

**STONEHAM HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH
REQUIRED SUMMER READING LIST 2017**

GRADE 11
Levels: Inten/Comp/Trans
A.P. Lang—see separate list

We value high interest reading and reading choice. We hope these books will introduce you to new worlds, experiences, and authors as well as keep your literacy skills sharp. These books will encourage you to think about the Driving Question (DQ) *“What does it mean to be an individual in America?”*

Intensive, Comprehensive, and Transitional: You are required to read at least one book. Reading one, some, or all of these will help answer the DQ. You do not have to take notes, but you are welcome to do so. Within in the first two weeks of school, you will participate in a Socratic discussion and write an in-class journal as you consider the Driving Question. These assessments will count as a quiz grade.

If you don't read a book on this list, you may reference other books, blogs or articles you have read, or you may refer to historical, personal, or current events for the discussion and journal assignment; in this case, the highest possible grade will be a 75. Books may be ordered from *The Book Oasis* on Main Street or checked out from the Stoneham Public Library.

What does it mean to be an individual in America?

***Easy **Medium ***Challenging**

****Stargirl*** by Jerry Spinelli. Leo, a high school junior, falls in love with an unconventional new student, a free spirit and nonconformist. He discovers lessons about loyalty to friends and oneself. Young Adult.

****A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor*** by Harry Mazer. While fishing with friends off Honolulu on 12-7-41, Adam is caught in Japanese air attack. Through the chaos of the next days, he tries to find his father who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell. Historical fiction. Series.

****The Shadow Hero*** by Gene Luen Yang and Sonny Liew. In the comics boom of the 1940s, a legend was born: the Green Turtle. But this mysterious masked crusader was hiding something more than a secret identity... The Green Turtle was the first Asian American superhero. The comic had a short run before lapsing into obscurity, but it has been revived in this new graphic novel. Graphic Novel.

****Elle and Coach: Diabetes, the Fight for My Daughter's Life, and the Dog Who Changed Everything*** by Stefany Shaheen, Mark Dagostino. True story of a mom of four who struggles to care for her daughter who has Type 1 diabetes - and then along comes a service dog, Coach, who changes their lives in amazing ways. Non-fiction.

*****They Called Themselves the KKK: The Birth of an American Terrorist Group*** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. In 1866, six young men raided the linens at a friend's mansion, pulled pillowcases over their heads, hopped on horses, and cavorted through the streets of Pulaski, Tennessee. They named their club the Ku Klux Klan. This is the story of how a secret terrorist group took root in America's democracy. Filled with chilling and vivid personal accounts unearthed from oral histories, congressional documents, and diaries, this account from Newbery Honor-winning author Susan Campbell Bartoletti is a book to read and remember. Very interesting. Many visuals. Nonfiction.

*****The Running Dream*** by Wendelin Van Draanen: Jessica thinks her life is over when she loses a leg in a car accident. She's not comforted by the news that she'll be able to walk with the help of a prosthetic leg. Who cares about walking when you live to run? Fiction.

*****All American Boys*** by Jason Reynolds, Brendan Kiely. Rashad and Quinn—one black, one white, both American—face the unspeakable truth that racism and prejudice didn't die after the civil rights movement. There's a future at stake, a future where no one else will have to be absent because of police brutality. They just have to risk everything to change the world. Fiction.

*****Fahrenheit 451*** by Ray Bradbury. Guy Montag is a fireman whose job is to burn printed books as well as the houses where they're hidden. But when his wife commits suicide and a young neighbor who introduced him to reading disappears, Guy begins hoarding books in his own home. Dystopian, futuristic.

*****No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row*** by Susan Kuklin. *No Choirboy* takes readers inside America's prisons, and allows inmates sentenced to death as teenagers to speak for themselves. In their own voices—raw and uncensored—they talk about their lives in prison, and share their thoughts and feelings about how they ended up there. Susan Kuklin also gets inside the system, exploring capital punishment itself and the intricacies and inequities of criminal justice in the United States. Non-fiction.

*****The Five People You Meet in Heaven*** by Mitch Albom. This novel follows the life and death of a maintenance man named Eddie. In a heroic attempt to save a little girl from being killed by an amusement park ride that is about to fall, Eddie is killed and sent to heaven, where he encounters five people who had a significant impact upon him while he was alive. Fiction.

*****God Grew Tired of Us*** by John Bul Dau. This book traces Dau's journey, starting when he was 13 years old, through hunger, exhaustion, terror, and violence as he fled his home in Sudan during the civil war, dodging ambushes, massacres and attacks by wild animals. He walked over 1,000 miles barefoot, to Ethiopia, back to Sudan, then to a refugee camp in Kenya, where he lived with thousands of other Lost Boys. In 2001, at the age of 27, he immigrated to the United States. With touching humor, Dau recounts the shock of his tribal culture colliding with life in America. Memoir.

******Just Mercy: A story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson*** Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever. Nonfiction.

******Into the Wild*** by Jon Krakauer investigates the true story of student and athlete Chris McCandless, who, after graduating from college, gave away his entire savings account and hitchhiked to Alaska to live in the wilderness, meeting lots of characters along the way until he meets tragedy. The book is better than the movie. Nonfiction.

******Gone With the Wind*** by Margaret Mitchell. The story is set in Clayton County, Georgia, and Atlanta during the American Civil War and Reconstruction era. It depicts the struggles of young Scarlett O'Hara, the spoiled daughter of a well-to-do plantation owner, who must use every means at her disposal to claw her way out of the poverty she finds herself in after Sherman's March to the Sea. Historical novel Classic.