

**Purpose:** The Summer Reading Program encourages students to enjoy, think about, and evaluate what they read.

**Reading/Writing Requirements:** Summer reading is worth up to **10 %** of your first-quarter grade. Read the book closely and be prepared to respond to a long composition prompt during the first full week of school in September. There is an optional journal assignment.

- CP and Standard students choose **one** book from the list below.
- Honors students must choose **two** books from the list.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** You may earn extra credit by reading a second book from this list and/ or keeping a journal using the summer reading journal prompts (see your teacher or the FHS website).

For your second book evaluation, you will be asked to respond in a variety of ways. Keep a journal as you read as you may be able to submit the journal as the second book evaluation. Follow the journal prompts.

Alexie, Sherman: The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian

*This is a story about Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on a Spokane Indian reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school to attend an all-white farm town high school.*

Alvarez, Julia: How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents

*This story, which traces a Dominican family of girls living in the United States back to their roots, is funny, poignant, and told backwards.*

Armstrong, Lance: It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life

*The autobiography of the famed multiple winner of the Tour de France bicycle race explores Armstrong's grueling trip back to championship riding after nearly dying of cancer.*

Anderson, Laurie Halse: Catalyst

*In a novel that confronts the conundrum of young adult life, Kate manages her life by organizing it as logically as the periodic table. She can handle it all, or so she thinks.*

Austen, Jane: Sense and Sensibility

*The Dashwood sisters struggle to maintain their integrity and find happiness while courting.*

Baldwin, James: If Beale Street Could Talk

*A young black artist is unjustly arrested and imprisoned; his girlfriend is determined to free him.*

Baskin, Julia; Newman, Lindsey; Pollitt-Cohen, Sophie; Toombs, Courtney: Notebook Girls

*During freshman year, four girls began to keep a shared notebook that served as a joint diary of letters to one another. The reproduction of the notebook maintains their handwriting, snapshots, sketches and the details of the lives of these four girls from grade 9 to grade 11.*

Blais, Madeleine: In These Girls Hope is a Muscle: A True Story of Hoop Dreams and One Very Special Team

*A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist tells the story of an Amherst, Massachusetts high school girls' basketball team's championship season.*

Bronte, Emily: Wuthering Heights

*In nineteenth-century England, the passionate attachment between a headstrong young girl and a founding boy brought up by her father causes disaster for them and many others.*

Canada, Geoffrey: Fist, Stick, Knife, Gun: A Personal History of Violence in America

*A memoir of coming of age in the South Bronx; teenagers deal with the terrible consequences that adult violence has brought to their world.*

Carson, Rachel: Silent Spring(What's Falmouth Reading book choice for 2011)

*In 1960, a woman noticed the birds had stopped singing and their population had severely decreased in her neighborhood, so she summoned her friend, biologist Rachel Carson, to investigate. Carson's discovery, the overuse of pesticides, prompted the environmental movement that exists today.*

Clark, Mary Higgins: On the Street Where you Live

*Mystery ensues when a skeleton is found in the ancestral home of criminal defense attorney Emily Graham.*

Collins, Jim: The Last Best League

*An ode to one of the last places (Cape Cod) where the true spirit of baseball lives. A beautiful tribute to summer, the Cape Cod Baseball League, and the lives of the boys who come to play each year.*

Coy, John: Crackback

*Always a starter on his high school football team, Miles changes his life's direction after a new coach takes over.*

Doctorow, Cory: Little Brother

*When he ditches school one Friday morning, 17-year-old Marcus is hoping to get a head start on a clue to his computer game. But after a terrorist attack in San Francisco, he and his friends are swept into the extralegal world of Homeland Security. Espionage fans will appreciate the gadgets and questions about intellectual freedom.*

Foer, Jonathan; Extremely loud and incredibly Close

*Nine-year old Oskar Schell has embarked on an urgent, secret mission that will take him through the five boroughs of New York. His goal is to find the lock that matches a mysterious key that belonged to his father, who died in the World Trade Center the morning of September 11.*

Gaines, Ernest: A Lesson Before Dying

*This is the heart-wrenching story of a condemned man learning to read from a young teacher. It contains powerful reflections on education, racism, punishment, and the meaning of humanity.*

Grisham, John: The Summons

*Grisham tells the tale of law Professor Ray Atlee's dilemma when he stumbles upon millions in his dead father's Mississippi home.*

Gunther, John: Death Be Not Proud

*This classic is a father's memoir of the last days of his seventeen-year-old son's battle with a brain tumor.*

Hickham, Homer: Rocket Boys: A Memoir

*An autobiographical account of NASA engineer Homer Hickhams's life that discusses his childhood, his obsession with rockets, and his NASA career.*

Joravsky, Ben: Hoop Dreams

*The desperate and, usually impossible, dream of making it in professional sports is exposed with heartbreaking truthfulness. It is the story of Chicago high school basketball and dreams of the NBA.*

Kingsolver, Barbara: Animal Dreams

*Codi Noline comes back to her small Arizona hometown to confront her past and face her ailing, distant father. What she finds is a town threatened by a silent environmental catastrophe.*

Kotlowitz, Alex: There are no Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing up in the Other America

*Journalist Kotlowitz tells the stories of impoverished 12-year-old Lafayette Rivers and his younger brother Pharoah as they confront tragedy on a daily basis.*

LeGuin, Ursula K.: The Dispossessed

*The brilliant physicist Shevek must make the unprecedented journey to the utopian mother planet, Anarres, to challenge the complex structures of life, and in so doing ignite the fires of change.*

Oates, Joyce Carrol: Foxfire

*Maddie, the chronicler of the girl gang Forfire, returns to the notebooks of her former gang and revisits the experiences of gang leader, Leggs, and raises questions of gender, social status, and coming of age.*

Orwell, George: 1984

*In George Orwell's prophetic, nightmarish vision of "Negative Utopia" the government watches all and even thinking a rebellious thought is a crime.*

Potok, Chaim: The Chosen

*Potok's story is the now-classic tale of two fathers and two sons and the pressures on all of them to pursue their Jewish religion in the way that is best suited to each.*

Picoult, Jodi: Plain Truth

*Defense attorney Ellie Hathaway retreats to her aunt's home and at the same time she arrives, a dead baby is discovered in the barn of a local Amish farmer. The mother is 18 year old unwed mother Katie Fisher who denies she had a baby.*

Salisbury, Graham: Eyes of the Emperor

*16 year old Eddie Okubo lies about his age and joins the Army during World War II; he is not prepared for the problems he encounters as a Japanese-American in the United States military in 1942.*

Sebold, Alice: The Lovely Bones

*Told from the perspective of a murdered fourteen-year-old girl, this novel recounts life on Earth without her as well as the Heaven where she now resides.*

Stockett, Kathryn: The Help

*In 1962 Mississippi, twenty-two year old Skeeter returns home after college hoping to find solace with her beloved maid, Constantine. But Constantine has disappeared, and no one will say where she has gone. Skeeter recruits two other maids, Aibileen and Minny, to come together for a project that will put them all at risk. Three extraordinary women create a movement of their own that changes a town forever.*

Weisberg, Joseph: 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

*The first-person teen narrative chronicles Jeremiah Reskin's sophomore year in 1980's suburban America.*