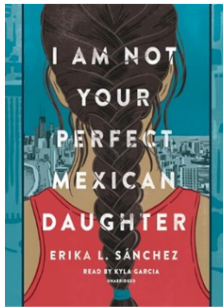


2024 SUMMER READING for PMSA INCOMING FRESHMEN

Due: Thursday, August 15th (First Day of School)

For your required summer reading, you will choose ONE of the four titles below to read over the summer and complete a Journal Reflections Assignment. You will check out your book during your Math Placement test visit at PMSA Forest Park.*

Review the summaries below and decide which book you would like to read.

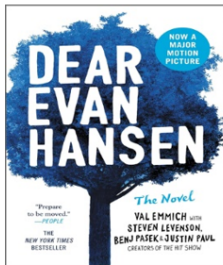
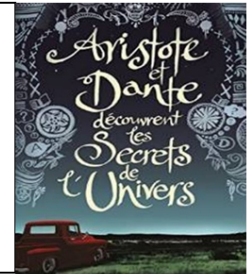


1. **I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter** by Erika L. Sánchez (ISBN: 9781524700515)

The story revolves around , who is not the “perfect” Mexican daughter. Unlike her late sister , Julia doesn’t conform to the traditional roles expected of her. She yearns for independence, education, and a life beyond her parents’ house. But when tragedy strikes, leaving Olga dead and Julia grappling with grief, she embarks on a journey to uncover the truth about her sister.

2. **Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe** by Benjamin Alire Sáenz (ISBN: 9781442408937)

“Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe” by Benjamin Alire Sáenz is a captivating young adult novel that weaves together themes of friendship, identity, and self-discovery.

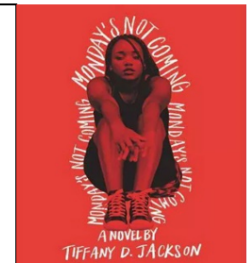


3. **Dear Evan Hansen** by Val Emmich (ISBN: 9780316420235)

When a letter that was never meant to be seen by anyone draws high school senior Evan Hansen into a family’s grief over the loss of their son, he is given the chance of a lifetime: to belong.

4. **Monday’s Not Coming** by Tiffany L Jackson (ISBN: 9780062422675)

Jackson’s characters and their heart-wrenching story linger long after the final page, urging readers to advocate for those who are disenfranchised and forgotten by society and the system.



Here’s what you need to do:

1. Before you begin reading, familiarize yourself with the instructions for the assignment below.
2. It may be a good idea to take some notes while you read, either in a notebook or using sticky post-it notes that you can place directly on the pages.

Journal Reflections Instructions:

- Complete seven (7) journal reflections for your book.
- Each journal reflection should be between 4-8 sentences in length.
- Label each journal entry with the page number(s) or chapter/section that inspired your reflections.
- Individual work is expected. This means the writing should be done by you, not by Artificial Intelligence (AI) or anyone else.
- Write your reflections on regular-sized lined white paper, or type your reflections electronically on your digital device. Be prepared to share your work with your English teacher in the fall through one of the two ways below
 1. Submit your handwritten journal reflections to your English teacher on Day 1 of school.
 2. Email your typed journal reflections to your English teacher using the email address that your teacher provides on Day 1 of school.
- Individual work is expected. This means the writing should be done by you, not by Artificial Intelligence (AI) or anyone else.
- Your journal reflections should not summarize the plot, but instead focus on making deeper connections. **Here are some examples to consider to help you get started:**
 - Connections to other books you've read or artwork you've observed (paintings, drawings, etc.)
 - This section reminds me of a book from 7th grade called _____. It was also about...
 - Connections to yourself – What does the book remind you of in your life?
 - Page 95 reminds me of a time when my grandmother told me...
 - This section makes me think of my birthday party when I was 8 years old...
 - Connections to the real world, to society, culture, or identity
 - I can connect chapter 5 to the real world because I think a lot of people feel...
 - One real world connection with the 4th section of this book is...
 - Thoughts regarding how the character(s) or people in the book/story/poem change or remain the same through their actions, words, or emotions.
 - In the story “___,” the main character Manuel starts off ____, but then changes. For example, when he says, “____,” he shows more empathy...
 - In this book, the author explains that Michael Jordan didn't think..., but then later in life, he felt like...
 - The language used (tone, word choice, style; any literary devices you notice; the way the author writes; the structure of the text, etc.)
 - I like how the poet used exclamation points to emphasize excitement from the speaker. On lines 12, 15, and 22, he says, “____!” This shows...
 - The weather at the beginning of chapter 6 is cold and snowy which I think symbolizes...
 - Write about what you think is the biggest challenge that the main character or person is facing in the book and why.
 - Write about what character(s)/people in the book you relate to the most and why.
 - What do you think is the significance of the book's title?
 - What do you think is the main message or theme of the book?
 - Reflect on the cover of the book and how you think it goes with the content.
 - Reflect on a selected quote from the book that stands out to you and why.

- Discuss how the book's message could impact society or how it has influenced you.

**If you choose to acquire the book on your own through your public library or by purchasing it instead of checking it out through PMSA, you are welcome to do so. However, you are not required to do so.*

If you have any questions about your summer reading book or the assignment, please contact the D209 English Coordinator, Ms. Marino, at amarino@pths209.org.