

10th Grade College Prep Summer Reading

Choose ONE book from the following list to read this summer. See assignment at the end of the list. Your assignment needs to be completed by the end of the first week of school.

***Sold* by Patricia McCormick:**

This story is told from the perspective of Lakshmi, a thirteen year old girl who lives with her family in Nepal. Although she is very poor, she still is able to find joy in the simple pleasures of village life. Everything changes when her stepfather insists that she leave her home to secure a job in the city. She thinks she is going to be a maid, in reality; she is taken across the border into India and sold into prostitution.

A cruel woman named Mumtaz runs the brothel. She tells Lakshmi that she must stay there until she works off her debt, but she cheats the girl of her earnings so that it is virtually impossible for Lakshmi to ever earn her freedom.

This is a survivor's story, her personal tale of heartbreak and friendship, and of the day when she must make a decision-will she risk everything for a chance to be free?

***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie**

Told with humor and wit (and cartoons "taped" to the diary pages), this is the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist, who makes the tough decision to leave the familiarity of the "rez" (Spokane Indian Reservation) to attend an all-white school in the neighboring town, where the only Indian is the school mascot. Junior discovers that he can make friends in the new school, but he is considered a traitor at home on the rez. Things get really intense when his new basketball team must face the old team in the big rematch. Junior faces triumphs and tragedies, and he learns the power of best friends to hurt and to heal.

***Hoop Dreams: The True Story of Hardship and Triumph* by Ben Joravsky**

Adapted from the documentary film, this book portrays the lives of Arthur Agee and William Gates, two urban adolescents struggling to rise from their neighborhood playground onto the NBA pro courts. He writes about how the two men try their utmost hardest to win college scholarships and eventually positions on professional teams. Joravsky brilliantly writes about the richness and subtlety of these two men's stories, and the impact their aspirations had on their own lives, their families' lives, and on their relationships with others. The book also includes an up-to-date epilogue detailing the latest developments in the men's lives since the film.

***Great and Terrible Beauty* by Libby Bray**

A mystery filled with adventure and intrigue about a 16 year old Girl who's mother commits suicide. Gemma Doyle(the main character) is then shipped off to boarding school far away from her home in India. Her adventure begins with travel then adding to her insecurities in every shadow lurks a mysterious male figure. Why is he following her? You will never know... unless, you read the book.

***Hole in My Life* by Jack Gantos**

This quick paced book follows the life of the author from Florida to Puerto Rico to St. Croix, from teen independence to a busted drug deal that costs him his freedom. Gantos recalls all the drama of his life gone wrong, allowing readers to get a realistic view of prison life. Parental discretion is advised for this book because it does deal with drugs and prison violence.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT: For the book you choose, you will complete a reading journal with a visual and analysis. Thus, there will be 3 parts to your assignment...

- 1) Keep a reading journal, writing your responses to the book as you read. You are required to have at least 15 entries at around 8-10 sentences each. DO NOT SUMMARIZE THE BOOK.
- 2) Create a visual representing one or more themes from the book and include supporting excerpt from the text, with page number, on the visual itself. This could be the cover to your journal.
- 3) Pick your favorite journal entry and dig a little deeper. This is an analysis of a topic of your choosing and needs to be 2-3 pages typed.