

Name _____

Period _____

The Giver – Short Stories Series

You will be required to read 4 of the following short stories independently as we read *The Giver* by Lois Lowry as a class. Please, read the following synopses to better choose your stories.

“The Lottery” – Shirley Jackson (*The Haunting of Hill House*)

Synopsis: In a small village, all of the citizens are thrilled to be a part of the lottery. Adults, children, and elderly all take their chance at being chosen, but what are they being chosen for?

“The Bet” – Anton Chekhov (*The Seagull, The Cherry Orchard, etc.*)

Synopsis: The guests at a dinner party are engaged in a lively debate. Which is worse for a man: the death penalty or life-long imprisonment? This is the story of a man’s search for the answer.

“Stop the Sun” – Gary Paulsen (*Hatchet, Brian’s Winter, etc.*)

Synopsis: Terry’s father is a Vietnam War veteran. However, living with a veteran is not all heroic stories. Terry’s father is suffering from his memories of combat. This is their story as father and son.

“The Great Automatic Grammatizator” – Roald Dahl (*Charlie & the Chocolate Factory, Matilda, etc.*)

Synopsis: Adolph Knipe creates machines using mathematical formulas. He improves the lives of others by simplifying their daily tasks. One day he finds a solution that could earn him large quantities of money and make his own life simpler, but at what cost?

“2BR02B” – Kurt Vonnegut (*Slaughterhouse-Five*)

Synopsis: The future world is perfect. Population control has been mastered and everyone lives a long existence of prosperity and success. However, there is a great price that must be paid for every new birth. Is it worth it?

“To Build a Fire” – Jack London (*The Call of the Wild, White Fang, etc.*)

Synopsis: A classic nature story written in reflection of London’s own experiences in the Yukon Territory. A young man and his husky are stranded in the woods during the dead of winter. This is their story of survival.

“Red Card” – S.L. Gilbow

Synopsis: Linda Jackson has killed her husband. Rather than being punished for her crime, Linda is praised. What about this community makes murder somewhat acceptable?

Directions: Read the synopsis for each story. List the 4 stories that you would like to read the most.

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

4. _____

You will need to download the appropriate reading guide from my webpage prior to reading your chosen story.

**You can read and complete the reading guides for more than your 4 required stories for extra credit.*

Use the following to keep track of when each short story must be started and completed.

<p>“The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson</p> <p>Start: When the class has read Chapter 6.</p>	<p>Due: The class period when we begin Chapter 11.</p>
<p>“The Bet” by Anton Chekhov</p> <p>Start: When the class has read Chapter 7.</p>	<p>Due: The class period when we begin Chapter 12.</p>
<p>“Stop the Sun” by Gary Paulsen</p> <p>Start: When the class has read Chapter 15.</p>	<p>Due: The class period when we begin Chapter 18.</p>
<p>“The Great Automatic Grammatizator” by Roald Dahl</p> <p>Start: When the class has read Chapter 16.</p>	<p>Due: The class period when we begin Chapter 19.</p>
<p>“2BR02B” by Kurt Vonnegut</p> <p>Start: When the class has read Chapter 18.</p>	<p>Due: The class period when we begin Chapter 21.</p>
<p>“To Build a Fire” by Jack London</p> <p>Start: When the class has read Chapter 21.</p>	<p>Due: The class period after we finish the book.</p>
<p>“Red Card” by S.L. Gilbow</p> <p>Start: When we finish the book.</p>	<p>Due: TBA</p>