



# NINTH GRADE LITERATURE



## SUMMER READING

### DIRECTIONS

This booklist is a compilation of readings in various genres: the novel, biography, short story and poetry. An effort has been made to include different careers, experiences and ethnicities in order to prepare the incoming students for the focus of the ninth grade English and theology courses.

Each student is asked to read the following book:

Stratton, Allan.

#### **CHANDA'S SECRET.**

Set in Sub-Saharan Africa, this is a sixteen-year-old girl's story of courage and strength in the midst of secrets surrounding family, friendship, and illness. It presents the many issues anyone would meet when faced with HIV/AIDS and its consequences.

In addition, each student is required to read one more title from this list. The choice for this second title is the student's choice.

An annotated listing may be found on the Holy Names Academy website by clicking on [Academics](#) and then choosing [Reading Lists](#) from the side bar. URL: <http://www.holynames-sea.org>

### NOVELS

Austen, Jane.

#### **EMMA.**

Emma Woodhouse, rich, clever, beautiful, and somewhat spoiled, takes Harriet Smith, a boarder, under her wing. She then proceeds with unwise attempts at matchmaking resulting in many complications.

Baldwin, James.

#### **GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN.**

On his fourteenth birthday, John experienced a religious conversion. His story is set against those of three generations of blacks in Harlem.

Bedford, Simi.

**YORUBA GIRL DANCING.**

A young Nigerian girl, Remi, is sent to an English boarding school where she is the only black caught between two cultures and has to learn who she really is—and truly be a Yoruba girl dancing.

Bradbury, Ray.

**FAHRENHEIT 451.**

In this future society, firemen do not fight fires, they ignite them. It is a crime to read or own a book.

Craven, Margaret.

**I HEARD THE OWL CALL MY NAME.**

Mark, a young vicar, arrives in a Kwakiutl village where he watches an English anthropologist and government officials try to change the traditional ways and where he becomes one with the villagers and their ways.

Crew, Linda.

**CHILDREN OF THE RIVER.**

Sundara, a Cambodian teenager, fled to America after the Vietnam War with an aunt and uncle. She longs to know the fate of her parents who stayed behind even as she tries to fit into the American way.

Dickens, Charles.

**GREAT EXPECTATIONS.**

In nineteenth century England, a young orphan boy runs away from a workhouse and is captured by a gang of thieves only to escape and find the truth of his past.

Doyle, Arthur C.

**SHERLOCK HOLMES.**

The brilliant analytical detective Sherlock Holmes and his friend Dr. Watson put Scotland Yard to shame as they outwit the villainous Moriarty.

Eliot, George (Marianne Evans).

**SILAS MARNER.**

The heartwarming novel of a miser and a little child is rich in understanding the human condition.

Gibbons, Kaye.

**ELLEN FOSTER.**

Having suffered abuse and misfortune for much of her life, a young child searches for a better life and finally gets a break in the home of a loving woman with several foster children.

.Hegi, Ursula.

**FLOATING IN MY MOTHER'S PALM.**

Hanna Malter, a young girl growing up in 1950's Burgdorf, a small German town, relates a series of intimate vignettes and tales about the townspeople exposing their secret lives.

Kirchner, Bharti.

**SHIVA DANCING.**

Meena Kamari was born in India, adopted by an American couple, raised in the United States, and now returns to locate her village and rediscover her personal history.

Knowles, John.

**A SEPARATE PEACE.**

Gene and Phineas, classmates, survive fraternity hazing, but not without an accident that could change their relationship forever.

LaFarge, Oliver.

**LAUGHING BOY.**

The story of the romance between a Navajo boy and girl.

L'Engle, Madeleine.

**MANY WATERS.**

Twins, Sandy and Dennys, travel to the time of Noah where their adventures make it doubtful that they will survive The Flood. A delight in the Wrinkle In Time series.

Lewis, C. S.

**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA.**

Seven tales of extraordinary excursions into magical lands and enchanted happenings.

Lowry, Lois.

**THE GIVER.**

Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of the Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.

McCaffrey, Anne.

**PEGASUS IN FLIGHT.**

Rhyssa Owen, a telepath, coordinates job assignments for two psychically gifted Talents, young people who assist making life easier for the less able.

Montgomery, Lucy Maud.

**ANNE OF GREEN GABLES.**

Read any of this series about a young girl adopted by Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert. Her exploits among the residents of Prince Edward Island bring many smiles and frowns.

Myers, Walter Dean.

**FALLEN ANGELS.**

Seventeen-year-old Richie Perry, just out of his Harlem high school, enlists in the Army in the summer of 1967 and spends a devastating year on active duty in Vietnam.

Myers, Walter.

**CRYSTAL.**

A young black girl enters the world of fashion where she confronts varying values of money, glamour, fame and demands that take her from family, friends and normal adolescent concerns.

Roy, Gabriella.

**THE TIN FLUTE.**

Florentine is the eldest child of a very poor family living in Montreal during World War II. This is a story of an impoverished family, troubled love, and mixed ideals. The youngest child holds the dream: a shiny tin flute.

Shute, Nevil.

**A TOWN LIKE ALICE.**

A young woman miraculously survives a Japanese "death march" and meets an Australian prisoner of war who helps her at the cost of his own life.

Smith, Betty.

**A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN.**

The Nolans lived in the slums of Brooklyn. Their children suffer, yet grow with a wisdom seldom seen in the midst of such poverty.

Taylor, Mildred.

**ROLL OF THUNDER HEAR MY CRY.**

A black family living in the South during the 1930's is faced with prejudice and discrimination. (You may also choose one of the other titles of this series: The Land, Road to Memphis, Let the Circle be Unbroken.)

Tolkein, J.R.R.

**THE HOBBIT.**

Bilbo Baggins, an upstanding dwarf, is swept into the adventure of his life as he meets giant spiders, hostile wolves and various other creatures, finally winning a magic ring from Gollum who lives beneath the earth.

Tsukiyama, Gail.

**WOMEN OF THE SILK.**

Pei, a young Chinese girl, arrives at the silk factory where she works 12 hour days while sharing a communal life with the other girls. Silk industry details are interwoven throughout this story which relates close bonds, tradition and dreams for all the young women.

Voight, Cynthia.

**DICEY'S SONG.**

Dacey had brought her brothers and sister safely to Gram. Now they have a safe harbor which is truly a new beginning...new friends... new school...new challenges.

**BIOGRAPHY**

Burch, Jennings M.

**THEY CAGE THE ANIMALS AT NIGHT.**

Jennings' sick mother leaves him at an orphanage where stuffed animals were taken away and "caged" while children slept. A triumphant, courageous tale.

Delaney, Sarah.

**HAVING OUR SAY: the Delany sisters first 100 years.**

Sarah and Annie tell about the African American experience over the one hundred years of their lives with great humor and wisdom.

Filipovic, Zlata.

**ZLATA'S DIARY: a child's life in Sarajevo.**

A diary begun at age eleven when life was carefree, Zlata's tone changes at age thirteen when bombs explode over Dubrovnik. We see her world changed by the violence.

Frank, Anne.

**THE DIARY OF A YOUNG GIRL.**

Thirteen-year-old Anne tells of hiding with seven other Dutch-Jewish people prior to being sent to a concentration camp during World War II.

Hart, Elva Trevino.

**BAREFOOT HEART: stories of a migrant child.**

Elva tells of growing up in a migrant family where education, family and work form the center of their lives. She tells of moving between Texas and Minnesota with vivid descriptions showing the need to rise above hostility and poverty.

Houston, Jeanne W.

**FAREWELL TO MANZANAR.**

A Japanese American family struggles to maintain its dignity, while imprisoned in an American internment camp during World War II.

King, Martin Luther, Jr.

**THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF....**

Written in his own vivid, compassionate voice, Martin Luther King, Jr. chronicles his life and times of as a world leader dedicated to non-violence.

Lord, Bette Bao.

**EIGHTH MOON.**

Sansan tells about growing up in Tientsin, China under communism and her long-awaited joyous reunion with her sister.

Markham, Beryl.

**WEST WITH THE NIGHT.**

Memoirs of Beryl Markham, who grew up in East Africa, became a bush pilot, and in 1936 made the first solo flight east to west across the Atlantic.

Mathabane, Mark,

**KAFFIR BOY: THE TRUE STORY OF A BLACK YOUTH'S COMING OF AGE IN APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA.**

Mark tells of life under apartheid with its hatred and unspeakable degradation and his triumphal escape to America.

Moody, Anne.

**COMING OF AGE IN MISSISSIPPI.**

A remarkable woman tells what it meant to grow up black in the South and survive with pride and courage intact.

Mortenson, Greg and David Oliver Relin.

**THREE CUPS OF TEA.**

After being rescued off of K2, the author's entire life focus changed to a one man mission to fight ignorance and terrorism by building one school at a time in the small remote villages of Pakistan.

Opkyde, Irene with Jennifer Armstrong.

**IN MY HANDS: MEMORIES OF A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR.**

Irene Gut's intimate and compelling memoir tells how she was able to use her Aryan looks to live and work among the Germans during World War II at the same time she was smuggling Jewish people into safety.

Specht, Robert.

**TISHA.**

Alaska, remote as the moon, is the destination of a pretty young teacher from Colorado, who is unprepared for the disparate cultures and lawlessness.

Uchida, Yoshiko.

**THE INVISIBLE THREAD.**

The invisible thread linked her family to her Japanese heritage and gave Yoshiko the strength and courage to withstand the deprivations of the dusty, desolate camp called Topaz.

**STORY COLLECTIONS**

Cisneros, Sandra.

**THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET.**

A series of vignettes which tell of Esperanza Cordero, a young girl growing up in the Hispanic quarter of Chicago.

Mazer, Anne, ed.

**A WALK IN MY WORLD.**

A collection of short stories from around the world including authors such as Valentin Rasputin, Frank O'Connor and Yasunari Kawabata.

Tashlik, Phyllis, ed.

**HISPANIC, FEMALE AND YOUNG: AN ANTHOLOGY.**

Young Latina teenagers from Manhattan East give reactions to their readings and discussions about the works of renowned female Hispanic authors by writing poems, stories, essays and interviews.

**NON-FICTION**

Preston, Richard.

**HOT ZONE.**

The dramatic story of U.S. Army scientists and the military who combined efforts to stop an outbreak of an extremely contagious and deadly virus in 1989.