

Brandywine High School
Recommended Summer Reading
Summer 2023

The titles below are recommended for students' reading pleasure. The BHS ELA department encourages students to read over the summer. We look forward to hearing about what you read when you come to school next year!

Titles recommended for incoming 9th and 10th graders:

- *Swing* by Kwame Alexander: *Swing* by Kwame Alexander is a lyrical and poignant novel-in-verse that explores the power of music, love, and family. The story follows Noah, a talented young jazz musician, as he navigates the challenges of adolescence, friendship, and his own dreams. With the help of his best friend, Walt, and a new girl named Sam, Noah learns to find his own rhythm and embrace the beauty of life's improvisations.
- *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah: "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--his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life."

Titles recommended for incoming 11th and 12th graders:

- *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline: "In 2045 the planet is on the brink of chaos and collapse, but people find salvation in the OASIS: an expansive virtual reality universe created by eccentric James Halliday. When Halliday dies, he promises his immense fortune to the first person to discover a digital Easter egg that's hidden somewhere in the OASIS. When young Wade Watts joins the contest, he finds himself becoming an unlikely hero in a reality-bending treasure hunt through a fantastical world of mystery, discovery and danger."
- *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: *Purple Hibiscus* is a captivating coming-of-age novel set in post-colonial Nigeria. The story follows Kambili, a young girl raised in a strict and oppressive household by her fanatically religious father. As political and social unrest grips the country, Kambili's world begins to unravel when she and her brother, Jaja, find refuge at their progressive aunt's home in Nsukka. Through her aunt's influence, Kambili discovers a newfound freedom, self-expression, and the strength to challenge

her father's authority, ultimately leading to a transformation that reshapes her life and beliefs.