

Augusta Raa Performing Arts Magnet Middle School

Summer 2017

Eighth Grade Summer Reading

All students entering eighth grade in August 2017 at Raa Middle School will read the book *Full Tilt* by Neal Shusterman. ALL students will answer questions while reading and turn those questions in the first week of school. Students in gifted/talented classes will have a project due Friday, August 18th.

Read *Full Tilt* in

Ten Weeks:

A suggested pacing guide!

Chapters 1-2 – June 5th-9th

Chapters 3-4 – June 12th-16th

Chapters 5-6 – June 19th-23rd

Chapters 7-8 – June 26th-June 30th

Chapters 9-10 – July 3rd-7th

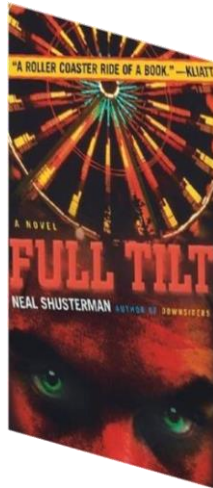
Chapters 11-12 – July 10th-14th

Chapters 13-14 - July 17th – 21st

Chapters 15-16 – July 24th – 28th

August 1st-5th – Reading Assignment

August 8th-12th – Make sure everything is ready to turn in to your language arts teacher!



Full Tilt: Blake and Quinn are brothers with opposite personalities. Blake chases Quinn into a phantom carnival that traps customers forever. In order to escape, Blake must survive seven deadly rides by dawn. Each ride presents Blake with a deep and personal fear, which Blake must ultimately confront a horrible secret from his past. Will Blake save his brother and survive and escape the carnival?

Purchase your book at Raa Middle School after May 1st!

Why Summer Reading and *Full Tilt*?

Research has shown that students who do not read during the summer lose three months of reading gains. Raa Middle School is committed to ensuring students continue to grow and expand their reading comprehension skills, not lose them.

Full Tilt is a coming-of-age young adult novel about a boy who seems to have it all together and responsible but has these fears about various life events and experiences that he is now forced to address. Addressing fear is very important to incoming eighth graders, because they will soon develop fears about things high school, college, and life after college. Students who read this novel during the summer will be able to share their own growing up experiences, compared to those in the novel, with a literary experience that allows us to guide them through critical thinking and decision making, specifically with addressing fear.

Per School Board Policy 2240, Leon County Schools recognizes that certain instructional materials may conflict with a student's or parent's value system. In such cases, a parent may request in writing an alternative summer reading assignment. Please direct inquiries to Jessica Fuesy, Assistant Principal at Raa Middle School.

Steps to a Successful Fantastic Summer!

1. Read at least 15 minutes - four days a week!
2. Follow the suggested reading guide!
3. Answer the guided reading questions AS you are reading, and not after you finish the entire book.

Guided Reading Questions: Answer all questions in COMPLETE sentences unless otherwise noted.

Chapters 1 and 2

1. How is Quinn's life like a roller coaster?
2. Which character is most like you? Explain your answer by citing evidence from text to support your response. For example, you might cite the behavior of chosen character that resembles how you would act.
3. If you could compare yourself or your life to a ride at an amusement park, which ride would it be? Why?
4. What does Quinn mean when he says, "I go places sometimes."
5. Blake has several visions or flashbacks of some objects or events in this chapter. Explain them.
6. Blake feels that he has experienced a life-altering experience. Choose one of the following topic sentences and complete the paragraph.
 - a. Topic sentence 1: My life was as normal as most kids until I had a life-altering experience.
 - b. Topic sentence 2: I'm lucky because I've never had a life-altering experience. However, I can imagine having one if the following events happened to me.
7. What happens that reveals there will be mystery in this book?
8. What was the scariest or most memorable ride you've ever been on? Describe the whole experience (who you were with, where was it, what did it look like, how old were you, how you felt during the ride). If you have never been on a scary ride, describe what rides you fear and why.

Chapters 3 and 4

1. Explain the following sentence: He does acceleration instead of speed.
2. What does the title of this chapter mean?
3. Why does Blake think Quinn is at a carnival?
4. What does Blake think his mission is?
5. To what does the title refer?

Chapters 5 and 6

1. ____ The Tilt-A-Whirl is unusual because (a) all the riders disappear (b) it is moving in the wrong direction (c) there is only one rider in each pod (d) all of the above
2. ____ Blake goes on the carousel because (a) he sees his favorite animals (b) Cassandra is there (c) his hand is glowing (d) he thinks Quinn may be there
3. ____ Blake goes on the carousel because (a) he sees his favorite animals (b) Cassandra is there (c) his hand is glowing (d) he thinks Quinn may be there
4. Which of Blake's fears is the carousel illustrating?
5. Number these events in the order they happened.
 - ____ The blue-plate special is presented to Blake.
 - ____ The sky turns to orange.
 - ____ Blake ends up on the other side of the wall.
 - ____ A machine gun fires on Blake's car.
 - ____ Blake gets a note that says Hold On.
 - ____ The bumper car turns into a vintage Volvo.
 - ____ Blake realizes he's in Chicago.
 - ____ An orange car slowly approaches Blake's car.
 - ____ Blake sees Quinn.
 - ____ Maggie, Russ, and Blake get into the bumper cars.
 - ____ Blake enters a tavern.
 - ____ Blake accepts a drink from Cassandra.
 - ____ Blake's car is broadsided.
 - ____ Blake's car is rear-ended by an ugly kid.
6. What does Cassandra represent?
7. What fears are represented in this chapter?
8. What happens to the children who do not survive the rides?
9. What is the primary emotion that the children feel when they are on the bumper cars?
10. How does Russ's and Blake's relationship change in this chapter?

Chapters 7 and 8

1. What fear does the Captain and the blue whale represent?
2. Quinn is referred to as a lightning rod. How does this pertain to his life?
3. What do the “works” inside Quinn represent?
4. Pretend that you are Cassandra and have just met Blake on the rocks. Retell the events that follow from Cassandra’s point of view. As Cassandra, describe your conversation with Quinn, Be sure to include your feelings.
5. Why is the Mirror Maze Maggie’s ride?
6. What part of the ride pertains to Blake?
7. What do Blake and Maggie discover about themselves?
8. If you were to be in a House of Mirrors, what fears would you face? What truths about yourself would come out? What would you learn about yourself that you’ve never admitted to anyone. Be honest.
9. How is Blake changing as he goes from ride to ride?

Chapters 9 and 10

1. Blake is riding on the Kamikazee. Out of what secret fears does this ride appear?
2. Explain the title of the chapter.
3. How has Cassandra helped Blake to escape from the doomed plane?
4. Why is Russ determined to kill Blake?
5. Why has Blake been on Cassandra’s list for 10 years?
6. Why does Blake consider himself a balance?

Chapters 11 and 12

1. Why is it so difficult for Blake to get on the next ride?
 2. What is the “living reminder” of Blake’s screwed-up life?
 3. Why can’t Blake save Quinn?
- Write T for True or F for False
4. _____ Blake is taken to a room where he is to be mummified.
 5. _____ The temple guard binds Blake to the table with ropes around his arms and legs.
 6. _____ Quinn has been drugged so he has no strength to fight.
 7. _____ Cassandra readies Quinn’s body for mummification.
 8. _____ Extra salt is brought in for the mummification of Quinn.
 9. _____ One of the steps of mummification is when the brain is pulled out through the nose.
 10. _____ Quinn does not want to be empty on the inside.
 11. _____ Blake and Achmed help Quinn to escape.
 12. _____ The people in the amusement park become furious when Blake is about to go on his 7th ride.
 13. _____ The street vendor tries to capture Quinn and Blake.
 14. _____ The amusement park seems to be melting.
 15. _____ The rides are built on the broken spirits of its riders.
 16. _____ Quinn and Blake are successful in climbing the Great Pyramid of Cheops.
 17. _____ The rides are crashing all around them.
 18. _____ Blake falls into The Works.
 19. Describe the changes in the people and the amusement park as Blake runs toward his last ride.

Chapters 13 and 14

1. Explain The Works. What happens there? What is its significance?
2. What does the following sentence mean? “Nothing comes without a price, and no one comes who doesn’t choose to be here.”
3. Explain Blake and Quinn’s role reversal as they try to get on the next ride.
4. List all of the items mentioned in this chapter that came directly from either Blake’s or Quinn’s memory.
5. Explain the following sentence: “I think that was the moment I really found my brother.”
6. What happens to Cassandra?

Chapter 15

Fill in the missing words.

Blake screamed, "You have to let me ___1___! I finished all 7 rides. You have to let me ___2___!" Cassandra agreed that she must let Blake go, but ___3___ would have to remain because he only completed ___4___ rides. There was one more ride Blake must ride so that ___5___, ___6___, ___7___, and he could leave the park. When Blake looked at the ride it looked like a harmless yellow ___8___. But once he got on, the ___9___ turned into a yellow ___10___. Blake's memory of his terrible ride when he was ___11___ haunted him. He kept reliving the nightmare over and ___12___ again. Each time, Blake could not remember how he ___13___. In his memory, he kept trying to reach the ___14___ door, but the floor slanted higher and ___15___. He tried to ___16___ open the ___17___, but he was not ___18___ enough. Then he remembered. He remembered that he had ___19___ open the door. He stood at the back edge of the ___20___ while the bus teetered on the edge of the ___21___. He finally remembered that he ___22___ off the bus, just as the bus fell. Cassandra said that the bus plunged into the ___23___ because Blake had jumped off the bus. She said that because he had ___24___, everyone else ___25___. But Blake knew that the bus would have fallen ___26___. At last he was free! He forgave himself for ___27___. The ride was finally ___28___.

Chapter 16

Write a one-paragraph response convincing the teacher whether or not the amusement park existed. Make sure to cite evidence to support your response. Below is a writing strategy that will help you write an effective paragraph.

P= paraphrase the question(or restate – whichever you are comfortable with doing)

A= answer the question – make sure to state whether or not the amusement park existed.

C= cite evidence – what in the text lead you to your opinion?

E= elaborate – you now must explain what the evidence shows.

*****Remember, this is a paragraph response, and it should be your best writing 😊!*****

