

STAMFORD HIGH SUMMER READING 2014

Select ONE summer reading book. The list below provides some suggestions.



Spend time reading a good book this summer. We have provided suggestions for inspiration, but feel free to choose a title that does not appear on the list. Chat with your friends, parents, teachers, and librarians about the books *they* recommend. Browse the shelves in the library and in book stores or read reviews online. Choose a fiction or nonfiction book that interests you and that challenges you. The possibilities are nearly endless. Our purpose is to encourage you to find an enjoyable summer read. Expect that your English teacher will assess your reading when you return to school. Have a great summer!

Some Reading Suggestions

***Legend*, Marie Lu – 336 pp**

Born into an elite family in one of the Republic's wealthiest districts, fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for success in the Republic's highest military circles. Born into the slums, fifteen-year-old Day is the country's most wanted criminal. But his motives may not be as malicious as they seem. From very different worlds, June and Day have no reason to cross paths - until the day June's brother, Metias, is murdered and Day becomes the prime suspect. *Prodigy* and *Champion* follow in this series.

***The Living*, Matt De La Pena – 487 pp**

Shy took the summer job to make some money. In a few months on a luxury cruise liner, he'll rake in the tips and be able to help his mom and sister out with the bills. And how bad can it be? But Shy's only weeks out at sea when an earthquake more massive than ever before recorded hits California, and his life is forever changed.

***Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*, Amy Chua – 256 pp**

Amy Chua argues that Western parenting tries to respect and nurture children's individuality, while Chinese parents typically believe that arming children with skills, strong work habits, and inner confidence prepares them best for the future. This book chronicles Chua's iron-willed decision to raise her daughters, Sophia and Lulu, the Chinese way - and the remarkable, sometimes heartbreaking results her choice inspires.

***The Fury*, Alexander Gordon Smith – 688 pp**

Imagine if one day, without warning, the entire human race turns against you, if every person you know, every person you meet becomes a bloodthirsty, mindless savage . . . That's the horrifying reality for Cal, Brick, and Daisy. Their world has the Fury. It will not rest until they are dead, but survival comes at a cost.

***The Future of Us*, Jay Asher & Carolyn Mackler – 368 pp**

It's 1996, and less than half of all American high school students have ever used the Internet. Emma just got her first computer and an America Online CD-ROM. Josh is her best friend. They power up and log on--and discover themselves on Facebook, fifteen years in the future. Everybody wonders what their destiny will be. Josh and Emma are about to find out.

***Gone*, Michael Grant – 576 pp**

In the blink of an eye, everyone disappears. *Gone*. Except for the young. There are teens, but not one single adult. Just as suddenly, there are no phones, no internet, no television. Hunger threatens. Bullies rule. A sinister creature lurks. Animals are mutating. And the teens themselves are changing, developing new talents—unimaginable, dangerous, deadly powers—that grow stronger by the day. Five books follow in this series.

***All the Truth That's In Me*, Julie Berry – 288 pp**

Four years ago, Judith and her best friend disappeared from their small town of Roswell Station. Two years ago, only Judith returned, permanently mutilated, reviled and ignored by those who were once her friends and family. Unable to speak, Judith is forced to choose: continue to live in silence, or recover her voice, even if it means changing her world, and the lives around her, forever. School Library Journal Best Books of 2013.

***Little Princes: One Man's Promise to Bring Home the Lost Children of Nepal*, Conor Grennan – 320 pp**

This book describes how the author's three-month service as a volunteer at the Little Princes Orphanage in war-torn Nepal became a commitment for advocacy and reform when he discovered that many of his young charges were victims rescued from human traffickers.

***Rose Under Fire*, Elizabeth Wein – 368 pp**

While flying an Allied fighter plane from Paris to England, American ATA pilot and amateur poet, Rose Justice, is captured by the Nazis and sent to Ravensbruck, the notorious women's concentration camp. Trapped in horrific circumstances, Rose finds hope in the impossible through the loyalty, bravery and friendship of her fellow prisoners.

***Darius & Twig*, Walter Dean Myers – 224 pp**

Darius and Twig are an unlikely pair: Darius is a writer whose only escape is his alter ego, a peregrine falcon named Fury, and Twig is a middle-distance runner striving for athletic success. But they are drawn together in the struggle to overcome the obstacles that life in Harlem throws at them. 2014 Coretta Scott King Honor Book.

(continued)

Suggestions (continued)

Midwinterblood, Marcus Sedgwick – 288 pp

An archaeologist who unearths a mysterious artifact, an airman who finds himself far from home, a painter, a ghost, a vampire, and a Viking: the seven stories in this compelling novel all take place on the remote Scandinavian island of Blessed where a curiously powerful plant that resembles a dragon grows. What binds these stories together? And what might be powerful enough to break the cycle of mid-winterblood? 2104 Printz Award Winner.

Navigating Early, Clare Vanderpool – 320 pp

At the end of World War II, Jack Baker, a landlocked Kansas boy, is suddenly uprooted after his mother's death and placed in a boy's boarding school in Maine. He encounters Early Auden, the strangest of boys, who reads the number pi as a story and collects clippings about the sightings of a great black bear in the nearby mountains. When the boys find themselves unexpectedly alone at school, they embark on a quest on the Appalachian Trail in search of the great black bear. 2014 Printz Honor Award Winner.

The Death of Bees, Lisa O'Donnell – 336 pp

Two young sisters attempt to hold the world at bay after the mysterious death of their parents. Marnie and Nelly, left on their own in Glasgow's Hazlehurst housing estate, attempt to avoid suspicion until Marnie can become a legal guardian for her younger sister. 2014 Alex Award Winner.

The Maze Runner, James Dashner – 375 pp

Thomas wakes up in an elevator, remembering nothing but his own name. He emerges into a world of about 60 teen boys who have learned to survive in a completely enclosed environment, subsisting on their own agriculture and supplies from below. A new boy arrives every 30 days. The original group has been in "the glade" for two years, trying to find a way to escape through a maze that surrounds their living space. They have begun to give up hope. Then a comatose girl arrives with a strange note, and their world begins to change. *The Scorch Trials*, *The Death Cure*, and *The Kill Order* follow in this series.

Escape from Camp 14: One Man's Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West, Blaine Harden – 224 pp

No one born and raised in North Korea's political prisons camps is known to have escaped. No one, that is, except Shin Dong-hyuk. Harden's harrowing narrative exposes this hidden dystopia, focusing on an extraordinary young man who came of age inside the highest security prison in the highest security state. This book offers an unequalled inside account of one of the world's darkest nations. It is a tale of endurance and courage, survival and hope.

Brewster, Mark Slouka – 288 pp

The year is 1968. The world is changing, and sixteen-year-old Jon Mosher is determined to change with it. Racked by guilt over his older brother's childhood death and stuck in the dead-end town of Brewster, New York, he turns his rage into victories running track. Meanwhile, Ray Cappicciano, a rebel as gifted with his fists as Jon is with his feet, is trying to take care of his baby brother while staying out of the way of his abusive, ex-cop father. Freedom, however, has its price. 2014 Alex Award Winner.

More Than This, Patrick Ness – 480 pp

When he wakes up alone in his childhood home in England, the last thing Seth remembers is drowning off the Washington State coast. The teen must make sense of his seemingly abandoned world and come to terms with a past betrayal and his guilt over a family tragedy. School Library Journal Best Books of 2013.

Where Things Come Back, John Corey Whaley – 256 pp

In the summer before Cullen Witter's senior year, a birdwatcher named John Barling thinks he spots a species of woodpecker thought to be extinct since the 1940s in Lily, Arkansas. His rediscovery of the so-called Lazarus Woodpecker sparks a flurry of press and woodpecker-mania. But as absurd as the town's carnival atmosphere has become, nothing is more startling than the realization that Cullen's sensitive, gifted fifteen-year-old brother Gabriel has suddenly and inexplicably disappeared. 2012 Printz Award Winner.

Assignments for Special Classes:

Honors Classes	AP Language (11)	AP Literature (12)
<p><u>In addition to your one summer reading choice</u>, honors students are expected to read the following:</p> <p>English 9-0: <i>The Alchemist</i>, by Paulo Coelho</p> <p>English 10-0: <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i>, by Erich Maria Remarque</p> <p>English 11-0: <i>The Heretic's Daughter</i>, by Kathleen Kent</p> <p>English 12-0: <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>, by Khaled Hosseini</p>	<p>Read and annotate five articles from <i>The New Yorker</i> magazine or <i>Atlantic Monthly</i> magazine. Choose non-fiction articles (<u>no</u> fiction, blogs, or short side bar articles).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p>Read <i>The Essays of E.B. White</i>. For each essay, keep a journal in which you a) write down White's purpose for that essay (in other words, what is White's point?) and b) write down and briefly explain one key quotation that speaks to that purpose. This must be typed.</p> <p>See www.stamfordhigh.org for more specific instructions.</p> <p>Note: Any reading above and beyond these requirements is optional.</p>	<p>Read ten poems by William Wordsworth. Then, write one poem in the style of Wordsworth. This must be typed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p>Read <i>Invisible Man</i> by Ralph Ellison. Keep a dialectical journal in which you identify and explain fifteen passages (each from a different chapter) that trace the main character's growth on his road to self-reliance. This must be typed.</p> <p>See www.stamfordhigh.org for more specific instructions.</p> <p>Note: Any reading above and beyond these requirements is optional.</p>