



Brooklyn Technical High School

Randy J. Asher, Principal

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Dear Incoming BTHS Freshman:

The English program at Tech is a challenging one. It offers many opportunities to experience success in thinking clearly, reading closely, writing precisely, and exploring the imaginative dimension. These skills will form the foundation for outstanding performance in all subjects at Tech; proficiency on the PSAT, SAT, Regents and Advanced Placement exams; academic excellence in college and graduate school; and a lifetime of intellectual vitality.

The curriculum for freshman English begins this summer with a required reading assignment. You are to select and read one book from each of the lists below. This means you will select one work of fiction and one work of nonfiction for a total of two books. Upon your return to school in September, you will have the opportunity to review the assignment and speak with your teacher regarding the assessment.

Prior to visiting your local library, you might consider searching the online catalog to determine availability. You can access the public library catalogs online at <http://web2.queenslibrary.org>, <http://www.nypl.org/catalogs> &/or <http://catalog.brooklynpubliclibrary.org>.

Books are available for purchase at local bookstores and online at www.barnesandnoble.com, www.strandbooks.com, and www.bordersstores.com.

Fiction

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn
Betty Smith

Childhood's End
Arthur C. Clarke

Prep
Curtis Sittenfeld

Ender's Game
Orson Scott Card

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
Marte Hadlon

City of the Beasts
Isabel Allende

America
E.R. Frank

Dawn
Octavia Butler

Time and Again
Jack Finney

Summer of My German Soldier
Betty Green

Nonfiction

Bound Feet and Western Dress
N. P-Mei Chang

Gifted Hands
Dr. Ben Carson

The Color of Water
James McBride

Longitude
Dava Sobel

It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life
Lance Armstrong

Paperboy: Confessions of a Future Engineer
Henry Petroski

Dreams from My Father
Barack Obama

Into Thin Air
Jon Krakauer

Please be advised that some of the suggested works may contain **mature language, themes, or situations**. We strongly encourage parents and/or guardians to preview the books.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this assignment over the summer, please feel free to contact me at mwilliams@bths.edu. I intend to check my e-mail weekly. Have a wonderful summer and enjoy the readings. We look forward to your arrival in September.

Sincerely,

Marc Williams
Assistant Principal – English