



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE  
ACADEMY  
PRESCHOOL-12TH GRADE

## Summer Reading - Grade 7 2021-2022

Dear Incoming Seventh Graders,

Welcome to 7<sup>th</sup> grade! Get ready for an exciting year of literature and creative writing, art, drama, and (possibly) film projects! I love teaching middle school at CHA because every year I am amazed at how creative, smart, and fun you, our teens, can be. The early teen years are especially meaningful to me because now is the time students really begin to grapple with questions about identity, authority, and friendships on a deeper level. So, to fully engage these questions, we read literary selections through a biblical lens to consider how we answer them about our world and ultimately about ourselves.

Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix

*In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke, an illegal third child, has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm. Luke has never been to school. Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Will he risk losing his parents, his life, to contact her?*

Gossamer by Lois Lowry

*In this novel, the author, Lois Lowry, confronts and explores the conflicts between the gentle bits and pieces of the past that come to life in dream, and the darker horrors that find their form in nightmare. Read to find how this clash of good and evil plays out in the lives of a broken child, an aging woman, and a mother trying to rebuild her life.*

During the Summer

1 **Read** the novel.

2 **Annotate** important ideas, character changes, shocking or confusing events, symbols and their meanings, engaging or descriptive images, etc.

\* IF you use a library book, do NOT annotate but stop and note your comments on paper or post-its.

3. **Socratic Seminar Worksheet**: Fill out this entire worksheet below for each novel and bring to the first day of class. These will be used as the basis of our Socratic Seminar Discussion. **Use your best spelling, vocabulary and grammar. Be sure to answer using complete sentences. Read the directions carefully.**

What's a Socratic Seminar?

The Socratic Seminar is based on the idea that it is important to think for yourself rather than to just learn the "right" answers. In a Socratic Seminar, you get to share your understanding of the novels and seek deeper understanding through thoughtful dialogue with other students. Students will use their responses on the **Socratic Seminar Worksheet** (below) as starting points for discussion about both short novels. So, please be thorough in your responses and honest in your reflections.

Happy Reading!

Mr. Michael Chavez

7th Grade English Teacher

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Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix



### Socratic Seminar Worksheet

A - Write at least three of your best reactions/ideas about a character, a conflict, the setting, their circumstances, or the state of the novel's world etc. that you'd really like to talk about with others:

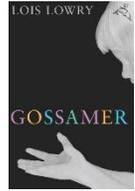
B - Write at least three of your most interesting questions about a character, an event, how a conflict is resolved, their fears, hopes, or desires, etc. you'd really like to talk about with others:

C - Write at least two personal connections you have made with the characters, or location, or situations, or conflict, etc. you'd like to share:

D - Write at least three quotations/passages you want to point others to (with page numbers). For each quotation, include a brief explanation why these are either significant, important, or confusing; limit the quotation to no more than 2 sentences and your explanation to no more than 4-5 sentences.

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**Gossamer** by Lois Lowry



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