

2009 Summer Reading - Twelfth Grade
(printable format)

Students are to choose THREE books to read. For **ONE** book, the student will make an **8 1/2 x 11 poster** that contains the following information:

- **TITLE**
- **AUTHOR**
- **ARTISTIC REPRESENTATION OF ONE IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE BOOK**

An *artistic representation* means a drawing, magazine cut outs that represent your thoughts or perhaps even a 3-D representation of some important aspect of the book. The poster should be cardboard or poster board but not to exceed 8 1/2 x 11" size poster. The English teacher will tell you the type of assessment style for the other two books during the second week of September. This project will be due during the second week of school.

Albom, Mitch – The Five People You Meet in Heaven

Eddie, wounded war veteran, is killed on his 83rd birthday. He discovers the afterlife is a place where his life is explained to him by five people whose lives he touched

Alvarez, Julia - How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents

The story of the Garcia family's adjustment to life in the United States.

Armstrong, Jennifer – Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance

Describes the events of the 1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition. Trapped in a frozen sea for nine months, the crew are forced to make a long journey across ice to reach inhabited land.

Baldacui, David – Wish You Well

Louisa Mae Cardinal lives in New York City in 1940, when tragedy strikes, she, her brother and mother must live on their great-grandmother's farm in the Virginia Mountains.

Bray, Libba – A Great and Terrible Beauty

After the suspicious death of her mother, Gemma returns to England to attend a finishing school. She becomes aware of her magical powers and ability to see into the spirit world.

Brooks, Martha – Mistik Lake

Haunted by family secrets, Odella, tries to hold her family together

Bryson, Bill – A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail

A laugh-out-loud story about hiking the rugged Appalachian Trail.

Chambers, Aidon- Postcards From No Man's Land

Jacob Todd has left his home to spend time paying homage to the grandfather he never knew. He visits Geertrui the woman who took care his grandfather after he was wounded in battle.

Chambers, Veronica - Mama's Girl

Memoir of the author's life growing up as an overachiever in an underprivileged family, chronicling the relationship she forged with her mother after her father deserted the family.

Engen, Lief - Peace Like a River

The Land family searches cross-country for their son who has been charged with murder.

Golding, William - Lord of the Flies: A Novel

Stranded on an island while an atomic war destroys the rest of the world, a group of young boys revert to savagery as they struggle to survive. (Not like the movie)

Gruen, Sara - Water for Elephants

Jacob Jankowski jumps onto a passing train and enters a world of circus freaks. Put in charge of animal care, he meets a stubborn elephant who he must train.

Gunther, John - Death Be Not Proud: A Memoir

A biography of the author's son, who died at seventeen after a fourteen-month illness caused by a brain tumor. ("Holy Sonnet 10", the quoted poem in this story, is read in 12th grade.)

Horniman, Joanne - Mahalia

While Matt struggles with the stresses of taking care of his baby, he begins to realize that love will not conquer all.

Hosseini, Khaled - The Kite Runner

The Kite Runner is a poignant tale of two motherless boys growing up in Kabul, a city teetering on the brink of destruction at the dawn of the Soviet invasion.

Koontz, Dean - Life Expectancy

Jimmy Tock is born the night his grandfather dies. Before he dies, he predicts Jimmy will have five dark days. What terrifying nightmares await Jimmy?

Mason, Bobbie Ann - In Country: A Novel

Sam Hughes lives with her uncle a Vietnam veteran. Her father was killed in Vietnam. She travels with Emmett and her grandmother to the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial.

Mathabane, Mark - Kaffir Boy: the True Story of a Black Youth 's Coming of Age in Apartheid South Africa

Recreates the author's boyhood experiences in South Africa.

McCullers, Carson - The Heart is a Lonely Hunter

In the 1930's, John Singer becomes the confidant for all of the town's misfits who are not aware of John's inner life.

McLarty, Ron - The Memory of Running

After his parents are killed and learns of his sister's death in LA, Smithy Ide, embarks upon a transcontinental bicycle ride to claim his sister's body and rediscovers what it means to live.

Otsuke, Julie - When the Emperor Was Divine

A haunting story of a Japanese family's internment during World War II.

Reynolds, Sheri - *The Rapture of Canaan*

Explores the experience of miracles in everyday life through the eyes of a fourteen-year-old girl, the granddaughter of a fundamentalist minister.

Simon, Lizzie - *Detour: My Bipolar Road Trip in 4-D*

In this honest memoir, 23-year-old Simon writes of her life with bipolar disorder. Simon found out she was suffering from this mental illness while still in high school.

Stone, Irving - *The Agony and the Ecstasy: a Biographical Novel of Michelangelo*

Michelangelo's career as a sculptor, painter, architect, and poet is traced from apprenticeships to the painter Ghirlandaio and the sculptor Bertoldo through the years of his genius.