

11th Grade Summer Reading List

Books to Enjoy this Summer

2008

**STUDENTS ENTERING 11TH GRADE REGENTS
(American Writers):**

You must read one of the following books.

Students Entering 11TH Grade Advanced Placement:
See separate list.

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd (Fiction) – Set against the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, a young girl struggles against an abusive father, a sad past, and a yearning to learn about her mother as she tries to find a place where she belongs.

Into Thin Air by John Krakauer (Non Fiction) – A genuine adventure tale about the men and women who attempt to climb Everest. This one is presented from the perspective of a journalist who made it to the top but who also saw others lose their lives, limbs and sanity in the attempt.

Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles by Anthony Swofford (Memoir) – A witty, profane, down-in-the-sand account of the war many only know from CNN, this former sniper's debut is a worthy addition to the battlefield memoir genre. As young soldiers might just find themselves deployed to the deserts of Iraq, this book offers them, as well as the casual reader, an unflinching portrayal of the loneliness and brutality of modern warfare and sophisticated analyses of its politics.

Autobiography of a Face by Lucy Grealy (Memoir) - A remarkable story about a young girl diagnosed with potentially fatal cancer that leaves her disfigured. She experiences great suffering, peer rejection, and the desire to be accepted for who she is.

The Color Purple by Alice Walker (Fiction) – Published to unprecedented acclaim, The Color Purple established Alice Walker as a major voice in modern fiction. Beautifully imagined and deeply compassionate, this is the store of two sisters – one a missionary in Africa and the other a child wife living in the South – who sustain their loyalty to and trust in each other across time, distance, and silence. This classic work of American literature is rich with passion, pain and inspiration.

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From A Buick 8 by Stephen King (Fiction) – Want to go for a ride? In a secret shed behind the barracks of the Pennsylvania State Police, Troop D, there's a cherry Buick Roadmaster no one has touched in years – because there's more power under the hood than anyone can handle... This is the saga of a haunted, homicidal Plymouth Fury.

Girl With a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier (Fiction) - The story of Griet a 16-year-old servant who narrates her life in the home of the 17th century Dutch artist Johannes Vermeer. She becomes increasingly intimate with her master and must negotiate the tensions of the house including a jealous wife and stern mother.

Neuromancer by William Gibson (Fiction) – Often referred to as the first novel of the cyberpunk generation, this is the story of Case, a computer cowboy who sells his skills in a high-tech underworld. He becomes involved in a shadowy conspiracy of murder and mystery as he propels his consciousness through cyberspace.