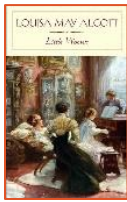


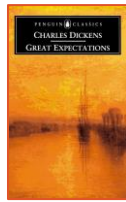
EPS SUMMER READING: 8TH GRADE

THE ASSIGNMENT

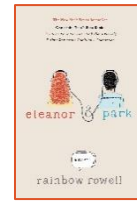
The eighth-grade Big Question is “What Does It Mean to Be Human?” In Literary Thinking 3, you will use your summer reading to begin exploring this question. In preparation, each student will read a *bildungsroman*, or coming-of-age novel. Please choose a book that you have not read before. Note that books range in subject matter and maturity. You may choose one from the list below or find and select your own book. Other great titles to consider include *The Poet X*, *Diary of Anne Frank*, *Snow Like Ashes*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Tell The Wolves I’m Home*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *The Perks of Being A Wallflower*, and *The Meaning of Birds*.



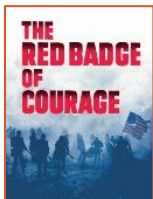
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott



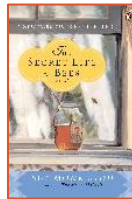
Great Expectations by Charles Dickens



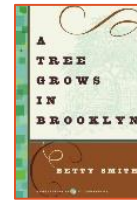
Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell



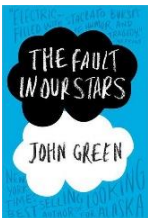
The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane



The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd



A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith



The Fault in Our Stars By John Green



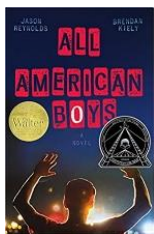
Scythe by Neal Shusterman



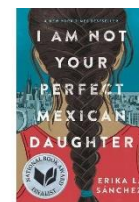
The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas



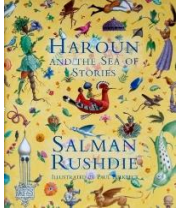
Pet By Akwaeki Emezi



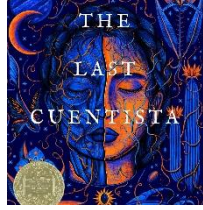
All American Boys By Jason Reynolds



I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter By Erika L. Sanchez



Haroun and the Sea of Stories
By Salman Rushdie



The Last Cuentista
By Donna Barba Higuera

Special Note on Classic Literature Books: Please note that there are a number of “Condensed” versions of classical books now available for purchase. These are often the first option listed at online bookstore sites. Please make sure if you make one of these selections, that you *choose the complete, unabridged* version of the novel to gain the full appreciation of the story and writing. 😊

AFTER YOU READ AND BEFORE COMING BACK TO SCHOOL

Prepare and write down a thoughtful set of responses/notes to the following questions (1-2 pages in length) and bring them with you to class on the first day of school:

1. What is a coming-of-age story? How was your book a coming-of-age story?
2. Describe 2-3 events or challenges or choices that are marking your coming-of-age story in life.
3. What do you think it means to be human? Write a short description and response to this question.
4. In the book you chose to read, what did it mean for a character to act and make decisions in their life *with humanity*?