

Librarians' Summer Reading List 2009 Adult Titles

Banks, LA et al. ***The Ancestors***. Adult

Summary: Three short stories about the supernatural. Very scary, very elegant.

Barnes, Kim. ***A Country Called Home***. Adult.

Summary: *This is a powerful and beautiful tale of two young idealists who go west in the early Sixties, seeking adventure. Their innocence soon leads to unexpected tragedy. Barnes writes lyrically, and builds the tension in the story wonderfully. Recommended for older teens.*

Conant, Jennet. ***The Irregulars Roald Dahl and the British Spy Ring in Wartime Washington***. Adult

Summary: *Roald Dahl was a spy during WWII! How could I never of heard this story. Dahl worked with Ian Flemming and other notables to get the USA involved in WWII. A great story about a much loved author.*

Davidson, Andrew. ***The Gargoyle***. Adult

Summary: *While recovering from severe burns after a car accident the narrator is waiting for the day when he can go home and commit suicide. Instead he meets a beautiful woman who claims to have known him in a previous life. Beautifully written.*

Gilbert, Elizabeth. ***Eat, Pray, Love***. Adult

Summary: *A tale of one women's year long journey with faith.*

Gladwell, Malcolm. ***Outliers: the story of success***. Adult

Summary: *After reading this very short readable book you'll never look at success the same way. I led a discussion of this book at a professional development day in my district. Everyone loved it and it generated lots of conversation.*

Hannah, Kristin. ***Fire Fly Lane***. Adult


Summary: *Light & airy summer read about two women whose friendship remains constant.*


 Horan, Nancy. ***Loving Frank***. Adult

Summary: *Historical fiction at its best! Through her words, this is the story of Mamah Borthwick and her relationship with Frank Lloyd Wright. Their affair caused a great scandal in Oak Park, Illinois and beyond. We see in her story a woman of great passion and intelligence, fighting a battle to maintain a life with one's soul mate while also keeping the love of her children and the need to conform. A truly exceptional read.*

King, Laurie R. ***The Language of Bees***. Adult (suitable for high school)

Summary: *In this latest installment of her Mary Russell/Sherlock Holmes series, Mary must face her own insecurities as well as the ghosts of Holmes' past. Start the series with *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*. This is the newest in a while in this series and I immediately remembered why I loved the language and voice.*

 - Titles which have also appeared on previous lists.

 - Titles which have had multiple recommendations.

Martin, George R.R. ***The Game of Thrones (series w/ four books +)***. Adult

Summary: Follow the Starks as they try to survive and control the country of Westeros. This series has been picked up by HBO to be aired in the future. It is a fantasy series comprised of 4 novels and counting.

Shaffer, Mary Ann and Annie Barrows. ***The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society***. Adult

Summary: A novel told entirely through correspondence between a young woman writer in 1946 London and the members of a literary society on the island of Guernsey, which had been occupied and isolated by the Nazis for 5 years. A bit of a love story, fascinating historical information, and a full cast of quirky, endearing characters.

Stein, Garth. ***The Art of Racing in the Rain***. Adult.


Summary: A heart-wrenching but deeply funny and ultimately uplifting story of family, love, loyalty, and hope—a captivating look at the wonders and absurdities of human life . . . as only a dog could tell it


Weiner, Eric. ***The Geography of Bliss: One Grump's Search for the Happiest Places in the World***. Adult.

Summary: This made me laugh out loud and great for a book group

  Zusak, Markus. ***The Book Thief***. Young Adult (issued as Adult in New Zealand when originally published)

Summary: Hitler's Germany troubles the lives of a young German girl, her communist mother, who gives the girl up shortly before being arrested, her adoptive German parents, their neighbors, and a young man hidden in their basement. Death is the narrator in this book, and is perplexed but loving in his observations on humanity..

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