



12TH GRADE SUMMER READING

ENG IV College Prep

Students in ENG IV will choose one of the following titles:

- *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad



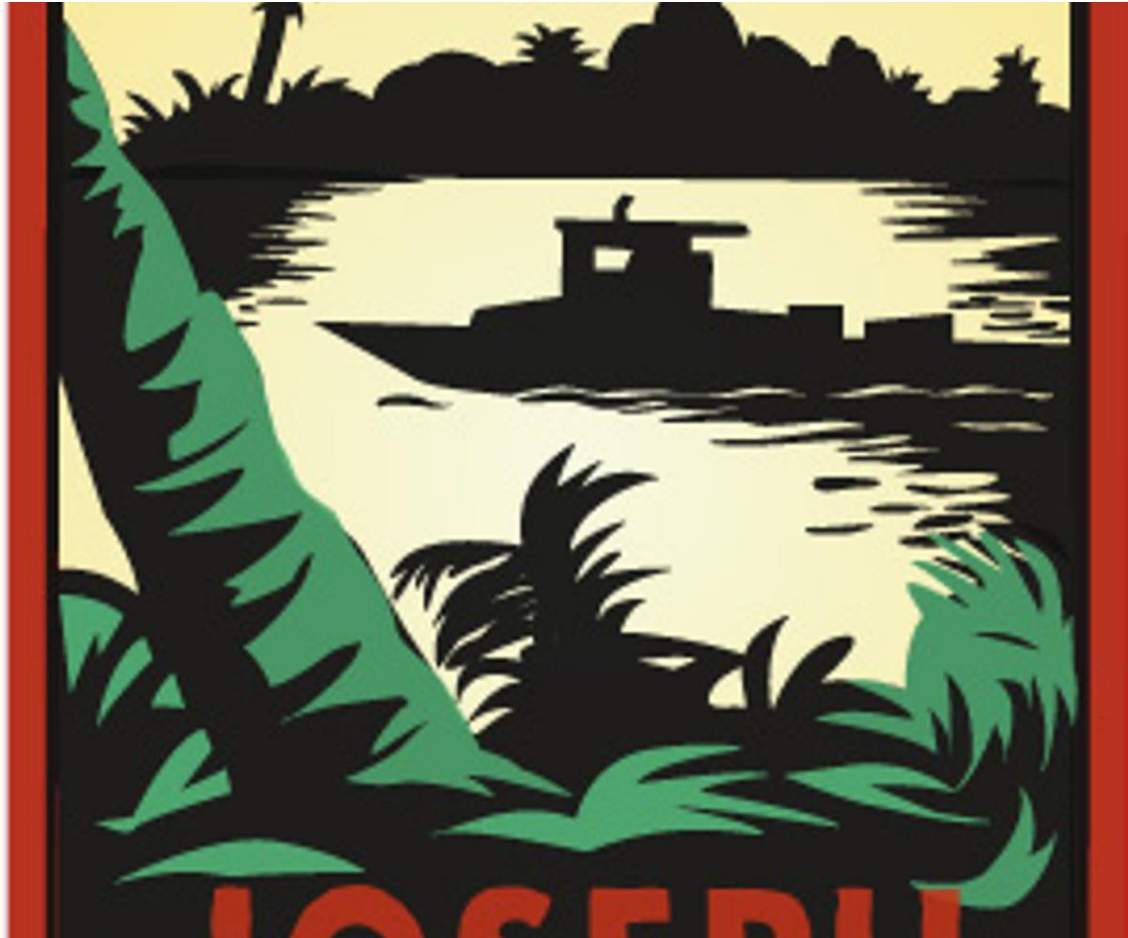
- *Ophelia* by Lisa Klein



- *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

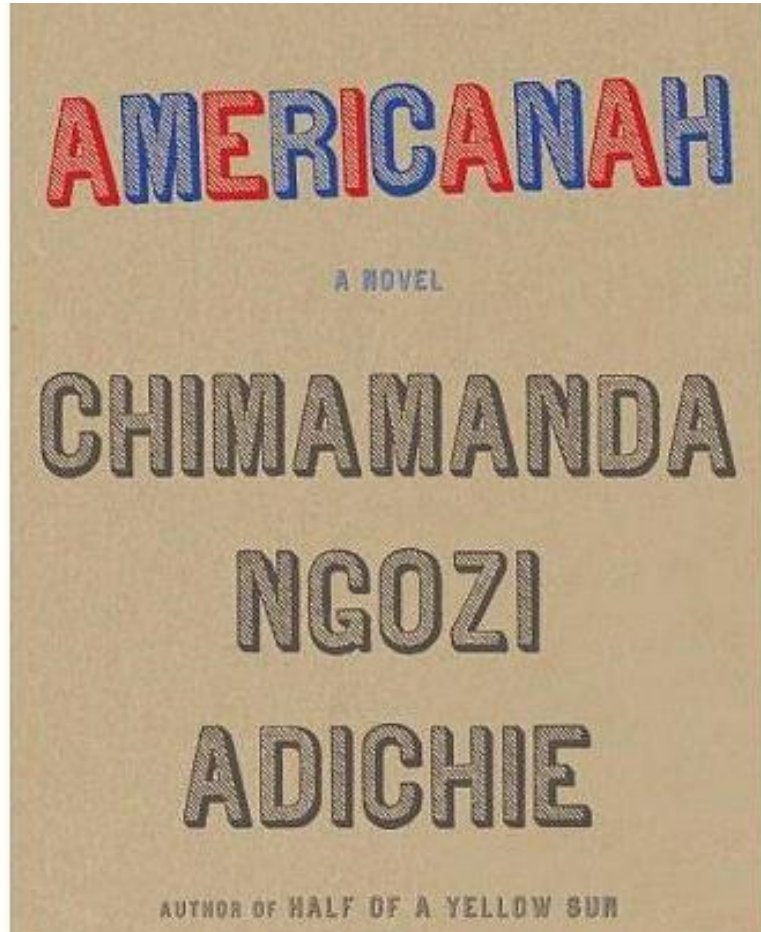


- *V for Vendetta* by Alan Moore



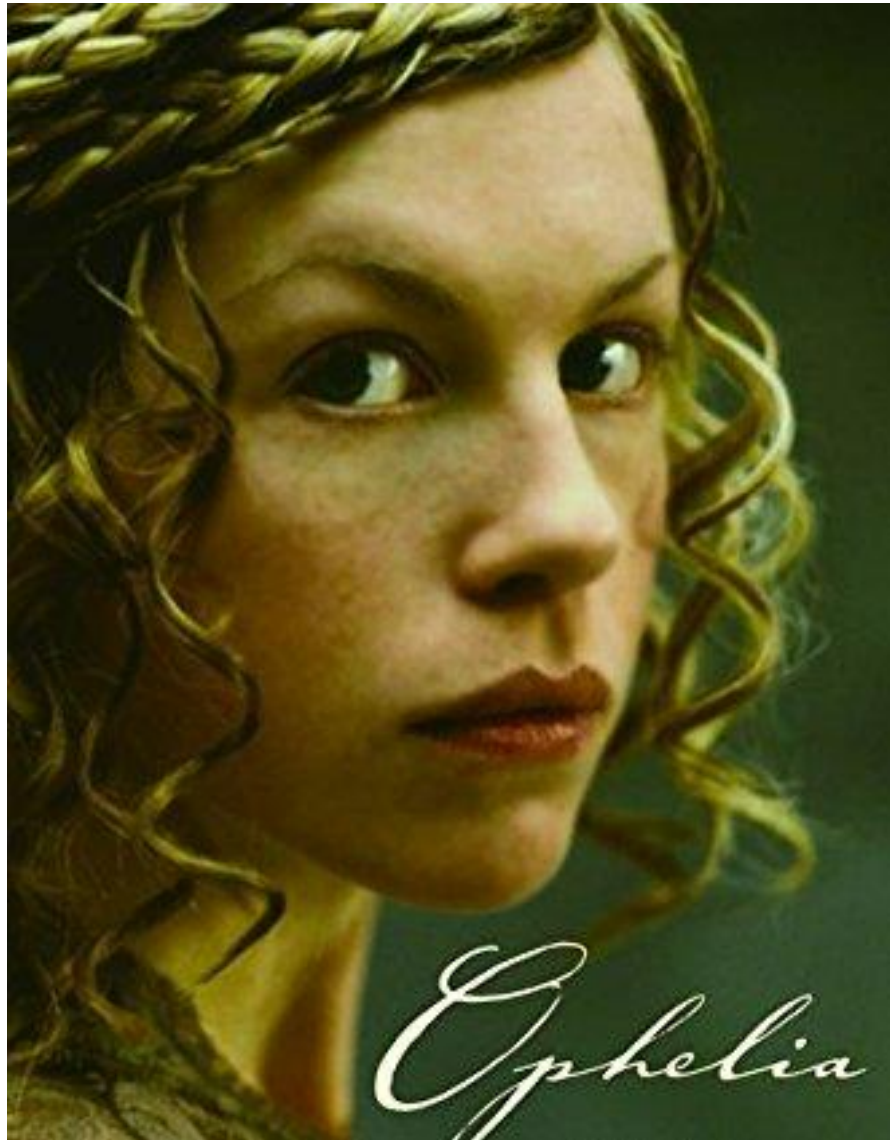
Heart of Darkness

- Joseph Conrad based his novella on his personal experiences on a steamboat in Africa.
- Deep in the Congo, the ivory trader Kurtz runs his own little kingdom, brutalizing the local workers. The book's narrator, a traveler turned ship's captain named Marlow, becomes obsessed with Kurtz.
- Commenting on imperialism, racism, and the darkness within each person, Conrad's work is considered by many one of the best English novels of the 20th century.



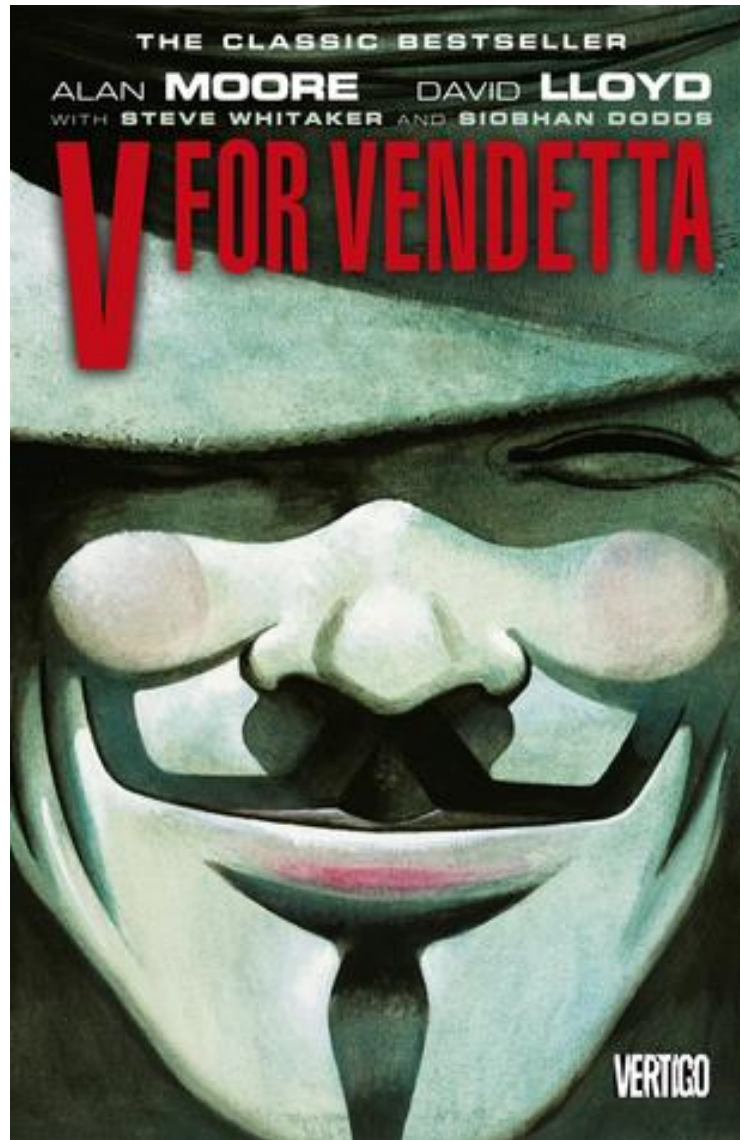
Americanah

- Adichie is a Nigerian writer who now lives in the U.S.
- Her novel published in 2013 tells the story of Ifemelu, who leaves Nigeria to study at a university in the United States.
- Her boyfriend Obinzie is unable to join her as planned. The story follows their different life journeys.
- Ifemelu encounters racism as she has never known it and starts blogging about her experiences as a "Non-American Black."
- Years later, Ifemelu returns to Nigeria and reconnects with Obinzie, now married with a daughter.



Ophelia

- Lisa Klein's novel retells the story of *Hamlet* from Ophelia's point of view.
- In this version, Ophelia takes center stage and becomes, as she says, "the author of my tale."



V for Vendetta

- Alan Moore and David Lloyd's 1990 graphic novel envisions an England in the not-too-distant future when fascism has prevailed, and an authoritarian police state exists.
- V is the anti-hero revolutionary in the Guy Fawkes mask, a man formerly imprisoned and damaged by the totalitarian government. He now seeks vengeance.