

Non Fiction

Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10 by Marcus Luttrell. This is the story of the sole survivor of Operation Redwing and the battle in Afghanistan that led to the largest loss of life in Navy SEAL history.

World Without Us by Alan Weisman. If every human on Earth suddenly vanished, what would become of the world? How long before nature reclaims urban areas? What endangered fauna recovers, and what new species evolve? What becomes of pollutants? Neither a warning to change, nor a wish to return to the Eden, it's an analytical look at the effects of human dominance on earth.

Crazy for the Storm : A Memoir of Survival by Norman Ollestad. Almost too horrible to imagine, an 11-year-old boy is flying in a small plane with his dad and his dad's girlfriend, when it slams into a mountain. His father and the pilot are killed—his father's girlfriend is injured.

How'd You Score That Gig? A Guide to the Coolest Jobs—and How to Get Them by Alexandra Levit. Fun and practical, it includes accounts of young people currently in 60 "cool" jobs, with action steps for "breaking in." Take the quiz to discover your "passion profile."

Echoes of the Mekong by Peter Huchthausen. A US Navy riverboat commander and a Vietnamese peasant girl tell their story in alternating voices. Huchthausen's portion is a Vietnam war memoir. Ngyen Thi Lung tells her tales in simple sentences, evoking the realities of Mekong Delta village life and the fearful times she was forced to endure after the North Vietnamese victory.

No Compromise: The Story of Harvey Milk by David Aretha. The life and legacy of the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California, this biography looks at how his crusade for gay rights led to open hostility before ending in his assassination.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place by Aron Ralston. A mountaineer survived a near-fatal accident by amputating his arm when it became trapped behind a boulder in Utah. Ralston describes how he endured more than five days of hypothermia, dehydration, and hallucinations.

Greasy Rider : Two Dudes, One Fry-oil-powered Car, and a Cross-country Search for a Greener Future by Greg Melville. Two guys on a 192 hour journey from Vermont to California--"I simply needed to look at my reflection in the rearview mirror to realize that nearly anyone can operate and maintain a french-fry car."

Novels in Verse

Crank by Ellen Hopkins. Kristina's life is turned upside-down, when she visits her absentee father, gets turned on to the drug "crank," becomes addicted, and is led down a desperate path that threatens her mind, soul, and her life.

Hard Hit by Ann Turner. Mike, 16, has the perfect life—star baseball player, cute girlfriend, and loyal best friend—until the phone call that turns his life upside down. His father has pancreatic cancer. While his friends continue to live their lives, time stands still for Mike.

Short Stories

This Is Push: New Stories from the Edge. David Levithan (Editor) A few of these stories aren't realistic (such as a fantasy, in which mythological beings spice up a dull first date by terrorizing humans) but most are about contemporary teens confronting eating disorders and self-mutilation; complicated, and abusive friendships; first love and sex; and the difficulty of growing up.

Every Man for Himself: Ten Original Stories about Being a Guy Nancy Mercado (Editor.) A "super-cool dude" places an ad inviting girls to apply for a date to the prom with him and meets his match in the no-nonsense, winning applicant. A student with multiple piercings, comes to realize that his beautiful girlfriend has chosen him mainly to shock her parents. A young gay dancer brings a male date to his little brother's Bar Mitzvah...

**And, don't forget
GRAPHIC NOVELS!!**

Required Reads for Advanced and AP Classes

ADV. Chemistry: Read *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson (take notes on post-its)

AP Language and Comp: Read *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote/ complete a written assignment - Due August 13.

AP English Literature: Read 2-3 books from the College Board's list/ complete a written assignment - Due August 13.

AP Statistics: Read *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell/ complete a written assignment - Due August 13.

AP History: See Mrs. Z. for course work and Assignment - Due August 13.

ADV History: Select a book that examines a period of American history prior to 1870. You can begin reading during the summer, but the book must be completed by the end of the first semester.

Kennett High School



You are required to read one book—of your choice—this summer.

Make it your goal to find a book you enjoy reading and then pass it on to someone else.



*"Real luxury is
time
and
opportunity
to read for pleasure"*
Jane Brody

2010 summer reading assignments

ASSIGNMENT

- Your job is to read at least one book over the summer.
You may choose any book that interests you. *It does not have to be listed in this brochure.* The titles listed are just a few of the ones highly recommended by KHS students—already! Find a book that’s “new to you.” Try a new genre! Challenge yourself!
- To earn credit: **the first day of your 2010-2011 English class you must present:**

A letter to your teacher, convincing him or her that you have read the entire book. To receive full credit, your letter must include:

Title

Author

Number of pages in the book

And must be 1-2 pages typed or handwritten.

In your letter you **might**:

- Try to convince your teacher that the book you read should or should not be *required* reading.
- What did you like and dislike about your book—and why?
- What was the theme/message? Did you agree or disagree with it?
- With which character did you connect? How? Why? Explain!
- Pick one passage from the book and explain how that passage encompasses the entire book.

OR—feel free to use your own ideas!



Fiction

S *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak. Death himself narrates this World War II-era story of Liesel Meminger, from the time she is taken at age nine to live with a foster family. She arrives having just stolen her first book—although she has not yet learned how to read. She continues to collect more stolen books – and a peculiar set of friends. Like Liesel, Death has a way with words, and recognizes them for the good they can do, and the evil.

U *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth. This is “What if” Charles A. Lindbergh defeated FDR for the Presidency in 1940. It is based on fact, speculation, and imagination. In 1927 Lindbergh captured America’s glory by crossing the Atlantic in a monoplane, and had America’s sympathy upon the kidnapping and murder of his young son. He was an American hero: brave, handsome, modest, and a patriot. He was also a rabid isolationist, Nazi sympathizer, and a crypto-fascist...

G *The Calligrapher's Daughter* by Eugenia Kim. The calligrapher refused to name his daughter. When he finds a husband for her, her mother objects and sends her to the court of a royal family. She goes to college, becomes a teacher, and returns home to marry, but her new husband goes to America, and she is denied a visa. As the Japanese systematically obliterate ancient Korean culture, the political climate worsens, and so do Najin's fortunes.

G *Kafka on the Shore* by Haruki Murakami. Kafka Tamura runs away to find his long-lost mother and sister. So does Nakata, an elderly simpleton whose quiet life was upset by a gruesome murder. (Nakata never recovered from a mysterious incident that left him unable to read or understand much, but that gave him the power to speak with cats.) It's a fantasy about love, loneliness and friendship.

E *Stormbreaker / Point Blank / Skeleton Key* by Anthony Horowitz. (These are the titles of the first three books in the Alex Rider series.) When his uncle and legal guardian are mysteriously killed in a car crash, 14-year-old Alex sees his prep-school world overturned. Police explain that Ian Rider's death was the result of not wearing a seat belt, but that doesn't explain the spray of bullet holes across the car's battered windshield...

R *Pretty Little Liars / Flawless / Perfect / Unbelievable* by Sara Shepard. (These are the titles of the first four books in the Pretty Little Liars series.) Alison, Spencer, Aria, Emily, and Hanna are best friends, but after Alison disappears just before 8th grade, the girls drift apart. Three years later, they start receiving anonymous e-mails and text messages alluding to a dangerous secret...

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon. Christopher has two mysteries to solve: who killed Wellington the dog and what happened to his mother. But Christopher, who has Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism, approaches these mysteries and the world itself in a unique and special way.

Caught by Harlan Coben. Reporter Wendy Tynes has made it her mission to bring down sexual predators on national television, but she begins to doubt her instincts after exposing social worker, Dan Mercer, until she discovers a link between Mercer and Haley McWaid, a 17 year-old girl who has been missing for three months.

Tales of the Madman Underground: An Historical Romance by John Barnes. "I had developed this theory... if I could be perfectly, ideally, totally normal for the first day of my senior year, which was today, then I could do it for the first week, which was only Wednesday through Friday." The odds are against Karl. He is a member of Madman Underground, a therapy group – because of (among other things) an alcoholic mom and the well-earned nickname, Psycho.

Madapple by Christina Meldrum. In Bethan, ME 1987, Maren is pregnant. She claims she is still a virgin. The story of her daughter, Aslaug, follows. Having been raised in isolation by her severe mother, homeschooled in multiple languages, religion, and herbology—in 2003 Aslaug's mother dies, and for the first time in her life, she has to interact within society...

Shiver by Maggie Stiefvater. In all the years she has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been drawn to an unusual yellow-eyed wolf who, in turn, has been watching her with increasing intensity.

A Short History of Women : A Novel by Kate Walbert. British suffragette Dorothy Townsend's decision in 1915 to promote her cause by starving herself to death has consequences through several generations, all the way to contemporary New York.

The Time It Snowed in Puerto Rico by Sarah McCoy. Her parents are pregnant, and for the first time, Verdita is forced to recognize who she is apart from them. She is figuring out her place within her family, struggling as a young woman relating to the opposite sex, and trying to combine her fascination of all things American with her Puerto Rican culture.

Confessions of a Triple Shot Betty by Jody Gehrman. Geena, Hero, and Amber spend the summer working at a coffee shop where they experience romance, identity crises, and newfound friendships.