# KS4 English Language and Literature reading List

### **Top Reads**



**Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury. In a bleak dystopian future, where books are forbidden, a small group try to keep knowledge, reading and freedom alive.

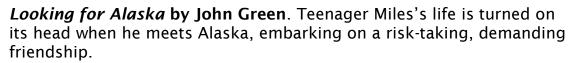
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini. (A Level Literature text). Set in Afghanistan and America, against a backdrop of the Soviet invasion and the rise of the Taliban, this beautiful coming-of-age novel hinges on how one action can have a lifetime of consequences. Trigger warning: rape.

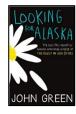




**Birdsong** by Sebastian Faulks. Through two parallel narratives, one in WWI and one in 1970, Faulks vividly explores the effect of trauma.

#### Easy Reads







*Maus* by Art Spiegelman. Legendary in the comic book genre, this graphic novel story depicts the Holocaust in a deeply moving, tender and personal way.

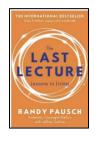
**Grow by Luke Palmer.** When Josh's father is murdered in a terrorist atrocity, he finds himself both picked out and fascinated by extreme racists who try to capitalise on his grief and misfortune. **Trigger warning: murder.** 





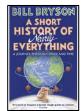
Carrie by Stephen King. (recommended by Ms Ghatore). A must-read modern horror genre novel. Teen Carrie starts to exhibit supernatural powers and she focuses on those bullying her with spectacular and unexpected consequences. A good counterpoint book to compare to Frankenstein in Year 11.

### **Enrichment Reads (non-fiction)**



The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch. Suffering from terminal cancer, Professor Randy Pausch gave one final lecture. In it, he described, how to dream, how to overcome obstacles and how to live those dreams.

A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson. (recommended by Miss D'Lima). A hilarious, thought-provoking and incredibly interesting exploration of the world, encapsulating areas like Physics, History and Geography.





Cosmos by Carl Sagan. This book places human life into a wider context of history, science, philosophy and religion. Great for Year 11 students interested in Science - though also, generally a superbly written and captivating read.

### **Challenging Reads**

**Dracula** by Bram Stoker

**Rebecca** by Daphne Du Maurier

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

The War of the Worlds by HG Wells



## A selection of books that are now TV shows and films



