

Olentangy Local School District

Literature Selection Review

Teacher: OLHS English Department

School: Liberty High School

Book Title: A Million Junes

Genre: Fiction

Author: Emily Henry

Pages: 400

Publisher: Razorbill

Copyright: 2017

In a brief rationale, please provide the following information relative to the book you would like added to the school's book collection for classroom use. You may attach additional pages as needed.

Book Summary and Summary Citation: (suggested resources include book flap summaries, review summaries from publisher, book vendors, etc.)

"Romeo and Juliet meets One Hundred Years of Solitude in Emily Henry's brilliant follow-up to *The Love That Split the World*, about the daughter and son of two long-feuding families who fall in love while trying to uncover the truth about the strange magic and harrowing curse that has plagued their bloodlines for generations.

In their hometown of Five Fingers, Michigan, the O'Donnells and the Angerts have mythic legacies. But for all the tall tales they weave, both founding families are tight-lipped about what caused the century-old rift between them, except to say it began with a cherry tree.

Eighteen-year-old Jack "June" O'Donnell doesn't need a better reason than that. She's an O'Donnell to her core, just like her late father was, and O'Donnells stay away from Angerts. Period.

But when Saul Angert, the son of June's father's mortal enemy, returns to town after three mysterious years away, June can't seem to avoid him. Soon the unthinkable happens: She finds she doesn't exactly hate the gruff, sarcastic boy she was born to loathe.

Saul's arrival sparks a chain reaction, and as the magic, ghosts, and coywolves of Five Fingers conspire to reveal the truth about the dark moment that started the feud, June must question everything she knows about her family and the father she adored. And she must decide whether it's finally time for her—and all of the O'Donnells before her—to let go.

(Taken from the back cover of *A Million Junes*)

Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum blueprints and/or State standards.

A Million Junes will serve as a literature circle choice novel. The literature circle will provide the students with the opportunity to analyze what the text says explicitly (RL.9-10. 1), develop an argument

and theme from the text (RL.9-10.2 and RL.9-10.3), and compile this information in a well developed essay.

Unit Title: Perspective and Argument

Essential Questions: What is a book club? What are its goals? In what ways is reading a shared experience, and what makes collective reading so powerful?

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1

Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.2

Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.1

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1

Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.2

Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.4

Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.9-10.1

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.9-10.2

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Include two professional review of this title: (a suggested list of resources for identifying professional reviews is shown below. Reviews may be "cut and pasted" (with citation) into the form or printed reviews may be attached to the form). Reviews should suggest an appropriate grade-level or grade-band.

Review #1

"In Five Fingers, Mich., ghosts and legend are as real as the generations-old rift between the O'Donnell and Angerfi families. When refined Saul Angert, 20, returns to town, 18-year-old Jack "June" O'Donnell IV begins to question the deeply held convictions and warnings passed down by her father in grand stories of adventure, magic, curses, and betrayal. Confronting memory and myth, June must accept that her "inheritance is grief and sunlight, and the ability to choose which to hold on to." Through time slips, Henry (The Love That Split the World) lets June and Saul experience firsthand and interpret the seminal moments that formed their families and their attendant mythologies. The long line of "Jacks" in June's family tree are captivating, allowing readers to more deeply understand her as a resilient and flawed character. Her connection and devotion to her deceased father is gorgeously portrayed, most notably her struggle to preserve his life and legacy as she forges her own path. Henry's writing is lush and evocative, adding volumes to an already moving premise. Ages 12—up." -Publishers Weekly

Review #2

"Gr 8 Up—Jack O'Donnell IV, who prefers to be called June (short for Junior), is an 18-year-old girl living in the small town of Five Fingers, MI. She and her best friend Hannah are seniors in high school. June, like her late father, grandfather, and great-grandfather before her, knows the one main rule of being an O'Donnell: stay away from the Angerts at all costs. But when gorgeous 20-year-old Saul Angert arrives in town after three mysterious years away, June finds it difficult to stay away from him. Together, with magical memories that drift in doorways and the haunting spirits who have visited June since childhood, June and Saul discover that it is not only a feud that plagues their families but also a generations-old curse. As they grow closer, the protagonists risk everything to quell their families' hatred and rescue them from their fate. If they do not succeed, the result could be deadly. Henry takes the well-known Shakespeare tragedy Romeo and Juliet and turns it into a modern-day romance with an original ghostly twist. This is an enjoyable and fast-paced read. While the star-crossed lovers trope is a familiar one, readers won't mind. Additionally, June's strong relationship with Hannah is delightful and refreshing. VERDICT A perfect choice for young teens looking for romance, friendship, and magic in their fiction." -School Library Journal

What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements?

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Title: Children of Blood and Bone | Author: Tomi Adeyemi |
| Title: Sythe | Author: Neal Shusterman |
| Title: An Absolutely Remarkable Thing | Author: Hank Green |
| Title: Internment | Author: Samira Ahmed |

Document any potentially controversial content:

There is some language and references to mature content (drinking, sexual references, and violence) in this text.

Keeping in mind the age, academic level, and maturity of the intended reader, what is the suggested classroom use: (check all that apply)

- Gifted/Accelerated Regular At Risk

GRADE LEVEL(S): 6-12 a Reading Level of this Title (if applicable):

Suggested Professional Literacy Review Sources:

- School Library Journal
- Horn Book
- Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books
- VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)
- Library Journal
- Book Links
- Publisher's Weekly
- Booklist
- Kirkus Review
- Wilson Library Catalog
- English Journal (and other resources of the National Council of Teachers of English)
- The Reading Teacher (International Reading Association) Literature for Today's Young Adults

Teacher: *Yudis G* Date: *10/24/19*
Department Head: *Hannah C Rust* Date: *10/16/19*
Building Administrator: *LeMuel L. Fisher* Date: *10/24/19*
Curriculum Supervisor: _____ Date: _____
Signatures: