

## Summer Reading 2023-2024

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors English III

#### **Required Reading:\***

- *Into the Wild* by John Krakauer

"In April 1992, a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. His name was Christopher Johnson McCandless. He had given \$25,000 in savings to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet, and invented a new life for himself. Four months later, a party of moose hunters found his decomposed body. How McCandless came to die is the unforgettable story of *Into the Wild*." (Goodreads)

**\*Students must complete the summer reading guide for the required text *Into the Wild*. The reading guide is posted on the final page of the summer reading list.\***

#### **American Literature choice (Be prepared to give an oral book report to the teacher the first week of school):\***

- *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

"With more than two million copies in print, *The Things They Carried* is a classic work of American literature that has been changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene. It is a groundbreaking meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling. *In the Lake of the Woods* is an unforgettable novel of love and mystery. When long-hidden secrets about his past come to light, John Wade—a Vietnam veteran and recent candidate for the U.S. Senate—retreats with his wife to a cabin in northern Minnesota. She mysteriously vanishes and several explanations, all of them disturbing, rise to the surface." (GoodReads)

- *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote

On November 15, 1959, in the small town of Holcomb, Kansas, four members of the Clutter family were savagely murdered by blasts from a shotgun held a few inches from their faces. There was no apparent motive for the crime, and there were almost no clues. (GoodReads)

- *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines

*A Lesson Before Dying* is set in a small Cajun community in the late 1940s. Jefferson, a young black man, is an unwitting party to a liquor store shoot out in which three men are killed; the only survivor, he is convicted of murder and sentenced to death. Grant Wiggins, who left his hometown for the university, has returned to the plantation school to teach. As he struggles with his decision whether to stay or escape to another state, his aunt and Jefferson's godmother persuade him to visit Jefferson in his cell and impart his learning and his pride to Jefferson before his death. In the end, the two men forge a bond as they both come to understand the simple heroism of resisting and defying the expected. Ernest J. Gaines brings to this novel the same rich sense of place, the same deep understanding of the human psyche, and the same compassion for a people and their struggle that have informed his previous, highly praised works of fiction. (GoodReads)

- *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

Four mothers, four daughters, four families, whose histories shift with the four winds depending on who's telling the stories. In 1949, four Chinese women, recent immigrants to San Francisco, meet weekly to play mahjong and tell stories of what they left behind in China. United in loss and new hope for their daughters' futures, they call themselves the Joy Luck Club. Their daughters, who have never heard these stories, think their mothers' advice is irrelevant to their modern American lives – until their own inner crises reveal how much they've unknowingly inherited of their mothers' pasts. (GoodReads)

- *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

For years, rumors of the “Marsh Girl” haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet fishing village. Kya Clark is barefoot and wild; unfit for polite society. So in late 1969, when the popular Chase Andrews is found dead, locals immediately suspect her. (GoodReads)

**Reading Guide – *Into the Wild***

11<sup>th</sup> Grade Standard English

<b>Title:</b> <b>Author:</b> <b>Date of Publication:</b> <b>Genre:</b>	<b>Biographical Information about the Author:</b>
<b>Characteristics of the Genre:</b>	

<b>Plot Summary: (exposition, rising action-conflict, climax, falling action, resolution)</b>	
<b>Exposition:</b>	
<b>Rising Action (usually driven by conflict):</b>	
<b>Climax (character makes a choice):</b>	
<b>Falling Action:</b>	
<b>Resolution:</b>	
<b>Connect to an outside context: (historical)</b>	<b>Connect to an outside context: (current issue)</b>
<u><b>Memorable Quotes</b></u>	

Quotes and page number (required):	Significance of each quote: (and literary device if applicable)

Characters			
Name	Role in Story (protagonist, antagonist, foil, antihero, etc.)	Significance	Adjectives

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Setting(s)	Significance of Opening Scene
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	<b>Significance of Ending or Closing Scene</b>
<b>Symbols</b>	<b>Biblical References</b>
	<div>1.</div> <div>2.</div> <div>3.</div>
<b>Possible Themes</b>	