

The Beatitudes: Silent Reading and Summary
Reading List
Christian Ethics 9
Ms. Lloyd

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Bell, William. *Death Wind*.

Believing that she is already the cause of her parents' quarrelling, Allie does not want to share with them the fact that she has failed three of her four courses and may be pregnant, so she runs away with her friend Razz. When a tornado hits their home town, they return.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Lowry, Lois. *A Summer to Die*.

Because Meg envies her sister's beauty and popularity, her feelings don't make it any easier to cope with Molly's strange illness and eventual death.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Nicholson, Lorna Schultz. *Too Many Men*.

Sam's move to Ottawa means leaving his friends and hockey team, and even though he is playing on a new team, he misses his old life, especially when his mother breaks her leg and needs Sam and his brothers to run the household. A new puppy complicates Sam's housekeeping!

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Allin, Lou. *That Dog Won't Hunt*.

A drifter takes a job at a hunting lodge in Northern Ontario, with the expectation of a big payday for the summer's work. When the eccentric owner decides to go back on on her promises, she ends up dead.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Bowen, Gail. *Love You to Death*.

Charlie D is the host of a successful late-night radio call-in show. His listeners have a particularly intimate relationship with him and often reveal much about themselves, confident that he will honour their trust and that he can save them. But someone is killing some of Charlie D's favourite listeners.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Babbitt, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting*.

Winnie must join the Tuck family after she stumbles onto their secret – eternal life after drinking from a magic spring.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons and daughters of God.

Trembath, Don. *Rooster*.

Rooster Cobb is in trouble—with his school, with his mother, with his girlfriend. The last thing Rooster wants to do is coach The Strikers, a bowling team of special-needs adults, especially when he finds out he's going to be mentored by the most unpopular girl in school.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Brown, Liz. *The Bully*.

A teenage girl struggles against lies and rumours spread by a female bully at her school.

Berk, Josh. ***The Dark Days of Hamburger Halpin.***

When Will Halpin transfers from his all-deaf school into a mainstream Pennsylvania high school, he faces discrimination and bullying, but still manages to solve a mystery surrounding the death of a popular football player in his class.

Choyce, Lesley. ***Falling Through the Cracks.***

Melanie and Trent are fighters. They fight to hold their dead-end jobs and stay in school at the same time. They fight to stay off the streets, fight against a welfare system that is worse than useless for them. They fight to stay together.

Choyce, Lesley. ***Reckless.***

Josh knows he's riding recklessly when he knocks down the old man. But he is shocked when the old man walks into the forest with his dirt bike. A week without his beloved bike motivates Josh to hike into the woods to confront the crazy old man whom he suspects is the hermit of Loggerman Creek.

David, Peter. ***Spyboy: the Deadly Gourmet Affair.***

High school student Alex Fleming's life has been terrible since a gang of drug-dealing bullies began targeting him for a rash of beatings and general humiliation. But everyone has a limit!

Doherty, Catherine. ***Can of Worms.***

The author follows the clues to her adoption until she locates her birth mother.

Ellis, Deborah. ***No Ordinary Day.***

Valli has always been afraid of the lepers living on the other side of the train tracks in the coal town of Jharia, India, so when a chance encounter with a doctor reveals she also has leprosy, Valli rejects help and begins an uncertain life on the streets.

Ellis, Deborah. ***No Safe Place.***

Fifteen-year-old Abdul, having lost everyone he loves, journeys from Baghdad to a migrant community in Calais where he sneaks aboard a boat bound for England, not knowing it carries a cargo of heroin, and when the vessel is involved in a skirmish and the pilot killed, it is up to Abdul and three other young stowaways to complete the journey.

Fairfield, Lesley. ***Tyranny.***

The tale of Anna's journey as she falls prey to the eating disorder, Anorexia, personified as her tormentor.

Friel, Maeve. ***Charlie's Story.***

After being abandoned by her mother at the age of four, living for ten years with her somewhat distracted father in Ireland, and being mercilessly bullied by her cruel classmates, Charlie Collins almost gives up on life.

Fullerton, Alma. ***Libertad***.

Libertad and his younger brother, Julio, live near the Guatamala City dump. When their mother dies, Libertad and Julio try to earn a living as street musicians while they work their way north to cross into the United States to find their father.

Hinton, S.E. ***That Was Then, This Is Now***.

Sixteen-year-old Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood, but now, as their involvement with girls, gangs, and drugs increases, their relationship seems to gradually disintegrate.

Hornschemeier, Paul. ***Mother, Come Home***.

The quietly stunning tale of a father and son struggling, by varying degrees of escapism and fantasy, to come to terms with the death of the family's mother.

Koss, Amy Goldman. ***Poison Ivy***.

3 bullies. 2 points of view. 1 trial. Don't miss it.

Kuper, Peter. ***The Metamorphosis***.

In graphic novel format, reworks Franz Kafka's tale of family and alienation featuring traveling salesman Gregor Samsa, who awakens in his family home one morning to find himself turned into a giant bug.

L'Engle, Madeleine. ***A Wrinkle in Time***.

Meg and her brothers travel, using a wrinkle in time, to the planet of Camazotz, where their father has been trapped. Life and death.

McKay, Sharon E. ***Esther***.

The remarkable, nearly incredible life and times of Esther Brandeau, a young girl who lived in the eighteenth century and was the first Jew to set foot in New France. That she did so disguised as a boy, and that the eventual discovery of her deceit became an international incident, is but one part of Esther's dramatic story.

McKay, Sharon E. ***War Brothers: An African Tale of Loyalty and Courage***.

Jacob, the son of a wealthy landowner, and Oteka, whose parents have died of AIDS, find themselves in the clutches of the Lord's Resistance Army, forced to march endlessly through rough terrain with little food or water.

Morpurgo, Michael. ***Private Peaceful***.

Private Thomas Peaceful has lied about his age to enlist. As Thomas stands night watch, his memories are full of his childhood. But each moment brings him closer to something he cannot bear to consider.

Nielson, Susin. ***Word Nerd***.

When some bullies at his new school almost kill him by slipping a peanut into his sandwich, friendless nerd Ambrose, forced to be home-schooled by his overprotective mother, coerces his neighbor Cosmo into taking him to the West Side Scrabble Club, where people accept him for who he is.

Paulsen, Gary. ***The Schernoff Discoveries***.

Harold and his best friend, both hopeless geeks and societal misfits, try to survive unusual science experiments, the attacks of the football team, and other dangers of school.

Polak, Monique. ***What World Is Left.***

Anneke, a Dutch Jewish teenager, is sent with her family to Theresienstadt, a "model" concentration camp, where she confronts great evil and learns to do what it takes to survive.

Porter, Pamela. ***The Crazy Man.***

Emaline's world is changed by a tragic farm accident that leaves her leg mangled, her dog dead, and her father missing. After her father disappears a new farmhand, Angus, is hired. Angus is a patient from a mental hospital and he is feared by the community.

Satrapi, Marjane. ***Persepolis: the Story of a Childhood.***

The story of the author's life in Tehran from ages six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, and the devastating effects of war with Iraq.

Smucker, Barbara. ***Underground to Canada.***

While Julilly slaved on a brutal cotton plantation, she was dreaming of running away to the distant northern land called Canada, where all people could be free. In the end, she did more than dream.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher. ***Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind.***

When eleven-year old Shabanu, the daughter of a nomad in the Cholistan Desert of present-day Pakistan, is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family, she must either accept the decision, as is the custom, or risk the consequences of defying her father's wishes.

Storrie, Paul D. ***Beowulf: Monster Slayer.***

Adaptation of the epic poem, Beowulf.

Storrie, Paul D. ***Perseus: the Hunt for Medusa's Head.***

Perseus must slay the snake-haired Medusa.

Taniguchi, Tomoko. ***Call Me Princess.***

Mako is torn between her feelings for Yo and her attraction to the newly-arrived bad boy, Ryu.

Tate, Nikki. ***Fallout.***

After the death of her sister, Tara struggles to deal with her guilt through slam poetry.

Thompson, Craig. ***Good-bye, Chunky Rice.***

A charming, profound tale of loneliness, loss, and undying friendship between Chunky Rice, the small turtle, and Dandel, his mouse friend.

Tullson, Diane. ***Red Sea.***

When modern-day pirates attack their boat, Libby's stepfather is killed and her mother is left unconscious. Libby, alone on a crippled boat, must find safety and help.

Volponi, Paul. ***Rucker Park Setup.***

While playing in a crucial basketball game on the very court where his best friend was murdered, Mackey tries to come to terms with his own part in that murder and decide whether to maintain his silence or tell J.R.'s father and the police what really happened.

Walters, Eric. ***War of the Eagles.***

Jed, the son of a Haida Woman and a British father who is a fighter pilot in Europe, spends most of his days acting as the caregiver for a golden eagle that was injured during a shooting spree by the soldiers stationed at the camp.

Watson, Cristy. ***Living Rough.***

Poe, a homeless young teen, struggles to keep his living situation a secret.

Weaver, Will. ***Saturday Night Dirt.***

The much-anticipated Saturday night dirt-track race at the old-fashioned, barely viable Headwaters Speedway becomes, in many ways, an important life-changing event for all the participants on and off the track.

Wilson, John. ***Death on the River.***

Young Jake Clay joins the Union Army in the spring of 1864. His dreams of glory vanish, when he is wounded and taken prisoner in his first battle at Cold Harbor, Virginia, and confined to the Confederate prison camp at Andersonville, where 30,000 soldiers face violence, disease and starvation. Frightened and disillusioned, Jake takes up with Billy Sharp, an unscrupulous opportunist who shows him how to survive, no matter what the cost.

Wishinsky, Frieda. ***Queen of the Toilet Bowl.***

When Renata is chosen to play the lead role in the school musical, students who used to ignore her start saying hello and congratulating her in the hall. She is happy until it becomes evident that Karin, a wealthy girl who expected to get the lead role, will go to great lengths to ruin Renata's reputation.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer. ***Probably Still Nick Swansen.***

Sixteen-year-old learning-disabled Nick struggles to endure a life in which the other kids make fun of him, he has to take special classes, his date for the prom makes an excuse not to go with him, and he is haunted by the memory of his older sister who drowned while he was watching.