

**SUMMER READING COURSE LINK
REQUIRED TITLES**

COURSE TITLE Literary Experience 9

GRADE 9

TITLE: *Eragon* (Inheritance, Book 1)

AUTHOR: Christopher Paolini

GENRE: Fantasy

Editorial Review from Amazon.com:



Christopher Paolini began *Eragon* when he was just 15, and the book shows the influence of Tolkien, of course, but also Terry Brooks, Anne McCaffrey, and perhaps even Wagner in its traditional quest structure and the generally agreed-upon nature of dwarves, elves, dragons, and heroic warfare with magic swords.

Eragon, a young farm boy, finds a marvelous blue stone in a mystical mountain place. Before he can trade it for food to get his family through the hard winter, it hatches a beautiful sapphire-blue dragon, a race thought to be extinct. Eragon bonds with the dragon, and when his family is killed by the marauding Ra'zac, he discovers that he is the last of the Dragon Riders, fated to play a decisive part in the coming war between the human but hidden Varden, dwarves, elves, the diabolical Shades and their neanderthal Urgalls, all pitted against and allied with each other and the evil King Galbatorix. Eragon and his dragon Saphira set out to find their role, growing in magic power and understanding of the complex political situation as they endure perilous travels and sudden battles, dire wounds, capture and escape.

Please note: There are maps and glossaries to help readers keep track of the many unusual (pseudo-Celtic) names of people and places as well as magic terms that appear in the story.

REQUIRED STUDENT RESPONSE: Identify elements of characterization and plot in the novel. You should take these notes either in a notebook or on *post-its* within the text as you read.