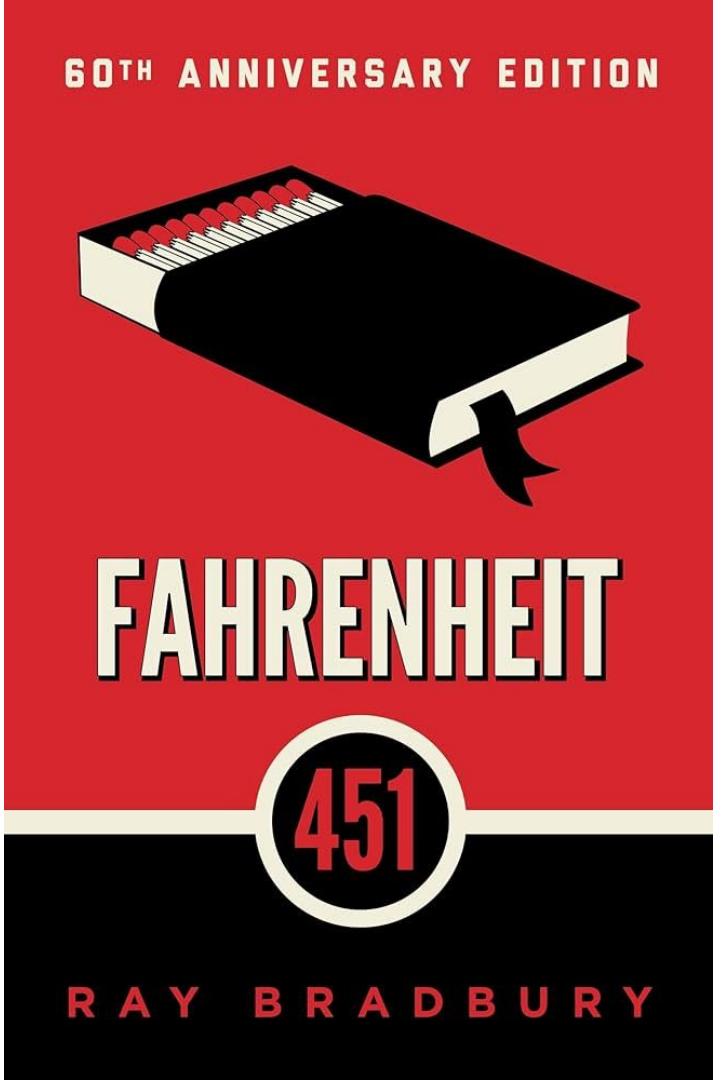
FINDING MY **VOICE**
FINDING MY **PLACE**

Episcopal Collegiate School

# English II

Summer Reading: Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*




# In its own words:

"Sixty years after its original publication, Ray Bradbury's internationally acclaimed novel *Fahrenheit 451* stands as a classic of world literature set in a bleak, dystopian future. Today its message has grown more relevant than ever before."

# About the Book

Montag is a Fireman in a modern society where books have been deemed illegal. Instead of putting out fires, these Firemen burn books when citizens are caught in possession of them. Citizens' critical thinking minds have been reduced to nearly nothing, and are constantly consumed with meaningless distractions. But when Montag meets an intriguing citizen who suddenly disappears, he begins to question what's going on around him. One night's routine book-burning begins to haunt him as well.

Fun Fact: Audible's audiobook of *Fahrenheit 451* is narrated by Penn Badgley (star of "Gossip Girl" and "You").



# As you read, annotate with care!

Take note of:

- What do books and fire symbolize? How do those symbols evolve?
- How is modern day society reflected in this 1953 novel?
- How does this novel serve as a cautionary tale for modern societies?
- Is Montag in control of his story, or is he being controlled by something or someone else?

**If you have any questions, please email me at mbalgavy@episcopalcollegiate.org!**

**Thank you and enjoy your summer reading!**

