



Photo Credit: Gianna Ayala Class of 2023

The Joel Barlow High School 2023 Summer Reading Brochure

Summer is one of those exciting opportunities in your high school career when you can choose your own reading: a chance for you to decide what new worlds you'll visit, what unusual characters you might meet, or what new philosophies you might consider.

We hope to spark your reading interest with topics that will no doubt dominate the summer news, as well as plenty of great fiction to help you escape. We have included titles recommended by librarians; suggestions from JBHS students, staff and faculty; literary prize lists that celebrate a host of different perspectives and identities; and books of all kinds about fascinating topics like the universe, business, love, and war.

So browse through this brochure, select some titles that interest you, chat with your friends about them, read online reviews, and then get down to the fun business of reading. In the simple act of continuing your intellectual journey, you'll be exercising your mind during the summer hiatus, growing your knowledge of contemporary issues, or indulging in the journey of imagination and creativity. Any way you frame it, each book you choose has the potential to better allow you to understand yourself and the complex world around you, to support the philosophies that guide you or challenge the way you see the world.

Like Puck's epilogue, we offer this list with no guarantee that it will not offend. Rather, we are certain there is something in every entry to offend someone or some cause. And that is the welcome challenge of reading, of thinking: to step back and consider the world from another point of view. All of the titles are on this list because someone in this diverse Barlow learning community recommended them. These are our suggestions to start you reading and thinking.

Enjoy your summer—vacationing, relaxing, and reading!

nf = nonfiction

g = graphic novel format

e = available through JBHS Library Learning Commons' EBook collection

a = available through JBHS Library Learning Commons' audiobook collection

FACULTY & STAFF FAVORITES

FICTION

Ms. Bernardo: *The Family Across the Street*, Trope. A psychological thriller involving multiple who all collide at the end!

Ms. Gilmore: *The Dictionary of Lost Words: A Novel*, Williams. Historical fiction celebrating the real women whose work on the *Oxford English Dictionary* went largely unrecognized.

Mrs. Glynn: *A Dog's Journey*, Cameron. This book makes one question if we take care of our pets, or if they take care of us.

Mr. Fricker: *Snow Crash*, Stephenson. A dystopian near future where the internet has supplanted nations comes under attack from a well-funded egoist. The protagonist's name: Hiro Protagonist.

Mrs. K. Jarvis: *A Fall of Marigolds*, Meissner. A beautiful scarf, passed down through generations, connects two women who learn that the weight of the world is made bearable by the love we give away.

Mrs. Nichols: *Stone Blind*, Haynes. Author of 'A Thousand Ships,' Haynes continues her literary pursuit of bringing empathy and nuance to ancient stories of oppressed, forgotten, or monstered women.

Mr. Smith: *Lessons in Chemistry*, Garmus. An original story comprised of hope and humor, courage and resilience, and staying true to oneself in finding one's own direction and path.

NONFICTION

Mr. Light: *Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?*, de Waal. A thought-provoking blend of science and psychology that might change how "special" you consider humans to be.

Mr. Luzietti: *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, Diamond. This book will challenge you to reconsider your ideas and beliefs about why certain human civilizations became global leaders while others collapsed.

Mrs. Neiger: *I'm Glad My Mom Died*, McCurdy. With humor and candor, McCurdy reflects on her time as a Nickelodeon child star and the toll living out her mother's dream took on her physical and mental health.

Mr. Smith: *An Edible History of Humanity*, Standage. An interdisciplinary look at how food has influenced everything in our history from our evolution as a species, to technology, the outcomes of famous wars, and our current and future crises with energy and climate.

Ms. Taubner: *Braiding Sweetgrass*, Kimmerer. A powerful & poetic reflection on our relationship to the natural world through the lens of a Potawatomi Nation member, professor, and plant biologist.

FAVORITES FROM YOUR FRIENDS IN COLLEGE READING

FICTION

Abigail Cambareri: *Blade of Secrets*, Levenselle. Ziva is a young blade smith who forges magic into her pieces. Unknowingly, she forges for a warlord whose plan is destruction, and Ziva must stop him.

Thomas Colby: *Ready Player One*, Cline. A future time where video games take over the world.

Vivian Reilly: *Daisy Jones and the Six*, Reid. A fictional band rising to fame in the 70s told through interviews of the band members. Themes of love, heartbreak, and friendship.

Julia Tartaglia: *The Versions of Us*, Barnett. Jim and Eva meet at one set point in time, and this book follows three different versions of how their lives play out from that point on.

Drew Williams: *Reminders of Him*, Hoover. After five years in prison for committing a horrible mistake, Kenna Rowan returns to her hometown hoping to build a new life in a town where everyone hates her.

NONFICTION

Sebastian Carvajal: *The Phantom Prince: My Life with Ted Bundy*, Kendall. After living with the murderer, Ted Bundy, his girlfriend of six years tells her story.

Ethan Demilio: *Anatomy of the State*, Rothbard. Describes Rothbard's view of the state as a predatory entity rather than a benevolent one.

Jillian Ganim: *Greenlights*, McConaugh. (Autobio) A wild ride through a childhood of tough love, rising to fame and success in Hollywood, and green lights McConaugh saw that led him forward at each step.

Emily Green: *Educated*, Westover. An inspiring memoir written about Westover's struggle to break free from her family difficulties in pursuit of an education.

Nicholas Shuler: *The Glass Castle*, Walls. Follow Walls and her chaotic family as they struggle to make ends meet to fulfill their fathers dream of building "The Glass Castle."

John Rooney: *Lords of Finance*, Ahamed. Follows the story of how the four most powerful central bankers caused the Great Depression.

Lucas Zappulla: *Memoirs of General William Tucemesh Sherman*, Sherman. A first hand account of a great man's experience during the American Civil War.

Look for other Faculty & Staff and College Reading student recommendations throughout this brochure!

STILL THE KING OF STORYTELLING

AUTHOR STEPHEN KING

The Body: Four boys set out to find a boy who disappeared and find his body by the railroad tracks. Later made into the movie: *Stand By Me*.

Tate English: The Colorado Kid: An aspiring journalist joins two other reporters in Maine to try and solve the mysterious death of a man on a beach.

Tyler Bensch: Fairy Tale: About a kid who finds a portal to another world in an old man's backyard.

On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft: King shares memories, practices and habits that shaped him as a writer.

11/22/63: An alternate history novel about President Kennedy's death (or prevention of!).

The Shining: A family stays alone in a hotel that has been abandoned for the winter, magic occurs and trouble arises.



Like what you have read from Stephen King? Check out the many more books he has written!

ALEX AWARD 2023

Solito: A Memior, Zamora. Follow a young boy as he joins a group of strangers to migrate from El Salvador to the United States. (nf)

Grace Foley: Babel: An Arcane History, Gwynne. In a world where magic can be extracted from the act of translation, the Oxford student Robin and his friends fight against colonialism and attempt to save the countries where they were born.

MORRIS AWARD 2023

The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen, Blum. Friendship and love collide with hatred and betrayal as Hoodie, an Orthodox Jew, moves into a non-Jewish town that is not so welcoming.

SCHNEIDER FAMILY BOOK AWARD 2023

The Words We Keep, Stewart. One night, Lily found her sister hurting herself. Now after all this while, it is time for Lily, with the help of her new friend, Micah, to process her own experience along with her sister's.

SYDNEY TAYLOR BOOK AWARD 2023

When the Angels Left the Old Country, Lamb. An angel and a demon work together to find a young emigrant who is missing from her new village in America.

ROMANCE

Moment of Truth, West. Hadley discovers romance all while learning new truths about herself.

Mrs. Pinsky: The Night Circus, Morgenstern. A magical competition set within the bounds of a circus that will change the lives of everyone involved.

Brooke Bishop: Normal People, Rooney. A complex romance novel about young love, and the struggles of growing up.

Not So Pure and Simple, Giles. After signing a "Purity Pledge," a young man is thrown into the chaos of finding out what it is he really wants - and more importantly what the girl of his dreams wants.

Pride and Prejudice, Austen. A romantic clash between the opinionated Elizabeth and Darcy with civilized sparring. Caustic wit in this flirtatious and intriguing novel.

Mrs. Keeney: Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, Zevin. Lifelong friends and creative partners bond over video games and become innovators in this field; Zevin's novel shows the importance of narrative (story-telling) in games and in life.

Marin Kalamaras: The Unfortunate Importance of Beauty, Filipacchi. Two young women struggle to find love while a murderer among their artistic group of friends is on the loose.

SOULFUL & UPLIFTING

Crossing the Line, Rosser. Inspiring story about overcoming odds to become a great collegiate polo player. (nf)

Ms. Taubner: Demon Copperhead, Kingsolver. Incredible characters draw you into this tale of resilience and hope against all odds set against the backdrop of rural Appalachia during the height of the opioid crisis.

Ms. Hrebin: The Elegance of the Hedgehog, Barbery. A beautiful, moving story about the grace of love and the meaning of life.

The Lincoln Highway, Towels. A teen in the 1950s about to begin a yearlong sentence on a work farm instead sets out on an unforgettable adventure with friends.

Paper Towns, Green. Adventure and coming of age quest to find a girl who does not want to be found.

Sonia Charmoy: Speak, Anderson. About a girl who went through a traumatic event and her growth and healing afterwards.

Untamed, Doyle. Inspirational memoir that encourages you to live the life you want and to be who you want to be.

LAUGH OUT LOUD!

Mrs. Bailey: Beautiful Ruins, Walter. A funny, romantic novel about a quiet Italian seaside town in the 1960s and the life and trials of a Hollywood actress who ends up on this island.

Broken (in the best possible way), Lawson. Lawson puts her own anxiety and depression under the microscope in a way that humanizes her struggles while making you laugh.

Harpo Speaks, Marx. This famed comic dropped out of school in 2nd grade for being bullied, went on to Vaudeville and then to Hollywood existing with his happy-go-lucky "mute" humor. (autobio)

Hogfather, Terry Pratchter. "The Nightmare Before Christmas" but better and funnier.

I am Not your Perfect Mexican Daughter, Sanchez. Laugh-out-loud funny contemporary finding your self amid the pressures expectations, and stereotypes of growing up in a Mexican American home.

Luca Khanna: Lone Ranger and Tonto Fist Fight in Heaven, Alexie. A collection of short stories depicting both the fond and destitute memories of Alexie's unique life growing up on a Spokane Native American Reservation.

Me Talk Pretty One Day, Sedaris. A hilarious true tale of the author's adventure learning French. (nf)



Photo Credit: John Lambo, Class of 2021

THIS YEAR'S GOOD READS

FROM OUR OWN JBHS LIBRARY COMMONS

All My Rage, Tahir. A tragic tender and breathtaking novel that brings together young love from both sides of the world.

Marple: Twelve New Mysteries, Multiple. A collection of short stories by twelve authors who continue the legacy of Agatha Christie's beloved crime solving character, Mrs. Marple.

Our Missing Hearts, Ng. Bird's mother, a Chinese-American poet, left the family when he was three, but when he receives a cryptic message he begins a quest to find her in a society that has become increasingly oppressive and intolerant.

A Snake Falls to Earth, Badger. Nina is a Lipan girl living in Texas who looks into her family history and discovers that there is a connection between Earth and the spirit world in which animals also have a human form and what we humans do to our environment directly impacts their world.



Photo Credit: Emilie Dumas, Class of 2022

FROM THE EASTON AND MARK TWAIN LIBRARIES

American Murderer: The Parasite That Haunted the South, Jarrow. Jarrow reveals in this mystery how a parasite slowly drained the energy and life from millions of American southerners. (nf)

Half-American: The Epic Story of African Americans Fighting World War II at Home and Abroad, Delmont. The little-known history of the patriotic African Americans who fought for the U.S. even though they were treated as less than full citizens while in the military and when they returned home. (nf)

Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel, Garmus. Elizabeth Zott, this year's most memorable literary character, is determined to be a scientist, even if every man she meets in mid-sixties America swears he will stand in her way.

The Love Match, Taslim. A Bangladeshi American teen is falling in love, but her meddling mother arranges a match with someone else to secure their family's financial security.

Reading the Glass: A Captain's View of Weather, Water, and Life on Ships, Rappaport. A veteran captain provides an engaging and insightful introduction to meteorology as he recounts his remarkable experiences sailing around the globe for more than thirty years.

The Things We Make: The Unknown History of Invention from Cathedrals to Soda Cans, Hammack. (nf)

The Whalebone Theatre, Quinn. A beguiling cluster of children, parented by an everchanging group of grownups, form the charming heart of this British novel.

Where the World Ends, McCaughrean. A historical fiction story from 1727 when a group of men and boys must survive on destitute island.

White Smoke, Jackson. A psychological thriller and gothic horror with a modern take on the classic haunted house story.

HISTORY & WAR

Above the Dreamless Dead: WWI in Poetry and Comics, Chris Duffy, ed. Trench poetry and lyrics created by modern cartoonists. (nf)

Ms. Lavoie: Beneath a Scarlet Sky, Sullivan. A teenage boy growing up in Italy during WWII who helps Jews escape through the Alps. He then becomes a German soldier and spies for the Allies.

The Diary of Anne Frank, Frank. A thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family flee their home to go into hiding from the Nazis for two years until their whereabouts are betrayed to the Gestapo. (nf)

Empire of the Summer Moon, Gwynne. Riveting account of Comanche history in a historical fiction format. (nf)

Flight: The Complete History, Grant. Airplanes; history of the inventors, pilots, and engineers. (nf)

The Fountains of Silence, Sepetys. 1957 post-Civil War Spain: An 18-year-old American aspiring photojournalist uncovers disturbing truths about dictator Francisco Franco's fascist regime while visiting Madrid with his family.

Grant, Chernow. The greatest general of the Civil War, who as president committed himself to pursuing racial equality through legislation and military action. (nf)

How the Word is Passed: a Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America, Smith. An award winning survey of the ways in which the history of slavery has been hidden in plain sight. (nf)

Killing Lincoln, O'Reilly. Fast-paced thriller about "the Assassination that Changed America forever." (nf)

Slaughterhouse-Five, Vonnegut. WWII bombing of Dresden, an eloquent and deeply funny plea against butchery in the service of authority.

We Are Not Free, Chee. Just months after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt issued the Civilian Exclusion Order, forcing the tight knit community of Japantown teens and their families to incarceration camps. Chee deftly manages fourteen narratives all with a unique voice and experience.

With the Old Breed, Sledge. A memoir based on notes a Marine secretly kept during battles he fought at Peleliu and Okinawa.

GREAT GRAPHIC NOVELS

The All-Nighter, Zdarsky. Vampire becomes superhero.

Banned Book Club, Sook. Sook is just starting college in 1983 during civil protests in South Korea and realizes there's a difference between what she wants to learn and what the government wants her to learn. (nf)

Batman: The Dark Knight Returns, Miller. Classic reinvented Batman saga with a new Robin girl in a Gotham City gone to waste.

Gideon Falls Volume 1: The Black Barn, Lemire. The Black Barn legend is a mystery involving obsession, mental illness, and faith.

Gwenpool Strikes Back, Williams. Gwenpool is desperate to be in a comic again so she sets out to unmask Spider-man and see if she can get some real superpowers.

Heavy Vinyl, vol. 2: Y2K-O!, Usdin. Not only must the girls of Vinyl Destination win Battle of the Bands, they must also save the (digital) world from Y2K in this fun, '90s nostalgia series.

In Waves, AJ Dungo. Story of author's first love, his girlfriend's passion for surfing, her heroism in the face of cancer, and a primer on the history of surfing.

The Ms. Marvel Series, Marvel Comics.

Nimona, Stevenson. Nemeses! Dragons! Science! Symbolism!

Solutions and Other Problems, Brosh. Humorous stories from cartoonist Allie Brosh's childhood; the adventures of her very bad animals; merciless dissection of her own character flaws; incisive essays on grief, loneliness, and powerlessness; and reflections on the absurdity of modern life.

Tin Man, Madson. New friends help each other: one seeks a heart and the other is grieving over the death of her beloved grandmother.

Whistle: A New Gotham City Hero, Lockhard. DC Comic's latest hero is a 16-year old Jewish activist who takes on some of Gotham's most corrupt criminals.

POETRY

S. A. Cosby: *Razorblade Tears*
Stephen Dobyns: *Cemetery Nights*
Heidi Erdrich: *New Poets of Native Nations*
Langston Hughes: *The Weary Hues*
Rupi Kaur: *The Sun and Her Flowers*
Mary Oliver: *Devotions*
Jack Powers: *Still Love*
Claudia Rankine: *Citizen: An American Lyric*
Reynolds & Griffin: *Ain't Burned All the Bright*
Tracy K. Smith: *Life on Mars*
Luci Tapahonso: *Blue Horses Rush In*
Ocean Vuong: *Night Sky with Exit Wounds*



Photo Credit: Gianna Ayala, Class of 2023

SPORTS & ADVENTURE

Basketball: A Love Story, MacMullan, Bartholomew, and Klores. A “must-read” of the sport featuring interviews of the great players. (nf)
Blowback ‘07, Meehl. Vibrant time travel fantasy features football.
The Boys in the Boat, Brown. Rowing crew goes for the gold. (nf)
The Fight, Mailer. Ali-Forman boxing match and its deeper symbolism. (nf)
Golf in the Kingdom, Murphy. A mix of a mystery on an old golf course in Scotland and philosophy.
The Unraveling of Mercy Louis, Parssinen. High school basketball star and the year that alters her life in a small Texas town.

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION

A Complicated Love Story Set in Space, Hutchinson. Gripping, romantic, and wildly surprising novel about two boys lost in space trying to find their way home—while falling in love.
Contact, Sagan. An unknown entity makes contact with humanity, bringing many more questions than answers.
Ms. Williams: Feed, Anderson. Feed is a great text to pair with Fahrenheit 451. It's a futuristic, dystopian novel with similar themes.
Lilitha's Brood, Butler. Aliens genetically merge with humans after a nuclear disaster on Earth.
The Martian, Weir. Man's will to survive and ingenuity against the unapologetic environment of Mars. (e)
Mrs. Brown: The Measure, Erlick. A novel that follows a handful of characters navigating a world in which everyone had the opportunity to know exactly how long they will live.
The Mountain and the Sea, Naylor. Humans leave ocean substance harvesting to A.I., and a power struggle between supremely "manufactured" minds and the mental agility of corporeal consciousness arises. Renegade scientists try to influence change by using super-intelligent octopuses.
Sharks in the Time of Saviors, Washburn. Folds the legends of Hawaiian gods into a family saga: a story of exile and the pursuit of salvation.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

The Anthropocene Reviewed, Green Green uses a five star rating system to review everyday experiences. If you have ever seen his Crash Course videos, then you will understand why you should read this book. (nf)

Feynman, Ottaviani, illus. Myrick. Perhaps the most famous personality of nuclear physics: the bongo-playing, safe-cracking, defiantly curious Nobel Prize winner Richard Feynman in this graphic biography. (g,nf)

Hidden Figures, Shetterly. The bright, mathematical minds of a few women are the real geniuses behind the scenes of U.S. space exploration. (bio)

An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us, Turner. A 'just-the-facts" account of human evolution, enhanced with a running commentary of witty observations on the sophisticated subject matter. (nf)

It's Elemental: The Hidden Chemistry in Everything, Biderdorf. A highly entertaining presentation of how and why we have ended up with our present diet. (nf)

Mind and Matter - A Life in Math and Football, Urschel. Interesting and easy to read autobiography of an NFL player who is also a math Ph.D. candidate at MIT. (nf)

Mr. Torv: The Ministry for the Future, Robinson. Fictional story that centers on the very real consequences of climate change.

Mrs. Staron: Proust and the Squid: How the Brain Learns to Read, Wolf. Explores the premise that human beings were never born to read.(nf)

The Viral Storm, Wolfe. Covid-19 continues to be an awful assault on us humans, but what other microbes might we face as we continue to encroach upon pristine wilderness while also warming the planet into an incubator? (nf)



Photo Credit: Betsy Gray, Class of 2022

THRILLERS & MYSTERIES

The Address, Davis. Two women, one hundred years apart who experience life, lies, and murder within the walls of The Dakota—New York City's most famous residence.

Libby Grob: Big Little Lies, Moriarty. After five years, a single mother can finally call a place home in Pirriwee Beach. But how did it end in murder?

Jessica Wiesenfeld: Bird Box, Malerman. Malorie and her two children fight to survive the unseen monsters with no ability to see the outside world.

Juliet Pasierb: Everything I Never Told You, Ng. A family grappling with the aftermath of their daughter's death and trying to move forward while unrooting the past to find answers to all their unanswered questions.

Learning to Swear in America, Kennedy. Techno-thriller, loads of laughs.

The Lie Tree, Hardinge. Historical novel disguised as a murder mystery.

The Luminaries, Catton. A series of interwoven narratives that reveal the story of a young man and woman during the New Zealand gold rush.

The Maidens, Michaelides. Murder at Cambridge University, involving a professor, a therapist,, and a secret society of female students known as the Maidens.

Mexican Gothic, Moreno-Garcia. An isolated mansion. A chillingly charismatic aristocrat. And a brave socialite drawn to expose their treacherous secrets. A classic, gothic horror set in glamorous 1950s Mexico.

Nicole Spinelli: Wrong Place Wrong Time, McAllister. Meet a mother who witnessed her son murder a man. By going back in time, can she find a way to stop it.

FICTION

The Bear and the Nightingale, Arden. Jump into a Russian folklore as Vasya inherits a strange gift and battles against expectations of what she should become. First book - *Winternight Trilogy*.

Mr. Huminski: *East of Eden*, Steinbeck. A grand epic that resonates with the biblical stories from Genesis as it chronicles two families generational struggles with love, loss, and loyalty.

Izabella Neiger: *Jailbird*, Vonnegut. A man with a miserable life is released from prison and becomes wildly successful because of a strange circumstance involving an ex-girlfriend.

The Girl with the Louding Voice, Dare. The unforgettable, inspiring story of a teenage girl in a rural Nigerian village who longs to get an education and find her "louding voice" in order to speak up for herself.

The Leftovers, Perrotta. A haunting exploration of faith and family after a rapture-like event redefines the nature of day-to-day existence.

The Lord of the Rings, Tolkien. An epic high fantasy novel set in Middle-earth and is a sequel to *The Hobbit*.

The Memory Keeper's Daughter, Edwards. A father secretly separates his daughter born with Down syndrome from her twin brother and mother.

The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo, Reid. An intriguing journey through glamorous Old Hollywood into the harsh realities of the present day as two women struggle with facing the truth.

They Both Die at the End, Silvera. Two friends whose lives change in one day with a last great adventure.

The Vanishing Half, Bennett. Follow the lives of twin sisters growing up in the segregated South from the 1950s-1990s. Explores how individuals define themselves and the impact of choices made.

The Water Dancer, Coates. An unconventional tale of the Underground Railroad.

Mr. Kellogg: *Watership Down*, Adams. An adventurous tale of displaced rabbits and the trials they go through in search of a new home.

We Rule the Night, Bartlett. A combination of fantasy and history inspired by the Russian women pilots who flew in combat during WWII.

NONFICTION

Apple (Skin to the Core), Gansworth. An enrolled member of the Onandaga Nation, revisits his childhood and teen years spent on a Tuscarora reservation in the ambitions and searing memoir told in verse and accompanied by original art. (bio)

Braiding Sweetgrass, Kimmerer. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and scientist, Kimmerer embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers.

Mrs. Powell: *Between the World and Me*, Coates. Coates attempts to share our nation's history and current crisis in a letter to his adolescent son.

Charlotte Bronte Before Jane Eyre, Fawkes. Tells the life story of novelist Charlotte Bronte from her mother's death when Charlotte was five years old up to the publication of *Jane Eyre*.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony: A Friendship That Changed the World, Coleman. Chronicles the friendship of the women who spearheaded the fight for women's suffrage and equality.

The Girl Who Smiled Beads: A Story of War and What Comes After, Clemantine Wamariya and Elizabeth Weil. (bio/autobio)

Have A Little Faith, Albom. An introspective man finds faith again after a rabbi asks him to deliver his eulogy.

Have Dog, will Travel: A Poet's Journey, Kuusisto. A blind poet describes his relationship with his first guide dog and how it changed his life and gave him a newfound appreciation for travel and independence.(bio)

Nickel and Dimed, Ehrenreich. The challenge of making it in America.

A Room of One's Own, Woolf. Inquiry into society and art and sexism.

Visionary Women, Barnet. This fascinating book weaves together the inspirations lives of four remarkable women as they each separately worked to improve and change the world in different ways.

Walk Toward the Rising Sun: From Child Soldier to Ambassador of Peace, Duany. A Sudanese boy's intense journey from being a "lost boy" to having a beautiful new life of giving back.(bio)

Class of 2027, Entering Grade 9

- **The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*, Ernest J. Gaines. (a)
- **Cat's Cradle*, Kurt Vonnegut. (e)
- * *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*, Malala Yousafzai. (nf, e)
- * *We Were Liars*, E. Lockhart. (e, a)
- Apologize, Apologize!*, Elizabeth Kelly
- Dancing on the Edge*, Han Nolan
- Half Brother*, Kenneth Oppel
- The House of the Scorpion*, Nancy Farmer
- I am the Great Horse*, Katherine Roberts
- Swimming to Antarctica*, Lynne Cox.(nf, e)
- The Teacher's Funeral*, Richard Peck
- The Thing About Jelly Fish*, Ali Benjamin

Class of 2025, Entering Grade 11

- * *All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr. (e)
- **Garbology: Our Dirty Love Affair With Trash*, Edward Humes. (nf, e, a)
- * *The Invention of Wings*, Sue Monk Kidd. (e)
- * *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, Alexander Solzhenitsyn. (e)
- Dream New Dreams*, Jai Pausch
- In Cold Blood*, Truman Capote. (nf, e)
- Lark and Termite*, Jayne Anne Phillips
- Never Let Me Go*, Kazuo Ishiguro. (e)
- Stop-Time*, Frank Conroy
- Tinkers*, Paul Harding

Class of 2026 Entering Grade 10

- * *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, Junot Diaz. (e)
- * *Growing Up*, Russell Baker. (nf, e, a)
- * *Station Eleven*, Emily St. John Mandel (NOT an Eng 2 choice, for Adv Eng ONLY) (e, a)
- * *Superposition*, David Walton. (e)
- The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, Sherman Alexie
- A Great and Terrible Beauty*, Libba Bray. (e)
- The Cheating Culture*, David Callahan. (nf)
- Half Broke Horses: A True-life Novel*, Jeannette Walls. (e)
- The Impossible Knife of Memory*, Laurie Halse Anderson
- Lost Horizon*, James Hilton
- The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry: A Novel*, Gabrielle Zevin

Class of 2024, Entering Grade 12

- * *Boy, Snow, Bird*, Helen Oyeyemi. (e, a)
- * *Careless People: Murder, Mayhem, and the Invention of The Great Gatsby*, Sarah Churchwell. (nf, e)
- * *What is the What*, Dave Eggers. (e)
- Dead Wake*, Erik Larson. (nf)
- Escape from Camp 14: One Man's Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West*, Blaine Harden. (nf, a, e)
- Machine Man*, Max Barry
- Room*, Emma Donoghue
- Train Dreams: A Novella*, Denis Johnson
- Watchmen*, Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons
- Who Is Mark Twain?*, Mark Twain. (nf, e)

Students entering 9th, 10th, and 11th grade read three books: one asterisked book from their class list, a second from their class list (with or without an asterisk), and a third from the JBHS Summer Reading List. Students who elect to complete the 12th grade summer reading requirements should follow the same process: one asterisked book, a second from the class list (with or without an asterisk), and a third from the JBHS Summer Reading List. There are additional requirements for seniors and students in Adv. Eng. II, AP Lang., and AP Lit.

All summer reading lists are also at joelbarlowps.org. In addition, the Easton Public Library and Redding's Mark Twain Library have all the books on this page as well as many of the other books on the JBHS Summer Reading List.

If there's a book not found on this list but is comparable, please reach out to Mr. Huminski at thuminski@er9.org.