

English 11 – Summer Reading Guide

Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer

Chris McCandless graduated from Emory University in 1990. Less than two years later, on April 28, 1992, he walked into the Alaskan wilderness. He was never again seen alive. *Into the Wild*, which expands on an essay Jon Krakauer wrote for *Outside* magazine, tells McCandless's story and examines the choices and circumstances that led to his death.

As you read, consider the following questions. You may want to write down answers to these questions but you will not be required to submit any written work.

1. How did McCandless's reading influence the choices he made? What texts were most influential to him?
2. What do you think of McCandless's relationship with his family? Can you identify with the way he felt?
3. What relationships – aside from family relationships - were most influential for McCandless?
4. How does Krakauer relate personally to McCandless?
5. Do we sympathize with McCandless or do we condemn him?