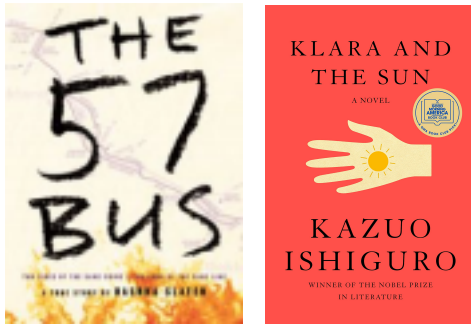


English IV Summer Reading



***The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime that Changed Their Lives* by Dashka Slater**

“A compelling, sometimes emotional nonfiction story of a 2013 assault in Oakland, California, when an African-American public-school teen boy named Richard set fire to a sleeping, gender-nonconforming white private school teen named Sasha on that bus. The story follows Sasha’s recovery and Richard’s subsequent trial and punishment, as well as their back stories. The story is thought-provoking and provides great discussion points about gender, racism, and the criminal justice system.”

***Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro**

“*Klara and the Sun*, is narrated by...an AF, or Artificial Friend, a humanoid robot designed as a companion for children. When the novel opens, Klara is in a store full of other AFs, gleaning what she can about the human world from the window, like a goldfish whose whole world is one room. Egoless and naive, Klara believes that her mission is to make her eventual owner happy, and so she has to find out everything she can about human feelings.” *NPR*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read thoughtfully and carefully.
- Details matter.
- Annotate. It will help you read closely, and your notes will help you review in the fall.
- What are the big ideas, values and lessons put forth in these texts?
- Consider the characters, both real and fictional, and how their thoughts and actions illuminate the themes of the texts.
- Consider the settings, both real and fictional, and how these backgrounds illuminate the themes of the texts.
- You will be quizzed on the texts at the beginning of the year for general understanding, and you will also write about them after we have spent some time in discussion as a class.