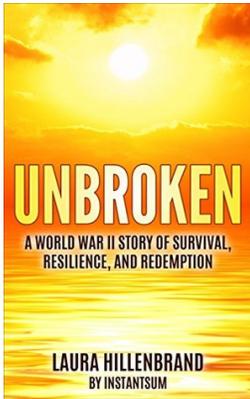


# 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE SUMMER READING LIST

Basic Requirements: Students in **standard** classes must read **ONE book** from the list. Students in **honors** classes must read **TWO books** from the list. All books will be assessed during the first quarter of school. The summer reading log found at the end of the list is due during the first week of school.

## BOOK LIST –

### 1. *Unbroken* by: Laura Hillenbrand (nonfiction biography)



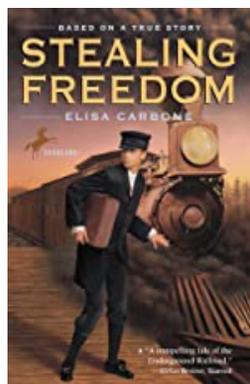
*Unbroken*, written by Lauren Hillenbrand, is the biography of Olympic athlete Louis Zamperini. The book takes the reader on an unbelievable journey through his youth, athletic career, time spent in the armed forces, and his time spent as a prisoner of war. When the story begins, Zamperini and the two others that survived the plane crash have been lost at sea for over 27 days with no food or water. Sharks are circling the raft daily and they are losing hope. Then a plane flies overhead and begins firing on them. The men jump overboard and hide under the raft as bullets go whizzing by them. The crew is then “rescued” by the Japanese and taken to a prisoner of war camp. Zamperini's resilient nature is what enables him to keep going even in the face of starvation and hopelessness. This will be just one of many trials Zamperini faces during his life.

### 2. *Stargirl* by: Jerry Spinelli (realistic fiction)



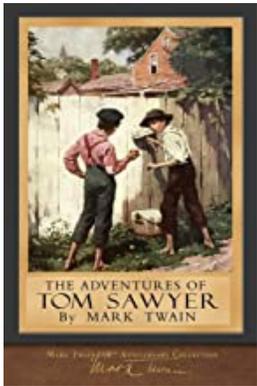
*Stargirl*, an award-winning novel by Jerry Spinelli, explores the school year with the new girl, who has been homeschooled up until this point. She starts school at Mica High as a tenth grader, where Leo is starting his eleventh-grade year. Stargirl's entrance to school is a Big Deal for all the students in this small Arizona town. She immediately starts a stir with her wacky outfits and even more wacky behavior.

### 3. *Stealing Freedom* by: Elisa Carbone (historical fiction)



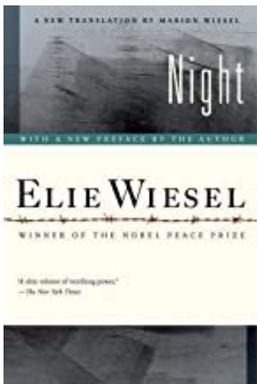
*Stealing Freedom* is inspired by a true story. The moment Ann Maria Weems was born, her freedom was stolen from her. Like her family and the other slaves on the farm, Ann works from sunup to sundown and obeys the orders of her master. Then one day, Ann's family -- the only joy she knows -- is gone. Just 12 years old, Ann is overcome by grief, struggling to get through each day. And her only hope of stealing back her freedom and finding her family lies in a perilous journey: the Underground Railroad.

#### 4. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by: Mark Twain (adventure fiction)



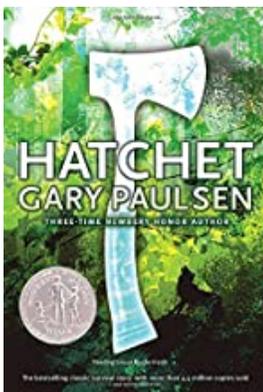
Mark Twain is considered one of the most important American authors, and the first author that wrote in a truly American style. This classic novel is set in St. Petersburg, Missouri, and details the adventures of Tom who frequently gets into trouble with his Aunt Polly. From tricking his friends into doing his work, to witnessing a murder and getting lost in a cave with Becky Thatcher, this book is enjoyable to read and full of excitement.

#### 5. *Night* by: Elie Wiesel (non-fiction memoir)



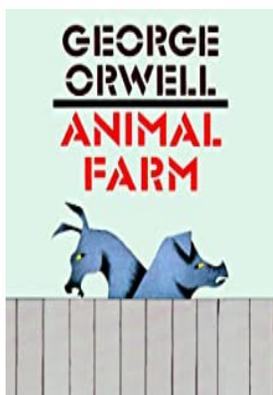
In 1944, in the village of Sighet, Romania, twelve-year-old Elie Wiesel spends much time and emotion on the Talmud and on Jewish mysticism. His instructor, Moshe the Beadle, returns from a near-death experience and warns that Nazi aggressors will soon threaten the serenity of their lives. The book discusses his experience with his father in the Nazi German concentration camps at Auschwitz and Buchenwald in 1944–1945, at the height of the Holocaust toward the end of the Second World War.

#### 6. *Hatchet* by: Gary Paulsen (adventure fiction)



*Hatchet*, a novel by Gary Paulsen, tells the story of 13-year-old Brian Robeson and his successful attempt to survive alone in the Canadian wilderness. When the novel begins, Brian's parents have recently divorced, an event that Brian finds painful. Brian boards a small plane to fly to meet his father in Canada, where his father is working, but becomes the sole survivor when his plane crashes.

#### 7. *Animal Farm* by: George Orwell (prose fiction)



The animals on Mr. Jones' farm were tired of being ordered around by humans and doing all of the work, so they decided to overthrow the farmer and take control of the farm. The pigs are now in charge since they claim they are the smartest animals and know best how to lead. What sounds like freedom quickly turns into another kind of slavery. The historical symbolism in the book is based on the communist era in Russia, but Orwell's use of animals as characters makes it interesting and funny. This is an important classic in literature that should be read by everyone.

# 9th GRADE STUDENT READING LOG

The Summer Reading Log will be due the FIRST WEEK of school.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade for school year 2021 - 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

Honors class \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO (check one)

Students must have read the original, unabridged version of each book completely.

Please list below the book (s) you read for the Summer Reading 2021 Session.

## I. Book One - Required for ALL students

Book title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages read \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_ pages

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Book Two - Required for English Honors students ONLY\*

**\*Please note: Students applying for enrollment in honors classes who do not compete TWO summer reading assignments will be reassigned to a standard class.**

Book title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages read \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_ pages

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_