

Learning Insights
Susan K. Boyar
Summer Reading List 2009

The following list is divided into two parts: the first section is made up of books I have read and enjoyed, the second of books that I would like to read this summer.

The Welsh Girl by Peter Ho Davies—Set in Wales during WWII, this is a story of a 17 year old girl coming of age against the background of a POW camp established in the provincial village where she lives.

On Chesil Beach by Ian McEwan—A honeymoon and marriage beginning in 1962

Family Pictures by Sue Miller*--A family is disrupted and forever changed when one of the children is diagnosed as autistic.

Rabbit, Run by John Updike*—The first of the Rabbit books.

The White Tiger by Aravind Adiga*—Winner of the 2008 Man Booker prize, an entrepreneur explains his situation.

A Pigeon and a Boy by Meir Shalev*--Two interwoven love stories, one set in 1948 against the backdrop of the Israeli War of Independence and one in the present.

Unaccustomed Earth by Jhumpa Lahiri*--Her second book of short stories, not to be missed.

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz*--A wonderful tale of a teenage misfit from a Dominican immigrant family living in New Jersey.

Away by Amy Bloom*--The story of a Jewish immigrant woman who travels across America in search of her missing daughter in 1924.

Bright Shiny Morning by James Frey—Diverse characters inhabiting Los Angeles

The House of Mitford by Jonathan Guinness

Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell

Nothing to Be Frightened of by Julian Barnes

The Believers by Zoe Heller

The Song is You: a Novel by Arthur Phillips

Cost: a Novel by Roxanna Robinson

I See You Everywhere by Julia Glass

Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout

Lark and Termite by Jayne Anne Phillips

Sea of Poppies by Amitav Ghosh

*These books have been chosen by one or more of my book groups.