

A Separate Peace

John Knowles

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A Separate Peace is about the close friendship between Phineas and Gene, two boys who attend Devon, a boarding school, during World War II. The struggles of war and the rivalry between the two close friends makes a compelling story which John Knowles weaves into a classic that should be read by everybody. Unlike many great war novels, *A Separate Peace* is more about the internal conflicts of the civilians and how the war changed life on the home front, instead of the gruesome horrors of war.

The novel starts in the summer of 1942, when all the students in Devon school are relaxed and innocent, just having fun. Throughout the novel, many of the characters, including Gene and Phineas, face challenges and conflicts that threaten to break friendships and the will to fight. Following Phineas' charming personality will keep you reading and see how some people can hold on to hope and see the good of life. This novel will make you feel the emotions of the characters, just as if they were your own. I would definitely recommend picking this book up if you are high school and over, and giving it a chance.

Some other Classics I recommend:

Lord of the Flies

Phineas(Prequel to *A Separate Peace*) *All Quiet on the Western Front*