

OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

LOCATION

Building(s): OHMS

Classes/Grade Level(s): 6th, ELA

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title: A Night Divided

Author: Jennifer Neilsen

Genre: Historical Fiction

Lexile Reading Level: 810L

Total number of pages: 336

Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list)

-During WWII, a young girl, Greta, finds her family divided overnight after the Berlin Wall is erected between east and west Germany.
-Greta, her mother and Fritz, her brother live in East Germany, controlled by the Soviets and have become prisoners in their city.

After receiving clues, Gerta puts two and two together and concludes that her father wants Gerta and Fritz to tunnel beneath the wall, out of East Berlin.

Knowing the consequences, she must escape to freedom.

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

Violence- Several examples of violence as it relates to WWII Nazi Germany violence. An example includes:
-A young man is shot in the back, dies. A dead body is carried out on a gurney. (chapter 8)

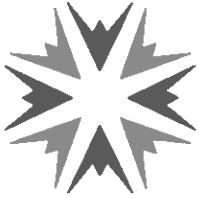
Alcohol- Brief reference to people drowning their troubles in Pilsner beer. (p.134)

Book Reviews (2-3 links):

Common Sense Media, Kirkus Review, Historical Novel Society

ABOUT THE CLASS

Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards): Historical fiction teaches children the significance of the past. It allows them to come close to history in a manner that fits their needs. Having relatable characters and situations, along with creative outlooks on historical events, helps



children adhere to the content historical fiction authors provide. This book is high quality literature that contains strong messages about bravery; courage; perseverance in the face of great odds; the importance of being free; the importance of challenging unjust laws while still obeying just ones; the value of being open-minded. This book lends itself with wonderful opportunities for socratic discussions and teaching the 6th grade state standards.

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

RL.6.2b Incorporate a theme and story details into an objective summary of the text.

RL.6.2a Determine a theme of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details.

RL.6.3 Plot development/ character changes

RL.6.6 Explain how an author uses the point of view to develop the perspective

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives?

1. *Refugee*
2. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*

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

Teacher:  Date: 11-4-2022

Department Chair:  Date: 11-4-22

Building Principal:  Date: 11-4-22

District Curriculum Administrator:  Date: 11/20/22