

Camp Read-A-Lot Grades 9-12 Reading List

Reading Requirements:

1. Titles on the Core List
2. Find one additional book to read, post your written review and booktalk at Camp. This title should meet the following criteria:
 - a. You have not read it before this summer.
 - b. Original copyright is no older than 2008.
 - c. It can be used in the classroom or you would recommend it to students for free reading.
 - d. Try to avoid highly popular and that are likely known to the majority of campers.

Fiction

Absolutely Positively Not by David LaRochelle (Scholastic, 2005), 9780439591096.

Steven's a 16-year-old boy with two obsessions: sex and getting his driving license. The problem is, Steven's not thinking girls when he's thinking sex. Could he be -- don't say it -- gay?

Cashay by Margaret McMullan (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2009), 9780547076560.

When 13-year-old Cashay's beloved younger sister is accidentally killed in a drug-related shooting and their mother relapses into drug addiction, this African-American resident of Chicago's notorious Cabrini Green housing projects seethes with resentment and anger. Enter Allison, a white stockbroker who agrees to mentor the teenager.

Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco X. Stork (Scholastic, 2009), 9780545054744.

Marcelo Sandoval hears music no one else can hear--part of the autism-like impairment no doctor has been able to identify--and he's always attended a special school where his differences have been protected. But the summer after his junior year, his father demands that Marcelo work in his law firm's mailroom in order to experience "the real world."

CAMPER'S CHOICE – Read one of the following titles:

Food, Girls, and Other Things I Can't Have by Allen Zadoff (Egmont USA, 2009), 9781606840047.

Andy Zansky is the (second) fattest kid in school and pays dearly for it on a daily basis. Then, out of nowhere, popular football star O. Douglas takes a liking to Andy, who goes out for football and makes the varsity team. Out goes self-deprecating Andy (for the most part), making room for a more confident, funny and likable Andy.

Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher (Penguin, 2007) 9781595151712.

Clay Jensen returns home from school to find a mysterious box containing cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker--his classmate and crush--who committed suicide two weeks earlier. On tape, Hannah explains that there are thirteen reasons why she decided to end her life. Clay is one of them.

CAMPER'S CHOICE – Read one of the following titles:

Liar by Justine Larbalestier (Bloomsbury USA, 2009), 9781599903057.

Micah Wilkins is a self-professed liar is about the only thing you can be sure of in this intense psychological thriller. Is she a hermaphrodite, a werewolf, a murderer?

Winter Girls by Laurie Halse Anderson (Penguin, 2009), 9780670011100.

Lia and Cassie were best friends, wintergirls frozen in matchstick bodies.

But now Cassie is dead. And the voice inside Lia's head keeps telling her to remain in control, stay strong, lose more, weigh less.

Nonfiction

I Can't Keep My Own Secrets: Six-Word Memoirs by Teens Famous and Obscure edited by Larry Smith (HarperCollins, 2009), 9780061726842.

Almost 800 authors, ranging in age from 13 to 19, contributed to this thought-provoking collection of individual memoirs. The full range of teen emotion are explored in very few words, "Mom just revoked my creative license"; "Grandma is dying while I'm out shopping"; "In the nest, twigs are sharp."

CAMPER'S CHOICE – Read one of the following titles:

My Name is Number 4 by Ting-xing Ye (St Martin's Press, 2008), 9780312379872.

The real-life story about the fourth child in a family torn apart by China's Cultural Revolution. After the death of both of her parents, Ting-xing and her siblings endured brutal Red Guard attacks on their schools and even in their home. At the age of sixteen, Ting-xing is exiled to a prison farm far from the world she knows.

Stitches: A Memoir by David Small (Norton, W.W. & Co, 2009), 9780393068573.

Caldecott award winning illustrator David Small tells the decidedly grim story of his own childhood in this graphic-novel memoir. The title derives from throat surgery Small underwent at 14, which left him, for several years, literally voiceless.