

GORDON'S SCHOOL KS4 NON FICTION *READING LIST*

Brown, Christie *'My Left Foot'*

Christy Brown's account of his early life, published in 1954 when he was twenty-two. The tenth of twenty-two children (thirteen of whom survived), Brown was diagnosed with severe cerebral palsy and his parents were told that they ought to put him into an institution and forget about him because he would be a "mental defective". It was the determination of his mother, not giving up on him, that proved decisive.

Fry, Stephen *'Moab is My Washpot'*

Autobiography, covering the first 20 years of his life. In the book, Fry is candid about his past indiscretions, including stealing, cheating and lying.

Fry, Stephen *'The Fry Chronicles'*

Second part of Fry's autobiography; a grand reminiscence of college and theatre and comedyland in the 1980s, with tone-perfect showbiz anecdotes, and often excruciating honesty about his crippling self-doubts, his needinesses, the greed of his addictions and his relentless drive for fame.

Hornby, Nick *'Fever Pitch'*

Arguably the book which reinvigorated the football writing genre, 'Fever Pitch' is the wonderful story of a child's love affair with the game and, in Hornby's particular case, the sole object of his affection, Arsenal Football Club. You don't have to like football to love this autobiography.

Lee, Laurie *'Cider With Rosie'*

A wonderfully vivid memoir of childhood in a remote Cotswold village, a village before electricity or cars, a timeless place on the verge of change. Growing up amongst the fields and woods and characters of the place, Laurie Lee depicts a world that is both immediate and real and belongs to a now-distant past.

Mandela, Nelson *'Long Walk to Freedom'*

The riveting memoirs of the outstanding moral and political leader of our time, A Long Walk to Freedom brilliantly re-creates the drama of the experiences that helped shape Nelson Mandela's destiny. Emotive, compelling and uplifting, A Long Walk to Freedom is the exhilarating story of an epic life in South Africa; a story of hardship, resilience and ultimate triumph told with the clarity and eloquence of a born leader.

McCourt, Frank *'Angela's Ashes'*

Sad, funny, bittersweet memoir of growing up in New York in the 30s and in Ireland in the 40s. A story of extreme hardship and suffering, in Brooklyn tenements and Limerick slums – too many children, too little money, his mother Angela barely coping as his father's drinking bouts constantly bring the family to the brink of disaster. It is a story of courage and survival against apparently overwhelming odds.

Simpson, Joe *'Touching the Void'*

1988 book recounting mountaineers Simpson and Simon Yates' disastrous and nearly fatal climb of the 6,344-metre (20,814 ft) Siula Grande in the Peruvian Andes in 1985. Heartstopping account of a terrifying adventure.

Yousafzai, Malala *'I Am Malala'*

The girl who stood up for education and was shot by the Taliban. The story of a teenager who refused to be silenced.

