

## NHS Summer Reading 2018 -- Annotated Booklist\*

### Incoming Ninth Grade

**CP Students:** Read **two books** from the list and prepare for reading quizzes on each during the first week of school.

**H Students:** Read ***Fahrenheit 451* and one additional book** from the list below and prepare for a reading quiz on each during the first week of school. *Fahrenheit 451* may also be used for a writing sample or other class activity.

***Fahrenheit 451*** by Ray Bradbury - A totalitarian regime has ordered all books to be destroyed, but one of the book burners suddenly realizes their merit.

***Bomb: The Race to Build - and Steal - the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*** by Steve Sheinkin - Recounts the scientific discoveries that enabled atom splitting, the military intelligence operations that occurred in rival countries, and the work of brilliant scientists hidden at Los Alamos.

***Death Cloud*** by Andrew Lane - In 1868, with his army officer father suddenly posted to India, and his mother mysteriously "unwell," fourteen-year-old Sherlock Holmes is sent to stay with his eccentric uncle and aunt in their vast house in Hampshire, where he uncovers his first murder and a diabolical villain.

***Eagle of the Ninth*** by Rosemary Sutcliff - A young centurion ventures among the hostile tribes beyond the Roman Wall to recover the eagle standard of the Ninth, a legion which mysteriously disappeared under his father's command.

***Ender's Game*** by Orson Scott Card - Young Ender Wiggin may prove to be the military genius Earth needs to fight a desperate battle against a deadly alien race that will determine the future of the human race.

***Far From the Tree*** by Robin Benway - Being the middle child has its ups and downs. But for Grace, an only child who was adopted at birth, discovering that she is a middle child is a different ride altogether. After putting her own baby up for adoption, she goes looking for her biological family, including Maya, her loudmouthed younger bio sister, who has a lot to say about their newfound family ties.

***Girl With a Pearl Earring*** by Tracy Chevalier - A maid becomes a model for the 17th century Dutch painter, Vermeer. The woman, an artisan's daughter with a strong power of observation, describes his manner of work, his household and life of the day, including the rigid class system and religious bigotry.

***The Hobbit*** by J. R. R. Tolkien - Seasoned with myth and magic, this modern classic centers on a dwarf-like being whose search for gold leads to encounters with dangerous opponents.

***Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*** by Jamie Ford - Henry Lee, a Chinese-American in Seattle, loses his wife to cancer and recalls his youth, when he and his Japanese-American friend, Keiko, spent time together during WWII before Keiko and her family were interred at a camp, and deals with generational difficulties between himself and his father and college-age son.

***I Kill the Mockingbird*** by Paul Acampora - When best friends Lucy, Elena, and Michael receive their summer reading list, they are excited to see 'To Kill A Mockingbird' included. But not everyone in their class shares the same enthusiasm. So they hatch a plot to get the entire town talking about the well-known Harper Lee classic.

***Invasion*** by Walter Dean Myers - Josiah Wedgewood and Marcus Perry were friends in Virginia, but now that they are both involved in the Normandy invasion, the differences in their positions is uncomfortable, for Josiah is a white infantryman and Marcus is a black transport driver, the only role the segregated army will allow him.

***Life As We Knew It*** by Susan Beth Pfeffer - Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

***Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*** by Ransom Riggs - Sixteen-year-old Jacob, having traveled to a remote island after a family tragedy, discovers an abandoned orphanage, and, after some investigating, he learns the children who lived there may have been dangerous and quarantined and may also still be alive.

***No Hero: the Evolution of a Navy SEAL*** by Mark Owen - Recounts definitive moments from the author's career as a Navy SEAL, discussing the missions that had the greatest personal meaning for him and explaining the lessons and values he hopes to pass on to the next generation.

***Revenge of the Whale*** by Nathaniel Philbrick - Recounts the 1820 sinking of the whaleship "Essex" by an enraged sperm whale and how the crew of young men survived against impossible odds.

***Salt to the Sea*** by Ruta Sepetys - As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war's final dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull

***Second Chance Summer*** by Morgan Matson - After Taylor Edwards' family gets devastating news, they decide to spend one last summer all together at their lake house in the Pocono Mountains, they get to know each other again and bond, and Taylor remembers her past friends and crush.

***Touching Spirit Bear*** by Ben Mikaelson - After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

***True Legend*** by Mike Lupica - Fifteen-year-old Drew "True" Robinson loves being the best point-guard prospect in high school basketball, but learns the consequences of fame through a former player, as well as through the man who expects to be his manager when True reaches the NBA.

***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*** by Betty Smith - Young Francie Nolan, having inherited both her father's romantic and her mother's practical nature, struggles to survive and thrive growing up in the slums of Brooklyn in the early twentieth century.

***The Umbrella Man and Other Stories*** by Roald Dahl - Thirteen stories, selected for teenagers, from Dahl's adult writings, including "The Great Automatic Grammatizator," "Mrs. Bixby and the Colonel's Coat," and "Vengeance is Mine Inc."

***Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team*** by Steve Sheinkin - A great American sport and Native American history come together in this true story of how Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner created the legendary Carlisle Indians football team.

***Unwind*** by Neal Shusterman - In a future world where those between the ages of thirteen and eighteen can have their lives "unwound" and their body parts harvested for use by others, three teens go to extreme lengths to survive until they turn eighteen.

---

### Incoming Tenth Grade

**CP Students:** Read **two books** from the list and prepare for reading quizzes on each during the first week of school.

**H Students:** Read ***The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*** and **one additional book** from the list below and prepare for a reading quiz on each during the first week of school. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* may also be used for a writing sample or other class activity.

***The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*** by Robert Louis Stevenson - A respected London doctor invents a formula which turns him into an evil and ugly person who stalks the streets at night killing people, and by the time his friends discover his secret, it is too late.

***Alex & Eliza: a Love Story*** by Melissa De la Cruz - Before the world knew them as Alexander Hamilton and Elizabeth Schuyler, young Alex and Eliza fell in love amidst the turmoil of the American Revolution.

***The Art of Racing in the Rain*** by Garth Stein - Evaluating his life on the eve of his death, atypical canine Enzo considers the sacrifices his master, Denny Swift, has made in his pursuit of becoming a professional race car driver, and the dog's own efforts to preserve the Swift family.

***The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*** by William Kambwamba and Bryan Mealer - A true story of tenacity and imagination describes how an African teenager built a windmill from scraps to create electricity for his home and his village, improving life for himself and his neighbors.

***The Chosen*** by Chaim Potok - A baseball game between Jewish schools is the catalyst that starts a bitter rivalry between two boys and their fathers.

***The Crystal Cave*** by Mary Stewart - Merlin, the son of a Welsh princess, survives a perilous childhood on his way to fulfill his destiny as mentor, advisor, and friend to King Arthur.

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*** by Mark Haddon - Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

***The Daughter of Time*** by Josephine Tey - Follows Alan Grant, an injured policeman currently hospitalized and bored, as he searches for the truth behind the belief that Richard III murdered the little princes in the tower.

***The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*** by by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows - In 1946, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey, who tells her about the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club born as an alibi during German occupation.

***Hidden Figures*** by Margot Lee Shetterly - Before John Glenn orbited Earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the Moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as 'human computers' used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Among these problem-solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation.

***Ironman*** by Chris Crutcher - While training for a triathlon, seventeen-year-old Bo attends an anger management group at school which leads him to examine his relationship with his father.

***A Man Called Ove*** by Fredrik Backman - When a new, chatty, young couple and their two daughters move in next door, Ove's well-ordered, solitary world turns upside down.

***Midwinterblood*** by Marcus Sedgwick - Seven linked vignettes unfold on a Scandinavian island inhabited--throughout various time periods--by Vikings, vampires, ghosts, and a curiously powerful plant.

***Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*** By Robin Sloan - Clay Jannon, the new night clerk at Mr. Penumbra's 24-hour Bookstore, notices the strange behavior of the customers and is determined to find out what is really going on.

***The Port Chicago 50*** by Steve Sheinkin - Describes the fifty black sailors who refused to work in unsafe and unfair conditions after an explosion in Port Chicago killed 320 servicemen, and how the incident influenced civil rights.

***Prince of Shadows: a Novel of Romeo and Juliet*** by Rachel Caine - The star-crossed tale of Romeo and Juliet, told through the eyes of Romeo's cousin, Benvolio, a thief known as the Prince of Shadows.

***Rebecca*** by Daphne du Maurier - At the great Cornwall estate of Manderley, Maxim de Winter and his frightened new wife try to live with the haunting legacy of Maxim's first wife, the beautiful and cold Rebecca, who died in a sailing accident.

***Sarah's Key*** by Tatiana de Rosnay - On the anniversary of the roundup of Jews by the French police in Paris, Julia is asked to write an article on this dark episode and embarks on an investigation that leads her to long-hidden family secrets and to the ordeal of Sarah.

***Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*** by Lisa See - Friends Snow Flower and Lily find solace in their bond as they face isolation, arranged marriages, loss, and motherhood in nineteenth-century China.

***Station Eleven*** by Emily St. John Mandel - In a future in which a pandemic has left few survivors, actress Kirsten Raymonde, having witnessed paparazzo-turned-EMT Jeevan Chaudhary try to save the life of actor Arthur Leander after he suffered a heart attack onstage, travels with a troupe performing Shakespeare and finds herself in a community in which a prophet will not let anyone leave alive. Includes subplots about Jeevan as he watches the world change from the pandemic and Arthur before his death.

***Tess of the D'Urbervilles*** by Thomas Hardy - A young woman finds herself the victim of fate and of forces beyond her control in nineteenth-century England.

***Under a Painted Sky*** by Stacey Lee - In 1845, Sammy, a Chinese American girl, and Annamae, an African American slave girl, disguise themselves as boys and travel on the Oregon Trail to California from Missouri.

***When Breath Becomes Air*** by Paul Kalanithi - At the age of thirty-six, on the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. One day he was a doctor treating the dying, and the next he was a patient struggling to live. And just like that, the future he and his wife had imagined evaporated.

---

### Incoming Eleventh Grade

**CP Students:** Read **two books** from the list and prepare for reading quizzes on each during the first week of school.

**H Students:** Read ***The Grapes of Wrath* and one additional book** from the list below and prepare for a reading quiz on each during the first week of school. *The Grapes of Wrath* may also be used for a writing sample or other class activity.

***The Grapes of Wrath*** by John Steinbeck - Depicts the hardships and suffering endured by the Joads as they journey from Oklahoma to California during the Depression.

***The Alchemist*** by Paulo Coelho - A fable about undauntingly following one's dreams, listening to one's heart, and reading life's omens features dialogue between a boy and an unnamed being.

***All the Missing Girls*** by Megan Miranda - A...story about the disappearances of two young women--a decade apart--told in reverse.

***Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*** by Dai Sijie - Two boys, moved to the country for "re-education" as part of Mao's Cultural Revolution, find little to amuse them, but things change when they discover a stash of Western classics in Chinese translation and use the stories of Balzac to capture the attention of the beautiful daughter of the local tailor.

***The Bean Trees*** by Barbara Kingsolver - Taylor, a poor Kentuckian, makes her way west with an abandoned baby girl and stops in Tucson. There she finds friends and discovers resources in apparently empty places.

***The Berlin Boxing Club*** by Robert Sharenow - In 1936 Berlin, fourteen-year-old Karl Stern, who is considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.

***The Boston Girl*** by Anita Diamant - An eight-five-year-old grandmother, Addie Baum, tells her twenty-two-year-old granddaughter about growing up in Boston in the early twentieth century, one of three daughters of Jewish immigrants who were unprepared for the effect that Boston's multicultural North End would have on their daughters.

***The Devil in the White City*** by Eric Larson - An account of the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 relates the

stories of two men who shaped the history of the event--architect Daniel H. Burnham, who coordinated its construction, and serial killer Herman Mudgett.

***Dune*** by Frank Herbert - Forced by the Emperor of the known universe to live in exile on a barren planet, Duke Leto Atreides and his son lead the struggle against the Empire.

***The Finest Hours: The True Story of a Heroic Sea Rescue*** by Michael J. Tougas & Casey Sherman - On the night of February 18, 1952, during one of the worst winter storms that New England has ever seen, two oil tankers just off the shore of Cape Cod were torn in half by the force of the storm. Tells the story of a harrowing CoastGuard rescue when four men in a tiny lifeboat overcame insurmountable odds and saved more than 30 stranded sailors. (*Note: Please read the Young Readers' Edition.*)

***The Glass Castle*** by Jeanette Walls - The child of an alcoholic father and an eccentric artist mother discusses her family's nomadic upbringing, during which she and her siblings fended for themselves while their parents outmaneuvered bill collectors and the authorities.

***The Hate U Give*** by Angie Thomas - After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.

***The Help*** by Kathryn Stockett - Limited and persecuted by racial divides in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, three women, including an African-American maid, her sassy and chronically unemployed friend, and a recently graduated white woman, team up for a clandestine project.

***Into the Wild*** by Jon Krakauer - A portrait of Chris McCandless chronicles his decision to withdraw from society and adopt the persona of Alexander Supertramp, offering insight into his beliefs about the wilderness and his tragic death in the Alaskan wilderness.

***Little Fires Everywhere*** by Celeste Ng - When a custody battle divides her placid town, straitlaced family woman Elena Richardson finds herself pitted against her enigmatic tenant and becomes obsessed with exposing her past, only to trigger devastating consequences for both families.

***Lost in Shangri-La*** by Mitchell Zuckoff - Describes the 1945 odyssey of three plane crash survivors in New Guinea who endured a harrowing journey through the jungle to seek help, their encounter with a primitive tribe who had never seen white people, and their eventual rescue by a band of paratroopers.

***The Mountain Between Us*** by Charles Martin - When young, attractive, and successful writer Ashley Knox, who is flying East from Salt Lake City for her wedding, is stranded in the High Uintas Wilderness after an airplane crash with Ben Payne, a doctor who is an avid climber, the two are forced to survive low temperatures and challenging terrain while learning about each other and possibly falling in love.

***The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*** by Agatha Christie - Inspector Hercule Poirot, having retired to the small English village of King's Abbot, is drawn into the investigation of the murders of the widow Mrs. Ferrars and her suitor, local squire Roger Ackroyd.

***The Nightingale*** by Kristin Hannah - Viann and Isabelle have always been close despite their differences. Younger, bolder sister Isabelle lives in Paris while Viann lives a quiet and content life in the French countryside with her husband Antoine and their daughter. When World War II strikes and Antoine

is sent off to fight, Viann and Isabelle's father sends Isabelle to help her older sister cope. As the war progresses, it's not only the sisters' relationship that is tested, but also their strength and their individual senses of right and wrong.

***The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*** by Alexander McCall Smith - Working in Gaborone, Botswana, sleuth Precious Ramotswe investigates several local mysteries, including a search for a missing boy and the case of the clinic doctor with different personalities for different days of the week.

***Orphan Train*** by Christina Baker Kline - When seventeen-year-old Molly Ayer is sent to perform community service at elderly Vivian Daly's home in order to avoid juvenile hall, she discovers that the two are very much alike, despite the vast age difference.

***The Road*** by Cormac McCarthy - In a novel set in an indefinite, futuristic, post-apocalyptic world, a father and his young son make their way through the ruins of a devastated American landscape, struggling to survive and preserve the last remnants of their own humanity.

***Things Fall Apart*** by Chinua Achebe - Set in an Ibo village in Nigeria, the novel recreates pre-Christian tribal life and shows how the coming of the white man led to the breaking up of the old ways.

***Turtles All the Way Down*** by John Green - Aza Holmes is a young woman navigating daily existence within the ever-tightening spiral of her own thoughts.

---

### **Incoming Twelfth Grade**

**CP and H STUDENTS:** All Read ***The Last Lecture*** and be prepared for a reading quiz during the first week of school.

**CP Students:** Read **one additional book** from the list and prepare for a reading quiz during the first week of school.

**H Students:** Read **two additional books** from the list and prepare for reading quizzes on each during the first week of school.

***The Last Lecture*** by Randy Pausch - Computer science professor Randy Pausch, who has been diagnosed with terminal cancer, discusses how to overcome obstacles in one's life and achieve one's dreams.

***Alif the Unseen*** by G. Willow Wilson - In Middle Eastern security state, a young Arab-Indian hacker shields clients, dissidents, outlaws, Islamists, and other watched groups, from surveillance and tries to stay out of trouble but the aristocratic woman Alif loves has jilted him for a prince chosen by her parents, and his computer has just been breached by the State's electronic security force, putting his clients and his own neck on the line.

***The Beekeeper's Apprentice*** by Laurie R. King - Chance meeting with a Sussex beekeeper turns into a pivotal, personal transformation when fifteen-year-old Mary Russell discovers that the beekeeper is the reclusive, retired detective Sherlock Holmes, who soon takes on the role of mentor and teacher.

***The Bluest Eye*** by Toni Morrison - An eleven-year-old African-American girl in Ohio, in the early 1940s, prays for her eyes to turn blue so that she will be beautiful.

**Calico Joe** by John Grisham - Follows the divergent paths of a rookie hitter for the Chicago Cubs and a hard-hitting Mets pitcher.

**Case Histories** by Kate Atkinson - Private detective Jackson Brodie uncovers some startling connections between three separate cases he is investigating.

**David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants** by Malcolm Gladwell - Argues that the obstacles and disadvantages experienced by the underdog require adaptations that can lead to benefits and success in professional life, and draws upon examples from the world of business, sports, and culture.

**Deadline** by Chris Crutcher - Given the medical diagnosis of one year to live, high school senior Ben Wolf decides to fulfill his greatest fantasies, ponders his life's purpose and legacy, and converses through dreams with a spiritual guide known as "Hey-Soos."

**Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine** by Gail Honeyman - No one's ever told Eleanor that life should be better than fine. Meet Eleanor Oliphant: She struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding social interactions, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy.

**In Cold Blood: a True Account of a Multiple Murder and Its Consequences** by Truman Capote - Recreates the slaying of the Clutter family of Kansas, and the capture, trial, and execution of their murderers.

**Memory Keeper's Daughter** by Kim Edwards - Dr. David Henry, forced to deliver his own twins during a snowstorm in 1964 with only a nurse to help him, makes a decision that has far-reaching effects on his life, and the lives of his wife and son, when his infant daughter is born with Down Syndrome, and in a vain attempt to protect his wife, he orders the nurse to take the baby to an institution.

**Olive Kitteridge** by Elizabeth Strout - At the edge of the continent, in the small town of Crosby, Maine, lives Olive Kitteridge, a retired schoolteacher who deplores the changes in her town and in the world at large but doesn't always recognize the changes in those around her.

**A Piece of the World** by Christina Baker Kline - Christina Olson seemed destined for a small life, living on her family's remote farm in coastal Cushing, Maine. Instead, for more than twenty years, she was host and inspiration for the artist Andrew Wyeth, and became the subject of one of the best-known paintings of the twentieth century.

**A Prayer for Owen Meany** by John Irving - Tells the story of Owen Meany who believes he is God's instrument and his friendship with John Wheelwright; beginning at age eleven when Owen hits a foul ball that kills John's mother during a Little League game in 1953.

**The Secret Life of Bees** by Sue Monk Kidd - Fourteen-year-old Lily and her companion, Rosaleen, an African-American woman who has cared for Lily since her mother's death ten years earlier, flee their home after Rosaleen is victimized by racist police officers, and find a safe haven in Tiburon, South Carolina, at the home of three beekeeping sisters, May, June, and August.

**The Shoemaker's Wife** by Adriana Trigiani - Enza and Ciro meet as teenagers despite growing up in villages just a few miles apart in the Italian Alps. When Ciro catches the local priest in a scandal, he is

banished from his village and sent to hide in America, leaving behind a bereft Enza. Unbeknownst to one another, they both build lives in America, until fate intervenes and reunites them, but not before Ciro has volunteered to serve in World War I.

***The Silver Star*** by Jeanette Walls - Two motherless sisters, Bean and Liz, are shuttled to Virginia to live with their Uncle Tinsley in a decaying mansion. When school starts in the fall, Bean easily adjusts and makes friends, and Liz becomes increasingly withdrawn. Then something happens to Liz and Bean is left to challenge the injustice of the adult world.

***Snow Falling on Cedars*** by David Guterson - When a newspaper journalist covers the trial of a Japanese American accused of murder, he must come to terms with his own past.

***Sound and the Fury*** by William Faulkner - The members of a genteel Southern family are portrayed as petty failures, drunkards, suicides, pathological perverts, and idiots.

***The Stranger in the Woods: the Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit*** by Michael Finkel - The true story of a man who lived alone in the woods of Maine for 27 years.

***A Thousand Splendid Suns*** by Khaled Hosseini - Two women born a generation apart witness the destruction of their home and family in war torn Kabul, incurring losses over the course of thirty years that test the limits of their strength and courage.

***Troy*** by Adele Geras - The last weeks of the Trojan War find the women sick of tending the wounded, men tired of fighting, and bored gods and goddesses trying to find ways to stir things up.

***The Women in the Castle*** by Jessica Shattuck - Amid the ashes of Nazi Germany's defeat, Marianne von Lingenfels returns to the once-grand castle of her husband's ancestors, an imposing stone fortress now fallen into ruin following years of war. The widow of a resistor murdered in the failed July 20, 1944, plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler, Marianne plans to uphold the promise she made to her husband's brave conspirators: to find and protect their wives, her fellow resistance widows.

***Wuthering Heights*** by Emily Bronte - Forced by a storm to spend the night at the home of Heathcliff, Mr. Lockwood uncovers a tale of terror and hatred on the Yorkshire moors.

***Year of Wonders*** by Geraldine Brooks - The story of a small mountain village in England and housemaid Anna Frith as they try to survive the terrible plague year of 1666.

***The Zookeeper's Wife*** by Diane Ackerman - Relates the story of Jan and Antonina Zabinski, Christian zookeepers at the Warsaw Zoo, who helped save the lives of approximately three hundred Polish Jews during World War II by housing and feeding them on zoo grounds and teaching them how to "pass" as Aryan.

\* *Summary descriptions taken from NHS' Destiny Library Catalog.*