



## 2023-2024 Summer Reading

**Student Name:**

**Entering Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 (Circle one)**

- Students entering 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades are expected to read 2 books over the summer. Choose any book you'd like!!
- Only 1 Graphic Novel allowed.
- Choose a different project for each book. You can only do one project for each book (example: only one comic strip, next project must be a different choice)
- **Students will turn in projects to English teachers the first week of school.**

**Suggestions are below:**

**Book # 1:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Author:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle one choice:**

- Create a comic strip about the book. Comic strip must include at least 9 frames and include characters and dialogue for each frame from the beginning of the book to the end of the book. Please use the attached template to complete the Comic Strip assignment.
- Create a poster board about your book. Poster board must include important details about the book, including a summary.
- Change the ending: choose one character and write an alternate ending to the story. Written response must be at least 1 page. Please use the attached template to complete the Change the Ending assignment
- Sequence Chart: Create a sequence of the major events that took place (at least 8 events). Please use the attached template to complete the Sequence Chart assignment
- Create a PowerPoint/Canva/Google Slides summarizing the events of the book.
- Complete the Graphic Organizer summary attached. Click on the link provided and make a copy of the graphic organizer to complete your reading assignment.
- Write a Song or Poem, 20 lines that relate to the book.

**Book # 2:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Author:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle one choice:**

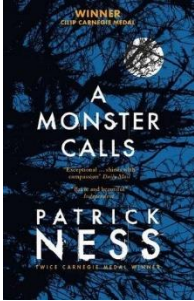
1. Create a comic strip about the book. Comic strip must include at least 9 frames and include characters and dialogue for each frame from the beginning of the book to the end of the book. Please use the attached template to complete the Comic Strip assignment.
2. Create a poster board about your book. Poster board must include important details about the book, including a summary.
3. Change the ending: choose one character and write an alternate ending to the story. Written response must be at least 1 page. Please use the attached template to complete the Change the Ending assignment
4. Sequence Chart: Create a sequence of the major events that took place (at least 8 events). Please use the attached template to complete the Sequence Chart assignment
5. Create a PowerPoint/Canva/Google Slides summarizing the events of the book.
6. Complete the Graphic Organizer summary attached. Click on the link provided and make a copy of the graphic organizer to complete your reading assignment.
7. Write a Song or Poem, 20 lines that relate to the book.

## **SUGGESTIONS 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading**

**Choose any book you'd like.** These are suggestions only.

FICTION (Pick 1 - If you choose *Heartstopper* you have to read the FIRST TWO VOLUMES)

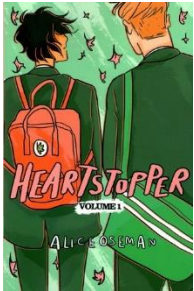
### **1. *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness (214 Pages)**



**Summary:** The monster in Conor's backyard is not the one he's been expecting — the one from the nightmare he's had every night since his mother started her treatments. This monster is ancient. And wild. And it wants something from Conor. It wants the truth.

**Genre:** Young Adult/Low Fantasy/Drama

### **2. *Heartstopper: Volumes 1 AND 2* by Alice Oseman (Graphic Novel)**



**Summary:** Shy and softhearted Charlie Spring sits next to rugby player Nick Nelson in class one morning. A warm and intimate friendship follows, and that soon develops into something more for Charlie, who doesn't think he has a chance. But Nick is struggling with feelings of his own, and as the two grow closer and take on the ups and downs of high school, they come to understand the surprising and delightful ways in which love works.

**Genre:** Drama/LGBTQ+/Romance

### **3. *Patron Saints of Nothing* by Randy Ribay (318 pages)**



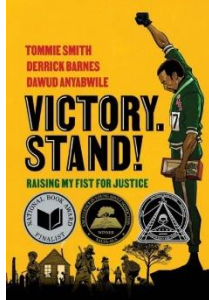
**Summary:** Jay Reguero plans to spend the last semester of his senior year playing video games before heading to the University of Michigan in the fall. But when he discovers that his Filipino cousin Jun was murdered as part of President Duterte's war on drugs, and no one in the family wants to talk about what happened, Jay travels to the Philippines to find out the real story. Hoping to uncover more about Jun and the events that led to his death, Jay is forced to reckon with the many sides of his cousin before he can face the whole horrible truth - and the part he played in it.

**Genre:** Realistic Fiction

[Click here to READ an excerpt from \*Patron Saints of Nothing\*](#)

## NONFICTION

### 1. *Victory. Stand!: Raising My Fist for Justice* by Tommie Smith, Dawud Anyabwile, Derrick Barnes (Graphic Novel) (208 pages)



#### Summary:

On October 16, 1968, during the medal ceremony at the Mexico City Olympics, Tommie Smith, the gold medal winner in the 200-meter sprint, and John Carlos, the bronze medal winner, stood on the podium in black socks and raised their black-gloved fists to protest racial injustice inflicted upon African Americans. Both men were forced to leave the Olympics, received death threats, and faced ostracism and continuing economic hardships.

In his first-ever memoir for young readers, Tommie Smith looks back on his childhood growing up in rural Texas through to his stellar athletic career, culminating in his historic victory and Olympic podium protest.

### 2. *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly (264 Pages)



Summary: Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space.

Among these problem-solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation. Originally relegated to teaching math in the South’s segregated public schools, they were called into service during the labor shortages of World War II, when America’s aeronautics industry was in dire need of anyone who had the right stuff. Suddenly, these overlooked math whizzes had a shot at jobs worthy of their skills, and they answered Uncle Sam’s call, moving to Hampton, Virginia and the fascinating, high-energy world of the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory.

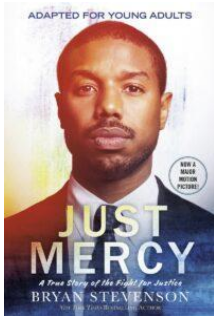
Even as Virginia’s Jim Crow laws required them to be segregated from their white counterparts, the women of Langley’s all-black “West Computing” group helped America achieve one of the things it desired most: a decisive victory over the Soviet Union in the Cold War, and complete domination of the heavens.

Starting in World War II and moving through to the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement and the Space Race, *Hidden Figures* follows the interwoven accounts of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson and Christine Darden, four African American women who participated in some of NASA’s greatest successes. It chronicles their careers over nearly three decades they faced challenges, forged alliances and used their intellect to change their own lives, and their country’s future.

[Click here to READ an excerpt of \*Hidden Figures\*](#)

[Click here to HEAR an excerpt of \*Hidden Figure\*](#)

### 3. Just Mercy: A True Story of the Fight for Justice (Adapted for Young Adults) (288 Pages)

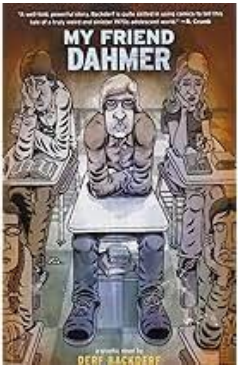


**Summary:** In this young adult adaptation of the acclaimed bestselling *Just Mercy: A True Story of the Fight for Justice*, Bryan Stevenson delves deep into the broken U.S. justice system, detailing from his personal experience his many challenges and efforts as a lawyer and social advocate, especially on behalf of the most rejected and marginalized people in the United State

In this very personal work — proceeds of which will go to charity — Bryan Stevenson recounts many and varied stories of his work as a lawyer in the U.S. criminal justice system on behalf of those in society who have experienced some type of discrimination and/or have been wrongly accused of a crime and who deserve a powerful advocate and due justice under the law.

Through the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI), an organization Stevenson founded as a young lawyer and for which he currently serves as executive director, this important work continues. EJI strives to end mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States. [[Description from GoodReads.com](#)]

### 4. My Friend Dahmer A Graphic Novel ( 224 Pages)

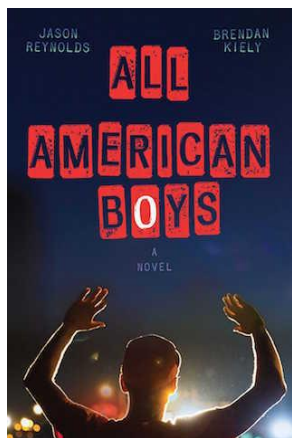


**Summary:** You only think you know this story. In 1991, Jeffrey Dahmer—the most notorious serial killer since Jack the Ripper—seared himself into the American consciousness. To the public, Dahmer was a monster who committed unthinkable atrocities. To Derf Backderf, “Jeff” was a much more complex figure: a high school friend with whom he had shared classrooms, hallways, and car rides.

In *My Friend Dahmer*, a haunting and original graphic novel, writer-artist Backderf creates a surprisingly sympathetic portrait of a disturbed young man struggling against the morbid urges emanating from the deep recesses of his psyche—a shy kid, a teenage alcoholic, and a goofball who never quite fit in with his classmates. With profound insight, what emerges is a Jeffrey Dahmer that few ever really knew, and one readers will never forget.

**SUGGESTIONS 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading**  
**Choose any book you'd like. These are suggestions only.**

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***All American Boys* by Brendan Kiely and Jason Reynolds (2015)**

Two teens—one black, one white—grapple with the repercussions of a single violent act that leaves their school, their community, and, ultimately, the country bitterly divided by racial tension.

Rashad and Quinn—both American—face the unspeakable truth that racism and prejudice didn't die after the civil rights movement. There's a future at stake, a future where no one else will have to be absent because of police brutality. They just have to risk everything to change the world.

Genre: Fiction, Young Adult, Realistic Fiction, Social Justice, Cultural

Literary Awards: Coretta Scott King Book Award Nominee for Author Honor (2016), Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award (2016), Lincoln Award Nominee (2018), Walter Dean Myers Award (2016), Jugendbuchpreis Friedolin (2017); Keystone to Reading Book Award Nominee for High School (2017), Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee (2017), Evergreen Teen Book Award Nominee (2018).

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***The Good Immigrant: 26 Writers Reflect on America* by Nikesh Shukla (2016)**

An urgent collection of essays by first and second-generation immigrants, exploring what it's like to be othered in an increasingly divided America.

Chigozie Obioma unpacks an Igbo proverb that helped him navigate his journey to America from Nigeria. Jenny Zhang analyzes cultural appropriation in 90s fashion, recalling her own pain and confusion as a teenager trying to fit in. Fatimah Asghar describes the flood of memory and emotion triggered by an encounter with an Uber driver from Kashmir. Alexander Chee writes of a visit to Korea that changed his relationship to his heritage.

These writers, and the many others in this singular collection, share powerful personal stories of living between cultures and languages while struggling to figure out who they are and where they belong. By turns heartbreaking and hilarious, troubling and uplifting, the essays in *The Good Immigrant* come together to create a provocative, conversation-sparking, multivocal portrait of America now.

Genre: Non-fiction; Essays, Memoir; Social Movements; Race

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## ***The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas (2017)**



Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.

Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful and gripping YA novel about one girl's struggle for justice.

Genre: Fiction; Young Adult; Realistic Fiction; Social Movements; Race

Literary Awards: National Book Award Nominee for Young People's Literature (2017), Odyssey Award (2018), William C. Morris YA Debut Award (2018), Los Angeles Times Book Prize Nominee for Young Adult Literature (2017), Edgar Award Nominee for Best Young Adult (2018), Michael L. Printz Award Nominee (2018), Teen Buckeye Book Award (2018), Rhode Island Teen Book Award (2019), Evergreen Teen Book Award Nominee for High School (2020), Coretta Scott King Book Award Nominee for Author Honor (2018), and so many more!

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## ***In Real Life* by Cory Doctorow and Jen Wang (Illustrations) (2014)**



Anda loves Coarsegold Online, the massively-multiplayer role-playing game where she spends most of her free time. It's a place where she can be a leader, a fighter, a hero. It's a place where she can meet people from all over the world, and make friends.

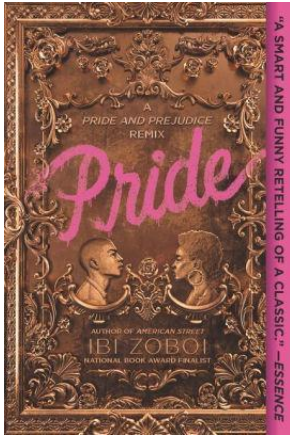
But things become a lot more complicated when Anda befriends a gold farmer--a poor Chinese kid whose avatar in the game illegally collects valuable objects and then sells them to players from developed countries with money to burn. This behavior is strictly against the rules in Coarsegold, but Anda soon comes to realize that questions of right and wrong are a lot less straightforward when a real person's real livelihood is at stake.

Genre: Fiction; Fantasy, Graphic Novel/Comics; Young Adult; Realistic Fiction; Game/Gaming

Literary Awards: Milwaukee County Teen Book Award Nominee (2016), Goodreads Choice Award Nominee for Graphic Novels & Comics (2014)

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## ***Pride: A Pride and Prejudice Remix* by Ibi ZoBoi (2019)**



A reimagining of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Zuri Benitez has pride. Brooklyn pride-family pride-and pride in her Afro-Latino roots. But pride might not be enough to save her rapidly gentrifying neighborhood from becoming unrecognizable.

When the wealthy Darcy family moves in across the street, Zuri wants nothing to do with their two teenage sons, even as her older sister, Janae, starts to fall for the charming Ainsley. She especially can't stand the judgmental and arrogant Darius. Yet as Zuri and Darius are forced to find common ground, their initial dislike shifts into an unexpected understanding.

But with four wild sisters pulling her in different directions, cute boy Warren vying for her attention, and college applications hovering on the horizon, Zuri fights to find her place in Bushwick's changing landscape, or lose it all.

Genre: Fiction; Romance; Contemporary, Young Adult; Realistic Fiction; Cultural

## **Summer Reading Suggestions for ESL Students**

For ELL Students, select at least one of the following to read and answer the discussion questions. Try to have your summer reading completed by the first day of school. Your responses to the response to the discussion questions (typed and edited) are due September 6th, the Tuesday after Labor Day.

*Lupita Manana* by Patricia Beatty

To help her poverty-stricken family, 13-year-old Lupita enters California as an illegal alien and starts to work while constantly on the watch for "la migra."

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*Children of the River*, Linda Crew

Having fled Cambodia four years earlier to escape the Khmer Rouge army, seventeen-year-old Sundara is torn between remaining faithful to her own people and enjoying life in her Oregon high school as a "regular" American.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*Born Confused*, Tanuja Desai Hidier

A young woman from India, discovers that she is not Indian enough for the Indians and not American enough.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*Boat People*, Mary Gardner

A community of newly arrived Vietnamese struggle to maintain a balance between Vietnam and America.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*Ellen Foster*, Kaye Gibbons

An abused child searches for a better life and finally gets a break in the home of a loving woman with several foster children.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*A Circle Unbroken*, Solace Hotze

Captured by Sioux Indians and raised as the chief's daughter, Rachel is recaptured by her original family and finds it hard to adjust, longing to return to the tribe.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*The Giver*, Lois Lowry

Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*Bridge to Terabithia*, Katherine Paterson

The friendship between two young people grows, as they meet in their secret hiding place, only to end in tragedy.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*Hang a Thousand Trees with Ribbons*, Ann Rinaldi

Phillis Wheatley, as a child, was brought to the eighteenth century United States as a slave and became famous throughout the colonies as an important black American poet.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, Mildred D. Taylor

A black family living in the South during the 1930's is faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand.

[CLICK HERE FOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#)

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*If You Come Softly*, Jacqueline Woodson

A black teenage boy whose parents are separated and a white girl whose mother has twice abandoned her, fall in love and then try to cope with people's reactions.

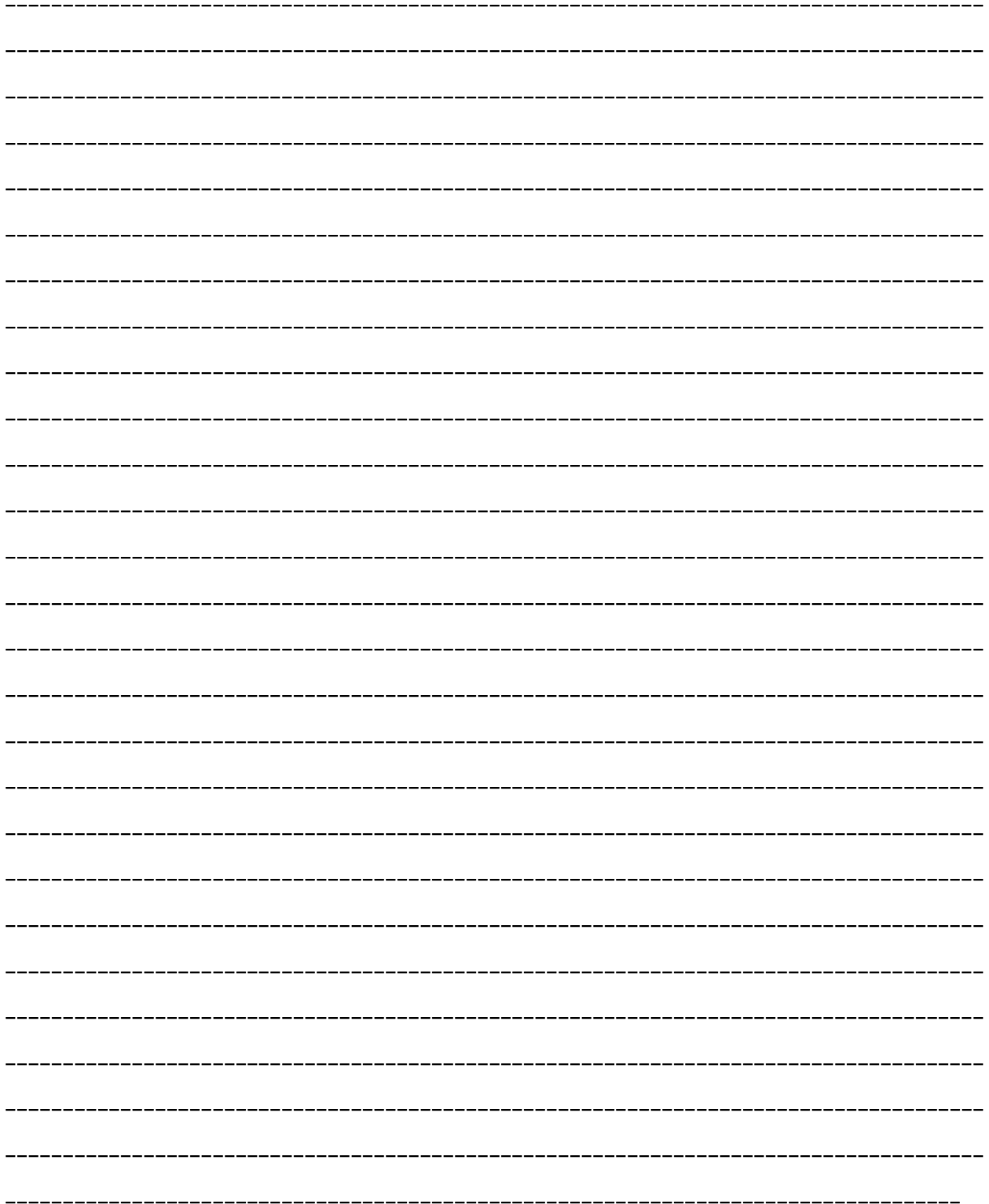
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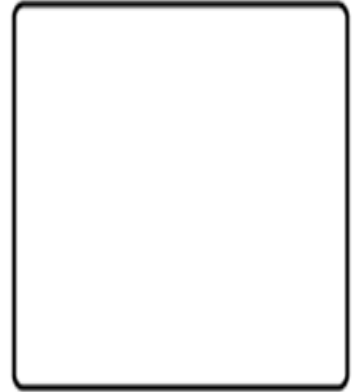
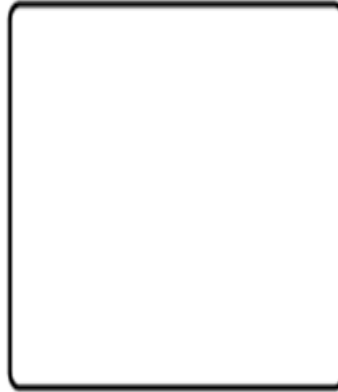
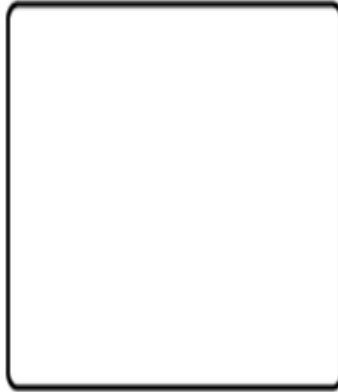






**Sequence Story Board** – Create a sequence story board about a major event that took place in the book. Add color and creativity to your drawing.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Book: \_\_\_\_\_

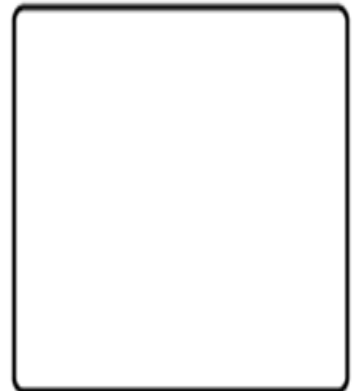
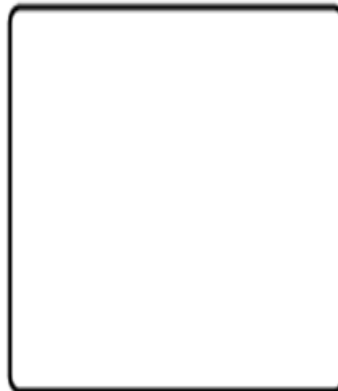
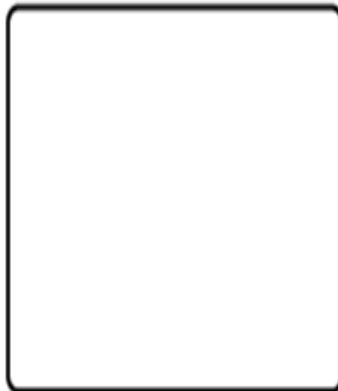


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**Comic Strip**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Book: \_\_\_\_\_

Create a comic strip based on the book you read. Dialogue must be present withing the strip.
