



**TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Theory of Knowledge**  
**Summer 2009 Reading Requirement**

This summer, in keeping with our TOK theme of growth, please read *The Wild Trees* by Richard Preston. This true story of adventure and daring will keep you intrigued as you encounter the field work of various individuals interested in preserving the ancient rain forests of northern California. As narrative nonfiction, *The Wild Trees* presents an engrossing account of the coastal redwoods (*sequoia sempervirens*) which a small group of dedicated scientists (and amateurs) study intensely, often risking their lives in the process. In the meantime, a love story unfolds. The passion, intelligence, and courage of these individuals—and the majesty of the trees—will truly inspire you! As you read please keep a journal of our TOK related topics such as:

- Various types of intelligence such as visual, spatial, kinesthetic and interpersonal
- Ways of knowing such as logic, intuition, emotion, faith, etc.
- Illusions or misconceptions and other problems of knowledge
- The disciplines of science, history, psychology, math, art, and ethics

You are expected to have at least one full page entry in a spiral notebook for each of the five sections listed below:

***Part I: Vertical Eden***

***Part II: The Fall of Telperion***

***Part III: The Opening of the Labyrinth***

***Part IV: Love in Zeus***

***Part V: Into the Deep Canopy***

Please do not write in bullet points or an outline. I would be happy to know your reactions, so feel free to e-mail me at least once this summer: [ib@trinityhs.org](mailto:ib@trinityhs.org)

Enjoy *The Wild Trees* as you branch out in your thinking about nature, ecology, history, time, and human relationships. For further information about the book, including reviews and photos, and other related links, please visit:

<http://www.richardpreston.net/books/wt.html>

<http://www.sempervirens.org/sequoiasemp.htm>

