

White Plains High School

AP and Honors Classes

Summer 2019 Required Reading Books

English 1H

- Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng
- The Distance Between Us: A Memoir by Reyna Grande (original version, not young readers edition)
- The Pearl by John Steinbeck
- Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse

English 2H

- Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng
- The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to his White Mother by James McBride

English 3AP

- Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng
- Outliers by Malcom Gladwell

English 3H

- Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng
- A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines

English 4AP

- Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng
- All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
- The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien

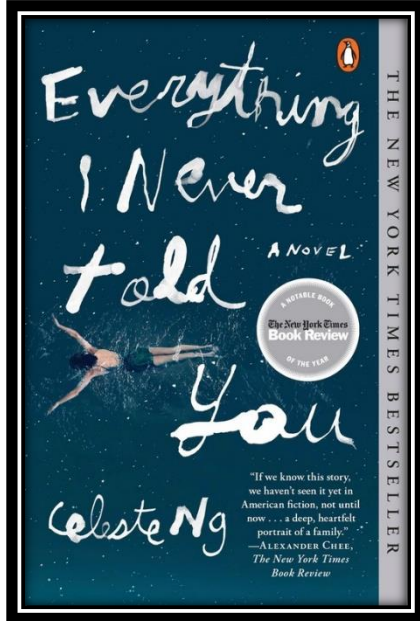
Syracuse University Project Advance Student (SUPA)

- Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng
- When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi

WHITE PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL 2019 SUMMER READING

This year all White Plains High School students are REQUIRED to read *Everything I Never Told You*, by Celeste Ng. Students should be prepared to discuss the book upon returning to school in September.

ATTENTION STUDENTS ENTERING HONORS CLASSES: STUDENTS ENTERING HONORS CLASSES HAVE A SPECIFIC REQUIRED ASSIGNMENT. THE HONORS ASSIGNMENTS ARE POSTED ON THE HIGH SCHOOL AND ENGLISH DEPARTMENT WEBPAGES.



A profoundly moving story of family, history, and the meaning of home, *Everything I Never Told You* is both a gripping page-turner and a sensitive family portrait, exploring the divisions between cultures and the rifts within a family, and uncovering the ways in which mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, and husbands and wives struggle, all their lives, to understand one another.

This year's summer reading for all WPHS students is *Everything I Never Told You*, by Celeste Ng. The title was selected through a collaboration between WPHS students and staff, the staff of the White Plains Public Library, and members of the White Plains community. Participants read, discussed, and voted on a variety of titles before selecting *Everything I Never Told You* for a shared community read.

The critically acclaimed novel tells the story of the Lee family, a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio. Marilyn and James Lee; are determined that their children, Lydia and Hannah, will fulfill the dreams they were unable to pursue. However, their plans are upended when a tragedy strikes their family.

“If we know this story, we haven’t seen it yet in American fiction, not until now... Ng has set two tasks in this novel’s doubled heart—to be exciting, and to tell a story bigger than whatever is behind the crime. ... What emerges is a deep, heartfelt portrait of a family struggling with its place in history, and a young woman hoping to be the fulfillment of that struggle. This is, in the end, a novel about the burden of being the first of your kind—a burden you do not always survive.”

— The New York Times Book Review