



## St. John's Episcopal School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Summer Reading 2021

Summer reading for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade requires reading three (3) novels: ***Animal Farm*** by George Orwell, one from the attached suggested reading list, and one of your own choosing.

### REQUIRED READING:

***Animal Farm*** by George Orwell

A political satire in which the animals take over running the farm, but find their utopian state turning into a dictatorship.

This novel will be discussed at the beginning of the school year, so we suggest you read it in August to keep it fresh in your mind. You are encouraged to highlight and take notes as you read. **Please answer the Required Reading Questions on the attached form and bring it on the first day of school.**

You must complete a reading log of the three books read this summer, which your parents will initial. The list should include titles, authors, and dates when reading began and ended for each book. Titles enjoyed that are beyond the summer reading requirements should be added to the log as well. **In addition to the Required Reading Questions form, you will turn this log in on the first day of school.**

Read, read, read, and we look forward to seeing all of you in August.

Your Eighth Grade Teachers

### SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS (you must choose one of these):

Ahmed, Samira. ***Internment***. 2019.

In a futuristic United States, seventeen-year-old Layla Amin and her parents are forced into an internment camp for Muslim American citizens. With the help of newly made friends also trapped within the camp, her boyfriend on the outside, and an unexpected alliance, Layla begins a journey to fight for freedom, leading a revolution against the camp's Director and his guards.

Bardugo, Leigh. ***Shadow and Bone***. 2012.

Surrounded by enemies, the once-great nation of Ravka has been torn in two by the Shadow Fold, a swath of near impenetrable darkness crawling with horrible monsters. Now its fate may rest on the shoulders of one lonely refugee. Alina Starkov has never been good at anything. But when her regiment is attacked on the Fold and her best friend is brutally injured, Alina reveals a dormant power that saves his life--a power that could be the key to setting her war-ravaged country free. Wrenched from everything she knows, Alina is whisked away to the royal court to be trained as a member of the Grisha, the magical elite led by the mysterious Darkling.

Barnes, Jennifer Lynn. ***The Inheritance Games***. 2020.

Avery Grambs has a plan. She may be an orphan with only an older half-sister for family, but that's not going to stop her. She's going to get a scholarship, go to college, and make a life for herself. That's why it's a complete shock when she learns some Texas billionaire she's never heard of has left all his money to her. All of it. And she has no idea why. If she wants this chance at a more stable future, she must spend the next year in a mansion with Nathaniel Hawthorne's three handsome and clever grandsons along with a cast of scheming relatives as they race to solve puzzles and uncover the truth about the billionaire's motives.

Fukuda, Andrew. ***This Light Between Us***. 2020.

Alex Maki has been writing letters to his French pen pal, Charlie, for years. Things are getting tense for Charlie as the German invasion of France begins in earnest. She tries to hide the true danger from him, but as a Jew, her life is always at risk. When Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, Alex's own situation suddenly becomes more volatile. As a Japanese American, he finds himself in an internment camp. When Charlie's letters stop, he decides to do the only thing he can, join the army to try and find her.

Gratz, Alan. ***Ground Zero***. 2021.

September 11, 2001, New York City: Brandon is visiting his dad at work, on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center. Out of nowhere, an airplane slams into the tower, creating a fiery nightmare of terror and confusion. And Brandon is in the middle of it all. Can he survive -- and escape?

Jackson, Holly. ***A Good Girl's Guide to Murder***. 2020.

As her senior capstone project, Pippa Fitz-Amobi is determined to find the real killer in a closed, local murder case, but not everyone wants her meddling in the past.

Johnson, Maureen. ***Truly Devious***. 2018.

New at Ellingham Academy, Stevie Bell tries to both solve a murder at campus and the cold case of a double kidnapping.

Nayeri, Daniel. ***Everything Sad is Untrue (a true story)***. 2020.

In an Oklahoman middle school, Khosrou (whom everyone calls Daniel) stands in front of a skeptical audience of classmates, telling the tales of his family's history, stretching back years, decades, and centuries. At the core is Daniel's story of how they became refugees—starting with his mother's vocal embrace of Christianity in a country that made such a thing a capital offense and continuing through their midnight flight from the secret police, bribing their way onto a plane-to-anywhere.

Lowry, Lois. ***Son***. 2014.

Companion book to: ***The Giver***, ***Gathering Blue***, and ***Messenger***. Unlike the other Birthmothers in her

utopian community, teenaged Claire forms an attachment to her baby, feeling a great loss when he is taken to the Nurturing Center to be adopted by a family unit.

Rutherford, Mara. ***Crown of Coral and Pearl***. 2019.

For generations the people of Varenia have given their most beautiful daughters to marry the princes of Ilara. Nor has never left her village on the sea where the days are spent diving for pearls under the warm sun. Now she has been sent to marry a stranger whose home is buried in the cold recesses of a mountain stronghold. No one welcomes her to court, especially not her forbidding fiancé, Prince Ceren. The court is full of deception and plots, and Nor will have to stay on her guard if she wants to survive.

Sheinkin, Steve. ***Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War***. 2015.

From award-winning author Steve Sheinkin comes a tense, exciting exploration of what the Times deemed "the greatest story of the century": how Daniel Ellsberg transformed from obscure government analyst into "the most dangerous man in America," and risked everything to expose the government's deceit.

Shusterman, Neal. ***Dry***. 2018.

A lengthy California drought escalates to catastrophic proportions, turning Alyssa's quiet suburban street into a warzone, and she is forced to make impossible choices if she and her brother are to survive.

Sepetys, Ruta. ***Salt to the Sea***. 2016.

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.

Stevens, Court. ***The June Boys***. 2020.

Every June, the Gemini Thief takes three boys, keeps them underground for thirteen months, and then returns them. The kidnapper has never killed anyone until now. This became personal when Thea's cousin Aulus was taken last year. She's been obsessed with uncovering the truth ever since--even if it leads back to her own father.

Watson, Renée and Ellen Hagen. ***Watch Us Rise***. 2019.

Jasmine and Chelsea are best friends on a mission--they're sick of the way women are treated even at their progressive NYC high school, so they decide to start a Women's Rights Club. They post their work online--poems, essays, videos of Chelsea performing her poetry, and Jasmine's response to the racial microaggressions she experiences--and soon they go viral. But with such positive support, the club is also targeted by trolls. When things escalate in real life, the principal shuts the club down. Not willing to be silenced, Jasmine and Chelsea will risk everything for their voices--and those of other young women--to be heard.

St. John's Summer Reading **Required Book** Questions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Novel: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide as much detailed information as possible about the **required novel** using complete sentences. Return this sheet (along with your signed reading log) to your English teacher on the first day of school.

Describe the **setting**.

Briefly summarize the **plot**.

Identify and describe the **main characters**.

Describe the main **conflict** or **problem** in the novel as well as the **resolution** or **solution**.

Would you recommend this book? **Using specific examples from the book, explain why or why not.**

Student's Name:  
\_\_\_\_\_

St. John's Episcopal School  
Middle School Summer Reading Log

Take to school on the first day!

START DATE	END DATE	BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR	PARENT SIGNATURE