

Summer Reading 2012

At Randolph, we believe in the importance of reading in the development of life-long learners. Studies indicate that students score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacations than they do on tests conducted at the beginning of the summer (White, 1906; Heyns, 1978; Entwisle & Alexander 1992; Cooper, 1996; Downey et al, 2004). Reading is a great way to combat this summer learning loss and guarantee continued learning throughout the year.

This summer, students will read a **total of four (4) books**. All students will read a book required for their grade level. These are listed below. At the start of the 2012-2013 school year, advisory groups will discuss their grade read. Faculty will also be able to incorporate elements of the grade level read into their classroom.

Incoming 9th grade students will read:

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood. Satrapi, Marjane.

(This does not include Persepolis 2)

Incoming 10th grade students will read:

Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption. Hillenbrand, Laura.

Incoming 11th grade students will read:

The Chosen. Potok, Chaim.

Incoming 12th grade students will read:

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. Skloot, Rebecca.

In addition to this requirement, students will read **one book from the list of *Randolph Select Books***. The list was created from the suggestions of students and faculty and compiled and edited by the Summer Reading Committee and the Summer Reading Student Advisory. Titles noted with “11th and 12th Grades” contain adult themes and language and are more appropriate for mature students. Students will also read **two books of their own choosing** not required to be from the list. Students should not choose books they have read before.

To recap:

Grade level read	1 book
<i>Randolph Select Book</i> from list	1 book
<u>Other books of any genre</u>	<u>2 books</u>
Total	4 books

Randolph Select Books - Summer Reading 2012

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. Alexie, Sherman.

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.

Pride and Prejudice. Austen, Jane.

In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters.

Peter Pan. Barrie, J.M.

Follow the classic adventures of the three Darling children in Never-Never Land with Peter Pan, the boy who would not grow up.

Friday Night Lights. Bissinger, H.G.

This book follows the 1988 season of the Permian Panthers, a high school football team in Odessa, Texas, exploring the lives of the players and the impact of the championship team on the small town.

Fahrenheit 451. Bradbury, Ray.

A book burner in a future fascist state finds out books are a vital part of a culture he never knew. He clandestinely pursues reading, until he is betrayed.

A Clockwork Orange. Burgess, Anthony. (12th Grade)

In the Slav-oriented state of the future, the Lower Orders are in ascendance and happy hooligans roam the London streets, bashing senior citizens in the eyes with bicycle chains.

Don Quixote. Cervantes, Miguel De.

The classic tale of an eccentric country gentleman and his companion who set out to right wrongs and punish evil in sixteenth-century Spain.

And Then There Were None. Christie, Agatha.

Considered one of the greatest mysteries of all times, ten strangers, each with a dark secret, are gathered together on an isolated island by a mysterious host. One by one, they die, and before the weekend is out, there will be none.

The Chocolate War. Cormier, Robert.

A high school freshman discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school's annual fund raising drive and arousing the wrath of the school bullies.

The Archer's Tale. Cornwell, Bernard.

Thomas of Hookton, having witnessed the massacre of the people of his coastal English village by a marauding band of French raiders on Easter morning 1343, embarks on a quest to hunt down the black-clad knight who led the attack.

The Power of One. Courtenay, Bryce.

Peekay, an English boy living in South Africa during World War II, dreams of becoming a winner.

The Great Train Robbery. Crichton, Michael.

A master criminal plots and carries out the robbery of gold bullion being sent by train from London to Paris in supposedly invulnerable safes.

Oliver Twist. Dickens, Charles.

In nineteenth-century England, a young orphan boy lives in the squalid surroundings of a workhouse until he runs away and is captured by a gang of thieves, and is finally reunited with his long lost family.

The Tea Rose. Donnelly, Jennifer.

Fionna Finnegan has always dreamed of opening a shop with her longtime love, but when a dark and brutal man takes away everything she holds dear, her dreams are shattered and she is forced to flee London for New York.

Cold Mountain. Frazier, Charles. (11th and 12th Grades)

Inman, a wounded Confederate soldier, leaves the hospital where he is being treated and determines to walk home to his sweetheart Ada, only to find the land and the girl he remembers as changed by the war as he.

A Gathering of Old Men. Gaines, Ernest J.

Beau Boutan, a Cajun farmer, is found shot on a Louisiana plantation. The claimants to the killing form a wall of protection around the real murderer.

Fault in Our Stars. Green, John.

Sixteen year old Hazel, who has cancer, meets Augustus at a kids-with-cancer support group and as they fall in love they both wonder how they will be remembered.

Snow in August. Hamill, Pete.

The friendship between an Irish Catholic boy and a rabbi in 1947 Brooklyn is threatened by anti-semitism.

Catch-22. Heller, Joseph. (11th and 12th Grades)

Set on a tiny Mediterranean island during World War II, this comic novel recounts the amazing adventures of the 256th bombing squadron and its lead bombardier, Captain Yossarian.

A Farewell to Arms. Hemingway, Ernest.

An American ambulance officer serving on the Austro-Italian front deserts to join an English nurse after the retreat of Caporetto.

The River King. Hoffman, Alice.

For more than a century, the small town of Haddan, Massachusetts, has been divided between those born and bred in the village from those who attend the prestigious Haddan School. But one October night the two worlds are thrust together due to an inexplicable death, and the town's divided history is revealed in all its complexity.

Wasted: A Memoir of Anorexia and Bulimia. Hornbacher, Marya. (11th and 12th Grades)

The author reflects on her fourteen-year battle with bulimia and anorexia, discussing how the eating disorders have affected her life from childhood through the present day.

The Kite Runner. Hosseini, Khaled. (11th and 12th Grades)

Amir, haunted by his betrayal of Hassan, the son of his father's servant and a childhood friend, returns to Kabul as an adult after he learns Hassan has been killed, in an attempt to redeem himself by rescuing Hassan's son from a life of slavery to a Taliban official.

A Thousand Splendid Suns. Hosseini, Khaled.

A novel set against the three decades of Afghanistan's history which tells the stories of two women, Mariam and Laila, who grow close despite their nineteen-year age difference and rivalry as they suffer at the hand of a common enemy.

Hitler's Last Secretary: A Firsthand Account of Life with Hitler. Junge, Traudl.

This enlightening account examines life in Hitler's compound during the last few years of WWII, including the events around Valkyrie.

Up the Down Staircase. Kaufman, Bel.

A young high school teacher relates the frustrations and challenges of teaching through fictitious memos, letters, papers, and student comments.

The Secret Life of Bees. Kidd, Sue Monk.

Fourteen-year-old Lily and her companion, Rosaleen, an African-American woman who has cared for Lily since her mother's death ten years earlier, flee their home and find a safe haven in Tiburon, South Carolina, at the home of three beekeeping sisters, May, June, and August.

Into the Wild. Krakauer, Jon.

Read the story of Chris McCandless, a twenty-four-year-old who walked into the Alaskan wilderness on an idealistic journey and was found dead of starvation four months later.

The Devil in the White City. Larson, Erik.

Tells the parallel stories of Daniel Burnham, the main architect of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, and serial killer Henry H. Holmes, discussing the challenges Burnham faced in creating the hugely successful White City, and looking at how Holmes used the opportunities afforded by the fair to lure victims to their deaths.

Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything. Levitt, Steven D. & Dubner,

Stephen J. The authors focus on the economics of real-world issues that most people view as insignificant and examines hidden incentives behind all sorts of human behavior.

A River Runs Through It. Maclean, Norman.

Based on the author's childhood experiences, this book captivates readers with vivid descriptions of life along Montana's Big Blackfoot River and its near magical blend of fly fishing with the troubling affections of the heart.

A Game of Thrones. Martin, George R.R. (11th and 12th Grades)

Lords and ladies, soldiers and sorcerers, and all the forces of good and evil prepare for trouble in the land of Winterfell where summers can last for decades and winters a lifetime.

The Road. McCarthy, Cormac. (11th and 12th Grades)

This novel traces the journey of a father and his son as they walk alone after a great fire has consumed the nation and left everything in ashes.

Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home, and School. Medina, John.

In *Brain Rules*, Dr. John Medina, a molecular biologist, shares his lifelong interest in how the brain sciences might influence the way we learn and work. All Faculty are reading this book over the summer.

Sunrise over Fallujah. Myers, Walter Dean.

Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.

1984. Orwell, George.

Orwell's classic depicts life in a totalitarian regime of the future.

Bel Canto. Patchett, Ann.

A group of international guests, taken hostage by terrorists while attending a birthday party at the home of the vice president of a small South American country, form bonds with their captors and enter into an almost idyllic lifestyle, united by the music of Roxanne Coss, opera's most revered soprano.

Killer Angels: A Novel of the Civil War. Shaara, Michael.

A fictional account of four days in July, 1863 at the Battle of Gettysburg discussing tactics, plans, and preparations for battle from both the Northern and Southern points of view.

Pygmalion. Shaw, George Bernard.

A play about Eliza Doolittle, an untutored flower girl who is transformed into a "duchess" with the help of Henry Higgins.

Maus 1 & 2. Spiegelman, Art.

A memoir about Vladek Spiegleman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and about his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father, his story, and with history itself.

The Help. Stockett, Kathryn.

Skeeter returns home from college in 1962 Mississippi and begins to write about the African-American women working in white households, which includes Aibileen, who grieves for the loss of her son, and Minny, Aibileen's sassy friend.

Slaughterhouse-Five. Vonnegut, Kurt.

Billy Pilgrim serves as a chaplain's assistant in the Second World War, is captured by the Germans, and survives the fire bombing of Dresden to contemplate the human condition.

The Glass Castle. Walls, Jeannette. (11th and 12th Grades)

The author recalls her life growing up in a dysfunctional family with an alcohol father and distant mother and describes how she and her siblings had to fend for themselves until they finally found the resources and will to leave home.

Salvage the Bones. Ward, Jesmyn. (11th and 12th Grades)

Pregnant fifteen-year-old Esch and her family live in Bois Sauvage, Mississippi, which puts them in the path of Hurricane Katrina. As they try to prepare for the disaster, the family's love for each other will be their only hope for survival.

The Invisible Man. Wells, H.G.

The tale of a scientist who discovers how to make his body become invisible, but, when he can't make himself visible again, becomes violently insane.

Uglies. Westerfeld, Scott.

Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her new friend Shay decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen year old girls into gorgeous beauties, and realizes that there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she doesn't like.

The Shadow of the Wind. Zafón, Carlos Ruiz.

In 1945 Spain, the young son of an antique-book dealer searches for more books by Julián Carax, and finds that everything Carax has ever written has been destroyed--and that his search has put his friends and family in danger.

The Book Thief. Zusak, Marcus.

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.