

**Bishop Shanahan High School  
Summer Reading Program ~ 2011**

***Class of 2015 Reading List***

**Required Reading for all Rising Freshmen**

**Old Man and the Sea – Ernest Hemingway**

The last novel Ernest Hemingway saw published, *The Old Man and the Sea* has proved itself to be one of the enduring works of American fiction. It is the story of an old Cuban fisherman and his supreme ordeal: a relentless, agonizing battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream.



**Optional Book List for all Rising Freshmen ~ (Choose Two)**

**Hatchet – Gary Paulsen**

Brian Robeson, 13, is the only passenger on a small plane flying him to visit his father in the Canadian wilderness when the pilot has a heart attack and dies. The plane drifts off course and finally crashes into a small lake. Miraculously Brian is able to swim free of the plane, arriving on a sandy tree-lined shore with only his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present. The novel chronicles in gritty detail Brian's mistakes, setbacks, and small triumphs as, with the help of the hatchet, he manages to survive the 54 days alone in the wilderness.

**Bella At Midnight – Diane Stanley**

In the little village of Castle Down, in a kingdom plagued by war, lives a peasant girl called Bella. Blessed with a kind family and a loving friend, she manages to create her own small patch of sunlight in a dark and dangerous world. With touches of magic and romance, the novel has the appeal of a fairy tale, but also offers a generous supply of suspense and a well-researched presentation of Medieval social structures, revealing the chasm that exists between classes and the fragile bridges that form between nobility, merchants and peasants.

**Looking Glass Wars – Frank Beddor**

The "true story" behind *Alice in Wonderland*! Princess Alyss Heart is brutally cast out of Wonderland by her vicious Aunt Redd who begins to rule over Wonderland with an iron fist. Alyss escapes from Wonderland and is exiled to another world entirely--Victorian London--where she is adopted into a new family, renamed Alice, and befriended by Lewis Carroll. At age 20 she returns to Wonderland to battle Redd, reclaim the throne, and lead Wonderland into its next golden age of imagination.

**Chew On This – Eric Schlosser & Charles Wilson**

In the New York Times bestseller *Chew on This*, Eric Schlosser and Charles Wilson unwrap the fast-food industry to bring you a behind-the-scenes look at a business that both feeds and feeds off the young. Find out what really goes on at your favorite restaurants—and what lurks between those sesame seed buns.

**Heat – Mike Lupica**

Michael Arroyo grows up in the shadows of hallowed Yankee Stadium, a boy forever on the outside looking in. His only chance to see his field of dreams? Pitch his Bronx all-star team to the district finals and a shot at the Little League World Series.

These annotations were taken from [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com).