



THE KING'S ACADEMY

TKA Summer Reading Challenge 2021

11th & 12th Grade

* The TKA Summer Reading Challenge is an optional summer reading list created by our library and English faculty. By participating, you will have the opportunity to write personalized, mini-reviews of these books which may be featured on the library shelves for student-to-student recommendations. Please handwrite your reviews by printing out the [Shelf-Talker Summer Reading Review Form](#). **For each review written (up to 5), you will be entered into the summer reading raffle with a variety of fun prizes!** For example, five reviews equals five raffle entries. So, keep your brain engaged over the summer break, bond with some of your classmates over literature, and get featured on the shelves of the library!

*Note: **AP Literature students have required reading assignments, available at:**

www.tka.org/academics/summer. But consider also participating in this challenge! **AP Language** students are highly encouraged to participate in the Summer Reading Challenge by choosing at least one nonfiction title and one fiction title from **this list**.

Fiction:

- ***1984*** by George Orwell
 - Don't let the title fool you -- this story takes place in a futuristic, dystopian version of 1984 that never occurred. If you loved *Animal Farm* and *Fahrenheit 451*, you will enjoy Orwell's nightmare vision of a future built on total party loyalty and extreme surveillance.
- ***Catch-22*** by Joseph Heller
 - Set in Italy during World War II, Yossarian is a war-hero who is furious because thousands of people he has never met are trying to kill him. But his real problem is not the enemy—it is the army, which keeps increasing the number of missions the men must fly to complete their service and a hilariously sinister bureaucratic rule known as Catch-22. Contains some strong language and content.
- ***Cry the Beloved Country*** by Alan Paton
 - *Cry, the Beloved Country*, was an immediate worldwide bestseller when it was published in 1948. It is the deeply moving story of the Zulu pastor Stephen Kumalo and his son, Absalom, set against the background of the extremely racially divided British Colony of South Africa. Despite the deep challenges for the characters, *Cry, the Beloved Country* is a classic work of love and hope, courage and endurance.
- ***Dry*** by Neal Shusterman
 - In this recently written dystopian novel, Shusterman asks the question of what would happen if California ran out of water. Contains some mild language.
- ***The Joy Luck Club*** by Amy Tan
 - The Joy Luck Club describes the lives of four Asian women who fled China in the 1940s and their four very Americanized daughters. The novel focuses on Jing-mei "June" Woo, a thirty-six-year-old daughter, who, after her mother's death, takes her place at the meetings of a social group called the Joy Luck Club.

- ***Salty, Bitter, Sweet*** by Mayra Cuevas
 - A slow-burn romance in a cutthroat kitchen! There's more to becoming a top chef for 17-year-old Isabella Fields than just not getting chopped.
- ***This Is My Brain in Love*** by I.W. Gregorio
 - What starts off as a rocky partnership soon grows into something more. But family prejudices and the uncertain future of a family business threaten to keep Will and Jocelyn apart. It will take everything they have, and more, to save the family restaurant and their budding romance. Contains some strong language and content.

Nonfiction:

- ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*** by Rebecca Skloot.
 - Doctors took her cancer cells; those cells never died. They launched a medical revolution. Twenty years later, her children discover their grandmother's legacy. Their lives would be forever changed.
- ***The Reason for God*** by Tim Keller
 - They told him that he could never plant a new conservative Presbyterian church in New York, NYC is too liberal, too educated. God called Keller to do it anyway and in the course he takes on some of the most modern arguments against the existence of the Biblical God.
- ***The Tipping Point*** by Malcolm Gladwell
 - This book explores several stories of how little things can make a big difference. Gladwell explores the science behind viral trends in business, marketing, and human behavior. The tipping point is that magic moment when an idea, trend, or social behavior crosses a threshold, tips, and spreads like wildfire.
- ***Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*** by Laura Hillenbrand
 - Once a troubled boy, then an olympiad, Louis Zamperini became an airman at the start of World War II, When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, Zamperini survived only to face more adversity in this novel based on a true story that faces suffering with hope against the odds.