

Summer Reading Suggestions for Parents and Teachers

Adult Books

Crichton, Michael

Timeline

When a group of scientists learns how to travel through time, they enter life in fourteenth-century feudal France and threaten the history of the world.

Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee

Sister of My Heart

Two girls, one the daughter of an upper-caste Calcutta family, the other the daughter of the black sheep of that same family, form a sisterly bond that shatters when one of the girls discovers a dark family secret.

Dubus, Andre III

House of Sand and Fog

Three fragile yet determined people are drawn by their competing desires to the same small house in the California hills and converge on a suspenseful collision course. A National Book Award Finalist.

Kingsolver, Barbara

Small Wonder: Essays

A new set of essays stimulated by the events of Sept 11.

Read a Classic

Stevenson, Dumas, Dickens, Austen, Bronte

Steinbeck, John

Grapes of Wrath

Join all of California in celebrating John Steinbeck's 100th birthday by reading this classic!

Uchida, Yoshiko

Any of her books on life of Japanese/Americans and the camps of World War II.

(Young Adult Books on next page)

YA (Young Adult) Books

Couloumbis, Audrey

Getting Near to Baby

Although thirteen-year-old Willa Jo and her Aunt Patty seem to be constantly at odds, staying with her and Uncle Hob helps Willa Jo and her younger sister come to terms with the death of their family's baby.

Creech, Sharon

The Wanderer

Thirteen-year-old Sophie and her cousin Cody record their transatlantic crossing aboard the Wanderer, a forty-five foot sailboat, which along with uncles and another cousin, is en route to visit their grandfather in England.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark

Dovey Coe

When accused of murder in her North Carolina mountain town in 1928, Dovey Coe, a strong-willed twelve-year-old girl, comes to a new understanding of others, including her deaf brother.

Fleischman, Paul

Mind's Eye

Courtney, age 16, is an orphan with a severed spinal cord. In the adjacent bed in the nursing home is Elva, 88, sustained by her memories of art, literature, and love. In a story written in dialogue, they embark on an imaginary trip to Italy that empowers Courtney.

Hesse, Karen

Witness

The Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate a small Vermont town in the early 1920's. Hear the voices of the inhabitants, including Leonora, a 12-year-old black girl, and Esther, age 6 and Jewish, in a community on the brink of disaster.

Pullman, Philip

His Dark Materials Trilogy

In *The Golden Compass*, *The Subtle Knife*, and *The Amber Spyglass*, Lyra and Will, two young teenagers, are adventurers in a universe parallel to our world where dark forces and dazzling beings threaten destruction and inspire hope.

Rinaldi, Ann

An Acquaintance with Darkness

When her mother dies and her best friend's family is implicated in the assassination of President Lincoln, fourteen-year-old Emily Pigbush must go live with an uncle she suspects of being involved in stealing bodies for medical research.

Ryan, Pam Munoz

Esperanza Rising

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.