

READ THIS!



Good readers make good writers and good thinkers. Therefore, in support of the school's commitment to the joy and value of reading, the faculty and staff of the Collegiate High School, with feedback from students, prepares an annual list of recommended books under the title READ THIS! Selections for READ THIS! are generally available for checkout through the STAR or RATS Labs. Books listed may also be used as part of the Academic Seminar Series, Summer Reading Program, and "Reading Across the Genres" classes.

RECOMMENDED SELECTIONS

Use this survey to help you locate a book that might interest you. If you want to know more about a specific book listed here, ask one of the Collegiate High faculty or STAR/RATS Lab staff members for assistance, or check the "Book Talk" section of the CHS Website to see if there is a review or student comments about the book.

If you like planes, space, travel, or flying,

The Right Stuff by Tom Wolfe
On Wings of Eagles by Ken Follett
Rocket Boys: A Memoir by Homer Hickam
West With the Night by Beryl Markham
Flight of Passage by Rinker Buck
Zero 3 Bravo by Mariana Gosnell
Blackhawk Down, by Mark Bowden
Once an Eagle by Anton Myrer

READ THIS!

If you are fascinated by the environment or harbor a love of science or animal life,

READ THIS!

All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot
All things Bright and Beautiful by James Herriot
Silent Spring by Rachel Carson
Watership Down by Richard Adams
Pilgrim at Tinker Creek by Annie Dillard
Born Free: A Lioness of Two Worlds by Joy Adamson
Gift from the Sea by Anne Morrow Lindbergh
A Zoo in My Luggage by Gerald Durrell
My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell
Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded by Simon Winchester
Any titles by John McPhee books (e.g. Encounters with the Archdruid)
Any titles by Stephen J. Gould (e.g. The Flamingo's Smile)

A well-composed book is a magic carpet on which we are wafted to a world that we cannot enter in any other way.
-- Caroline Gordon (1895-1981)

If you liked the movie "I, Robot" or if you like science fiction, or looking at the possible worlds of the future,

READ THIS!

Dune by Frank Herbert
Starship Troopers by Robert Heinlein
Stranger in a Strange Land, by Robert Heinlein
The Illustrated Man by Ray Bradbury
I, Robot by Isaac Asimov
Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card
Out of the Silent Planet by C. S. Lewis
The Host by Stephanie Meyer

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
The Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury

If you like science, computers, technology, or puzzles,

READ THIS!

The Andromeda Strain by Michael Crichton
The Cuckoo's Egg: Tracking a Spy Through the Maze of
Computer Espionage by Clifford Stall
In Code by Sarah Flannery
I Am the Messenger by Markus Zusak
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

Any of the books by Orson Scott Card

If you think you may want to be a teacher,

READ THIS!

Educating Esme: Diary of a Teacher's First Year by Esme Raji Codell
(some strong language)
Up the Down Staircase by Bel Kaufman
The Water is Wide by Pat Conroy
Lucky Jim by Kingsley Amis
Winesburg, Ohio by Sherwood Anderson
Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waugh
Good Bye Mr. Chipps by James Hilton
Christy by Catherine Marshall

The man who does not read good books has no
advantage over the man who can't read them.
--Mark Twain (1835-1910)

If you like the military, adventure, the high seas and
a bit of history,

READ THIS!

On Wings of Eagles by Ken Follett
Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternack
Black Hawk Down: A Story of Modern War by Mark Bowden

The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger
Fields of Fire by James Webb
Killer Angels by Michael Shaara
Bernard Cornwell's Sharpe's Rifles series
The Winds of War by Herman Wouk (some strong content)
Shogun by James Clavell (some strong content)
The Hunt for Red October by Tom Clancy
Red Storm Rising by Tom Clancy
John Adams by David McCullough
Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers
Lone Survivor by Marcus Luttrell

He that loves
Truman by David McCullough
reading has everything
Hiroshima by John Hersey

within his reach.
-William Godwin
(1756-1836)

If you liked Gwyneth Paltrow in the movie "Emma",
or enjoyed the movie "Shakespeare in Love",

Breakfast at Tiffany's by Truman Capote
Wives and Daughters by Elizabeth Gaskell
Cranford by Elizabeth Gaskell
Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte
Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton
The Other Boleyn Girl by Philippa Gregory

Any titles by Jane Austen
Any titles by Nancy Mitford
Any titles by Emily Bronte
Any titles by Charlotte Bronte
Any titles by Jane Austen

READ THIS!

If you like mysteries or a good "whodunit",

And then There Were None by Agatha Christie
Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie
Double Indemnity by James M. Cain
The Big Sleep by Raymond Chandler
Farewell, My Lovely by Raymond Chandler
She Walks These Hills by Sharyn McCrumb
Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier
The Sherlock Holmes Series by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

READ THIS!

The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold
The Woman in White by Wilkie Collins
The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Satterfield
Any of the "Maggoty" or "Claire Malloy" mysteries by Joan Hess
Any of the "alphabet" mysteries by Sue Grafton

If you want to read the same books as honors students nationwide who plan to go on to a university,

READ THIS

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens
The Unvanquished by William Faulkner
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Lord of the Flies by William Golding
The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck
The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
East of Eden by John Steinbeck (some strong content)
The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway

The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway
The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Catch-22 by Joseph Heller
Native Son by Richard Wright
Moby Dick by Herman Melville
Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift
Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert
War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy
Any titles by Thomas Hardy

From your parents you learn love and laughter and how to put one foot before the other. But when books are open you discover that you have wings.

-- Helen Hayes
(1900-1993)

If you like real-life adventure, the outdoors, and a good challenge,

READ THIS

Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer
The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger
The Hungry Ocean by Linda Greenlaw

Kon Tiki: Across the Pacific by Raft by Thor Heyerdahl
God-Forsaken Sea: The True Story of a Race Through the World's Most
Dangerous Waters by Derek Lundy
Talking to the Ground by Douglas Preston
Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer
Any books by Gary Paulsen

If you are interested in the thrill of spies, politics,
elections and the workings of government,

READ THIS!

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (strong content, some
sexual situations)
Patriot Games by Tom Clancy
Advise and Consent by Allen Drury
The Octopus by Frank Norris
In Dubious Battle by John Steinbeck
All the President's Men by Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein
All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren
Tinker, Tailor, Soldier Spy, John LeCarre

If you are interested in the lives of real people and how they have
survived misfortune or struggled to succeed,

READ THIS!

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou (strong content)
Parting the Waters by Taylor Branch
In the time of the Butterflies, by Julia Alvarez (some strong
language and content)
Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West by
Dee Brown
An Hour Before Daylight by Jimmy Carter
Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt
The Color Purple by Alice Walker (some strong language and content)
Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom
Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time
by Greg Mortenson

If you are interested in strong, bright women, who succeed through life's dramas,

READ THIS!

The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
The Woman Warrior by Maxine Kingston
Where the Heart is by Billie Letts
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
Charms for the Easy Life by Kaye Gibbons
Cross Creek by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
The Road from Coorain, by Jill Ker Conway
In the Time of the Butterflies, by Julia Alvarez (some strong

language and content)

My Antonia by Willa Cather
The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls
Out of Africa by Isak Dineson
I Dreamed of Africa by Kuki Gullman (some strong content)
I know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelu (some strong content)

Books may well be the only true magic.
--Alice Hoffman

If you liked the movie "Field of Dreams" or "The Natural", or if you enjoy sports, comedy and a lighter touch,

READ THIS!

Slam by Walter Dean Myers
Eight Men Out by Eliot Asinof
Playing for Keeps by David Halberstam
Tiger: A Biography of Tiger Woods by John Strege
Dave Barry's Complete Guide to Guys by Dave Barry
They Tore Out My Heart and Stomped that Sucker Flat by Lewis

Grizzard

The Thurber Carnival by James Thurber
The Natural, by Bernard Malamud
Shoeless Joe, by W.P. Kinesella
Cheaper by the Dozen by Frank Gilbreth and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey

If you are fascinated by the “southern view” or you liked the movie or the play “To Kill A Mockingbird”

READ THIS!

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
The Grass Harp by Truman Capote
Cold Sassy Tree by Olive Ann Burns
The Ponder Heart by Eudora Welty
A Member of the Wedding by Carson McCullers
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

If you liked the movie “Legends of the Fall” or “Far and Away”, or if a sweeping saga with adventure, family life and a bit of betrayal and history appeals to you,

READ THIS!

Gone With the Wind by Margaret Mitchell
The Winds of War by Herman Wouk
Exodus by Leon Uris
Trinity by Leon Uris
Roots by Alex Haley
The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan
The Wall by John Hersey
Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternack
Giant by Edna Ferber
Hawaii by James Michener
Nightjohn by Gary Paulsen
The Color Purple by Alice Walker
Ragtime by E.L. Doctorow
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolpho Anaya

I've never known
any troubles that
an hour's reading
didn't assuage.

--Charles
De Montesquieu
(1689-1755)

If you like a “thumpin’ good”, quick and easy book,

READ THIS!

Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes
The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
Any titles by Jan Karon
Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson

Holes by Louis Sachar
The Pig Man by Paul Zindel
A Day No Pigs Would Die by Robert Peck
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
The Giver by Lois Lowry
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Anne Brashers

Any titles by Eoin Colfer
Any titles by Anthony Horowitz

If you liked the movie “The Lord of the Rings” or books with an element of fantasy, imagination and maybe even a bit of magic,

READ THIS!

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
Eragon by Christopher Paolini
Watership Down by Richard Adams

A Great and Terrible Beauty by Libba Bray
Turtle Moon by Alice Hoffman
The Once and Future King by T. H. White
The Man Who Would Be King by Rudyard Kipling
The Crystal Cave by Mary Stewart
Gulliver’s Travels by Jonathan Swift
Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

Good books
are the
warehouse
of ideas.
-- H.G. Wells
(1866-1946)

If you’re looking for some contemporary and traditional young adult literature

READ THIS!

Speak by Laurie Anderson
The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
Go Ask Alice, Anonymous
The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier
The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak
The Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger
My Sister’s Keeper by Jodi Picoult
Looking for Alaska by John Green
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer
Any titles by S.E. Hinton
Any Titles by Gary Paulsen