

## Rising 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Confirmation

Directions: Your summer reading requirements are divided into two sections, each described in the following form. This form should be completed, signed by the student and parent, and turned in by the first Friday of the school year.

### Step One

- Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960), by Harper Lee.

### Step Two

- Choose a book from the reading list below and read your selection in its entirety. Please write the title of your selected book and its author:

Title:

Author:

Please choose one of the following options and sign the statement below. Have a parent sign in the space provided.

I completed both steps as described above.

I did not complete both steps as described above. (If you choose this option, you must provide an explanation of what you did and did not complete to receive partial credit. If you do not provide an explanation, you will not receive any participation credit.)

Student Signature:

Date:

Parent Signature:

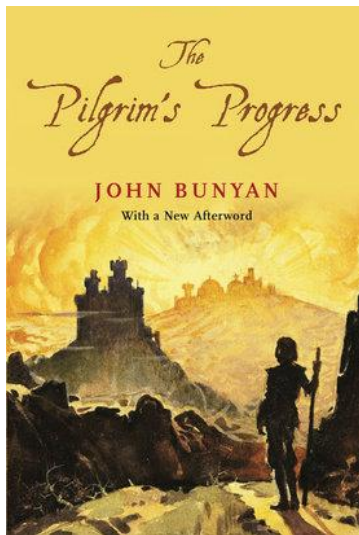
Date:

Summer Reading List  
Trinity Christian Academy  
Rising 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grades

Contents

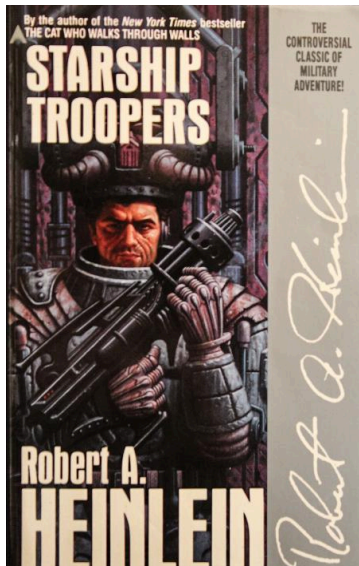
- 11th-12th Fiction: Adventure, Sci Fi, Fantasy
- 11th-12th Fiction: Historical
- 11th-12th Fiction: Realistic
- 11th-12th Nonfiction: Biography
- 11th-12th Nonfiction: History & Theology

# 11th-12th Fiction: Sci Fi and Fantasy



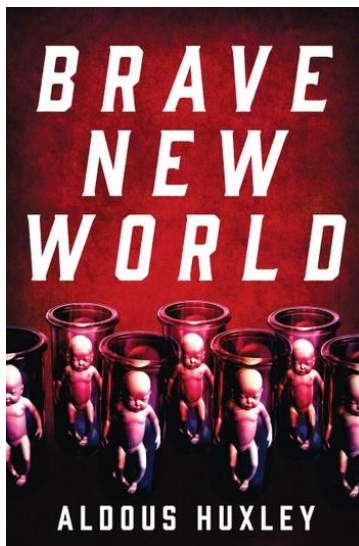
## ***The Pilgrim's Progress* by Bunyan, John**

This famous story of man's progress through life in search of salvation remains one of the most entertaining allegories of faith ever written. Set against realistic backdrops of town and country, the powerful drama of the pilgrim's trials and temptations follows him in his harrowing journey to the Celestial City. Along a road filled with monsters and spiritual terrors, Christian confronts such emblematic characters as Worldly Wiseman, Giant Despair, Talkative, Ignorance, and the demons of the Valley of the Shadow of Death.



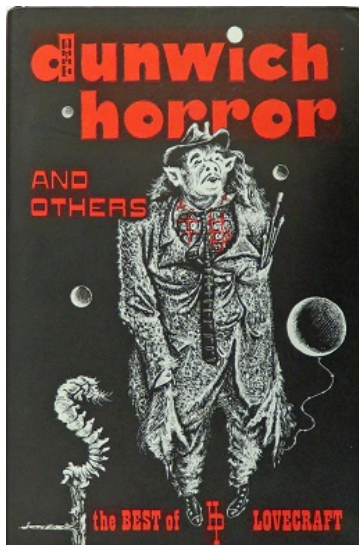
## ***Starship Troopers* by Heinlein, Robert A.**

Johnnie Rico never really intended to join up—and definitely not the infantry. But now that he's in the thick of it, trying to get through combat training harder than anything he could have imagined, he knows everyone in his unit is one bad move away from buying the farm in the interstellar war the Terran Federation is waging against the Arachnids. Because everyone in the Mobile Infantry fights. And if the training doesn't kill you, the Bugs are more than ready to finish the job... More than a gripping war story, this has often been called a philosophical novel, in which Heinlein examines moral and philosophical aspects of suffrage and civic virtue, the necessities of war and capital punishment, and the nature of juvenile delinquency.



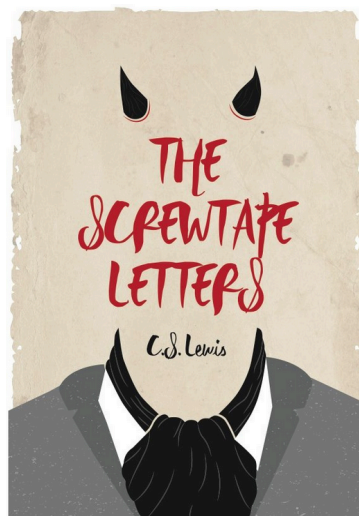
### ***Brave New World* by Huxley, Aldous**

Huxley's dystopian classic is a searching vision of an unequal, technologically-advanced future where humans are genetically bred, socially indoctrinated, and pharmaceutically anesthetized to passively uphold an authoritarian ruling order—all at the cost of our freedom, full humanity, and perhaps also our souls. Written in the shadow of the rise of fascism during the 1930s, the novel likewise speaks to a 21st-century world dominated by mass-entertainment, technology, medicine and pharmaceuticals, the arts of persuasion, and the hidden influence of elites.



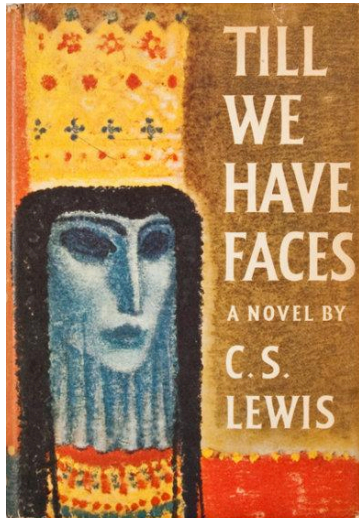
### ***Dunwich Horror and Others* by Lovecraft, H.P.**

Published in 1963, this short story collection contains H.P. Lovecraft's most significant contributions to literary fiction. Many of the tales in this collection were originally written much earlier in the author's career—most of them in the 1920s and 1930s. Although the majority of these pieces were published in “pulp” magazines (i.e., on the “fringes” of mainstream literature), Lovecraft revolutionized both the science-fiction and horror genres in America. This collection includes stories like “Cthulhu,” “Pickman's Model,” “Cool Air,” and others challenge our understanding of reality by unveiling the invisible, often violently oppressive, forces which govern the world. Founding much of what is now known as supernatural horror, Lovecraft constructs new worlds and pushes readers to come to terms with their lack of control therein.



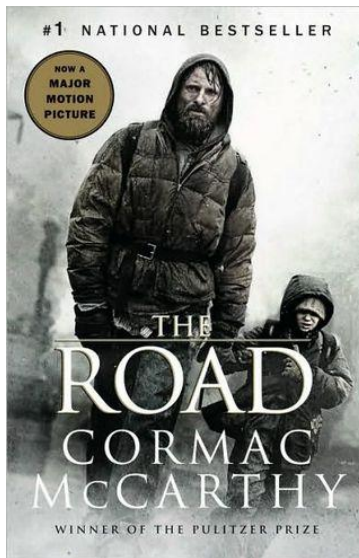
### ***The Screwtape Letters* by Lewis, C. S.**

This masterpiece of satire has entertained and enlightened readers the world over with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to “Our Father Below.” At once wildly comic, deadly serious, and strikingly original, C.S. Lewis gives us the correspondence of the worldly-wise old Devil to his nephew, Wormwood, a novice demon in charge of securing the damnation of an ordinary young man. This is the most engaging account of temptation, and triumph over it, ever written.



### ***Till We Have Faces* by Lewis, C. S.**

In this timeless tale of two mortal princesses—one beautiful and one unattractive—C.S. Lewis reworks the classical myth of Cupid and Psyche into an enduring piece of contemporary fiction. This is the story of Orual, Psyche’s embittered and ugly older sister, who possessively and harmfully loves Psyche. Much to Orual’s frustration, Psyche is loved by Cupid, the god of love himself, setting the troubled Orual on a path of moral development. Set against the backdrop of Glome, a barbaric, pre-Christian world, the struggles between sacred and profane love are illuminated as Orual learns that we cannot understand the intent of the gods “till we have faces” and sincerity in our souls and selves.



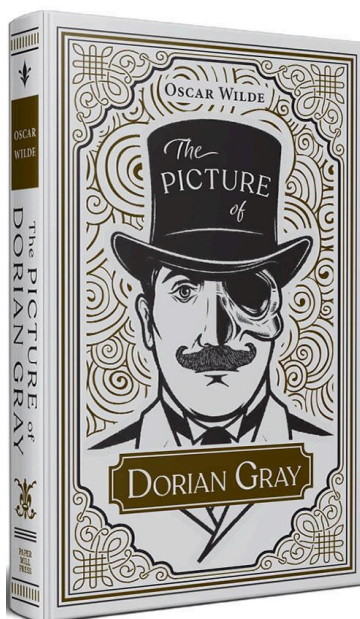
### ***The Road* by McCarthy, Cormac**

A searing, postapocalyptic novel destined to become Cormac McCarthy’s masterpiece. A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones, and when the snow falls it is gray. The sky is dark. Their destination is the coast, although they don’t know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless bands that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food—and each other. The Road is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, “each the other’s world entire,” are sustained by love. Awesome in the totality of its vision, it is an unflinching meditation on the worst and the best that we are capable of: ultimate destructiveness, desperate tenacity, and the tenderness that keeps two people alive in the face of total devastation.



***The War of the Worlds* by Wells, H. G.**

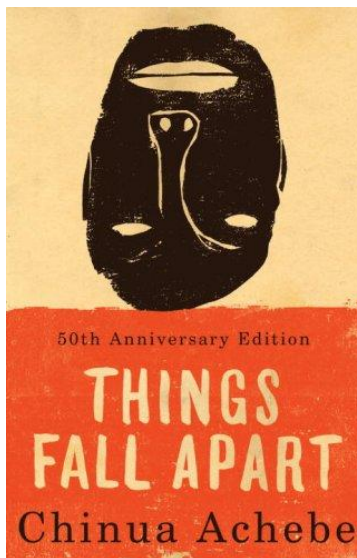
When an army of invading Martians lands in England, panic and terror seize the population. As the aliens traverse the country in huge three-legged machines, incinerating all in their path with a heat ray and spreading noxious toxic gases, the people of the Earth must come to terms with the prospect of the end of human civilization and the beginning of Martian rule.



***The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Wilde, Oscar**

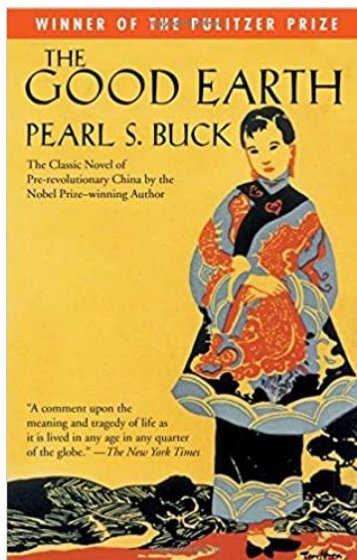
Dorian Gray is the subject of a full-length portrait in oil by Basil Hallward, an artist who is impressed and infatuated by Dorian's beauty; he believes that Dorian's beauty is responsible for the new mode in his art as a painter. Through Basil, Dorian meets Lord Henry Wotton, and he soon is enthralled by the aristocrat's hedonistic worldview: that beauty and sensual fulfilment are the only things worth pursuing in life. Newly understanding that his beauty will fade, Dorian expresses the desire to sell his soul, to ensure that the picture, rather than he, will age and fade. The wish is granted, and Dorian pursues a libertine life of varied and amoral experiences; all the while his portrait ages and records every soul-corrupting sin. Oscar Wilde's only novel takes a witty, philosophical, and harrowing look at our obsession with youth and the price we pay for it.

**11th-12th Fiction: Historical**



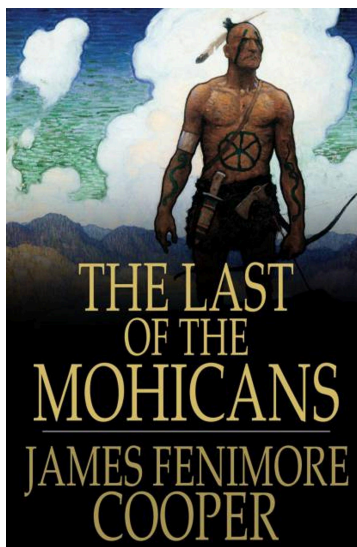
***Things Fall Apart* by Achebe, Chinua**

This is a glimpse into Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it established a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, the novel explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order.



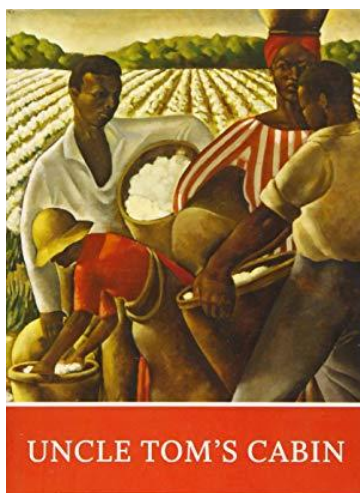
***The Good Earth* by Buck, Pearl S.**

Buck's bestseller tells the poignant tale of a Chinese farmer and his family in old agrarian China. The humble Wang Lung glories in the soil he works, nurturing the land as it nurtures him and his family. Nearby, the nobles of the House of Hwang consider themselves above the land and its workers; but they will soon meet their own downfall. Hard times come upon Wang Lung and his family when flood and drought force them to seek work in the city. The working people riot, breaking into the homes of the rich and forcing them to flee. When Wang Lung shows mercy to one noble and is rewarded, he begins to rise in the world, even as the House of Hwang falls.



***The Last of the Mohicans* by Cooper, James Fenimore**

Deep in the forests of upper New York State, the brave woodsman Hawkeye (Natty Bumppo) and his loyal Mohican friends Chingachgook and Uncas become embroiled in the bloody battles of the French and Indian War. The abduction of the beautiful Munro sisters by hostile savages, the treachery of the renegade brave Magua, the ambush of innocent settlers, and the thrilling events that lead to the final tragic confrontation between rival war parties create an unforgettable, spine-tingling picture of life on the frontier.



### ***Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Stowe, Harriet Beecher**

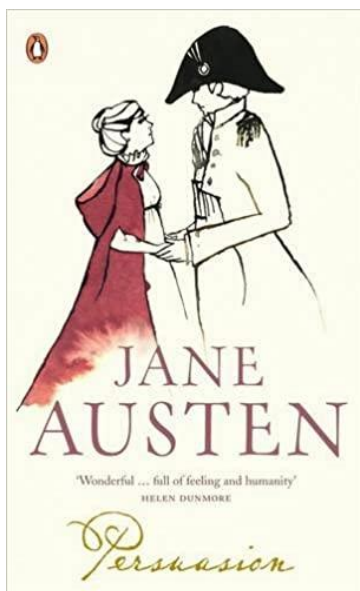
This is the powerful anti-slavery novel that is believed to have sparked the Civil War. Featuring Uncle Tom, a long-suffering black slave around whom the stories of other characters revolve, the novel depicts the reality of slavery while also asserting that Christian love can overcome something as destructive as enslavement of fellow human beings.

## **11th-12th Fiction: Realistic**



### ***Emma* by Austen, Jane**

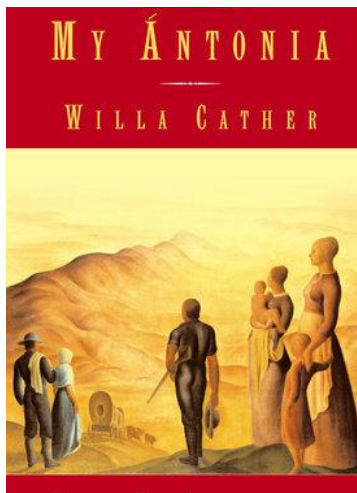
Emma Woodhouse is one of Jane Austen's most captivating and vivid characters. Beautiful, spoiled, vain and irrepressibly witty, Emma organizes the lives of the inhabitants of her sleepy little village and plays matchmaker with devastating effect.



### ***Persuasion* by Austen, Jane**

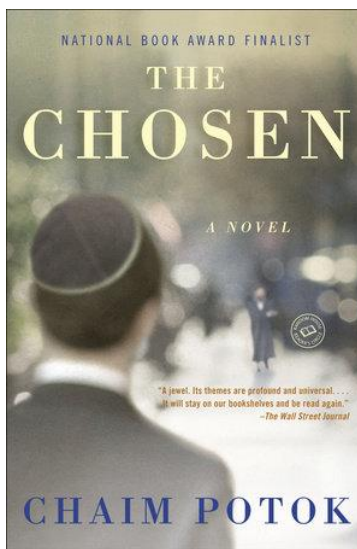
Twenty-seven-year old Anne Elliot is Austen's most adult heroine. Eight years before the story proper begins, she is happily betrothed to a naval officer, Frederick Wentworth, but she precipitously breaks off the engagement when persuaded by her friend Lady Russell that such a match is unworthy. The breakup produces in Anne a deep and long-lasting regret. When later Wentworth returns from sea a rich and successful captain, he finds Anne's family on the brink of financial ruin and his own sister a tenant in Kellynch Hall, the Elliot estate. All the tension of the novel revolves around one question: Will Anne and Wentworth be reunited in their love?





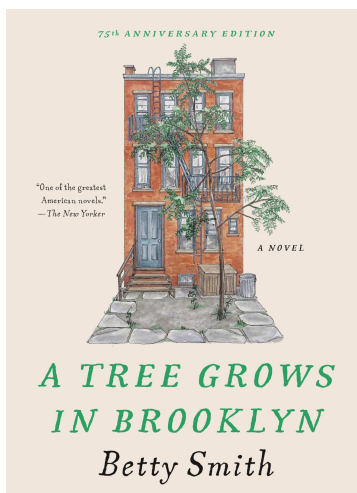
### ***My Ántonia* by Cather, Willa**

Cather tells the frontier-era stories of an orphaned boy from Virginia, Jim Burden, and the elder daughter in a family of Bohemian immigrants, Ántonia Shimerda, who are each brought as children to be pioneers in Nebraska towards the end of the 19th century.



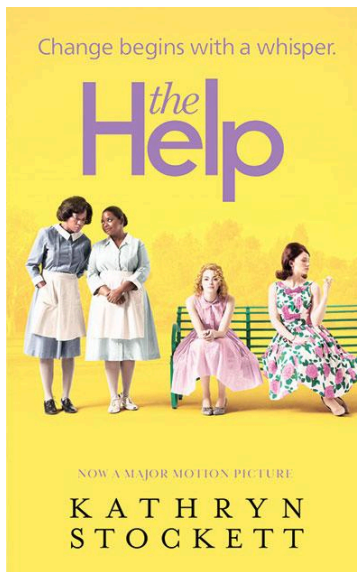
### ***The Chosen* by Potok, Chaim**

A coming-of-age classic about two Jewish boys growing up in Brooklyn in the 1940s. It's the spring of 1944 and fifteen-year-olds Reuven Malter and Danny Saunders have lived five blocks apart all their lives. But they've never met, not until the day an accident during a softball game sparks an unlikely friendship. Soon these two boys—one expected to become a Hasidic rebbe, the other at ease with secular America—are drawn into one another's worlds despite one father's strong opposition. Set against the backdrop of WWII and the creation of the state of Israel, *The Chosen* is a poignant novel about transformation and tradition, growing up and growing wise, and finding yourself—even if that might mean leaving your community.



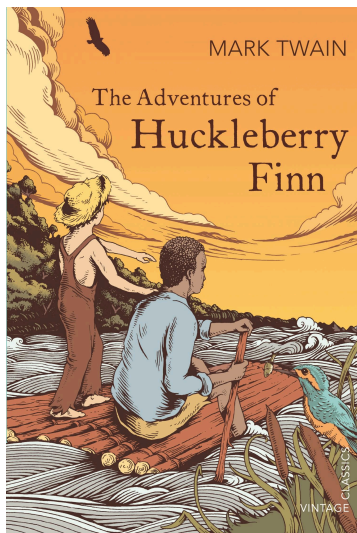
### ***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Smith, Betty**

From the moment she entered the world in the slums of Williamsburg, Francie Nolan needed to be made of stern stuff. Often scorned by neighbors for her family's erratic and eccentric behavior—such as her father Johnny's taste for alcohol and Aunt Sissy's habit of marrying serially without the formality of divorce—no one, least of all Francie, could say that the Nolans' life lacked drama. By turns overwhelming, sublime, heartbreaking, and uplifting, the Nolans' daily experiences are tenderly threaded with family connectedness and raw with honesty.



***The Help* by Stockett, Kathryn**

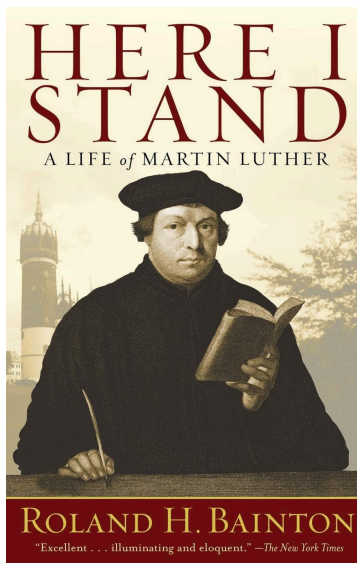
Three very different women in Mississippi during the 1960s build an unlikely friendship around a secret writing project that breaks societal rules and puts them all at risk. From their improbable alliance a remarkable sisterhood emerges, instilling all of them with the courage to transcend the lines that define them, and the realization that sometimes those lines are made to be crossed—even if it means bringing everyone in town face-to-face with the changing times.



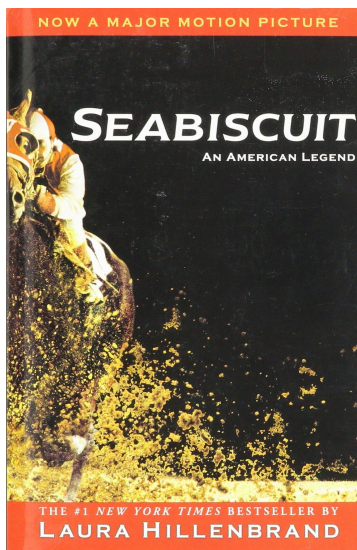
***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Twain, Mark**

Refusing to be civilized by Southern society or cowed by his drunken father's lashings, young Huckleberry Finn decides he has only one option left: fake his own death and hop a raft down the Mississippi River. Instead of carrying him far from trouble, though, Huck's raft delivers him to a place of moral uncertainty. Mark Twain unwinds Huck's harrowing journey to manhood with satirical wit, revealing the troubled history of the American South, where slavery held sway long after the Civil War ended. Huck's relationship with runaway slave Jim forces him to confront his beliefs about friendship and freedom.

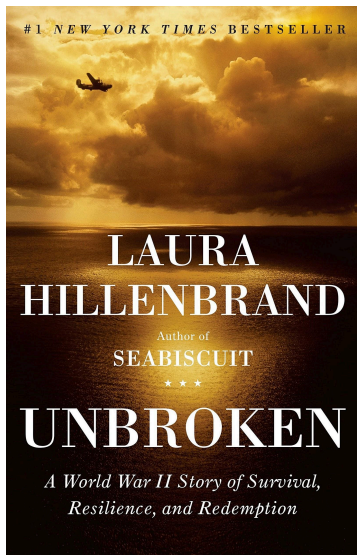
**11th-12th Nonfiction: Biography**



***Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther* by Bainton, Roland**  
Martin Luther shattered the structure of the medieval church, speaking out against corrupt religious practices and igniting the great Reformation. This stunning biography looks at the German religious reformer and his influence on Western civilization.

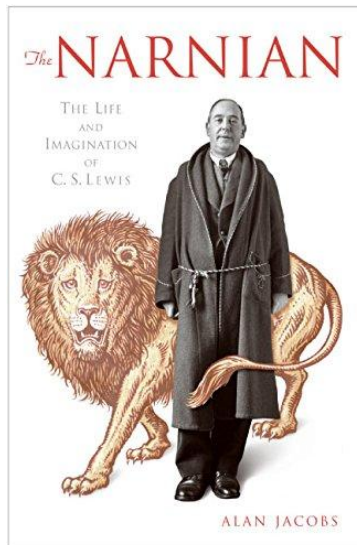


***Seabiscuit: An American Legend* by Hillenbrand, Laura**  
The racehorse Seabiscuit was one of the most electrifying and popular attractions in sports history and the single biggest newsmaker in the world in 1938, receiving more coverage than FDR, Hitler, or Mussolini. But his success was a surprise to the racing establishment, which had written off the crooked-legged racehorse with the sad tail. Three men changed Seabiscuit's fortunes. Charles Howard was a one-time bicycle repairman who introduced the automobile to the western United States and became an overnight millionaire. When he needed a trainer for his new racehorses, he hired Tom Smith, a mysterious mustang breaker from the Colorado plains. Smith urged Howard to buy Seabiscuit for a bargain-basement price, then hired as his jockey Red Pollard, a failed boxer who was blind in one eye, half-crippled, and prone to quoting passages from Ralph Waldo Emerson. Over four years, these unlikely partners survived a phenomenal run of bad fortune, conspiracy, and severe injury to transform Seabiscuit from a neurotic, pathologically indolent also-ran into an American sports icon.



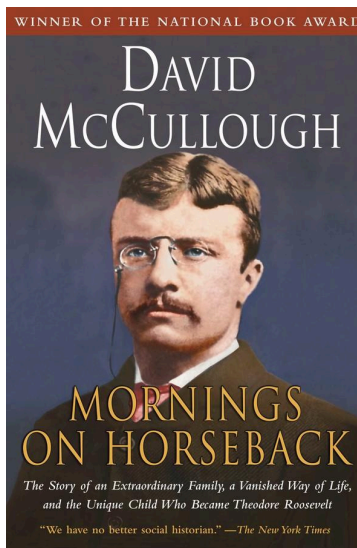
***Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption* by Hillenbrand, Laura**

On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, Louis Zamperini, the plane's bombardier, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. So began one of the most extraordinary odysseys of the Second World War. Ahead of him lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, a foundering raft, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater.



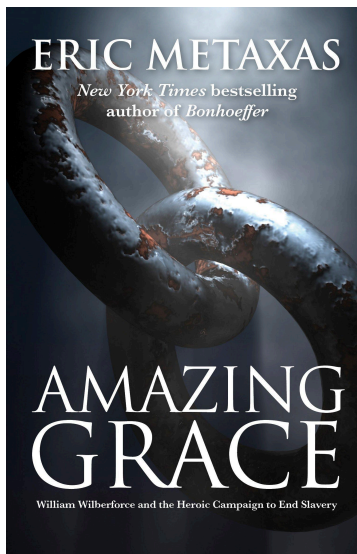
***The Narnian: The Life and Imagination of C.S. Lewis* by Jacobs, Alan**

The White Witch, Aslan, fauns and talking beasts, centaurs and epic battles between good and evil—all these have become a part of our collective imagination through the classic volumes of The Chronicles of Narnia. Over the past half century, children everywhere have escaped into this world and delighted in its wonders and enchantments. Yet what do we know of the man who created Narnia? This biography sheds new light on the making of the original Narnian, C. S. Lewis himself.



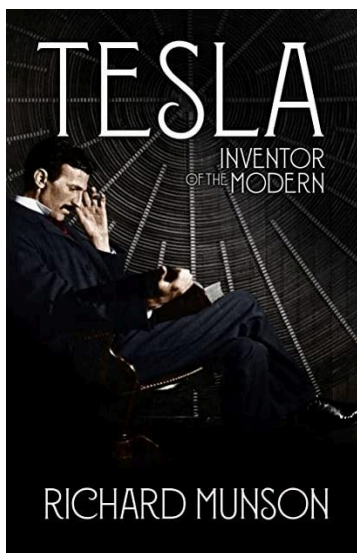
***Mornings on Horseback* by McCullough, David**

This is the story of the young Theodore Roosevelt, a remarkable little boy, seriously handicapped by recurrent and nearly fatal attacks of asthma, and his struggle to manhood: an amazing metamorphosis seen in the context of the very uncommon household in which he was raised. The book spans seventeen years: from 1869 when little “Teedie” is ten, to 1886 when, as a hardened “real life cowboy,” he returns from the West to pick up the pieces of a shattered life and begin anew, a grown man, whole in body and spirit.



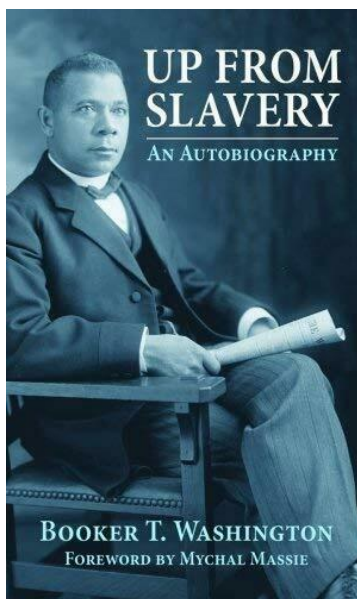
***Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery* by Metaxas, Eric**

This biography tells the remarkable life of the British abolitionist William Wilberforce (1759–1833), in particular his extraordinary role as a human rights activist, cultural reformer, and member of Parliament. At the center of this heroic life was a passionate twenty-year fight to abolish the British slave trade, a battle Wilberforce won in 1807, as well as efforts to abolish slavery itself in the British colonies, a victory achieved just three days before his death in 1833.



***Tesla: Inventor of the Modern* by Munson, Richard**

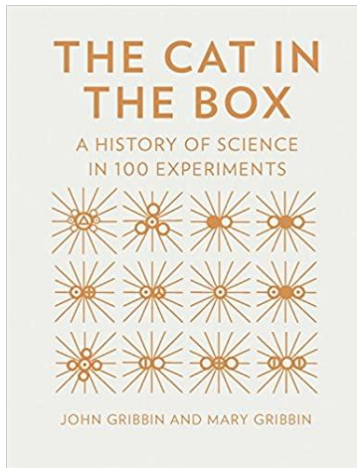
Nikola Tesla invented the radio, robots, and remote control. His electric induction motors run our appliances and factories, yet he has been largely overlooked by history. Richard Munson presents a comprehensive portrait of this farsighted and underappreciated mastermind.



***Up from Slavery* by Washington, Booker T.**

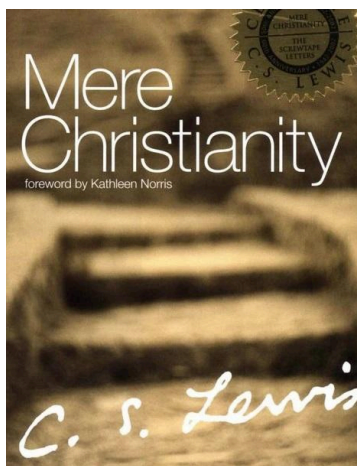
Booker T. Washington, the most recognized national leader, orator and educator, emerged from slavery in the deep South to work for the betterment of African Americans in the post-Reconstruction period. This is his autobiography, revealing his innermost thoughts as he transitions from ex-slave to teacher and founder of one of the most important schools for African Americans in the South, The Tuskegee Industrial Institute.

# 11th-12th Nonfiction: History and Theology



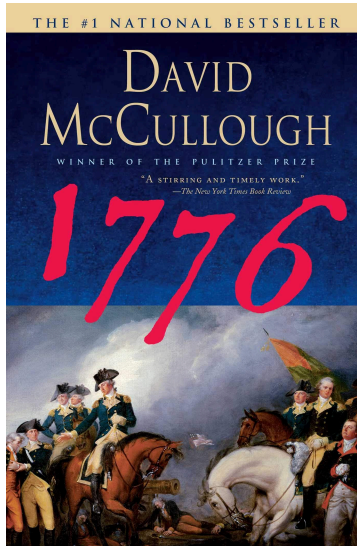
## ***The Cat in the Box: A History of Science in 100 Experiments* by Gribbin, John and Mary**

All science is based on curiosity, hypothesis, experimentation, and analysis. This basic formula has been in place for thousands of years, and has led to some of humankind's greatest achievements. From modern feats like cracking the human genome, to older discoveries like harnessing the power of rivers to power mills, it all leads back to initial kernels of curiosity and testing. Renowned science writing duo, John and Mary Gribbin, retell the enlightening, fascinating, and often oddball stories of scientific innovation through the ages.



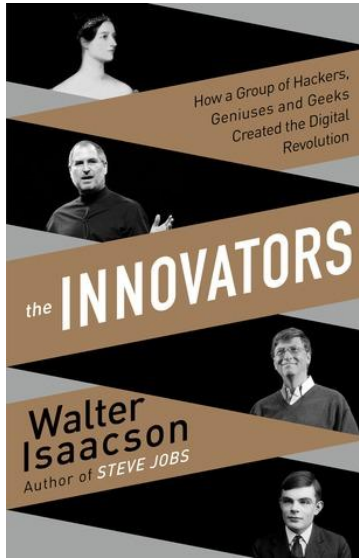
## ***Mere Christianity* by Lewis, C. S.**

This is C. S. Lewis's forceful and accessible doctrine of Christian belief. Rejecting the boundaries that divide Christianity's many denominations, C. S. Lewis finds a common ground on which all those who have Christian faith can stand together, proving that "at the centre of each there is something, or a Someone, who against all divergences of belief, all differences of temperament, all memories of mutual persecution, speaks the same voice."



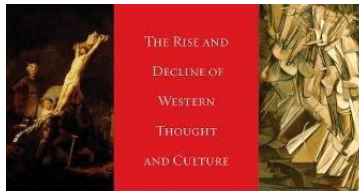
## ***1776* by McCullough, David**

America's beloved and distinguished historian presents, in a book of breathtaking excitement, drama, and narrative force, the stirring story of the year of our nation's birth, 1776, interweaving, on both sides of the Atlantic, the actions and decisions that led Great Britain to undertake a war against her rebellious colonial subjects and that placed America's survival in the hands of George Washington.



***The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers, Geniuses and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution by Isaacson, Walter***

The computer and the internet are among the most important innovations of our era, but few people know who created them. They were not conjured up in a garret or garage by solo inventors suitable to be singled out on magazine covers or put into a pantheon with Edison, Bell, and Morse. Instead, most of the innovations of the digital age were done collaboratively. There were a lot of fascinating people involved, some ingenious and a few even geniuses. This is the story of these pioneers, hackers, inventors, and entrepreneurs—who they were, how their minds worked, and what made them so creative. It's also a narrative of how they collaborated and why their ability to work as teams made them even more creative.



**HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?**

Francis A. Schaeffer

***How Should We Then Live? The Rise and Decline of Western Thought and Culture by Schaeffer, Francis***

Drawing upon forty years of study in theology, philosophy, history, sociology and the arts, Dr. Schaeffer contemplates the reasons for modern society's sorry state of affairs and argues for total affirmation of the Bible's morals, values, and meaning.