

Dear Bruins, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome to year **four** of our Summer Reading Program with a fresh and exciting list of title offerings from our faculty and staff. To review, our new format was created with the goal of offering **rising sophomores through seniors** the opportunity to read a wider variety of literary works in the hopes of encouraging a lifelong interest in reading and in helping to create more globally aware, diverse readers. Furthermore, the new approach allowed for collaboration and interaction with a wider scope of the Padua community, thereby fostering a love of literature within our common Franciscan tradition.

To cultivate our Franciscan charism of creating students who are Happy, Healthy, Holy, Highly Prepared, and Hopeful, we have once again selected books within a variety of genres and which feature an assortment of topics. The selections on this list were gathered from members of the Padua Franciscan reading community, including faculty, staff, and administration.

Attached to this letter is a comprehensive list of all offerings for the 2022 summer break. Students will have the opportunity to select their **top-five choices** through an online portal **beginning at 2:29pm on Wednesday, May 11th**. The online form will remain open and **selections must be made by Thursday, May 19th at 8am**. Students will be responsible for selecting and signing up to read their top five book choices during this time. Since each book will cap at a maximum number of readers, book selection will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis. Once online book selection is complete, students will receive an email confirming their assigned choice (**by the end of May**). When we return to school in the fall, a date will be set aside for students to engage in breakout discussions and activities planned for each novel, led by the faculty, administrator, or staff member whose book they chose. **Students will then take a formal written assessment in their English classes** to finalize the Summer Reading experience.

**For students in the English Honors and AP Program, please note:** Students going into Honors 10, Honors 11, and AP English will also be assigned an additional text to read this summer. Those titles will be posted to the Padua website. Please consult the official list and download your additional written assignment.

The scope of offered texts most definitely presents something for everyone, and students are encouraged to explore their myriad interests through this program. As such, some titles on the list may contain sensitive material and deal with more mature themes than some students may have encountered in their previous readings. **Students and parents** should carefully discern which books are most appropriate for the student's intellectual and maturity level. Please note that while not all of these texts were expressly written with the young adult reader in mind, the books on this list have been thoughtfully curated to appeal to a wide variety of young adult readers, and the reading discussions and activities will be guided by caring and compassionate facilitators who will help readers explore the literary value in each of the selections through our shared Franciscan lens. Students and parents are encouraged to find more information about all of the novels before selecting choices. **Click on the links below to read *GoodReads* summaries and reviews of the book options available.** Additionally, we strongly encourage students and parents or guardians to discuss the content, themes, and overall inherent literary value of the selected novels together.

Please take the time to carefully consider the offered selections for your enjoyment. All book group assignments will be confirmed for students before we leave for summer break. **Also, know that students should not select the book they read for this program last year as they will automatically be excluded from participating in that same book group** (so do not waste one of your top five choices on a book you won't be allowed to select again). In the event that students wish to change their novel after the deadline, they may appeal their selection to their 2021-2022 English teacher, who will take the request under advisement. A new book, chosen from the remaining titles available, may be selected in such cases. Any requests for changes must be submitted in writing before July 15, 2022. No changes will be honored after this date, and should the student fail to complete his or her summer reading assignment, deductions will be applied to the student's first quarter English grade.

We thank you in advance for your enthusiastic support of the Bruins Big Read!

The Padua Franciscan English Department

<a href="#"><u>Becoming</u></a>	Michelle Obama	In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As First Lady of the United States of America—the first African American to serve in that role—she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history, while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the U.S. and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives, and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments.
<a href="#"><u>Beyond Basketball: Coach K's Keywords for Success</u></a>	Mike Krzyzewski, and Jamie Krzyzewski Spatola	This is a collection of short but extraordinarily powerful essays as to how Coach K of Duke inspires, motivates, and teaches his basketball players about the game of life, both on and off the court.
<a href="#"><u>Born a Crime</u></a>	Trevor Noah	Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. 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.
<a href="#"><u>Born on a Blue Day</u></a>	Daniel Tammet	One of the world's fifty living autistic savants is the first and only to tell his compelling and inspiring life story - and explain how his incredible mind works. This unique first-person account offers a window into the mind of a high-functioning, 27-year-old British autistic savant with Asperger's syndrome.
<a href="#"><u>Calico Joe</u></a>	John Grisham	It's the summer of 1973, and Joe Castle is the boy wonder of baseball, the greatest rookie anyone has ever seen. The kid from Calico Rock, Arkansas, dazzles Chicago Cubs fans as he hits home run after home run, politely tipping his hat to the crowd as he shatters all rookie records. Calico Joe quickly becomes the idol of every baseball fan in America, including Paul Tracey, the young son of a hard-partying and hard-throwing New York Mets pitcher. On the day that Warren Tracey finally faces Calico Joe, Paul is in the stands, rooting for his idol but also for his dad. Then Warren throws a fastball that will change their lives forever.
<a href="#"><u>Can't Hurt Me</u></a>	David Goggins	The only man in history to complete elite training as a Navy SEAL, Army Ranger, and Air Force Tactical Air Controller, he went on to set records in numerous endurance events, inspiring Outside magazine to name him "The Fittest (Real) Man in America."
<a href="#"><u>Captain America: Truth - Graphic Novel</u></a>	Robert Morales, Joe Quesada (Cover Art), and Kyle J Baker (Artist)	In every war, people demand their champion. In World War II, that hero was Captain America. TRUTH is the controversial, declassified story of the African American men involuntarily subjected to the U.S. War Department's "Super Soldier" project, in a race to develop a serum that might turn the tide against the Axis powers...if the Nazi's didn't get to it first!
<a href="#"><u>Challenger Deep</u></a>	Neal Shusterman	An award winning novel about a teenager's struggle with mental illness written by a popular young adult author.

<a href="#"><u>Cinder</u></a>	Marissa Meyer	Humans and androids crowd the raucous streets of New Beijing. A deadly plague ravages the population. From space, a ruthless Lunar people watch, waiting to make their move. No one knows that Earth's fate hinges on one girl. . . . Cinder, a gifted mechanic, is a cyborg.
<a href="#"><u>Crazy House</u></a>	James Patterson	Two twins face a world of Death Row and dystopia in James Patterson's gripping thriller-perfect for fans of The Hunger Games.
<a href="#"><u>Dear Justyce</u></a>	Nic Stone	In the stunning and hard-hitting sequel to the New York Times bestseller Dear Martin, incarcerated teen Quan writes letters to Justyce about his experiences in the American prison system. Shortly after teenager Quan enters a not guilty plea for the shooting death of a police officer, he is placed in a holding cell to await trial. Through a series of flashbacks and letters to Justyce, the protagonist of Dear Martin, Quan's story unravels. From a troubled childhood and bad timing to a coerced confession and prejudiced police work, Nic Stone's newest novel takes an unflinching look at the flawed practices and ideologies that discriminate against African American boys and minorities in the American justice system.
<a href="#"><u>Educated</u></a>	Tara Westover	Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag". In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father's junkyard. Then, lacking any formal education. Educated is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that comes with severing the closest of ties. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it.
<a href="#"><u>Ender's Game</u></a>	Orson Scott Card	A young genius is recruited to help play games with other young people to train for a war against aliens. The boy grows into a leader, but eventually learns that his games are part of something far more sinister and desperate.
<a href="#"><u>Eragon</u></a>	Christopher Paolini	The book tells the story of a farm boy named Eragon, who finds a mysterious stone in the mountains. The stone is revealed to be a dragon egg, and a dragon he later names Saphira hatches from it.
<a href="#"><u>Extreme Ownership: How the Navy Seals lead and win</u></a>	Jocko Willink and Leif Babin	Leadership skills reviewed in chapters that show first hand application of the tactics used in the military world and then applied in the real world and how they are effective to all interactions in life.
<a href="#"><u>Firekeeper's Daughter</u></a>	Angeline Boulley	In Angeline Boulley's highly acclaimed, award winning, debut YA thriller, a Native teen who must root out the corruption in her community. Eighteen-year-old biracial Daunis Fontaine has never quite fit in, both in her hometown and on the nearby Ojibwe reservation. She dreams of a fresh start at college, but when family tragedy strikes, Daunis puts her future on hold to look after her fragile mother. The only bright spot is meeting Jamie, the charming new recruit on her brother Levi's hockey team. Yet even as Daunis falls for Jamie, she senses the dashing hockey star is hiding something.

<a href="#"><u>House Rules</u></a>	Jodi Picoult	Jacob Hunt is a teen with Asperger's syndrome. He's hopeless at reading social cues or expressing himself well to others, though he is brilliant in many ways. But he has a special focus on one subject - forensic analysis. A police scanner in his room clues him in to crime scenes, and he's always showing up and telling the cops what to do. And he's usually right. But when Jacob's small hometown is rocked by a terrible murder, law enforcement comes to him. Jacob's behaviors are hallmark Asperger's, but they look a lot like guilt to the local police. Suddenly the Hunt family, who only want to fit in, are directly in the spotlight. And over this small family, the soul-searing question looms: Did Jacob commit murder?
<a href="#"><u>Kindred</u></a>	Octavia Butler	The first science fiction novel written by a black woman, <i>Kindred</i> has become a cornerstone of black American literature. This combination of slave memoir, fantasy, and historical fiction is a novel of rich literary complexity. Having just celebrated her 26th birthday in 1976 California, Dana, an African-American woman, is suddenly and inexplicably wrenched through time into antebellum Maryland. After saving a drowning white boy there, she finds herself staring into the barrel of a shotgun and is transported back to the present just in time to save her life. During numerous such time-defying episodes with the same young man, she realizes the challenge she's been given.
<a href="#"><u>Laughing at My Nightmare</u></a>	Shane Burcaw	With acerbic wit and a hilarious voice, Shane Burcaw's <i>Laughing at My Nightmare</i> describes the challenges he faces as a twenty-one-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy. From awkward handshakes to having a girlfriend and everything in between, Shane handles his situation with humor and a "you-only-live-once" perspective on life.
<a href="#"><u>Little Women</u></a>	Louisa May Alcott	Generations of readers young and old, male and female, have fallen in love with the March sisters of Louisa May Alcott's most popular and enduring novel, <i>Little Women</i> . Here are talented tomboy and author-to-be Jo, tragically frail Beth, beautiful Meg, and romantic, spoiled Amy, united in their devotion to each other and their struggles to survive in New England during the Civil War.
<a href="#"><u>Long Way Down: The Graphic Novel</u></a>	Jason Reynolds & Danica Novgorodoff	Jason Reynolds's Newbery Honor, Printz Honor, and Coretta Scott King Honor-winning, #1 New York Times bestselling novel <i>Long Way Down</i> is now a gripping, galvanizing graphic novel, with haunting artwork by Danica Novgorodoff.
<a href="#"><u>Pride and Prejudice</u></a>	Jane Austen	The novel follows the character development of Elizabeth Bennet, the dynamic protagonist of the book who learns about the repercussions of hasty judgments and comes to appreciate the difference between superficial goodness and actual goodness. Its humor lies in its honest depiction of manners, education, marriage, and money during the Regency era in Great Britain.
<a href="#"><u>Sarah's Key</u></a>	Tatiana de Rosnay	Paris, July 1942: Sarah, a ten year-old girl, is brutally arrested with her family by the French police in the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup, but not before she locks her younger brother in a cupboard in the family's apartment, thinking that she will be back within a few hours. Paris, May 2002: On Vel' d'Hiv's 60th anniversary, journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article about this black day in France's past. Through her contemporary investigation, she stumbles onto a trail of long-hidden family secrets that connect her to Sarah.

<a href="#"><u>Scars Like Wings</u></a>	Erin Stewart	Everyone has scars. Some are just easier to see ...16-year-old Ava Lee is heading back to school one year after a house fire left her severely disfigured. She's used to the names, the stares, the discomfort, but there's one name she hates most of all: Survivor. What do you call someone who didn't mean to survive? Who sometimes wishes she hadn't? When she meets a fellow survivor named Piper at therapy, Ava begins to feel like she's not facing the nightmare alone. Piper helps Ava reclaim the pieces of Ava Before the Fire, a normal girl who kissed boys and sang on stage. But Piper is fighting her own battle, and when Ava almost loses her best friend, she must decide if the new normal she's chasing has more to do with the girl in the mirror — or the people by her side.
<a href="#"><u>small great things</u></a>	Jodi Picoult	Ruth is a labor and delivery nurse, an african american labor and delivery nurse. One day, she is assigned to work with Turk and Brit Bauer, a couple who just had their first baby, a white supremacist couple. She is removed as their nurse and told she is not to touch the baby. But then the baby goes into cardiac distress, and there are no other hospital personnel around. Does she help the baby or follow orders? When the baby dies, she is charged with murder. This story follows Ruth, Turk, and Ruth's public defender, Kennedy, through the events and trial that follows.
<a href="#"><u>The Alchemist</u></a>	Paulo Coelho	Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far different, and far more satisfying, listening to our hearts, of recognizing opportunity and learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, most importantly, to follow our dreams.
<a href="#"><u>The Boys in the Boat</u></a>	Daniel James Brown	Daniel James Brown's robust book tells the story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal, a team that transformed the sport and grabbed the attention of millions of Americans. The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the boys defeated elite rivals first from eastern and British universities and finally the German crew rowing for Adolf Hitler in the Olympic games in Berlin, 1936.
<a href="#"><u>The Coddling of the American Mind</u></a>	Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt	How good intentions and bad ideas are setting up a generation for failure.
<a href="#"><u>The Eye of the Elephant</u></a>	Delia and Mark Owens.	After being expelled from Botswana for writing their controversial bestseller Cry of the Kalahari, Mark and Delia Owens set off on a journey across Africa, searching for a new Eden. They found it in Zambia, but elephant poachers soon had them fighting for their lives when they tried to stop the slaughter. 16 pages of photos, half in color.
<a href="#"><u>The Haunting of Hill House</u></a>	Shirley Jackson	This slim gothic horror novel tells the story of four individuals who come to Hill House to experience the paranormal. One of the individuals, Eleanor, develops an eerie connection to the house that may or may not be a possession.
<a href="#"><u>The House in the Cerulean Sea</u></a>	TJ Klune	Linus Baker is a by-the-book caseworker in the Department in Charge of Magical Youth. He's tasked with determining whether six dangerous magical children are likely to bring about the end of the world. Arthur Parnassus is the master of the orphanage. He would do anything to keep the children safe, even if it means the world will burn. And his secrets will come to light.

<a href="#"><u><i>The Invisible Library</i></u></a>	Genevieve Cogman	The story follows Irene, a professional spy for the mysterious Library, which harvests fiction from different realities. Along with her enigmatic assistant Kai, she's posted to an alternative London. Their mission – to retrieve a dangerous book. But when they arrive, it's already been stolen. London's underground factions seem prepared to fight to the very death to find her book. Soon, she's up to her eyebrows in a heady mix of danger, clues and secret societies. Yet failure is not an option – the nature of reality itself is at stake. One of the most enjoyable reads this year! Thankfully, another installment in the series is due out this fall and there is plenty of more material to develop. Besides, who wouldn't want to spend more time with this librarian?
<a href="#"><u><i>The Mall</i></u></a>	Megan McCafferty	YA novel that follows a soon-to-be college freshman as she navigates a break-up, summer job, and scavenger hunt through the mall where she works.
<a href="#"><u><i>The Screwtape Letters</i></u></a>	C.S. Lewis	A classic masterpiece of religious satire that entertains readers with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to "Our Father Below." At once wildly comic, deadly serious, and strikingly original, C.S. Lewis's <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> is the most engaging account of temptation—and triumph over it—ever written.
<a href="#"><u><i>The Tattooist of Auschwitz (what I did last year)</i></u></a>	Heather Morris	In April 1942, Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew, is forcibly transported to the concentration camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau. When his captors discover that he speaks several languages, he is put to work as a Tätowierer (the German word for tattooist), tasked with permanently marking his fellow prisoners.
<a href="#"><u><i>Wonder</i></u></a>	R.J. Palacio	A boy born with a facial difference has been homeschooled until fifth grade when he attends school and is dealing with being the new kid and life experiences.