

Tampa Preparatory School

Summer Reading - 2021

Summer reading books may be read in either ebook OR print form, as students prefer, *unless noted otherwise*.

The following list offers choices among literary works that are contemporary or classic, but all are relevant to students' lives. While the focus remains on the traditional canon during the school year, these summer reading choices were selected in the hope that they would resonate with students and nurture their love of reading.

ENGLISH 12 English Literature and Composition
(Students will read 1 ½ books! See below for details)

FOR BOTH BOOKS, PLEASE PURCHASE PRINT COPIES* AS WE WILL BE USING THESE TEXTS THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER.

***If you are a student who learns more effectively using a digital version, please email Ms. Cardillo to discuss this further. (scardillo@tampaprep.org)**

As you read, please **ANNOTATE** extensively in these texts; these annotations will be part of your summer reading grades. This means we expect you to go well beyond simply highlighting and/or underlining passages. We would like you to summarize, respond to and reflect on the texts as you read them.

ANNOTATIONS WILL BE CHECKED AND EVALUATED ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASSES.

***On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft* by Stephen King**

“ ‘Long live the King’ hailed *Entertainment Weekly* upon publication of Stephen King’s *On Writing*. Part memoir, part master class by one of the bestselling authors of all time, this superb volume is a revealing and practical view of the writer’s craft, comprising the basic tools of the trade every writer must have. King’s advice is grounded in his vivid memories from childhood through his emergence as a writer, from his struggling early career to his widely reported, near-fatal accident in 1999—and how the inextricable link between writing and living spurred his recovery. Brilliantly structured, friendly and inspiring, *On Writing* will empower and entertain everyone who reads it—fans, writers, and anyone who loves a great story well told” (*Amazon*).

***The Book of Delights* by Ross Gay**

- **Students should read ONLY the first 51 essays, through page 143.**

“In *The Book of Delights*, one of today’s most original literary voices offers up a genre-defying volume of lyric essays written over one tumultuous year. The first nonfiction book from award-winning poet Ross Gay is a record of the small joys we often overlook in our busy lives. Among Gay’s funny, poetic, philosophical delights: a friend’s unabashed use of air quotes, cradling a tomato seedling aboard an airplane, the silent nod of acknowledgment between the only two black people in a room. But Gay never dismisses the complexities, even the terrors, of living in America as a black man or the ecological and psychic violence of our consumer

culture or the loss of those he loves. More than anything other subject, though, Gay celebrates the beauty of the natural world--his garden, the flowers peeking out of the sidewalk, the hypnotic movements of a praying mantis" (*Amazon*).