

English 12 - The Story of Change Summer Reading Project

In the English class The Story of Change, you will read non-fiction texts inspired by individuals who choose to be brave and resilient when faced with adversity, and whose identity is ultimately shaped by the decisions they make when they think nothing is in their control.

Over the summer, students enrolled in The Story of Change are required to read the memoir *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls..

As you read, take notes either in your text or in a separate space for the following focus areas. I will check your annotations at the start of the school year:

- How the notion of fire and/or burning figures into Jeannette's life and memories, and how fire is related to the implicit neglect of her parents.
- The unspoken lessons of self-sufficiency Jeannette is taught by her parents throughout her life and how those lessons shape her decisions and lead to her successes.
- How do Jeannette's parents teach her about perseverance? Self-control? Patience? Hard work? Are Rose Mary and Rex good parents?

Upon your return to school, be ready to engage in class discussions about the above topics of conversation. Also, be ready to complete an in-class writing assignment concerning the notion of Jeannette Walls identity and ultimate success in life.

