

Troy School District

Summer Reading Program 2020

12 Literature and Composition

Seniors are to read two books this summer; one will be from teacher-provided lists, and the other is to be selected by the individual student. This program is intended to increase students' enjoyment of reading and to develop a habit of reading that takes students far beyond the English classroom.

Requirements:

Within the **first two weeks of the school year** (and throughout the rest of the school year), we will be discussing and writing about your experiences with these texts. What did you get from each? How did your thinking grow or change? What fascinated you, piqued your interest, or challenged you?

Aside from reading the books, there is no other summer assignment. We look forward to beginning the school year with students who have read and enjoyed two engaging pieces of literature.

Where do I get the books?

- New or used books can be purchased through amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and half.com.
- Ebooks can be purchased through many online stores including the Amazon Bookstore or through iTunes via the iBooks app.
- Troy Public Library: Please note that while you may borrow the book from the library, the supply is limited, and, more importantly, **owning the books in either paperback or e-reader form will allow necessary access to the texts during the school year.**

SELECTION #1: WORLD FICTION or NON-FICTION

Choose one book from either the fiction OR non-fiction lists below.

FYI: You will be reading another book from these lists during the school year. (For example, if you read something from the fiction list in the summer, you will then choose a title from the non-fiction list to read during the school year.)

Reading any book, especially a more difficult book, is easier when you have people with whom to talk it through. Feel free to form a group and read the same book. Discuss it, ask each other questions, help one another.

As all of these selections contain mature themes, please do your research to make sure this book is a "good fit" for your interests and/or world view.

We've created this list to offer choices to every reader, regardless of ability, thus the reading difficulty varies widely from title to title. Be sure to do your research. **Don't shy away from a challenging read if it captures your interest!**

WORLD FICTION

[A Thousand Splendid Suns](#) (Afghanistan)

[SOLD](#) (Nepal/India)

[Q& A: A Novel](#) (India)

[A Walk Across the Sun](#) (India)

[Purple Hibiscus](#) (Nigeria)

[The Fishermen](#) (Nigeria)

[Beasts of No Nation](#) (Africa)

[Never Fall Down](#) (Cambodia)

[The Sympathizer](#) (Vietnam)

Khaled Hosseini

Patricia McCormick

Vikas Swarup

Corban Addison

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Chigozie Obioma

Uzodinma Iweala

Patricia McCormick

Viet Thanh Nguyen

[The Orphan Master's Son](#) (North Korea)
[Pachinko](#) (Japan/Korea)
[Memoirs of a Geisha](#) (Japan)
[In the Pond](#) (China)
[Snow Flower and the Secret Fan](#) (China)
[The Nightingale](#) (France)
[All the Light We Cannot See](#) (Germany/France)
[The Berlin Boxing Club](#) (Germany)
[City of Thieves](#) (Russia)
[Between Shades of Gray](#) (Russia/Siberia)
[Dark at the Crossing](#) (Syria)
[Redeployment](#) (US/Afghanistan/Iraq)
[Yellow Birds](#)

Adam Johnson
 Min Jin Lee
 Arthur Golden
 Ha Jin
 Lisa See
 Kristin Hannah
 Anthony Doerr
 Robert Sharenow
 David Benioff
 Ruta Sepetys
 Eliot Ackerman
 Phil Kaye
 Kevin Powers

WORLD NON-FICTION

[They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan](#)
[Blood and Earth: Modern Slavery, Ecocide, and the Secret to Saving the World Hardcover](#)
[Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity](#)
[The Promise of a Pencil: How an Ordinary Person Can Create Extraordinary Change](#)
[Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea](#)
[The Third Chimpanzee: The Evolution and Future of the Human Animal](#)
[Zeitoun](#)
[We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will be Killed With Our Families](#)
[Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide](#)
[Girls Like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not for Sale](#)
[Lone Survivor](#)
[The Road of Lost Innocence: The Story of a Cambodian Heroine](#)
[Kaffir Boy](#)
[Enrique's Journey](#)
[Born a Crime](#)
[The Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of a Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan](#)
[In Order to Live: A North Korean Girl's Journey to Freedom](#)
[The Lightless Sky: A Twelve-Year-Old Refugee's Extraordinary Journey Across Half the World](#)
[City of Thorns: Nine Lives in the World's Largest Refugee Camp](#)
[When I Was Puerto Rican](#)
[The Places In Between](#)
[The Prince of the Marshes: And Other Occupational Hazards of a Year in Iraq](#)
[Bad News: Last Journalists in a Dictatorship](#)
[The Bosnia List: A Memoir of War, Exile, and Return](#)

Benjamin Ajak
 Kevin Bales
 Katherine Boo
 Adam Braun
 Barbara Demick
 Jared Diamon
 Dave Eggers
 Philip Gourevitch
 Nicholas D. Kristof / Sheryl WuDunn
 Rachel Lloyd
 Marcus Luttrell
 Somaly Mam
 Mark Mathabane
 Sonia Nazario
 Trevor Noah
 Jenny Nordberg
 Yeonmi Park
 Gulwali Passarlay
 Ben Rawlence
 Esmeralda Santiago
 Rory Stewart
 Rory Stewart
 Anjan Sundaram
 Kenan Trebincevic

SELECTION #2: INDIVIDUAL CHOICE

Your second selection should be a book that you find. Choose something new to you, something you've always wanted to read, or something you just stumbled upon that looks interesting.

Reading any book, especially a more difficult book, is easier and more enjoyable when you have people with whom to talk it through. Feel free to form a group and read the same book. Discuss it, ask each other questions, help one another.