

## Rising 9<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 *The Trojan War* (1952), by Olivia Coolidge.

### 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:

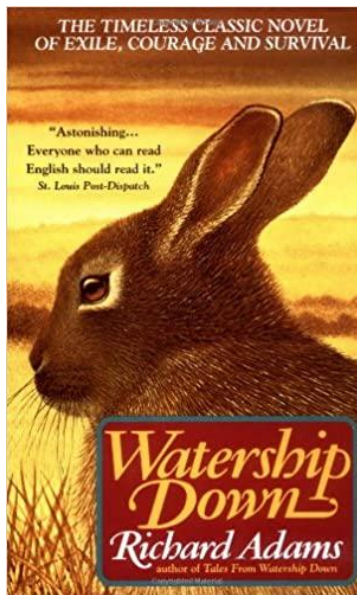
Date:

Summer Reading List  
Trinity Christian Academy  
Rising 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grades

Contents

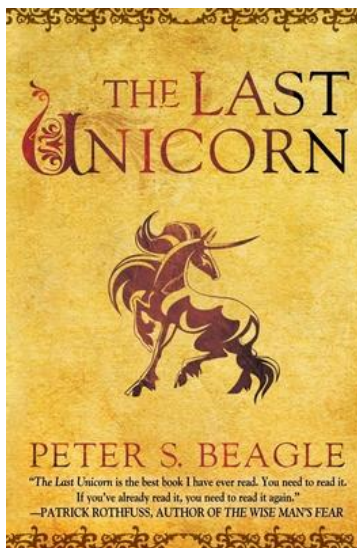
- 9th-10th Fiction: Adventure, Sci Fi, Fantasy
- 9th-10th Fiction: Historical
- 9th-10th Fiction: Realistic
- 9th-10th Nonfiction: Biography

## 9th-10th Fiction: Adventure, Sci Fi, Fantasy



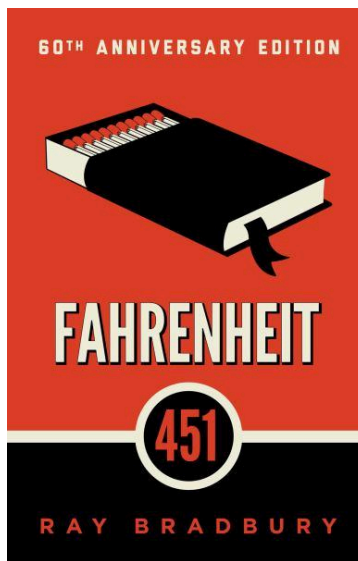
### ***Watership Down* by Adams, Richard**

Set in England's Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale of adventure, courage and survival follows a band of very special creatures on their flight from the intrusion of man and the certain destruction of their home. Led by a stouthearted pair of friends, they journey forth from their native Sandleford Warren through the harrowing trials posed by predators and adversaries, to a mysterious promised land and a more perfect society.



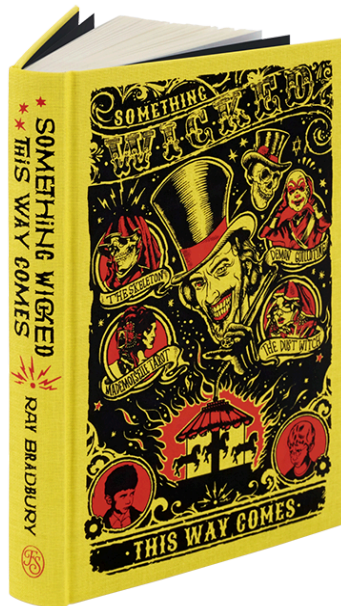
### ***The Last Unicorn* by Beagle, Peter S.**

She was magical, beautiful beyond belief—and completely alone... The unicorn had lived since before memory in a forest where death could touch nothing. Maidens who caught a glimpse of her glory were blessed by enchantment they would never forget. But outside her wondrous realm, dark whispers and rumours carried a message she could not ignore: "Unicorns are gone from the world." Aided by a bumbling magician and an indomitable spinster, she set out to learn the truth. But she feared even her immortal wisdom meant nothing in a world where a mad king's curse and terror incarnate lived only to stalk the last unicorn to her doom...



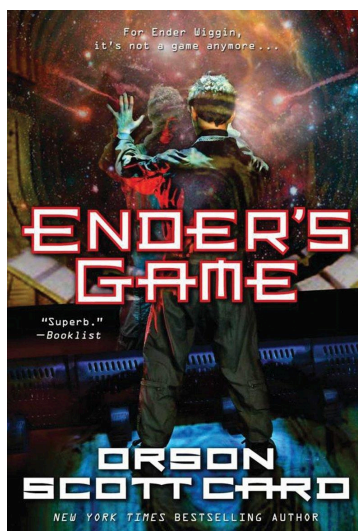
### ***Fahrenheit 451* by Bradbury, Ray**

Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden. One day he meets an eccentric young neighbor, Clarisse, who introduces him to a past where people did not live in fear and to a present where one sees the world through the ideas in books instead of the mindless chatter of television. When Mildred attempts suicide and Clarisse suddenly disappears, Montag begins to question everything he has ever known.



### ***Something Wicked This Way Comes* by Bradbury, Ray**

For those who still dream and remember, for those yet to experience the hypnotic power of its dark poetry, step inside. The show is about to begin. Cooger & Dark's Pandemonium Shadow Show has come to Green Town, Illinois, to destroy every life touched by its strange and sinister mystery. The carnival rolls in sometime after midnight, ushering in Halloween a week early. A calliope's shrill siren song beckons to all with a seductive promise of dreams and youth regained. Two boys will discover the secret of its smoke, mazes, and mirrors; two friends who will soon know all too well the heavy cost of wishes... and the stuff of nightmares.



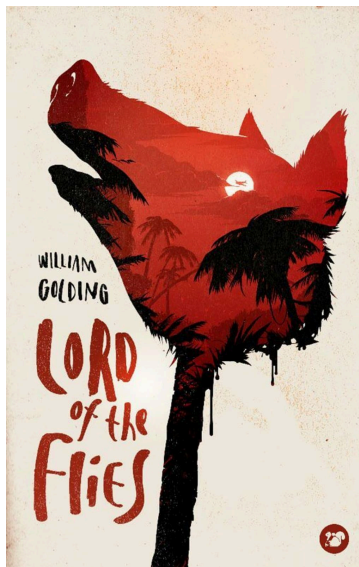
### ***Ender's Game* by Card, Orson Scott**

In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers. Among these is Andrew "Ender" Wiggin. Ender's skills make him a leader in school and respected in the Battle Room, where children play at mock battles in zero gravity. Yet growing up in an artificial community of young soldiers, Ender suffers greatly from isolation, rivalry from his peers, pressure from the adult teachers, and an unsettling fear of the alien invaders. Is Ender the general Earth needs?



***The Hound of the Baskervilles (or any other Sherlock Holmes book by Doyle) by Doyle, Arthur Conan***

Sir Charles Baskerville is dead. His body was discovered on the grounds of his Devonshire estate, face frozen in fright, not far from the footprints of a large beast. The cause of death has been determined to be a heart attack, but family legend tells another tale of the beast with blazing eyes and dripping jaws. Detective Sherlock Holmes is determined to uncover the truth. So whodunit on the foggy moors of Baskerville Hall? In one of literature's greatest original page-turners, the answer is a classic.



***Lord of the Flies by Golding, William***

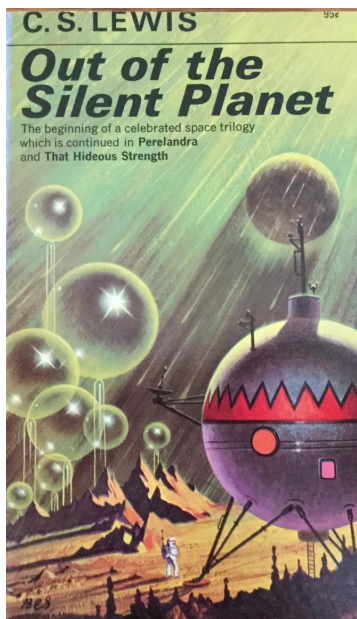
At the dawn of the next world war, a plane crashes on an uncharted island, stranding a group of schoolboys. At first, with no adult supervision, their freedom is something to celebrate; this far from civilization the boys can do anything they want. Anything. They attempt to forge their own society, failing, however, in the face of terror, sin and evil. And as order collapses, as strange howls echo in the night, as terror begins its reign, the hope of adventure seems as far from reality as the hope of being rescued.



***The Princess Bride by Goldman, William***

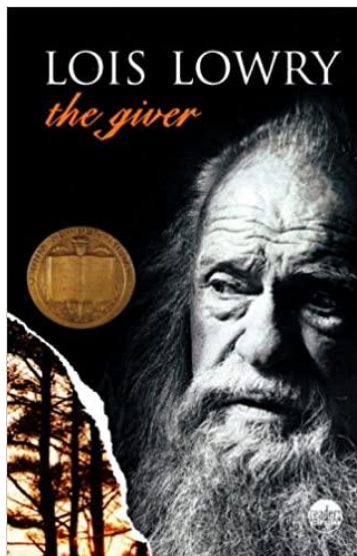
As a boy, William Goldman claims, he loved to hear his father read classic fairy tales. But as a grown-up he discovered that the boring parts were left out of good old Dad's recitation, and only the "good parts" reached his ears. Now Goldman does Dad one better. He's reconstructed the "Good Parts Version" to delight wise kids and wide-eyed grownups everywhere. What's it about? Fencing. Fighting. True Love. Strong Hate. Harsh Revenge. A Few Giants. Lots of Bad Men. Lots of Good Men. Five or Six Beautiful Women. Beasties Monstrous and Gentle. Some Swell Escapes and Captures. Death, Lies, Truth, Miracles, and Romance. In short, it's about everything.





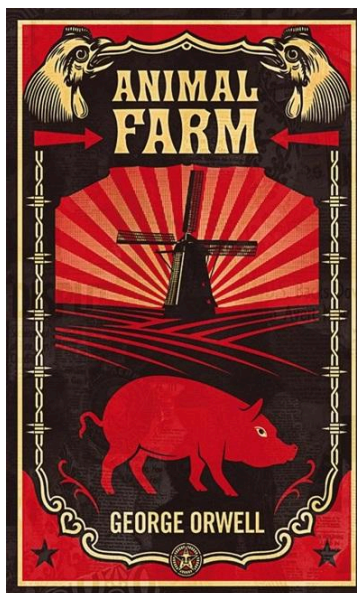
***Out of the Silent Planet, Perelandra, or That Hideous Strength* by Lewis, C. S.**

The Space Trilogy relates the interplanetary travels of Ransom, C.S. Lewis's ill-informed and terrified victim who leaves Earth much against his will and who, in the first book of the trilogy, encounters the imaginary and delightful world of Macalandra. In the second book, Ransom is transported to a world of sweet smells and delicious tastes, a new Garden of Eden in which is enacted, with a difference, the story of Temptation. The final book finds Ransom returned from his travels in space, fighting to save Earth. Lewis believed that popular science was the new mythology of his age, and in The Space Trilogy he makes that mythology the medium of his spiritual imagination.



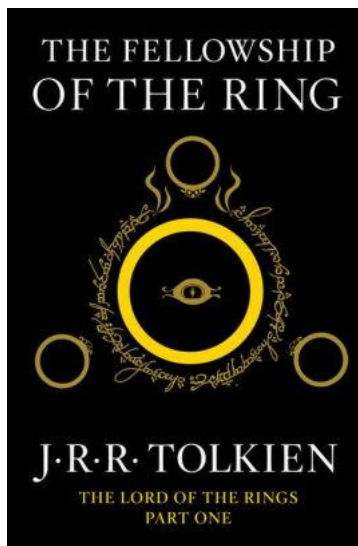
***The Giver* by Lowry, Lois**

Twelve-year-old Jonas lives in a seemingly ideal world. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver does he begin to understand the dark secrets behind this fragile community.



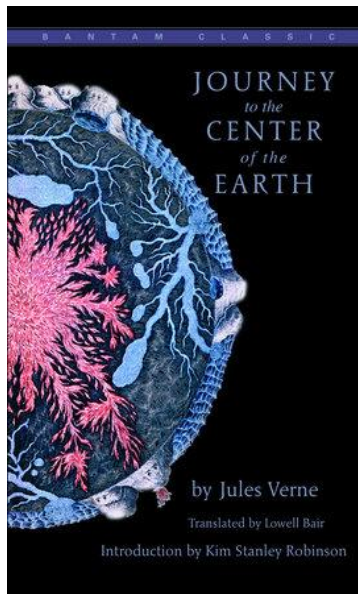
***Animal Farm* by Orwell, George**

A farm is taken over by its overworked, mistreated animals. With flaming idealism and stirring slogans, they set out to create a paradise of progress, justice, and equality. Thus the stage is set for one of the most telling satiric fables ever penned—a razor-edged fairy tale for grown-ups that records the evolution from revolution against tyranny to a totalitarianism just as terrible.



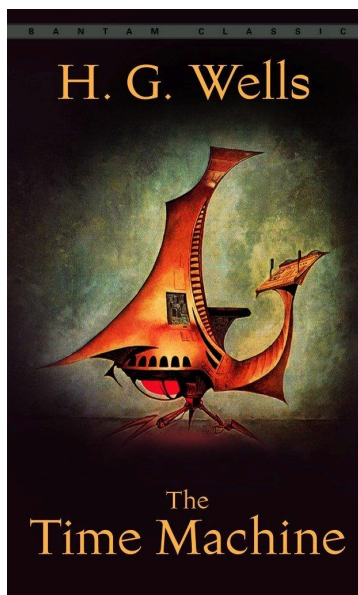
***The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, or The Return of the King* by Tolkien, J. R. R.**

The powerful Ring so sought after by the Dark Lord Sauron is in the unlikelyst of places: in the quiet country of the Shire, in the hands of the hobbit Frodo Baggins. Soon Frodo must undergo a perilous quest across Middle-earth, deep into the shadow of the Dark Lord, to destroy the Ring by casting it into the Cracks of Doom. The Lord of the Rings tells of the great quest undertaken by Frodo and the Fellowship of the Ring: Gandalf the Wizard; the hobbits Merry, Pippin, and Sam; Gimli the Dwarf; Legolas the Elf; Boromir of Gondor; and a tall, mysterious stranger called Strider.



***Journey to the Center of the Earth* by Verne, Jules**

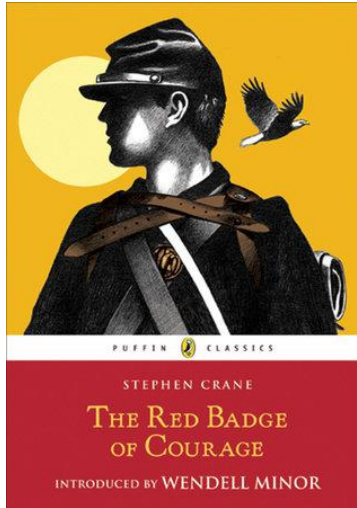
The intrepid Professor Liedenbrock embarks upon the strangest expedition of the nineteenth century: a journey down an extinct Icelandic volcano to the Earth's very core. In his quest to penetrate the planet's primordial secrets, the geologist—together with his quaking nephew Axel and their devoted guide, Hans—discovers an astonishing subterranean menagerie of prehistoric proportions. Verne's imaginative tale is at once the ultimate science fiction adventure and a reflection on the psychology of the questor.



***The Time Machine* by Wells, H. G.**

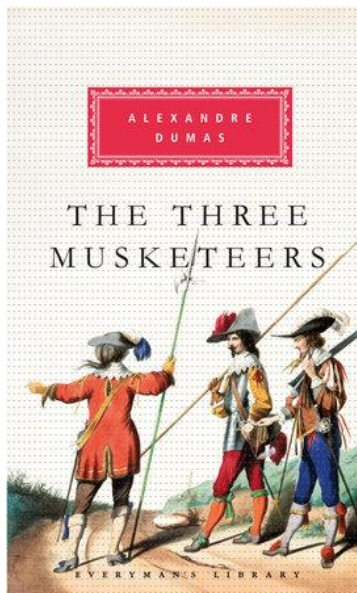
With a speculative leap that still fires the imagination, H. G. Wells sends a brave explorer forward 800,000 years to face a future burdened with our greatest hopes... and our darkest fears. A pull of the Time Machine's lever propels him to the age of a slowly dying Earth. There he discovers two bizarre races—the ethereal Eloi and the subterranean Morlocks—who not only symbolize the duality of human nature, but offer a terrifying portrait of the people of tomorrow as well.

## 9th-10th Fiction: Historical



### ***The Red Badge of Courage* by Crane, Stephen**

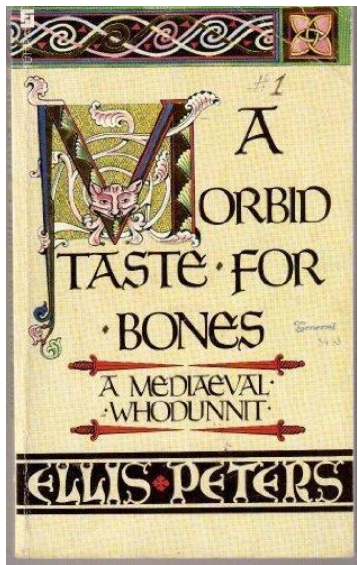
Amid the American Civil War, Henry Fleming has joined the Union army because of his romantic ideas of military life, but soon finds himself in the middle of a battle against a regiment of Confederate soldiers. Terrified, Henry deserts his comrades. Upon returning to his regiment, he struggles with his shame as he tries to redeem himself and prove his courage.



### ***The Three Musketeers* by Dumas, Alexandre**

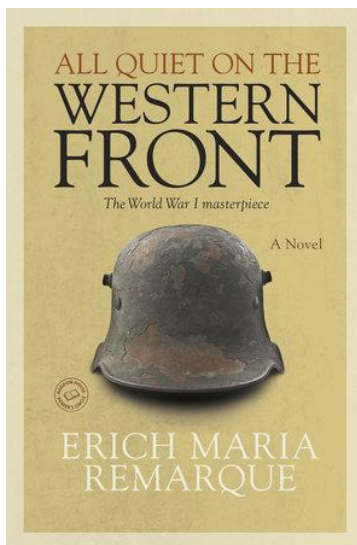
Young nobleman d'Artagnan has arrived in Paris intent on joining the guardians of King Louis XIII. He befriends the regiment's most formidable musketeers, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, and together they unite in their commitment to uphold justice. Soon, a royal indiscretion thrusts them into an audacious escapade of courtly intrigue, thwarted romance, and daring rescue. But it's the Machiavellian schemes of a powerful enemy and the wicked seductions of an ingenious female spy that will be their greatest challenges. Alexandre Dumas's thrilling epic stands as one of the most entertaining historical adventures ever written and has made immortal the all-for-one heroism of these comrades in arms.





***A Morbid Taste for Bones (or any other in the Cadfael Chronicles) by Peters, Ellis***

In the remote Welsh mountain village of Gwytherin lies the grave of Saint Winifred. Now, in 1137, the ambitious head of Shrewsbury Abbey has decided to acquire the sacred remains for his Benedictine order. Native Welshman Brother Cadfael is sent on the expedition to translate and finds the rustic villagers of Gwytherin passionately divided by the Benedictine's offer for the saint's relics. Canny, wise, and all too wordly, he isn't surprised when this taste for bones leads to bloody murder. Brother Cadfael's plan to unearth a murderer may dig up a case of love and justice... where the wages of sin may be scandal or Cadfael's own ruin.



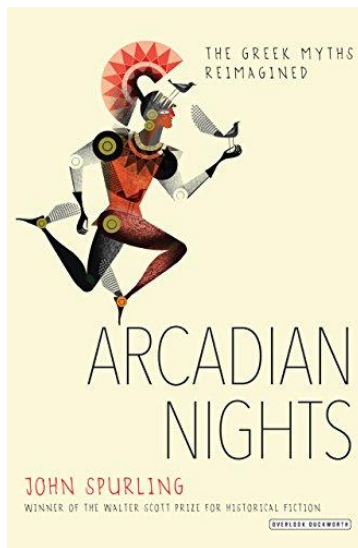
***All Quiet on the Western Front by Remarque, Erich Maria***

In 1914 a room full of German schoolboys, fresh-faced and idealistic, are goaded by their schoolmaster to troop off to the "glorious war." With the fire and patriotism of youth they sign up. What follows is the moving story of a young "unknown soldier" experiencing the horror and disillusionment of life in the trenches.



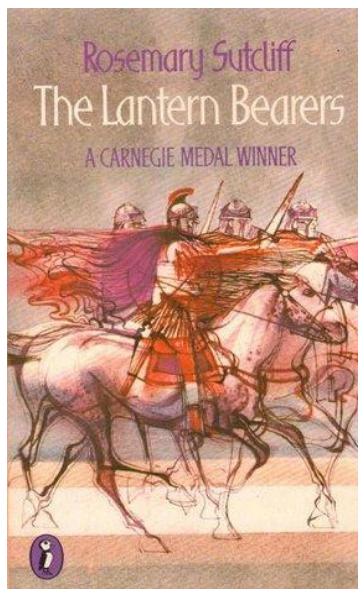
***The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Speare, Elizabeth***

Orphaned Kit Tyler knows, as she gazes for the first time at the cold, bleak shores of Connecticut Colony, that her new home will never be like the shimmering Caribbean island she left behind. In her relatives' stern Puritan community, she feels like a tropical bird that has flown to the wrong part of the world, a bird that is now caged and lonely. The only place where Kit feels completely free is in the meadows, where she enjoys the company of the old Quaker woman known as the Witch of Blackbird Pond. But when Kit's friendship with the "witch" is discovered, Kit is faced with suspicion, fear, and anger. She herself is accused of witchcraft!



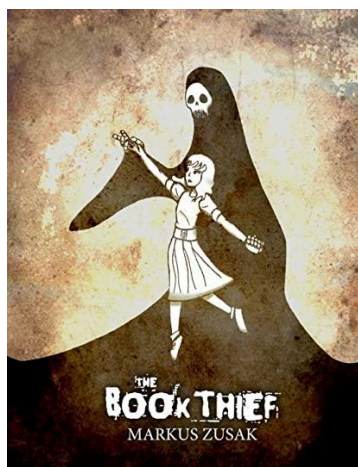
### ***Arcadian Nights: The Greek Myths Reimagined* by Spurling, John**

Here are classic Greek myths reimagined, including tales of the doomed house of Atreus (notably Agamemnon, leader of the Greeks at Troy, murdered by his wife in his palace bathroom); of the god Apollo; goddess Athene; Theseus, scourge of the Minotaur; the Twelve Labors of Heracles; and Perseus, rescuer of Andromeda. In this vibrant, gripping and often grisly retelling of the Greek myths, stories of murder, power, revenge, love, and traumatic family relationships are made new again for our time with wit and relish by a gifted author. Spurling has added scene, dialogue, and context, while always staying true to the spirit of the original myth.



### ***The Lantern Bearers* by Sutcliff, Rosemary**

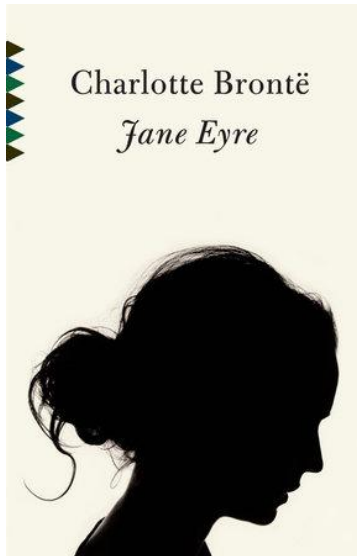
The last of the Roman army have set sail and left Britain for ever, abandoning it to civil war and the threat of a Saxon invasion. Aquila deserts his regiment to return to his family, but his home and all that he loves are destroyed. Years of hardship and fighting follow, fueled by Aquila's thirst for revenge, until he finds a better way to deal with his loss.



### ***The Book Thief* by Zusak, Markus**

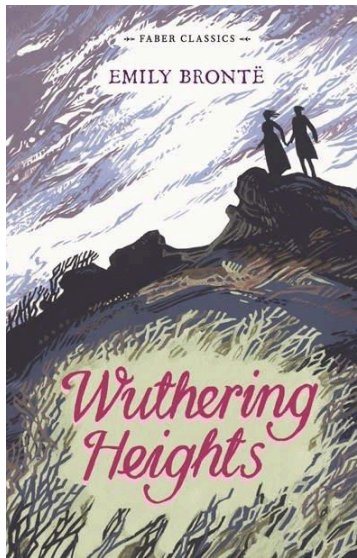
It is 1939 in Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will be busier still. By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up a single object, partially hidden in the snow. It is *The Gravedigger's Handbook*, left behind there by accident, and it is her first act of book thievery. Soon she is stealing books from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library, wherever there are books to be found. But these are dangerous times. When Liesel's foster family hides a Jew in their basement, Liesel's world is both opened up, and closed down.

## 9th-10th Fiction: Realistic



### ***Jane Eyre* by Brontë, Charlotte**

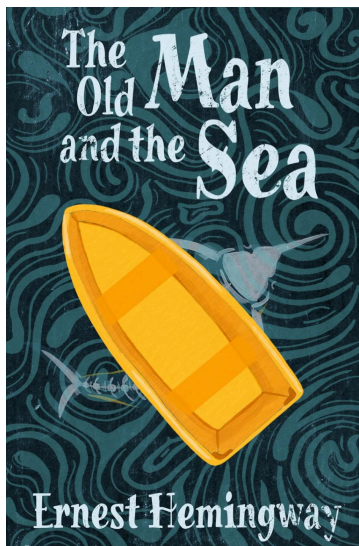
Orphaned as a child, Jane has felt an outcast her whole young life. Her courage is tested once again when she arrives at Thornfield Hall, where she has been hired by the brooding, proud Edward Rochester to care for his ward Adèle. Jane finds herself drawn to his troubled yet kind spirit. She falls in love. Hard. But there is a terrifying secret inside the gloomy, forbidding Thornfield Hall. Is Rochester hiding from Jane? Will Jane be left heartbroken and exiled once again?



### ***Wuthering Heights* by Brontë, Emily**

Raised together on the Yorkshire moors, Heathcliff and Catherine become lovers and soul mates so utterly inseparable that their destiny seems inevitable. But when Catherine's desire for social status results in her marriage to Heathcliff's wealthy rival, Heathcliff is consumed by revenge. And no one in his path will be spared. Admired for its stark originality and condemned for its fiendish affront to the senses, Emily Brontë's novel polarized critics. For generations of readers since, its themes of gender inequality, religious hypocrisy, social climbing, and the violent extremes of romantic obsession resonate to this day.





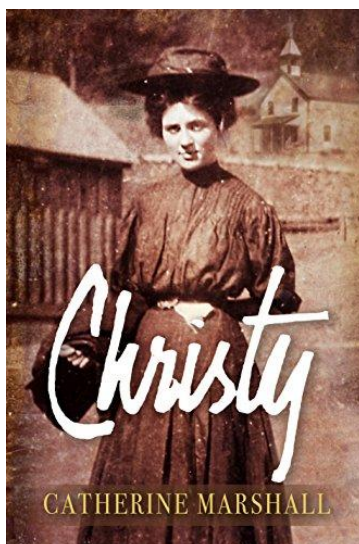
***The Old Man and the Sea* by Hemingway, Ernest**

The last novel Ernest Hemingway saw published, this is the story of an old Cuban fisherman and his supreme ordeal: a relentless, agonizing battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream. Using the simple, powerful language of a fable, Hemingway tells a story of courage in the face of defeat and personal triumph won from loss.



***The Outsiders* by Hinton, S. E.**

Fourteen-year-old Ponyboy Curtis and struggles with right and wrong in a society in which he believes that he is an outsider. According to Ponyboy, there are two kinds of people in the world: greasers and socs. A soc (short for "social") has money, can get away with just about anything, and has an attitude longer than a limousine. A greaser, on the other hand, always lives on the outside and needs to watch his back. Ponyboy is a greaser, and he's always been proud of it, even willing to rumble against a gang of socs for the sake of his fellow greasers—until one terrible night when his friend Johnny kills a soc. The murder gets under Ponyboy's skin, causing his bifurcated world to crumble and teaching him that pain feels the same whether a soc or a greaser.



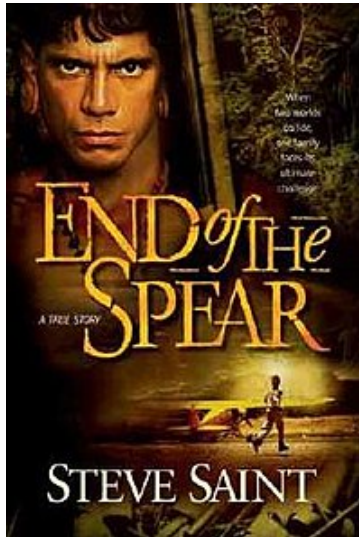
***Christy* by Marshall, Catherine**

The train taking nineteen-year-old teacher Christy Huddleston from her home in Asheville, North Carolina, might as well be transporting her to another world. The Smoky Mountain community of Cutter Gap feels suspended in time, trapped by poverty, superstitions, and century-old traditions. But as Christy struggles to find acceptance in her new home, some see her—and her one-room school—a threat to their way of life. Her faith is challenged and her heart is torn between two strong men with conflicting views about how to care for the families of the Cove. (\*Note: Parental guidance is advised as



*this text contains mature content which may be difficult for readers to navigate— i.e., a scene of recounted sexual violence)*

## **9th-10th Nonfiction: Biography**



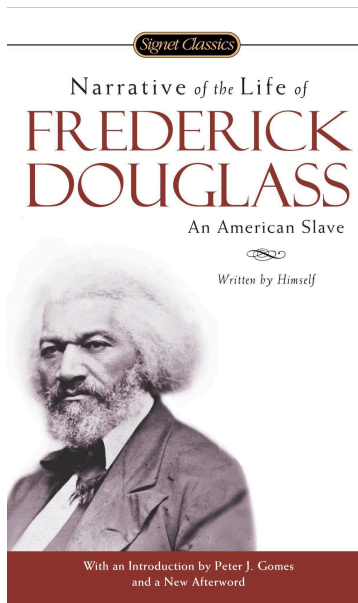
### ***End of the Spear by Saint, Steve***

Written by the son of Nate Saint, a member of the missionary team led by Jim and Elisabeth Elliot to evangelize the Waodani tribe in Ecuador, this biography chronicles the conversion and spiritual maturity of the indigenous peoples first encountered in the mid-1950s. While the text is a raw account of struggle, doubt, and despair, Saint helps readers to see God enduring faithfulness in the lives of those who take the Gospel of Christ to the ends of the earth.



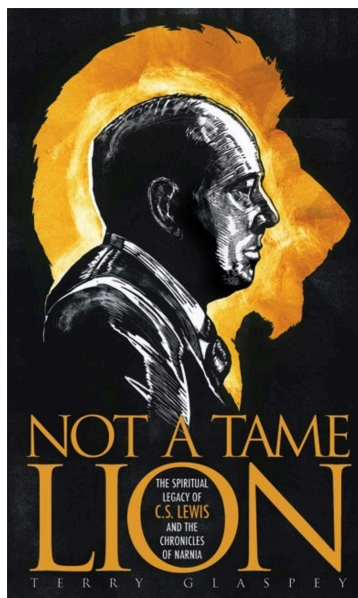
### ***Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina by DePrince, Michaela***

The extraordinary memoir of Michaela DePrince, a young dancer who escaped war-torn Sierra Leone for the rarefied heights of American ballet. Michaela was known as girl Number 27 at the orphanage, where she was abandoned at a young age and tormented as a “devil child” for a skin condition that makes her skin appear spotted. But it was at the orphanage that Michaela would find a picture of a beautiful ballerina en pointe that would help change the course of her life. At the age of four, Michaela was adopted by an American family, who encouraged her love of dancing and enrolled her in classes. She went on to study at the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at the American Ballet Theatre and is currently a member of the Dutch National Ballet’s junior company. In this engaging, moving, and unforgettable memoir, Michaela shares her dramatic journey from an orphan in West Africa to becoming one of ballet’s most exciting rising stars.



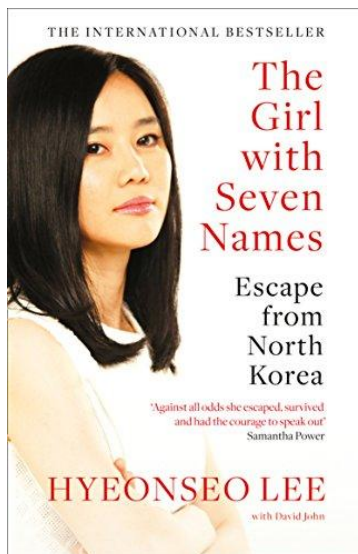
***Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Douglass, Frederick***

Born into a family of slaves, Frederick Douglass educated himself through sheer determination. His unconquered will to triumph over his circumstances makes his one of America's best and most unlikely success stories. Douglass's own account of his journey from slave to one of America's great statesmen, writers, and orators is as fascinating as it is inspiring.



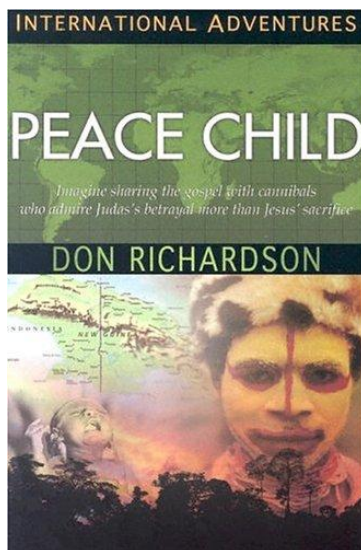
***Not a Tame Lion: The Spiritual Legacy of C. S. Lewis by Glaspey, Terry W.***

As one of the most brilliant, creative minds of the twentieth century, C. S. Lewis crossed all literary, philosophical, and religious boundaries. His masterpieces have been studied by scholars, yet they are read and loved by children. This biography shows that his life was as compelling as his work, and why Lewis's influence continues to our day.



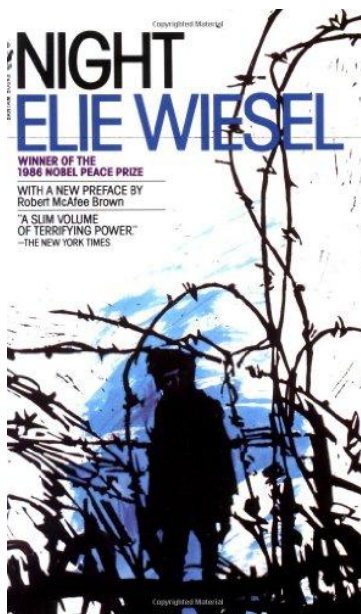
***The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story by Lee, Hyeonseo***

An extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships—and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom.



### ***Peace Child* by Richardson, Don**

In 1962, Don and Carol Richardson risked their lives to share the gospel with the Savi people of New Guinea, headhunting cannibals who valued treachery, fattening victims with friendship before the slaughter. God gave Don and Carol the key to the Savi hearts via a redemptive analogy from their own mythology. The peace child became the secret to unlocking a value system that existed for centuries, possibly millennia.



### ***Night* by Wiesel, Elie**

Born in the town of Sighet, Transylvania, Elie Wiesel was a teenager when he and his family were taken from their home in 1944 to Auschwitz concentration camp, and then to Buchenwald. This book is the terrifying record of Elie Wiesel's memories of the death of his family, the death of his own innocence, and his despair as a deeply observant Jew confronting the absolute evil of man. (*\*Note: Parental guidance is advised as this text contains mature content which may be difficult for readers to navigate– i.e., sexual violence and violence related to the Holocaust*)