

Hamilton International Middle School Library
~Summer Reading 2007~

Acampora, Paul. **Defining Dulcie.** When sixteen-year-old Dulcie's father dies, her mother makes a decision to move them to California, where Dulcie makes an equally radical decision to steal her dad's old truck and head back home.

Almond, David. **Clay.** The developing relationship between teenager Davie and a mysterious new boy in town morphs into something darker and more sinister when Davie learns firsthand of the boy's supernatural powers.

Anderson, M. T. **Whales on stilts.** Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.

Budhos, Marina Tamar. **Ask me no questions.** Nadira, her sister, and their parents leave Bangladesh for New York City, but the expiration of their visas and the events of September 11, 2001, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family.

Deuker, Carl. **Runner.** Living with his alcoholic father on a broken-down sailboat on Puget Sound has been hard on seventeen-year-old Chance Taylor, but when his love of running leads to a high-paying job, he quickly learns that the money is not worth the risk.

Fletcher, Susan. **Alphabet of dreams.** Exiled from their home country because of their father's plot against King Phraates, fourteen-year-old Mitra and five-year-old Babak, who are of royal descent, live as beggars until it is discovered that the boy can tell the future through his dreams.

Grant, Vicki. **Pigboy.** Dan Hogg's school trip to a heritage farm—where taunts about his last name are funny to everyone but him—goes from miserable to dangerous when an escaped convict appears.

Gratz, Alan. **Samurai shortstop.** While obtaining a Western education at a prestigious Japanese boarding school in 1890, sixteen-year-old Toyo also receives traditional samurai training which has profound effects on both his baseball game and his relationship with his father.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **Double identity** Thirteen-year-old Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight, leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself and her family.

Hale, Shannon. **Princess Academy.** While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

Han, Jenny. **Shug.** A twelve-year-old girl learns about friendship, first loves, and self-worth in a small town in the South.

Hautman, Pete. **Invisible.** Even though they are complete opposites, seventeen-year-old outcast Doug Hanson and football star Andy Morrow are best friends who share a secret that bonds them together.

Hobbs, Will. **Crossing the wire.** Fifteen-year-old Victor Flores journeys north in a desperate attempt to cross the Arizona border and find work in the United States to support his family in Central Mexico.

Hoffman, Alice. **Incantation.** During the Spanish Inquisition, sixteen-year-old Estrella, brought up a Catholic, discovers her family's true Jewish identity, and when their secret is betrayed by Estrella's best friend, the consequences are tragic.

Jansen, Hanna. **Over a thousand hills I walk with you.** Jeanne, the only member of her family not murdered in the Rwandan genocide, struggles to start a new life without her family while coping with the violent memories that haunt her.

Johnson, Maureen. **13 little blue envelopes.** When seventeen-year-old Ginny receives a packet of mysterious envelopes from her favorite aunt, she leaves New Jersey to criss-cross Europe on a sort of scavenger hunt that transforms her life.

Kadohata, Cynthia. **Weedflower.** After twelve-year-old Sumiko and her Japanese-American family are relocated from their flower farm in southern California to an internment camp on a Mojave Indian reservation in Arizona, she helps her family and neighbors, becomes friends with a local Indian boy, and tries to hold onto her dream of owning a flower shop.

Krech, Bob. **Rebound.** Determined to make the varsity basketball team, seventeen-year-old Ray finds his efforts to play both hindered and helped by the atmosphere of racism in his town.

Larson, Kirby. **Hattie Big Sky.** Sixteen-year-old Hattie Brooks inherits her uncle's homesteading claim in Montana in 1917 and encounters some unexpected problems related to the war in Europe.

Lat.. **Kampung boy.** Relates the life experiences of a Muslim boy growing up on a rubber plantation in rural Malaysia.

Lubar, David. **Sleeping freshmen never lie.** While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.

Martin, Ann M. **A dog's life: autobiography of a stray.** Squirrel, a stray puppy, tells her life story, from her nurturing mother and brother to making her own way in the world, facing busy highways, changing seasons, and humans both gentle and brutal.

Miller, Kirsten. **Kiki Strike: inside the shadow city.** Life becomes more interesting for Ananka Fishbein when, at the age of twelve, she discovers an underground room in the park across from her New York City apartment and meets a mysterious girl called Kiki Strike.

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. **Dairy queen.** After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth. **Life as we knew it.** Through journal entries, sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

Pullman, Philip. **The scarecrow and his servant.** A scarecrow and his boy servant, Jack, set off on a dangerous adventure as they try to outwit the crooked Buffaloni family and stake their claim to valuable Spring Valley.

Riordan, Rick. **The lightning thief.** Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon.

Sayres, Meghan Nuttall. **Anahita's woven riddle.** In Iran, a young girl with three suitors gets permission from her father and a holy man to weave into her wedding rug a riddle which much be solved by her future husband, which will ensure that he has a wit to match hers.

Schlosser, Eric. **Chew on this : everything you don't want to know about fast food.** A look at fast food, what' in it, how it's made, and what it does to our bodies.

Smelcer, John E. **The trap.** In alternating chapters, seventten-year-old Johnny Least-Weasel, who is better known for brains than brawn, worries about his missing grandfather; and the grandfather struggles to survive, caught in his own steel trap in the Alaskan winter.

Whelan, Gloria. **Listening for lions.** Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1919, thirteen-year-old Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, where her only dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital.

Yang, Gene Luen. **American born Chinese.** Alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans trying to participate in the popular culture. Presented in comic book format.

Zusak, Markus. **The book thief.** Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel—a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding. Parents: This is a stunningly good book that certainly has an adult audience as well.

Twice told: original stories inspired by original art. Presents nine drawings by a single illustrator, each of which has been translated into a story by two different authors writing about what they imagine is going on in the picture.