

HUMOR

The Bear Went Over the Mountain William Kotzwinkle
Bird by Bird Anne Lamott
Confederacy of Dunces John Kennedy Toole
+*Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim* David Sedaris
+*Flashman: A Novel* George MacDonald Fraser
+*Going Postal* Terry Pratchett
The Inimitable Jeeves P.G. Wodehouse
+*Native Tongue* Carl Hiaasen
+*A Walk in the Woods* Bill Bryson

CULTURAL CONTEXTS

Almost a Woman Esmeralda Santiago
Donald Duk Frank Chin
Dreaming in Cuban Cristina Garcia
A Fine Balance Rohinton Mistry
Flight Sherman Alexie
The God of Small Things Arundhati Roy
In the Time of Butterflies Julia Alvarez
Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha Roddy Doyle
A Pale View of the Hills Kazuo Ishiguro
Reservation Blues Sherman Alexie
The Samurai's Garden Gail Tsukiyama
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down Anne Fadiman
A Thousand Splendid Suns Khaled Hosseini

AWARD WINNERS

American Pastoral (Pulitzer) Philip Roth
+*Bel Canto* (PEN Faulkner Award) Ann Patchett
The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao Junot Diaz (Pulitzer)
How I Live Now (Guardian Prize) Meg Rosoff
Independence Day (Pulitzer) Richard Ford
+*John Adams* (Pulitzer) David McCullough
Life of Pi (Booker) Yann Martel
The Little Stranger Sarah Waters (Man Booker Shortlist)
Olive Kitteridge (Pulitzer) Elizabeth Strout
Snow Falling on Cedars (PEN-Faulkner Award)
David Guterson
A Thousand Acres (Pulitzer) Jane Smiley
Tinkers Paul Harding (Pulitzer)
Vernon God Little DBC Pierre (Man Booker)

WELLESLEY READS TOGETHER

2011 SELECTION:

Animal, Vegetable, Mineral: A Year of Food Life
Barbara Kingsolver

Wellesley Reads Together is an initiative of the Wellesley Free Library. Visit www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org for more information.

TIMELESS FAVORITES

The Fire Next Time James Baldwin
David Copperfield Charles Dickens
The Count of Monte Cristo Alexandre Dumas
Anna Karenina Leo Tolstoy
On the Road Jack Kerouac
+*Moby Dick* Herman Melville
Summer Edith Wharton
Sense and Sensibility Jane Austen
Wuthering Heights Emily Bronte
A Room With a View E.M. Forster
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Dracula Bram Stoker
The Autobiography of Malcolm X as told to Alex Haley
The Woman in White Wilkie Collins

OTHER GOOD READS

The Thing Around Your Neck Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
The Help Kathryn Stockett
Fallen Angels Walter Dean Myers
Cutting for Stone Abraham Verghese
+*The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*
Michael Chabon
On Beauty Zadie Smith
The Elegance of the Hedgehog Muriel Barbery
+*Family Pictures* Sue Miller
The Five People You Meet in Heaven Mitch Albom
Fugitive Pieces Anne Michaels
The History of Love Nicole Krauss
+*The House of the Spirits* Isabel Allende
+*How to be Good* Nick Hornby
The Known World Edward P. Jones
The Tortilla Curtain T.C. Boyle
Spies Michael Frayn

WELLESLEY HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SUMMER READING 2011



REQUIREMENTS

Students in English 9-12CP

Read one book of your choice

Students in English 9-12ACP

Read two books of your choice

Students English 9-12H

Read two books of your choice *plus* the assigned text below:

9H *Bless Me, Ultima* Rudolfo Anaya

10H *Grapes of Wrath* John Steinbeck

11H *1984* George Orwell

12H *Reading Like a Writer* Francine Prose

Humanities (ACP and H)

Unaccustomed Earth Jhumpa Lahiri

Recommended titles inside

A Note to Students and Parents:

Our hope is that our students will develop a life-long love of reading. To that end, our summer reading assignment allows students to choose what to read, a luxury they do not often have during the school year. We provide the following list of recommendations as a starting point only; we encourage students to visit libraries and bookstores to browse in person.

Note that teachers will not give credit for texts that are part of our regular curriculum. (See the English Department website for a list of literature curricula.)

+ any work by this author is recommended

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

- +*Buffalo Soldier* Chris Bohjalian
- Eleven Seconds* Travis Roy
- The Glass Castle* Jeannette Walls
- +*A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*
Dave Eggers
- A Lesson Before Dying* Ernest J. Gaines
- +*My Sister's Keeper* Jody Picoult
- The Perks of Being a Wallflower* Stephen Chbosky
- +*Speak* Laurie Anderson
- +*This Boy's Life* Tobias Wolff

HISTORICAL FICTION

- The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Vol. 1: The Pox Party* M.T. Anderson
- Cold Mountain* Charles Fraser
- The Dry Grass of August* Anna Jean Mayhew
- Jubilee* Margaret Walker
- The Killer Angels* Michael Shaara
- Water for Elephants* Sara Gruen
- +*Master and Commander* Patrick O'Brian

SPORTS

- Moneyball* Michael Lewis
- +*Only a Game* Bill Littlefield
- The Education of a Coach* David Halberstam
- Faithful* Stewart O'Nan and Stephen King
- Lance Armstrong's War* Daniel Boyle
- The Lord of Misrule* Jaimy Gordon
- +*My Losing Season* Pat Conroy
- +*The Natural* Bernard Malamud
- Shoeless Joe* W.P. Kinsella
- Women Who Win: Female Athletes on Being the Best*
ed. Lisa Taggart
- Caddy for Life: The Bruce Edwards Story* John Feinstein

MYSTERIES, SUSPENSE, AND ADVENTURE

- +*Portobello* Ruth Rendell
- Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage* Alfred Lansing
- +*Gaudy Night* Dorothy Sayers
- +*People of Darkness* Tony Hillerman
- River of Darkness* Rennie Airth
- +*The Scold's Bridle* Minette Walters
- +*The Widening Gyre* Robert Parker
- Started Early, Took My Dog* Kate Atkinson
- Between a Rock and a Hard Place* Aron Ralston
- Motherless Brooklyn* Jonathan Lethem
- The Yiddish Policeman's Union* Michael Chabon

SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

- The Amulet of Sarmakand* Jonathan Stroud
- Anthem* Ayn Rand
- Dune* Frank Herbert
- Ender's Game* Orson Scott Card
- Enchantress from the Stars* Sylvia Louise Engdahl
- Graceling* Kristen Cashore
- Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* Douglas Adams
- The Knife of Never Letting Go: Chaos Walking* Patrick Ness
- Life as We Know It* Susan Pfeffer
- The Naming: The First Book of Pellinor* Alison Croggon
- Ship of Magic* Robin Hobb
- Thud!* Terry Pratchett

NONFICTION

- Alive* Piers Paul Read
- Devil in the White City* Erik Larson
- Fast Food Nation* Eric Schlosser
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* Rebecca Skloot
- In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the
Whaleship Essex* Nathaniel Philbrick
- +*Strength in What Remains* Tracy Kidder
- Blink* Malcolm Gladwell
- The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* Gayle T. Lemmon
- The New Kings of Nonfiction* Ira Glass, ed.
- Dreams from My Father* Barack Obama
- Unbroken* Laura Hillebrand
- The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's
Great Migration* Isabel Wilkerson
- Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea* Barbara
Demick

BIOGRAPHIES, AUTOBIOGRAPHIES, AND MEMOIRS

- How Starbucks Saved My Life* Michael Gates Gill
- Eat, Pray, Love* Elizabeth Gilbert
- The Memory Palace* Mira Bartók
- A Hope in the Unseen* Ron Susskind
- The Pact* Sampson Davis, et al
- Of Beatles and Angels-A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a
Refugee Camp to Harvard* Masar Asgedom
- Q: The Autobiography of Quincy Jones* Q. Jones
- No Compromise: The Story of Harvey Milk* David Aretha
- Loud in the House of Myself* Stacy Pershall
- A Reason to Believe: Lessons from an Improbable Life*
Deval Patrick

POLITICS

- Advise and Consent* Allen Drury
- Dreams from My Father* Barack Obama
- +*From Beirut to Jerusalem* Thomas Friedman
- The Gospel According to Larry* Janet Tashjian
- Living History* Hillary Rodham Clinton
- +*Master of the Senate* Robert Caro
- Parting of the Waters: America in the King Years-1954-196*
Taylor Branch
- +*The Race* Richard North Patterson
- Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*
Doris Kearns Goodwin