

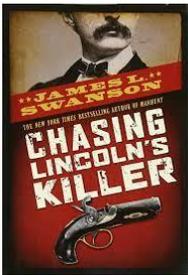


2021-2022 RISING ELEVENTH GRADE ON-LEVEL AMERICAN LITERATURE SUMMER READING

Eleventh grade students should read **two** books: one is a required novel, and one is a book of choice from the list provided. Both book selections must be read by the first day of school.

REQUIRED BOOK #1 -- WHOLE CLASS NOVEL

Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson



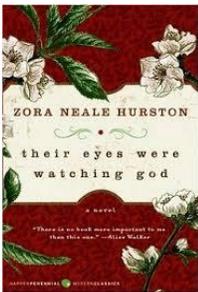
Overview:

Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia.

- Students must **ANNOTATE** the text for characterization and evidence that connects each of the main characters to the assassination plot of President Lincoln. (Characters include: John Wilkes Booth, George Atzerodt, David Harold, Lewis Powell, and Mary Surratt)
- Students will use their books and annotations for an in-class writing assignment during the first week of class.

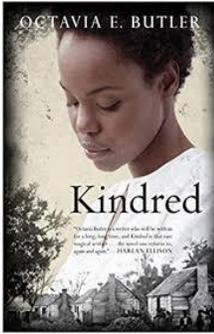
REQUIRED BOOK #2 -- CHOOSE ONE from the list below.

*Book Summaries taken from GoodReads and Amazon



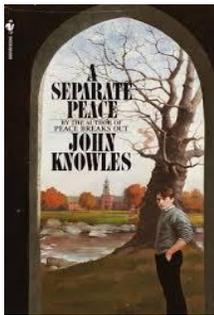
1. *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston

One of the most important and enduring books of the twentieth century, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences' rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston's classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.



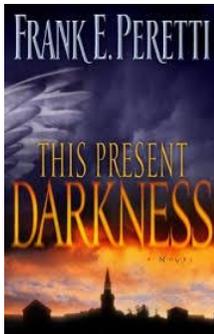
2. *Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler

Dana, a modern black woman, is celebrating her twenty-sixth birthday with her new husband when she is snatched abruptly from her home in California and transported to the antebellum South. Rufus, the white son of a plantation owner, is drowning, and Dana has been summoned to save him. Dana is drawn back repeatedly through time to the slave quarters, and each time the stay grows longer, more arduous, and more dangerous until it is uncertain whether or not Dana's life will end, long before it has a chance to begin.



3. *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

Set at a boys' boarding school in New England during the early years of World War II, *A Separate Peace* is a harrowing and luminous parable of the dark side of adolescence. Gene is a lonely, introverted intellectual. Phineas is a handsome, taunting, daredevil athlete. What happens between the two friends one summer, like the war itself, banishes the innocence of these boys and their world.

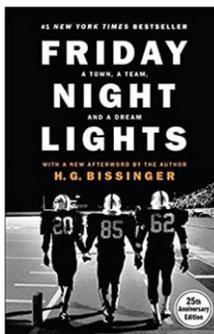


4. *This Present Darkness* by Frank Peretti

Ashton is just a typical small town. But when a skeptical reporter and a prayerful, hard-working pastor begin to investigate mysterious events, they suddenly find themselves caught up in a hideous New Age plot to enslave the townspeople, and eventually the entire human race. The physical world meets the spiritual realm as the battle rages between forces of good and evil.

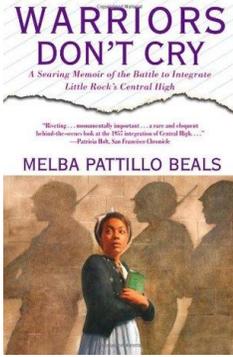
"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

Ephesians 6:12



5. *Friday Night Lights* by H.G. Bissinger

A profile of the town of Odessa, Texas, and its high school football team--the Panthers, the high school team with the best winning record in Texas history--chronicles its dramatic 1988 season and focuses on the bitter struggle between sports and education. Odessa is not known to be a town big on dreams, but the Panthers help keep the hopes and dreams of this small, dusty town going. Socially and racially divided, its fragile economy follows the treacherous boom-bust path of the oil business. But every Friday night from September to December, when the Permian High School Panthers play football, dreams can come true.



6. *Warriors Don't Cry* by Melba Pattillo Beals

In 1957, well before Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Melba Pattillo Beals and eight other teenagers became iconic symbols for the Civil Rights Movement and the dismantling of Jim Crow in the American South as they integrated Little Rock's Central High School in the wake of the landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling, *Brown v. Board of Education*. Throughout her harrowing ordeal, Melba was taunted by her schoolmates and their parents, threatened by a lynch mob's rope, attacked with lighted sticks of dynamite, and injured by acid sprayed in her eyes. But through it all, she acted with dignity and courage, and refused to back down.

- Students must **CREATE** a "one-pager" based on their chosen text. See [examples of one-pagers here](#) to get an idea of what is expected. These are due on the first day of school.
- You may utilize one of the eight templates [HERE](#) or create your own similar one. The one-pager must address the requirements that follow this page; this will function as a rubric as well.

Your Name: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

[REMEMBER: Each of the following MUST be written out in complete (but not “run-on”) sentences. If the instructions ask for a paragraph, write a FULL and COMPLETE paragraph. Be sure to break up all answers in the same categories and title them correctly].

KNOWLEDGE: (___/10)

1. List five new words you learned in the book. Write down their dictionary pronunciation and meaning. (5 points)
2. What other books has this author written or what are similar books? (5 points)

COMPREHENSION: (___/20)

1. Complete a timeline on the events of the story. (10 points)
2. Explain if it is a tragedy or a comedy; argue your point. (10 points)

APPLICATION: (___/10)

1. If you were in a problem situation like one in the book, how would you have acted? Be sure to tell what the situation is. (5 points)

ANALYSIS: (___/10)

1. Tell three ways the main character is (or is NOT) like you. (5 points)
2. Compare at least one literary element from this book to another book. (5 points)

SYNTHESIS: (___/10)

1. What part would you change in the story/conflict/character, and why? (5 points)
2. Choose an interesting character from your book. Think of what his/her (dis)likes are; then think of a gift you would like to give him/her. Explain. (5 points)

EVALUATION : 10 points each --ALL ARE PARAGRAPHS (___/40)

1. Who do you think the author intended to read this book and why?
2. If you could only save one character from the book in the event of a disaster, which one would it be and why?
3. What did you think was the most interesting part of the book? Why?
4. Provide your favorite quote of the book, examining how it relates to your life.

TOTAL SCORE: _____/100 ASSESSMENT POINTS