

**HVERHILL HIGH SCHOOL
SUMMER READING LIST 2008
Entering Freshman Year**

Listed below are the summer reading selections for students entering Grade 9 at Haverhill High School. Choose at least one book and have it read by the start of the school year. An assignment will be given during the first two weeks of school IN ALL ENGLISH CLASSES and this score will be averaged with your first quarter grade. Books can be found at the Haverhill Public Library or at local bookstores. Note: Students may read a book specifically recommended by the librarian in place of one on the list.

FICTION:

Monster

Walter Dean Myers

"Monster" is what the prosecutor called 16-year-old Steve Harmon for his supposed role in the fatal shooting of a convenience-store owner. But was Steve really the lookout who gave the "all clear" to the murderer, or was he just in the wrong place at the wrong time?

Angus, Thongs and Full Frontal Snogging

Louise Rennison

Fourteen-year-old Georgia Nicolson is just like any other girl her age although she doesn't always see that. She thinks she's ugly, has no boyfriend potential, and believes her parents are a little (or a lot!) on the "naff" side.

Freaky Green Eyes

Joyce Carol Oates

This novel tells the story about a young girl whose life seems to be without any problems. Her father is a very famous football player and her mother is very interested in arts. But during the story the reader learns that being rich is not enough for being happy.

Ironman

Chris Crutcher

Bo Brewster lets his anger get the best of him. He finds himself in Mr. Nak's Anger Management class filled with people who are bullies, future American Gladiators, and people who have problems at home. Bo is training like crazy throughout the school year for Yukon Jack's triathlon. Will Bo crack under the pressure of the race or will he rise to the occasion?

Gathering Blue

Lois Lowry

Gathering Blue is the story of an anti-utopian future society. Kira is a girl who has lost both of her parents. The book opens with her mourning her mother. Because of her deformed leg, Kira is now at risk of being killed herself as she can no longer contribute to her society made primitive after an event called the Ruin.

Parrot In the Oven

Victor Martinez

Monolo Hernandez lives a difficult life. His father is a drug addict and a drunk. His mother cheats on his father, and his father tried to kill her. His brothers are mean to him. He thinks the only way of getting over all of this is by joining a gang, but he doesn't know if he wants to get into that kind of life.

I Heard the Owl Call My Name

Margaret Craven

A quiet, graceful testimonial to a vanishing way of life, *I Heard the Owl Call My Name* tells of a young vicar named Mark, sent to a remote Kwakiutl village not knowing he has less than three years to live.

The Lovely Bones

Alice Sebold

“My name is Susie Salmon, and I was murdered on December 6, 1973.” This riveting line is the beginning of the award-winning book *The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold. Sebold writes this book from the viewpoint of Susie Salmon, who is watching her family from heaven as they try to cope with her murder and go on with their lives.

NON FICTION:

Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho

Jon Katz

This story is about two teenage geeks. The message is about alienation, redemption and assimilation. Our society nurtures only certain "types" while others "types" may provide the keys to the future of our culture.

Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter

Adeline Yen Mah

Adeline Yen Mah's childhood was horrible, and she endured emotional abuse from her stepmother and siblings and neglect from her wealthy banker father. Even though she suffered through extraordinary pain from as far back as she could remember, she still did well in school, excelled in her studies and was popular with her classmates.

The Greatest : Muhammad Ali

Walter Dean Myers

An introduction to Ali's life from his childhood to the present day, focusing on his career and the controversies surrounding him. Both his talent in the boxing ring and his showmanship earned him international fame, while his refusal to accept the stereotypical role of a black athletic star in the 1960s and his membership in the Nation of Islam brought him notoriety.

Tuesdays with Morrie

Mitch Albom

Maybe it was a grandparent, or a teacher, or a colleague. Someone older, patient and wise, who understood you when you were young and searching, helped you see the world as a more profound place, gave you sound advice to help you make your way through it. For Mitch Albom, that person was Morrie Schwartz, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago. He rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college.