

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS SUMMER READING PROGRAM

### SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 12

**Armstrong, Lance. *It's Not About the Bike.***

World-class hero Lance Armstrong tells his inspiring story, from the dark night of advanced cancer through his dramatic victory in the 1999 Tour de France.

**Bascom, William. *The Crest of the Wave.***

Unlike other authors of recent books on the early history of oceanography, Bascom makes no pretenses to scientific detachment. Instead, he has written an opinionated first-person account of his experiences as an academic researcher and head of one of the first commercial oceanographic concerns.

**Chopin, Kate. *The Awakening.***

In the summer of her 28th year, Edna Pontellier and her children, along with the wives and families of other prospective businessmen, spend the summer in an idyllic coastal community away from their husbands and the sweltering heat of 1890s' New Orleans. Aware of deep yearnings that are unfulfilled by marriage and motherhood, Edna plunges into an illicit liaison that reawakens her long dormant desires, inflames her heart, and eventually blinds her to all else.

**Crichton, Michael. *Airframe.***

Three passengers are dead. Fifty-six are injured. The interior cabin virtually destroyed. But the pilot manages to land the plane... At a moment when the issue of safety and death in the skies is paramount in the public mind, a lethal mid-air disaster aboard a commercial twin-jet airliner bound for Hong Kong to Denver triggers a pressured and frantic investigation.

**Enger, Leif. *Peace Like a River.***

Hailed as one of the year's top five novels by "Time," and selected as one of the best books of the year by nearly all major newspapers, national bestseller "Peace Like a River" is now available in paperback. In "lyrical, openhearted prose" (Michael Glitz, "The New York Post"), Enger tells the story of 11-year-old Reuben Land, an asthmatic boy who has reason to believe in miracles.

**Grisham, John. *A Painted House.***

America's most riveting storyteller takes readers along as seven-year-old Luke Chandler journeys from innocence to experience. In 1952, Luke's family rents a cotton farm in the Arkansas Delta. Suddenly mysteries are flooding Luke's world, and he is unprepared to keep those secrets that not only threaten the crop, but will change the lives of the Chandlers forever.

**Kidd, Sue Monk. *The Secret Life of Bees.***

A girl searches for answers about her mother in this story of race and family.

**King, Stephen. *On Writing.***

This is an exploration of King's personal confrontation with words (and alcoholism.)

**LeClaire, Anne D.. *Entering Normal.***

Enveloped by grief, Rose Nelson must get over the death of her teenage son in order to help her new neighbor, 20-year-old Opal, who is faced with a custody battle over her five-year-old son. If Rose is to succeed, she must rediscover her capacity for love as she faces the politics of the courtroom and the human heart.

**Rand, Ayn. *Anthem.***

A new generation has discovered that Anthem, is more socially relevant today that it was when it was written sixty years ago. Anthem is the classic story about the consequences of social collectivism and the importance of individualism. Anthem was first published in hardcover by Caxton Press in 1953 and is now in its twelfth printing. Anthem has been described as "one of the most beautiful prose poems ever written."

**Rather, Dan with Mickey Herskowitz. *The Camera Never Blinks.***

This is the news anchor's story.

**Shandler, Sara. *Ophelia Speaks.***

In response to the bestselling "Reviving Ophelia, " this extraordinary book captures in poignant and provocative prose the candid voices of "Ophelias" coast to coast on issues both public and private.

**Shreve, Anita. *The Weight of Water.***

On a small island off the New Hampshire coast in 1873, two women were brutally murdered by an unknown assailant. A third woman survived the attack, hiding in a sea cave until dawn. More than a century later, a photographer, Jean, comes to the island to shoot a photo-essay about the legendary crime. Immersing herself in accounts of the lives of the fishermen's wives who were its victims, she becomes obsessed with the barrenness of these women's days: the ardor-killing labor, the long stretches of loneliness, the maddening relentless winds that threatened to scour them off the rocky island. How could a marriage survive those privations? Was this misery connected to the killings? Jean's marriage is enduring heavy weather of its own. On the boat she has chartered for this project, she and her husband are falling apart. Their nights are full of drink and terrible silences, and Jean feels jealousy and distrust invading her life and her work. The forces that blasted the island a century earlier come alive inside Jean, bringing her to the verge of actions she never dreamed herself capable of - with no idea whether her choices will destroy all she has ever valued or bring her safely home.