

**HAZEN UNION SCHOOL**  
**Summer Reading List – 2010**  
**Grades 9 – 12**

**Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,**

**Why not set a goal of reading one, two, or more books this summer? The following reading list highlights books of different genres which are extremely popular, with many which should peak your interest!**

**Research shows that continued reading over the summer keeps your skills sharp and makes returning to a regular reading habit in the fall an easier transition. Set some time aside to lose yourself in a book!**

**Many of the books on this list are probably available at your local public library. If you want to come to the Hazen library, call ahead to find out when it will be open. Or, sign out a book or two before you begin your vacation.**

**Here is the link to the annotated Green Mountain book award list.**

**<http://libraries.vermont.gov/sites/libraries/files/cbec/gmbamasterlist10-11.pdf>**

***Happy reading! Judy Henchel, Hazen librarian***

***FICTION***

**Does My Head Look Big in This?** Randa Abdel-Fattah. 2005.

Year eleven at an exclusive prep school in the suburbs of Melbourne, Australia, would be tough enough, but it is further complicated for Amal when she decides to wear the hijab, the Muslim head scarf, full-time as a badge of her faith-without losing her identity or sense of style.

**The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian.** Sherman Alexie. 2007.

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.

**Wintergirls.** Laurie Halse Anderson. 2009.

Eighteen-year-old Lia comes to terms with her best friend's death from anorexia as she struggles with the same disorder.

**Prom.** Laurie Halse Anderson. 2005.

Eighteen-year-old Ash wants nothing to do with the senior prom, but when disaster strikes and her desperate friend, Nat, needs her help to get it back on track, Ash's involvement transforms her life.

**Ask Me No Questions.** Marina Budhos. 2006

Fourteen-year-old Nadira, her sister, and their parents leave Bangladesh for NYC, but the expiration of their visas and the events of 9/11, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family.

**The Boy in the Striped Pajamas.** John Boyne. 2006.

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

**Ender's Game.** Orson Scott Card. 1977 (Book one in a series)

A veteran of years of war games, Ender believes he is engaged in one more computer war game when in truth he is commanding the last fleet of Earth against an alien race seeking the complete destruction of Earth.

**Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close.** Jonathan Safran Foer. 2005

Follows nine-year-old Oskar Schell as he encounters a number of interesting, colorful characters in his search for information about his father, who died in the World Trade Tower on 9/11.

**Uprising.** Margaret Peterson Haddix. 2007

In 1927, at the urging of twenty-one-year-old Harriet, Mrs. Livingston reluctantly recalls 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.

**North of Beautiful.** 2009. Justina Chen Headley.

Terra, a sensitive, artistic high school senior born with a facial, port-wine stain, struggles with issues of inner and outer beauty with the help of her newly found Goth friend Jacob.

**The Outsiders.** S. E. Hinton. 1967.

Rivalry between rich and poor gangs in 1960's Oklahoma leads to the death of three teens and intense soul-searching for one of the youths involved, a sensitive fourteen-year-old named Pony.

**Crank.** Ellen Hopkins. 2004.

Kristina Georgia Snow's life is turned upside down when she visits her absentee father, gets turned on to the drug "crank," becomes addicted, and is lead down a desperate path that threatens her mind, soul and life.

**The Shamer's Daughter.** Lene Kaaberbol. 2000. (Book one in a series)

After her mother, a Shamer, is summoned to Dunark for a mission, young Dina is forced to use her own special powers as she is caught up in an adventure of political intrigue and survival.

**Firestorm** David Klass. 2006 (Book one in a series)

After learning that he has been sent from the future for a special purpose, eighteen-year-old Jack receives help from an unusual dog and a shape-shifting female fighter.

**Ophelia.** Lisa Klein (followed by sequel Lady Macbeth's Daughter)

In a story based on Shakespeare's Hamlet, Ophelia tells the story of her life in the court at Elsinore, her love for Prince Hamlet, and her escape from the violence of Denmark.

**Sleeping Freshman Never Lie.** David Lubar. 2005

While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.

**The Usual Rules.** Joyce Maynard. 2003.

Wendy, a thirteen-year-old who is grieving the loss of her mother in the World Trade Tower, is taken to live with her father in California, where she learns important life lessons from a variety of people before she decides to return to New York and her step-father and step-brother.

**Bloody Jack.** L. A. Meyer. 2002. (Book one in a series)

Reduced to begging and thievery in the streets of London, a thirteen-year-old orphan disguises herself as a boy and connives her way onto a British warship set for high sea adventure in search of pirates.

**Northern Borders.** Howard Frank Mosher. 1994.

Rural Vermont, mid 1900's, and young Austen Kittredge spends the summer with his grandparents on their isolated farm in the NE Kingdom.

**Sunrise Over Fallujah**. Walter Dean Myers. 2008.

Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civil Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.

**Fallen Angels**. Walter Dean Myers. 1988.

Seventeen-year-old Richie Perry, just out of his Harlem high school, enlists in the Army in the summer of 1967 and spends a devastating year on active duty in Vietnam.

**Dairy Queen**. Catherine Gilbert Murdock. 2006. (Book one in series)

After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

**Purple Heart**. Patricia McCormick. 2009.

While recuperating in a Baghdad hospital from a traumatic brain injury sustained during the Iraq War, eighteen-year-old soldier Matt Duffy struggles to recall what happened to him and how it relates to his ten-year-old friend.

**Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment**. James Patterson 2005. (Book one in a series)

After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "bird kids," who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose.

**Life as We Knew It**. Susan Beth Pfeffer. 2006.

Through journal entries, sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

**A Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life**. Dana Reinhardt. 2006.

Simmons's life changes unexpectedly when her parents convince her to make contact with her biological mother, who is extremely ill.

**How to Build a House**. Dana Reinhardt. 2008.

Seventeen-year-old Harper Evans hopes to escape the effects of her father's divorce on her family and friendships by volunteering her summer to build a house in a small Tennessee town devastated by a tornado.

**Night World**. L. J. Smith 1996. (Book one in a series)

Night World is the secret society of vampires, werewolves, witches, and shapeshifters. The three short stories in this volume all revolve around these "beings."

**Frankenstein**. Mary Shelley. 1818 (original)

A man hungry to create life builds a monster which threatens to destroy him.

**Finding Lubchenko**. Michael Simmons. 2005. (Book one in series)

When his father is framed for murder and bioterrorism, high-school junior Evan, using clues from a stolen laptop, travels from Seattle to Paris with two friends to find the real culprit.

**The Thief**. Megan Whalen Turner. 1996. (Book one in series)

Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he attempts to steal a precious ancient gem.

**Black and White.** Paul Volponi. 2005.

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught.

**Falling.** Doug Wilhelm. 2007.

Fifteen-year-old Matt's life has been turned upside-down, first when the brother he idolizes turns to drugs, then when a visit to a chat room leads him to a classmate, Katie, whom he likes very much but cannot trust with his family secret.

### **Nonfiction**

**Babylon's Ark.** Lawrence Anthony. 2007.

The incredible wartime rescue of the Baghdad Zoo.  
1999.

**Friday Night Lights: A Town, a Team, and a Dream.** H. G. Bissinger. 1990.

"More than a sports book, it's a search for the America of ordinary people." Newsday review

**Ana's Story: A Journey of Hope.** Jenna Bush. 2007.

Based on her work with UNICEF and "inspired by the framework of one girl's life, it is also the story of many children around the world who are marginalized and excluded from basic care, support, and education." (Inside book jacket)

**The Other Side of Everest: Climbing the North Face Though the Killer Storm.** Matt Dickinson. 1997.

**An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming.** Al Gore. 2006.

**The Freedom Writers Diary.** The Freedom Writers with Erin Gruwell. 1999.

How a teacher and 150 teens used writing to change themselves and the world around them.

**All Around the Track: Oral Histories of Drivers, Mechanics, Officials, Owners, Journalists, and Others in Motorsports Past and Present.** Anne B. Jones and Rex White. 2007.

**The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind.** William Kambwamba. 2009.

An "inspiring story of a young man in Africa who used the only resources available to him to build a windmill and elevate the lives and spirits of those in his community." (Al Gore)

**From Baghdad, With Love.** A Marine, the Warm, and a Dog Named Lava. Lieutenant Colonel Jay Kopelman. 2006.

An abandoned dog, an attempted rescue, and how "a band of heroes learn unexpected lessons about life, death, and war from a mangy little flea-ridden refugee." (Inside book jacket)

**EAARTH** Bill McKibben. 2010. "With clarity, eloquence, deep knowledge, and even deeper compassion for both planet and people, Bill McKibben guides us to the brink of a new, uncharted era. This monumental book, probably his greatest, may restore your faith in the future, with us in it." (Alan Weisman)

**Dreams from My Father. Barack Obama. 1995.**

The compelling memoir of his background; a father from Kenya and a mother raised in Kansas and transplanted to Hawaii. He discusses his background and upbringing, and its influence on the man he has become and the beliefs he holds dear.

**Fighting Fire.** Caroline Paul. 1998.

"The grip of real fire fighting tensely, tactilely, bruisingly described by a woman honest in examining her own thoughts, too." (Edward Hoagland)

**Father Water, Mother Woods: Essays on Fishing and Hunting in the North Woods.**

Gary Paulsen. 1994.

**Between a Rock and a Hard Place.** Aron Ralston. 2004.

The story of Aron Ralston who, while hiking in the Utah canyons, fell and found his right hand pinned under an immovable boulder.

**Chosen by a Horse.** Susan Richards. 2006.

"How a broken horse fixed a broken heart." A former racehorse finds its way into Susan Richard's life and helps her regain the will to continue living.

**Outcasts United: A Refugee Team, an American Town.** Warren St. John. 2009.

"Clarkston, Georgia became a designated refugee settlement center in the 1990's, home for scores of families in flight from the world's war zones...Set against this backdrop, the story follows a pivotal season in the life of the 'Fugees' soccer team and their charismatic coach, an American-educated Jordanian woman who founded the youth soccer team to unify the refugee children." (Inside book jacket)

**Chasing Che: A Motorcycle Journey in Search of the Guevara Legend.** Patrick Symmes. 2000.