord Death, Keturah uses her ability to tell stories to extend her deal from one day to three. While Lord Death finds himself falling in love with her, Keturah treasures each day, knowing her inevitable fate is nearby.



Haddix, Margaret Peterson **Uprising**

In 1927, at the urging of twenty-one-year-old Harriet, Mrs. Livingston reluctantly recalls her experiences at the Triangle Shirtwaist factory, including miserable working conditions that led to a strike, then the fire that took the lives of her two best friends, when Harriet, the boss's daughter, was only five years old.

Hale, Shannon **Book of a Thousand Days**

Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to



Marr, Melissa **Wicked Lovely**

Seventeen-year-old Aislinn, who has the rare ability to see faeries, is drawn against her will into a centuries-old battle between the Summer King and the Winter Queen, and the survival of her life, her love, and summer all hang in the balance.

Meyer, Stephanie **Eclipse**

Bella must choose between her friendship with Jacob and her



Summer Reading 2008

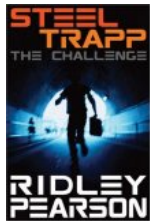
relationship with Edward, but when Seattle is ravaged by a mysterious string of killings, the three of them need to decide whether their personal lives are more important than the well-being of an entire city.



Michaels, Rune **Genesis Alpha**

When Max was a young child, he was diagnosed with cancer, and Josh was conceived in order to give Max his life-saving stem cells. Thirteen years later, the two brothers

stay in touch while Max is at college by playing Genesis Alpha online late at night. Their lives change forever when Max is accused of murdering a girl and goes to jail.



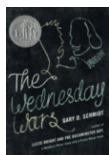
Pearson, Ridley **Steel Trapp**

On a two-day train trip to enter his invention in the National Science Competition in Washington, D.C., fourteen-year-old Steven "Steel" Trapp,

possessor of a remarkable photographic memory, becomes embroiled in an international plot of kidnapping and bribery that may have links to terrorists.

Reinhardt, Dana **How to Build a House**

After Harper Evans' father and stepmother finalize their divorce, Harper is unable to cope with her feelings about her parents' split and the separation from her beloved stepsister Tess. To escape, she enrolls in a volunteer summer program, which takes her from L.A. to a small town in Tennessee, to build a house for a family whose home was destroyed by a tornado.



Schmidt, Gary **Wednesday Wars**

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either

Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

Sitomer, Alan **Homeboyz**

Seventeen-year-old Teddy Anderson, who is known on the streets as T-Bear, decides to seek revenge on the person responsible for his little sister's death, which was caused by a stray bullet from a semiautomatic handgun.



Smith, Roland **Elephant Run**

Nick endures servitude, beatings, and more after his British father's plantation in Burma is invaded by the Japanese in 1941, and when his father and others are taken prisoner and Nick is stranded with his friend Mya, they plan a daring escape on elephants, risking their lives to save Nick's father and Mya's brother from a Japanese prisoner of war camp.



Spinilli, Jerry **Love, Stargirl**

Still moping months after being dumped by her Arizona boyfriend Leo, fifteen-year-old Stargirl, a home-schooled free spirit, writes "the world's longest letter" to Leo, describing her new life in Pennsylvania.



Steads, Rebecca **First Light**

When twelve-year-old Peter and his family arrive in Greenland for his father's research, he stumbles upon a secret his mother has been hiding from him all his life, and begins an adventure he never imagines possible.

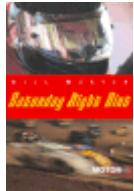


Summer Reading 2008

Weaver, Will

Defect

After spending most of his life in Minnesota foster homes hiding a bizarre physical abnormality, fifteen-year-old David is offered a chance at normalcy, but must decide if giving up what makes him special is the right thing to do.



Weaver, Will

Saturday Night Dirt

In a small town in northern Minnesota, the much-anticipated Saturday night dirt-track race at the old-fashioned, barely viable, Headwaters Speedway becomes, in many ways, an important life-changing event for all the participants on and off the track

Zevin, Gabrielle

Memoirs of a Teenage

Amnesiac

After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life.

