

## **11th Grade Summer Reading:**

For your summer reading, please choose a book from the 11<sup>th</sup> grade reading list (See below). If you wish to choose a book beyond this list, you are limited to a book that is over 250 pages, is at an appropriate reading level, and has not been made into a movie.

While you are reading, choose 5 pieces of text evidence (quotes) from throughout the book. These passages should be key moments from the book. Be sure to include the page numbers, and make sure you write the text evidence word for word.

This does not need to be typed, but it is due on the first day of school.  
Enjoy your summer.

## **11th Grade List**

### **NONFICTION**

**Sold (National Book Award Finalist)**

**Patricia McCormick**

**Hyperion, 2006, 260 p.**

### **Summary and Review from National Book Foundation**

Lakshmi is a thirteen-year-old girl who lives with her family in a small hut on a mountain in Nepal. Though she is desperately poor, her life is full of simple pleasures, like playing hopscotch with her best friend from school, and having her mother brush her hair by the light of an oil lamp. But when the harsh Himalayan monsoons wash away all that remains of the family's crops, Lakshmi's stepfather says she must leave home and take a job to support her family. He introduces her to a glamorous stranger who tells her she will find her a job as a maid in the city. Glad to be able to help, Lakshmi journeys to India and arrives at "Happiness House" full of hope. But she soon learns the unthinkable truth: she has been sold into prostitution. An old woman named Mumtaz rules the brothel with cruelty and cunning. She tells Lakshmi that she is trapped there until she can pay off her family's debt-then cheats Lakshmi of her meager earnings so that she can never leave. Lakshmi's life becomes a nightmare from which she cannot escape. Still, she lives by her mother's words- Simply to endure is to triumph -and gradually, she forms friendships with the other girls that enable her to survive in this terrifying new world. Then the day comes when she must make a decision-will she risk everything for a chance to reclaim her life? Written in spare and evocative vignettes, this powerful novel renders a world that is as unimaginable as it is real, and a girl who not only survives but triumphs.

## **FICTION**

### **Divided We Fall (Book One of Divided We Fall Series)**

**Trent Reedy**

**Arthur A. Levine, 2014, 374 p.**

#### **Summary derived from Amazon description**

Danny Wright enlisted in the Idaho National Guard because he wanted to serve his country. When the governor orders the Guard to police a protest in Boise, his gun misfires, causing 12 to die. As tensions build, a second American civil war could be in the offing.

### **The Impossible Knife of Memory (School Library Journal Starred)**

**Laurie Halse Anderson**

**Viking Books, 2014, 391 p.**

#### **Summary and Review from School Library Journal Starred Review**

More parent figure than child, Hayley copes with the burden of her war vet dad's severe post-traumatic stress disorder by affecting a snarky bravado. While her father buries his pain in drink and drugs, Haley slowly opens herself to the possibility of love. With flashback chapters from the father's point of view, Anderson offers an emotional—but never overwrought—examination of the devastating effects of war, set alongside an authentic and tender coming-of-age romance.

### **A Land More Kind Than Home (Library Journal Starred)**

**Wiley Cash**

**Morrow, 2012, 309 p.**

#### **Summary and Review by Library Journal Starred Review**

A Land More Kind Than Home is a mesmerizing literary thriller about the bond between two brothers and the evil they face in a small western North Carolina town. For a curious boy like Jess Hall, growing up in Marshall means trouble when your mother catches you spying on grown-ups. Adventurous and precocious, Jess is enormously protective of his older brother, Christopher, a mute whom everyone calls Stump. Though their mother has warned them not to snoop, Stump can't help sneaking a look at something he's not supposed to—an act that will have catastrophic repercussions, shattering both his world and Jess's. It's a wrenching event that thrusts Jess into an adulthood for which he's not prepared. While there is much about the world that still confuses him, he now knows that a new understanding can bring not only a growing danger and evil—but also the possibility of freedom and deliverance as well. Told by three resonant and evocative characters—Jess; Adelaide Lyle, the town midwife and moral conscience; and Clem Barefield, a sheriff with his own painful past—A Land More Kind Than Home is a haunting tale of courage in the face of cruelty and the power of love to overcome the

darkness that lives in us all. These are masterful portrayals, written with assurance and truth, and they show us the extraordinary promise of this remarkable first novel.

**The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven (Short Stories)**

**Sherman Alexie**

**Grove Press, 2005, 242 p.**

**Summary from Goodreads**

In this darkly comic short story collection, Sherman Alexie, a Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Indian, brilliantly weaves memory, fantasy, and stark realism to paint a complex, grimly ironic portrait of life in and around the Spokane Indian Reservation. These 22 interlinked tales are narrated by characters raised on humiliation and government-issue cheese, and yet are filled with passion and affection, myth and dream. There is Victor, who as a nine-year-old crawled between his unconscious parents hoping that the alcohol seeping through their skins might help him sleep. Thomas Builds-the-Fire, who tells his stories long after people stop listening, and Jimmy Many Horses, dying of cancer, who writes letters on stationery that reads "From the Death Bed of James Many Horses III," even though he actually writes them on his kitchen table. Against a backdrop of alcohol, car accidents, laughter, and basketball, Alexie depicts the distances between Indians and whites, reservation Indians and urban Indians, men and women, and most poetically, between modern Indians and the traditions of the past.

**Proxy (Book One in Proxy Series)**

**Alex London**

**Penguin, 2014, 379 p.**

**Summary from Goodreads**

Knox was born into one of the City's wealthiest families. A Patron, he has everything a boy could possibly want—the latest tech, the coolest clothes, and a Proxy to take all his punishments. When Knox breaks a vase, Syd is beaten. When Knox plays a practical joke, Syd is forced to haul rocks. And when Knox crashes a car, killing one of his friends, Syd is branded and sentenced to death.

Syd is a Proxy. His life is not his own. Then again, neither is Knox's. Knox and Syd have more in common than either would guess. So when Knox and Syd realize that the only way to beat the system is to save each other, they flee. Yet Knox's father is no ordinary Patron, and Syd is no ordinary Proxy. The ensuing cross-country chase will uncover a secret society of rebels, test both boys' resolve, and shine a blinding light onto a world of those who owe and those who pay. Some debts, it turns out, cannot be repaid.

## **We Were Liars**

**E. Lockhart. Delacorte, 2013**

### **Summary from New York Times Book Review**

A patrician New England clan decamps to their private island off Martha's Vineyard for the summer. Of the dozen or so Sinclair family members in residence, "No one is a criminal. No one is an addict. No one is a failure." Three lies, the first of many, provide an irresistible premise for this ticking bomb of a novel by E. Lockhart. All the Sinclairs are rich, athletic and beautiful. They have servants, money and stiff upper lips. They go to the right schools, play excellent tennis and are as brittle as porcelain, ready to shatter into a million pieces under the strain of rivalry, silence and greed.

## **CLASSIC FICTION**

### **Catch 22**

**Joseph Heller, Simon & Schuster, 1955**

### **Summary from Amazon**

Catch-22 is like no other novel. It is one of the funniest books ever written, a keystone work in American literature, and even added a new term to the dictionary. At the heart of Catch-22 resides the incomparable, malingering bombardier, Yossarian, a hero endlessly inventive in his schemes to save his skin from the horrible chances of war. His efforts are perfectly understandable because as he furiously scrambles, thousands of people he hasn't even met are trying to kill him. His problem is Colonel Cathcart, who keeps raising the number of missions the men must fly to complete their service. Yet if Yossarian makes any attempts to excuse himself from the perilous missions that he is committed to flying, he is trapped by the Great Loyalty Oath Crusade, the hilariously sinister bureaucratic rule from which the book takes its title: a man is considered insane if he willingly continues to fly dangerous combat missions, but if he makes the necessary formal request to be relieved of such missions, the very act of making the request proves that he is sane and therefore ineligible to be relieved. Catch-22 is a microcosm of the twentieth-century world as it might look to some one dangerously sane -- a masterpiece of our time.