

Books for Grade 11 Reading Unit (with accompanying films)

(Note: The covers here are the film posters; they may not look the same as the actual novel covers you will be reading)

Gone Girl
Gillian Flynn
(Thriller/Crime)

Marriage can be a real killer. One of the most critically acclaimed suspense writers of our time, New York Times bestseller Gillian Flynn, takes that statement to its darkest place in this unputdownable masterpiece about a marriage gone terribly, terribly wrong. As *The Washington Post* proclaimed, her work “draws you in and keeps you reading with the force of a pure but nasty addiction.” *Gone Girl*’s toxic mix of sharp-edged wit with deliciously chilling prose creates a nerve-fraying thriller that confounds you at every turn.



It's Kind of a Funny Story
Ned Vizzini

Like many ambitious New York City teenagers, Craig Gilner sees entry into Manhattan's Executive Pre-Professional High School as the ticket to his future. But at his new school, Craig realizes that he isn't brilliant compared to the other kids; he's just average, and maybe not even that. The stress becomes unbearable and Craig stops eating and sleeping—until, one night, he nearly kills himself. Craig's suicidal episode gets him checked into a mental hospital, where his new neighbours include a transsexual sex addict, a girl who has scarred her own face with scissors, and the self-elected President Armelio. There, isolated from the crushing pressures of school and friends, Craig is finally able to confront the sources of his anxiety.



Insurgent (only if you have already read Divergent)
Veronica Roth
One choice decides your friends. One choice defines your beliefs. One choice determines your loyal ties—forever. One choice can transform you.



Serena
Ron Rash

The year is 1929 and newlyweds George (Bradley Cooper) and Serena (Jennifer Lawrence) travel from the big city to the mountains where they plan to create a timber empire. Together, Serena and George ruthlessly kill or vanquish all who fall out of their favour. Yet when Serena learns that she can never have a child, she sets out to murder the son George fathered without her. You won't be able to put it down.



Still Alice
Lisa Genova

Alice Howland (Julianne Moore) is proud of the life she worked so hard to build. At fifty years old, she's a cognitive psychology professor at Harvard and a world-renowned expert in linguistics with a successful husbands and three grown children. When she becomes increasingly disoriented and forgetful, a tragic diagnosis changes her life forever.



V for Vendetta (graphic novel)
Alan Moore and David Lloyd

The story of a vigilante who will stop at nothing—even breaking the law himself—to end the totalitarian and oppressive rule of a corrupt government.

