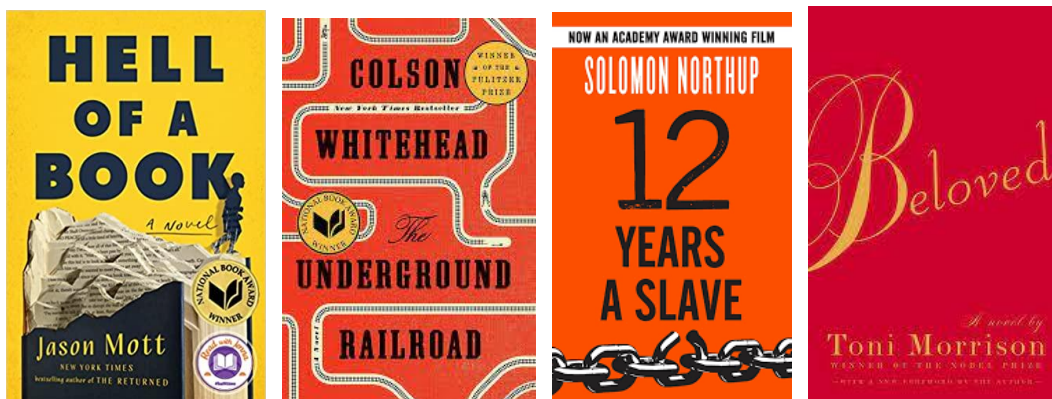


## Discovery Charter Preparatory School Summer Reading 2023 English 11 & 12

With the goals of fostering life-long learning, reinforcing academic achievement, and promoting reading as an enjoyable activity, each Discovery Charter Preparatory student is required to complete a summer reading project. **Students are to read a book this summer: from the approved choice list during the summer months and complete an assignment from the assignment list below.**

**Projects are due on the first day of school and will be counted for a grade.**

### Approved Choice list:



***Hell of a Book* by Jason Mott:** In Jason Mott’s *Hell of a Book*, a Black author sets out on a cross-country publicity tour to promote his bestselling novel. That storyline drives *Hell of a Book* and is the scaffolding of something much larger and more urgent: Mott’s novel also tells the story of Soot, a young Black boy living in a rural town in the recent past, and The Kid, a possibly imaginary child who appears to the author on his tour.

***Beloved* by Toni Morrison:** Published in 1987 and winner of the 1988 [Pulitzer Prize](#) for fiction. The work examines the destructive [legacy](#) of [slavery](#) as it chronicles the life of a black woman named Sethe, from her pre-[Civil War](#) days as a slave in [Kentucky](#) to her time in [Cincinnati](#), Ohio, in 1873. Although Sethe lives there as a free woman, she is held prisoner by memories of the trauma of her life as a slave.

***The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead:** Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. Life is hell for all the slaves, but especially bad for Cora; an outcast even among her fellow Africans, she is coming into womanhood—where even greater pain awaits. When Caesar, a recent arrival from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, they decide to take a

terrifying risk and escape. Matters do not go as planned—Cora kills a young white boy who tries to capture her. Though they manage to find a station and head north, they are being hunted.

***12 Years a Slave* by Solomon Northrup:** This is the true story of Solomon Northrup, who was born and raised as a freeman in New York. He lived the American dream, with a house and a loving family - a wife and two kids. Then one day he was drugged, kidnapped, and sold into slavery in the deep south. These are the true accounts of his twelve hard years as a slave - many believe this memoir is even more graphic and disturbing than the film. His extraordinary journey proves the resiliency of hope and the human spirit despite the most grueling and formidable of circumstances.

## **Project Choices:**

1. Choose a favorite character and create a diagram that shows how the character changes throughout the story. The diagram should include one-page written explanations for the character's transformation. This should include at least 7 character changes.

2. Turn the novel (or part of the novel) into a comic book

- Should be at least 20 tiles
- Consider using Pixton (free, online animation website)

3. Journal your reading experience throughout the novel. There must be at least 12 entries – ½ page each. Questions to consider:

- How are the characters changing?
- Write about a personal experience that is similar to one a character is having
- Write down a quote or passage that you like. Explain why.
- Make a prediction about what will happen next.
- What is your opinion of a character's actions?

4. Imagine you are a Hollywood producer, who is turning the novel into a movie.

Create a plot outline including the following elements:

- What actors/actresses would play each role? Why?
- Where would you film the movie? Why?
- Which parts of the novel would you emphasize? Why?
- What kind of movie would it be (children vs. adult, animation, action, comedy, etc..)? Why?
- Would you change anything in the novel's plot to make it a better movie?
- What special effects would you need, if any?
- Would people be interested in seeing this movie? Why?

5. Write a poem, or a series of poems, that pertain to the novel. Must total 100 lines

6. Create an art portfolio about the novel.

- Should include at least 6 pieces of original art
- Can include photography, painting, drawing, sculpting, Photoshop etc.
- Each piece should have a 5-7 sentence description about how it relates to the novel.