



June 2020

Dear **11th and 12th** U.S. Literature Students,

The following is your summer reading list. I have provided several fiction and nonfiction books as options. You are required to read two (2) books this summer, three (3) books if you plan to take Honors.

You will have individual writing assignments based on your summer reading and follow up discussions in August/September. Honors students will present multimedia reflections on their chosen texts. All of these assignments will be part of your first semester grade for U.S. Literature.

You can find these books on Amazon, Barnes & Noble.com, Half Priced Books, Google Play Books, etc. (see used copies), or e-copies at your local libraries (until libraries reopen). They can also be found as audio books (Audible), so you may elect to listen to the story being read aloud as you follow along, if that helps you.

Fiction

Toni Morrison, *Beloved*
Richard Wright, *Native Son*
Jesmyn Ward, *Salvage the Bones*
Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*
Ernest Gaines, *A Lesson Before Dying*
Colson Whitehead, *The Intuitionist*
Yaa Gyasi, *Homegoing*
N. Scott Momaday, *House Made of Dawn*
Jhumpa Lahiri, *Interpreter of Maladies*
Randy Ribay, *Patron Saints of Nothing*
Mario Alberto Zambrano, *Lotería*
Erika L. Sánchez, *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*
Elizabeth Acevedo, *The Poet X*

Nonfiction

Joan Didion, *Where I Was From*
Domingo Martinez, *The Boy Kings of Texas*
Mohammed Ghassan Farjia, *The Layman's Guide to Climate Change*
Kwame Alexander, *The Playbook: 52 Rules to Aim, Shoot, and Score in this Game Called Life*
Janet Gurtler, *You Too?*
Matthew Desmond, *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*
Robert Pirsig, *Zen and Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*

Best wishes,

Mr. Neilson