



FLINTRIDGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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Headmaster

Dear Class of 2019:

For your **9th grade summer reading text**, ask someone in your life—this may include a relative, a family friend, an old teacher, or a counselor—to recommend a book that made a mark on his or her life. It can be a book that 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 the world (or the world of books). Then reflect on your own reactions to the text. You will 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 transformative experiences.

Enjoy!

Until Then,
Your 9th Grade English Teachers

Some questions to consider:

- 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? Describe them.
- Would you recommend this book to someone else? Explain.