

## Values Summer Reading Assignment 2017

Every student at CDH is required to complete a summer reading assignment. For Values, select only from the list provided. You will have to purchase or check it out on your own. Read the novel and complete the assignment. Turn in to your Values class the first day of school.

*Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson

*Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard

*Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

Based on your novel, concentrate on three aspects that create community. We will study these aspects using your examples.

- Relationships
- Where a person lives (place, culture, time, physical environment)
- Ideas or things that happen.

For **each** of these in order, find **two** specific quotes from different parts of the book. **6 quotes total.**

First, write each quote, however long, word for word in quotation marks with the page number in parenthesis at the end.

Then, write a 5 sentence explanation of what is happening in this quote, and why it is important in regards to the aspect it describes: Relationships, Where a person lives, Ideas or things that happen. Again, there should be **two** quotes for each bullet point above.

Your assignment should be typed, double-spaced, using Times New Roman font. Your header on the first page should be at the top left and should include in order: Your Name, Values, 29 August 2015. See the example of one entry provided below. Again, there will be 6 total.

All the Values teachers look forward to meeting you! Please let me know if you have questions by emailing me. Have a great summer. Good reading.

Sincerely,  
Steven Tacheny  
English Department, Values Teacher  
stacheny@c-dh.org

Example of formatting and assignment:

Name

Values

25 August 2016

*The Book Title* by Author

Relationships:

“Of all the things that kept her alive, the memory of her mother was the strongest thread to tie her to the past “ (90).

Because Frannie knew that she was probably never going to get back on the ship, only memories of her mother were available. She really couldn't find new friends in her small town and that was making it harder for her. Her mother really seems to be important, especially when she remembers the kitchen where her mother taught her to cook the amazing pies. In fact, if she had never learned to bake such amazing pies, she never would have been as successful moving to a new country. Truly, her mother's relationship was the best thing she could have brought with her, if only based on a memory.

**Book Descriptions:**

***Between Shades of Gray*** by Ruta Sepetys

Historical Fiction, 2011

Read by Student Book Club: gave it an A

Summary & Review from Booklist

Sepetys' first novel offers a harrowing and horrifying account of the forcible relocation of countless Lithuanians in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country in 1939. In the case of 15-year-old Lina, her mother, and her younger brother, this means deportation to a forced-labor camp in Siberia, where conditions are all too painfully similar to those of Nazi concentration camps. Lina's great hope is that somehow her father, who has already been arrested by the Soviet secret police, might find and rescue them. A gifted artist, she begins secretly creating pictures that she hopes be surreptitiously sent to him in his own prison camp. Whether or not this will be possible, it is her art that will be her salvation, helping her to retain her identity, her dignity, and her increasingly tenuous hold on hope for the future. Many others are not so fortunate. Sepetys, the daughter of a Lithuanian refugee, estimates that the Baltic States lost more than one-third of their populations during the Russian genocide. Though many continue to deny this happened, Sepetys' beautifully written and deeply felt novel proves the reality is otherwise. Hers is an important book that deserves the widest possible readership.

***Fahrenheit 451*** by Ray Bradbury

Dystopian Classic Fiction, 1951

Summary & Review from School Library Journal

In this foremost example of dystopian fiction, Bradbury twists the heroic role of firefighters. In a futuristic society, firemen don't put out fires, they start them. Specifically, they burn books and the subversive ideas contained within their pages. The trouble begins when one fireman, Guy Montag, begins to question the system and seeks to escape the control of the city. Hoyer is a superb guide through this terrifying world, moving both action and reflection along with exactly the right pacing. First published in 1953, the story remains disturbingly contemporary and the ending, with its determination to keep books alive by memorizing them and speaking them aloud, is well suited to the audio medium.

***Brown Girl Dreaming*** by Jacqueline Woodson

Poetry/Memoir, 2014

National Book Award Winner, Coretta Scott King Award, Newbury Honor Book

Summary & Review from The New York Times Book Review

Jacqueline Woodson, one of today's finest writers, tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse. Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become. Ms. Woodson writes with a sure understanding of the thoughts of young people, offering a poetic, eloquent narrative that is not simply a story . . . but a mature exploration of grown-up issues and self-discovery.

***Red Queen*** by Victoria Aveyard

Fantasy, 2015

Summary & Review from School Library Journal

Seventeen-year-old Mare Barrow lives in a world where one's lot in life is determined by the color of one's blood. She was born a Red and has to make a living by pickpocketing and trying to dodge "the conscription" and being sent off to fight an ongoing war. Mare's resigned herself to the fact that she'll always serve the Silver, a genetically gifted group of people with supernatural abilities. A chance encounter with the prince causes Mare to suddenly find herself at the royal palace as a servant, where she discovers in front of everyone that she also has a unique gift. She is Red and Silver, and could be just the spark the Reds need to rise up against the oppressive Silvers. The king and queen quickly cover up Mare's anomaly by presenting her to the rest of the Silvers as a long-lost princess and betroth her to their second-born son. Now Mare is torn between playing the part of a Silver, and helping out the Scarlet

Guard rebellion. The story has touches of the usual dystopian suspects. However, its formulaic elements are far outweighed by the breakneck pace and engaging characters. There's a bit of teen romance, but luckily the characters are self-aware enough to realize its frivolity among the story's more important plot points. A solid debut from Aveyard and a welcome addition to the plethora of speculative teen lit.

***Wonder*** by R.J. Palacio

Fiction, 2012

Catalog Summary:

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunts and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.