



University Heights High School
9th & 10th Grade Summer Assignment

Task: Choose 1 book to read from the provided list. Then create a book review that summarizes and highlights important parts of the book. In addition to your book review, create 5 questions that you would like to ask the author, if given the opportunity. Be prepared to discuss the book in your ELA class in September.

Anti-Racism	Identity	Poetry & Short Stories	Graphic Novels	Immigrant Stories	Historical Fiction	Science Fiction & Fantasy
<i>Stamped</i> (Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi)	<i>All American Boys</i> (Jason Reynolds and Brendan Keily)	<i>The Poet X</i> (Elizabeth Acevado)	<i>I Am Alfonso Jones</i> (Tony Medina)	<i>Long Way Gone</i> (Ishmael Beah)	<i>Copper Sun</i> (Sharon Draper)	<i>Legendborn</i> (Tracy Deonn)
<i>This is My America</i> (Kim Johnson)	<i>In the Time of the Butterflies</i> (Julia Alvarez)	<i>Krik? Krak?</i> (Edwidge Danticat)	<i>They Called Us Enemies</i> (George Takei)	<i>American Street</i> (Ibi Zoboi)	<i>Before We Were Free</i> (Julia Alvarez)	<i>Cinderella is Dead</i> (Kalynn Bayron)
<i>Patron Saints of Nothing</i> (Randy Ribay)	<i>Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe</i> (Benjamin Saenz)	<i>Young Hot Salsa</i> (Lori Marie Carlson)	<i>Almost American Girl</i> (Robin Ha)	<i>Enrique's Journey</i> (Sonia Nazario)	<i>The Light in Hidden Places</i> (Sharon Cameron)	<i>Raybearer</i> (Jordan Ifueko)
	<i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian</i> (Sherman Alexie)	<i>Fresh Ink</i> (Lamar Giles)				<i>Children of Blood and Bone</i> (Tomi Adeyemi)
	<i>I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i> (Erika Sánchez)	<i>What are You? Voices of Mixed Race Young People</i> (Pearl Fuyo Gaskins)				

STRUCTURE OF BOOK REVIEW

ANALYZE

Evaluate the book with a critical mind.

THOROUGHNESS

The whole is greater than the sum of all its parts. Review the book as a **WHOLE**.

COMPARE

Where appropriate compare to similar texts and genres.

THUMBS UP OR DOWN?

You are going to have to inevitably recommend or reject this book to potential readers.

BE CONSISTENT

Take a stance and stick with it throughout your review.

FEATURES

PAST TENSE

You are writing about a book you have already read.

EMOTIVE LANGUAGE

Whatever your stance or opinion, be passionate about it. Your audience will thank you for it.

VOICE

Both active and passive voice are used in recounts.

SAMPLE BOOK REVIEW

Below is a sample book review from the New York Times:

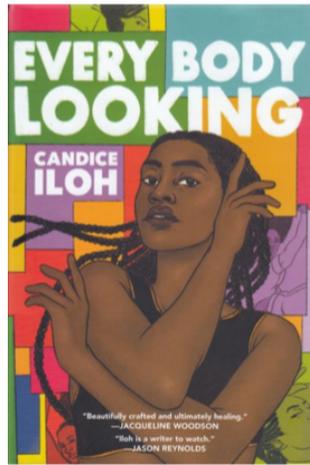
By Jennifer Hubert Swan

Published Nov. 13, 2020 Updated Nov. 17, 2020

EVERY BODY LOOKING

By Candice Iloh

416 pp. Dutton. \$17.99.



Bodies take center stage in Iloh’s novel about a young Nigerian-American woman realizing her untapped potential through dance. Seventeen-year-old Ada’s name in Igbo means “first daughter,” which to Ada translates to “*you are expected/to do a lot of things/you don’t want to do/because the honor of this family/rests on your back.*” After a childhood of being shuttled between her strict religious father and negligent mother, Ada is eager to escape both of their emotionally exhausting orbits. She wins a scholarship to an H.B.C.U., but her insecurities remain, deeply rooted in a body she is perpetually at odds with. While her body is the medium of her artistic expression, it is also the “awkwardly shaped and useless pile of flesh” that was sexually assaulted by a stranger in her mother’s chaotic house when she was a child. When that memory is sparked by a campus clinic exam, Ada responds by accepting a job she knows she’ll hate and dating a boy whose only good quality is that he “is nice to me, sometimes.” It takes a demanding dance teacher’s inspiring class and pivotal question — “*Who are you dancing for?*” — to free Ada to accept that within her perfectly imperfect body is a goddess waiting to be born. Intimate free verse, structured concrete poems and thoughtfully connected flashbacks movingly illuminate Ada’s explorations of artistry, divinity and sexuality. A National Book Award finalist, this blazing coming-of-age comet will have everybody looking up.