

**STONEHAM HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST**  
SUMMER READING 2021

**GRADE 10**  
ALL LEVELS

Reading and rereading is fun and helps improve fluency and comprehension! Summer reading is required; this list offers suggestions, but feel free to read a book that is not on this list and explore other books, genres, and authors. These books tie into this year's **Driving Question: "What does it mean to be human?"** Within the first three weeks of school, students will be offered a menu of options to connect their book to the Driving Question. If a student does not read any book of their choice, they will still participate in the menu of options by discussing current, historical, or personal events that tie into the DQ. The highest possible grade would be a 75.

You can purchase books from our favorite local bookstore, The Book Oasis, on Main Street (in-store and curbside pickup available). Click [here](#) for their website.

You can also check books out from the Stoneham Public Library. Click the title of each book to go to the library catalog where you can place a hold. Click [here](#) to see a video introducing Rachel, the librarian at the SPL.

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

\*[Anya's Ghost](#) by Vera Brosgol. Falling down a well is bad enough, but Anya's normal life might actually be worse. She's embarrassed by her family, self-conscious about her body, and she's pretty much given up on fitting in at school. A new friend—even a ghost—is just what she needs. Or so she thinks. Graphic Novel.

\*[She Takes a Stand: 16 Fearless Activists Who Have Changed the World](#) by Michael Elsohn Ross. This inspiring collection of short biographies features the stories of extraordinary figures past and present who have dedicated their lives to fighting for human rights, civil rights, workers' rights, and world peace. Non-fiction.

\*[They Called Us the Enemy](#) by George Takai. In 1942, at the order of President Franklin Roosevelt, every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was shipped to a "relocation center" hundreds or thousands of miles from home, where they would be held for years under armed guard. Takei remembers those years behind barbed wire, the joys and terrors of growing up under legalized racism and how that impacted his astonishing future. Graphic Novel/Nonfiction.

\*[Piecing Me Together](#) by Renee Watson. Jade believes she must get out of her neighborhood if she's ever going to succeed. But some opportunities feel more demeaning than helpful. Like an invitation to join, a mentorship program for "at-risk" girls. Except really, it's for black girls. From "bad" neighborhoods. Maybe there are some things Jade could show these successful women about the real world and finding ways to make a real difference. Fiction

\*\*[Fahrenheit 451](#) by Ray Bradbury. In this futuristic society ruled by a tyrannical government, firefighters don't douse fires – they ignite them. And they do this specifically in homes that house the most evil of evils: books. (Can be downloaded to PCs, iPods, and MP3 players from Stoneham Public Library). Science Fiction.

\*\*[Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice](#) by Philip Hoose. In 1955, a teenager refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, Claudette was shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders. A year later she challenged segregation as a plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South. Nonfiction.

\*\*[Taking Flight](#) by Michaela DePrince. In this memoir, Michaela shares her dramatic journey from an orphan in West Africa to becoming one of ballet's most exciting rising stars. At the orphanage where she was abandoned, Michaela found a picture of a beautiful ballerina en pointe that would help change the course of her life. Memoir.

\*\*[Looking for Alaska](#) by John Green. Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a tragedy happens. Mature readers. Fiction.

\*\*[Marrow Thieves](#) by Cherie Dimaline. In a futuristic world ravaged by global warming, people have lost the ability to dream, and the dreamlessness has led to widespread madness. The only people still able to dream are North America's Indigenous people, and it is their marrow that holds the cure for the rest of the world. Futuristic.

\*\*[Outrun the Moon](#) by Stacey Lee. In 1906, a historic earthquake rocks San Francisco, destroying Mercy Wong's home and school. Though fires might rage, and the city may be in shambles, Mercy can't sit by while they wait for the army to bring help. Historical Fiction.

\*\*[A Death-Struck Year](#) by Makiia Lucier. A deadly pandemic, a budding romance, and the heartache of loss make for a stunning coming-of-age teen debut about the struggle to survive during the 1918 flu. Historical Fiction.

\*\*\*[Outcasts United A Refugee Team, an American Town](#) by Warren St. John. Clarkston, Georgia, was a typical Southern town until it was designated a refugee settlement centre in the 1990s, becoming home to scores of families in flight from the world's war zones—from Liberia and Sudan to Iraq and Afghanistan. Luma Mufleh, a Jordanian woman who founded a youth football team to unify Clarkston's refugee children and keep them off the streets. These kids named themselves the Fugees. At the centre of the story is fiery Coach Luma, who relentlessly drives her players to success on the football field while holding together their lives—and the lives of their families—in the face of a series of daunting challenges. Nonfiction.

\*\*\*[The Inheritance Games](#) by Jennifer Lynn Barnes. Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future: survive high school, win a scholarship, and get out. But her fortunes change in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery virtually his entire fortune. The catch? Avery has no idea why—or even who Tobias Hawthorne is. To receive her inheritance, Avery must move into sprawling, secret passage-filled Hawthorne House, where every room bears the old man's touch—and his love of puzzles, riddles, and codes. Mystery.

\*\*\*[The Book Thief](#) by Markus Zusak. Death narrates this WWII story of a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel survives by stealing books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau. Historical fiction.

\*\*\*[1984](#) by George Orwell. A great book to read for the first time or reread! *Nineteen Eighty-Four* is a rare work that grows more haunting as its futuristic purgatory becomes more real. Published in 1949, the book offers political satirist George Orwell's nightmarish vision of a totalitarian, bureaucratic world and one man's attempt to find individuality. Mature readers. Fiction.