Amesbury High School
Summer Reading 2020

One Read

This year Amesbury High School’s Summer Reading Program will be different from the “Faculty Favorites” program of the past. 2020 has exposed our students to a new way of online learning, demanded that we rethink the ways in which we interact and socialize, and has brought to the forefront the fact that intolerance needs to be addressed in our schools, now more than ever. To that end, we wanted this year’s summer reading program to be a community read; we wanted a book to serve as a springboard for discussions around intolerance, particularly racism. This year the whole school will read Dear Martin by Nic Stone.

About the Book

Perhaps a bright young man who is fourth in his graduating class, captain of the debate team, and on his way to an Ivy League school shouldn’t have too many worries. But Justyce McAllister’s grades have no influence on the police officer who hand cuffs him while he’s trying to help his inebriated ex-girlfriend. The African American teen is shocked and angered when the officer is cleared of all charges, and so he turns to the written work of Martin Luther King Jr. for direction, inspiration, and therapy. He presents a simple question to the late civil rights leader: “What would you do, Martin?” After Justyce witnesses the fatal shooting of his best friend by an off-duty officer, and his name is negatively spread through the media, he begins to withdraw from friends and family, only finding solace in his teacher, new girlfriend, and his continued ruminative letter writing to Dr. King. (Booklist, starred review).

Assessment

We recognize that students are more engaged when there is a choice; students will be able to choose to voice their understanding of racism in the way they respond to this novel. In order to accommodate multiple intelligences, students will be able to respond artistically, musically, through investigation, through writing or film/photography. All are welcomed to use technology to assist or enhance in the creation of these projects. All projects and discussion groups will be due by the first full week of school, Friday, September 11. A description of the choices and a rubric for how it will be graded are on the pages that follow. This will count as a grade in each student’s English class.

Student Support

Reading comprehension can be enhanced when done in a collaborative manner. Ms. Estabrook will offer a Virtual Summer Reading Book Club the last two weeks in August, 17-21 and 24-28 (unless we finish earlier) via Google Meets. We will read the book aloud together, learn reading comprehension strategies, and complete an assessment. If you are interested, please e-mail Ms. Estabrook (lisa.estabrook@amesburyma.org). An e-mail will be sent out with a link to join the club!

Please contact the Amesbury Public Library for access to the books at mwalker@amesburylibrary.org. If you have trouble accessing a copy of the book, please contact Mrs. Ricci at Danielle.Ricci@amesburyma.org.
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One Read Project Choices

Each project will have a paragraph summarizing the scene within the context of the novel. We will know from discussion and from your paragraph that you have read the whole novel.

Artistic Responses:

- Create a 3-D piece of art inspired by the book.
- Diorama of a scene from the book
- Make a scrapbook from a perspective of a character in the book
- Paint or draw a portrait of the character or a critical scene from the novel.
- Make a comic strip (graphic) of part of the story

Musical Responses:

- Write a song inspired by the book. (Video yourself performing it!)
- Create a playlist that accurately reflects the tone and events taking place in the novel (12 song minimum).

Investigation Responses:

- Investigate the history of racism. Make a comparison to racism as it exists today. Is there a difference? What are the differences? How might it still be the same?
- Make a timeline of events in the book, from beginning to end. Point out at which point things could have gone differently if different decisions were made.

Writing Responses:

- Write a journal to Justyce: Dear Justyce, and discuss why he may or may have not made the right choices in the book and why. (Minimum of 12 decisions across the novel.)
- Write a poem inspired by the novel
- Write a prologue, epilogue or a bonus chapter to the book
- Create a blog from one of the characters in the book.

Photography/Film

- Create a photographic version of the book
- Make a trailer for the book (See Youtube for examples)
- Film an interpretation of a scene from the book (You may work with a group on this one.)

If you have another idea, e-mail Ms. Estabrook (lisa.estabrook@amesburyma.org). Be prepared to discuss your projects as part of our discussions when we return to school on Friday, September 11, 2020.

See rubric below for expectations of projects.
### Amesbury High School

**Summer Reading 2020**

*One Read Project Rubric*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The student has proven through the completion of the project that they have a strong knowledge of the novel.</td>
<td>Exceptional knowledge of the novel was presented.</td>
<td>Strong knowledge of the novel was presented.</td>
<td>Some knowledge of the novel was shown.</td>
<td>Very obvious that they did not read or complete the novel</td>
<td>Did not complete summer reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student has utilized ideas and information from the novel in the project they have created.</td>
<td>Exceptional utilization of ideas &amp; information was shown.</td>
<td>Strong utilization of ideas &amp; information was shown.</td>
<td>Some ideas or information from the novel were utilized.</td>
<td>Little/no ideas used from the novel</td>
<td>Did not complete summer reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The project demonstrates effort and creativity on the part of the student.</td>
<td>Outstanding degree of effort &amp; creativity was shown.</td>
<td>High degree of effort &amp; creativity was shown.</td>
<td>Some effort and creativity was demonstrated.</td>
<td>Little or no effort or creativity was demonstrated</td>
<td>Did not complete summer reading</td>
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<th></th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total number of points (out of 12)</strong></td>
<td>Total number of points (out of 12) =</td>
<td>Grade=</td>
<td>Total number of points (out of 12) =</td>
<td>Grade=</td>
<td>Total number of points (out of 12) =</td>
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</tbody>
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A= 10-12  
B= 9-7  
C= 6-4  
D= 4 or lower  
F= 0