



OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM DRAFT- 2022

LOCATION

Building(s): OBMS

Classes/Grade Level(s): 6th ELA

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: The Parker Inheritance, by Varian Johnson

Genre: fiction/mystery/historical fiction

Lexile Reading Level: 610L

Total number of pages: 331

Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)

When Candice finds a letter in an old attic in Lambert, South Carolina, she isn't sure she should read it. It's addressed to her grandmother, who left the town in shame. But the letter describes a young woman. An injustice that happened decades ago. A mystery enfolding its writer. And the fortune that awaits the person who solves the puzzle. So with the help of Brandon, the quiet boy across the street, she begins to decipher the clues. The challenge will lead them deep into Lambert's history, full of ugly deeds, forgotten heroes, and one great love; and deeper into their own families, with their own unspoken secrets.

Potentially Objectionable Content (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)

Drinking/smoking: None present.

Sex: None present.

Language: Racist terms are used. Someone defaces a yearbook with the "N" word; however, it is misspelled with only one 'g' (page 129). Unspoken homophobic, racist, and sexist language used towards some of the main characters, but never spelled out.

Violence: Neighborhood bullies beat up Brandon (page 24) (page 37). Reggie is followed by an attacker with a knife, the attacker loses an eye in the attack (page 220). This book is set in separate timelines; both the present and Jim Crow South 1950s. Racial segregation is present, as well as violence against race, specifically when a black tennis coach and team are beaten (page 51). Threats of violence are seen throughout. Threat of lynching and rape when racist white groups paint a doll black, put a noose around its neck, and print unspecified racist language on it (210).

**Should be noted the story takes place in the present and Jim Crow South. The story details both subtle and blatant racism in the 1950s and the present. Some characters deal with divorce,



	bullying, and gay identity.
Book Reviews (2-3 links) Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links Review from Common Sense Media Review from Kirkus Review	

ABOUT THE CLASS

Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards): (To be completed by the teacher or team)

This book will be used for a genre study of mystery in which students will practice skills such as analyzing how the plot unfolds and how characters respond as the plot moves toward a resolution. (RL 6.3). Additionally, students will compare the text to several mystery short stories in terms of how the texts address the mystery topic. (RL 6.9)

The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only* and abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards) [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)

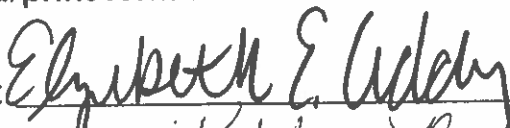



1. RL 6.3 Students will analyze how plot elements are connected and how the characters change or develop based on the episodes.
2. RL 6.9 Students will examine how texts in the mystery genre are similar in structure. Students will examine the similarities and differences in how the author chooses to develop the mystery.

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (Title/author)

1. Zora & Me, by Victoria Bond and T.R. Simon
2. The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, by Avi

SIGNATURES (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher:  Date: 3-14-22
Department Chair:  Date: 3/14/22
Building Principal:  Date: 3/14/22
District Curriculum Administrator:  Date: 3/14/22