

Dear Incoming McCullough Students,

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

Additionally, students are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares students for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.

**The Assignment:** Read and annotate one book from the attached **2021 or 2020 Texas Lone Star Reading List**. Students are encouraged to read more than one book over the summer, but only one is required for this assignment.

**Required for all incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade McCullough students, both level and honors.**

**Annotating:** Annotating a text is like having a conversation with a book—it allows the active reader to ask questions, comment on meaning, and mark events and passages they want to revisit. Your annotations, or notes, will be used to guide your understanding and participation in discussions about theme, literary devices, and author's choices.

- Highlight or underline important passages, words, or descriptions, and write a note as to why you identified the passage, words, or descriptions.
- Note and underline new characters when they are introduced.
- Comment on words, images, and details that seem to form a pattern throughout the novel.
- Highlight passages that you think might be symbolic and record your comments in the margins.
- Write notes in the margins (your reaction to what happens, predictions, characterizations, questions you might have for the author or about the story, etc.).
- Note interesting techniques the author used or questions you have for the author.

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Our school district has also provided us with a list of ways to access free books online:

- **Sora** (an app found in the CISD SSO Portal)
  - Free access to a variety of e-books and audiobooks.
- **Destiny Discover** (an app found in the CISD SSO Portal)
  - Check out e-books and audiobooks from our campus library
- **Montgomery County Public Library**
  - E-books and audiobooks: <https://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/elibrary>
  - Get a digital library card: <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/services/registration.html>
- **Open Library**
  - Create a free account: <https://openlibrary.org/account/create>
  - Popular titles: <https://bit.ly/2XBEwyP>
- **Project Gutenberg**
  - Free e-books: [http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/main\\_page](http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/main_page)
  - Top 100 most popular: <http://www.gutenberg.org/browse/scores/top>
- **Audible Stories**
  - Free audiobooks: <https://stories.audible.com>

**Select a book from one of these lists:**

2021 Texas Lone Star Reading List	2020 Texas Lone Star Reading List
<p>Alender, Katie—<i>The Companion</i>                      Bajpai, Nandini—<i>A Match Made in Mehendi</i>                      Barnes, Jennifer Lynn—<i>The Inheritance Games</i>                      Bowling, Dusti—<i>The Canyon’s Edge</i>                      Callender, Kacen—<i>King and the Dragonflies</i>                      Chase, Paula—<i>Turning Point</i>                      Firestone, Carrie—<i>Dress Coded</i>                      Fukuda, Andrew—<i>This Light Between Us</i>                      Gervais, Alison—<i>The Silence Between Us</i>                      Harrell, Rob—<i>Wink</i>                      Keller, Tae—<i>When You Trap a Tiger</i>                      Lee, Lyla—<i>I’ll Be the One</i>                      Lloyd-Jones, Emily—<i>The Bone Houses</i>                      Maberry, Jonathan (editor)—<i>Don’t Turn Out the Lights</i>                      Marshall, Kate Alice—<i>Thirteens</i>                      Mejia, Tehlor Kay—<i>Paola Santiago and the River of Tears</i>                      Opel, Kenneth—<i>Bloom</i>                      Patrick, Cat—<i>Tornado Brain</i>                      Ponti, James—<i>City Spies</i>                      Rhodes, Jewell Parker—<i>Black Brother, Black Brother</i>                      Robertson, David A.—<i>The Barren Grounds</i>                      Rutherford, Mara—<i>Crown of Coral and Pearl</i>                      Shovan, Laura and Saadia Faruqi—<i>A Place at the Table</i>                      Stevens, Court—<i>The June Boys</i>                      Walsh, Bee—<i>Manning Up</i></p>	<p>Arden, Katherine—<i>Small Spaces</i>                      Barnes, Jennifer Lynn—<i>The Lovely and the Lost</i>                      Blake, Ashley Herring—<i>The Mighty Heart of Sunny St. James</i>                      Donnelly, Jennifer—<i>Stepsister</i>                      Doyle, Catherine—<i>The Storm Keeper’s Island</i>                      Gemeinhart, Dan—<i>The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise</i>                      Gibbs, Stuart—<i>Charlie Thorne and the Last Equation</i>                      Giles, Lamar—<i>Spin</i>                      Greenwald, Tommy—<i>Game Changer</i>                      Hernandez, Carlos—<i>Sal and Gabi Break the Universe</i>                      Hutton, Keely—<i>Secret Soldiers</i>                      Kemmerer, Brigid—<i>A Curse So Dark and Lonely</i>                      Magoon, Kekla—<i>The Season of Styx Malone</i>                      Messner, Kate—<i>Breakout</i>                      Murphy, Julie—<i>Dear Sweet Pea</i>                      Nobel, Julia—<i>The Mystery of Black Hollow Lane</i>                      Ramèe, Lisa Moore—<i>A Good Kind of Trouble</i>                      Richmond, Caroline Tung—<i>Live in Infamy</i>                      Rogerson, Margaret—<i>Sorcery of Thorns</i>                      Warga, Jasmine—<i>Other Words for Home</i></p>

The Texas Lone Star list is a recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table. The purpose of the list is to encourage students in grades 6, 7, or 8 to explore a variety of current books. The Lone Star list is intended for recreational reading, not to support a specific curriculum. Due to the diversity of this age range, Texas librarians should purchase titles on this list according to their individual collection policies. The annotated Lone Star Reading List, past Lone Star Reading selections, and additional resources are available at:

<http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star>