

# Torah Academy of Bergen County

English Department

## Incoming Tenth Grade English 2019 Summer Reading List and Assignment

Dear Sophomores,



This year, the English Department has decided to give you, the students of the incoming tenth grade class, a list of books, both fiction and non-fiction, to choose from for your summer reading.

Please select one book from the list below and read it carefully because when you return to school, you will be writing a **PERSONAL** response on it. This type of response asks you to examine, explain and defend your personal reaction to a reading. In it, you might explore why

you like or dislike the reading and what about the text is easily identifiable and what is not, explain whether you agree or disagree with the author's point of view and how much it has in common with your worldview, identify the reading's purpose, and critique the text. There is no right or wrong answer to a reader response. Nonetheless, it is important that you demonstrate an understanding of the text and clearly explain and support your reactions when you write about your book in September.

**Please note:**

- **You must bring the book of your choice to class on the first day of school.**
- **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.**

Non-Fiction:

*A Long Way Gone*, by Ishmael Beah

*The Zookeeper's Wife*, by Diane Ackerman

*Between You and Me: Confessions of a Comma Queen*, by Mary Norris

*A Good Place to Hide: How One French Village Saved Thousands*, by Peter Grose

*How I Shed My Skin: Unlearning the Racist Lessons of a Southern Childhood*, by Jim Grimsley

*Target Tokyo: Jimmy Doolittle and the Raid that Avenged Pearl Harbor*, by James C. Scott

*The Secret Game: A Wartime Story of Courage, Change and Basketball's Lost Triumph*, by Scott Ellsworth

*The Elephant Man*, by Christine Sparks

Fiction:

*Q and A*, by Vikas Swarup

*All Quiet on the Western Front*, by Erich Maria Remarque

*Great Expectations*, by Charles Dickens

*Little Bee*, by Chris Cleave

*On the Beach*, by Nevil Shute

*Brave New World*, by Aldous Huxley

*Siddhartha*, by Hermann Hesse

*One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

*The Namesake*, by Jhumpa Lahiri

*All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr

*The Shadow of the Wind*, by Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Find your perfect reading spot, enjoy the book and, if the spirit moves you, read more!

Sincerely,



Dr. Carol Master  
Chair, English Department



Arthur J. Poleyeff  
Principal