

Summer Reading

Hot Off the Presses!/: Ultra-Contemporary YA Literature

Read a book from the appropriate section and then choose one of the projects to complete. Be sure to read the directions for your project choice carefully. Be sure to look over the rubric.

Freshman/Sophomore Choices

*****Some books may address sensitive topics, so be sure to also read descriptions online before making your choice.**

Pride by Ibi Zoboi (2018) *Pride and Prejudice* gets remixed in this smart, funny, gorgeous retelling of the classic. Zuri Benitez has pride. Brooklyn pride, family pride, and pride in her Afro-Latino roots. But pride might not be enough to save her rapidly gentrifying neighborhood from becoming unrecognizable.

On the Come Up by Angie Thomas (2019) This is the highly anticipated second novel by Angie Thomas, the author of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling, award-winning *The Hate U Give*. Sixteen-year-old Bri wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time. Or at least win her first battle. As the daughter of an underground hip hop legend who died right before he hit big, Bri's got massive shoes to fill.

A Very Large Expanse of Sea by Tahereh Mafi (2018) From the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of the Shatter Me series comes a powerful, heartrending contemporary novel about fear, first love, and the devastating impact of prejudice. It's 2002, a year after 9/11. It's an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who's tired of being stereotyped.

The Field Guide to the North American Teenager by Ben Philippe (2019) A hilarious YA contemporary realistic novel about a witty Black French Canadian teen who moves to Austin, Texas, and experiences the joys, clichés, and awkward humiliations of the American high school experience—including falling in love. Perfect for fans of Nicola Yoon, *When Dimple Met Rishi*, and John Green.

Strange the Dreamer by Laini Taylor (2017) From National Book Award finalist Laini Taylor comes an epic fantasy about a mythic lost city and its dark past. The dream chooses the dreamer, not the other way around--and Lazlo Strange, war orphan and junior librarian, has always feared that his dream chose poorly.

Bridge of Clay by Markus Zusak (2018) An unforgettable and sweeping family saga from Markus Zusak, the storyteller who gave us *THE BOOK THIEF*. The breathtaking story of five brothers who bring each other up in a world run by their own rules. As the Dunbar boys love and fight and learn to reckon with the adult world, they discover the moving secret behind their father's disappearance.

Four Dead Queens by Astrid Scholte (2019) Seventeen-year-old Keralie Corrington may seem harmless, but she's, in fact, one of Quadara's most skilled thieves and a liar. Varin, on the other hand, is an honest, upstanding citizen of Quadara's most enlightened region, Eonia. He runs afoul of Keralie when she steals a package from him, putting his life in danger.

Shout by Laurie Halse Anderson (2019) Inspired by her fans and enraged by how little in our culture has changed since her groundbreaking novel *Speak* was first published twenty years ago, she has written a poetry memoir that is as vulnerable as it is rallying, as timely as it is timeless. In free verse, Anderson shares reflections, rants, and calls to action woven between deeply personal stories from her life that she's never written about before.

I was Born for This by Alice Oseman (2018) For Angel Rahimi, life is only about one thing: The Ark – a pop-rock trio of teenage boys who are currently taking the world by storm. Jimmy Kaga-Ricci owes everything to The Ark too. He's their frontman – and playing in a band is all he's ever dreamed of doing. It's just a shame that recently everything in his life seems to have turned into a bit of a nightmare

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.

Junior/Senior Choices

*****Some books may address sensitive topics, so be sure to also read descriptions online before making your choice.**

Allegedly by Tiffany D. Jackson (2017) Mary B. Addison killed a baby. Allegedly. She didn't say much in that first interview with detectives, and the media filled in the only blanks that mattered: a white baby had died while under the care of a churchgoing black woman and her nine-year-old daughter. The public convicted Mary and the jury made it official. But did she do it?

Monday's Not Coming by Tiffany D. Jackson (2018) Monday Charles is missing, and only Claudia seems to notice. Claudia and Monday have always been inseparable—more sisters than friends. So when Monday doesn't turn up for the first day of school, Claudia's worried.

With the Fire on High by Elizabeth Acevado (2018) From author of *The Poet X*. Ever since she got pregnant freshman year, Emoni Santiago's life has been about making the tough decisions—doing what has to be done for her daughter and her abuela. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen, where she adds a little something magical to everything she cooks, turning her food into straight-up goodness.

Sadie by Courtney Summers (2018) Sadie hasn't had an easy life. Growing up on her own, she's been raising her sister Mattie in an isolated small town, trying her best to provide a normal life and keep their heads above water. But when Mattie is found dead, Sadie's entire world crumbles. After a somewhat botched police investigation, Sadie is determined to bring her sister's killer to justice and hits the road following a few meager clues to find him.

The Hazel Wood by Melissa Albert (2018) Seventeen-year-old Alice and her mother have spent most of Alice's life on the road, always a step ahead of the uncanny bad luck biting at their heels. But when Alice's grandmother, the reclusive author of a cult-classic book of pitch-dark fairy tales, dies alone on her estate, the Hazel Wood, Alice learns how bad her luck can really get.

Truly Devious by Maureen Johnson (2018) Ellingham Academy is a famous private school in Vermont for the brightest thinkers, inventors, and artists. It was founded by Albert Ellingham, but shortly after the school opened, his wife and daughter were kidnapped. The only real clue was a mocking riddle listing methods of murder, signed with the frightening pseudonym "Truly, Devious." True-crime aficionado Stevie Bell is set to begin her first year at Ellingham Academy, and she has an ambitious plan: She will solve this cold case.

A Room Away from the Wolves by Nova Ren Suma (2018) Bina has never forgotten the time she and her mother ran away from home. Her mother promised they would hitchhike to the city to escape Bina's cruel father and start over. Eight years later, after too many lies and with trouble on her heels, Bina finds herself on the side of the road again, the city of her dreams calling for her.

Undead Girl Gang by Lily Anderson (2018) Meet teenage Wiccan Mila Flores, who truly could not care less what you think about her Doc Martens, her attitude, or her weight because she knows that, no matter what, her BFF Riley is right by her side. So when Riley and Fairmont Academy mean girls die under suspicious circumstances, Mila refuses to believe everyone's explanation that her BFF was involved in a suicide pact. Instead, armed with a tube of lip gloss and an ancient grimoire, Mila does the unthinkable to uncover the truth: she brings the girls back to life.

All the Little Lights by Jamie McGuire (2018) The first time Elliott Youngblood spots Catherine Calhoun, he's just a boy with a camera, and he's never seen a sadder and more beautiful sight. Both Elliott and Catherine feel like outcasts, yet they find an easy friendship with each other. But when Catherine needs him most, Elliott is forced to leave town. Elliott finally returns, but he and Catherine are now different people. Just when Catherine is ready to fully trust Elliott, he becomes the prime suspect in a local tragedy.

How to Make Friends in the Dark by Kathleen Glasgow (2019) Here is what happens when your mother dies. It's the brightest day of summer and it's dark outside. It's dark in your house, dark in your room, and dark in your heart. You feel like the darkness is going to split you apart. That's how it feels for Tiger. It's always been Tiger and her mother against the world. Then, on a day like any other, Tiger's mother dies. And now it's Tiger, *alone*. Here is how you learn to make friends with the dark.

If You're Out There by Katy Loutzenhiser (2019) After Zan's best friend moves to California, she is baffled and crushed when Priya suddenly ghosts. Worse, Priya's social media has turned into a stream of ungrammatical posts chronicling a sunny, vapid new life that doesn't sound like her at all. Everyone tells Zan not to be an idiot: Let Priya do her reinvention thing and move on. But until Zan hears Priya say it, she won't be able to admit that their friendship is finished. Then a clue hidden in Priya's latest selfie introduces a new, deeply disturbing possibility: Maybe Priya isn't just not answering Zan's emails. Maybe she *can't*.

Project Choices (60 Points): **Due Friday August 30th**

Choose one of the following projects to do with your summer reading book. Be sure to read the directions carefully and do all of the required aspects of the assignment. **Any non-visual parts or explanations must be typed to receive credit.**

Choice #1: Poetry

Write four poems in response to the book you read. One poem should be about a character, one should be about a setting, one should be about a theme, and one can be about whatever else strikes you about the book. Each poem must have a title, be 8-10 lines, and have an accompanying explanation of the significance of the poem.

Choice #2: Scrap Book

Choose a character from the book you read and create a scrap book for your character, cutting out pictures from magazines or drawing the mementos he or she would have in a scrap book. Your scrap book must contain at least 4 pages. One should represent a character, one should represent the setting, one should represent the theme, and one can be about whatever aspect you chose. Each page should have an accompanying explanation of the significance of the things you chose to put on the page.

Choice #3: Character Profile

You will create a "profile" of one of the characters from your book. Your profile must include the following elements:

- What you believe your character's star sign would be with an explanation of why you think they fit the sign, drawing on their actions, attitudes, and thoughts from the book.
- What main apps your character would have on his/her phone and why they would be fitting.
- What the characters social media content would look like and why (consider which platforms they would use and how they would use them).
- One other aspect of the profile of your choosing (clothing, journal entry, favorite Netflix shows, etc.) and an explanation of its significance

Choice #4: Dinner Party

If the main character of your story had a dinner party and could invite anyone living or dead, who would he/she invite and why? You must choose four people and give thorough explanations as to why these are appropriate choices. You must also include a description of either what you would serve or what the theme of the dinner party would be and the significance of your choices.

Please feel free to email Ms. Graves at mgraves@presentationacademy.org if you have any questions.

Summer Reading Project Rubric 2019-2020

A: All requirements of the assignment are met and/or exceeded; all “written” parts of the assignment are typed and in Standard English; all points are supported with quotations where appropriate (or required); specifics are used as much as possible to demonstrate that you read; your voice comes through clearly in your project; all parts are thoughtful; any non-typed parts are neat and show effort; interpretations show a deeper understanding of the aspects of the novel

B: All requirements of the assignment are met; all “written” parts of the assignment are typed and in Standard English; most points are supported with quotations where appropriate (or required); specifics are often used to demonstrate that you read; your voice is present in your project; your project shows thoughtfulness; any non-typed parts are neat and show effort; interpretations show an understanding of the aspects of the novel

C: Most requirements of the assignment are met; all “written” parts of the assignment are typed; points are supported with quotations where required; your project uses enough specifics to demonstrate that you read; your project shows some thought; any non-typed parts are neat and show effort; interpretations show that you understand the novel

D: Some requirements of the assignment are met; all “written” parts of the assignment are typed; quotations are not used where required (or used incorrectly); your project lacks specifics and does not demonstrate that you read; non-typed parts show little effort and/or appear to lack forethought; your project does not demonstrate that you understand the novel