

# Incoming 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic and Advanced Academic Required Summer Reading 2009 Bellaire High School

## Incoming 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic English

(total required reading: 1 book)

- *You Don't Know Me* by David Klass

## Incoming 10<sup>th</sup> Grade College Prep English

(total required reading: 1 book)

- All students must read ONE of the following:  
*Running Loose* by Chris Crutcher  
*Watership Down* by Richard Adams

## ASSIGNMENT

During the first week of school, students should be prepared for an exam over their chosen book.

In addition, on the first day of school, each student will choose one of the following assignments to complete:

- 1) Book Jacket:** The cover for the book should depict something of significant meaning from the book. It must also include some artistic representation of the book title and the author's name. The inside front cover of the jacket should include a summary of the book (without giving away the ending). The inside back cover may include information about the other (a brief intro to the author may be found above, but search the internet or local library for additional information to include about the author).
- 2) Creative Writing:** Rewrite the ending or another significant passage from another character's point of view. The assignment should be written in the first person and must be one page in length.
- 3) Story Map:** Choose 6-8 important scenes from the book. Divide a poster board or other large sheet of paper into equal sections. Place the scenes in chronological order on the poster board or large sheet of paper. Each scene must be illustrated and briefly summarized.

Students may contact the following teachers with any questions about the assignment:

Mrs. Fernandez-Grai [sfernand@houstonisd.org](mailto:sfernand@houstonisd.org)

Ms. Lopez [mlopez34@houstonisd.org](mailto:mlopez34@houstonisd.org)

Mr. Olsen [molsen@houstonisd.org](mailto:molsen@houstonisd.org)

Ms. Davis [gdavis6@houstonisd.org](mailto:gdavis6@houstonisd.org)

***All BHS required summer reading books are readily available at most major bookstores and on-line booksellers.***

# About the Books

## *You Don't Know Me*

**You think you know John? Well, let's see . . .** What bathroom fixture did his father have in mind at his birth? Does algebra have a use, besides torture? Who is Glory Halle-lujah? Who is Violent Hayes? What do they want? Who or what are the Lashasa Palulu? Why do fools fall in love? How can anyone who is fighting a secret battle for his life know anyone? And how can they know him?

## *Running Loose*

Louie Banks has the world by the tail. It's his last year in high school; he has wheels, a starting spot on the football team, good friends, and the girl of everyone's dreams. If he can stay away from Boomer Cowans long enough to graduate, he's got it made. But the world suddenly turns and snatches Louie by the tail, and it just won't let go. His visions of sportsmanship and fair play go up in smoke by the second game of the season; his expectations of life are shattered by spring.

Many of Louie's wounds are self-inflicted; others, the result of a cold random throw of the cosmic dice. Either way, his road to manhood has become cluttered with seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

*Running Loose* is a story about that time in a boy's life when he is suddenly expected to act like a man-to be accountable for the things he does and to react reasonably to the craziness around him. Sometimes Louie does; sometimes he doesn't. (from [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com))

## *Watership Down*

A phenomenal worldwide bestseller for over thirty years, Richard Adams's *Watership Down* is a timeless classic and one of the most beloved novels of all time. Set in England's Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale of adventure, courage and survival follows a band of very special creatures on their flight from the intrusion of man and the certain destruction of their home. Led by a stouthearted pair of brothers, they journey forth from their native Sandleford Warren through the harrowing trials posed by predators and adversaries, to a mysterious promised land and a more perfect society. (from [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com))