

Reading Suggestions From Wapiti Regional Library
Grade 12 Reading List

Title: Accomplice

Author: Corrigan, Eireann

Description: Best friends Finn and Chloe hatch a daring plot to fake Chloe's disappearance from their rural New Jersey town in order to have something compelling to put on their college applications, but unforeseen events complicate matters.

Title: An American Plague: the true and terrifying story of the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1793

Author: Murphy, Jim

Description: It's 1793, and there's an invisible killer roaming the streets of Philadelphia. The city's residents are fleeing in fear. This killer has a name--yellow fever--but everything else about it is a mystery.

Title: Behind Enemy Lines: A Young Pilot's Story

Author: Demallie, Howard R.

Description: Howard DeMallie, a young American pilot, and his crew are forced to bail out of their B-17 airplane over Holland. He is helped by the Dutch underground and imprisoned in a German prisoner of war camp.

Title: Blue Flame

Author: Grant, K. M.

Description: Two 13th-century teens, divided by religion and class, find support from Parsifal, who guards a much-sought religious relic.

Title: Bone Gap

Author: Ruby, Laura

Description: Bone Gap is the story of Roza, a beautiful girl who is taken from a quiet midwestern town and imprisoned by a mysterious man, and Finn, the only witness, who cannot forgive himself for being unable to identify her kidnapper. As we follow them through their melancholy pasts, their terrifying presents, their uncertain futures, acclaimed author Laura Ruby weaves a heartbreaking tale of love and loss, magic and mystery, regret and forgiveness. A story about how the face the world sees is never the sum of who we are.

Title: Bootleg: Murder, Moonshine, and the Lawless Years of Prohibition

Author: Blumenthal, Karen

Description: For more than a decade starting in 1920, millions of regular Americans ignored the law of the land. Parents became bootleggers, kids smuggled illegal alcohol, and outlaws became celebrities. It wasn't supposed to be that way, of course.

Title: Challenger deep

Author: Shusterman, Neal; Shusterman, Brendan (Illustrator)

Description: A captivating novel about mental illness that lingers long beyond the last page. Caden Bosch is on a ship that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench. Caden Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. Caden Bosch is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images. Caden Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head. Caden Bosch is split between his allegiance to the captain and the allure of mutiny. Caden Bosch is torn.

Title: Code Name Verity

Author: Wein, Elizabeth

Description: In 1943, a British fighter plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France and the survivor tells a tale of friendship, war, espionage, and great courage as she relates what she must do to survive while keeping secret all that she can.

Title: Code Talker

Author: Bruchac, Joseph

b After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Title: The Coldest Girl in Coldtown

Author: Black, Holly

Description: When seventeen-year-old Tana wakes up following a party in the aftermath of a violent vampire attack, she travels to Coldtown, a quarantined Massachusetts city full of vampires, with her ex-boyfriend and a mysterious vampire boy in tow.

Title: Darkwater

Author: Fisher, Catherine

Description: Sixteen-year-old Sarah sells her soul to reclaim her family's estate and is given 100 years to atone for their sins, but as the bargain nears its end, modern-day Tom, yearning to attend the private school that Darkwater Hall has become, gets caught up in the bargain.

Title: Dodger

Author: Pratchett, Terry

Description: Seventeen-year-old Dodger performs a rescue that changes his life in this Dickensian adventure novel.

Title: Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir

Author: Engle, Margarita; Rodriguez, Edel (Illustrator)

Description: "In this ... memoir, Margarita Engle, the first Latina woman to receive a Newbery Honor, tells of growing up as a child of two cultures during the Cold War"--Amazon.com.

Title: Everything, Everything

Author: Yoon, Nicola

Description: "The story of a teenage girl who's literally allergic to the outside world. When a new family moves in next door, she begins a complicated romance that challenges everything she's ever known. The narrative unfolds via vignettes, diary entries, texts, charts, lists, illustrations, and more"--Provided by publisher.

Title: The Fault in Our Stars

Author: Green, John

Description: Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life.

Title: Finnikin of the Rock

Author: Marchetta, Melina

Description: Now on the cusp of manhood, Finnikin, who was a child when the royal family of Lumatere was brutally murdered and replaced by an impostor, reluctantly joins forces with an enigmatic young novice and fellow-exile.

Title: The Fortunes of Indigo Skye

Author: Caletti, Deb

Description: Indigo wants to become a full-time waitress after high school graduation, but her life is turned upside down by a large check given to her by a customer who appreciates that she cares enough to scold him about smoking.

Title: Frozen in Time: An Epic Story of Survival and a Modern Quest for Lost Heroes of World War II

Author: Zuckoff, Mitchell

Description: In Nov. 1942 a U.S. cargo plane crashed into the Greenland ice cap, the B-17 sent on the search-and-rescue mission got caught in a storm and also crashed, miraculously all nine men aboard survived. A second rescue operation was launched, but the plane, the Grumman Duck, flew into a storm and vanished. The survivors of the B-17 spent 148 days fighting to stay alive while waiting for rescue by famed explorer Bernt Balchen. Then in 2012 the U.S. Coast Guard and North South Polar mount an expedition to solve the mystery of the vanished plane and recover the remains of the lost plane's crew.

Title: The Glass Castle

Author: Walls, Jeannette

Description: This story is a remarkable memoir of resilience and redemption, and a penetrating look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and uniquely vibrant. When sober, Jeannette's brilliant father captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and how to embrace life fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who hated anything to do with domesticity. The Walls children learned to take care of themselves. They fed, clothed, and protected one another, and eventually found their way to New York. Their parents followed them, choosing to be homeless even as their children prospered.

Title: Glow

Author: Ryan, Amy Kathleen

Description: Part of the first generation to be conceived in deep space, fifteen-year-old Waverly is expected to marry young and have children to populate a new planet, but a violent betrayal by the dogmatic leader of their sister ship could have devastating consequences.

Title: Going Solo

Author: Dahl, Roald

Description: As a young man working in East Africa for the Shell Company, Roald Dahl recounts his adventures living in the jungle and later flying a fighter plane in World War II.

Title: Good Poems

Author: Keillor, Garrison (Author, Editor)

Description: Keillor offers accessible selections for people who say they don't like poetry.

Title: Hostage Three

Author: Lake, Nick

Description: Seventeen-year-old Amy, her father, and her stepmother become hostages when Somalian pirates seize their yacht, but although she builds a bond with one of her captors it becomes brutally clear that the price of life and its value are two very different things.

Title: I Am Malala: how one girl stood up for education and changed the world

Author: Yousafzai, Malala

Description: When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, she almost paid the ultimate price.

Title: In the Shadow of the Lamp

Author: Dunlap, Susanne

Description: It's 1854 and sixteen-year-old Molly would give anything to change her circumstances as a lowly servant in a posh London house. So when she hears of an opportunity to join the nurses who will be traveling with Florence Nightingale to the Crimea, she jumps at the chance.

Title: Incarceron

Author: Fisher, Catherine

Description: To free herself from an upcoming arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of Incarceron, a futuristic prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.

Title: Ink and Bone: The Great Library

Author: Caine, Rachel

Description: Ruthless and supremely powerful, the Great Library is now a presence in every major city, governing the flow of knowledge to the masses. Alchemy allows the Library to deliver the content of the greatest works of history instantly—but the personal ownership of books is expressly forbidden. Jess Brightwell believes in the value of the Library, but the majority of his knowledge comes from illegal books obtained by his family, who are involved in the thriving black market. Jess has been sent to be his family's spy, but his loyalties are tested in the final months of his training to enter the Library's service.

Title: Little People and a Lost World: An Anthropological Mystery

Author: Goldenberg, Linda

Description: Archaeologists discovered a small humanlike skull on Flores Island during a 2003 dig. Was this an ancestor to us all or just a very small human being?

Title: Lost Subs: From the Hunley to the Kursk, the Greatest Submarines Ever Lost--and Found

Author: Dunmore, Spencer; Ballard, Robert D. (Introduction by); Marschall, Ken

Description: Beginning with a history of the first attempts at submarine invention, this book provides a chronological look at some of the best-known submarines and the men responsible for the major innovations.

Title: Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War

Author: Sheinkin, Steve

Description: On June 13, 1971, the front page of the New York Times announced the existence of a 7,000-page collection of documents containing a secret history of the Vietnam War. Known as The Pentagon Papers, these files had been commissioned by Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara. Chronicling every action the government had taken in the Vietnam War, they revealed a pattern of deception spanning over twenty years and four presidencies, and forever changed the relationship between American citizens and the politicians claiming to represent their interests. The investigation that resulted--as well as the attempted government coverups and vilification of the whistleblower--has timely relevance to Edward Snowden's more recent conspiracy leaks.

Title: Payback Time

Author: Deuker, Carl

Description: Overweight, somewhat timid Mitch reluctantly agrees to be the sports reporter for the Lincoln High newspaper because he is determined to be a writer, but he senses a real story in Angel, a talented football player who refuses to stand out on the field--or to discuss his past.

Title: Private Peaceful

Author: Morpurgo, Michael

Description: When Thomas Peaceful's older brother is forced to join the British Army, Thomas decides to sign up as well, although he is only fourteen years old, to prove himself to his country, his family, his childhood love, Molly, and himself.

Title: Revolution

Author: Donnelly, Jennifer

Description: An angry, grieving seventeen-year-old musician facing expulsion from her prestigious Brooklyn private school travels to Paris to complete a school assignment and uncovers a diary written during the French Revolution.

Title: Sabriel

Author: Nix, Garth; Dillon, Leo (Illustrator); Dillon, Diane (Illustrator)

Description: Sabriel, a young mage, must travel into the Old Kingdom in search of her missing father and fight death itself.

Title: Spies of Mississippi: The True Story of the Spy Network That Tried to Destroy the Civil Rights Movement

Author: Bowers, Rick; Henderson, Wade (Foreword by)

Description: In the 1950s and 1960s, the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission compiled secret files on more than 87,000 private citizens in the most extensive state spying program in U.S. history. Its mission: to save segregation.

Title: Steve Jobs: Insanely Great

Author: Hartland, Jessie

Description: Steve Jobs's remarkable life reads like a history of the personal technology industry. He started Apple Computer in his parents' garage and eventually became the tastemaker of a generation, creating products we can't live without. Through it all, he was an overbearing and demanding perfectionist, both impossible and inspiring. Capturing his unparalleled brilliance, as well as his many demons, Jessie Hartland's engaging biography illuminates the meteoric successes, devastating setbacks, and myriad contradictions that make up the extraordinary life and legacy of the insanely great Steve Jobs.

Title: Stolen

Author: Christopher, Lucy

Description: Sixteen-year-old Gemma, a British city-dweller, is abducted while on vacation with her parents and taken to the Australian outback, where she soon realizes that escape attempts are futile, and in time she learns that her captor is not as despicable as she first believed.

Title: Teen Esteem: A Self-direction Manual for Young Adults

Author: Palmer, Pat; Froehner, Melissa A.

Description: Without patronizing or lecturing, Teen Esteem helps teenagers develop the skills needed to handle stress, peer pressure, substance abuse, anger, and more. The third edition includes new material on being different, self-acceptance, cyber-bullying, and coping with depression (in oneself and in others).

Title: Tempest

Author: Cross, Julie

Description: After his girlfriend Holly is fatally shot during a violent struggle, nineteen-year-old Jackson uses his supernatural abilities and travels back in time two years, where he falls in love with Holly all over again, learns

that his father is a spy, and discovers powerful enemies of time who will stop at nothing to recruit him for their own purposes.

Title: Under a Painted Sky

Author: Lee, Stacey

Description: All Samantha wanted was to move back to New York and pursue her music, which was difficult enough being a Chinese girl in Missouri, 1849. Then her fate takes a turn for the worse after a tragic accident leaves her with nothing and she breaks the law in self-defense. With help from Annamae, a runaway slave she met at the scene of her crime, the two flee town for the unknown frontier.

Title: The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B

Author: Toten, Teresa

Description: Adam not only is trying to understand his OCD, while trying to balance his relationship with his divorced parents, but he's also trying to navigate through the issues that teenagers normally face, namely the perils of young love.

Title: The Watch That Ends the Night: Voices from the Titanic

Author: Wolf, Allan

Description: Recreates the 1912 sinking of the Titanic as observed by millionaire John Jacob Astor, a beautiful young Lebanese refugee finding first love, "Unsinkable" Molly Brown, Captain Smith, and others including the iceberg itself.

Title: What Color Is Your Parachute? for Teens: Discovering Yourself, Defining Your Future

Author: Christen, Carol; Bolles, Richard Nelson

Description: A job-hunting manual for teens helps high school and college students zero in on their favorite skills and apply that knowledge to finding their perfect major or job.

Title: When the Emperor Was Divine

Author: Otsuka, Julie

Description: Otsuka researched historical sources and her own grandparents' experiences as background for this spare yet poignant first novel about the ordeal of a Japanese family sent to an internment camp during World War II.

Title: Shooter

Author: Pignat, Caroline

Description: A lockdown catches five grade 12 students by surprise and throws them together in the only unlocked room on that empty third floor wing: the boys' washroom. They sit in silence, judging each other by what they see, by the stories they've heard over the years. Stuck here with *them*--could anything be worse?

Title: The Book of Negroes

Author: Hill, Lawrence

Description: Faces the terrible truth about slavery. Historical fiction winner of the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Overall Book.

Title: The Best Laid Plans

Author: Fallis, Terry

Description: Here's the set up: A burnt-out political aide quits just before an election--but is forced to run a hopeless campaign on the way out. He makes a deal with a crusty old Scot, Angus McLintock--an engineering professor who will do anything, *anything*, to avoid teaching English to engineers--to let his name stand in the election. No need to campaign, certain to lose, and so on. Then a great scandal blows away his opponent, and to

their horror, Angus is elected. He decides to see what good an honest M.P. who doesn't care about being re-elected can do in Parliament. The results are hilarious--and with chess, a hovercraft, and the love of a good woman thrown in, this very funny book has something for everyone.

Title: Generation X

Author: Coupland, Douglas

Description: Andy, Claire, and Dag, each in their twenties, have quit "pointless jobs done grudgingly to little applause" in their respective hometowns and cut themselves adrift on the California desert. In search of the drastic changes that will lend meaning to their lives, they've mired themselves in the detritus of American cultural memory. Refugees from history, the three develop an ascetic regime of story-telling, boozing, and working McJobs--"low-pay, low-prestige, low-benefit, no-future jobs in the service industry." They create modern fables of love and death among the cosmetic surgery parlors and cocktail bars of Palm Springs, disturbingly funny tales of nuclear waste, historical overdosing, and mall culture. A dark snapshot of the trio's highly fortified inner world quickly emerges--landscapes peopled with dead TV shows, "Elvis moments," and semi-disposable Swedish furniture. And from these landscapes, deeper portraits emerge, those of fanatically independent individuals, pathologically ambivalent about the future and brimming with unsatisfied longings for permanence, for love, and for their own home. Andy, Dag, and Claire are underemployed, overeducated, intensely private, and unpredictable. Like the group they mirror, they have nowhere to assuage their fears, and no culture to replace their anomie.