

## **2008 Summer Reading Form II**

### **All-Form Book**

Beals, Melba  
Warriors Don't Cry

Melba has wanted to see the inside of Central High School since she was a little girl. When she is given the change to integrate it, though, between the harassing phone calls and the obvious threat to her life, she wonders if it is all worth it.

Kelcei Edmonds

### **Mystery/Suspense**

Enger, Leif  
Peace Like A River

Reuben Land, along with his sister and father, find themselves in a cross-country search for Reuben's older brother who has been charged with murder. On this journey the three find out that family, faith, and love can stand up to the worst of enemies.

Andrew Boyle

Fford, Jasper  
The Big Over Easy

Inspector Jack Spratt, head of the Reading Nursery Crimes Division, finds Humpty Dumpty in pieces near a wall. While facing some of his own problems, the seemingly unreliable inspector must see if Humpty fell, was shot, or if something more sinister was happening.

Sascha Demetris

King, Laurie R.  
The Beekeeper's Apprentice

When Mary Russell meets famous detective Sherlock Holmes, she discovers that he is also a beekeeper. Soon she finds herself on the trail of kidnappers and discovers a plot to kill both Holmes and herself.

Annotations taken from NoveList

du Maurier, Daphne  
Rebecca

After working as a servant to Mrs. Hopper, a young girl marries Maxim de Winter, a very wealthy man. She and Maxim live in his mansion, but she feels that she is being compared to Maxim's first wife Rebecca. She wonders if she can save her relationship before it is too late.

Kendall Allen

Smith, Alexander McCall  
The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency

After the death of her father, Precious Ramotswe sells his cattle and uses the money to open the only private detective agency owned by a woman in all of Botswana. Mma Ramotswe solves many cases for different kinds of people including tracking down a rebellious daughter of a rich businessman and solving the disappearance of a kidnapped boy.

Caitlin O'Connell

Winspear, Jacqueline  
Maisie Dobbs

Maisie Dobbs is a female detective in the year 1929. Her first case is fairly straightforward, but it leads to a much deeper mystery. In attempts to solve this mystery, Maisie remembers her own past, which she had tried so hard to forget.

Dani Plung

Wouk, Herman  
The Caine Mutiny

Willie Keith is a young ensign assigned to the DMS Caine. When he first goes aboard, the ship is a mess because the captain does not care. When a new captain is assigned to the ship, Willie likes him, but he soon finds out that the new captain should not be a captain at all.

Alec Brown

## **Fantasy**

Adams, Richard  
Watership Down

When Fiver, a young rabbit, senses danger, his brother Hazel believes him and tries to round up a group of rabbits so that they can run away from the danger. The group of rabbits must depend on one another since they do not have a chief rabbit.

Naveen Menon

Clarke, Susanna  
Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell

Magic is thought to be dead in England until historians and scholars find a magician named Mr. Norrell. He is thought to be the reviver of magic until another magician, Jonathan Strange, appears and becomes his apprentice. They quickly become rivals and struggle to gain control over English magic.

Alex Rodosky

Dickinson, Peter  
The Ropemaker

Tilja is a normal girl in a magical world. When her Valley is threatened, she travels with her grandmother and friends to the Empire to find the magician who has the only power to save the Valley before all peace and hope for survival is lost.

Erin Gorse

Eddings, David  
Pawn of Prophecy

Young Garion thinks he is just a normal boy until a storyteller comes to the farm where he lives, and he realizes that no one is who they seem to be, including him. Garion will have to leave his sheltered safe haven with his aunt and face a part of the world he did not know existed.

Michelle Bucklew

Maguire, Gregory  
What the Dickens

When a terrible storm hits, three children get stuck in their house for hours with nothing to do. To entertain the children, their babysitter Gage tells a story about his encounter with a tooth fairy named What-the-Dickens. What-the-Dickens, an orphan skibbereen, has to learn about himself and being a tooth fairy.

Aamina Ahmad

Stewart, Mary  
Crystal Cave

Myriddn Emrys, better known as Merlin, retells his long and adventurous life in this epic novel. After being driven away from his homeland, the boy believed to be a devil's child encounters his real father for the first time leads a luxurious life filled with excitement.

Patrick Callaghan

White, T.H.  
The Once and Future King

Arthur is an orphaned teenager when he pulls Excalibur from a stone to become king of all Britain. As king, he tries to impose a system of justice with his Round Table, while struggling to remain friends with his wife Guinevere, his son Mordred, the angry Orkney Faction, and his greatest knight Lancelot.

Chris Leech

## Science Fiction

Anderson, M.T.

### The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing

Octavian is an African-American slave, raised in the time of the American Revolution when racism occurs throughout everyday life. Octavian is raised in the College of Lucidity, where researchers investigate the world's mysteries as a living experiment. Although Octavian is young in age, he soon realizes that he wants to be free, and his only way out is to run away and join the army.

Adi Krupski

Asimov, Isaac

### Fantastic Voyage

Dr. Benes holds the secret to infinite miniaturization, and both sides want the information. The limo carrying Benes is struck by an enemy car. The crew of the Proteus will have to voyage inside his body to save him. They are aware that there is a traitor onboard, so the trick will be saving Benes in spite of him or her.

Alexis Allen

Bradbury, Ray

### Fahrenheit 451

In a futuristic world, Guy Montag is a fireman, but he does not put out fires, he burns books. Books have been made illegal by the government because they inspire false belief and doubt in people. One day, he meets a young lady who says that people used to read books, and it was legal. So Guy begins to steal books and read them as he tries to fix society.

Max Kaplan

Shelley, Mary

### Frankenstein

Victor Frankenstein researched the anatomy of human beings for years to develop a new species. Since Victor Frankenstein's creation of a monster, it has begun to kill those close to him. Victor begins to feel extremely guilty about creating the monster. The creature begins to threaten Victor's life when he realizes that there is only one way to stop the monster.

Joey Anolik

Stevenson, Robert Louis  
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

On the streets of London are reports of a disfigured man named Hyde who leaves a trail of evil behind. Mr. Utterson, a lawyer, finds that his friend, Dr. Jekyll, has included this strange man in his will. Utterson soon finds out how much danger his friend is really in.

Josh Lawrence

Verne, Jules  
Journey to the Center of the Earth

When Axel's uncle comes home with a special book with a message of how to get to the center of Earth, he is ecstatic. Later that week he takes Axel and himself on the incredible journey. Axel expects the journey to be boring, but, when he finds out what is really in the center of the Earth, he is amazed.

Tyler Edwards

Vonnegut, Kurt  
Cat's Cradle

One of Vonnegut's masterpieces, this novel amuses, disturbs, and causes one to question scientific discovery. The story is narrated by John, an author trying to write a book about the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima. John requests the help of Newt, the midget son of Nobel-Prize winning physicist Felix Hoenikker, who survived the atom bomb in Hiroshima at the age of six. Follow John on his travels as he researches his book and attempts to learn more about Newt's father, Felix, and his invention, ice-nine.

Mrs. Pyle

## **General Fiction**

Courtenay, Bryce  
The Power of One (Young Reader's Edition)

Peekay has suffered a great deal of persecution throughout his childhood both because of his small size and his opposition of Hitler. As a result, he decides that he will become the welterweight boxing champion. He meets many important role models encouraging him to become great in academics and boxing, but their greatest lesson to him is that blacks and whites are equal.

Jimmy Grote

Dorris, Michael  
A Yellow Raft in Blue Water

After Rayona's mother Christine abandoned her, Rayona must live with her grandmother whom she calls Aunt Ida. Rayona runs away and works at state park for a month picking up trash. At the park Rayona's life is a lie, and she finally returns to the reservation to find her mother. She returns to try to find her true self and also to find more information about her family's past.

Erin Caplan

Myers, Walter Dean  
Sunrise over Fallujah

Robin Perry is a United States Army soldier and part of a Civil Affairs attachment. He is told that his job is simply to be friendly with the local population of Iraq. With his squad he goes on many patrols through the Baghdad streets. In a short time, though, Perry encounters an enemy who is ruthless, has no rules of engagement, and uses the most unconventional methods of warfare he has ever seen.

Ethan Kiliany

Nolan, Hans  
A Summer of Kings

Esther Young is bored with her life, and she wants something or someone to make it more adventurous. That someone turns out to be King-Roy Johnson, an African-American boy accused of murder. King-Roy opens Esther's eyes to the cruel and unjust practices of prejudice. By summer's end Esther's outlook on life has changed dramatically.

Corryn Cawley

Schmidt, Gary D.  
Trouble

Henry has always wanted to climb Mt. Katahdin with his older brother Franklin. Unfortunately, this dream is almost completely thwarted when his brother is the victim of a hit and run accident that results in the loss of his arm. Henry finally realizes that if he wants to fully honor his brother, he must climb the mountain before summer ends.

Evan Reineman

Steinbeck, John  
Tortilla Flat

Danny, a fisherman, roams the streets daily in search of food. Amazingly, one day he discovers that he has inherited two houses on the Tortilla Flat. He and a friend decide that they will rent out parts of the two houses to their friends for money or wine. After some time, Danny finds out that his friends are taking advantage of him and his resources.

Jonah Rattner

Tan, Amy  
The Joy Luck Club

Eight Chinese mothers and daughters lead very different lives in America. The Joy Luck Club is the only part of China that the mothers have to cling to. When one of the women dies, her daughter takes her place and learns that there is more to Joy Luck than playing games.

Erin Gorse

## **Classics**

Bronte, Charlotte  
Jane Eyre

In early nineteenth-century England, an orphaned young woman accepts employment as a governess at Thornfield Hall, a country estate owned by the mysteriously remote Mr. Rochester.

Annotations taken from NoveList

Defoe, Daniel  
Robinson Crusoe

Robinson Crusoe is a young boy with a sailor's heart. When his father does not support his dream, he runs away. On one of his voyages, he gets stranded on an island. He must have both the heart and head of a sailor to survive.

Eric Rabe

Dickens, Charles  
A Tale of Two Cities

Lucie Manette is reunited with her father after years in prison, and she does her best to revive him. While she works, she meets and marries a man while the revolution begins in France. When her husband is imprisoned in France, she does all she can to save him.

Alessandra Davy-Falconi

Dumas, Alexandre  
The Count of Monte Cristo

Edmond Dantes is a very fortunate man. He is about to be made captain of the Pharon, a trade ship in Marseilles. That all changes when he is falsely accused of being a Bonapartist and is sent to the notorious Chateaux d'If. In the dungeon he happens upon Abbe Faria, who helps him escape and makes him the Count of Monte Cristo.

Peter Kann

Golding, William  
Lord of the Flies

A group of British boys are stranded on an island after their plane crashes. The boys are alone on the island with no adults. They elect Ralph as their leader. Some of the others disagree with Ralph's priorities, so they form their own tribe. War breaks out between the tribes, and all hopes become uncertain.

Emily Wilson

Knowles, John  
A Separate Peace

Gene and Finny have become the best of friends during their years at the Devon School. When Gene realizes that Finny is better than he at everything they do, the bond of friendship they shared weakens. When a tragic accident occurs, it drives them closer together yet farther apart.

Alexis Concordia

## Historical Fiction

Dobbs, Michael

Never Surrender: A Novel of Winston Churchill

Prime Minister Winston Churchill does not have the support of many influential people on the eve of Dunkirk. Lonely, unpopular, and worried about the direction World War II is taking, Churchill knows that the next few weeks will determine England's fate. A mysterious German refugee further complicates his world. This is a book for those who think they know everything there is to know about World War Two.

Ms. Banwell

Draper, Sharon M.

Copper Sun

Amari is a fifteen year old girl with a happy life when strange pale men kill many in her village and sell the survivors as slaves. Amari survives the harsh journey to America, where she is ripped away from her only remaining friends, Besa and Ari, and is carted off to a plantation where she finds kindness, friendship, and eventually freedom.

Caitlin O'Connell

Forester, C.S.

Hornblower

Horatio Hornblower is a young officer in the British Navy in 1793. He has had no previous experience but is transferred to frigate where he is sure to find promotion, adventure, and a good amount of prize money.

Chris Leech

Mitchell, Margaret

Gone with the Wind

As a sixteen year old girl living in the South during the mid-1800s, Scarlett O'Hara is expected to find a husband. Trouble arises when the man she loves announces his proposal to another woman. War begins and Scarlett continues to look for love, but, when she concentrates on a man she cannot have, she misses what is right in front of her.

Alex Levy

Remarque, Erich Maria  
All Quiet on the Western Front

Though he is still in school, Paul Baumer joins the German army at the onset of World War I. He joins the army proud to fight, but, instead of being proud, Paul soon becomes terrified by the many horrors of war. Paul now finds himself in a struggle to survive. He knows that even if he does survive the war, it will have scarred him forever.

Vivek Nimgaonkar

Zusak, Marcus  
The Book Thief

Liesel Meminger is a young girl sent to live with her new foster parents near Munich, Germany during World War II. Liesel gets to know her new family, Hans and Rosa Hubermann. Liesel's life is put in danger when Hans decides to hide a Jewish man in their basement. Hans teaches Liesel to read, and she soon loves reading and begins to steal books, which she shares with her foster father and Max.

Lexy Allen

## **Memoir/Nonfiction**

Bryson, Bill  
In a Sunburned Country

In a Sunburned Country explores Australia in and out. Bill Bryson lets readers discover the vast and hostile deserts, friendly urban areas, and the most dangerous life on the planet. In this brilliant and entertaining book, the writer combines humor, facts, and his own personality to make the ultimate travel book.

Athif Wulandana

Conroy, Pat  
The Water is Wide

The inhabitants of Yamacraw Island in South Carolina are uneducated, diseased, and know little about the world around them. Their beautiful island is being threatened by pollution and a world they do not understand. One teacher, Pat Conroy, comes to the rescue and educates the children on this island. He is determined to teach his students everything he can in one year.

Jenna Rosenbloom

Dawson, George and Richard Glaubman  
Life is Good

George Dawson is a 100 year old slave's grandson. Having worked through the Great Depression and two world wars without knowing how to read, he has seen the highs and lows of the American Dream. Even through all of his hardships, he has always lived by one motto: life is so good, and it only gets better.

Ethan Kiliany

Dumas, Firoozeh  
Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing up Iranian in America

When Firoozeh Dumas moves from Iran to America, she is faced with big changes. Clean bathrooms, no mosquitoes, Kentucky Fried Chicken are just the beginning of her new life. Her adventures are filled with fun and laughter.

Maggie Leech

Katz, Jon  
Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho

Jesse and Eric are nineteen-year-old computer geeks who live in a small town in Idaho. Katz, a friend and writer, suggests that they get out of their little town, go to Chicago to get a real job, and find some friends. Jesse and Eric go on their journey with barely enough money and a challenge to support their computer habit.

Oliver Ebeling-Koning

Santiago, Esmeralda  
When I was Puerto Rican

Esmeralda "Negi" Santiago lives a peaceful life in Puerto Rico learning how to close a dead baby's eyes, to take care of her little siblings, and to explore the backlands of her country. All of this changes when Mami finally decides to move to America where Negi dreams of acting and Papi.

Kelly Marous

Steinbeck, John

Travels with Charley in Search of America

John Steinbeck and his beloved French poodle Charley drive across the country in a truck made into a house. On their journey John and Charley learn the country's opinion on segregation, politics, and everything else on America's mind.

Sascha Demetris