

# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ENGLISH SUMMER READING

## Mrs. Ward/Ms. Malczewski

### 2009 - 2010

#### ELA 8

\*Choose one of the following books to read:

1. The Clique (or any in series) by Lisi Harrison

Written for middle school girls, these books follow a group of “popular” girls (The Clique) and the new girl they play mean tricks on at their elite school. The following titles are included in the series: *The Clique*, *Best Friends For Never*, *Revenge of the Wannabes*, *Invasion of the Boy Snatchers*, *The Pretty Committee Strikes Back*, *Dial L For Loser*, *It's Not Easy Being Mean*, *Sealed With a Diss*, *Bratfest at Tiffany's*, *P.S. I Loathe You..*

2. The Lightning Thief (or any in series) by Rick Riordan

Persus “Percy” Jackson and his two good friends must find Zeus’s master lightning bolt before the Summer Solstice in order to prevent WWII. The following titles are included in the series: *The Lightning Thief*, *The Sea of Monsters*, *The Titan’s Curse*, *The Battle of the Labyrinth*.

3. Soldier Boys by Dean Hughes

This novel is about a young man, Spencer Morgan, who is eager to join the army and fight in WWII. Because he is only 16, and does not have his father’s permission to join, he lies about his age and finds himself thrown into the front lines. He is shocked by the atrocities of war, and struggles to understand the meaning of it when he meets Dieter, a German soldier.

4. Chronicles of Ancient Darkness (any in series) by Michelle Paver

This is a series of fantasy books set in ancient [Europe](#) 6000 years ago on a [Native American](#) like land, though the map on the inside cover of the books very closely resembles [Ireland](#). The books are about a boy called Torak and his battles with the forces of evil that killed his father. The following books are included in the series: *Wolf Brother*, *Spirit Walker*, *Soul Eater*, *Outcast*, *Oath Breaker*, and *Ghost Hunter*.

5. Artemis Fowl (or any in series) by Eoin Colfer

This is a series of [fantasy novels](#) that star child criminal mastermind [Artemis Fowl](#). The series is written in a half-serious language alternating with dark moments. Artemis, the main character, is a rather ruthless but extremely intelligent young criminal whose main goal is the acquisition of [money](#) through various ingenious ventures. The following books are included in the series: *Artemis Fowl*, *The Arctic Incident*, *The Eternity Code*, *The Opal Deception*, *The Lost Colony*, and *The Time Paradox*.

**Directions:** Select one (1) of the following projects to complete after you have finished reading your novel. This project is to be completed, along with the Novel Organizer provided in this packet.

\*Projects are due **Friday, September 11, 2009.**

If you have any questions about the project, you may call the main office to leave a message at 686-2442, or email Mrs. Ward ([kward@depew.wnyric.org](mailto:kward@depew.wnyric.org)) or Ms. Malczewski ([mmalczewski@depew.wnyric.org](mailto:mmalczewski@depew.wnyric.org)).

### **Option 1**

**COLLAGE:** A collage is a group of pictures and sayings arranged on poster board which represent (symbolize) people, places and ideas. Your collage must be displayed on poster board. The pictures, words and phrases may be cut from magazines, hand drawn or computer generated.

Your collage must include the following:

- ✓ The title and author of the novel
- ✓ Pictures representing the characters of the novel
- ✓ Pictures/words representing the setting
- ✓ Pictures representing the plot of the story
- ✓ Words and phrases describing three (3) traits of each character being represented
- ✓ Words and phrases suggesting the theme of the novel
- ✓ Your pictures and words should cover the entire poster board

### **Option 2**

**INTERVIEW OF THE MAIN CHARACTER** Answer the following interview questions in the voice of the main character. Your answers should be written/typed in complete sentences, with detail. All answers should be on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What three words best describe you and why?
2. Describe your family. Who do you get along best with?
3. Tell us where you grew up and what your childhood was like.
4. What is the biggest problem you have ever faced?
5. How did you overcome the problem?
6. What is the greatest lesson you have ever learned?
7. Who is your best friend and why?
8. Talk about a major event in your life and how it has affected you.
9. If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be and why?
10. Where do you see yourself in ten years?