# Independent Reading Assignment: Multicultural Literature

Throughout November & December, we will be participating in a "Reading Workshop" during English. The goal of this activity is to get you back to the basics of reading for fun. It doesn't matter if you want to read Harry Potter or Jane Eyre, you get to pick. There are a few guidelines, and you'll still have to learn concepts, but instead of basing them on a book we read as a class, they will be applied to your book. Instead of worksheets and quizzes, you will have a one-on-one conference with me to discuss your book. Your only homework will be to read at home, and our class time will include plenty of reading time too.



#### For this unit, please choose a book that is:

- ABOUT/SET IN A CULTURE DIFFERENT FROM YOUR OWN
- At least 200 pages
- Appropriate for a high school student (in content, reading level, etc.)
- Something you have not read before
- Not being read by another student in the class (First come, first served.)
- Approved by the teacher and your parent(s) (See attached "permission form")

### Before you begin:

- Spend some time researching books, talking to friends, reading reviews etc. You want to choose something that you are EXCITED to read.
- Complete the attached form and submit it (no later than A Day: 11/2, B Day: 11/3)

#### Assessment:

- Completed book form (due /14) = 10 pts.
- Weekly "productivity logs" (approximate due dates [A-B] on 11/20-21, 11/30-12/1, 12/7-8 and 12/13-14) = 20 pts.
- Teacher conferences (2 total) = 20 pts.
- Four mini-lessons / discussion board posts = 40 pts.
  - o What is multicultural literature? Making predictions, drawing inferences, etc.
  - o Word Choice & Tone
  - o Archetypes & Universal Themes
  - o Cultural or Social Function of Text
- Final "index card review" and class Socratic seminar = 40 pts.

As a final step, you will submit an **index card (10 pts.)** to be "catalogued" in the classroom with a brief summary and review of your novel. It should include the title and author of you book (plus a photo of the book cover if possible) on one side, and a brief summary (being careful not to spoil the ending) and review on the other. In addition, please give a score for the book on a scale of 1 - 10 (10 being the very best book you've ever read, 1 being the worst) as well as a brief explanation of your score. Finally, tell whether or not you would recommend this book and to/for whom. This should be done neatly and professionally.

Socratic Seminar (30 pts.): One of the key elements to this unit is identifying literary forms/techniques, and universal themes, in literature from different cultures. We will share our novels with each other and look for similarities and differences cross-culturally in a final class Socratic Seminar. Dates and more details TBD.

## BOOK SELECTION PARENT FORM:

Due: A Day: Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> B Day: November 3<sup>rd</sup>