

Tampa Preparatory School

Summer Reading - 2020

Summer reading books may be read in either ebook OR print form, as students prefer. The following list offers choices among literary works that are contemporary or classic, but all are relevant to students' lives. While the focus remains on the traditional canon during the school year, these summer reading choices were selected in the hope that they would resonate with students and nurture their love of reading.

In addition to the grade level reading, students are responsible for participating in the school-wide summer reading program: ASPIRE. ASPIRE stands for "A Summer Program in Reading Enrichment" and was developed to inspire pleasure reading with students. Faculty, administration, and staff have chosen a book- fiction or non-fiction- to sponsor, **one of which students will sign up to read over the summer and then meet for a discussion in the fall.**

If you have forgotten what book you signed up for, or if you are a new enrollee to Prep and have yet to sign up for an ASPIRE book, please email aspire@tampaprep.org by **July 27, 2020**.

ENGLISH 9: Introduction to Genres of Literature and Modes of Writing **(Students will read THREE books)**

REQUIRED: Your assigned ASPIRE book: Check your email for your ASPIRE title. You should have gotten a confirmation email when signing up. Send an email to aspire@tampaprep.org if you cannot find that confirmation email.

REQUIRED: Jason Reynolds read.

***Look Both Ways: A Tale Told In Ten Blocks* by Jason Reynolds**

"This story was going to begin like all the best stories. With a school bus falling from the sky. But no one saw it happen. They were all too busy—

Talking about boogers.

Stealing pocket change.

Skateboarding.

Wiping out.

Braving up.

Executing complicated handshakes.

Planning an escape.

Making jokes.

Lotioning up.

Finding comfort.

But mostly, too busy walking home.

Jason Reynolds conjures ten tales (one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one wickedly funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life" (Simon & Schuster Publishing)

REQUIRED: Choose ONE of the following three to read:

***The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo and Quill Tree Books**

“Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers—especially after she catches feelings for a boy in her bio class named Aman, who her family can never know about. With Mami’s determination to force her daughter to obey the laws of the church, Xiomara understands that her thoughts are best kept to herself. So when she is invited to join her school’s slam poetry club, she doesn’t know how she could ever attend without her mami finding out. But she still can’t stop thinking about performing her poems.

Because in the face of a world that may not want to hear her, Xiomara refuses to be silent” (Harper Collins Publishing).

***Shift* by Jennifer Bradbury**

This coming of age story begins after best friends Chris and Win separate abruptly near the end of a cross-country bicycle adventure to celebrate their high school graduation. Chris has no idea where his friend is, and frankly, doesn't care. However, the FBI cares, and their investigation, instigated by Win's domineering father, forces Chris to examine again their adventure together to try to pinpoint what went wrong, where Win is now and what, if anything, Chris can do to help his friend.

***The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley**

“Enormously satisfying and fun to read, Bradley takes a work of historical fiction and gives the whole premise of WWII evacuees a kick in the pants. Ada is ten and as far as she can tell she's never been outdoors. Never felt the sun on her face. Never seen grass. Born with a twisted foot her mother considers her an abomination and her own personal shame. So when the chance comes for Ada to join her fellow child evacuees, including her little brother Jamie, out of the city during WWII she leaps at the chance. Escaping to the English countryside, the two are foisted upon a woman named Susan who declares herself to be "not nice" from the start. Under her care the siblings grow and change. Ada discovers Susan's pony and is determined from the get-go to ride it. And as the war progresses and things grow dire, she finds that the most dangerous thing isn't the bombs or the war itself. It's hope. And it's got her number” (E.R. Bird).