



ELA 11 Summer Reading 2014

Summer reading is about falling in love with a book.

Summer reading is about options.

Mrs. Rinearson and Dr. Golden are committed to the development of students' *reading* skills, rather than their *avoiding-reading* skills (e.g., watching the movie, reading the *CliffsNotes*) or their *non-reading* skills (e.g., "I didn't like this book, so I quit"). We're also interested in promoting high-quality, high-interest works. So we're asking you to select and read at least ONE work this summer that meets the following criteria:

1. The book was written by an **American author** (born or naturalized).
2. **No movie or TV adaptations** have been produced... yet.
3. The book has been a **winner, finalist, or honoree for at least one of the following**:
 - Edgar Award (mystery fiction)
 - Hugo Award (science fiction, fantasy)
 - Michael L. Printz Award (young adult literature)
 - National Book Award (fiction, poetry, nonfiction, young people's literature)
 - National Book Critics Circle Award (fiction, nonfiction, autobiography, biography, criticism, poetry,
 - Nebula Award (science fiction)
 - Pen/Faulkner Foundation Award (fiction)
 - Pulitzer Prize (fiction, drama, history, biography or autobiography, poetry, nonfiction)
4. **The book is so engrossing to you that you cannot put it down** but must keep reading long after everyone else has sat down to dinner, gone to the movie, or drifted off to sleep.

The Task: Read

Summer is no time to be dogmatic about annotating, bookmarking, or taking notes. But we do ask that you read well enough to write about your book once we return to school in August.

- If reading a book-length work intimidates you — it intimidated Golden in 1987 — consider checking out or purchasing an audiobook to listen to *while you read*.
- If you're still intimidated, try supplementing — *not replacing* — your reading with *CliffsNotes*, *Sparknotes*, *Schmoop*, *GradeSaver*, *BookRags*, *pinkmonkey*, eNotes, FreeBookNotes, *wikisummaries*, *thebestnotes*, *novelguide*, *SchoolBytes*, *litcharts*, *studyworld*, *homeworktips*, etc. Our end-of-summer task isn't a "test" so much as a performance, so we're not worried about what you might have found out in character descriptions, plot summaries, and literary analyses. To be honest, we use those all the time ourselves!

What We're Reading This Summer

You are in NO WAY required to read what we read this summer... As long as you meet the requirements on the other side with at least one book read between May 30 and August 14, we'll all be happy campers.

Mrs. Rinearson

Currently wearing a boot but always wearing a smile and checking her Twitter feed, Rhino remembers the following books as favorites -- NOTE: For various reasons, many of these DON'T meet the requirements on side 1... but who says you can't read more than one book this summer?:

- Margaret Atwood: *Oryx and Crake*, *The Year of the Flood*
- Wally Lamb: *She's Come Undone*, *I Know This Much is True*
- Stephen King: *Doctor Sleep*
- Michael Chabon: *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* (Pen/Faulkner Finalist)
- Jeffrey Eugenides: *Middlesex* (National Book Critics Circle Finalist, Pulitzer Prize Winner)
- Barbara Kingsolver: *The Lacuna* (Pen/Faulkner Finalist)
- Rainbow Rowell: *Eleanor and Park* (Printz Award)
- Jennifer Egan: *A Visit from the Goon Squad* (National Book Critics Circle Award, Pen/Faulkner Finalist for Fiction, Pulitzer Prize Winner)
- More on Rinearson's [Goodreads page](#).

What I'm Reading This Summer

- John Green: *Looking for Alaska* (Printz Award)
- James McBride: *Good Lord Bird* (National Book Award)
- Jeffrey Eugenides: *The Marriage Plot* (National Book Critics Circle Finalist)
- George Packer: *The Unwinding: An Inner History of the New America* (National Book Award)
- Thanhha Lai: *Inside Out and Back Again* (National Book Award)
- Wally Lamb: *We are Water*

Dr. Golden

Honesty moment: Rinearson is a READER; Golden is a recovering reluctant reader who read *nothing* during his junior or senior years of high school. Three degrees and twenty-five years later, he still has to trick himself into anything longer than a *New Yorker* article. Seriously. So he considers Audible a Godsend... He can listen while he reads... keeping his mind from wandering off the page.

Most of Golden's reading history wouldn't help with this summer's list. (One of his reasons for this assignment is to give himself a "required opportunity" to read something new.) But if you're interested in seeing some of his all-time favorites, check out Golden's [Goodreads page](#).

Shout out to Miss Hogan and Mrs. Chopp for the tech connection!

What I'm Reading This Summer

- Sherman Alexie: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* (National Book Award)
- Nicky Finney: *Head Off & Split* (National Book Award)
- Cormac McCarthy: *The Cities of the Plain* (finishing this one from the spring)
- Thomas Kuhn: *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* (a top-tier history of science book)