

## Summer Reading List – History

### Mr. Hill's Summer Picks

*Arc of Justice*, Kevin Boyle: the powerful story of African-American Dr. Ossian Sweet's attempt to move into a middle-class white neighborhood in 1920s Detroit and the headline-grabbing trial that resulted when he sought to defend his home against the racist mob trying to drive him out. Sweet's lawyer was Clarence Darrow, who famously defended John Scopes in the "Monkey Trial." Extraordinary research and insight on race, class, and the American Dream in the modern United States, not to mention that it's written up better than most novels.

*The Rape of Europa*, Lynn Nicholas: What happened to Europe's masterpieces by da Vinci, Raphael, Picasso, and others in the aftermath of Nazi conquests? What art was promoted or destroyed by Hitler and his lackeys? Why? How did the Allies recover and attempt to restore Europe's artistic heritage amidst economic and political chaos in the 1940s? Find out in this truly fascinating and richly researched account that won the National Book Award.

*A Journey Long and Strange: On the Trail of Vikings, Conquistadors, Lost Colonists, and Other Adventurers in Early America*, Tony Horwitz. A prize-winning author's attempt to learn about what happened during the European discovery of the New World by retracing the steps of various European conquerors and the Native Americans they encountered. Full of myth-busting and humorous encounters with the strange ways in which a 500 year-old past still shapes the present.

### Ms. Hanson's Picks:

*Nonviolence: Twenty-five Lessons From The History of A Dangerous Idea*, Mark Kurlansky. A short and highly engaging exploration of nonviolence as a strategy for ending injustice and warfare, this book challenges the reader to think "outside the box" on such ideas as the "just war" theory and whether non-violence can be successful in combating evil in the world. He reminds us that some of our greatest movers and thinkers of human history stirred change through nonviolent tactics.

*The Omnivore's Dilemma*, Michael Pollan. Every now and then a book comes along that "wakes up" Americans. For example, Jacob Riis' *How the Other Half Lives*, (1895) exposed the dark underbelly of the excesses of the industrial Revolution in New York City; Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, published in 1962 set off the modern environmental movement, Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* pushed the issue of Global Warning to a new level. Pollan's *Omnivore's Dilemma* takes the old adage, 'you are what you eat' and examines the drastic ramifications of modern food production on the health of our bodies and our planet. It won't make you a vegetarian, but at the very least it will make you read labels, be aware and think differently about food.

*Mary Elizabeth Garrett*, Kathleen Waters Sander. Without Mary Elizabeth Garrett there might not be a Johns Hopkins University Medical School and Hospital, a Bryn Mawr School and perhaps even a 19<sup>th</sup> amendment (votes for women). She was the wealthiest independent woman in the United States at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and one of this country's leading philanthropists and activists...and she was one

of Baltimore's own. This new biography of Garrett tells her story as well as that of the Garrett family, whose patriarch, started off as a poor farm boy out on the Pennsylvania frontier and shrewdly capitalized on the burgeoning east-west transportation networks which connected the Chesapeake region with the lands beyond the mountains to our west. The story told here is the story of Baltimore's rise as a prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century urban center. Read it and you will get a great insight into Charm City as well as an appreciation of how Mary Elizabeth Garrett forged new ground for women and in education.

9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade – Non-Fiction:

Armstrong, Karen. *A History of God: The 4,000 Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.*

Asprey, Robert. *Frederick the Great: The Magnificent Enigma.*

Blake, Robert. *Disraeli*

Brooks, Geraldine. *Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women.*

Cahill, Thomas. *How the Irish Saved Civilization.*

Cahill, Thomas. *The Gifts of the Jews.*

Cronin, Vincent. *Napoleon Bonaparte.*

Damrosch, Leo. *Jean-Jacques Rousseau: Restless Genius*

Fagan, Brian. *The Little Ice Age: How Climate Made History, 1300-1850.*

Fanon, Frantz. *The Wretched of the Earth*

Frieda, Leonie. *Catherine de Medici: Renaissance Queen of France.*

Fraser, Antonia. *Mary Queen of Scots*

Antonia Fraser. *Marie Antoinette: The Journey*

Gaarder, Jostein. *Sophie's World: A Novel about the History of Philosophy*

Gorbachev, Mikhail. *Memoirs*

Horne, Alistair. *Seven Ages of Paris.*

Massie, Robert. *Peter the Great.*

Melograni, Piero. *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: A Biography*

Philbrick, Nathaniel. *In the Heart of the Sea*

Rifkin, Jeremy. *The European Dream*

Sobel, Dava. *Galileo's Daughter: A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith, and Love*

Stone, Irving. *Reinhold, My Father – A Biography of Pierre August Renoir.*

Stone, Irving. *Dear Theo – A Biography of Vincent Van Gogh*

Tuchman, Barbara. *The Guns of August*.

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade – Non-Fiction:

Ayers, Edward. *In the Presence of Mine Enemies: War in the Heart of America, 1859-1863*.

Ball, Edward, *Slaves in the family*.

Browning, Christopher. *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*.

Davis, Mike. *Ecology of Fear: Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster*.

Faust, Drew Gilpin. *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*

Goodman, James. *Stories of Scottsboro*.

Hochschild, Adam. *King Leopold's Ghost*.

Horwitz, Tony. *Confederates in the Attic*.

Loewen, James. *Lies Across America*.

Loewen, James. *Lies My Teacher Told Me*.

Woodward, C. Vann. *Strange Career of Jim Crow*.

9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Fiction

Brooks, Geraldine. *Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague*.

Chevalier, Tracy. *Girl with a Pearl Earring*.

Dunant, Sarah. *The Birth of Venus*.

George, Margaret. *The Autobiography of Henry VIII*.

Hesse, Hermann. *Siddhartha*.

Koestler, Arthur. *Darkness at Noon*

Remarque, Erich Marie. *All Quiet on the Western Front*.

Seton, Anya. *Katherine*.

Tey, Josephine. *Daughter of Time*.

Vreeland, Susan. *Girl in Hyacinth Blue*.

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Fiction

Anonymous. *Primary Coloes*

Eco, Umberto. *The Name of the Rose*.