

KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL  
2023 Summer Reading  
Grades 9-12

June 2023

Dear KHS Students,

This summer, you are required to read at least **one** book. You are free to select any book that interests you. Just be sure you have not read it before.

As you read, use the attached form to take notes. Bring those notes to your English class in September. Once you return to school, your teacher will ask you to share your thoughts about the book by participating in a group discussion, doing an oral presentation, or writing an essay. This assignment and the notes will be part of your first quarter grade.

On the back of this letter, you will find a list of books nominated for the 2024 Nutmeg Book Award. You might start there if you need some suggestions. Of course, you could find a book at your local public library. You might also visit your library's website to check out an audiobook or ebook.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Students entering grades 10, 11, or 12 who registered for honors or AP-level English classes will receive additional required summer reading and are responsible for completing both assignments.

We look forward to meeting you in September and discussing the books we've read.

Enjoy your summer!  
Killingly High School English Department

**Remember:**  
**1) Read a book.**  
**2) Take notes.**  
**3) Bring your notes to English class.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Literary Elements	Notes
<b>Title, author, publication date</b>	
<b>Setting:</b> Include both place and time	
<b>Major characters:</b> Identify the main character(s) and their qualities or personality traits.	
<b>Point of View:</b> Who is telling the story?	
<b>Plot:</b> Note significant events.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li><li>4.</li><li>5.</li><li>6.</li></ol>
<b>Conflicts:</b> Identify the conflict(s) central to the work. What are the problems or issues facing the main character?	
<b>Resolution:</b> How are the conflicts resolved? How does it end?	

<p><b>Themes:</b> Work toward developing general ideas about the author’s intended meaning and/or specific statements about the author’s central idea.</p> <p>What does the author want the reader to think about?</p>	
<p><b>Quotes/passages:</b> Record important or thought-provoking excerpts of the text.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Final thoughts:</b> Was this text similar to any other work you have read or seen? What makes this text different from others you have read?</p>	

# 2024 Nutmeg Book Award High School Nominees

Grades 9-12



## The Bridge

by Bill Konigsberg

Aaron and Tillie are strangers until they lock eyes as each is about to jump off the George Washington Bridge to their death. Readers will hear four different captivating narratives that explore the impact of mental illness, suicide, and recovery.

## Firekeeper's Daughter

by Angeline Boulley

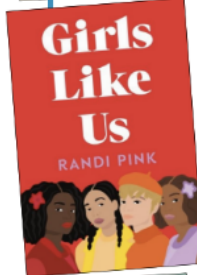
Daunis Fountaine, a biracial eighteen year old, has never felt like she fits in with her Ojibwe or white heritage. Her dreams of going to college take a turn when several tragedies strike her family and the town. Daunis is pulled into the complex, high stakes investigation and she soon realizes nothing she has known is what it appears



## Girls Like Us

by Randi Pink

Set in 1972, this historical fiction novel explores the lives of 4 teenage girls from different walks of life dealing with unplanned pregnancies; Sue, the daughter of a senator, Mississippi, a 14 year old with very little education, and Izella and Ola, daughters trying to keep their secret from an intensely strict mother.



## Heartstopper 1

by Alice Oseman

When teens Charlie Spring and Nick Nelson are forced to sit together in school, they are both happily surprised at the start of an easy friendship. Charlie is sort of high-strung and anxious after being outed as gay last year, and Nick is a very friendly, outgoing member of the school rugby team. When Charlie starts to fall hard for Nick, he thinks he's hopelessly crushing on his straight friend – but love can be surprising, and maybe it's not as hopeless as it seems?



## Heroine

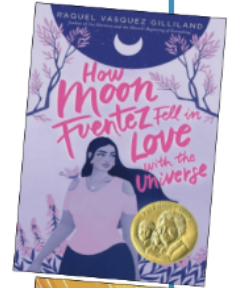
After a car accident sidelines her, star softball player Mickey Catalan will do anything to get back behind the plate where she belongs—but the painkillers her doctors prescribe quickly lead to a deadly downward spiral. McGinnis's novel is a gritty portrayal of one teen's struggle with opioid addiction and her determination to reclaim her own life.



## How Moon Fuentez Fell in Love With the Universe

by Raquel Vasquez Gilliland

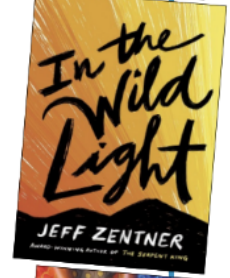
Moon Fuentez lives in the background of her life and in the shadow of her sister, a social media star. On the summer bus tour with beautiful influencers, Moon uses her photography skills to capture her sister's cultivated image and sells merch with sullen, but super-handsome, Santiago. Accepting the good and bad in relationships with her family, Santiago, and herself, Moon discovers she is the center of her universe.



## In the Wild Light

by Jeff Zentner

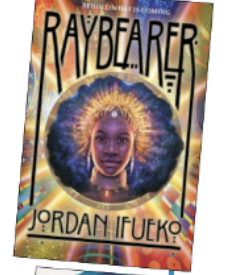
Would you leave the only place you've ever known and the people who love you to follow a dream? Cash and Delaney take a chance and leave rural Tennessee for an elite prep school in CT where their bond of friendship is more important than ever.



## Raybearer

by Jordan Ifueko

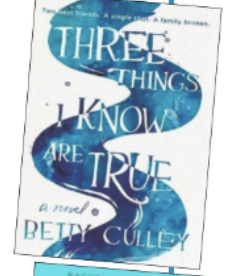
Tarisai has been raised in isolation by her absent mother known as The Lady. Tarisai has finally come of age and is sent to the capital to compete to be one of the Crown Prince's Council of Eleven. If chosen, she'll join the others through the Ray, a bond stronger than blood. This closeness is all Tarisai has ever wanted. But The Lady has other plans, including a magical wish that Tarisai is compelled to obey: gain the Prince's trust and kill him.



## Three Things I Know Are True

by Betty Culley

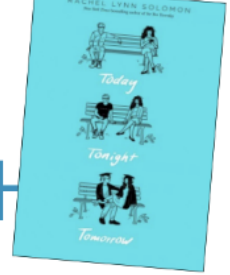
Liv's brother Jonah accidentally shot himself with his best friend's father's gun. Now, his 24/7 medical needs and an ugly lawsuit threaten to dominate their lives. In this haunting novel in verse, Liv must harness the power of forgiveness to forge a new path through the aftermath of tragedy.



## Today, Tonight, Tomorrow

by Rachel Lynn Solomon

Rowan Roth and Neil McNair have been bitter rivals for all of high school. They have one last chance to best each other in Howl, a senior class game on the last night of high school. After being targeted by other students they reluctantly join forces, at least until they are the last two players standing.



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