

HIGH SCHOOL ~ SUMMER READING 2010

6/21/2010

Dear Students,

Summer Reading this year will be different than you may have experienced in the past: in addition to reading a book of your choice from the list enclosed, you will also have a book assigned to you by grade level. Both of these texts will be assessed.

Book 1: Integrity Text (choose one from attached list)

For this book, think about the following question: What role does the character virtue “integrity” play in your text? You will be assessed on your understanding of this choice book in September.

Book 2: English Course Text

The following texts are mandatory. We expect that you will be ready to discuss and write about these texts in English class at the beginning of the school year. If you struggle with remembering what you read, we recommend you take notes.

Entering 9th grade: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Entering 10th grade: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

Entering 11th grade: Read one (or more!) of the following:

- *Every Second Counts* by Lance Armstrong
- *Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long Distance Swimmer* by Lynne Cox
- *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah
- *The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio: How My Mother Raised 10 Kids on 25 Words or Less* by Terry Ryan
- *In Pursuit of the Common Good Twenty-Five Years of Repairing the World, One Bottle of Salad Dressing at a Time* by Paul Newman and A. E. Hotchner
- *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer
- *Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil* by Kristin Ohlson
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Entering 12th grade: *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

These books are available at most used bookstores and libraries. Four Rivers has some copies of these four texts available for borrowing. You can arrange this through the main office.

If you have any questions, please email your English teacher.

Sincerely,

Maura Ambuter (9th and 10th): mambuter@fourriverscharter.org

Leah Plath (11th and 12th): lplath@fourriverscharter.org

Integrity “Choice” Texts
Choose one of these books and read it this summer.

Stories: All New Tales by Neil Gaiman and Al Sarrantonio

Choose this book if

- You like fantasy, crime, horror, or slightly tilted daily life
- You prefer short stories over one continuous novel
- You enjoyed *Coraline* or any other Neil Gaiman classics

The Legacy of Luma: The Story of a Tree, a Woman, and the Struggle to Save the Redwoods by Julia Butterfly Hill

Choose this book if

- You're interested in learning about a woman who climbed up a 200 foot redwood tree in December of 1997 and did not come down for 738 days
- You're interested in environmental activism
- You want to know what drives people to be courageous and stand up for something they believe in

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey

Choose this book if

- You want to read about an insane asylum and its inhabitants
- You enjoy “dark humor”
- You've ever felt like the only sane person in a crazy world

Written on the Body by Jeannette Winterson

Choose this book if

- You love fluid, lyrical prose
- You're intrigued by a book where the narrator has no specified name, age or gender, and is highly unreliable, yet it all works
- You want to explore the idea of love with the stereotypes removed

Black Swan Green by David Mitchell

Choose this book if

- You like books where each chapter works with the others but can stand alone
- You enjoy coming-of-age stories with many twists and turns
- You're drawn to stories of the underdog

Look Me in the Eye: My Life With Asperger's by John Elder Robison

Choose this book if

- You've wondered what life is like with Asperger's syndrome
- You enjoy memoirs with a unique perspective
- You want to explore worlds where strange behaviors are seen as normal

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin by Benjamin Franklin

Choose this book if

- You're interested in Colonial America and the Founding Fathers
- You want to learn more about a brilliant inventor, scientist and politician
- You've ever wanted to try that key/kite/lightning stunt

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

Choose this book if

- You enjoy unique, unreliable narrators
- You like mysteries and psychology
- You're drawn to puzzles of math and logic

Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco X. Stork

Choose this book if

- You like stories about special needs individuals stepping beyond their comfort zones
- You relate to outsiders trying to find a place in the world
- You enjoy grappling with ethical dilemmas

The Power of One by Bryce Courtenay

Choose this book if

- You're interested in issues of social justice and apartheid
- You want to read about an underdog using sports to overcome challenges
- You prefer true stories to fiction