

May 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

In an effort to enhance reading, Cabrini High School requires that all students complete Summer Reading. Before the new school year begins, you are to read the following book on your own:

**English 12 - *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza**

On the first full day of class you will be given a reading test. The assessment could include trigger words, theme statements, character snapshots, quotations and/or multiple choice or true/false plot questions. This will count as the first grade in your English class.

While reading, *it is recommended* that you take notes about the following content:

1. **Setting:** Record a description of both place and time. As you read chapter to chapter the setting will change - record the changes.
2. **Characterization:** As you read, pause to write down each new character introduced and note the character's appearance, personality, and connection to the plot.
3. **Symbolism:** A symbol is a concrete object that reveals a more significant insight. Write down all objects that possibly have a symbolic meaning and are important.
4. **Conflict:** There are many conflicts, both internal (within the character) and external (between characters) within the story, so as you read, track the conflicts.
5. **Theme:** A theme in literature is discussed after reading the text. The theme is the universal lesson of the novel. What is the main theme(s) of this novel?

These notes **cannot** be used on the test nor will they be collected; they are for you to use to study/prepare for the test.

Following test day, your teacher will lead further discussion and activities, so please be prepared to discuss the novel. We will be completing a character map the first week of school, so you may want to keep track of some of the main characters in the story.

The Cabrini High School English Department

