

Summer Reading Class of 2020

Fiction

Bronte, Emily. Wuthering Heights. Classic novel of consuming passions, played out against the lonely moors of northern England, recounts the turbulent and tempestuous love story of Cathy and Heathcliff. A masterpiece of imaginative fiction, the story remains as poignant and compelling today as it was when first published in 1847. 415 p. Amazon.

Coben, Harlan. Six Years. Six years have passed since Jake Sanders watched Natalie, the love of his life, marry another man. Six years of hiding a broken heart by throwing himself into his career as a college professor. Six years of keeping his promise to leave Natalie alone, and six years of tortured dreams of her life with her new husband, Todd. But six years haven't come close to extinguishing his feelings, and when Jake comes across Todd's obituary, he can't keep himself away from the funeral. There he gets the glimpse of Todd's wife he's hoping for . . . but she is not Natalie. Whoever the mourning widow is, she's been married to Todd for more than a decade, and with that fact everything Jake thought he knew about the best time of his life--a time he has never gotten over--is turned completely inside out. 351p. Destiny

Hopkins, Ellen. Rumble. Eighteen-year-old Matt's atheism is tested when, after a horrific accident of his own making that plunges him into a dark, quiet place, he hears a voice that calls everything he has ever disbelieved into question. AR, 546p. Provided by the publisher. AR BL: 4.9 Pts: 11.0

King, Steven. 11/22/1963: a novel. Dallas, 11/22/63: Three shots ring out. President John F. Kennedy is dead. Life can turn on a dime—or stumble into the extraordinary, as it does for Jake Epping, a high school English teacher in a Maine town. While grading essays by his GED students, Jake reads a gruesome, enthralling piece penned by janitor Harry Dunning: fifty years ago, Harry somehow survived his father's sledgehammer slaughter of his entire family. Jake is blown away . . . but an even more bizarre secret comes to light when Jake's friend Al, owner of the local diner, enlists Jake to take over the mission that has become his obsession—to prevent the Kennedy assassination. How? By stepping through a portal in the diner's storeroom, and into the era of Ike and Elvis, of big American cars, sock hops, and cigarette smoke. . . . Finding himself in warmhearted Jodie, Texas, Jake begins a new life. But all turns in the road lead to a troubled loner named Lee Harvey Oswald. The course of history is about to be rewritten . . . and become heart-stopping suspenseful. 880p. Amazon. AR BL: 5.4 Pts: 42.0

Saenz, Benjamin Alire. Last Night I Sang to the Monster. Eighteen-year-old Zach does not remember how he came to be in a treatment center for alcoholics, but through therapy and caring friends, his amnesia fades and he learns to face his past while working toward a better future. 239p. Destiny AR BL: 3.4 Pts: 10.0

Summer Days and Summer Nights: Twelve Love Stories Perkins et al. Stephanie Maybe it's the long lazy days, or maybe it's the heat making everyone a little bit crazy. Whatever the reason, summer is the perfect time for love to bloom. 400p. Amazon AR BL: 5.3 Pts: 20.0

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Nonfiction

Bausum, Ann. Denied, Detained, Deported: Stories from the Dark side of American Immigration. With painstaking research, an unerring eye for just the right illustration, and her unique narrative style, award-winning author Ann Bausum makes the history of immigration in America come alive for young people. The story of America has always been shaped by people from all corners of the Earth who came in search of a better life and a brighter future. Immigration remains one of the critical topics in 21st century America, and how our children learn the lessons of the past will shape all our futures. 111p. Request. AR BL: 8.6 Pt: 2.0

Capote, Truman. In Cold Blood. Based on the true story of a prosperous and respected Kansas farmer who, along with his wife and children, is murdered by two mindless ex-convicts. AR, 410p. Summary from Request. AR BL: 7.1 Pts: 21.0

Ebrahim, Zak. The Terrorist's Son: a story of choice. The author discusses his life as the **son** of a terrorist and how he came to reject his father's ideology and embrace the path of nonviolence. 96p. Provided by the publisher. AR BL: 6.6 Pt: 4.0

Fleming, Candace. The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion & the Fall of Imperial Russia. Here is the tumultuous, heartrending, true story of the Romanovs—at once an intimate portrait of Russia's last royal family and a gripping account of its undoing. Using captivating photos and compelling first person accounts, award-winning author Candace Fleming deftly maneuvers between the imperial family's extravagant lives and the plight of Russia's poor masses, making this an utterly mesmerizing read. 292 p. Amazon. AR BL: 7.2 Pts: 12.9

Gladwell, Malcolm. David and Goliath. This book uncovers the hidden rules that shape the balance between the weak and the mighty and the powerful and the dispossessed. In it the author challenges how we think about obstacles and disadvantages, offering a new interpretation of what it means to be discriminated against, or cope with a disability, or lose a parent, or attend a mediocre school, or suffer from any number of other apparent setbacks. He begins with the real story of what happened between the giant and the shepherd boy (David and Goliath) those many years ago. From there, the book examines Northern Ireland's Troubles, the minds of cancer researchers and civil rights leaders, murder and the high costs of revenge, and the dynamics of successful and unsuccessful classrooms, all to demonstrate how much of what is beautiful and important in the world arises from what looks like suffering and adversity. -- From book jacket. 305p.

Hillenbrand, Laura. Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption. On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared,

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leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared; it was Lt. Louis Zamperini. Captured by the Japanese and driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor. Zamperini had a troubled youth, yet honed his athletic skills and made it all the way to the 1934 Olympics in Berlin. However, what lay before him was a physical gauntlet unlike anything he had encountered before: thousands of miles of open ocean, a small raft, and no food or water. He spent forty-seven days adrift in the ocean before being rescued by the Japanese Navy, and was held as a prisoner until the end of the war. 473p. Summary from Request. AR BL: 7.7 Pts: 24.0

Holley, Michael. Belichick and Brady: Two Men, the Patriots, and How They Revolutionized Football. No head coach-quarterback pair has been more successful in NFL history than Bill Belichick and Tom Brady of the New England Patriots. They have won four Super Bowls, six AFC championships, and thirteen division titles. And now Holley takes us inside their relationship, dissecting how these men and their team came to dominate football. 432 p. Amazon

Krakauer, Jon. Where Men Win Glory: The Odyssey of Pat Tillman. Pat Tillman walked away from a multimillion-dollar NFL contract to join the Army and became an icon of post-9/11 patriotism. When he was killed in Afghanistan two years later, a legend was born. But the real Pat Tillman was much more remarkable, and considerably more complicated than the public knew... 383 p. Amazon AR BL: 9.7 Pts: 24.0

Levitt, Steven D. Freakonomics: a Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything. The author offers his view of how the economy really works, examining issues from cheating and crime to sports and child-rearing, offering a very different view on what drives the economy. 315p. Destiny. AR BL: 9.2 Pts: 16.

Newman, Leslea. October Mourning: A Song for Matthew Shepard. On the night of October 6, 1998, a gay twenty-one-year-old college student named Matthew Shepard was lured from a Wyoming bar by two young men, savagely beaten, tied to a remote fence, and left to die. 128p. Amazon. AR BL: 5.2 Pts.: 1.0

Roby, Steven. Hendrix on Hendrix: Interviews and Encounters with Jimi Hendrix (Musicians in Their Own Words). Hendrix on Hendrix includes the most important interviews from the peak of Jimi Hendrix's career, 1966 to 1970, carefully selected by one of the world's leading Jimi Hendrix historians. 384p. Amazon

Schroff, Laura. An Invisible Thread: the True Story of an 11-year-old Panhandler, a Busy Sales Executive, and an Unlikely Meeting with Destiny. When Schroff first met Maurice on a New York City street corner, she had no idea that an incredible and unlikely friendship that would inevitably change both their lives. As one lunch with Maurice turns into two, then into a weekly occurrence, she learns details about Maurice's horrific childhood. 238p. Destiny AR BL: 6.0 Pts: 11.0

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Smithson, Ryan. Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-Year-Old GI In this extraordinary and harrowing memoir, follow one GI's tour of duty as Ryan Smithson brings readers inside a world that few understand. This unforgettable story about combat, friendship, fear, and a soldier's commitment to his country peels back the curtain on the realities of war in a story all Americans should read. 360p. Amazon. AR BL: 5.2 Pts: 10.0

Stanton, Doug. In Harm's Way: The Sinking of the USS Indianapolis and the Extraordinary Story of Its Survivors. A harrowing, adrenaline-charged account of America's worst naval disaster—and of the heroism of the men who, against all odds, survived. 386p. Amazon. AR BL: 8.3 Pts: 14.0