

Learning Insights
Susan K. Boyar
Summer Reading List 2007

The following list is divided into two parts: the first group consists of books I have read and enjoyed, the second of books that I intend to read this summer.

I

The Road by Cormac McCarthy--This year's Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction. A post-apocalyptic novel.

Special Topics in Calamity Physics by Marisha Pessl--Both a coming of age novel and a mystery in one. Smart and entertaining

The Last Town on Earth by Thomas Mullen--What happens when a Northwestern American town founded on egalitarian ideals seals its borders to protect its citizens from the Spanish influenza.

Rabbit, Run by John Updike--The first Rabbit Angstrom book

American Bloomsbury by Susan Cheever--An exploration of Concord, Massachusetts and the Transcendentalists that reads like a novel.

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak--Young Adult fiction, appropriate for ages 13 and up. The story of a young German girl and her foster parents living in a small town near Munich from 1939-1944.

The Widow's War by Sally Gunning--An historical novel of a whaling widow living in pre-Revolutionary Cape Cod.

The Emperor's Children by Claire Messud--A social satire

Old Filth by Jane Gardam--The story of a child raised according to the customs of colonial Great Britain

II

Fiction

The Yiddish Policemen's Union: A Novel by Michael Chabon

The Welsh Girl by Peter Ho Davies

Norwegian Wood by Haruki Murakami

Far From the Madding Crowd by Thomas Hardy

On Chesil Beach: A Novel by Ian McEwan

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

Kalooki Nights by Howard Jacobson

Then We Came to the End by Joshua Ferris

A Far Country by Daniel Mason

Kissing in Manhattan by David Schickler

Consolation by Michael Redhill

Man Gone Down by Michael Thomas

This Human Season by Louise Dean

Nonfiction

Thomas Hardy by Claire Tomalin

Irene Nemirovsky: Her Life and Works by Jonathan Weiss

Reading Like a Writer by Francine Prose

Short Stories:

Twilight of the Superheroes by Deborah Eisenberg

The Collected Stories by Amy Hempel

The View from Castle Rock by Alice Munro