



June 2017

Dear Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Student,

We look forward to you being enrolled next year in Calvary Academy middle school. All students at Calvary Academy from grades 6 through grade 12 are responsible to complete **two book readings** during the summer. You will be writing a critical book review of *Among the Hidden* during the first full week of Language Arts class.

Also this year, you may select one of the options listed below these book names on how you will present evidence of reading one of these books:

Girls Choices:

- *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- or, Any book from "Dear America" series

Boys Choices:

- *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
- or, Any book from the "My Name is America" series
- or, *Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Cholden

Everyone, regardless of book choice, must **complete the plot diagram** that is attached. Completing this will help you develop a time line of events and identify all the elements of the plot that you will need to include in your project. You may then select a project from the following options:

**Option #1: TV News Script:**

You are a TV reporter for a news station and you have been sent out to get a story on the main character of the book you read this summer (one of the choices above.)

- Begin with an introduction..."Good Evening, this is...from Channel... coming to you live from..... to report on....."
- Write a news script in which you develop 10 interesting questions that you can ask your main character that reveal the following: (1) main character's personality, (2) role that the minor characters played in the story, the major elements of the story, (3) exposition (setting/conflict), (4) rising action, (5) climax, (6) falling action, (7) resolution. Your character's answers to each question must be thorough, accurate and complete, minimum of a half-typed page which is approx 7-10 sentences (single spaced, 11 font, Times New Roman) for each response.

OR

**Option#2: Diary :**

Create a diary - telling the story, **not** from the main character's perspective but from a minor character's point of view. Example...for *Witch of Blackbird Pond* you may select Prudence, Hannah, Mercy, Nat, or any other character other than Kit.

Your diary entries must include all the elements of the story, exposition (characters, setting, conflict), rising action, climax, falling action, resolution. This project needs to read like a diary so include a good character description of yourself and the other characters of the story so we can better understand the plot from your character's point of view. You must have a minimum of 10 entries, approx 7-10 sentences for each entry (single spaced, 11 font, Times New Roman.)

**Your project must be turned in by Friday September 8, 2017.**

Have a blessed summer.

In His Service,  
Stephanie Cruz

**3. Climax**  
When does the main character face their problem? This is the turning part of the story... things will never be the same for the character.

**2. Rising Action**  
What events happen after the exposition and before the climax?

**4. Falling Action:**  
What happens immediately after the climax?



**1. Exposition**  
Who are the main characters in the beginning of the story?

What is the setting in the beginning of the story?

**6. Conflict**  
What is the major problem in the story?

**5. Resolution:**  
What happens at the VERY end of the story?

# Plot Diagram