

**2023**  
**SUMMER READING**  
**ALIEF I.S.D.**  
SECONDARY READING LANGUAGE ARTS  
GRADES 7 - 12



Dear Students,

Alief I.S.D. is a district that loves and values reading. Because we know from research that you could lose up to two months of reading skills over the summer months, we want you to continue reading in preparation for our return in the fall.

Our expectation is that each of you read at least one book over the summer, but you are encouraged to read as many as you want. If you are enrolled in an Advanced Academic English course (AAC) or an Advanced Placement course, you are expected to read at least two books in order to meet the AAC/AP criteria. Our recommendation is that you read a minimum of three days a week for a minimum of 30 minutes per day.

For summer reading, you can select physical books, e-books, and/or audiobooks. ***It is your choice!*** Due to the mature nature of some young adolescent literature, be sure to review and discuss the content of the books with your parents before choosing your novels.

**Check out some Book Awards/Book Lists**

- [Lone Star](#) (recommended for grades 6, 7, and 8)
- [Tayshas](#) (recommended for grades 9-12)
- [The Coretta Scott King Book Awards](#)
- [YALSA Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults](#)
- [YALSA Nonfiction Award](#)
- [Barnes and Noble 100 Best YA Teen Summer Reading Books](#)

**Access e-books and audio books via [Alief HUB apps](#)**



*Follow these steps if you are logging in to HPL for the first time. Open the Digital Resources folder. Click on the HPL link. Your user name is 100 then the first initial of your last name then your school ID. Your password is the month and day of your birthday.*

**Explore titles and authors**

- [Chapter one with the Houston Public Library](#) - first chapter reads from great books for tweens and teens
- [TeachingBooks.net](#)

**Consider summer reading opportunities**

- [Summer Reading Program](#) sponsored by the Houston Public Library Foundation and the John P. McGovern Foundation
- [Summer Reading Program](#) sponsored by Harris County Public Library
- [New York Times Summer Reading Contest](#)

**Earn extra credit points**

- Create a physical or digital journal to track your thinking over the course of the book. Use the questions below as a guide.
- Upon your return to school in the fall, you will have an opportunity to submit your journal to your English teacher for extra credit. Submission information will be provided by your English teacher upon your return to school.

**Enjoy your summer reading!**  
The Secondary Alief ELA Team

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## Thought Questions for Summer Reading

**HEART:** What are you taking to heart? Is the book helping you learn anything about yourself or others? If your thinking about the world is changing in any way, how is it changing?

**QUESTIONS:** What questions are coming to mind while you are reading this book? Are there things you are wondering about, doubting, or don't understand? What would you ask the author or the characters if you could talk to them?

**CRAFT:** What are you noticing about the author's style, language, point of view, literary devices, or structures she/he used to create the story?

**REACTIONS/CONNECTIONS:** What are your feelings and responses to this book? Does it remind you of experiences, people, or events in your life? Does it make you think of anything happening in the news, around school, in other stories or books you have read? Does anything surprise you?

**PASSAGES:** What parts of the book (sections, paragraphs, or lines) "stick out" to you? These passages might be important, puzzling, curious, provocative, dubious, or well written – whatever grabs your attention. Write about what sticks out to you and why.

**BIG IDEAS:** What are the big ideas or themes presented in your book? Why are these ideas important?