

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading 2018 Redeemer Christian School**

**Students entering 8<sup>th</sup> Grade at Redeemer are required to read the following books over the summer. You must read both books.**

- ❖ *My Brother Sam is Dead* – James Lincoln Collier
- ❖ *A Long Way from Chicago* – Richard Peck

**Please turn this paper over to find the directions for an assignment to do after reading *My Brother Sam is Dead*. The assignment is due on the first day of school.**

**Aside from reading the book, there is not a summer assignment for *A Long Way from Chicago*. However, you must be prepared for evaluations on both books on the first day of school.**

## *My Brother Sam is Dead* Book Project

Read the book first. Then examine the task board below. You must choose one task from each of the four columns. Your final project will be due on the first day of school at the beginning of class. As you work toward completing this assignment, please keep in mind that your final product must include all 4 components compiled into one final piece. This assignment is worth 100 points in total.

<b>Plot Development</b>	<b>Characterization</b>	<b>Historical Context</b>	<b>Literary Elements</b>
<p><b>Story Board:</b> A story board is a series of pictures and descriptions that retell the plot of a story. Your story board must include at least 6 pictures with captions of at least 3 sentences each.</p>	<p><b>Paper Dolls:</b> Create 6 authentic paper dolls that represent different characters from the novel. Glue them to a piece of paper and include a summary of who each character is and why they are important to the development of the plot.</p>	<p><b>Benedict Arnold:</b> Sam fought alongside Benedict Arnold. Research Benedict Arnold and write a brief biography of his life. How does history remember him? Why would he be included in this novel?</p>	<p><b>Conflict:</b> What is the driving conflict of this story? Create a visual representation of this conflict and provide a well developed paragraph explaining the conflict. Use specific examples from the novel to support your ideas.</p>
<p><b>Picture Plot:</b> Draw an object that represents a key component from the story and describe the 5 elements of a story at various places on the object. Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution</p>	<p><b>Eulogy:</b> A eulogy is a tribute written to honor a person who has lost their life. Choose 2 characters from the story and write their eulogy. What would they be remembered for, and what gave their life meaning? 2 paragraphs for each character.</p>	<p><b>Battle of Ridgefield Memorial:</b> This notable battle was an important moment in the war. Today, the dead from both sides are buried together in a small cemetery in town "...foes in arms, brothers in death..." Research this battle and design a memorial with a description of the battle and the lives that were lost there.</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> What are some possible literary themes that can be taken from the novel? Create a wordle. You must include a minimum of 10 different themes. You may use words or phrases rather than complete sentences for this project. Write a paragraph on the back of the page that describes the predominate theme of the story.</p>
<p><b>Comic Strip:</b> Create a comic strip outlining the basic premise of the plot. Your comic must include at least 10 different scenes/boxes.</p>	<p><b>Movie Marquee:</b> Assume they are turning the novel into a movie. Create a movie poster where you cast the main characters in the novel with modern day actors. Your poster must represent at least 6 characters with a summary of each. Be creative and have fun!</p>	<p><b>Cowboys Wanted Poster:</b> The "cowboys" represented in this novel are different from the stereotypical cowboys of the wild west. Research the "cowboys" of the American Revolution and create a wanted poster for them that describes who they were and the types of crimes they committed.</p>	<p><b>Point of View:</b> This novel is written from the view point of Tim. We see his side of the story, but how would things be different if Sam were telling the story. Write a 5 paragraph prologue to the story from the view point of Sam. This would be before Sam returned home to discuss his role with the rebels. How would he be feeling? What words would he have used?</p>
<p><b>Simply Summarize:</b> Summarize the key components of each element of the story. Your summary should be at least 5 paragraphs, one for each element of a story, Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution.</p>	<p><b>Facebook Page:</b> Create a paper Facebook Profile Page for a character from the novel. You must include at least 6 friends, pictures, a timeline with at least 6 different posts from friends. Be creative and have fun!!!</p>	<p><b>Prison Ships:</b> There is much mention of the prison ships that existed during the Revolutionary War. Create a diagram of a prison ship and include 10 facts that you find interesting regarding prison ships.</p>	<p><b>Imagery:</b> Choose a section from this novel that is highly descriptive or emotional. Write a 21 line poem that describes this scene using vivid imagery. Your poem must also include a title and illustrations. <b>It does not have to rhyme.</b></p>

