

Honors Humanities: Outside Reading Assignment

As part of the Humanities curriculum, you are expected to read one independent reading book every 8 weeks. Because this course focuses on culture and values, you should select a book that is culturally significant, yet also engaging and manageable. Furthermore, you are encouraged to select an author and a text that present a cultural lens/framework that is different from your own. This may mean you need to research the book and/or author prior to selecting it. You are required to get both teacher AND parental approval for any book you choose, to make sure that the book is acceptable for the assignment as well as for content. Many books contain material that can be controversial, edgy, or graphic. It is therefore recommended that students and parents carefully review book selections **before** signing off on the book. Students will not be allowed to switch books after their novel has been approved. You may choose one from the recommendations below, or you may select a book of your own that meets the assignment guidelines. An in class assessment of your reading will be given on the due date.

PHS Library Call Numbers in (YELLOW)

The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri

Kite Runner or A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini (FIC HOSSEINI)

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Díaz

The Kitchen God's Wife or The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan (FIC TAN)

Like Water for Chocolate by Laura Esquivel (FIC ESQUIVEL)

Reading Lolita in Teheran by Azar Nafisi (may be difficult if you haven't read the books discussed within the novel) (921 NAFISI)

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin

Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi (GN 955 SATRAPI)

Life of Pi by Yann Martel (FIC MARTEL)

One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (FIC GARCIA MARQUEZ)

Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens (FIC DICKENS)

Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad (FIC CONRAD)

Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya (FIC ANAYA)

Hiroshima by John Hersey (940.54 HERSEY)

Caramello by Sandra Cisneros (FIC CISNEROS)

The Chosen by Chaim Potok (FIC POTOK)

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro (FIC ISHIGURO)

American Shaolin by Matthew Polly

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah (921 BEAH)

What Is the What by Dave Eggers

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Anne Fadima

For more options, please visit the ALA's website (also available through a link on the Poway High School Library's website): .

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/outstandingbooks/outstandingbooks.cfm>