

Kirtland High School-English 12

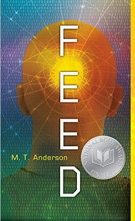
The BIG Summer Read 2018 (#KHS12BSR)

Welcome to English 12! I look forward to working with you in the fall. The first couple weeks of school will be devoted to the study and discussion of your summer reading assignments. Each selection introduces you to cultural experiences and social problems that will engage your heart, inform your thinking, and challenge your beliefs.

In order to have a productive start to your school year, you must complete the reading to the best of your ability. The work we do in the beginning of the year depends on your careful reading and reflection. I challenge you to read beyond this assignment. Your local, national, and global awareness will have an important and positive effect on writing your college application essays next fall. Have a fun, safe, and productive summer!

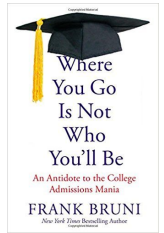
<p><i>Why read during the summer?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Researchers have proven that reading increases vocabulary and that reading and writing skills are inextricably connected to each other. ● Good writers are good readers. Written and oral communication is most effective when you have a command of language and a broad vocabulary; reading gives you exposure to descriptive and rich vocabulary used in well-written and powerful phrases and sentences. ● The accuracy and effectiveness of your communication is determined by your ability to read critically. ● Reading can be one of the most satisfying and personal life-long habits you will ever develop ● Reading gives you knowledge and knowledge is power.
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Because education is a year-round endeavor, for your course of study you need to **read two books: one mandatory novel and one choice memoir. You will be assessed on each book upon your return to school in August.**

	<p>Assignment #1 Must read: <i>Feed</i> by M. T. Anderson</p> <p>"This satire offers a thought-provoking and scathing indictment that may prod readers to examine the more sinister possibilities of corporate- and media-dominated culture." — PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (starred review)</p> <p>For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip to the moon - a chance to party during spring break and play with some stupid low-grav at the Ricochet Lounge. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed and its omnipresent ability to categorize human thoughts and desires. Following in the footsteps of George Orwell, Anthony Burgess, and Kurt Vonnegut Jr., M. T. Anderson has created a not-so-brave new world — and a smart, savage satire that has captivated readers with its view of an imagined future that veers unnervingly close to the here and now. (Amazon.com)</p>
<p>Assignment #2: Choose ONE of the following memoirs.</p> <p><i>The Distance Between Us</i> by Reyna Grande</p> <p><i>Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos In The South Bronx</i> by Sonia Manzano</p> <p><i>The Glass Castle</i> by Jeannette Walls</p> <p><i>How I Discovered Poetry</i> by Marilyn Nelson</p> <p><i>Hidden Girl</i> by Shyima Hall</p>	

How Dare The Sun Rise by Sandra Uwiringiyimana
A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah
Laughing At My Nightmare by Shane Burcaw
Rethinking Normal by Katie Rain Hill
Taking Flight by Michaela DePrince
The Unforgiving Minute: A Soldier's Education by Craig M. Mullaney
No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row by Susan Kuklin
Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson

Optional but Strongly Recommended for all seniors approaching the college application process:

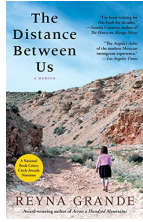
	<p><i>Where You Go is Not Who You'll Be</i> by Frank Bruni "Your worth is not determined by the university you went to. Or, in other words, "Where You Go is Not Who You'll Be." Alleluia. That's the exact mantra every student and parent must heed as they navigate the stressful college admissions process. I'm doing it for the fourth time and this excellent writer's new book could not have come at a better time for me. As Frank Bruni brilliantly demonstrates, your worth is your worth and it's yours to make wherever you go." --Maria Shriver</p>
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Read not to contradict, nor to believe, but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some to be digested. That is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read but curiously, and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man. -- Francis Bacon

During the first week of school, you will be evaluated on the books you have read through various assessments. For these assessments, you may use your books with annotations and/or any notes or journaling you have completed while reading these books closely.

Please use #KHS12BSR to participate in Twitter chats this summer!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Duncan or Mr. Eye at meriah.duncan@kirtlandschools.org or eric.eye@kirtlandschools.org



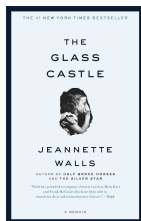
***The Distance Between Us* by Reyna Grande**

Reyna Grande vividly brings to life her tumultuous early years in this “compelling . . . unvarnished, resonant” story of a childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries. As her parents make the dangerous trek across the Mexican border to “El Otro Lado” in pursuit of the American dream, Reyna and her siblings are forced into the already overburdened household of their stern grandmother. When their mother at last returns, Reyna prepares for her own journey to “El Otro Lado” to live with the man who has haunted her imagination for years, her long-absent father. Funny, heartbreaking, and lyrical, this memoir poignantly captures the confusion and contradictions of childhood, reminding us that the joys and sorrows we experience are imprinted on the heart forever, calling out to us of those places we first called home.

***Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos In The South Bronx* by Sonia Manzano**

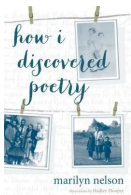


Set in the 1950s in the Bronx, this is the story of a girl with a dream. Emmy award-winning actress and writer Sonia Manzano plunges us into the daily lives of a Latino family that is loving--and troubled. This is Sonia's own story rendered with an unforgettable narrative power. When readers meet young Sonia, she is a child living amidst the squalor of a boisterous home that is filled with noisy relatives and nosy neighbors. Each day she is glued to the TV screen that blots out the painful realities of her existence and also illuminates the possibilities that lie ahead. But--click!--when the TV goes off, Sonia is taken back to real-life--the cramped, colorful world of her neighborhood and an alcoholic father. But it is Sonia's dream of becoming an actress that keeps her afloat among the turbulence of her life and times. Spiced with culture, heartache, and humor, this memoir paints a lasting portrait of a girl's resilience as she grows up to become an inspiration to millions. (Amazon.com)



***The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls**

The Glass Castle is a remarkable memoir of resilience and redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and uniquely vibrant. When sober, Jeannette's brilliant and charismatic father captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and how to embrace life fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity and didn't want the responsibility of raising a family. The Walls children learned to take care of themselves. They fed, clothed, and protected one another, and eventually found their way to New York. Their parents followed them, choosing to be homeless even as their children prospered.



***How I Discovered Poetry* by Marilyn Nelson**

A powerful and thought-provoking Civil Rights era memoir from one of America's most celebrated poets. Looking back on her childhood in the 1950s, Newbery Honor winner and National Book Award finalist Marilyn Nelson tells the story of her development as an artist and young woman through fifty eye-opening poems. Readers are given an intimate portrait of her growing self-awareness and artistic inspiration along with a larger view of the world around her: racial tensions, the Cold War era, & the first stirrings of the feminist movement.

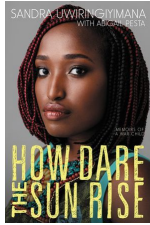


***Hidden Girl* by Shyima Hall**

When Shyima Hall was eight years old, her impoverished parents sold her to pay a debt. Two years later, the wealthy family she was sold to moved to Orange County, California, and smuggled her with them. Shyima served the family eighteen hours a day, seven days a week until she was twelve. That's when an anonymous call from a neighbor brought about the end of Shyima's servitude—but her journey to true freedom was far from over.

A volunteer at her local police department since she was a teenager, Shyima is passionate

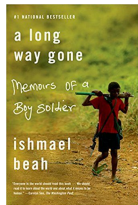
about helping to rescue others who are in bondage. Now a US citizen, she regularly speaks out about human trafficking and intends to one day become an immigration officer. In *Hidden Girl*, Shyima “commands unfailing interest, sympathy, and respect” (*Publishers Weekly*), candidly reveals how she overcame her harrowing circumstances, and brings vital awareness to a timely and relevant topic.



***How Dare The Sun Rise* by Sandra Uwiringiyimana**

This profoundly moving memoir is the remarkable and inspiring true story of Sandra Uwiringiyimana, a girl from the Democratic Republic of the Congo who tells the tale of how she survived a massacre, immigrated to America, and overcame her trauma through art and activism.

Sandra was just ten years old when she found herself with a gun pointed at her head. She had watched as rebels gunned down her mother and six-year-old sister in a refugee camp. Remarkably, the rebel didn't pull the trigger, and Sandra escaped. Thus began a new life for her and her surviving family members. With no home and no money, they struggled to stay alive. Eventually, through a United Nations refugee program, they moved to America, only to face yet another ethnic disconnect. Sandra may have crossed an ocean, but there was now a much wider divide she had to overcome. And it started with middle school in New York.

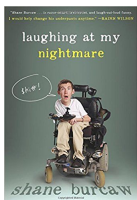


***A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah**

This is how wars are fought now: by children, hopped-up on drugs and wielding AK-47s. Children have become soldiers of choice. In the more than fifty conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated that there are some 300,000 child soldiers. Ishmael Beah used to be one of them. What is war like through the eyes of a child soldier? How does one become a killer? How does one stop? Child soldiers have been profiled by journalists, and novelists have struggled to imagine their lives. But until now, there has not been a first-person account

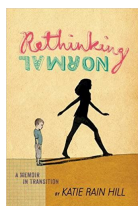
from someone who came through this hell and survived.

In *A Long Way Gone*, Beah, now twenty-five years old, tells a riveting story: how at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts.



***Laughing At My Nightmare* by Shane Burcaw**

With acerbic wit and a hilarious voice, Shane Burcaw's *Laughing at My Nightmare* describes the challenges he faces as a twenty-one-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy. From awkward handshakes to having a girlfriend and everything in between, Shane handles his situation with humor and a "you-only-live-once" perspective on life. While he does talk about everyday issues that are relatable to teens, he also offers an eye-opening perspective on what it is like to have a life threatening disease.



***Rethinking Normal* by Katie Rain Hill**

Katie Rain Hill realized very young that a serious mistake had been made; she was a girl who had been born in the body of a boy. Suffocating under her peers' bullying and the mounting pressure to be “normal,” Katie tried to take her life at the age of eight years old. After several other failed attempts, she finally understood that “Katie”—the girl trapped within her—was determined to live. In this first-person account, Katie reflects on her pain-filled childhood and the events leading up to the life-changing decision to undergo gender reassignment as a teenager. She reveals the unique challenges she faced while

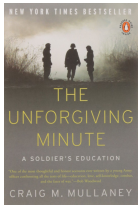
unlearning how to be a boy and shares what it was like to navigate the dating world—and experience heartbreak for the first time—in a body that matched her gender identity. Told in an unwaveringly honest voice, *Rethinking Normal* is a coming-of-age story about transcending physical appearances and redefining the parameters of “normalcy” to embody one's true self.



***Taking Flight* by Michaela DePrince**

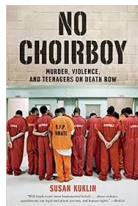
Michaela DePrince was known as girl Number 27 at the orphanage, where she was abandoned at a young age and tormented as a “devil child” for a skin condition that makes her skin appear spotted. But it was at the orphanage that Michaela would find a picture of a beautiful ballerina en pointe that would help change the course of her life.

At age of four, Michaela was adopted by an American family, who encouraged her love of dancing and enrolled her in classes. Later, she studied at the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at the American Ballet Theatre. Today, she is the youngest principal dancer with the Dance Theatre of Harlem.



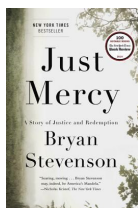
***The Unforgiving Minute: A Soldier's Education* by Craig M. Mullaney**

In this surprise bestseller, West Point grad, Rhodes scholar, Airborne Ranger, and U. S. Army Captain Craig Mullaney recounts his unparalleled education and the hard lessons that only war can teach. While stationed in Afghanistan, a deadly firefight with al-Qaeda leads to the loss of one of his soldiers. Years later, after that excruciating experience, he returns to the United States to teach future officers at the Naval Academy. Written with unflinching honesty, this is an unforgettable portrait of a young soldier grappling with the weight of war while coming to terms with what it means to be a man.



***No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row* by Susan Kuklin**

No Choirboy takes readers inside America's prisons and allows inmates sentenced to death as teenagers to speak for themselves. In their own voices—raw and uncensored—they talk about their lives in prison and share their thoughts and feelings about how they ended up there. Susan Kuklin also gets inside the system, exploring capital punishment itself and the intricacies and inequities of criminal justice in the United States. This is a searing, unforgettable read, and one that could change the way we think about crime and punishment.



***Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson**

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever. *Just Mercy* is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.