

Middle School Summer Reading List
Holy Cross of San Antonio
Grade 8

Book titles: *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi
The Transall Saga by Gary Paulsen

Books are available at any bookstore or at the public library.

Due date: Portfolio due on first day of school. Students should be ready to discuss books in class the first day of school.

Portfolio: Students will include the following in their portfolio to turn in on the first day of school. Students should put their portfolio project in a folder clearly marked with their name and grade.

Book I: *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*

- Complete the “Ways to attack a castle” worksheet (on back)
- Based on your reading, choose a character, describe what feudal category he/she represents, then research and write a two-page essay explaining why. You can research the feudal system or the feudal caste.
- **Include a copy of your article or research with your summary.**
 - Students can use the World Book Encyclopedia as a source. Students registered at Holy Cross can access the World Book Encyclopedia online by using their password.

***All writing should be typed, 12-point, double-spaced

Book II: *The Transall Saga*

- Write a one-page review of this book, as though you were reviewing it for a newspaper. Here are some questions to help you:
 - Could you relate to Mark’s experiences? How? Why?
 - Did the author do a good job of describing a feeling of alienation? How? Why?
 - Would you recommend this book to others? Why? Why not?

***All writing should be typed, 12-point, double-spaced