

Dear Class of 2022:

For your **9th grade summer reading text**, ask someone who you respect—which could mean a relative, a family friend, an old teacher, a coach, a peer, etc.—to recommend a book to you that made a mark on their lives in some way. It can even be a book that just highly impressed or entertained them (or maybe got them thinking in some new way, even if it was a way that saddened or bothered them). Then, read it yourself and discuss with the original reader how and why it brought about such change in the way he or she looked at things. Then reflect on your own reactions to the text. You will be asked to share with the class how and why it was recommended to you, as well as your own response to it, so take good notes! The book can be *any* genre (including non-fiction); there is no length minimum, only that the book recommendation comes from a trusted source. Early in the year, we will be discussing crossroads and moments of change in our own and certain fictional characters' lives, so this will help us begin thinking about personal “a-ha!” experiences.

**Please note: Be sure to let your book recommender know not to have you read a certain book *just* because she/he thinks it will be impressive as you enter 9th grade at Prep, but rather it should be something that he/she thoroughly enjoyed.

Revel in your reading!

Until Then,
Your 9th Grade English Teachers

Please find below some questions to consider as you read. Please note: This is NOT a written assignment (at least not yet):

- Who wrote the book?
- When was it written?
- What kind of book is it? (How would you describe its genre, purpose (if non-fiction), style, and so on?)
- Why did it have a powerful effect on the person who recommended it to you?
- What did your conversation(s) about the book teach you about your friend/family member?
- What were your opinions about the book? Did you like it? Why or why not (or some combination of the two)?
- Did it have any memorable themes, conflicts, or lessons within it? Choose at least 3 things to discuss here, and expand into a brief paragraph on each of them.
- Choose 3 memorable quotes from the text. Unpack them, even very closely if possible. What is so significant about each particular quote? Why are those words meaningful, powerful, or memorable?
- Would you recommend this book to someone else? Explain.