

SUMMER READING
for students entering
grade 12

Some books to consider...

Life of Pi, Yann Martel
FROM THE PUBLISHER

Life of Pi is a masterful and utterly original novel that is at once the story of a young castaway who faces immeasurable hardships on the high seas, and a meditation on religion, faith, art and life that is as witty as it is profound... Growing up in Pondicherry, India, Piscine Molitor Patel -- known as Pi -- has a rich life. Bookish by nature, young Pi acquires a broad knowledge of not only the great religious texts but of all literature, and has a great curiosity about how the world works. His family runs the local zoo, and he spends many of his days among goats, hippos, swans, and bears, developing his own theories about the nature of animals and how human nature conforms to it... Choosing to move to Canada, they close the zoo, pack their belongings, and board a Japanese cargo ship... However, they have only just begun their journey when the ship sinks, taking the dreams of the Patel family down with it. Only Pi survives, cast adrift in a lifeboat with the unlikeliest of traveling companions... Thus begins Pi Patel's epic, 227-day voyage across the Pacific, and the powerful story of faith and survival at the heart of *Life of Pi*... It is during the most hopeless and grueling days of his voyage that Pi whittles to the core of his beliefs, casts off his own assumptions, and faces his underlying terrors head-on.

Slaughterhouse-Five, Kurt Vonnegut
FROM THE PUBLISHER

Slaughterhouse-Five is one of the world's great anti-war books. Centering on the infamous fire-bombing of Dresden, Billy Pilgrim's odyssey through time reflects the mythic journey of our own fractured lives as we search for meaning in what we are afraid to know.

Unstuck in time, Billy Pilgrim, Vonnegut's shattered survivor of the Dresden bombing, relives his life over and over again under the gaze of aliens; he comes at last to some understanding of the human comedy. The basis of George Roy's great 1972 film and perhaps the signature student's novel in the 1960's embracing protest and the absurdity of war.

Some authors to consider...

Horror: Dean Koontz, Stephen King, Yann Martel

Military: Dale Brown, Tom Clancy, Michael Crichton

Male: Khaled Hosseini

Female: Nora Roberts, Sue Monk Kidd, Amy Tan, Helen Fielding, Barbara Kingsolver

Mystery: John Grisham, Michael Connelly

Advice: Rachel Simmons

Sci-Fi: Isaac Asimov, Philip K. Dick, Robert Heinlein, H. G. Wells

If you liked...

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,

then you might like:

Pudd'nhead Wilson, by Mark Twain or

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, by Mark Twain

The Scarlet Letter,

then you might like:

The House of Seven Gables, by Nathaniel Hawthorne or

Hobomok, by Lydia Maria Child

The Great Gatsby,

then you might like:

The Last Tycoon, by F. Scott Fitzgerald or

The Day of the Locust, by Nathanael West

Black Like Me,

then you might like:

Ceremony, by Leslie Marmon Silko or

Going to Meet the Man, by James Baldwin