

# 2020 Summer Reading for AP Lang and IRC

YES Prep Southeast



**Nathan Hennessey**

*nathan.hennessey@yesprep.org*

**Leigh Anne Rayburn**

*leighanne.rayburn@yesprep.org*

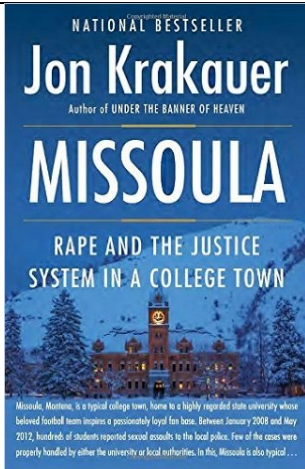
To: **All** members of the Class of 2021; the 49 members of the Class of 2022 who selected IRC for their English class in 11<sup>th</sup> grade

Over the summer, each of you will select one book of choice that you will read, and you will be held accountable for that text when we return to school in August, whether we return virtually or in person. The chart below lists your choices. When we begin school, we will start with a unit that will depend on your understanding of one of these texts, and you will write a process paper over it. It is *critical* that you complete one of the following books below by the start of school.

Please fill out the form attached to this assignment in order to reserve the book you'd like. You will have from now until Thursday, May 21, at 4 p.m. **Only 16 students will be allowed to read each book, so there will be no switching after the sign-up is complete.**

Book Title	Author
Missoula	Jon Krakauer
In the Country We Love	Diane Guerrero
The Diary of a Young Girl	Anne Frank
Becoming	Michelle Obama
Killers of the Flower Moon	David Grann
So You've Been Publicly Shamed	Jon Ronson
Educated: A Memoir	Tara Westover
Born a Crime	Trevor Noah
Get Well Soon	Jennifer Wright
Isaac's Storm	Erik Larson
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings	Maya Angelou
On the Other Side of Freedom	DeRay McKesson

During the summer, we will have **two** check-in points: one will be a written prompt, and one will be a virtual "book club" type discussion. We will use Teams to communicate the dates and expectations of these check-in points; but, for now, assume that one will be in mid-July and one will be in early August.



Best new price on Amazon: \$13.59

Missoula, Montana, is a typical college town, home to a highly regarded state university whose beloved football team inspires a passionately loyal fan base. Between January 2008 and May 2012, hundreds of students reported sexual assaults to the local police. Few of the cases were properly handled by either the university or local authorities. In this, Missoula is also typical.

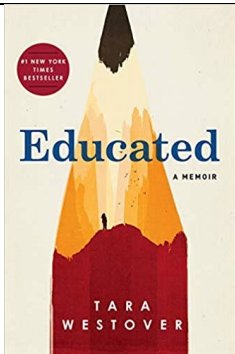
In these pages, acclaimed journalist Jon Krakauer investigates a spate of campus rapes that occurred in Missoula over a four-year period. Taking the town as a case study for a crime that is sadly prevalent throughout the nation, Krakauer documents the experiences of five victims: their fear and self-doubt in the aftermath; the skepticism directed at them by police, prosecutors, and the public; their bravery in pushing forward and what it cost them. These stories cut through abstract ideological debate about acquaintance rape to demonstrate that it does not happen because women are sending mixed signals or seeking attention. They are victims of a terrible crime, deserving of fairness from our justice system.

TL;DR:  
#collegerapeculture  
#metoo  
#toxicmasculinity  
#investigativejournalism

Recommended by:  
Ms. Fluke

Recommended for: AP  
students

If you liked:  
Netflix's *Unbelievable*



Best new price on Amazon: \$15.17

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

An unforgettable memoir about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University

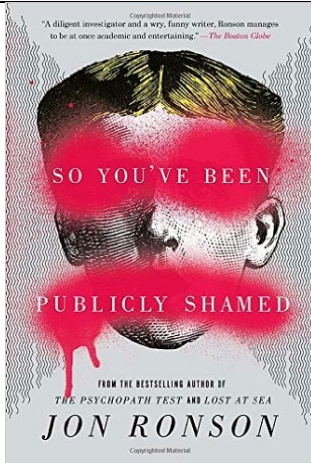
#raisedinthemountains  
#whatischool  
#bigfamily  
#leavinghome

Recommended by:  
Ms. Walcik and Ms.  
Bentley

If you liked:  
*Captain Fantastic*, *The  
Glass Castle*

Recommended for AP  
Lang and IRC students

 <p>Best new price on Amazon: \$4.99</p>	<p>Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has since become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.</p> <p>In 1942, with Nazis occupying Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, until their whereabouts were betrayed to the Gestapo, they and another family lived cloistered in the "Secret Annex" of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death. In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period. By turns thoughtful, moving, and amusing, her account offers a fascinating commentary on human courage and frailty and a compelling self-portrait of a sensitive and spirited young woman whose promise was tragically cut short.</p>	<p>#quarantinedfor2years #younglove #willbreakyourheart</p> <p>Recommended by: Ms. Kerr</p> <p><i>Recommended for IRC or AP students</i></p> <p>If you liked: <i>Jojo Rabbit</i></p>
 <p>Best new price on Amazon: \$11.89</p>	<p>In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As First Lady of the United States of America—the first African American to serve in that role—she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history, while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the U.S. and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives, and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. Along the way, she showed us a few dance moves, crushed Carpool Karaoke, and raised two down-to-earth daughters under an unforgiving media glare.</p> <p>In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world's most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it—in her own words and on her own terms. Warm, wise, and revelatory, <i>Becoming</i> is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations—and whose story inspires us to do the same.</p>	<p>#socialjustice #memoir #blackexcellence</p> <p>Recommended by: Ms. Bentley</p> <p>If you liked: Netflix's <i>Barry</i>, when the Obamas were in the White House</p> <p><i>Recommended for IRC or AP students</i></p>
 <p>Best new price on Amazon: \$11.54</p>	<p>In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Nation in Oklahoma. After oil was discovered beneath their land, the Osage rode in chauffeured automobiles, built mansions, and sent their children to study in Europe. Then, one by one, the Osage began to be killed off. The family of an Osage woman, Mollie Burkhart, became a prime target. One of her relatives was shot. Another was poisoned. And it was just the beginning, as more and more Osage were dying under mysterious circumstances, and many of those who dared to investigate the killings were themselves murdered.</p> <p>As the death toll rose, the newly created FBI took up the case, and the young director, J. Edgar Hoover, turned to a former Texas Ranger named Tom White to try to unravel the mystery. White put together an undercover team, including a Native American agent who infiltrated the region, and together with the Osage began to expose one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history.</p>	<p>#criminalminds #serialkilling #forensicinvestigation</p> <p>Recommended for AP students</p> <p>If you liked <i>Mindhunter</i></p>



Best new price on Amazon: \$13.19

For the past three years, Jon Ronson has travelled the world meeting recipients of high-profile public shamings. The shamed are people like us - people who, say, made a joke on social media that came out badly, or made a mistake at work. Once their transgression is revealed, collective outrage circles with the force of a hurricane and the next thing they know they're being torn apart by an angry mob, jeered at, demonized, sometimes even fired from their job.

A great renaissance of public shaming is sweeping our land. Justice has been democratized. The silent majority are getting a voice. But what are we doing with our voice? We are mercilessly finding people's faults. We are defining the boundaries of normality by ruining the lives of those outside it. We are using shame as a form of social control.

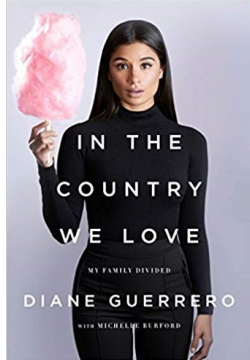
Simultaneously powerful and hilarious in the way only Jon Ronson can be, *So You've Been Publicly Shamed* is a deeply honest book about modern life, full of eye-opening truths about the escalating war on human flaws - and the very scary part we all play in it.

#internetshaming  
#cancelculture  
#twittertrolls

Recommended by:  
Ms. Kerr

Recommended for AP  
and IRC students

If you liked  
*Black Mirror*, *Eighth Grade*



Best new price on Amazon: \$10.79

Diane Guerrero, the television actress from the megahit *Orange is the New Black* and *Jane the Virgin*, was just fourteen years old on the day her parents were detained and deported while she was at school. Born in the U.S., Guerrero was able to remain in the country and continue her education, depending on the kindness of family friends who took her in and helped her build a life and a successful acting career for herself, without the support system of her family.

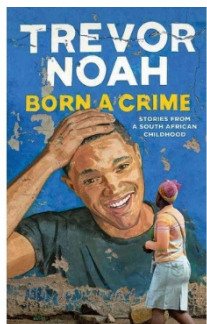
*In the Country We Love* is a moving, heartbreaking story of one woman's extraordinary resilience in the face of the nightmarish struggles of undocumented residents in this country. There are over 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the US, many of whom have citizen children, whose lives here are just as precarious, and whose stories haven't been told. Written with bestselling author Michelle Burford, this memoir is a tale of personal triumph that also casts a much-needed light on the fears that haunt the daily existence of families like the author's and on a system that fails them over and over.

#undocumented  
#orangeisthenewblack  
#janethevirgin  
#memoir

Recommended for IRC  
students

Recommended by:  
Ms. Sandoval

If you liked: Netflix's  
*Undocumented*



Best new  
Amazon  
price:  
\$8.99

Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of *The Daily Show* began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Living proof of his parents' indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle.

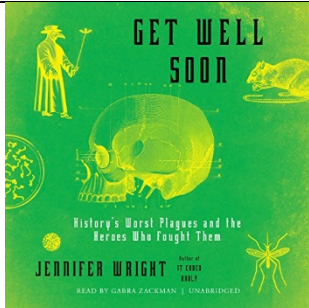
*Born a Crime* is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother—a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.

#thedailyshow  
#growingupinsouthafrica

Recommended for AP  
and IRC students

If you liked: *Slumdog Millionaire*, *John Leguizamo's Latin History for Morons*

Recommended by:  
Ale Mendoza, Crystal Vigil, Andres Castillo ('20)



Best price on Amazon is for audiobook: \$13.97

A witty, irreverent tour of history's worst plagues - from the Antonine Plague, to leprosy, to polio - and a celebration of the heroes who fought them.

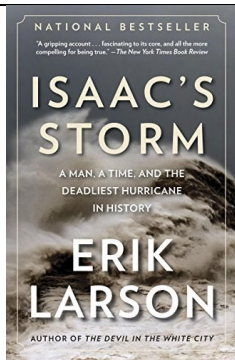
In 1518, in a small town in Alsace, Frau Troffea began dancing and didn't stop. She danced until she was carried away six days later, and soon 34 more villagers joined her. Then more. In a month more than 400 people had been stricken by the mysterious dancing plague. In late-19th-century England an eccentric gentleman founded the No Nose Club in his gracious townhome - a social club for those who had lost their noses, and other body parts, to the plague of syphilis for which there was then no cure. And in turn-of-the-century New York, an Irish cook caused two lethal outbreaks of typhoid fever, a case that transformed her into the notorious Typhoid Mary.

Throughout time, humans have been terrified and fascinated by the diseases history and circumstance have dropped on them. Some of their responses to those outbreaks are almost too strange to believe in hindsight. *Get Well Soon* delivers the gruesome, morbid details of some of the worst plagues we've suffered as a species, as well as stories of the heroic figures who selflessly fought to ease the suffering of their fellow man. With her signature mix of in-depth research and storytelling, and not a little dark humor, Jennifer Wright explores history's most gripping and deadly outbreaks, and ultimately looks at the surprising ways they've shaped history and humanity for almost as long as anyone can remember.

#darkhumor  
#medicalhistory  
#plaguesarerelevant

Recommended for AP students

If you like:  
*Contagion, Pandemic (but kinda funny versions)*



Best new Amazon price: \$8.80

September 8, 1900, began innocently in the seaside town of Galveston, Texas. Even Isaac Cline, resident meteorologist for the U.S. Weather Bureau failed to grasp the true meaning of the strange deep-sea swells and peculiar winds that greeted the city that morning. Mere hours later, Galveston found itself submerged in a monster hurricane that completely destroyed the town and killed over six thousand people in what remains the greatest natural disaster in American history--and Isaac Cline found himself the victim of a devastating personal tragedy.

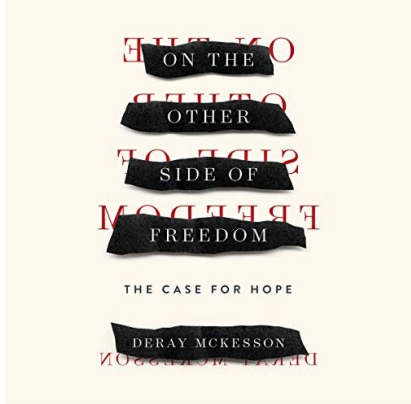
Using Cline's own telegrams, letters, and reports, the testimony of scores of survivors, and our latest understanding of the science of hurricanes, Erik Larson builds a chronicle of one man's heroic struggle and fatal miscalculation in the face of a storm of unimaginable magnitude. Riveting, powerful, and unbearably suspenseful, *Isaac's Storm* is the story of what can happen when human arrogance meets the great uncontrollable force of nature.

#galveston  
#massivehurricane  
#worse than harvey  
#scientific history

Recommended for AP students

If you liked:  
*Chernobyl, Titanic, disaster movies*





Best Amazon price is for the Kindle version: \$10.99

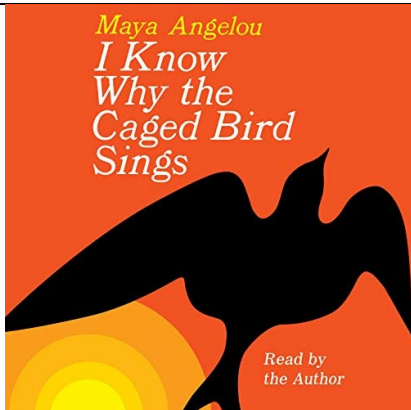
In August 2014, 29-year-old activist DeRay McKesson stood with hundreds of others on the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, to push a message of justice and accountability. These protests, and others like them in cities across the country, resulted in the birth of the Black Lives Matter movement. Now, in his first book, McKesson lays down the intellectual, pragmatic, and political framework for a new liberation movement. Continuing a conversation about activism, resistance, and justice that embraces our nation's complex history, he dissects how deliberate oppression persists, how racial injustice strips our lives of promise, and how technology has added a new dimension to mass action and social change. He argues that our best efforts to combat injustice have been stunted by the belief that racism's wounds are history and suggests that intellectual purity has curtailed optimistic realism. The book offers a new framework and language for understanding the nature of oppression. With it, we can begin charting a course to dismantle the obvious and subtle structures that limit freedom.

Honest, courageous, and imaginative, *On the Other Side of Freedom* is a work brimming with hope. Drawing from his own experiences as an activist, organizer, educator, and public official, McKesson exhorts all Americans to work to dismantle the legacy of racism and to imagine the best of what is possible. Honoring the voices of a new generation of activists, *On the Other Side of Freedom* is a visionary's call to take responsibility for imagining, and then building, the world we want to live in.

#blacklivesmatter  
#podsavethepeople  
#activism

Recommended for AP students

If you liked: *The Hate U Give*, listening to podcasts



Best Amazon price is the Kindle version: \$7.99

Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local "powhitetrash". At eight years old and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age - and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime.

Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns about love for herself and the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors ("I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare") will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned.

Poetic and powerful, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* is a modern American classic that will touch hearts and change minds for as long as people read - or listen.

#blackicon  
#memoir  
#childabuse  
#ptsd

Recommended for IRC students

Recommended by: Ms. Sandoval

If you liked *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Color Purple*