

Grade 8 Summer Reading Project 2010

There are two parts to your summer reading project this year. Each part is required, but you may do them in whatever order you choose. However, the reading you do for Part 1 may not be used in Part 2. Read on to find out more about what lies in store for you this summer!

Part 1

Read *Persepolis*, by Marjane Satrapi. This book is available at most libraries, bookstores, or at Amazon.com. If you have already read this book for independent reading earlier in the year, please pick up a copy and re-read it sometime during the summer.

You are not required to read *Persepolis 2*, but you may find that you want to. Go ahead! If you chose to watch the movie, just make sure that you have read the book(s) first.

When you return to St. Luke's in September, be prepared to talk about your reactions. In addition to thinking about why this book was created as a graphic novel instead of as a pure text memoir, consider how the following areas are important:

- Characters
- Setting
- Politics
- Religion
- Family
- Violence
- Narrative point of view

You will be reading several graphic novels over the course of the year to supplement other class novels, so be prepared to have thoughts and opinions about the genre as well as the content.

Part 2

In addition to reading *Persepolis*, you will read at least 8 books of your own choice over the summer. The assignment this year is very similar to the assignment from last year, but instead of writing your postcards from the point of view of one of the characters, you will write from the point of view of the author as s/he tries to figure out how to resolve the main conflict of the book. Below is an example:

<p>July 22, 2010</p> <p>Dear Mr. Pelegano,</p> <p>I am writing to you as I prepare to finish writing my shortnovel, <i>The Pearl</i>. So far, it has been easy to write about the struggles that Kino and Juana have faced as they try to find justice amidst the racism and bigotry of their town. However, I feel stuck as I try to write about their journey into the mountains outside of La Paz. I think that I must end the story tragically and soon, since the symbolism that I set up in the first chapters is pushing my characters to act more and more like animals. However, I have grown attached to little Coyotito, and hate to see him die. I wonder if I should find a way to end the story without the tragedy that so far seems inevitable...</p> <p>Sincerely, John Steirnbeck (a.k.a. Jane Doe)</p>	<div data-bbox="1104 504 1323 682" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">Stamp goes here</div> <p style="text-align: right;">To: Mr. Pelegano St. Luke's School 487 Hudson Street New York, NY 10014</p>
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Don't forget to date each postcard. Also, remember to sign both with the name of the author and with your own name so that you can receive full credit.

The postcards should be mailed by August 31, 2010. Please feel free to write more, if you feel inspired!

If you have any questions, please make sure to ask before we leave for summer vacation because Mr. Pelegano will not be reachable by email until September.

I have read and understood the assignment for summer reading.

Student Name and Signature: _____

Parent Name and Signature: _____