



## OLETANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

### LOCATION

Building(s): OLHS

Classes/Grade Level(s): CP English 9

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: (Don't) Call Me Crazy: 33 Voices Start the Conversation about Mental Health

Genre: Non-fiction

Lexile Reading Level:

Total number of pages: 240 pages

#### Book Summary

What does it mean to be crazy? Is using the word *crazy* offensive? What happens when a label like that gets attached to your everyday experiences?

To understand mental health, we need to talk openly about it. Because there's no single definition of crazy, there's no single experience that embodies it, and the word itself means different things—wild? extreme? disturbed? passionate?—to different people.

In *(Don't) Call Me Crazy*, thirty-three actors, athletes, writers, and artists offer essays, lists, comics, and illustrations that explore a wide range of topics:

their personal experiences with mental illness, how we do and don't talk about mental health, help for better understanding how every person's brain is wired differently, and what, exactly, might make someone crazy.

If you've ever struggled with your mental health, or know someone who has, come on in, turn the pages . . . and let's get talking.

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

Inappropriate language (few instances, mild)  
"I'm a piece of s-t" (35).

Discussion of suicide (with positive resolution)  
"I enter a three for suicidal ideation" (167).

Transsexual people (mentioned in passing, not as a main topic)  
"I am a trans woman, and you are psychiatric professionals, and you should know how to deal with this" (167).

Images of Violence (not a main topic, but as an explanation of how difficult being a soldier was)  
"Bloated bodies lined ancient roads like trash piles of flesh. They festered in the desert and became meals for packs of dogs" (132).

#### **Book Reviews (1-2 link(s))** Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/kelly-jensen/dont-call-me-crazy-jensen/>

<https://literarytreats.com/2018/10/01/review-dont-call-me-crazy-edited-by-kelly-jensen/>



## ABOUT THE CLASS

**Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards):** (To be completed by the teacher or team) Students will have this book as a choice to read independently. They will then choose a topic that's related to the book to further research. Mental health is an important topic right now, and these varied views will allow students to see themselves in the discussion. The book is also written for a teen audience, so it is explained in a way that they will understand.

**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. 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.
2. 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.

## ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

**What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (1-2 texts, title/author; Note: these texts must also have lit. reviews forms associated with their selection)**

1. *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson (adapted for young adults)
2. *Outcasts United* by Warren St. John (adapted for young adults)

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

Teacher: V.K. Lewis Date: 3-18-22  
Department Chair: Patrick Boone Date: 3-18-22  
Building Principal: Millie SL Date: 3/25/22  
District Curriculum Administrator: [Signature] Date: 3/28/22