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## **Highschool Summer Reading Assignment**

Each student in 9th-12th grade will have a grade-level appropriate, assigned reader and corresponding assignments. The books are available at Barnes and Noble (online or in store) and at amazon.com. Please check your local, public library for availability, if you prefer a sign out option. For your convenience, all of the book information is available on the school's website; [www.ncacademy.org](http://www.ncacademy.org).

### **Assignments: 9th-11th Grade**

#### ***Word Log:***

All students are responsible to keep a log of unfamiliar vocabulary words that they encounter in their reading. Students will search for the unfamiliar words using Google's dictionary feature and record the definitions for these terms. The goal is for students to familiarize themselves with these terms in order to enhance their understanding of the text. A minimum of 15-20 entries for the entire novel is expected.

#### **Choose one of the following:**

#### ***Creative Project:***

Students can choose to create a piece of visual, graphic, modeling, decorative, literary, or performance art that reflects a key theme(s) or symbol(s) from their summer reading novel. The artwork should clearly showcase the particular theme(s) or symbol(s) that appears in the novel and should include a *150-200 word paragraph* explaining the theme/symbol and how it is represented in the artwork. The paragraph should utilize MLA standard formatting: 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1 inch margins.

#### ***Theme Essay:***

Alternatively, students can choose to write a *2 page* theme essay addressing a major theme in the novel. The paper will highlight the particular theme, demonstrating how this theme is revealed in the novel and connecting the theme to real-world experiences or issues. This will include a three-point thesis statement which will provide structure for the essay response. The paper should utilize MLA standard formatting: 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1 inch margins.

### **Assignments: 12th Grade**

Students entering 12th grade (Seniors) will not be required to keep a word log, but instead will engage in a more in-depth analysis of themes in the text.

#### **Choose one of the following:**

##### ***Creative Project:***

Seniors can choose to create a piece of visual, graphic, modeling, decorative, literary, or performance art that reflects a key theme(s) or symbol(s) from their summer reading novel. The artwork should clearly showcase the particular theme(s) or symbol(s) that appears in the novel and should include a 1.5-2 page description 1. identifying the theme/symbol and how it is represented in the artwork and 2. explaining their creative process. The description should utilize MLA standard formatting: 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1 inch margins.

##### ***Theme Essay:***

Alternatively, Seniors can choose to write a 3-4 page theme essay addressing a major theme(s) in the novel. The paper will highlight the particular theme(s) and demonstrate how this theme(s) is revealed in the novel. The paper will also make connections between the theme(s) and real-world experiences or current events. This will include a three-point thesis statement which will provide structure for the essay response. The paper should utilize MLA standard formatting: 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1 inch margins.

#### **Grading—All:**

This summer reading assignment will be counted as your first grade, in Languages Arts/English, for the 2023-2024 school year. Students will submit their assignments on the first day of school and will participate in discussion of key themes and content as part of their introduction to their class's literature unit.

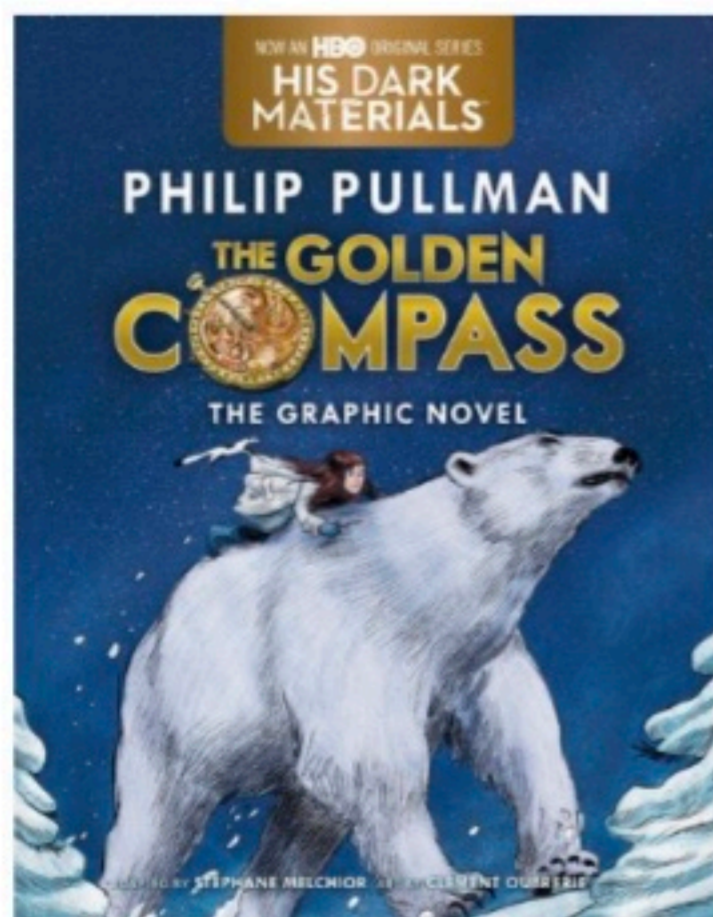
**PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO COMPLETE THIS ASSIGNMENT;  
START EARLY AND PACE YOURSELF!**

9th Grade:

*The Golden Compass: The Graphic Novel*

By: Philip Pullman

ISBN-13 : 978-0553535174



Lyra Belacqua is content to run wild among the scholars of Jordan College. But the arrival of her fearsome uncle, Lord Asriel, draws her to the heart of a terrible struggle—a struggle born of Gobblers and stolen children, and a mysterious substance known as Dust. As she hurtles toward

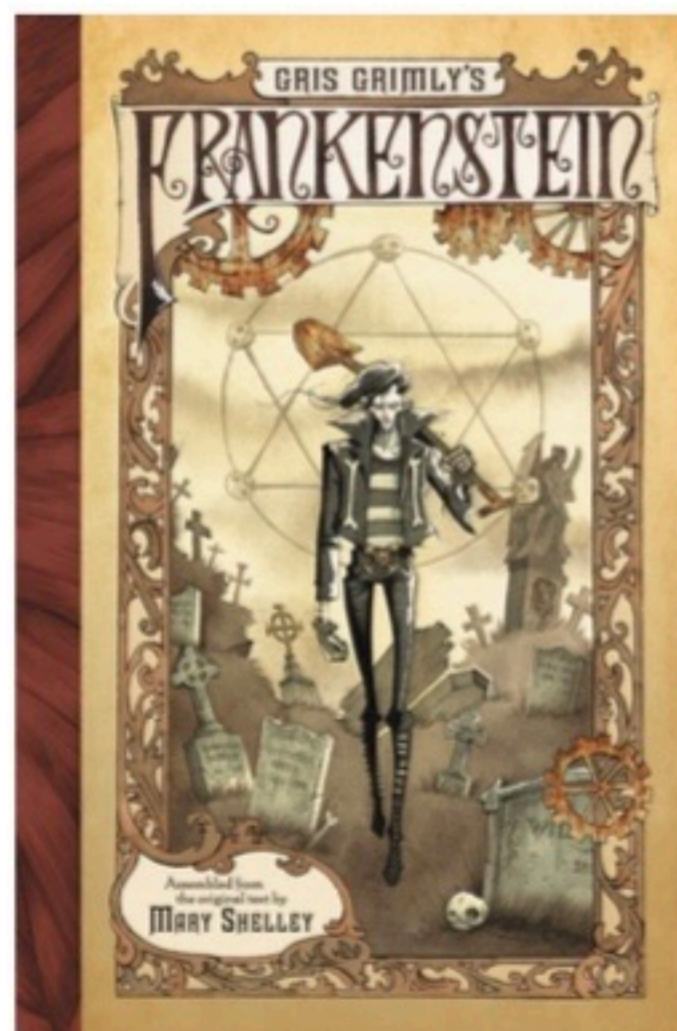
danger in the cold far North, Lyra never suspects the shocking truth: she alone is destined to win—or to lose—this more-than-mortal battle.

10th Grade:

*Gris Grimly's Frankenstein*

By: Mary Shelley (Original 1818 text)

ISBN-13 : 978-0061862984



Young scientist Victor Frankenstein, grief-stricken over the death of his mother, sets out in a series of laboratory experiments testing the ability to create life from non-living matter. Soon, his experiments progress further until he creates a humanoid creature eight feet tall. But as Frankenstein

soon discovers, a successful experiment does not always equal a positive outcome...and an attempt at playing God can yield terrible consequences.

11th Grade:

*They Called Us Enemy*

By: George Takei

ISBN-13 : 978-1603094504



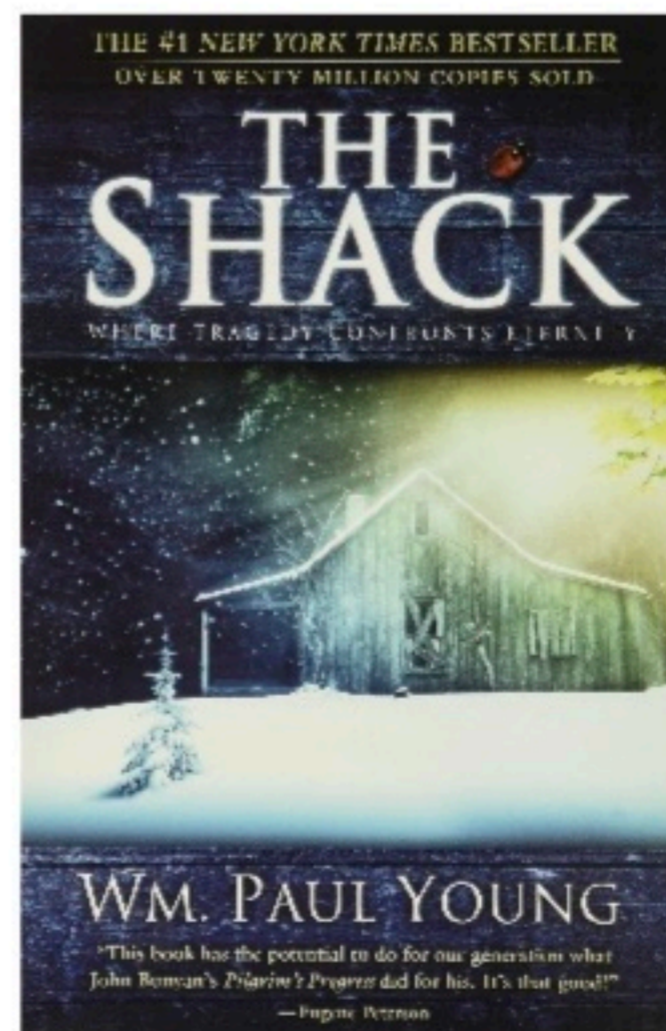
A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor/author George Takei's childhood imprisoned within Japanese internment camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself -- in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love.

12th Grade:

*The Shack*

By: Wm. Paul Young

ISBN-13: 978-0964729230



Mackenzie Allen Phillips' youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later in the midst of his Great Sadness, Mack receives a

suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend. What he finds there will change Mack's world forever.