

## 12th Grade List of Recommend Reading (list created by librarians Fisher, Frazier, Johnson, Rutledge)

Title	Copyright Date	Author: Last name, First Name	Lexile	Genre	Awards/ Reviewing Agencies	Annotation
12 Things To Do Before You Crash and Burn	2011	Proimos, James	540	Realistic Fiction	Margaret A. Edwards Award	Sixteen-year-old James "Hercules" Martino completes twelve tasks while spending two weeks in Baltimore with his Uncle Anthony, and gains insights into himself, his uncle, and his recently deceased father, a self-help author and daytime talk show host who was beloved by the public but a terrible father.
All The King's Men	1974	Warren, Robert Penn	1130	Political Fiction	Pulitzer Prize	All the King's Men traces the rise and fall of demagogue Willie Stark, a fictional character loosely based on Governor Huey "Kingfish" Long of Louisiana. ( <a href="https://lexile.com/book/details/9780547536842/">https://lexile.com/book/details/9780547536842/</a> )
American Tragedy, An	1925	Dreiser, Theodore	1240	Crime Fiction	Time Magazine's list of the top 100 novels	An American Tragedy, Dreiser's longest novel, has often been hailed as his masterpiece. It is divided into three books, the first of which foreshadows the events of the second, while the third describes Clyde's trial. The protagonist is Clyde Griffiths, the son of street preachers who live in dire poverty. Thus, Clyde grows up longing for material things he can never attain except through his own efforts. ( <a href="http://www.enotes.com/topics/american-tragedy">http://www.enotes.com/topics/american-tragedy</a> )
Beloved	1987	Morrison, Toni	870	novel	Magic realism	Beloved (novel) Beloved is a 1987 novel by the American writer Toni Morrison. Set after the American Civil War (1861–1865), it is inspired by the story of an African American slave, Margaret Garner, who escaped slavery in Kentucky late January 1856 by fleeing to Ohio, a free state. ( <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beloved_(novel)">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beloved_(novel)</a> )
Bluest Eye, The	1970	Morrison, Toni	920	novel	National Book Critics Circle Award for Song of Solomon.	The MacTeers take in a boarder, Henry Washington, and also a young girl named Pecola. Pecola's father has tried to burn down his family's house, and Claudia and Frieda feel sorry for her. Pecola loves Shirley Temple, believing that whiteness is beautiful and that she is ugly. ( <a href="http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/bluesteye/summary.html">http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/bluesteye/summary.html</a> )
Beowulf	2009	Hinds, Gareth	550	Epic heroic poetry	The Whitbread Awards	The poem begins with a brief genealogy of the Danes. Scyld Shefing was the first great king of the Danes, known for his ability to conquer enemies. Scyld becomes the great-grandfather of Hrothgar, the king of the Danes during the events of Beowulf. ( <a href="http://www.gradesaver.com/beowulf/study-guide/summary">http://www.gradesaver.com/beowulf/study-guide/summary</a> )
Blind Side: Evolution of a Game, The	2007	Lewis, Michael	980	Non-fiction	<u>Alex Award</u>	Our protagonist becomes the priceless package of size, speed, and agility necessary to guard the quarterback's greatest vulnerability: his blind side. ( <a href="http://books.wwnorton.com/books/the-blind-side/">http://books.wwnorton.com/books/the-blind-side/</a> )
Canterbury Tales, The	1478	Chaucer, Geoffrey	1310	Anthology	1998 National Book Award finalist	General Prologue. At the Tabard Inn, a tavern in Southwark, near London, the narrator joins a company of twenty-nine pilgrims. The pilgrims, like the narrator, are traveling to the shrine of the martyr Saint Thomas Becket in Canterbury. ( <a href="http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/canterbury/summary.html">http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/canterbury/summary.html</a> )
Crucible, The	1953	Miller, Arthur	1210	Tragedy	<u>Arthur Miller Awards</u>	The Crucible Summary. In the Puritan town of Salem, Massachusetts in 1692, the town minister, Reverend Parris, discovers his daughter Betty, niece Abigail, and other girls dancing in the forest with his slave Tituba. Betty faints in fright at being discovered, and will not wake. ( <a href="http://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-crucible/summary">http://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-crucible/summary</a> )

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Dreams By My Father	1995	Obama, Barack	1000	Memoir	Grammy Award for Best Spoken Word	Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance is a memoir by Barack Obama, who would later be elected U.S. President, that chronicles the events of his early years up until his entry into law school in 1988. ( <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dreams_from_My_Father">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dreams_from_My_Father</a> )
For Whom The Bell Tolls	1940	Hemingway, Ernest	840	War novel	Pulitzer Prize	<u>It tells the story of Robert Jordan, a young American in the International Brigades attached to a republican guerrilla unit during the Spanish Civil War.</u> ( <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/For_Whom_the_Bell_Tolls">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/For_Whom_the_Bell_Tolls</a> )
Glass Menagerie, The	1945	Williams, Tennessee	1350	Family Drama; Tr	Tony Award	Few plays have explored the byways of the human heart as poignantly and poetically as Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie." In this touching audio, we meet the embattled Wingfield family: Amanda--faded southern belle, abandoned wife, dominating mother, who hopes to match her daughter with an eligible "gentleman caller;" Laura--lame and painfully shy, she evades her mother's schemes and reality by retreating to a world of make-believe; Tom--sole support of the family, he eventually leaves home to become a writer but is forever haunted by the memory of Laura. Also included on this audio are priceless recordings of Tennessee Williams bringing his own interpretations to the wistful opening monologue and the tragic ending, as well as to his own brilliantly charming poetry and his uproariously wicked short story, "The Yellow Bird." ( <a href="https://lexile.com/book/details/9780451166364/">https://lexile.com/book/details/9780451166364/</a> )
Going Underground	2011	Vaught, Susan	870	Punk	Indiana High School Book Award	A valuable look at the downside of prosecutorial discretion and its impact on teens, but Del's privileged background and saintly character won't reflect many readers' experiences. ( <a href="https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/susan-vaught/going-underground/">https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/susan-vaught/going-underground/</a> )
Iliad, The		Homer	1330			
Joy Luck Club, The	2008	Tan, Amy	930	Fiction Family Drama	ALA/YALSA Best Book For Young Adults New York Times Book Review	Chronicles the lives of four Chinese women, their 40 year friendship and how the death of one brings her daughter into the fold and a new understanding for each. Barnes & Nobles
Jungle, The	1902	Sinclair, Upton	1170	Political Fiction	NP	Upton Sinclair's The Jungle is a vivid portrait of life and death in a turn-of-the-century American meat-packing factory. A grim indictment that led to government regulations of the food industry, The Jungle is Sinclair's extraordinary contribution to literature and social reform. ( <a href="https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Jungle.html?id=spfUtgAACAAJ">https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Jungle.html?id=spfUtgAACAAJ</a> )
Macbeth	1860	William Shakespeare	780	Tragedy	BAFTA	Beguiled by the prophesies of the "weird sisters," and urged on by his v
Nightingale, The	1960	Kristin Hannah	600	Novel	Goodread Choice Award	Reunited when the elder's husband is sent to fight in World War II, Fre
Othello	2015	William Shakespeare	700	Tragedy	Goodread Choice Award	One of the most often staged of all of Shakespeare's plays, this is a tale

