



2009-2010 Tayshas Reading List

The objective of the Tayshas project is to motivate young adults to become life-long readers and to participate in the community of readers in Texas.

Shusterman, Neal. *Unwind.* (YP Fic Shusterm)

In the future, abortions are outlawed until the unwanted child is 13-years-old, at which time they may become an unwind, still living but in multiple pieces. Conner, Rita, and Lev find themselves in the situation of being an unwind fighting for their life no matter the price.

Sitomer, Alan. *The Secret Story of Sonia Rodriguez* (YP Fic Sitomer)

10th grader Sonia reveals secrets about her life and her Hispanic family as she studies hard to become the first Rodriguez to finish high school.

Thompson, Kate. *The New Policeman.* (YP Fic Thompson)

Irish teenager J.J. Liddy's mother jokingly asks her son for time for her birthday. J.J. discovers that there is indeed less time than there used to be because time is leaking from his world into the world of the Fairy of Tír na n'Óg. He must find a way to stop the leak before it's too late.

Valentine, Jenny. *Me, the Missing, and the Dead..* (YP Fic Valentin)

Lucas' dad just up and disappears one day. No one knows if he is alive or dead. When Lucas takes a cab home from a friend's house late one evening he encounters an urn that just might have the answers.

Vaught, Susan. *Big Fat Manifesto.* (YP Fic Vaught)

Jamie is a big girl. No, scratch that—a big, fat girl. But don't expect her to roll over and apologize or fade into the background. That's just not her style. She's created her alter ego, Fat Girl, and the world better watch out. Fat Girl is on the move to prove she deserved respect and love just like everyone else.

Vincent, Erin. *Grief Girl.* (155.937092 Vincent)

Death can bring out the worst in people. In 1983 both of 14-year old Erin Vincent's parents died in an auto accident. Her parent's friends stole their furniture, the executor of the estate won't release any of the money held in trust even for medical issues, and her unfriendly grandparents try to take away her younger brother. Yet Erin and her siblings somehow manage to survive.

Voorhees, Coert. *The Brothers Torres.* (YP Fic Voorhees)

Frankie Towers lives in the shadow of his older brother, Steve, who is the local soccer star. When Steve starts running with the wrong crowd, Frankie realizes not everything is as it seems.

Werlin, Nancy. *Impossible.* (YP Fic Werlin)

Can the women of her family really be cursed? Could that be the cause of all the horrible things that have been happening to 17-year-old Lucy Scarborough? If it is a curse, will she be able to break it?

Wizner, Jake. *Spanking Shakespeare.* (YP Fic Wizner)

High school senior, Shakespeare Shapiro, hates his name. Unfortunately, his name is just one on the long list of injustices Shakespeare feels his parents have committed against him. To top it off, he has never kissed a girl, has only two friends, and his younger brother, Gandhi, is a part of the popular crowd.

Zarr, Sara. *Sweethearts.* (YP Fic Zarr)

Jennifer and Cameron were inseparable friends in elementary school. When a horrible event occurs, Cameron inexplicably disappears. Jennifer presumes he is dead until Cameron unexpectedly shows up her senior year and her past comes rushing back.

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Alexie, Sherman. *Flight.* (Fic Alexie)

15-year-old "Zits" has a whole lot of anger and two guns in his pocket. However, just as he is about to exact his revenge he mind jumps into an FBI agent's brain.

Archer, Lily. *The Poison Apples.* (YP Fic Archer)

When they arrive at their exclusive Massachusetts boarding school, 15-year-olds Molly, Reena, and Alice appear to have little in common. Soon, though, the girls discover that each has a much-loathed, recently acquired stepmother.

Armstrong, Kelley. *The Summoning.* (YP Fic Armstrong)

Chloe sees ghosts. At least she thought she did before being sent to a group home and was told she has schizophrenic hallucinations. So how come she isn't so sure they are telling the truth?

Asher, Jay. *Thirteen Reasons Why.* (YP Fic Asher)

Clay finds a package on his porch with his name on it. His crush, Hannah, who committed suicide two weeks earlier, has recorded tapes explaining why she killed herself. There are thirteen reasons, and Clay is one of them.

Bradbury, Jennifer. *Shift.* (YP Fic Bradbury)

Before starting college Chris and his best friend, Win, decide to bicycle across the United States. The trouble starts when Chris is the only one who returns.

Brooks, Kevin. *Black Rabbit Summer.* (YP Fic Brooks)

It was supposed to be one last get together before everyone moved on to college. It was supposed to be about reminiscing. It was supposed to be fun. It wasn't.

Caletti, Deb. *The Fortunes of Indigo Skye.* (YP Fic Caletti)

What would you do if you were given 2.5 million dollars unexpectedly? Indigo Skye, a high school senior, with a fairly normal life, finds out just what impact that kind of money has on her life.

Clare, Cassandra. *City of Bones: The Mortal Instruments Book One.* (YP Fic Clare)

In 24 hours, Clary Fray's mother disappears, she is attacked by demons, discovers she has Sight, and meets the mysterious Shadowhunters. Clary's entire life has been one big lie.

Collins, Suzanne. *Hunger Games.* (YP Fic Collins)

Every year 24 teens are chosen to play in the Hunger Games. The only way to win is to survive. You might make alliances, you might try to avoid killing, but if you want to win everyone else has to die.

Crocker, Nancy. *Billie Standish Was Here.* (YP Fic Crocker)

Billie is abused, shy, and lonely, but finds herself forging an unlikely, rich, loving friendship with her elderly neighbor when the levee threatens to break in their rural 1968 Missouri community.

Cross, Shauna. Derby Girl. (YP Fic Cross)

Bliss Cavender is an Indie rock kind-of girl that finds passion for her life in the roller derby rink of an Austin-based Girls Roller Derby League and not in her tiny hometown of Bodeen, Texas, known for its beauty pageants and ice cream factory. Bliss' roller derby participation, of course, is unknown to her parents, who would never approve, and it's just a matter of time before Bliss' lying ways catch up with her.

De La Pena, Matt. Mexican Whiteboy. (YP Fic Pena)

Danny is angry at his Caucasian mom because he thinks she left his Hispanic father. While spending the summer with his father's family, he practices pitching, falls in love and discovers himself.

De Lint, Charles. Dingo. (YP Fic Delint)

Love at first sight, that is what Miguel feels when he lays eyes on Lainey. But Lainey isn't what she appears to be, and Miguel must risk everything, including his life to save her.

Dueker, Carl. Gym Candy. (YP Fic Deuker)

His father, a former NFL player, made sure his son Mick always played football, beginning at age four. Mick wants nothing more than to be the best football player on the team, number one in the eyes of his dad, his teammates, and coaches. When he falls short as a freshman, Mick decides to go down a dangerous path to be the best.

Doctorow, Cory. Little Brother. (YP Fic Doctorow)

17-yr-old techie, gamer, Marcus Yarrow is at the wrong place at the wrong time during a terrorist attack. After being held against his will and tortured by the DHS, Marcus fights back.

Downham, Jenny. Before I Die. (YP Fic Downham)

Tessa is dying, but she is not willing to go without living first.

Duey, Kathleen. Skin Hunger. (YP Fic Duey)

Sadima was born into a time when magic was outlawed. Hahp was born into a time when it had been restored. Both must use their wits to survive.

Felin, M. Sandy. Touching Snow. (YP Fic Felin)

Karina knows the best way to avoid being picked on by high school bullies is to kill someone. And even if you haven't, just letting them think you have gets the same effect. She also knows that this is the year that everything is going to change.

Fletcher, Christine. Ten Cents a Dance. (YP Fic Fletcher)

In 1941 Chicago, it isn't easy for respectable girls to make a living. So when Ruby discovers a way to make money— make that lots of money— she is willing to take her chances despite the risks.

Gaiman, Neil and Michael Reaves. Interworld. (YP Fic Gaiman)

Joey Harker is bad with directions. He can't find his way out of his own room sometimes. So when he and two classmates are dropped off somewhere in the middle of his hometown with instructions from their History teacher to find their way to a rendezvous point, Joey knows they are in trouble. Although the street they are on looks somewhat familiar, it doesn't take Joey long to get lost...really, really lost. Like, parallel universe lost.

Gallagher Liz. The Opposite of Invisible. (YP Fic Galleghe)

What is the difference between love and a crush? Alice must decide this when she is confronted with the choice between Jewel (Julian), her best friend since age three, and Simon, the new guy in town.

Gardner, Sally. The Red Necklace. (YP Fic Gardner)

Set against the backdrop of the French Revolution, an imprisoned girl of noble birth and a Gypsy boy with mysterious powers must outwit their enemies before it is too late.

Giles, Gale. Right Behind You. (YP Fic Giles)

Kip committed a horrible crime when he was only 9-years-old. Now he has to live with the guilt and hide the truth from his friends. When he finally meets someone that he has to tell, if he wants a relationship, he is afraid of the consequences when have troubled him for most of his life.

Green, John. Paper Towns. (YP Fic Green)

Quentin is shocked when Margo shows up at his window and enlists his help in an ingenious scheme. But he's even more shocked when she disappears the next day leaving a series of clues for him to decode.

Hale, Shannon. Book of a Thousand Days. (YP Fic Hale)

On the first day of her service as Lady Saren's maid, 15-year-old Dashti, and the princess are locked in a tower for seven years because Lady Saren refuses to marry the horrible prince her father has selected for her. After several years pass, the world seems to have forgotten about them, and in order to survive they must escape.

Halpern, Julie. Get Well Soon. (YP Fic Halpern)

In funny, easy-going prose, 16-yr-old Anna writes letters while spending three difficult involuntary weeks in a mental institution. Anna's parents placed her there because she stopped going to school due to panic attacks, crying jags, and death wishes.

Harmon, Michael. The Last Exit to Normal. (YP Fic Harmon)

Ben Campbell thought the worst day of his life was when he was 14 and his dad announced that he was gay. He changed his mind; however, when his dads announced they were moving to Rough Butte, Montana— aka Hicksville, USA.

Hearn, Julie. Ivy. (YP Fic Hearn)

After running away from school, Ivy must learn to thwart a variety of scalawags, hungry pythons, thieves, jealous mothers, overly avid artists, and a host of incorrigible scoundrels that mean her harm.

Henderson, Lauren. Kiss Me Kill Me. (YP Fic Henderso)

Two minutes after Dan kisses Scarlett he drops dead. No one knows how or why he died. The only thing Scarlett can be sure of is she wants to clear her reputation as the girl with the "Kiss of Death."

Hoffman, Mary. The Falconer's Knot: A Story of Friars, Flirtation, and Foul Play. (YP Fic Hoffman)

16-year-old PrinceS ilvano is infatuated with Angelica. Angelica is already married to a wealthy merchant. When Angelica's husband is murdered, Silvano is the prime suspect. Hiding out in a nearby friary until he can prove his innocence, Silvano meets Chiara, who has been forced to enter the nunnery next door.

Hornby, Nick. Slam. (YP Fic Hornby)

15-year-old Sam lives for skateboarding and often gets advice from his hero, champion skater, Tony Hawk, but his life drastically changes when his girlfriend reveals she is pregnant.

Jocelyn, Marthe. Would You. (YP Fic Jocelyn)

Natalie and her friends are always playing the game "Would you rather..." When Natalie's older sister is involved in a terrible accident, Natalie wonders if she would rather die than her sister.

Johnson, Maureen. Suite Scarlett. (YP Fic Johnson)

Scarlett knows her summer is going to suck. All her friends are on adventures and she is stuck working at her parent's hotel. Then Mrs. A, an out-of-work actress, shakes everything up.

Juby, Susan. Another Kind of Cowboy. (YP Fic Juby)

Quiet, self-effacing cowboy meets egocentric, spoiled rich girl. Sparks fly, but not the kind you would expect.

Kephart, Beth. Undercover. (YP Fic Kephart)

Elisa is undercover. She secretly writes love notes for the boys in her class. Not to them, but for them. Not a problem until she writes one for Theo, a boy she begins to notice more and more. With their increasing contact, will she be able to stay undercover?

Kim, Derek Kirk. Good as Lily. (YP Fic Kim)

Little did Grace know when she bought the piñata on her 18th birthday that it would turn her world completely upside down. The very next day she meets three different versions of herself. Will grace be stuck with her selves forever, or will she get them back where they need to go?

Kuklin, Susan. No Choirboy– Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row (364.6609 Kuklin)

Teenagers do end up on death row for the crimes they have committed. Kuklin takes readers inside their lives and explores the thoughts and feelings these young offenders have about their crimes.

Lipsyte, Robert. Yellow Flag. (YP Fic Lipsyte)

Kyle is born into a legendary NASCAR racing family, but loves playing trumpet. When his brother, Kris, is injured, he feels pressure to give up music and do what his family thinks he was born to do.

Lockhart, E. The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks. (YP Fic Lockhart)

Everyone has always underestimated Frankie, but when she is kept out of a secret society at her boarding school, she sets out to prove she is just as smart and worth as any of its male members.

Malley, Gemma. The Declaration. (YP Fic Malley)

It's 2140 and you can now live indefinitely, if you agree not to have children. Anna, born outside this agreement, is surplus, and must work to pay back society for being a burden on its resources. She is content with that until Peter arrives. Is the chance at life worth the risks?

Marillier, Julie. Wildwood Dancing. (SF Fic Marillie)

When they were young girls, Jenica and her four sisters discovered a magical portal that allows them to travel between their Romanian estate to Piscal Dracului and the fairy world each full moon. But when their father becomes ill and their power-hungry cousin, Cezar, comes to oversee their affairs, their lives take a turn for the worse.

Mazer, Norma Fox. The Missing Girl. (YP Fic Mazer)

Someone is watching the five Herbert sisters. Someone is trying to decide which sister he likes best. Someone is trying not to make the same mistake he made when he took the last little girl.

McCarthy, Maureen. Rose by Any Other Name. (YP Fic McCarthy)

While her family is unraveling, Rose embarks on a road trip up the Australian coast to visit her dying grandmother- a trip she had planned to take alone until her mother jumped in as she was leaving.

McNish, Cliff. Angel. (YP Fic McNish)

Are angels real? Stephanie believes. Freya wants to believe. No one understands, and thinks they are crazy. When the truth is revealed, will the girls truly believe then?

Meldrum, Christina. Madapple. (YP Fic Meldrum)

15-year-old Aslaug Helling has never spoken to anyone other than her mother. When her mother suddenly dies, Aslaug must interact with a world she has never known and face accusations that she murdered her mother.

Myers, Walter Dean. Sunrise over Fallujah. (YP Fic Myers)

Army enlistee Robin Perry is a member of the Civil Affairs Unit in the initial invasion of Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His story illustrates the struggles of the soldiers fighting the war.

Myracle, Lauren. Bliss. (YP Fic Myracle)

Dumped at her grandmother's by her hippie parents, Bliss must survive at an elite private school where the spirit of a dead girl longs to pull students into her deadly grasp.

Napoli, Donna Jo. Hush: An Irish Princess' Tale. (YP Fic Napoli)

Melkorka is an Irish princess who has always looked down her nose at the slaves in her father's castle. As far as she is concerned they are stupid, disgusting, and deserve to be slaves. All of this changes when she is suddenly abducted by slave traders.

Nelson, R.A. Breathe My Name. (YP Fic Nelson)

Frances' family adopted her away from her birth mother's imaginary country of Fireless, where she was happy. Until her mother's madness led her to suffocate her children, all except Frances. Now her mother's been released and wants to finish what she started.

Ness, Patrick. Knife of Never Letting Go. (YP Fic Ness)

Todd Hewitt, the only boy left in Prentisstown, stumbles across an impossible pool of silence amidst the chaos of The Noise. What he discovers forces his to have to run for his life.

Noyes, Deborah. The Ghosts of Kerfol. (YP Fic Noyes)

Throughout the centuries Kerfol Manor haunts its inhabitants. Neither servant, lord, or visitor will be able to escape its grasp.

Pearson, Mary E. The Adoration of Jenna Fox. (YP Fic Pearson)

After 18 months of being in a coma, 17-year-old Jenna Fox wakes up in a houseful of secrets with no memories of who she is. While she relearns how to live, she peels away layers of lies to uncover the terrifying truth about her current existence.

Reinhardt, Dana. How to Build a House. (YP Fic Reinhardt)

Harper's family in LA is falling apart. Instead of dealing with it, Harper runs away from it by going to Tennessee to build a house for a family, who lost their home in a recent tornado.

Scott, Elizabeth. Stealing Heaven. (YP Fic Scott)

Dani and her mom are professional thieves. No real connections, no real home, no real life. But when they move to the town of Heaven, Dani finds there are things she may want more than money.

Shanahan, Lisa. The Sweet, Terrible, Glorious Year I Truly, Completely Lost It. (YP Fic Shanahan)

14-year-old Gemma is about to become the world's oldest flower girl in her bridezilla, older sister's wedding. Gemma's sister has even picked a theme for her wedding- "Animals who mate for life," mean Gemma's flower girl dress isn't a dress at all; it's a hideous swan costume.