

June 2018

Dear Students and Parents:

RAA believes that students should develop a love of reading and assume the responsibility to pursue reading in order to become life-long learners. Therefore, we encourage our students to continue reading during the summer. Reading is the single most important factor attributed to school success.

Prior to the first class session, students will read **one** of the works listed below, complete the assignment (an illustrated book), and be prepared for group discussions. Assignment is due September 5, 2018.

### English I and II (9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade)

- *Chains*, Laurie Halse Anderson. When her owner dies at the start of the Revolution, a greedy nephew keeps Isabel and her younger sister enslaved and sells them to Loyalists in New York, where she is offered the chance to spy for the Patriots.
- *Ender's Game*, Orson Scott Card -- A young boy is trained with military games to save the world from alien attack
- *I am Malala*, Malala Yousafzail – a nonfiction memoir detailing how a young girl from Pakistan fought for the right to be educated while under Taliban (Note: Do NOT read the Young Reader's Edition!)
- *Into the Wild*, John Krakauer. In April 1992 a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley.
- *Jurassic Park*, Michael Crichton. An astonishing technique for recovering and cloning dinosaur DNA has been discovered. Creatures once extinct now roam Jurassic Park, soon-to-be opened as a theme park. Until something goes wrong...and science proves a dangerous toy....
- *Night*, Elie Wiesel – A 15-year-old boy survives the horrors of two Nazi concentration camps
- *The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien -- Adventures of Bilbo Baggins, the hobbit, in a land of wizards, dwarfs, elves and dragons
- *Tuesdays with Morrie*, Mitch Albom -- tells the true story of sociologist **Morrie Schwartz** and his relationship with his students. The book chronicles the lessons about life that Mitch learns from his professor, who is dying.
- *Nicholas and Alexandra*, Robert K. Massie - the extraordinary world of Imperial Russia and the story of the Romanovs' lives: Nicholas's political naïveté, Alexandra's obsession with the corrupt mystic Rasputin, and little Alexis's brave struggle with hemophilia; story of a doomed empire and the death-marked royals who watched it crumble.

### English III & IV (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

- *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, Dee Brown -- This extraordinary book changed the way Americans think about the original inhabitants of their country. It begins with the Long Walk of the Navajos in 1860 and ends 30 years later with the massacre of Sioux men, women, and children at Wounded Knee in South Dakota.

- *Hiroshima*, John Hersey -- Six survivors reflect on the aftermath of the first atomic bomb
- *The Killer Angels*, Michael Shaara -- Pulitzer Prize winning novel of the Battle of Gettysburg. Lee, Chamberlain, Pickett and others come alive in this meticulous re-enactment of the great battle
- *The Things They Carried*, Tim O'Brien – A collection of short stories that creates a bigger story. O'Brien writes about the Vietnam War and how it affected a group of soldiers. The writing is excellent, and the book is powerful. (parental guidance)
- *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury – This novel is a frightening vision of the future, firemen don't put out fires--they start them in order to burn books. A future society where trivial information is good, and knowledge and ideas are bad.
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, Rebecca Skloot. “*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* is a fascinating look at the woman whose cultured cells—the first to grow and survive indefinitely, harvested without compensation or consent—have become essential to modern medicine.” — *Vogue*
- *The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne – Set in an early New England colony, shows the terrible impact a single, passionate act has on the lives of three members of the community.
- *Gathering of Old Men*, Ernest Gaines -- This is a powerful depiction of racial tensions arising over the death of a Cajun farmer at the hands of a black man. A sheriff is summoned to a sugarcane plantation, where he finds one young white woman, about 18 old black men, and one dead Cajun farmer.
- *The Joy Luck Club*, Amy Tan - contains sixteen interwoven stories about conflicts between Chinese immigrant mothers and their American-raised daughters.  
<http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/joyluck/summary.html>
- *1984*, George Orwell -- "Thought Police." "Big Brother." "Orwellian." These words have entered our vocabulary because of George Orwell's classic dystopian novel, *1984*. The story of one man's nightmare odyssey as he pursues freedom of thought through a world ruled by warring states and a power structure that controls not only information but also individual thought and memory. (parental guidance)
- *Silas Marner*, George Eliot – A gentle linen weaver is wrongly accused of a heinous theft actually committed by his best friend.
- *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald – The story of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby and his love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan.
- *The Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck. The desperate flight of tenant farmers from Oklahoma during the Depression.

Sincerely,  
 Mrs. Dudley  
[cdudley@redlandsacademy.org](mailto:cdudley@redlandsacademy.org)  
[cgusse@redlandsacademy.org](mailto:cgusse@redlandsacademy.org)

## Summer Reading Project 2018

### Illustrated Book

Your job is to take the basic plot line from one of the books you read this summer and retell it in a way that a lower grade elementary student can understand. This means using simpler words and avoiding anything in the story that might be considered “adult content.” Your book must have a title page (one that includes *your name*, the name of the book, and the author). The book must be illustrated and contain fifteen (15—no more and no less) more pages in addition to the title page. If you can figure out how to do it, you can use front and back in such a way that your project really does look like a book.

### Other Stuff . . .

- As always, your project is due two days after Labor Day (September 5, 2018).
- Any text must be typed or computer generated.
  - Illustrations must be in INK or color (marker, pencil, very *tidy* collage). Pencil will not be acceptable.
  - I have a feeling we can work it out so that you can share your creation with your class, so do work that you’ll be proud to show off.
  - Visit the library (or see your teacher) if you cannot remember what the basic picture book format looks like.
- Don’t wait until the last minute!