

SUMMER READING LIST — PABSI'S PICKS August 1, 2012 HNotes Ezine

Summer is about to come to an end, yet we still have a lot of sunny days left to relax by the pool, hang down the beach and read some nice, fun books under the calming noises of palm trees. I've been enjoying summer picks from major bookstores since I was in middle school, but I thought of taking a step away from the new releases and recommend five of my long list of personal favorites. From non-fiction and contemporary fantasy to classics and music themed books, this list has a little something for each literature taste. Go ahead, pick up any of these titles and enjoy!

The Book of Lost Things, by John Connolly

If I ever had to recommend one fantasy book to anyone, it would be *The Book of Lost Things*, a brilliant take on some of Grimm's most beloved characters. But beware! This is not a Disney story, these are not cute and friendly characters, this is not a "happily ever after" children's book. This is a story of beheadings, treason, mischief, blood, loss, and grief. And it is also a story about inner strength and growing up and changes and love. Since the beginning, an irrevocable win. The first two sentences are probably the best opening lines I have ever read! Very dark at times, surprisingly hilarious at others, some will label this beautifully written literature gem as a psychological thriller.

Adolfo Kaminski, by Sarah Kaminski

Intrigued by biographies of great people in history? Then this is the book for you! In 2009, a young Algerian woman wrote a book worthy of the best spy novels, based on the true story of her father, Adolfo Kaminsky, genius-forger who committed his know-how and convictions to serve the French Resistance during World War II, saving thousands of Jewish families, and many others over the course of 30 years for various causes around the world.

Treasure Island, by Robert Louis Stevenson

Is there something more adequate for a summer read than a book settled mainly on a pirate ship at sea and a sun-bathed, warm island? If your Facebook language is set to 'Pirate' and you love the *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies saga, I invite you to read the work of fiction that started it all. It may become quite difficult for some to understand the writing style, yes, but it's going to be worth it: the characters seem

to leap out of the pages alive, armed to the teeth with guns and knives, and ready to go treasure hunting. This book has not been a favorite for generations for nothing, aye mate? Aye! Yo, ho, ho and a bottle of rum!

The Tales of Beedle the Bard, by JK Rowling

In need for more of Britain's most successful writer of all time? Need no more! This nice collection of 5 short stories is suitable for children and adults alike. Without doubt, Harry Potter is the voice of an entire generation and a classic for generations to come, but this enchanting little side book is a great add to any HP collection and will surely make a long plane ride go by in a flash!

100 Best Beatles Songs: A Passionate Fan's Guide, by Stephen Spignesi and Michael Lewis

If you are one of those people addicted to music and The Beatles, then this is the perfect summer book for you even though it is exactly what it sounds like: a ranking of what the authors consider the 100 best Beatles songs. The book is packed full with background information, lyrical interpretation, trivia and recording notes on each of the selected songs. Also, it has very nice photographs about the band and general facts about their music. An amazing goodnight read, don't forget to read it while listening to the songs!