



Summer 2022

Dear Incoming 11th Graders:

Greetings! I am looking forward to meeting you in September. Your required summer reading book, *Americanah*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, is fantastic and perfect, I believe, for 11th grade. A young woman, not much older than you, journeys from Nigeria to America, seeking opportunity. Along the way, she wrestles with questions about her identity and who she wants to love. Though the book is on the long side, I read it in just a few hours; it creates not only a rich, complex portrait of race relations in America, but it is also a page-turner with a lot of romance and snappy prose.

Adichie is an extremely engaging storyteller. Many of you watched her TedTalk last year, “The Danger of a Single Story.”

[https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda\\_ngozi\\_adichie\\_the\\_danger\\_of\\_a\\_single\\_story?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story?language=en)

Adichie’s questions about race relations are crucial. *Americanah* will give us plenty to talk about, but you must read it carefully to be prepared for writing and class discussion. We will read great books in 11th grade: *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *Death of a Salesman*, by Arthur Miller, *The Scarlet Letter*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne, and *The Bluest Eye*, by Toni Morrison.

I look forward to working with all of you.

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