



Summer Reading: Form III History

All Third Form students are required to read a piece of historical fiction over the summer. The subject matter of the book cannot be mythological. On the second page of this letter is a list of authors and associated novels that have been approved for this project by the Third Form history teachers. Please select one of the approved novels as they have been judged appropriate for their historical and cultural content. Most of these works may be purchased on Amazon.com. It is important that you purchase the book since it will be used extensively during the early part of our year.

Our goal is for the books to parallel the Ancient World History curriculum; therefore, all works take place from **prehistory up through the fourteenth century**. It is important that your son be familiar with the basic sequence of events and central characters of his selected book when school begins. In September, he will be required to write a summary of the book and a brief description of the major characters. **In preparation for the research component of the assignment it would benefit your son to take notes on the primary historical and cultural topics in the book. We recommend that students read or re-read the book toward the end of the summer rather than the beginning.**

Some of the books on the list have graphic descriptions of life and war. If you would like guidance from us as to which book(s) would be appropriate for your son, or if there is a book that your son would like to read which is not on the list, please contact Mr. Long, Mr. Fifer, Mr. Tryon, or Dr. Gurtler, the course instructors. Their email addresses are blong@haverford.org, mfifer@haverford.org, ktryon@haverford.org, and bgurtler@haverford.org.

LIST OF APPROVED WORKS OF HISTORICAL FICTION BY AUTHOR

Lindsey Davis

The Course of Honour

Any novel from "The Falco Series"

PC (Paul) Doherty

Any novel from "The Brother Athelstan" Series

Any novel from "The Hugh Corbett Medieval Mystery" Series

An Evil Spirit out of the West

The Assassins of Isis

The Poisoner of Ptah

The Anubis Slayings

Colin Falconer

When We Were Gods: A Novel of Cleopatra

Michael Curtis Ford

The Ten Thousand

The Fall of Rome

The Last King

The Sword of Attila

Gods and Legions

Robert Graves

I, Claudius

Robert Harris

Imperium: A Novel of Ancient Rome

Pompeii

Cecelia Holland

Pillar of the Sky: A Novel of Stonehenge

The Valley of the Kings

The Soul Thief

Ross Leckie

Carthage: A Novel

Hannibal: A Novel

Scipio Africanus: A Novel

Kanan Makiya

The Rock: A Tale of Seventh Century Jerusalem

Nicholas Nicastro

The Isle of Stone: A Novel of Ancient Sparta

Sharon Kay Penman

Any novel from the Medieval Mystery Series (*As Cruel as the Grave, The Queen's Man*, et alia)

Steven Pressfield

Gates of Fire

The Virtues of War

The Tides of War

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Julian Rathbone

The Last King of England

Mary Reed & Eric Mayer

Any book from the series "John the Eunuch"

Steven Saylor

Any novel from the "Ancient Rome Series"

H.N. Turtletaub

Justinian

Gore Vidal

Julian