

## 8th Grade Summer Reading

**This summer the class will be reading *The Finest Hours (Young Readers Edition): The True Story of a Heroic Sea Rescue.***

This adaptation for young readers of *The Finest Hours: The True Story of the US Coast Guard's Most Daring Sea Rescue* by Michael J. Tougias and Casey Sherman tells the story of the shipwreck of two oil tankers and the harrowing Coast Guard rescue when four men in a tiny lifeboat overcame insurmountable odds and saved more than 30 stranded sailors.

On the night of February 18, 1952, during one of the worst winter storms that New England has ever seen, two oil tankers just off the shore of Cape Cod were torn in half. With the storm in full force and waves up to 70 feet high, four coast guardsmen headed out to sea in a tiny lifeboat to come to the rescue. They were the only hope for the stranded sailors. Despite incredible obstacles, these brave men risked their lives, remembering the unofficial Coast Guard motto: You have to go out, but you do not have to come back.

This is a fast-paced, uplifting story that puts young readers in the middle of the action. It's a gripping true tale of heroism and survival in the face of the elements.

New York Times bestselling author Michael J. Tougias adapts his histories of real life stories for young readers in his True Rescue Series, capturing the heroism and humanity of people on life-saving missions during maritime disasters.

This book is available on audio and can be purchased for \$7 off of Amazon. Students should pace themselves with this book in order to not get behind. Upon the return to school, we will be having assignments pertaining to the novel and an assessment.

Students should pay attention to the following while reading:



**Plot**  
**Conflicts**  
**Characters**  
**Climax**  
**Resolution**

**Happy Reading! Enjoy your summer.**  
**Ms. Herman**