

# INDEPENDENT READING – SUMMER 2021

## ARDSLEY HIGH SCHOOL -- ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Independent reading over the summer will provide welcome benefits now more than ever. We are coming through a disruptive stretch under the cloud of the pandemic. Summer reading will be useful to every student for many reasons. It can provide a chance to escape as well as a chance to connect. Here is an opportunity to jump into reading and learning about our society's current protest movements. There are many other paths as well. You could read about your favorite hobbies, the environment, philosophy, psychology, teen dramas, science fiction, fantasy--it's up to you.

Students, your minds are hungry for activity so consume some nourishing stories and incredible ideas. Learn...AND be intrigued! For the summer, you are expected to select and read a **minimum of two books.** Use the categories on the following pages to guide your selections. Break out of your comfort zone and select from different categories. In September, several informal classroom activities will provide you with opportunities to share what you have read and make book recommendations to your teachers and peers.

Parents, this is a unique opportunity to interact with your child on a great topic—books. Many students have expressed that they like to “read mom and dad’s favorites.” So, please foster this “community of readers” concept in your home, too.

Students, here are a few suggestions to find books you'll love:

- talk to your teachers, mom and dad, friends, siblings, etc.
- visit these sites:
  - [Barnes and Noble Top Teen List](#)
  - [#Booktok](#)
  - [Book Riot](#)
  - [NPR Book Lists](#)
  - [Good Reads](#)
  - [Social Justice Books](#)
  - [Code Switch: Race](#)

Remember, two books is the minimum. We hope you go beyond the minimum and enrich your summer experiences with a number of great books!

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Brian Gutherman, the AHS English Curriculum Leader, at [bgutherman@ardsleyschools.org](mailto:bgutherman@ardsleyschools.org). For further resources, please visit the [AHS Library Page](#).

Enjoy your reading and a well-deserved summer break.

Sincerely,

The AHS English Department

**SUGGESTED TITLES: INDEPENDENT SUMMER READING LIST**  
**ARDSLEY HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT— 2021**

NON-FICTION		HISTORICAL FICTION	
Title	Author	Title	Author
<i>Behind the Beautiful Forevers</i>	Katherine Boo	<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i>	Anthony Doerr
<i>Into Thin Air</i>	Jon Krakauer	<i>Code Name Verity</i>	Elizabeth Wein
<i>Outliers</i>	Malcolm Gladwell	<i>The Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue</i>	Mackenzi Lee
<i>The Undoing Project</i>	Michael Lewis	<i>The Sun is Also a Star</i>	Nicola Yoon
<i>The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime That Changed Their Lives</i>	Dashka Slater	<i>The Nickel Boys</i>	Colson Whitehead
<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>	Rebecca Skloot	<i>The Librarian of Auschwitz</i>	Antonio Iturbe
<i>Caste</i>	Isabel Wilkerson	<i>Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet</i>	Jamie Ford
<i>Unbroken</i>	Lauren Hillenbrand	<i>Refugee</i>	Alan Grantz
<i>Black Like Me</i>	John Howard Griffin	<i>Song of Achilles</i>	Madeline Miller
<i>Boys in the Boat</i>	Daniel James Brown	<i>Behold the Dreamers</i>	Imbolo Mbue
MEMOIR/BIOGRAPHY		REALISTIC FICTION	
<i>I Am Malala</i>	Malala Yousafzai	<i>The Beginning of Everything</i>	Robyn Schneider
<i>Hollywood Park: A Memoir</i>	Mikel Jollett	<i>All the Bright Places</i>	Jennifer Niven
<i>A Most Beautiful Thing</i>	Ashray Cooper	<i>The Inexplicable Logic of My Life</i>	Benjamin Alire Sáenz
<i>Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card</i>	Sara Saedi	<i>All American Boys</i>	Jason Reynolds
<i>First They Killed My Father</i>	Loung Ung	<i>Patron Saints of Nothing</i>	Randy Ribay
<i>Born a Crime</i>	Trevor Noah	<i>Mosquitoland</i>	David Arnold
<i>Persepolis</i>	Marjane Satrapi	<i>I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i>	Erika L. Sánchez
<i>A Long Way Gone</i>	Ishmael Beah	<i>Far From the Tree</i>	Robin Benway
<i>Wild</i>	Cheryl Strayed	<i>The Miseducation of Cameron Post</i>	Emily Danforth

<i>The Radium Girls</i>	Kate Moore	<i>How It Went Down</i>	Kekla Magoon
<b>SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY</b>		<b>CLASSICS</b>	
<i>Ready Player One or Ready Player Two</i>	Ernest Cline	<i>Slaughterhouse Five</i>	Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.
<i>Goodbye Days</i>	Jeff Zentner	<i>The Good Earth</i>	Pearl Buck
<i>Carve the Mark</i>	Veronica Roth	<i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i>	Erich Maria Remarque
<i>A Dog's Purpose</i>	Bruce Cameron	<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Charlotte Bronte
<i>Jane, Unlimited</i>	Kristin Cashore	<i>Fallen Angels</i>	Walter Dean Myers
<i>Children of Blood and Bone</i>	Tomi Adeyemi	<i>The Hobbit/The Lord of the Rings</i>	J.R.R. Tolkien
<i>Klara and the Sun</i>	Kazuo Ishiguro	<i>Flowers for Algernon</i>	Daniel Keyes
<i>Martian</i>	Andy Weir	<i>Handmaid's Tale</i>	Margaret Atwood
<i>Never Let Me Go</i>	Kazuo Ishiguro	<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i>	Maya Angelou
<i>Scythe</i>	Neal Schusterman	<i>The Bell Jar</i>	Sylvia Plath
<b>SUSPENSE/MYSTERY</b>		<b>STAFF PICKS</b>	
<i>Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime</i>	Mark Haddon	<i>Little Bee</i>	Chris Cleave
<i>Monster</i>	Walter Dean Myers	<i>Room</i>	Emma Donoghue
<i>Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</i>	Ransom Biggs	<i>American Dirt</i>	Jeannine Cummins
<i>We Were Liars</i>	E. Lockhart	<i>Stamped</i>	Jason Reynolds
<i>Long Way Down</i>	Jason Reynolds	<i>Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe</i>	Benjamin Alire Sáenz
<i>And Then There Were None</i>	Agatha Christie	<i>An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People</i>	Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
<i>Everything I Never Told You</i>	Celeste Ng	<i>American Street</i>	Ibi Zoboi
<i>Turtles All the Way Down</i>	John Green	<i>Us Against You (sequel to Beartown)</i>	Fredrik Backman
<i>They Both Die at the End</i>	Adam Silvera	<i>Poet X</i>	Elizabeth Acevedo
<i>Before I Fall</i>	Lauren Oliver	<i>The Leavers</i>	Lisa Ko