

QUARTER 4



CHARACTER BASED LITERACY

Quarter 4 theme and annotations

High School

Cycle I 2016-2017

Night

Elie Wiesel

This true account relates the author's experiences as a Jewish boy with his family in a Nazi concentration camp. Images and context are powerful and emotionally charged.

Biography/Autobiography, History/Social Science 9-12

Farewell to Manzanar

Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston

Along with 10,000 other Japanese Americans, seven-year-old Jeanne Wakatsuki grew up behind barbed wire, under searchlight towers, and with armed guards. Life in the Japanese internment camps of World War II is portrayed in this balanced, historically accurate account.

Biography/Autobiography, History/Social Science 6-8, 9-12

Fallen Angels

Walter Dean Myers

Active duty in Vietnam is seen through the eyes of a seventeen-year-old African American private. He and his new buddies experience bonding, battles, grave wounds, and the brutal fact that not all of them will return home. Language reflects the battlefield setting.

Justice Requires Restraint

There are things I can not say or do to myself, any other person, or the planet because justice demands it. The actions I take and the decisions I make must respect the rights of all.

Middle School

Cycle III 2016-2017

Number the Stars

Lois Lowry

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be courageous when she helps to shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis. Readers will feel the tension and danger as the Danes help their Jewish friends escape to safety.



The Cay

Theodore Taylor

In 1942, an elderly black man and a young white boy are victims of a shipwreck and are stranded on a Caribbean island. In the struggle to survive, the differences between age and youth, black and white, and innocence and experience become secondary to the characters' need to understand each other and transcend their differences.

Nelson Mandela

Barry Denenberg

South Africa has become known as the home of the world's most famous former political prisoner, a prisoner who emerged to become an internationally respected statesman. This is his story and the story of his country.