

SUMMER 2020 BOOKLOVE PROJECT

A NOTE FROM YOUR ENGLISH TEACHERS

Dear Students,

Turn on the news; overhear a supermarket conversation in the check-out line; or dip your toe into the flat churning ocean of social media. Everywhere we turn these days, we are confronted with the stagnant words of a stalled conversation in a world that can feel stuck and defensive, refusing to acknowledge that the avoidance of growth leads to withering. Growing means allowing ourselves to take risks and to learn from our failures; if we're not failing at least some of the time, we're definitely not growing.



Last summer, we all read Carol Dweck's research in *Growth Mindset*, looking at the ways in which we, too, have been afraid to be vulnerable in our learning, to seek change in our world, or to evolve personally. As this school year has progressed, we've been called upon to work and learn through thwarted attempts and altered expectations we couldn't have imagined, all the while striving to deconstruct the defensive postures that can block us from growth and development. Both as a high school and as a part of our global society, we have cultivated values prioritizing learning, justice, equality, community, and the ever-evolving pursuit of what is possible—for ourselves, for each other, for the world. But. We can do better. There is no question that our mindsets must continue to develop; we must look at our ever-changing world through new glasses. Our lenses must shift from narrow, one-dimensional perspectives to ones that can contain more complicated pictures.

By joining forces in a spirit of collaboration, we'll germinate the innovations that will lead to creative and powerful solutions for the problems our world faces while continuing to walk this long, lovely, and difficult trail towards true adulthood. All we can tell you for sure is that it will be worth it! In his book *Where Good Ideas Come From*, Steven Johnson writes that "the most productive tool for generating good ideas remains a circle of humans at a table, talking shop" (61). The Summer Book-Love Project this year is all about taking up your place at the table—you know, that table where you don't know anyone; where you might feel intimidated; and where some of the perspectives most definitely will differ from your own.

Now is a time to gather together, talk awhile, listen, and build our collective ideas into something so much bigger than ourselves as we strive to strengthen the community bonds both within our school and in the wider world upon a foundation of curiosity, kindness, and open-minded inclusivity.

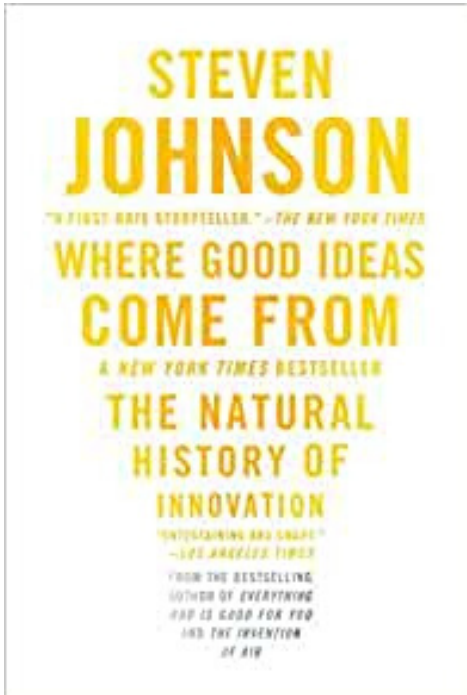
Happy reading!
Ms. Beka & Ms. K

P.s. Be sure to join the Summer Book-Love Google Classroom to complete the assignments related to these texts over the summer, which will contribute toward your first-semester English grades.

If you have any questions or need any support throughout the summer, reach out! Email us at bcastro@waldorfschool.com, and kkuczenski@waldorfschool.com

FIRST: ALL-SCHOOL READ

Watch the brief video below to get you started. Read chapters 1 - 4 of Steven Johnson's book on creativity and innovation. Click on the book picture to go to the Amazon book page; click [HERE](#) to go to audible.com.



A fascinating deep dive on innovation from the New York Times bestselling author of *How We Got To Now*, and *Farsighted*

The printing press, the pencil, the flush toilet, the battery--these are all great ideas. But where do they come from? What kind of environment breeds them? What sparks the flash of brilliance? How do we generate the breakthrough technologies that push forward our lives, our society, our culture? Steven Johnson's answers are revelatory as he identifies the seven key patterns behind genuine innovation, and traces them across time and disciplines. From Darwin and Freud to the halls of Google and Apple, Johnson investigates the innovation hubs throughout modern time and pulls out the approaches and commonalities that seem to appear at moments of originality (*Amazon Review*).

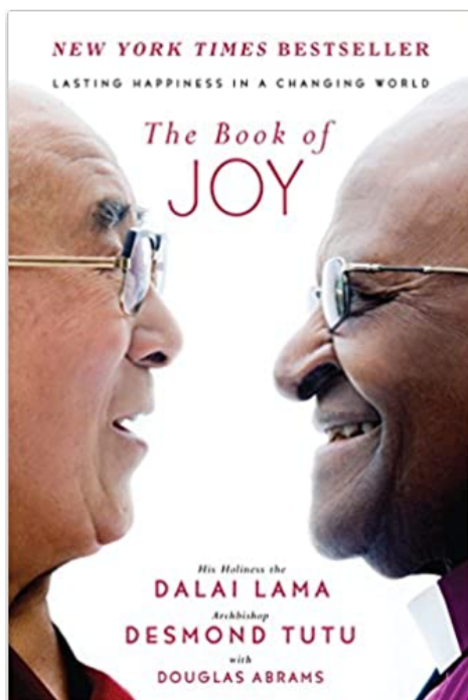


NEXT: ALL-CLASS READ

Your teachers have chosen these books to accompany the courses you will begin in the Fall. As you read, annotate the pages with thoughts, questions, and connections to help you remember important concepts when we return to school. Click directly on the book image to be led to the corresponding Amazon page.

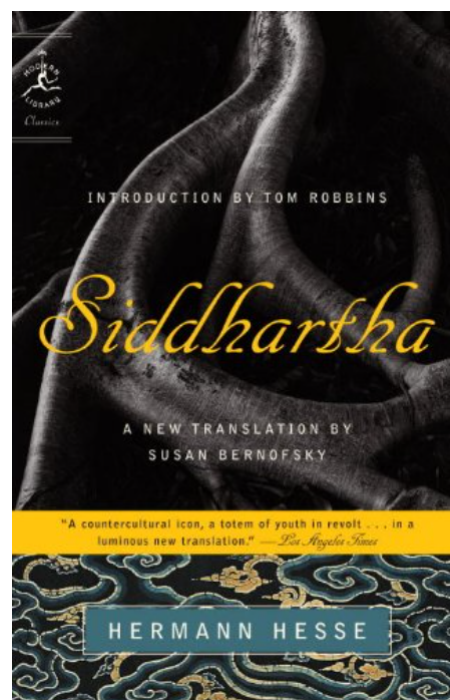
Grade 9

Fall Semester English Track



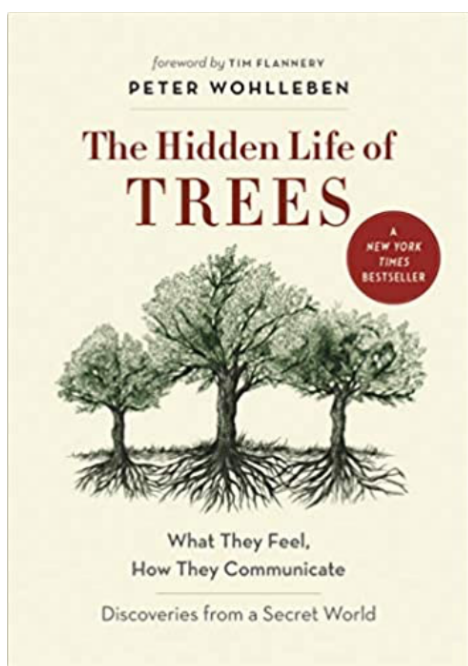
Grade 10

Fall Semester English Track



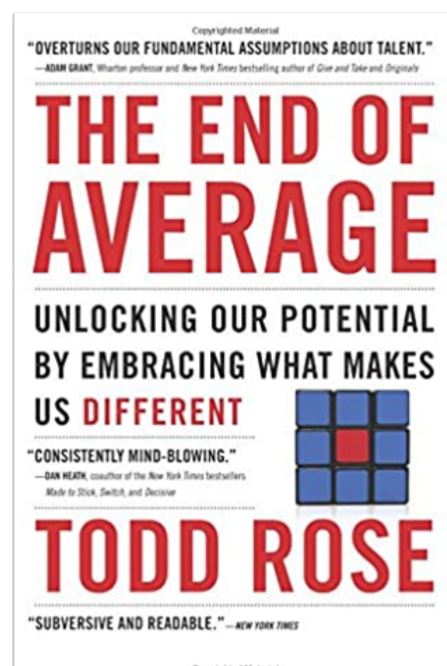
Grade 11

Botany - Main Lesson



Grade 12

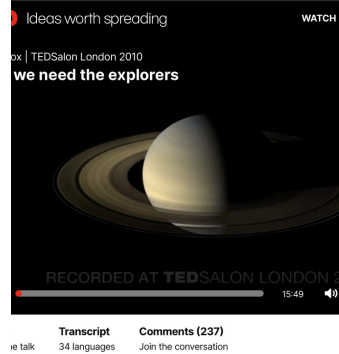
The Essay - Main Lesson



FINALLY: BOOKLOVE

Based on your interests, select at least one more book to read through the lenses of creativity and innovation. To dig a little deeper, check out the related articles, videos, TEDtalks, books, or podcasts by clicking directly on the paired picture.

Mine an alien planet:



Be an agent of change:

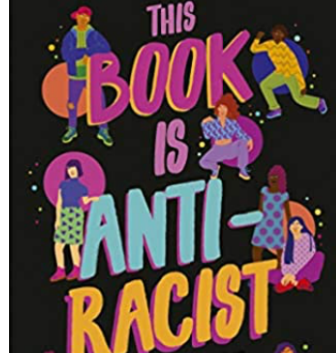
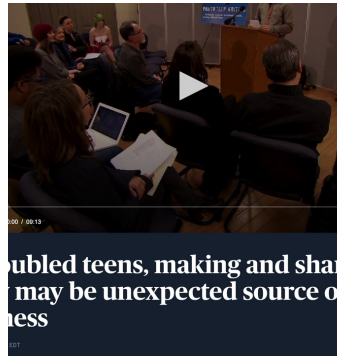
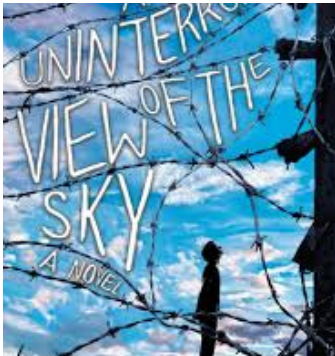


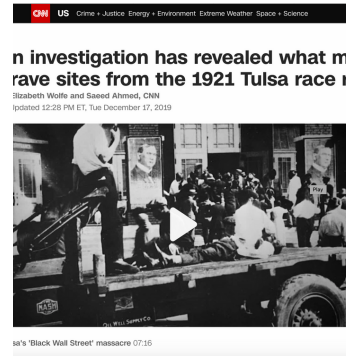
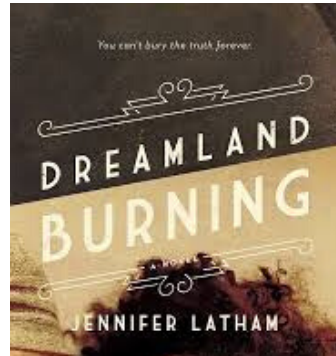
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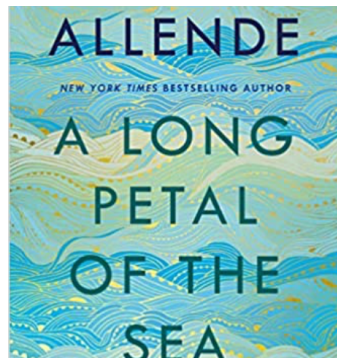
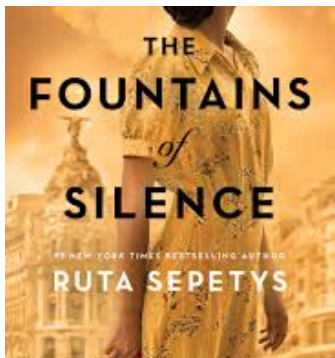
Pursue juvenile criminal justice:



Correct the history books:



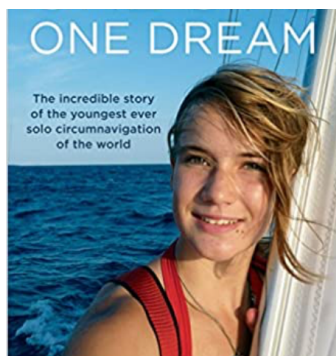
Investigate another culture:



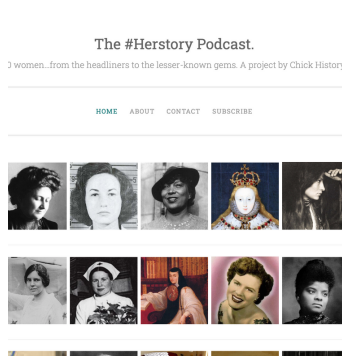
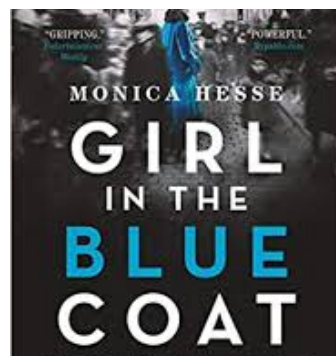
Fight for redemption:



Sail the world:



Go undercover during WWII:



For more recommendations, DM your teachers at @beka_booklove on Instagram

