

Torah Academy of Bergen County

English Department

Incoming Ninth Grade English Summer 2019 Reading List and Assignment

Dear Freshmen,



Since the summer is a good time to relax and read, we suggest that you find a comfortable spot and do just that—read books that look potentially inviting and exciting within the next three months. While reading, it is always important to think about the particular characters and their

conflicts, the unique message of the book, its setting, the meaning of its title, and the relevance the book may have to the reader.

Below is a list from which to choose. We ask you to choose at least one.

When you return in September, you will be asked to write about your book. Please bring it to class on the first day. We are not interested in your reading of secondary sources on the books; we are interested only in your ideas and reactions regarding the book you have chosen.

Fiction:

The Alchemist, by Paulo Coelho (spiritual fiction)

Code Name Verity, by Elizabeth Wein (Historical Fiction)

Double Helix, by Nancy Werlin (Fiction)

Girl With a Pearl Earring, by Tracy Chevalier (Historical Fiction)

The Hound of the Baskervilles, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Mystery)

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents, by Julia Alvarez (Fiction)

Monster by Walter Dean Myers (Fiction)

The Secret Life of Bees, by Sue Monk Kidd (Fiction)

Tamar, by Mal Peet (fiction)

Tom Sawyer, by Mark Twain (fiction)

Trash, by Andy Mulligan (fiction)

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, by Betty Smith (Historical Fiction)

Graphic Novel/Memoir:

Persepolis, Marjane Satrapi (Graphic Memoir)

Terrorist : Gavrilo Princip, The Assassin Who Ignited The World, by Henrik Rehr. (graphic novel)

To Timbuktu: Nine Countries, Two People, One True Story, by Casey Scieszka and Steven Weinberg (Graphic Novel/Memoir)

Non-Fiction:

The Bullies of Wall Street: This Is How Greedy Adults Messed Up Our Economy, by Sheila Bair (non-fiction)

I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World, by Malala Yousafzai, co-written by Patricia McCormick (Autobiography)

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, by Maya Angelou (Autobiography) I might replace this with Ta-Nehisi Coates

Into the Wild, by Jon Krakauer (Biography/Adventure)

They Are All My Family: A Daring Rescue in the Chaos of Saigon's Fall, by John P. Riordan. (non-fiction)

What If?: Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions, by Randall Munroe (Non-Fiction)

Science Fiction:

The Maze Runner, by James Dashner

The Martian Chronicles, by Ray Bradbury

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, by Jules Verne

The Time Machine, by H.G. Wells

Whichever book you choose, the important thing is to read, understand and enjoy what you have read. We look forward to hearing about your book in September.

Sincerely,



Dr. Carol Master
Chair, English Department



Arthur J. Poleyeff
Principal