

Denton Calvary Academy Summer Reading Program, Grade 11

Dear Calvary Students and Parents,

At Denton Calvary Academy, summer reading is a valuable extension of our academic program, encouraging students to keep thinking, questioning, and learning even while they are away from school. In preparation for the next school year, all secondary students will read at least one book during the summer break. Our summer reading program exists to meet two key goals.

First, we wish to help students prepare for the challenges of a new academic year. Research has shown a direct correlation between reading and academic success, and as educators we have personally witnessed the value of fostering a student's reading skills. The ability to read with fluency and good comprehension is essential in all areas of study and reading during the summer months helps students to maintain this ability.

For 11th & 12th grades we have chosen specific books for students to read over the summer in order to have more time to start the year strong. Having already read the first book of the semester, students will enter class prepared to go deep right away. Students should complete the written assignment over this book and bring it to English class the first day of school. This assignment will be the beginning of the study of this first book they will work with in the fall.

Second, we wish to encourage students to read for enjoyment. In order to meet this goal, we have also included a substantial list of literary masterpieces, ranging from the Renaissance to the 20th century, that encompass a wide variety of topics, themes, and genres for students who like to read but are not sure what to choose. We hope that the broad array of available choices will lead students to discover new genres, authors, and topics that suit their individual interests, and that these discoveries will lay the foundation for a lifelong love of reading. Students are not required to complete written work over these books but are encouraged to read as many of them as they are able!

Please review the instructions for students on the next page and contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for partnering with us to make this program successful.

Have a wonderful summer!

Stacey Baxter, Principal
Cheryl Crouch, English Department Head

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Instructions for Students

- All students entering grade 11 in the next school year are required to read the following book:

Through the Gates of Splendor

Elizabeth Elliot

Recommended ISBN: 9780842371520

- Complete the attached summer reading worksheet and sign at the bottom to confirm that you have read your book in its entirety.
- Ask your parent to sign your worksheet to confirm that you have read the book in its entirety.
- Bring your worksheet to class on the first day of the next school year.
- A list of recommended but not required books is included after the worksheet if you enjoy reading and would like some suggestions.

4. Give the **setting** of the book. Include the time and place in which the action occurs.

5. Describe the **main conflict** of the book.

6. Describe how the main conflict is **resolved**.

Recommended but not Required Summer Reading List for Grade 11

If you want to read more and are not sure what to choose, try these...

**Books marked with an asterisk (*) contain mature subject matter. If you wish to read one of these selections, please ask for your parents' approval.

- **All Quiet on the Western Front**
Erich Maria Remarque (ISBN: 0449213943)
Considered one of the greatest war stories ever written, Remarque's 1929 masterpiece tells the story of young Paul Baumer, who enlists in the German Army in World War I and takes place with his comrades in the trenches.
- **East of Eden**
John Steinbeck (ISBN: 0140186395)
This sprawling and often brutal novel, set in the rich farmlands of California's Salinas Valley, follows the intertwined destinies of two families--the Trasks and the Hamiltons--whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.
- **The Great Gatsby**
F. Scott Fitzgerald (ISBN: 0743273567)
Nick Carraway, fascinated with the enormous wealth of his mysterious neighbor, Jay Gatsby, finds himself swept up in the lavish lifestyle of Long Island society during the Jazz Age.
- **The Joy Luck Club***
Amy Tan (ISBN: 0143038095)
In 1949, four Chinese women begin meeting in San Francisco for fun. Nearly 40 years later, their daughters continue to meet as the Joy Luck Club.
- **Profiles in Courage**
John F. Kennedy (ISBN: 1435120876)
During 1954-1955, John F. Kennedy, then a U.S. Senator, chose eight of his historical colleagues to profile for their acts of astounding integrity in the face of overwhelming opposition. These heroes include John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Thomas Hart Benton, and Robert A. Taft.
- **The Things They Carried**
Tim O'Brien (ASIN: B001I1UW7Q)
Based on the author's own experiences in the Vietnam War, this book describes thirteen soldiers and the things they carried with them through the jungle.
- **Slaughterhouse-Five***
Kurt Vonnegut (0385333846)
Billy Pilgrim becomes unstuck in time after he is abducted by aliens from the planet Tralfamadore. In a plot-scrambling display of virtuosity, we follow Pilgrim simultaneously through all phases of his life, concentrating on his (and Vonnegut's) shattering experience as an American prisoner of war who witnesses the firebombing of Dresden.