

## ENGLISH I – COLLEGE PREP/HONORS - SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2021

Dear English I College Prep/Honor Students,

Welcome to a brand new school year. At ACC, we are looking forward to a wonderful and challenging year for all of you. As part of your preparation for next year, you are assigned one novel to read this summer. This thought-provoking novel and the related assignment will provide you with the necessary practice to sharpen and maintain your critical reading skills.

This past year everyone has seen the world deal with many serious issues such as the Coronavirus pandemic, discrimination, and violence. Hate continues to extend its pervasive and divisive influence on society; therefore, it is imperative that we reflect on what we can do as Catholics and as human beings to combat such negativity by revisiting and reinforcing Jesus' message to love one another. The assigned novel explores how hate can be transformed into love if people let Jesus into their hearts and heed His message to love thy neighbor.

***The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare:** ISBN-13 - 978-0395137192

See the plot summary below (from Amazon):

*The Bronze Bow*, written by Elizabeth George Speare (author of *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*) won the Newbery Medal in 1962. This gripping, action-packed novel tells the story of eighteen-year-old Daniel bar Jamin—a fierce, hotheaded young man bent on revenging his father's death by forcing the Romans from his land of Israel. Daniel's palpable hatred for Romans wanes only when he starts to hear the gentle lessons of the traveling carpenter, Jesus of Nazareth. A fast-paced, suspenseful, vividly wrought tale of friendship, loyalty, the idea of home, community . . . and ultimately, as Jesus says to Daniel on page 224: "Can't you see, Daniel, it is hate that is the enemy? Not men. Hate does not die with killing. It only springs up a hundredfold. The only thing stronger than hate is love." A powerful, relevant read in turbulent time.

Please purchase a paperback copy of the novel. Also, please read and carefully follow the instructions for the assignment which are designed to help prepare you for the first quarter of the school year. The assignment will be collected on the first day of school, without exception. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Isabella Loffa at [iloffa@colemancarroll.org](mailto:iloffa@colemancarroll.org) - Dr. Carmen De Ara (Level 1) at [cdeara@colemancarroll.org](mailto:cdeara@colemancarroll.org) or Ms. Laura Behrens at [lbehrens@colemancarroll.org](mailto:lbehrens@colemancarroll.org)

Have a fun, relaxing summer, enjoy your reading selection, and we'll see you in August!

Many blessings,

Mrs. Loffa, Dr. De Ara, Ms. Behrens  
Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School  
English Department

## SUMMER ASSIGNMENT ON *THE BRONZE BOW*

**PLEASE MAKE SURE TO READ THE FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY AS NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THEM WILL BE REFLECTED IN YOUR GRADE**

- Please purchase a black and white **composition notebook** (\$1.00 at Office Depot) in which to answer the discussion questions on the novel. You must **hand write your answers** (NO TYPED WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED). You may answer in cursive or print, but please make sure that your writing is legible. Your notebook must be turned in on the first full day of class. **This assignment will count as three (3) homework assignments.**



- Please answer each question in a complete sentence with details to support your answer. Use the questions to frame your answers. Also, eliminate the use of personal pronouns as much as possible (I, me, he, him, her, she, it, you, them, they). Use the character's name instead to identify who you are talking about. Remember that capitalization and punctuation rules apply and will be considered when grading your notebook.
- The key component in reading comprehension is being able to answer what we call the 5 W's and an H: Who, what, when, where, why and how. The discussion questions will address these reading comprehension building blocks. As you finish reading each chapter of the novel, you should complete the discussion questions for that chapter. Do not read the book and then go back and try to answer the questions. Answer them while the chapter is fresh in your mind!

## ***The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare**

### **Summer Reading - Discussion Questions**

#### Chapter 1 Summary

1. Why are Joel and Daniel upset with the Romans?
2. Why did Daniel leave his hometown?
3. Where does Daniel bar Jamin meet Joel?
4. What does Daniel ask Joel and Malthace to do for him?
5. Who is Rosh?

#### Chapter 2 Summary

1. What does Rosh tell Joel?
2. Why does Joel refuse to leave Daniel?
3. Why was Samson in chains?
4. Why does Daniel volunteer to lead Samson?

#### Chapter 3 Summary

1. What does Daniel realize while he is traveling home with Simon?
2. What does Simon think of Rosh?
3. What is Samson doing?
4. How does Daniel feel about going home?
5. How is Daniel welcomed at home?

#### Chapter 4 Summary

1. What internal struggle does Daniel bar Jamin contend with?
2. How does Daniel feel about Jesus after hearing him speak at the synagogue?
3. On what terms does Daniel bid farewell to his grandmother and sister?
4. What surprises Daniel about Jesus when he sees him for the first time?
5. What historical figure does Daniel see for the first time?

#### Chapter 5 Summary

1. What did Daniel notice about Joel's house?
2. Who does Daniel see in the market?
3. Why is Daniel discontented on the mountain?
4. Why does Daniel choose to go to Capernaum?
5. Why does Hezron kick Daniel out of his house?

## Chapter 6 Summary

1. What does the Roman soldier want from Daniel?
2. Where does Daniel go for help after he's injured?
3. Why does Malthace want Daniel to leave?
4. Why does the soldier throw a spear at Daniel?
5. What does Joel do for Daniel?

## Chapter 7 Summary

1. What is the significance of the bronze bow?
2. What does Daniel say happened to Leah?
3. Why does Joel want to fight the Romans?
4. What does Daniel say happened to his father?
5. What does Joel read to Daniel and Malthace?

## Chapter 8 Summary

1. Why does Rosh send Daniel to see Simon?
2. At the start of the chapter Daniel is wounded. How did he get hurt?
3. What does Jesus do at Simon's house that breaks the Law?
4. Simon tells Daniel and Joel that in order to be healed by Jesus, people have to have \_\_\_\_\_.
5. How does Daniel let Joel know he's waiting for him?

## Chapter 9 Summary

1. Daniel fights with the miser, who is dressed as a beggar. After he's knocked the man out, what does Daniel do?
2. Daniel and Rosh have an argument. What does Rosh tell Daniel?
3. What does Daniel do after his talk with Rosh?
4. What does Daniel realize about Rosh?
5. What task does Rosh ask Daniel to complete?

## Chapter 10 Summary

1. As Daniel is reciting the psalm his grandmother taught him, what happens?
2. Daniel begins to talk to grandmother. He tells her that he remembers stories she taught him. In one story, she told Daniel how he got his name. What happened in that story?
3. What three things do the neighbors give to Daniel?
4. Why are the women in the town afraid of Leah?
5. Who sends Daniel a note to tell him that his grandmother is dying?

## Chapter 11 Summary

1. What does Rosh say when Daniel tells him that he's not coming back to the mountain?
2. How does Daniel get Leah to leave the house?
3. A servant brings fine thread for Leah to use on her loom. What does Daniel learn about Leah from this event?
4. Why is Daniel furious with "murderous hate"?
5. Who wants Daniel to stay in town to work in the smithy?

## Chapter 12 Summary

1. Nathan suggests that the members of the new band should brand themselves to show they are loyal. Joel disagrees. What does Joel suggest they do instead?
2. When Daniel first meets Kemuel, why doesn't Daniel trust Kemuel?
3. Nathan comes into Daniel's smithy. What does Nathan want?
4. When Daniel notices a Roman soldier watching the smithy, where does the band move its meetings?
5. Daniel dreams about bringing Rosh down from the mountain to see something. What does he want to show Rosh?

## Chapter 13 Summary

1. When Thacia leaves after visiting with Leah, what does she give to Leah?
2. Daniel is surprised to learn that Leah can \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Daniel notices that Leah has a "faint flush" in her cheeks. What does he think this is from?
4. What does Daniel tell Leah to do with the money she earns for her cloth?
5. When Daniel and Joel go to see the apprentice recruit, what do they discuss on the way back?

## Chapter 14 Summary

1. Daniel tells Leah that he'll never get married. Why not?
2. When he's back on the mountain with Rosh's band, what does Daniel think about when he has trouble getting to sleep?
3. Why does Leah become worried when Daniel tells her about Nathan's wedding?
4. Daniel gets angry when Leah asks if the Romans are their "masters." He also gets upset when she says the Roman who comes into his shop is homesick. Why do Leah's words upset Daniel?

## Chapter 15 Summary

1. Daniel notices that Leah is acting strangely. Which of these is NOT something Leah did that was strange?
2. When Jesus heals the little girl, why are his disciples upset with him?
3. At the end of the chapter, what is Daniel wondering?
4. What does Daniel make out of bronze at the end of the chapter?
5. Why does Daniel continue to go to hear Jesus speak in this chapter?

#### Chapter 16 Summary

1. Who comes to the blacksmith shop while Thacia and Leah are in the house?
2. Why was Thacia dressed as a boy?
3. What task does Rosh want Joel to complete for him?
4. Daniel and Joel talk about Herod. Who is Herod?
5. What does Daniel give to Thacia at the end of Chapter 16?

#### Chapter 17 Summary

1. Who/what is Tiberius?
2. What does Daniel tell Rosh?
3. What is a 'centurion'?
4. What did Rosh do with the information Joel gave him about the banquet?
5. In Chapter 17 the boys bring news to Daniel about a catapult that is in town. What is a catapult?

#### Chapter 18 Summary

1. What will happen to Joel if they don't save him?
2. Where is Joel taken?
3. When Daniel goes to Rosh for help, what does Rosh tell him?
4. Daniel explains the plan to rescue Joel. Who in the group volunteers to help Daniel cut Joel's chains?
5. As Daniel leaves the mountain after talking to Rosh, who joins him on his way to the watchtower?

#### Chapter 19 Summary

1. What do the boys plan to use as weapons against the Roman soldiers?
2. At the end of the chapter, what do the boys realize as they make their way back home?
3. Which of the boys is killed as they fight the Roman soldiers?
4. Who pushes a huge rock down on top of the Roman soldiers?
5. Which of the boys is planning to be the one to break Joel's chains with a chisel?

#### Chapter 20 Summary

1. Who stays in the village to help Daniel in the blacksmith shop?

2. Joel tells Daniel he must warn Jesus. What message is he to give to Jesus?
3. Daniel keeps thinking about the saying, "They who live by the sword will perish by the sword." He says he wouldn't mind if he died fighting the Romans, but why is he feeling bad?
4. Joel tells Daniel that he's to be sent away to school. Where is Joel going?
5. Daniel and Joel talk about marriage. Why does Daniel say he can never marry?

### Chapter 21 Summary

1. Daniel remembers his vow. What was it?
2. What happens when Daniel tries to deliver Joel's warning to Jesus?
3. What does Jesus ask Daniel to do?
4. What is NOT a reason Daniel wants to fight the Romans?
5. What part of the Law does Jesus quote to Daniel?

### Chapter 22 Summary

1. Why is Daniel angry that Leah spoke to Marcus?
2. Why does Daniel go to Capernaum?
3. Daniel lets Thacia know he loves her, but he says "it's no use." Why is it "no use"?
4. When Daniel returns from Capernaum, Leah serves him dinner and brings out some very expensive fruit as a surprise. Where did Leah get the fruit?
5. When Thacia realizes Daniel loves her, she feels a "deep shining happiness." Why do you think Thacia feels that way?

### Chapter 23 Summary

1. All the followers of Jesus are calling him \_\_\_\_\_.
2. When Daniel first finds all of the followers of Jesus, he believes that the day has finally come when Jesus is going to help them defeat the Romans. How does Daniel feel?
3. When Daniel gets to Capernaum, what does he find?
4. Simon tries to explain to Daniel that he must choose to believe in Jesus without knowing whether or not Jesus is right. How does Daniel react to this?
5. Why does Daniel go to Capernaum?

### Chapter 24 Summary

1. What does Jesus do for Leah?
2. Why does Marcus want to see Leah?
3. What does Daniel decide to do with Thacia?
4. Who does NOT come to Daniel's house?
5. What does Daniel decide can bend the bronze bow?

