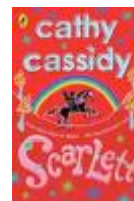


2009
SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS FOR INCOMING 6th GRADERS



Atinsky, Steve. Trophy Kid, or, How I Was Adopted by the Rich and Famous. c2008
 Since his much-publicized adoption at age three by American movie stars, thirteen-year-old Josef's carefully scripted public life has hidden the isolation he feels at home, but writing a book with a ghostwriter reveals much about his adoptive family and the one he lost during the war in Croatia.



Cassidy, Cathy. Scarlett. c2008
 Troubled Scarlet is not the average 12-year-old Londoner, with her black fingernails and dyed ketchup-red hair. When she gets shipped off to her father's cottage in Ireland, she wants to leave until she meets Kian, a boy with rugged good looks, a kind nature, and a horse named Midnight.



Dowd, Siobhan. London Eye Mystery. c2007
 When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.



Flanagan, John. The Ruins of Gorlan. c2005
 When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battle school, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger. **MORE IN THIS SERIES.** (The Ranger's Apprentice.)



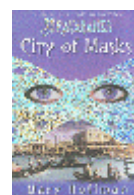
Ford, Michael. Birth of a Warrior. c2008
 When Persians invade Sparta while thirteen-year-old Lysander is training to be a soldier, he finds his loyalties are divided between Spartan honor and the Helot slaves with whom he lived most of his life. **MORE IN THIS SERIES** (Spartan Quest.)



Gipson, Fred. Old Yeller. c1956
 Set in the rugged landscape of early frontier Texas, a tale of love and hardship emerges as fourteen-year-old Travis is faced with taking over his family's farm and making a painful, important decision.



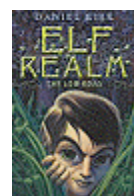
Hesse, Karen. Brooklyn Bridge. c2008
 Fourteen-year-old Joseph Michtom's life takes a dramatic turn when, in 1903 Brooklyn, his parents turn their apartment into a factory for making teddy bears; and Joseph wonders whether he will ever see the glitter of Coney Island.



Hoffman, Mary. Stravaganza, City of Masks. c2005
 While sick in bed with cancer, Lucien begins making journeys to a place in a parallel world that resembles Venice, Italy, and he becomes caught up in the political intrigues surrounding the Duchessa who rules the city.. **MORE IN THIS SERIES**



Hovarth, Polly. My One Hundred Adventures. c2008
 Twelve-year-old Jane, who lives at the beach in a run-down old house with her mother, two brothers, and sister, has an eventful summer accompanying her pastor on Bible deliveries, meeting former boyfriends of her mother's, and being coerced into babysitting for a family of ill-mannered children.



Kirk, Daniel. The Low Road. c2008
 When Matt and his family move to a new development, they stumble into the middle of massive upheaval in the Fairy world, and as the elves' territory disintegrates and dark factions try to seize control, an apprentice mage sees in Matt the key to saving the realms from destruction. **MORE IN THIS SERIES** (Elf Realm)



Konigsburg, E. L. The Mysterious Edge of the Heroic World. c2007
 Amedeo and William find themselves working together on a house sale for Amedeo's eccentric neighbor, Mrs. Zender, whose house is crammed with memorabilia and stories that date back to Nazi Germany.

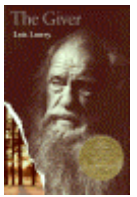


Lasky, Katherine. The Last Girls of Pompeii. c2007

Twelve-year-old Julia knows that her physical deformity will keep her from a normal life, but counts on the continuing friendship of her life-long slave, Mitka, until they learn that both of their futures in first-century Pompeii are about to change for the worse.

Lowry, Lois. The Giver. c1993

Living in a "perfect" world without social ills, a boy approaches the time when he will receive a life assignment from the Elders, but his selection leads him to a mysterious man known as the Giver, who reveals the dark secrets behind the utopian facade.



Newbery, Linda. Catcall. c2008

When eight-year-old Jamie becomes almost possessed by a lion he encountered in a wild animal park, his blended family, especially his cat-loving older brother Josh, struggles to connect with the boy they love.



Riordan, Rick. Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. c2005

Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who joins him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war. (MORE IN THIS SERIES)



Ryan, Pam Muñoz. Esperanza rising. c2000

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.



Springer, Nancy. Dussie. c2007

At age thirteen Dussie makes the horrifying discovery that she, like her New York artist mother, is a Gorgon--a Greek mythological monster sprouting snakes from her head and capable of turning humans into stone with one angry look.



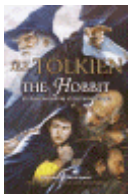
Stevenson, Robert Louis. Treasure Island. c1883

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads to a pirate fortune as well as great danger.



Tolkien, J.R.R. The Hobbit; or There and Back Again. c1937

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, but his contentment is disturbed when the wizard, Gandalf, and a company of dwarves arrive one day to whisk him away to adventure.



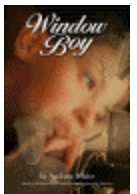
Walden, Mark. H.I.V.E.: Higher Institute of Villianous Education. c2007

Thirteen-year-old orphan Otto Malpense, identified as a boy with a special talent for villainy, is kidnapped and taken to the remote Higher Institute of Villainous Education, or H.I.V.E., where he is enrolled in a six-year training program and immediately begins formulating a plan to escape. (MORE IN THIS SERIES)



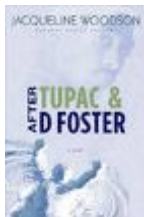
White, Andrea. Window Boy. c2008

After his mother finally convinces the principal of Greenfield Junior High to admit him, twelve-year-old Sam arrives for his first day of school, along with his imaginary friend Winston Churchill, who encourages him to persevere with his cerebral palsy.



Woodson, Jacqueline. After Tupac & D Foster. c2008

Neeka and the narrator have lived on the same block forever and are like sisters, but foster child D shows up during the summer of 1994, while she is out "roaming." D immediately finds a place in the heart of the other girls, and the "Three the Hard Way" bond over their love of Tupac's music.



For additional reading lists, try these websites:

Children's Book Trust (UK) <http://www.booktrustchildrensbooks.org.uk/Home>

New York Public Library recommended books: <http://kids.nypl.org/reading/recommended.cfm>

American Library Association: http://www.ala.org/ala/awards/books_media/index.cfm

Produced by the Mellon Library, The American School in London, Summer 2009