

Secondary Novel Review Committee

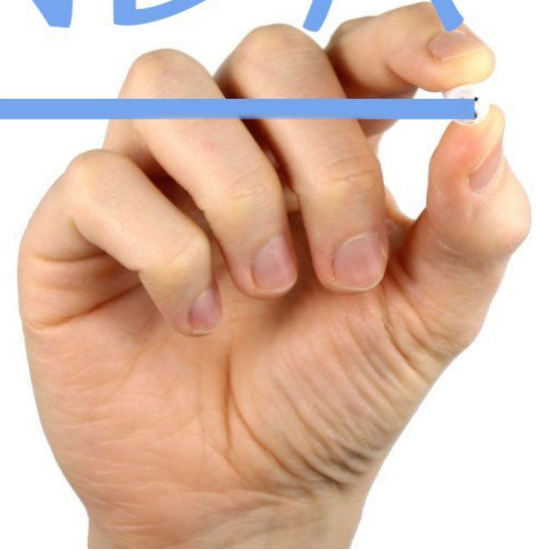
February 22, 2024
5:00-7:00 PM

Welcome!
Find your name tag and have a seat.
The sign in sheet will be coming around shortly.



Scottsdale *Unified*
SCHOOL DISTRICT

AGENDA



1. Introductions
2. Review purpose, norms
3. Schedule of meetings
4. Review of January minutes
5. Round 5 book presentation
6. Round 6 book assignments and small group meetings

Introductions



Aside from
necessities, what one
thing could you not
go a day without?

Purpose

- a) To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum and Arizona Standards, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, learning styles, and maturity levels of the students.
- b) To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge and literary appreciation.
- c) To provide materials so that young people may have an opportunity to practice critical analysis and make informed judgements in their daily lives.
- d) To assure a comprehensive collection appropriate to the school community.

*(adapted from American Library Association)

Norms

What is needed to be successful as a committee?

- Be genuine with each other about ideas, challenges, and feelings
- Listen to understand
- Practice being open minded
- Be mindful of how often and how long you speak in consideration of hearing all feedback
- Ask questions for clarification
- Support the group's recommendation after consensus is reached



Responsibilities and Expectations

Upcoming Meetings and Due dates

Completion of rubric:

- Book #1: September 25
- Book #2: October 30
- Book #3: December 4
- Book #4: January 8
- Book #5: February 12
- ★ Book #6: March 25
- Book #7: April 22



Small group meeting:

- Book #1 discussion: Week of September 25
- Book #2 discussion: Week of October 30
- Book #3 discussion: Week of December 4
- Book #4 discussion: Week of January 8
- Book #5 discussion: Week of February 12
- ★ Book #6 discussion: Week of March 25
- Book #7 discussion: Week of April 22

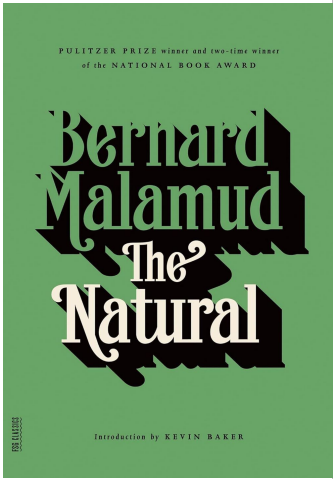
Whole group meeting:

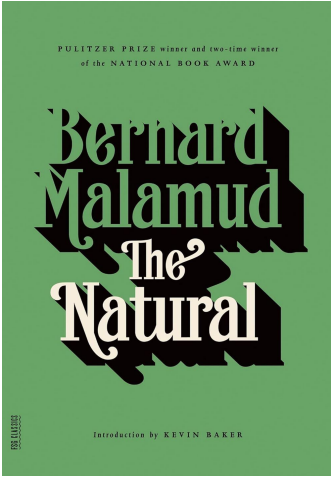
- Meeting #1: August 31
- Book #1 discussion: October 5
- Book #2 discussion: November 9
- Book #3 discussion: December 14
- Book #4 discussion: January 18
- ★ Book #5 discussion: February 22
- Book #6 discussion: April 4
- Book #7 discussion: May 2

Review of January Minutes



Small Group Novels

						
Grade 10: <i>The Natural</i> by Bernard Malamud						



Grade 10

***The Natural* by Bernard Malamud**

Instructional purpose/rationale for use:

To explore the various themes of heroism, ambition, and the pursuit of greatness.

Summary

This novel, written in 1952, is the story of Roy Hobbs, a baseball prodigy whose career is sidetracked after being shot by a woman whose motivation remains mysterious. The story mostly concerns his attempts to return to baseball later in life, when he plays for the fictional New York Knights with his self-made bat “Wonderboy”.



Grade 10

***The Natural* by Bernard Malamud**

Instructional purpose/rationale for use:

To explore the various themes of heroism, ambition, and the pursuit of greatness.

Positives

- Interesting development of the character and how he deals with his failures/faults.
- The story provides a series of lessons that are well-learned in any age.
- Interesting twist with an anti-hero.
- “The Natural” has a double meaning.
- There is a lot to work with in this book.

Concerns

- Explicit sexual content throughout (not gratuitous).
- Some insensitive language (“...he felt he didn’t stand a Chinaman’s chance...”, “...Toomey, shrunk to a pygmy...”, “...what she saw in this half-bald apology for a cigar store Indian had him beat...”)
- suicidal ideations (“...when he came very close she sobbed aloud and thrust the muzzle into her mouth...”)

Recommendation: Yes, as a yellow novel.

Small Group Novels



Grade 6:
Brave
(graphic
novel)
by
Svetlana
Chmakova

Grade 6:
The False
Prince by
Jennifer
A.
Nielsen

Grade 6:
The Little
Prince by
Antoine
De
Saint-Exu
pery

Grade 6:
The
Stonekeeper
: Amulet #1
(graphic
novel) by
Kazu
Kibuishi

Grade 7:
Cinder by
Marissa
Meyer

Grade 7:
Ghosts
(graphic
novel) by
Raina
Telgemeier

Grade 8:
American
Born
Chinese
(graphic
novel) by
Gene
Luen
Yang

Grade 8:
Legend
(graphic
novel) by
Marie Lu

*Thank
you*

Next whole group meeting date:

**April 4, 2024
5pm, MDA**

