

Olentangy Local School District Literature Selection Review

Teacher: Mrs. Baker
School: Olentangy Berkshire Middle School
Book Title: *Legend*
Genre: dystopian
Author: Marie Lu
Publisher: Speak

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

What was once the western United States is now home to the Republic, a nation perpetually at war with its neighbors. Born into an elite family in one of the Republic's wealthiest districts, fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for success in the Republic's highest military circles. Born into the slums, fifteen-year-old Day is the country's most wanted criminal. But his motives may not be as malicious as they seem.

From very different worlds, June and Day have no reason to cross paths - until the day June's brother, Metias, is murdered and Day becomes the prime suspect. Caught in the ultimate game of cat and mouse, Day is in a race for his family's survival, while June seeks to avenge Metias's death. But in a shocking turn of events, the two uncover the truth of what has really brought them together, and the sinister lengths their country will go to keep its secrets.

Full of nonstop action, suspense, and romance, this novel is sure to move readers as much as it thrills.

Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum blueprints and/or State standards. Specific District and Common Core Standards include (please include a link to the ELA Standards document and list the specific standards):

As we continue to study author's craft, the dystopian books are a high-interest genre that appeals to many students. When students are interested in the books, they tend to understand the reason why author's make choices and the lessons author's are trying to teach their readers.

We will use this book as an option to help students analyze the author's craft moves, develop themes, and discuss how characters (and humans) respond to and are challenged by power.

This book covers literature standards RL 1-6

Include two professional reviews of this title: (links to the reviews are fine; Common Sense Media should be used, if available)

Kirkus Review - gripping thriller in dystopic future Los Angeles.

Fifteen-year-olds June and Day live completely different lives in the glorious Republic. June is rich and brilliant, the only candidate ever to get a perfect score in the Trials, and is destined for a glowing career in the military. She looks forward to the day when she can join up and fight the Republic's treacherous enemies east of the Dakotas. Day, on the other hand, is an anonymous street rat, a slum child who failed his own Trial. He's also the Republic's most wanted criminal, prone to stealing from the rich and giving to the poor. When tragedies strike both their families, the two brilliant teens are thrown into direct opposition. In alternating first-person narratives, Day and June experience coming-of-age adventures in the midst of spying, theft and daredevil combat. Their voices are distinct and richly drawn, from Day's self-deprecating affection for others to June's Holmesian attention to detail. All the flavor of a post-apocalyptic setting—plagues, class warfare, maniacal soldiers—escalates to greater complexity while leaving space for further worldbuilding in the sequel.

This is no didactic near-future warning of present evils, but a cinematic adventure featuring endearing, compelling heroes . (*Science fiction. 12-14*)

Common Sense Media - <https://www.common Sense Media.org/book-reviews/legend-book-1>

What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements? (alternates should be previously reviewed texts or a new text needs a new review form)

Among the Hidden

Divergent

Dry

Life As We Knew It

Read Player One

Scythe

The Bar Code Tatoo

The Giver

The House of Scorpion

Hunger Games

The Marrow Thieves

Document any potentially controversial content (clear, descriptive, accurate, and examples of a page number or two):

June and Day live in a world that is built on power therefore, if citizens do not follow the rules, violence is used to teach them a lesson. There is a relationship that develops between the two main characters who eventually kiss. Check out Common Sense Media's review for more detail.

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): (indicate the grade band or the grade level):

Middle Grade to young adult

Reading Level of this Title (lexile level)

HL 710 - very accessible for all students.

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

Signatures:

Teacher: Kathy Baker

Date: 1/2/22

Department Head: Kathy Baker

Date: 1/2/22

Building Administrator: Megan Nagel

Date: 1/3/22

Curriculum Supervisor: [Signature]

Date: 3/3/22

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