TY Reading List

Book Title Author Description

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| The Help | Kathryn Scott | Current Best seller Black nannies in 60’s America write about the white families they work for, not too heavy an entertaining read. |
| A Star Called Henry | Roddy Doyle | Part of a trilogy set in Ireland before 1916. Some great historical detail, may interest history fans. |
| Circle of Friends | Maeve Binchy | Adolescent friends grow up in 60’s Ireland; their loves and heart breaks. A popular read. |
| A Slipping Down Life | Anne Tyler | A story of love and loss in a small high school in a small town in middle America. An easy read. |
| Wuthering Heights | Emily Bronte | A classic tale of passion and heartbreak in the moors of Yorkshire. |
| To School Through The Fields | Alice Taylor | An enjoyable read about growing up in the countryside in 50’s Ireland, |
| The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night Time | Mark Haddon | A boy with autism sets out on an adventure to discover who killed the neighbour’s dog. Quirky popular story a very enjoyable read. |
| The Girl With The Pearl Earring | Tracy Chevalier | A beautiful historical love story about a servant girl and the famous artist Vermeer. For those who love art and unusual love stories. |
| Water For Elephants | Sarah Gruen | A story of a travelling circus during the great Depression in 1930’s. You may have seen the film by the same name. |
| Sophie’s World | Jostein Gaarder | A teenager discovers philosophy and learns about herself, love and the world, an original read. |
| Lord Of The Rings (a trilogy; you can read one as part of T.Y. reading) or  The Hobbit | J.R. Tolkein | The classic fantasy.  An epic story of a fight against evil domination includes little furry hobbits, lots of magic and mystery and most importantly an all powerful ring. |
| Jane Eyre | Charlotte Bronte | A classic English love story between a lowly but independent nanny and the master of the house. |
| The Road To Memphis | Mildred Taylor | A continuation of the story of Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, Cassie Logan is now a young women . May interest those who studied Roll Of Thunder. |
| The Book Thief | Markus Zusak | A great story, award winning tale of a 15 year old German girl who is a tom boy and who manages to survive many perils in Nazi Germany and learns about friendship, identity and love. |
| Lean On Pete | Willy Vlautin | Recommended to those who like an uplifting story and horses!. 15 year old Charly is the son of a single father and works at a local race track where he befriends Pete one of the horses. |
| Birdsong | Sebastian Faulks | A story of conflict on the battle field and in the heart. May interest history students. |
| Pillars Of The Earth | Ken Follett | Historical novel set in the middle of 12th century in the fictionalised priory of Knightsbridge in England. It traces the development of gothic architecture for those who like art and a thriller! |
| A Thousand Splendid suns | Khaled Hosseini | The story of a women’s fight for dignity and human rights in Taliban controlled Afghanistan, recommended by 6th years. |
| The Alchemist | Paolo Coelho | A fantasy quest for truth and love. |
| I know Why The Caged Bird Sings | Maya Angelo | With a similar setting to To Kill A Mocking Bird and Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, this is an inspirational story of the resilience of black women in the face of racism. |
| The Map Of Love | Ahal Soueif | A love story set in the age of British colonial imperialism and the rise of Egyptian nationalism. |
| Catcher In The Rye | J.D. Salinger | Award winning novel about teenager’s self discovery in 50’s America. |
| I’m Not Scared | Niccolo Ammaniti | A thriller told from a nine year old’s perspective in rural Italy. |
| The Almond Picker | Simonetta Agnello Hornby | A thriller deals with issues of identity; a love story and a social commentary as well. |
| The Speckled People | Hugo Hamilton | A story of a family divided with an Irish father and a German mother, autobiographical memoir. |
| Girls’ Night Out | Carole Matthews (editor) | Collection of short stories about single girls their friendships, their parties and their heart breaks. Funny and an easy read. |
| Twilight Trilogy (you can read one as part of T.Y. reading) | Stephanie Meyer | The popular story of vampires, love and American teenagers made even more popular with the release of recent movies. |
| Angela’s Ashes | Frank McCourt | A story of growing up in poverty stricken Limerick in 1930’s and 40’. Very popular autobiographical book |
| Ender’s Game | Orson Scott Card | A science fiction novel. Set in earth’s future humankind has barely survived two conflicts and now faces a third from an alien race. Recommended by a Transition Year. |
| The Van | Roddy Doyle | A humorous story of a Dublin chip van and those who fry the fish ! For those who like Dublin wit |
| Watermelon | Marian Keyes | A “Chick lit” favourite. At 29 Claire seems to have it all until her husband leaves her the day her first baby is born. Then her adventure truly begins |
| Home Before Night | Hugh Leonard | A funny Dublin tale about the author’s adopted family. |
| Atonement | Ian McEwan | A brilliant story of forbidden love and jealousy during World War 1. Ciara Knightly stars in the film version. |
| The Secret Scripture | Sebastian Barry | A brilliant story set in Dublin, award winning novel. |
| Love and Summer | William Trevor | A great love story for those who like a good plot. |
| The Oxford Book Of Irish Short Stories | William Trevor | A brilliant collection of the best short stories from Ireland. |
| Pompeii | Robert Harris | A gripping mystery set around the eruption of Vesuvius. For those who like a good tale and some history. |
| The Jane Austen Book Club | Karen Joy Fowler | A fun read about a book club and their own interpretation of reading Jane Austen. A light read. |
| Double helix | Werlin Nancy | A thriller involving genetic engineering. A great plot with a bit of science thrown in! |
| Animal Farm | George Orwell | A story which tells of a fictional farm where the animals organize themselves, take over the farm from the cruel farmer and set up a new society. But their ideal world of equality quickly becomes a world where some animals are “more equal than others”. A classic tale of corruption and power. |
| At A Time Like This | Catherine Dunne | A popular “chick lit” author Dunne tells the story of four women who have been friends for 25 years and as they meet up to celebrate their friendship they soon realise they don’t know each other as well as they had thought. |
| Slam  Or  Story Of A Boy | Nick Hornby | A very funny story of a teenage pregnancy told from the perspective of the teenage boyfriend  Or  A story of two boys, one is 38 and never grew up who spends his time avoiding commitment and living a lazy spoilt life. The other an awkward 12 year old who grew up too quickly caring for his depressed mother. The film of the same name stars Hugh Grant. A very funny read |
| No Time For Goodbye | Linwood Barclay | A superb thriller. On an ordinary day a girl’s family go missing without a trace. |
| The Island | Victoria Hislop | Historical fiction that powerfully evokes suffering, love and family relationships set on a Greek leper colony. |
| Mister Pip | Lloyd Jones | An inspiring teacher sets a young boy’s imagination alight. For those who like inspiring stories and a tear jerker |
| The Postmistress | Sarah Blake | The wireless crackles with news of blitzed-out London and of the war that courses through Europe, leaving destruction in its wake. Listening intently on the other side of the Atlantic, newly-wed Emma considers the fragility of her peaceful married life as America edges closer to the brink of war. |
| The Secret Life Of Bees | Sue Monk | Fans of the Help will love Sue Monk Kidd’s Southern coming of age tale. It tells the story Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. |

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| Title | Author | Description |
| Girl, Aloud | Emily Gale | A funny easy read. The story of a girl that had such a proud Dad that he signed her up for X Factor. |
| Artemis Fowl | Eoin Golfer | Fantasy, an easy read. A child criminal mastermind tries to steal gold from the Irish fairies. Who will win? |
| Marked | PC and Kristin Cast | The first in the series of “House of Night” books. A school for young vampires similar to The Vampire Diaries. |
| Skulduggery Pleasant | Derek Landy | Very popular first in the series. The unusual witty story of a powerful detective and wise cracking protector who is already dead! |
| The Young Rebels | Morgan Llywelyn | Historical Fiction. A story based around Padraic Pearse ‘s school St Enda’s and some young students who become revolutionaries. |
| In the Shadow of the Lamp | Susanne Dunlap | Molly Fraser takes the opportunity to go and work with Florence Nightingale on the battlefields . The job is demanding and gruelling. But Molly also falls in love with two men, a handsome doctor and a soldier who has risked all for her. Who will she choose? |
| The Remarkable Life and Times of Eliza Rose | Mary Hooper | Set in London 1670 Eliza has been thrown in to prison for stealing a pastry. She is rescued by a grubby old women called Old Ma Gwyn but she her relief turns to horror when she realises what Old Ma wants her to do. |
| Candour | Pam Bachorz | An easy read. In a small town in Florida everyone wants to be Oscar Bates , he leads the perfect life. But what if his life is surrounded by a huge lie? |
| A Knife of Never Letting Go  ( You may read any one of the Chaos Walking series for you TY Reading) | Patrick Ness | The first in the popular Chaos walking series. A fantasy story that follows the story of the last boy on earth in a world of men. We see his amazement when he enters a world where there are men and women. |
| Savoy | Celia Rees | Set in 16th Century France during the French Revolution this is a tale of highway robbery and spies. |
| City of Bones | Cassandra Clare | One of the Mortal Instrument Series. A story set in a fantasy world of Shadowhunters and other mythical creatures. Clary gets sucked into a world she never even knew existed. |
| A Gathering Light | Jennifer Donnelly | A murder mystery which a sixteen year old decides to solve. |
| Tomorrow When the World Began | John Marsden | An easy read. Ellie Linton and her friends want one last camping trip before school starts. However on returning home they realise something is wrong. It’s deserted! |
| The One Dollar Horse | Lauren St John | The story of a girl and her horse . Adventure. |
| Life of Pi | Yann Martel | Take one sixteen year old boy and cast him away on at sea in a life boat with a lerge ( and sea sick ) Bengal tiger. Imagine the scene 227 days later. |
| My Dad is Ten Years Old. | Mark O Sullivan | Set in contemporary Tipperary this novel tells the story of the devastating effect a father's tragic accident has on the family as seen through the eyes of Enda the teenage daughter. It is a searing study of a family on the verge of disintegration. |
| Star of the Sea | Joseph O’ Connor | Winter 1847during the Famine hundreds of fleeing refugees are aboard a boat to America .People’s lives begin to connect more deeply than they ever thought. |
| Stormbreaker | Antony Horowitz | An easy read. An action packed book about a young boy who becomes a British spy. A teenage James Bond story. |
| The Fault in Our Stars | John Green | A funny, thrilling and tragic story of life, illness and being in love. A heart warming tale of teenager Hazel and her Cancer Support Group. An easy funny read but don’t forget the tissues! |
| Into Thin Air | Jon Krakauer | A breath taking book about the deadliest season in the history of Everest. A thrilling account of an adventure, a terrifying trip to the pinnacle of the world’s highest mountain and the disaster that unfolded. Gripping! |
| My Sister’s Keeper | Jodi Picoult | The story of Anna who refuses to allow her parents use her as a bone marrow donor for her sister Kate even if it will save her sister’s life. A story of growing up, love, loss and families. |
| Strumpet City | James Plunkett | One of the greatest novels about Dublin. This commemorates the 1913 Lockout and was the Dublin City Library choice for One City, One Book 2013. |
| The Storyteller | Jodi Picoult | The story of Sage Singer a young woman, a baker, who is the grand daughter of a Holocaust survivor. |
| Americanah | Chimamanda Nguzi Adichie | A young Nigerian woman moves to the USA. Her experiences are logged in a series of blogs. A love story |
| The Sky is Everywhere | Jandy Nelson | A girl’s sister dies and she wants to kiss her dead sisters boyfriend. A stunning novel about love, grief and laughter. |
| The Colour Purple | Alice Walker | A graphic novel of a young girl’s abuse and her courage to break free. Powerful! |
| The Mountains Echoed | Khaled Hasseini | A shining insight into families torn between nations and generations. Beautifully written. |
| The Cuckoo Calling | Roberth Galbraith | J K Rowling writes under a pseudonym. A superb crime novel. A must for all Potter fans. |
| Ketchup Clouds | Annabel Pitcher | A girl dates 2 brothers. Who will she choose? It’s bound to end in tragedy  ( a popular easy read) |
| My sister lives on the Mantlepiece | Annabel Pitcher | A young boy coping with a drunk, racist dad and a home without a mother. But he finds love in a most unexpected place. |
| The Kite Runner | Khaled Hasseini | A powerful book about 2 young boys growing up in war torn Iraq. A tragic incident leads to a chain of events |
| Boys Don’t Cry | Malorie Blackman | On the day of his A-level results, a teenager gets a big surprise. A baby arrives at his door. And ….. he’s the DAD. |