

# CRLS Summer Reading 2014



The following brochure contains the directions for the summer reading. All students are expected to read their **grade-level book**, as well as **one additional book** from the summer reading choice list.

Reading over the summer will help your reading, writing, and thinking skills so you can succeed in your English class — and in school — next year!

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## CRLS Summer Reading 2014 Guidelines

The CRLS English department would like all of our students to enjoy and learn from reading. The goals of the summer reading program are for students to:

- Read interesting books throughout the year
- Continue thinking and learning throughout the year



### Directions

- Students are expected to read their **grade-level book** (pages 4-5). Additionally, you will read a **second book** from the summer reading choice list (pages 12-19).
- If you are taking multiple English classes next year (ie. English 11 and a senior elective), **you should read the required book** for each class you will take.
- Please pay close attention to the directions for your grade-level **summer reading assessment** (on pages 6-11). This assessment will count for 5% of your English class grade, either first or second semester.

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**Visit the website for the summer reading program at:**

[http://www3.cpsd.us/department/summer\\_reading](http://www3.cpsd.us/department/summer_reading)

**Summer Book Discussions**

The Cambridge Public Library will offer book discussions this summer for each grade. Students are encouraged to attend the discussion session for their grade for an opportunity to talk to librarians and to their classmates about the grade-level books:

- Grade 9: Thursday, August 7, 2:00pm
- Grade 10: Thursday, August 14, 2:00pm
- Grade 11: Thursday, August 21, 2:00pm
- Grade 12: Thursday, August 28, 2:00pm

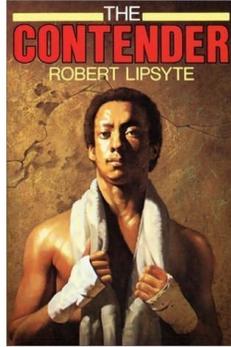
All book discussion sessions will take place in the Teen Room at the Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway.

If a movie version of the grade-level book is available, it will be shown at the discussion session.



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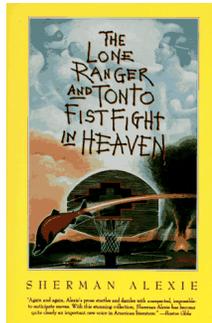
Summer Reading: Grade-Level Book List



**Grade 9: Identity**

***The Contender, Robert Lipsyte***

Alfred's life is going nowhere fast. He's a high-school dropout working at a grocery store. His best friend is drifting behind a haze of drugs and violence, and now some street punks are harassing him for something he didn't do. Feeling powerless and afraid, Alfred gathers up the courage to visit Donatelli's Gym, the neighborhood's boxing club. He wants to be a champion--on the streets and in his own life. Slowly he learns that a winner isn't necessarily the one standing when the fight is over.



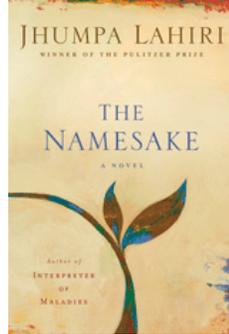
**Grade 10: Power**

***The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven, Sherman Alexie***

In this darkly funny short story collection, Alexie weaves fantasy and realism to paint a complex portrait of life in and around the Spokane Indian Reservation. These inter-linked tales are narrated by characters filled with passion and affection. For example, nine-year-old Victor crawls between his unconscious parents hoping that the alcohol seeping through their skins might help him sleep; Jimmy Many Horses, dying of cancer, writes on stationery that reads "From the Death Bed of James Many Horses III." Against a backdrop of car accidents and basketball, Alexie poetically depicts the distances between modern Indians and the traditions of the past.

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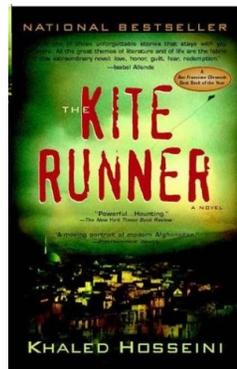
Summer Reading: Grade-Level Book List



### **Grade 11: The American Dream**

#### ***The Namesake, Jhumpa Lahiri***

After their arranged marriage in India, Ashoke and Ashima Ganguli move to Cambridge, MA, where they start their family. Although adjusting to life in America is hard for the Gangulis, it is particularly challenging for their son Gogol, named for a Russian writer by his father in memory of a catastrophic accident years before. Gogol hates his odd name which is neither American nor Indian, and he struggles to find himself, from changing his name to searching for love, as he attempts to understand his parents, who came from a very different world but love him nevertheless.



### **Grade 12: Electives**

#### ***The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini***

In 1975, Amir and Hassan run the streets of Kabul, Afghanistan. This is before the revolution, before the Taliban, before terrorists. However, their relationship is complex, as Hassan and his father are the servants of Amir and his father. When Amir has to make a choice to stand up for his best friend or stay silent, he doesn't know that the repercussions of that choice will haunt him for years. Life is only complicated further when Afghanistan is invaded by Russia, setting in motion political events that affected all of us on September 11, 2001.

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## Summer Reading Assessment

### Overview



This year's summer reading assessment will ask you to respond to your grade-level summer reading book in various ways:

- To understand what happened in the book
- To demonstrate your critical thinking about the book
- To make personal connections to the book

As you read this summer, you will prepare for the **assessment** for your English class (September or January).

**Each grade level (9, 10, 11, 12, AP) will have a different assessment with its own set of directions, so it is very important that you read pages 7-11 carefully.**

You will also be able to download all instructions, as well as additional supporting materials to help you read and understand your book, at the Summer Reading website:

[http://www3.cpsd.us/departments/summer\\_reading](http://www3.cpsd.us/departments/summer_reading)

Remember that this will be worth 5% of your English grade, so do your best!

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## **Summer Reading Assessment**

### **Grade 9: The Contender**

As you read *The Contender*, keep a **journal** in which you track:

- The plot
- The characters
- The conflicts or problems faced by these characters
- The main idea or themes of the book
- Your own thoughts about and connections to the book

You will bring your journal to school with you and use it to help you complete your **summer reading writing assessment in your English class**. This assessment will ask you to write about how one character in *The Contender* changes over the course of the book.

You should have **at least 10 journal entries** and **no more than 15 journal entries**. Your journal for *The Contender* (and for your choice book if you keep one) will count toward your summer reading grade!

We recommend you use the double-entry journal method. You can download blank double-entry journal pages at the Summer Reading website:

[http://www3.cpsd.us/department/summer\\_reading](http://www3.cpsd.us/department/summer_reading)

<b>TEXT WITH PAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>REACTION/REFLECTION TO TEXT</b>
Choose a passage from the text that stands out to you (you like it, you dislike it, you think it's important, it makes you think). You may want to focus on passages that help you to think about and understand the main character.	Guiding Questions to think about in responding to chosen passage: What does this make me think about? What does this help me understand about the character(s)? How does this show character change? How does this help me understand the plot? How does this affect the conflict?
Student response here	Student response here

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## **Summer Reading Assessment**

### **Grade 10: The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven**

**Directions:** After you read *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, you will complete a graphic organizer chart using the story “Indian Education” and three other stories from the book (your choice).

For each story, you will identify the main theme (the central meaning/idea of the story) and supporting evidence (quotations) from the story.

You will receive a paper copy of the graphic organizer before the end of the school year, but you can also download extra copies at the summer reading website:

[http://www3.cpsd.us/departments/summer\\_reading](http://www3.cpsd.us/departments/summer_reading)

Make sure you bring this completed document to school, and **take careful notes, as you will need them on the first, full day of English 10.**

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## Summer Reading Assessment

### **Grade 11: The Namesake**

**Directions:** As you read *The Namesake*, take notes that help you develop responses to the following Socratic Seminar questions. You will prepare a written response that includes textual evidence for each of the questions below. You will bring this to class at the beginning of the semester (September or January), and participate in a guided discussion of the book. This assignment (both the written response and your verbal participation in the discussion) will count for 5% of your English 11 grade.

1. Jhumpa Lahiri has said, "The question of identity is always a difficult one, but especially for those who are culturally displaced, as immigrants are...who grow up in two worlds simultaneously." How does Gogol try to remake his identity, after choosing to rename himself, and what is the result? How do our names define us? What do you think Gogol wants most from his life? How is it different from what his family wants for him? Do you want something different for yourself from what your parents want for you?
2. Lahiri has said of *The Namesake*, "America is a real presence [like another character] in the book; the characters must struggle and come to terms with what it means to live here, to be brought up here, to belong and not belong here." Did *The Namesake* allow you to think of America in a new way? Do you agree that "America is a real presence" in *The Namesake*? How is India also a "presence" in the book?
3. Did you find the ending of *The Namesake* surprising? What did you expect from Moushumi and Gogol's marriage? Is Gogol a victim at the end of the book? In the last few pages of *The Namesake*, Gogol begins to read "The Overcoat" for the first time—the book his father gave him, by his "namesake." Where do you imagine Gogol will go from here?

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## **Summer Reading Assessment**

### **Grade 12/Electives: The Kite Runner**

**Directions:** Please prepare written responses to the following questions after you read *The Kite Runner* this summer. You will bring these responses to your English teacher at the beginning of the semester (September or January) and participate in one or more classroom activities based on your reading and your responses.

1. Write a thematic summary of the book that includes all relevant elements of fiction.
2. Record a quotation from the book that you found particularly interesting or important. Discuss the quotation (context and analysis) and how it relates to your thematic summary.
3. Reflect on how this book connects to your life or the world around you. This could be a personal experience in your life that is similar to the book, a connection you see between the book and current events, or a question or issue that reading this book makes you think about.
4. Please write down the author and title of your choice book. Would you recommend this book to other students? Why or why not? (1 paragraph maximum)

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## **Summer Reading Assessment**

### **AP English Literature & Composition AP English Language & Composition**

AP students are expected to read three books this summer: their grade-level required book and two additional books from either the AP Lit & Comp or the AP Lang & Comp selected reading list.

Please note: students planning to take both AP ELA courses next year should choose one book from each AP course's reading list.

AP teachers will provide the reading lists and more specific directions and expectations at one or more informational meetings after June 1. AP students should read the "Did You Know" and listen for announcements about these AP English informational meetings, at which the these directions and expectations will be explained and clarified.

This information will also be available to download at the Summer Reading website:

[http://www3.cpsd.us/departments/summer\\_reading](http://www3.cpsd.us/departments/summer_reading)

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▶ Summer Reading: Choice Book List

**Directions:** All students are expected to read at least ONE choice book in addition to their grade level book for a total of **TWO** books. Students may choose their choice book from any list on pages 12-19 regardless of their grade level. Books labeled with \* are more challenging reads.

**Contemporary Literature**

*Dare Me*, Megan Abbott  
*The White Tiger*, Aravind Adiga  
*Speak*, Laurie Halse Anderson  
*The Future of Us*, Jay Asher & Carolyn Mackler  
*Tyrell*, Coe Booth  
*My Name is Memory*, Ann Brashares  
*Hate List*, Jennifer Brown  
*Little Bee*, Chris Cleave  
*Ready Player One*, Ernest Cline  
*The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, Stephen Chbosky  
*Love Sick*, Jake Coburn  
*Very LeFreak*, Rachel Cohn  
*Claire of the Sea Light*, Edwidge Danticat  
*Mexican Whiteboy*, Matt de la Pena  
*That Summer*, Sarah Dessen  
*Big Girl Small*, Rachel DeWoskin  
*Little Brother*, Cory Doctorow  
*Room*, Emma Donoghue  
*Forged by Fire* series, Sharon Draper (choose one)  
*Middlesex*, Jeffrey Eugenides  
*The View from the Top*, Hillary Frank  
*The Fault in Our Stars*, John Green  
*Will Grayson, Will Grayson*, John Green & David Levithan  
*Jazmin's Notebook*, Nikki Grimes  
*Water for Elephants*, Sara Gruen

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Summer Reading: Choice Book List

**Contemporary Literature, continued**

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*,  
Mark Haddon

*The Summer I Turned Pretty*, Jenny Han

*Burn for Burn*, Jenny Han & Siobhan Vivian

*Horns*, Joe Hill

*Everybody Sees the Ants*, A.S. King

*The Taqwacores*, Michael Muhammad Knight

*The Monster Variations*, Daniel Kraus

*Interpreter of Maladies*, Jhumpa Lahiri

*Every Day*, David Levithan

*Life of Pi*, Yann Martel

*Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass*, Meg  
Medina

*Easy Rawlins Mysteries series*, Walter Mosley  
(choose one)

*The Sky is Everywhere*, Jandy Nelson

*Bel Canto*, Ann Patchett

*12 Things to Do Before You Crash and Burn*,  
James Proimos

*The Things a Brother Knows*, Dana Reinhardt

*I'll Be There*, Holly Goldberg Sloan

*When You Reach Me*, Rebecca Stead

*Marcelo in the Real World*, Francisco X. Stork

*We the Animals*, Justin Torres

*Freaks Like Us*, Susan Vaught

*The List*, Siobhan Vivian

*Small Town Sinners*, Melissa Walker

*Salvage the Bones*, Jesmyn Ward

*Winter's Bone*, Daniel Woodrell

*If You Come Softly*, Jacqueline Woodson

*Paper Valentine*, Brenna Yovanoff

*Food, Girls, and Other Things I Can't Have*, Allen  
Zadoff

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Summer Reading: Choice Book List

**Classic Literature**

*\*In the Time of the Butterflies*, Julia Alvarez  
*\*Sense and Sensibility*, Jane Austen  
*\*Jane Eyre*, Charlotte Bronte  
*\*Manchild in the Promised Land*, Claude Brown  
*\*In Cold Blood*, Truman Capote  
*My Antonia*, Willa Cather  
*The Chocolate War*, Robert Cormier  
*Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens  
*\*Crime and Punishment*, Fyodor Dostoevsky  
*\*The Invisible Man*, Ralph Ellison  
*\*Madame Bovary*, Gustave Flaubert  
*The Old Man and the Sea*, Ernest Hemingway  
*\*Snow Country*, Yasunari Kawabata  
*On the Road*, Jack Kerouac  
*\*Passing*, Nella Larsen  
*\*One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
*Sula*, Toni Morrison  
*1984*, George Orwell  
*\*The Republic*, Plato  
*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, Betty Smith  
*The Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck  
*\*Dracula*, Bram Stoker  
*\*Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy  
*Slaughterhouse-Five*, Kurt Vonnegut  
*The Color Purple*, Alice Walker  
*\*All the King's Men*, Robert Penn Warren  
*\*House of Mirth*, Edith Wharton  
*\*Mrs. Dalloway*, Virginia Woolf  
*\*Black Boy*, Richard Wright  
*The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Malcolm X & Alex Haley

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Summer Reading: Choice Book List

**Historical Fiction**

*\*Daughter of Fortune*, Isabel Allende  
*Forge*, Laurie Halse Anderson  
*The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing*, M.T. Anderson  
*People of the Book*, Geraldine Brooks  
*\*The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*, Michael Chabon  
*The Girl with the Pearl Earring*, Tracy Chevalier  
*\*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, Junot Diaz  
*Revolution*, Jennifer Donnelly  
*Copper Sun*, Sharon Draper  
*\*The Pillars of the Earth*, Ken Follet  
*Cold Mountain*, Charles Frazier  
*\*The Other Boleyn Girl*, Philippa Gregory  
*The Girl is Murder*, Kathryn Miller Haines  
*The Secret Life of Bees*, Sue Monk Kidd  
*All the Earth, Thrown to the Sky*, Joe Lansdale  
*\*The Coffee Trader*, David Liss  
*\*Wolf Hall*, Hilary Mantel  
*\*Atonement*, Ian McEwan  
*Soldier's Heart*, Gary Paulsen  
*The Ruby in the Smoke*, Philip Pullman  
*\*Wide Sargasso Sea*, Jean Rhys  
*\*Cinnamon Gardens*, Shyam Selvadurai  
*\*Caucasia*, Danzy Senna  
*Between Shades of Gray*, Ruta Sepetys  
*The Berlin Boxing Club*, Robert Sharenow  
*The Madman's Daughter*, Megan Shepard  
*The Samurai's Garden*, Gail Tsukiyama  
*Code Name Verity*, Elizabeth Wein  
*The Book Thief*, Markus Zusak

**Sci-Fi/Fantasy**

*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, Douglas Adams  
*Feed*, M.T. Anderson  
*Pure*, Julianna Baggott  
*The Coldest Girl in Cold Town*, Holly Black  
*\*A Clockwork Orange*, Anthony Burgess  
*\*Parable of the Sower*, Octavia E. Butler  
*Ender's Game*, Orson Scott Card  
*Graceling series*, Kristin Cashore (choose one)  
*The Hunger Games series*, Suzanne Collins (choose one)  
*Good Omens*, Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett  
*\*The Magicians*, Lev Grossman  
*Dune*, Frank Herbert  
*Brave New World*, Aldous Huxley  
*Living Hell*, Catherine Jinks  
*The Name of the Star*, Maureen Johnson  
*Lies, Knives and Girls in Red Dresses*, Ron Koertege  
*Cinder series (choose one)*, Marissa Meyer  
*The Night Circus*, Erin Morgenstern  
*The Knife of Never Letting Go series*, Patrick Ness (choose one)  
*Delirium*, Lauren Oliver  
*Discworld series*, Terry Pratchett (choose one)  
*Divergent series*, Veronica Roth (choose one)  
*Timeriders*, Alex Scarrow  
*The Marbury Lens*, Andrew Smith  
*This is Not a Test*, Courtney Summers  
*The Hobbit or The Lord of the Rings series*, J.R.R. Tolkien (choose one)  
*Blood Red Road*, Moira Young  
*All These Things I've Done*, Gabrielle Zevin

Summer Reading: Choice Book List

**Graphic Novels**

*A Game of Swallows*, Zeina Abirashed  
*King: A Comics Biography of MLK, Jr.*, Ho Che Anderson  
*Fun Home*, Alison Bechdel  
*Ghost World*, Daniel Clowes  
*Booth*, C.C. Colbert & Tanitoc  
*Hawkeye: Little Hits*, Matt Fraction & David Aja  
*King City*, Brandon Graham  
*Friends with Boys*, Faith Erin Hicks  
*The Odyssey*, Gareth Hinds  
*I Kill Giants*, Joe Kelly & J.M. Ken Niimura  
*Sweet Tooth*, Jeff Lemire  
*The Silence of Our Friends*, Mark Long & Jim Demonakos  
*War Brothers*, Sharon E. McKay  
*Hellboy series*, Mike Mignola (choose one)  
*V for Vendetta*, Alan Moore & David Lloyd  
*Watchmen*, Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons  
*WE3*, Grant Morrison  
*Americus*, M.K. Reed & Jonathan Hill  
*Persepolis*, Marjane Satrapi  
*Manga Shakespeare series* (choose one)  
*Nothing Can Possibly Go Wrong*, Prudence Shen & Faith Erin Hicks  
*Maus I & II*, Art Spiegelman  
*Creature Tech*, Doug TenNapel  
*Blankets*, Craig Thompson  
*Lola: A Ghost Story*, J. Torres  
*Nelson Mandela: The Authorized Comic Book*, Umlando Wezithombe  
*Prince of Cats*, Ronald Wimberly  
*Level Up*, Gene Luen Yang & Thien Pham

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Summer Reading: Choice Book List

**Nonfiction**

*\*The New Jim Crow*, Michelle Alexander  
*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, Maya Angelou  
*Walking on Fire: Haitian Women's Stories of Survival and Resistance*, Beverly Bell  
*I Have Lived a Thousand Years*, Livia Bitton-Jackson  
*Nine Years Under: Coming of Age in an Inner City Funeral Home*, Sherri Booker  
*A Short History of Nearly Everything*, Bill Bryson  
*They Called Themselves the KKK*, Susan Campbell Bartoletti  
*Street Gang: The Complete History of Sesame Street*, Michael Davis  
*Death by Black Hole*, Neil deGrasse Tyson  
*We Beat the Street*, Sampson Davis, et. al.  
*\*The Souls of Black Folks*, W.E.B. DuBois  
*\*Avengers of the New World: the story of the Haitian Revolution*, Laurent Dubois  
*Life after Death*, Damien Echols  
*\*The Worst Hard Time*, Timothy Egan  
*\*Nickel and Dimed*, Barbara Ehrenreich  
*Time Travel and Warp Drives*, Allen Everett & Thomas Roman  
*\*Haiti after the Earthquake*, Paul Farmer  
*How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, Thomas C. Foster  
*Minecraft: The Unlikely Tale of Markus "Notch" Persson and the Game that Changed Everything*, Daniel Goldberg & Linus Larsson  
*The Autistic Brain*, Temple Grandin  
*An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth*, Chris Hadfield  
*The New Kids*, Brooke Hauser

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Summer Reading: Choice Book List

**Nonfiction, continued**

*A Brief History of Time*, Stephen Hawking  
\**Confederates in the Attic*, Tony Horwitz  
*Our America*, LeAlan Jones and Lloyd Newman  
*Mountains Beyond Mountains*, Tracy Kidder  
\**On Writing*, Stephen King  
*Bird by Bird*, Anne Lamott  
\**Flash Boys: A Wall Street Revolt*, Michael Lewis  
\**Moneyball*, Michael Lewis  
*Brilliant Blunders: From Darwin to Einstein-Colossal Mistakes by Great Scientists*, Mario Livio  
*Drift*, Rachel Maddow  
\**Angela's Ashes*, Frank McCourt  
\**Born to Run*, Christopher McDougall  
\**Cinderella Ate My Daughter*, Peggy Orenstein  
*Primates*, Jim Ottaviani & Maris Wicks  
*Feynman*, Jim Ottaviani & Leland Myrick  
\**Her: A Memoir*, Christa Parravani  
*The Omnivore's Dilemma*, Michael Pollan  
\**Spillover: Animal Infections and the Next Human Pandemic*, David Quammen  
\**127 Hours: Between a Rock and a Hard Place*, Aron Ralston  
*The Pregnancy Project*, Gaby Rodriguez & Jenny Glatzer  
*Gulp*, Mary Roach  
*Being Wrong*, Kathryn Schulz  
*Where Did You Sleep Last Night?*, Danzy Senna  
*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, Rebecca Skloot  
\**The Wordy Shipmates*, Sara Vowell  
\**Ebony and Ivy: Race, Slavery, and the Troubled History of America's Universities*, Craig Wilder  
\**The Warmth of Other Suns*, Isabel Wilkerson

**Cambridge Public Library**  
449 Broadway, Cambridge, Ma. 02138 (617) 349-4040

**Boudreau Branch Library**  
245 Concord Ave., Cambridge, Ma. 02138 (617) 349-4017

**Central Square Branch Library**  
45 Pearl St., Cambridge, Ma. 02139 (617) 349-4010

**Collins (Mt. Auburn) Branch Library**  
64 Aberdeen Ave., Cambridge, Ma. 02138 (617) 349-4021

**O'Connell (East Cambridge) Branch Library**  
48 Sixth St., Cambridge, Ma. 02141 (617) 349-4019

**O'Neill (North Cambridge) Branch Library**  
70 Rindge Ave., Cambridge, Ma. 02140 (617) 349-4023

**Valente (Cambridge Field) Branch Library**  
826 Cambridge St., Cambridge, Ma. 02141 (617) 349-4015

**Summer Reading Committee:**

Ariel Maloney (Chair), Tina Brunetto, Holly Samuels,  
Emily Houston, Tony Porreca, Maya Escobar (Cambridge  
Public Library)

**Many thanks to:**

CRLS ELA Department  
Linda G. Mason, CRLS Dean of ELA Curriculum

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## 2014 CRLS Summer Reading



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