

# Conant High School Summer Reading 2017

art by Kristina Bozhanova



**We hope you will read and enjoy many books, but remember that reading at least one of the books on this list is a requirement and an assessed English assignment. Start the year off strong!**

***Because You'll Never Meet Me\****

(Leah Thomas) In this funny and sad book about impossible friendships, two boys in the most extreme circumstances become each other's lifelines. If they were to ever meet in person, one of them would have to die because electricity causes one to have life-threatening seizures- and electricity keeps the other's damaged heart beating. [660L](P706)

***Bone Gap\**** (Laura Ruby) 18-year old Finn lives with his older brother, who left medical school to take care of him, a situation that makes them both unhappy. The bright point in their life is Roza, a girl with a mysterious past whom they took in. But when Roza goes missing, Finn is the only person who believes something terrible has happened in the haunting small-town Bone Gap. [810L](P373)

***Boy in the Black Suit\**** (Jason Reynolds) Struggling with the death of his mother and his father's alcoholism, 17-year-old Matt lands a job at the local funeral home. Between the wisdom of his new boss, the experience of a funny and fierce girl, and a mystery involving his best friend, Matt finds strength to face the trials of life. [760L](P592)

***Carve the Mark\**** (Veronica Roth) In a violent galaxy where everyone develops a unique power to shape the future, a warlord uses his sister's gift to conquer. When his soldiers capture brothers from another tribe, one of whom has the power to negate other people's gifts, Cyra and Akos can work in friendship to survive and escape, or their gifts can destroy each other. New from the author of *Divergent!* [780L](P468)

***Fake ID\**** (Lamar Giles) In this thriller, Nick, a high schooler in Witness Protection, is forced to continually switch identities and try to fit in new schools. When his first new friend is

shockingly found dead, Nick is sucked into a deadly web of secrets. [640L](P303)

***Girls Like Us\**** (Gail Giles) Two girls with disabilities, graduates of a special education program, become roommates. Quincy, hardened by life and wise beyond her years, tries to look out for the timid Bidy, who must become brave enough to do the same in this powerful book about facing a cruel world without the advantages most people have but with a special wisdom most people will never find. [570L](P210)

***Luna\**** (Julie Anne Peters) Regan's brother Liam is living a double life by night... as a beautiful girl named Luna, who is not sure if the world is ready to accept her. While Luna struggles with her self-identity, Regan struggles with keeping Luna's secrets and what it means to be the sister of a transgender person. [500L](P248)

***The Kiss of Deception\**** (Mary E. Pearson) A princess flees from an arranged political marriage to a simpler life in a tucked-away village by the sea. Two men arrive seeking her. One is the prince she jilted, come to settle the score; the other, an assassin to make sure she never marries to form an alliance that will strengthen her kingdom. First in a solid fantasy trilogy. [830L](P492)

***The Sun Is Also a Star\**** (Nicola Yoon) Natasha's family, undocumented immigrants from Jamaica, is facing deportation when she meets Daniel on the streets of New York, a boy under family pressure to get into Yale and become a doctor. Their single day together is the most bittersweet love story since *Eleanor and Park*. [650L](P348)

***Salt to the Sea\**** (Ruta Sepetys) Caught between the Soviet and German armies in the last horrific days of World

War II, several refugee teens struggle to get on board a ship that will evacuate them to safety while the ghosts of their pasts and the dangers they are in close around them. The story of the Wilhem Gusthoff ship evacuation is a little-known but powerful, moving chapter in the story of WWII. [560L](P393)

***The Serpent King\**** (Jeff Zentner) A powerful story of poverty, abuse, grief, bullying, faith, friendship, and resilience. Dill, a high school senior, feels trapped by his reputation as the son of a disgraced, imprisoned minister. In his smothering small town, his only outlets are music and the strength of his best friends. [630L](P384)

***Shadowshaper*** (Daniel Jose Older) Sierra Santiago planned to enjoy her summer painting with friends. When a zombie crashes the party, her grandfather starts babbling mysteriously, and her friend disappears, Sierra discovers a magic of ancestral spirits in paintings and the magic of her own heritage. [690L](P297)

***To All the Boys I've Loved Before\**** (Jenny Han) Lara Song wrote letters about every boy she ever liked, trying to talk herself out of liking them. They're meant for her eyes only, but then her letters are accidentally mailed. What follows is mischief and the light-hearted chaos of having her private life become public. [630L](P369)

***The Wrath and the Dawn\**** (Renee Abdieh) In this re-telling of the *Arabian Nights*, the cruel Caliph takes a new bride each day and kills her each night. When her best friend becomes his victim, 16-year-old Shahrzad volunteers as the next bride to get revenge and end his reign. But the Caliph is not at all what she expected, and she is paralyzed by self-doubt in a world of secrets. [690L](P388)

## Non-Fiction Choices

### ***The Boys Who Challenged Hitler\****

(Phillip Hoose) Two teenagers engage in acts of sabotage against the German army invading Denmark become war heroes who inspire the Danish resistance. [970L](P208)

### ***Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard\**** (Liz Murray)

An incredible memoir of a girl who survived drug-addicted parents, the trauma of being a neglected child, a mother dying of AIDS, and living on the streets to get a scholarship and go to college against all odds.(P334)

### ***Courage to Soar\**** (Simone Biles)

Olympic gold medalist Biles tells how her early life in foster care, faith, family, dreams, the joy she takes in her sport, and acts of courage all kept her focused on her gymnastics dreams. [990L](P256)

### ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks\**** (Rebecca Skloot)

In the 1950's, a woman developed cancer. In the hospital, her cells were taken, and since then, they have been used in scientific and medical research from cancer to cloning to the atomic bomb. However, the cells were taken and used without the consent of her family, and so this science story becomes a story of human interest, the ethics of science, and the effects of poverty on having a say over our health. [1140L](P370)

### ***March: Book One\**** (John Lewis) Rep.

John Lewis tells his personal story of participation in the Civil Rights movement in a graphic novel. Book One of *March* tells Lewis's story of growing up in Jim Crow Alabama, meeting Martin Luther King, Jr., and the lunch counter sit-ins. [760L](P128)

### ***My Cubs: A Love Story\**** (Scott Simon)

The author, a lifelong Cubs fan and Chicago native, explores the relationship between the Cubs and the city, the curses and legends haunting the team, how a losing team inspired diehard fandom, and their World Series win.(P145)

### ***The Radioactive Boy Scout\**** (Ken Silverstein)

While working toward a Boy Scout badge, a teenager channeled his

love of science into building a nuclear reactor in his backyard. He got so far along in his efforts that when the Feds finally caught up with him, the EPA used Superfund money to clean up the shed. [1300L](P209)

### ***Rise of the Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled Us, from Missiles to the Moon to Mars\**** (Nathalia Holt)

The story of the smart young women in the '40s and '50s who broke gender barriers to lay the foundation for U.S. space travel by writing equations and computing numbers. In addition to science, this book shows the women's personal, human stories and a changing American society as they made their mark in the workplace. (P338)

### ***Shoe Dog\**** (Phil Knight)

The Nike founder finally opens up about his company's early days, the risks he took, his setbacks, the heroic coaches and love of sports which inspired him, and the company's growth into one of the world's most iconic brands. (P386)

## ***Accelerated and AP English***

### **Accelerated English 108:**

#### ***How to Win Friends and Influence People\**** (Dale Carnegie)

This book's time-tested advice has carried thousands of now-famous people up the ladder of success in their business and personal lives. Achieve your potential through mastery of fundamental techniques in handling people. Learn ways to make people like you and change thinking without creating resentment.

[1020L](P236)

**A late schedule change into this class without this novel will put you severely behind. It is the first unit of study. Please check your schedule carefully and allow yourself enough time to have it done!**

### **Accelerated English 208:**

#### ***Fahrenheit 451\**** (Ray Bradbury)

In futuristic America, where television rules and literature is going extinct, one man must question everything he's ever known about what he thought was a safe world.(P190) \*\*\*Please see website for specific assignment!\*\*\*

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### **AP Language English 319:**

***Outliers* \*** (Malcolm Gladwell) What makes high achievers different-- how did they get to be the best and brightest? In this collection interesting trivia about successful "outliers," Gladwell identifies the secret patterns among backgrounds, cultural legacies, and opportunities that create potential and success. [1080L] \*\*\*Please see website for specific assignment!\*\*\*

**A late schedule change into AP Lang without this summer reading will put you severely behind. If there is even the slightest possibility you will be in AP Lang, you still NEED to do this assignment. Exceptions cannot be made for late schedule changes. Please be prepared for the rigor of this task and the class.**

### **AP Literature English 419:**

#### ***How to Read Literature Like a Professor\**** (Thomas C. Foster) plus

selected short stories/poems [1150L](P336) \*\*\*Please see website for specific assignment!\*\*\*

\*The assignments for this course are very specific\* If you are taking English 419, your junior year teacher will provide you with the materials or you can locate them from the CHS website and in the Summer Reading Schoology group.

**A late schedule change into AP Lit without this summer reading will put you severely behind. If there is even the slightest possibility you will be in AP Lit, you still NEED to do this assignment. Exceptions cannot be made for late schedule changes. Please be prepared for the rigor of this task and the class.**

\* = Overdrive e-book;  = audiobook

L = Lexile level P= # of pages

**Instructions for accessing E-books in Overdrive:**

<http://chs.d211.org/academics/media->

**You can also talk about the books with us in the Schoology group online, access code 57BWB-X7DHF .**

**CHS library is open this summer.**

**Good scene in your book? Great quote? Love a character, a plot twist? Tweet at us! #CHSsummerreading #ConantCougars**