



Stretch and Challenge Reading List

- Flowers for Algernon - **Daniel Keyes** - *A clinical moron is given genius levels of intelligence as an experiment.*
- Dracula - **Bram Stoker** - *Vampire Count Dracula attempts to spread the undead curse.*
- Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde - **Robert Louis Stevenson** - *A London lawyer investigates strange occurrences.*
- Frankenstein - **Mary Shelley** - *A man-monster is created and inflicts murder upon humankind.*
- Great Expectations - **Charles Dickens** - *A young orphan learns that a patron wishes to make him a gentleman.*
- The Woman in Black - **Susan Hill** - *A young man is haunted by a ghost in a deserted house.*
- Jane Eyre - **Charlotte Bronte** - *A discovery of a terrible secret forces Jane to make a decision.*
- The Great Gatsby - **F Scott Fitzgerald** - *A story of grandeur, love and lavish parties in 1920s America.*
- To Kill a Mockingbird - **Harper Lee** - *A young girl witnesses the trial of an accused African-America.*
- The Catcher in the Rye - **J D Salinger** - *Holden narrates his story after being expelled from prep. school.*
- Lord of the Flies - **William Golding** - *Boys stranded on a desert island resort to savagery.*
- Empire of the Sun - **J G Ballard** - *A story of a British boy's four-year ordeal in a Japanese prison.*
- 1984 - **George Orwell** - *Winston is controlled under the watchful eye of Big Brother.*
- Catch 22 - **Joseph Heller** - *A WW2 bombardier seeks to protect his own life by fleeing to a hospital.*
- Birdsong - **Sebastian Faulks** - *A novel about WW1 and its effects on the protagonist and his granddaughter.*
- The Lord of the Rings - **J R R Tolkien** - *Frodo Baggins adventures into dark and dangerous Middle Earth.*
- The Handmaid's Tale - **Margaret Atwood** - *Men rule over women in this dangerous dystopian world.*
- Never Let Me Go - **Kazuo Ishiguro** - *Set in a dystopian world where human clones are created to donate their organs.*
- The Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy - **Douglas Adams** - *Earth is to be abolished and replaced by a hyperspace bypass.*
- The Time Machine - **H G Wells** - *A Victorian scientist propels himself into the year 802,701 AD.*
- The Picture of Dorian Gray - **Oscar Wilde** - *Dorian meets a painter who becomes enthralled with him.*
- The Woman in White - **Wilkie Collins** - *Art teacher meets a woman who has just escaped from a lunatic asylum.*
- The Hound of the Baskervilles - **Arthur Conan Doyle** - *A man dies on the moor under suspicious circumstances.*
- More Than This - **Patrick Ness** - *Seth, desperate and alone, drowns. But then he wakes: alive.*
- I Am Malala - **Malala Yousafzai** - *Autobiography of the girl who stood up to the Taliban.*
- Of Mice and Men - **John Steinbeck** - *George and Lennie have nothing in the world except each other.*
- Wuthering Heights - **Emily Bronte** - *An orphan is raised in a ancient manor filled with love and hatred.*
- A Passage to India - **E M Forster** - *Aziz's trial brings to a boil the racial tensions between Indians and the British Empire.*
- The Siege of Krishnapur - **J G Farrell** - *Siege of a fictional Indian town is narrated from the viewpoint of British residents.*
- The Diary of a Young Girl - **Anne Frank** - *Diary of a young Jewish girl hiding for 2 years from Nazis.*
- Jurassic Park - **Michael Crichton** - *Tragedy strikes when a worker in Jurassic Park is killed by a velociraptor.*
- Things Fall Apart - **Chinua Achebe** - *A story about the tragic fall of Okonkwo and the Igbo culture.*
- White Teeth - **Zadie Smith** - *Bangladeshi Samad and Englishman Archie are wartime friends living in London.*
- Lovely Bones - **Alice Sebold** - *After being brutally murdered, 14-year-old Alice watches over her grief-stricken family.*
- Atonement - **Ian McEwan** - *A young couple is torn apart by a lie constructed by a jealous younger sister.*
- One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest - **Ken Kesey** - *Randle is transferred for evaluation from prison to a mental institution.*
- Brick Lane - **Monica Ali** - *A Bangladeshi immigrant marries a man years her senior in a loveless arranged marriage.*
- The Kite Runner - **Khalid Hosseini** - *A young Sunni Muslim struggles to find his place in the world.*
- Beloved - **Toni Morrison** - *Inspired by an African-American slave who escaped slavery by fleeing to a free state.*
- Brighton Rock - **Graham Greene** - *A gang war rages through Brighton's underworld.*
- The Perks of Being a Wallflower - **Stephen Chbosky** - *A coming-of-age epistolary novel about growing up.*
- Every Day - **David Levithan** - *A captivating story that present the complexities of life and love.*
- American Gods - **Neil Gaiman** - *A blend of Americana, fantasy and various strands of ancient and modern mythology.*
- The Wasp Factory - **Iain Banks** - *A bizarre, imaginative and disturbing look into the mind of a child psychopath.*
- I Capture the Castle - **Dodie Smith** - *American heirs arrive at the castle and Cassandra falls in love.*
- Cider with Rosie - **Laurie Lee** - *Funny autobiography of a boy growing up after WW1.*
- Gulliver's Travels - **Jonathan Swift** - *An adventure story involving several voyages of Lemuel Gulliver.*
- Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit - **Jeanette Winterson** - *Girl's strong will allows her to rebel against her fanatical life.*
- Heart of Darkness - **Joseph Conrad** - *Marlow tells the story of the time he journeyed up the Congo river in a steamboat.*
- A Clockwork Orange - **Anthony Burgess** - *In a future England, Alex and his 'Droogs' spend their nights getting high.*
- Water for Elephants - **Sara Gruen** - *A vet student falls for a married performer on their circus travels.*
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings - **Maya Angelou** - *Autobiography of a precocious but insecure black girl in the American South.*



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The Book Thief - **Marcus Zusak** - 9-year-old boy steals a gravedigger's manual during WW2.

Brave New World - **Aldous Huxley** - Set in 2540 AD, the novel anticipates development of society.

A Game of Thrones - **Robert R R Martin** - The last members of a deposed ruling family seek to regain the throne.

Black Rabbit Summer - **Kevin Brooks** - Secrets and jealousies surface on the worst night of their lives.

Divergent - **Veronica Roth** - Society is divided into 5 sections: choose one to devote your life to.

My Sister's Keeper - **Jodi Picoult** - Anna was conceived as a marrow donor for her gravely ill sister.

Fahrenheit 451 - **Ray Bradbury** - Guy is a fireman who burns illegal books in a futuristic American city.

Jude the Obscure - **Thomas Hardy** - A working-class young man dreams of becoming a scholar.

His Dark Materials Trilogy - **Phillip Pullman** - Two children wander through a series of parallel universes.

Angela's Ashes - **Frank McCourt** - A memoir detailing life in New York and Limerick.

Revolver - **Marcus Sedgwick** - 15-year-old Alex is alone - except for the corpse of his father.

Pride and Prejudice - **Jane Austen** - First impressions give way to true feelings in this romantic comedy.

Noughts and Crosses - **Malorie Blackman** - Society is split into two classes: Noughts and Crosses.

Touching the Void - **Joe Simpson** - Two young climbers set out to be the first to reach the summit of the Siula Grande.

The Day of the Triffids - **John Wyndham** - Bill wakes up blindfolded to find everyone else has been blinded.

The Secret Life of Bees - **Sue Monk Kidd** - Abused by her father, Lily runs away to discover her mother's past.

A Kestrel for A Knave (Kes) - **Barry Hines** - Bullied at school and abused at home, Billy tames his pet kestrel falcon.

The Bell Jar - **Sylvia Plath** - Semi-autobiographical story of a 19-year-old's breakdown and subsequent recovery.

Silas Marner - **George Eliot** - A local weaver is viewed with mistrust due to his background and frequent seizures.

On the Road - **Jack Kerouac** - A group of friends travel across America.

The Da Vinci Code - **Dan Brown** - A murder and cryptic clues in Paris lead to the discovery of a religious mystery.

James Bond Series - **Ian Fleming** - A series of novels detailing the adventure of the famous spy.

The Turn of the Screw - **Henry James** - A novella about a Governess' experience in a ghostly house.

Anita and Me - **Meera Syal** - Meena lies more than other children because her own life is exceptionally lacking in truth.

The Color Purple - **Alice Walker** - A harrowing epistolary narrative about the experiences of an abused African-American.

The Shining - **Stephen King** - Jack becomes the caretaker of a haunted hotel in the secluded mountains of Colorado.

Rebecca - **Daphne du Maurier** - A nameless heroine travels from hotel to hotel following a tragic fire.

The Other Boleyn Girl - **Philippa Gregory** - A fictional account of Henry VIII's relationship with Anne Boleyn's sister.

Pigeon English - **Stephen Kelman** - A bittersweet look at the life of a boy from Ghana transplanted to a British estate.

Blood Brothers - **Willy Russell** - Twins are separated at birth and brought up in completely different environments.

The Diving-Bell and the Butterfly - **Jean-Dominique Bauby** - Autobiography of a man living with locked-in syndrome.

Notes from a Small Island - **Bill Bryson** - A humorous travel book on Great Britain by an American author.

Beowulf - **Seamus Heaney** - A young warrior fails in his attempts to overcome a monster.

Dubliners - **James Joyce** - A collection of 15 short stories depicting Irish middle class life in the early 20th century.

Life of Pi - **Yann Martel** - A cargo ship sinks and only one lifeboat survives.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time - **Mark Haddon** - A boy with Asperger's attempts to solve a mystery.

Guantanamo Boy - **Anna Perera** - A young boy is kidnapped on a family visit to Pakistan and handed over as a suspected terrorist.