

Honors Multicultural Literature SUMMER READING 2019-2020

Welcome! We look forward to traversing the globe with you through the eyes of some of the best writers of all time. Students enrolled in Honors Multicultural Literature will be required to read two (2) novel selections over the summer: one fiction and one nonfiction. Please be prepared to be assessed over these books immediately upon school starting. It would benefit you to annotate in your book (if you own it) while you read. The only assignment you have this summer is to enjoy some fine summer reading!

NOVEL CHOICES

FICTION (choose one):

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros: Features the life of Esperanza Cordero, a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, who uses poems and stories to express thoughts and emotions about her oppressive environment.

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See: For the Akha people, entrenched in ritual and routine, life goes on as it has for generations—until a stranger appears at the village gate in a jeep, the first automobile any of the villagers has ever seen. Li-yan, one of the few educated girls on her mountain, translates for the stranger and is among the first to reject the rules that have shaped her existence.

Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison: Milkman Dead was born shortly after a neighborhood eccentric hurled himself off a rooftop in a vain attempt at flight. For the rest of his life he, too, will be trying to fly.

When I Was the Greatest by Jason Reynolds: Urban youth Ali spends his days attending school, boxing and helping his family while looking out for a troublesome friend and a Tourette's-afflicted brother—only to be brutally targeted in the aftermath of a misunderstanding.

NONFICTION (choose one)

The 57 Bus by Dashka Slater- Sasha and Richard are both high school students from Oakland, California; however, they live in two totally different worlds. Sasha, a white teen, lives in a suburban neighborhood and attends private school. Richard, a black teen, lives in a crime infested neighborhood and attends public school. Each day they cross paths on the 57 bus. One afternoon on the bus ride from school, a careless act leaves Sasha severely burned and Richard charged with two hate crimes and facing life imprisonment.

Black Rain by Masuji Ibuse: Black Rain is centered around the story of a young woman who was caught in the radioactive "black rain" that fell after the bombing of Hiroshima. The life of Yasuko, on whom the black rain fell, is changed forever by periodic bouts of radiation sickness and the suspicion that her future children, too, may be affected.

The Other Wes Moore by Wes Moore: Two kids born Wes Moore were born blocks apart within a year of each other. Both grew up fatherless in harsh Baltimore neighborhoods and had difficult childhoods. However, one grew up to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader, while the other ended up a convicted murderer serving a life sentence.

Girl Rising by Tanya Lee Stone: A collection of quotes and stories from women and girls Afghanistan, Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Nepal, Peru, Sierra Leone, and other countries. *Girl Rising* unveils the true hardship of women who are prevented from improving their lives of poverty, human trafficking, modern-day slavery, child marriage, and gender discrimination.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions! ELA Academic Coach: Jessica Whyllly
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