**9th/10th Non-Fiction Reading List**

***Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl.*  Anne Frank** (FRANK) The classic text of the diary Anne Frank kept during the two years she and her family hid from the Nazis in an Amsterdam attic is a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.

***Art of Racing in the Rain.* Garth Stein** (813.54 STE)

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.

***The Autobiography of Malcolm X.* Malcolm X** (MALCOLM) If there was any one man who articulated the anger, the struggle, and the beliefs of African Americans in the 1960s, that man was Malxolm X.

***Bad Boy: A Memoir.* Walter Dean Myers** (MYERS) - Author Walter Dean Myers describes his childhood in Harlem in the 1940s and 1950s, discussing his loving stepmother, his problems in school, his reasons for leaving home, and his beginnings as a writer.

***Behind the Beautiful Forevers.* Katherine Boo**

(305.5 BOO) The dramatic and sometimes heartbreaking story of families striving toward a better life in one of the 21st century's great, unequal cities in India.

***The Blind Side.*****Michael Lewis** (796.3 LEW) The inspirational story of Michael Oher, a homeless black teen taken under the wing of the Touhys, a wealthy white Memphis family. Oher’s size and speed on the football field bring him accolades. But learning the game’s strategy and making it as a student take the help of his new family, coaches, and tutor.

***Bomb.* Steve Sheinkin** (623.4 SHE) In late December 1938, German chemist Otto Hahn discovered that uranium atoms could be split, and just a few months later the race to build an atomic bomb was on.

***Boy 30529.* Felix Weinberg** (Weinberg)

A young boy who lost everything: home, hope, even his own identity but managed to survive five concentration camps.

***The Boy on the Wooden Box.* Leon Leyson (**LEYSON**)**

The biography of Leon Leyson, the only memoir published by a former Schindler's List child.

***The Boys Who Challenged Hitler.* Phillip Hoose** (940.53 KNU) Ashamed by adult inaction in Denmark during the 1940 Nazi occupation, Knud Pedersen, his brother, and six other schoolmates began a resistance group that inspired the nation.

***Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee.* Dee Brown**

(978 BRO) Using council records, autobiographies, and firsthand descriptions, Brown tell us of the series of battles, massacres, and broken treaties that finally left them and their people demoralized and decimated.

***Charles and Emma.*** **Deborah Heiligman** (DARWIN)

Charles Darwin and his wife, Emma, adored one another, but their religious beliefs were fundamentally at odds.

***Chasing Lincoln’s Killer.* James Swanson** (973.7 SWA)

Recounts the escape of John Wilkes Booth, Abraham Lincoln's assassin, and follows the intensive twelve-day search for him and his accomplices.

***A Child Called It.* Dave Pelzer (**PELZER**)** Brutally beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable, alcoholic mother: a mother who played tortuous, unpredictable games. He had to learn how to play his mother's games in order to survive because she no longer considered him a son, but a slave; and no longer a boy, but an "it."

***Chinese Cinderella.* Adeline Yen Mah** (MAH) The author tells the story of her painful childhood in China where she lived until the age of fourteen with her father, stepmother, and siblings, all of whom considered her bad luck because her mother died shortly after giving birth to her.

***Courage Has No Color.* Tanya Stone** (940.54 STO)

Examines the role of African Americans in the military through the lens of the untold story of the Triple Nickles as they became America's first black paratroopers and fought a little-known World War II attack on the American West by the Japanese.

***Dewey.* Vicki Myron** (636.8 MYR) Tells the story of Dewey Readmore Books, the resident cat at Spencer Public Library in Spencer, Iowa, who was found in the book return in December 1988, adopted by the library staff, and immediately became a loving member of the community.

***Eagle Blue.*  Michael D’Orso** (796.32 DOR) Follows the Fort Yukon Eagles, winners of six regional championships in a row, through the course of an entire 28-game season, from their first day of practice in late November to the Alaska State Championship Tournament in March.

***Enrique’s Journey.* Sonia Nazario** (HS 305.2 NAZ) Enrique, a teenager from Honduras, who sets out on a journey, braving hardship and peril, to find his mother, who had no choice but to leave him when he was a child and go to the United States in search of work.

***The Family Romanov.* Candace Fleming** (947 FLE) The Romanovs – Russia’s last royal family – and their undoing.

***Flight to Freedom.* Henrietta Buckmaster** (326 BUC)

A story of the Underground Railroad told through the lives of courageous men and women who took part in the movement.

***The Freedom Summer Murders.* Don Mitchell**

(323 MIT) In June of 1964, three young men--one black and two white--were lynched by the Ku Klux Klan in Mississippi while trying to register African Americans to vote as part of the Freedom Summer effort to bring democracy to the South.

***Ghosts of War.* Ryan Smithson** (SMITHSON) In a harrowing memoir about combat, friendship, fear, and a soldier's commitment to his country, Smithson brings readers inside a world that few understand, as he describes his experience as a 19-year-old Army engineer in Iraq.

***Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet out of Idaho.* Jon Katz** (338.7 KAT) Jesse and Eric were geeks: suspicious of authority figures, proud of their status as outsiders, fervent in their belief in the positive power of technology. On the fringe of society, they had almost no social lives and little to look forward to. They spent every spare cent on their computers and every spare moment on-line. Nobody ever spoke of them, much less for them.

***The Girl in the Leaves.* Robert Scott** (364.15 SCO)

The story of one of the most bizarre mass murders ever recorded, and the girl who escaped with her life.

***Grace, Gold, and Glory.* Gabrielle Douglas** (DOUGLAS) Gabrielle Douglas United States gymnast all-around gold medal winner at the 2012 London Olympics tells her story of faith, perseverance, and determination.

***The Greatest: Muhammad Ali.* Walter Dean Myers** (ALI) An award-winning author presents a riveting account of the extraordinary career and accomplishments of boxer Muhammad Ali.

 ***Happy, Happy, Happy.* Phil Robertson** (ROBERTSON)

This no-holds-barred autobiography chronicles the remarkable life of Robertson, the original Duck Commander and "Duck Dynasty" star, from early childhood through the founding of a family business.

***The Hiding Place.* Corrie Ten Boom** (TENBOOM)

How a middle-aged Dutch watchmaker's daughter became a heroine of the Resistance, a survivor of Hitler's concentration camps, and one of the most remarkable evangelists of the 20th century.

***Hitler’s Last Days.* Bill O’Reilly** (943 ORE)

By early 1945, the destruction of the German Nazi State seems certain. The Allied forces, led by American generals George S. Patton and Dwight D. Eisenhower, are gaining control of Europe, leaving German leaders scrambling. Facing defeat, Adolf Hitler flees to a secret bunker. It is there that all three would meet their end, thus ending the Third Reich.

***Hole in My Life.* Jack Gantos** (GANTOS)

In the summer of 1971, Gantos was an aspiring writer looking for adventure, cash for college tuition, and a way out of a dead-end job. For $10,000, he recklessly agreed to help sail a 60-foot yacht loaded with a ton of hashish from the Virgin Islands to New York City, where he and his partners sold the drug until federal agents caught up with them.

***The Horrors of Andersonville.* Catherine Gourley** (973.7 GOU) Describes the notorious Confederate prison camp known as Andersonville, where more than 45,000 Union soldiers lived in deplorable conditions and some 13,000 died, beginning in 1864.

***Hot Zone.* Richard Preston** (614.5 PRE) A highly infectious, deadly virus from the central African rain forest suddenly appears in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. There is no cure. In a few days 90 percent of its victims are dead. A secret military SWAT team of soldiers and scientists is mobilized to stop the outbreak of this virus.

***House Rules.* Rachel Sontag** (SONTAG) A memoir of a father obsessed with control and the daughter who fights his suffocating grasp.

***How I Killed Pluto.*  Mike Brown** (523.49 BRO)

Astronomer Mike Brown describes how his search for a tenth planet, Eris, a planet more massive than Pluto, led to the demotion of Pluto to a dwarf planet.

***I am Malala.* Malala Yousafzi** (YOUSAFZI) Memoir of teen Pakistani activist Malala Yousafzi, who survived a Taliban assassination attempt to become an international advocate for girls' education.

***I am a SEAL Team Six Warrior.* Howard Wasdin**

(359 WAS) The dramatic tale of how Howard Wasdin overcame a tough childhood to live his dream and enter the exciting and dangerous world of U.S. Navy SEALS and Special Forces snipers.

***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.* Maya Angelou** (ANGELOU) The author tells of her painful childhood and adolescence, and how she grew out of a childhood fantasy that she was an enchanted white girl to self acceptance today.

***Iraqi Girl.*** (956.7 IRA) These are the words of fifteen-year-old Hadiya, blogging from the city of Mosul, Iraq, to let the world know what life is really like as the military occupation of her country unfolds.

***Journey from the Land of No.*  Roya Hakakian**

(955 HAK) Hakakian was twelve years old in 1979 when the revolution swept through Tehran. But the Hakakians were also part of the very small Jewish population in Iran who witnessed the iron fist of the Islamic fundamentalists increasingly tightening its grip.

***Laughing at My Nightmare.* Shane Burcaw.**

(HS Burcaw) Describes the challenges he faces as a 20-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy – from awkward handshakes to trying to find a girlfriend.

***The Last Lecture.* Randy Pausch** (PAUSCH) What wisdom would we impart to the world if we knew it was our last chance? When Randy Pausch, a professor at Carnegie Mellon, was asked to give such a lecture, he didn't have to imagine it as his last, since he had recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

***The Life & Death of Crazy Horse.* Russell Freedman** (978 FRE) An account of the Oglala Sioux leader's life, written with the attention to detail of a historian and the language of a storyteller.

***Lincoln’s Grave Robbers.* Steve Sheinkin** (973.9 SHE) Describes how a counterfeiting ring plotted to ransom Lincoln's body to secure the release of their imprisoned ringleader, and how a fledging Secret Service and an undercover agent conducted a daring election-night sting operation.

***Lincoln’s Last Days.* Dwight Zimmerman** (973.7 ZIM)

Describes the events surrounding the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and the hunt to track down John Wilkes Booth and his accomplices.

***Little Princes.* Conor Grennan** (362.79 GRE) In search of adventure, 29-year-old Conor Grennan traded his day job for a year-long trip around the globe, a journey that began with a three-month stint volunteering at the Little Princes Children's Home, an orphanage in war-torn Nepal.

***Lincoln’s Spymaster,* Samantha Seiple** (363.2 SEI)

Allan Pinkerton, American's most famous detective, discovered an assassination plot against President-elect Abraham Lincoln. But uncovering a plot to murder the president is one thing...stopping it is entirely another.

***Long Way Gone.* Ishmael Beah** (966.4 BEA) This is how wars are fought now: by children, hopped-up on drugs and wielding AK-47s. Children have become soldiers of choice. Beah tells how at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts.

***The Lost Boy.* Dave Pelzer** (PELZER) The harrowing but ultimately uplifting true story of a boy's journey through the foster-care system in search of a family to love.

***Lost Boy, Lost Girl Escaping Civil War in Sudan.*  John Bul Dau** (962.4 DAU) One of thousands of children who fled strife in southern Sudan, John Bul Dau survived hunger, exhaustion, and violence. His wife, Martha, endured similar hardships.

***Marley & Me.* John Grogan** (GROGAN) In this funny and poignant memoir about a wildly neurotic Labrador retriever named Marley, an unsuspecting young couple come to understand what really matters. Marley had no brakes on his loyalty, exuberance, or passion.

***Muck City.* Bryan Mealer** (796.3 MEA) In a town deep in the Florida Everglades, where high school football is the only escape, a haunted quarterback, a returning hero, and a scholar struggle against terrible odds.

***Navy Seal Dogs.* Mmike Ritland** (RITLAND)An inside look at the Navy SEAL teams' elite K9 warriors-who they are, how they are trained, and the extreme missions they undertake to save lives. From detecting explosives to eliminating the bad guys, these powerful dogs are also some of the smartest and highest skilled working animals on the planet. Mike Ritland's job is to train them.

***The Nazi Hunters.* Neal Bascomb (**364.15 BAS**)**

Account of the search for a Nazi criminal led by Holocaust survivor Simon Wiesenthal.

***A Night to Remember.* Walter Lord** (910.4 LOR)– Riveting account of the *Titanic*'s fatal collision and the behavior of the passengers and crew. Some sacrificed their lives, while others fought like animals for their own survival. Gentlemen went to their deaths in full evening dress; and hundreds of steerage passengers, trapped below decks, sought help in vain.

***The Notorious Benedict Arnold.*  Steve Sheinkin**

(973.3 SHE) ***-*** An introduction to the life of Benedict Arnold that highlights not only the traitorous actions that made him legendary, but also his heroic involvement in the American Revolution.

***October Sky.* Homer Hickam** (HS HICKAM) Faced with an uncertain future, Homer Hickam nurtured a dream: to send rockets into outer space. Homer fell in with a group of misfits who learned how to turn scraps of metal into sophisticated.

[***Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science***](http://encore.weberpl.lib.ut.us/iii/encore/search/C__St%3A%28Phineas%20Gage%3A%20A%20Gruesome%20but%20True%20Story%20About%20Brain%20Science%29%2Ba%3A%28Fleischman%2C%20John%29__Orightresult__U1?lang=eng&suite=cobalt)***.* John Fleischman** (362.1 FLE) Gage, foreman of a railroad construction gang, survived an iron rod being blasted through his brain in 1848, and the subsequent study of him contributed to the modern understanding of the central nervous system.

***The Pregnancy Project.* Gaby Rodriguez** (306.8 ROD)

In this compelling memoir, Rodriguez details how she faked her own pregnancy; hiding the truth from even her siblings and boyfriend's parents; and reveals all that she learned from the experience. But more than that, her story is about fighting stereotypes of pregnant teens.

***The President has been Shot.* James Swanson**

(973.9 SWA) One of the most shocking, sad, and terrifying events in American history : the story of the JFK assassination.

***The Reason I Jump.*  Naoki Higashida** (HIGASHIDA)

Just thirteen years old, effectively unable to speak, Higashida used a special alphabet grid to compose this slim, informative book, which provides an unprecedented look into the mind of a young person with autism.

***Seabiscuit: An American Legend*. Laura Hillenbrand** (798.4 HIL) Seabiscuit was a discarded, bottom-level race horse that became a champion with the help of three men.

***September 11, 2001: Attack on New York.* Wilborn Hampton** (974.7 HAM) Describes the September 11 attacks in the United States and presents several personal stories of tragedy told by New Yorkers who lived through the collapse of the World Trade Center.

***Snow Falling in Spring.* Moying Li-Marcus**

(LI-MARCUS) This inspiring memoir follows Moying Li from age 12 to 22, illuminating a complex, dark time in China's history as it tells the compelling story of one girl's difficult but determined coming-of-age during the Cultural Revolution.

***Somewhere There is Still a Sun,* Michael Gruenbaum** (940.53 GRU) When the Nazis invade Czechoslovakia in 1941, twelve-year-old Michael and his family are deported from Prague to the Terezin concentration camp, where his mother's will and ingenuity keep them from being transported to Auschwitz and certain death.

***Soul Surfer.* Bethany Hamilton** (HAMILTON) - She lost her arm in a shark attack and nearly died, but she never lost her faith.

***A Stolen Life.* Jaycee Dugard** (DUGARD) A revelatory memoir about a young woman whose life was stolen when she was kidnapped in 1991 and remained an object of captivity for 18 years.

***They Cage the Animals at Night.* Jennings Burch** (362.7 BUR) "One rainy day in Brooklyn, Jennings Michael Burch's mother, too sick to care for him, left him at an orphanage, saying only, "I'll be right back." She never returned.

***Through My Eyes.* Tim Tebow** (TEBOW) One of the best quarterbacks in the history of college football traces his path to success, discussing his childhood as the son of Christian missionaries and how his faith combined with his drive to succeed have made him the person he is today.

***Tis.* Frank McCourt.** (HS MCCOURT) The continuing saga of McCourt's Irish family as they return to America in 1949.

***Twilight Children.* Torey Hayden** (618.92 HAY)

A light in the darkness for severely troubled children, former special education teacher Torey Hayden faced three of her most extraordinary challenges after she left the classroom.

***Unbroken.* Laura Hillenbrand** (940.54 HIL) On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared--Lt. Louis Zamperini. Captured by the Japanese and driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor.

***Under Siege.* Andrea Warren** (973.7 WAR) This book looks at the 1862-63 battle for Vicksburg through the eyes of three children: ten-year-old Lucy, the daughter of a Vicksburg merchant; eleven-year-old Willie, the son of a minister; and twelve-year old Frederick, the son of Ulysses S. Grant.

***Unlikely Warrior.* Georg Rauch** (940.5 RAU)

An 18-year old part-Jewish youth who, despite his heritage, is drafted into Hitler's army and sent to serve on the Russian front.

***Warriors Don’t Cry.* Melba Pattillo Beals** (379.2 BEA)

Following the landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling, "Brown v. Board of Education, " Melba was one of nine teenagers chosen to integrate Little Rock's Central High School.

***We Band of Angels.* Elizabeth Norman** (940.54 NOR)

The untold story of the American women trapped on Bataan during WWII

***We Should Hang Out Sometime.* Josh Sundquist**

(HS 618.9 SUN) "Why was [Paralympic ski racer and cancer survivor] Josh still single? To find out, he tracked down the girls he had tried to date and asked them straight up: what went wrong?

***Who Killed My Daughter.* Lois Duncan** (DUNCAN)

Chronicles Duncan’s search for the person(s) that killed her daughter.

***Wild Boy: The Real Life of the Savage of Aveyron.* Mary Losure** (305.23 LOS) The story of a feral boy who was found naked digging in the leaves of the woods in southern France in 1798, whose journey ultimately took him to Paris after he was taken in by villagers.

***Within Reach: My Everest Story.* Mark Pfetzer** (PFETZER) In this suspenseful, moment-by-moment, first-person narrative, a teenage mountaineer takes readers past the ever-shifting Khumbu Icefall, over 300-foot crevices, and up into the high-altitude "Death Zone" of Everest.