

WNC BOOK LISTS

TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS



DIVORCE

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

In this resource you will find a curated list of books about divorce as well as a variety of accompanying materials.

How to Use This Resource

1. Choose a title from the divorce list.
2. Scan the QR code to play the read-aloud video.
3. Students complete the response sheet while listening.
4. Students vote: Would you keep reading?
5. Display the book cover poster to build classroom book buzz.

Classroom Use Ideas Quick List:

- First Chapter Friday
- Sub plans
- Book tasting stations
- Library preview lessons
- Early finisher reading activities



To check the reading level, video length or to find a book purchasing link, look at this [Google Doc](#) that organizes ALL of my First Chapter Friday read aloud videos alphabetically.

Table of Contents

Page 2: Instructions/Table of Contents

Page 4: What is First Chapter Friday?

Pages 5-6: Book Tracking Charts

Page 7: Book List

Pages 9-13 Individual Book First Chapter Friday Sheets

Pages 15-19: Individual Book Posters

** More resources will be added in the future including a Reading Round Up Video to briefly explain every video on this list and possibly even some thematic coloring sheets.

As always, please email me with any title requests or questions. (wordnerd@amandazieba.com)

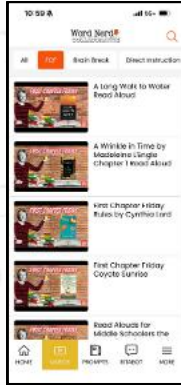


HAPPY READING!

Word Nerd Daily

an app from Amanda Zieba

MUST TRY!



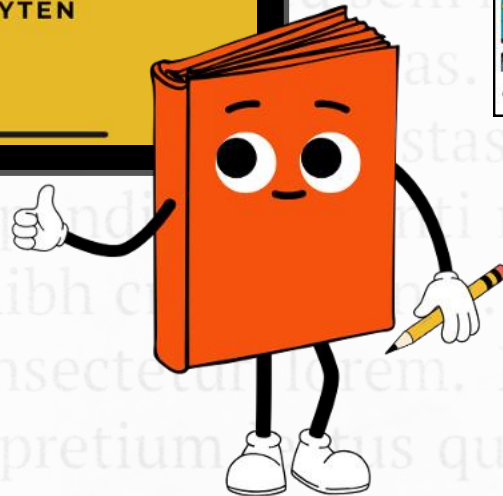
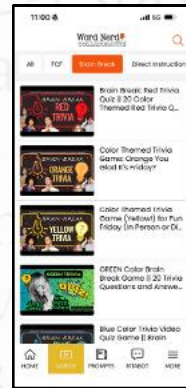
First Chapter Friday Videos

ChatBot for Reading Recs and Lesson Planning



Writing Prompt Library

Brain Break Videos



AVAILABLE FOR APPLE AND ANDROID DEVICES



FIRST CHAPTER *Friday Videos*

Not sure how First Chapter Friday works?

Check out this [video](#) for a full explanation and 4 implementation ideas.



If you prefer a written description in lieu of a video, click [here](#).

[Click here](#) for a live, continually updated, Google Doc of the First Chapter Friday videos on my channel. Additionally you will find links to purchase the books and watch the read aloud videos, as well as book reading levels, genre/format, video length and more!

All my best,
Amanda Zieba

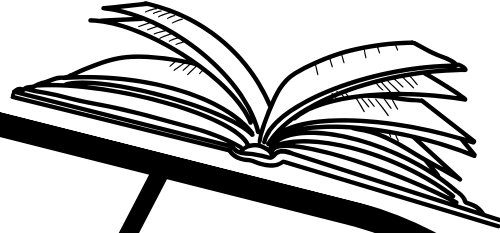
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Reading Game Board



Every time you finish a book, write its title in the square.
To win, fill up the entire game board!

START

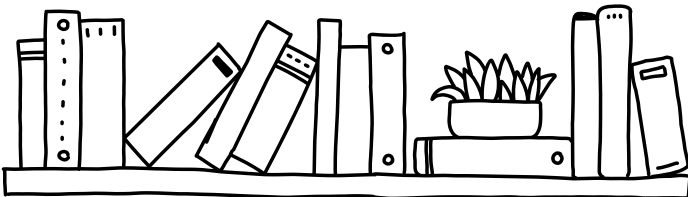


Additional Directions

- If you loved a book, color the square green.
- If you disliked the book, color the square red.



FINISH



Name: _____

DIVORCE

The characters in these books deal with the difficulty of divorce and the way it impacts their lives.



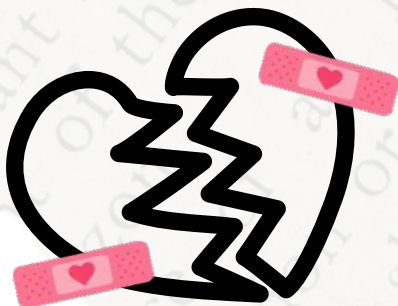
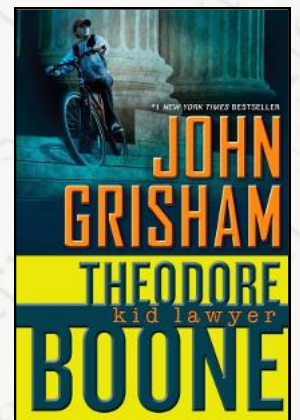
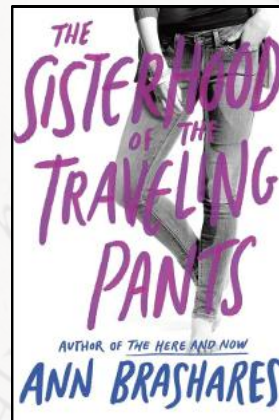
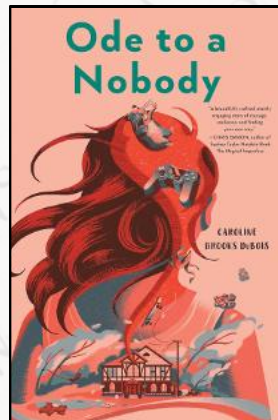
Alone by Megan E. Freeman

The House Swap by Yvette Clark

Ode to a Nobody by Caroline Brooks Dubois

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants
by Ann Brashares

Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer
by John Grisham



INDIVIDUAL BOOK SHEETS

These are individual book sheets for First Chapter Friday, featuring book covers and descriptions for five books: *Alone* by Megan E. Freeman, *The House Swap* by Ivette Clark, *Ode to a Nobody* by Caroline Brooks Dubois, *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* by Ann Brashares, and *Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer* by John Grisham.

Each sheet includes a QR code, a "What's It About?" section, and a "Lexile Level" section. The sheets are designed to be used as a reading log or a book report template.

Alone by Megan E. Freeman
Lexile Level: 600L
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

The House Swap by Ivette Clark
Lexile Level: 600L
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

Ode to a Nobody by Caroline Brooks Dubois
Lexile Level: 600L
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashares
Lexile Level: 600L
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer by John Grisham
Lexile Level: 600L
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

Name _____

Date _____



Alone

by Megan E. Freeman



Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

When twelve-year-old Maddie hatches a scheme for a secret sleepover with her two best friends, she ends up waking up to a nightmare. She's alone—left behind in a town that has been mysteriously evacuated and abandoned.

With no one to rely on, no power, and no working phone lines or internet access, Maddie slowly learns to survive on her own. Her only companions are a Rottweiler named George and all the books she can read. After a rough start, Maddie learns to trust her own ingenuity and invents clever ways to survive in a place that has been deserted and forgotten.

As months pass, she escapes natural disasters, looters, and wild animals. But Maddie's most formidable enemy is the crushing loneliness she faces every day. Can Maddie's stubborn will to survive carry her through the most frightening experience of her life?

Who Wrote It?

Megan E. Freeman attended an elementary school where poets visited her classroom every week to teach poetry, and she has been a writer ever since. *Alone* is Megan's first book and it took her 8 years to write! The idea for it came she read *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell in a Mother-Daughter Book Club. She was thinking about *Karana* being left behind on the island, and I wondered what might happen if a modern-day seventh grader was left behind in a Colorado town. Ideas for poems come from things I see or hear or smell or taste, or from thoughts that pass through my mind. I love to travel, and wherever I go, I explore until I find a local bookstore. I always buy at least two books (one book of poetry by a local poet and one other book I'm excited to read). Then I take a picture of the store so I can remember it.



She used to live in northeast Los Angeles, central Ohio, northern Norway, and on Caribbean cruise ships. Now she lives in northern Colorado. You can learn more about Megan on her website: www.meganefreeman.com.

AR Reading Level: 4.7

Lexile Level: 690L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

Name _____

Date _____



The House Swap by Yvette Clark



Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

Seventh grade is going to be Iveliz's year. She's going to make a new friend, help her abuela Mimi get settled after moving from Puerto Rico, and she is not going to get into any more trouble at school. . . .

Except is that what happens? Of course not. Because no matter how hard Iveliz tries, sometimes people say things that just make her so mad. And worse, Mimi keeps saying Iveliz's medicine is unnecessary—even though it helps Iveliz feel less sad. But how do you explain your feelings to others when you're not even sure what's going on yourself?

Powerful and compassionate, Andrea Beatriz Arango's debut navigates mental health, finding your voice, and discovering that those who really love you will stay by your side no matter what.

AR Reading Level: Unavailable

Who Wrote It?

A Brit by birth and a New Yorker by design, Yvette lives in Manhattan with her husband, two teenagers, and a small blue cat.

Yvette is proud to be a mentor for a fantastic organization called Girls Write Now. Find out more about them here: www.girlswritenow.org



Lexile Level: Unavailable

I want to read this book: YES / NO



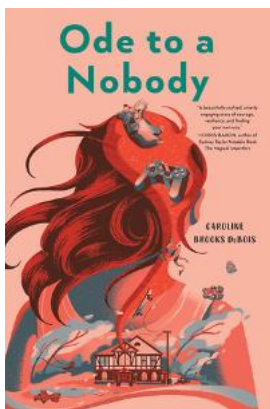
WHAT I THINK





Name _____

Date _____



Ode to a Nobody

by Caroline Brooks Dubois



Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Novel in Verse

What's It About?

A devastating tornado tears apart more than just houses in this striking novel in verse about a girl rebuilding herself. Before the storm, thirteen-year-old Quinn was happy flying under the radar. She was average. Unremarkable. Always looking for an escape from her house, where her bickering parents fawned over her genius big brother. But after the storm, Quinn can't seem to go back to average. Her friends weren't affected by the tornado in the same way. To them, the storm left behind a playground of abandoned houses and distracted adults. As Quinn struggles to find stability in the tornado's aftermath, she must choose: between homes, friendships, and versions of herself. Told in rich, spectacular verse, Caroline Brooks DuBois crafts a powerful story of redemption as Quinn makes her way from Before to After. There's nothing average about the world Quinn wakes up to after the storm; maybe there's nothing average about her, either. This emotional coming-of-age journey for middle grade readers proves that it's never too late to be the person you want to be.

Who Wrote It?

Caroline has taught poetry workshops, creative writing and composition classes, and English at the middle school, high school, and college levels. In May 2016, she was recognized as a Nashville Blue Ribbon Teacher for her dedication to her students and excellence in teaching adolescents. Caroline is the director of the Literary Arts Conservatory at Nashville School of the Arts High School in Nashville, Tennessee. She lives with her singer-songwriter husband, with



whom she's co-written songs, and their two children and dog.

AR Reading Unavailable

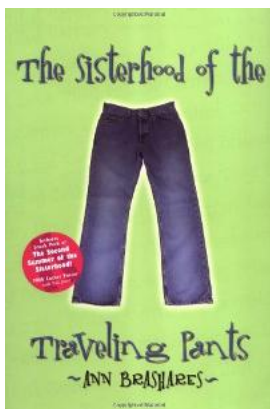
Lexile Level: Unavailable

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.



Name _____

Date _____

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashares



Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

The first novel in the wildly popular #1 New York Times bestselling Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants series.

Some friends just fit together. Once there was a pair of pants. Just an ordinary pair of jeans. But these pants, the Traveling Pants, went on to do great things. This is the story of the four friends—Lena, Tibby, Bridget, and Carmen—who made it possible.

Pants = love. Love your pals. Love yourself.

** The first in a series of 4 books.
** Also a movie!

Who Wrote It?

I am a writer living in New York City and a mother of four. I am married to artist Jacob Collins. I grew up in and around Washington, DC. Before becoming a writer, I was a student of philosophy, a receptionist, an editor, a ghostwriter, and briefly, the co-president of a small media company. I love babies and children (many of whom are no longer children), teaching, gardening, and the effort, more generally, of growing and taking care of living things, in some cases fictional. I love walking, running, and biking around my own city and others, especially old cities. I love reading



fiction, poetry, and history; I love talking about ideas and also arguing about them in a civilized way. I prize curiosity above intellect. I cherish my friendships.

AR Reading Level: 4.5

Lexile Level: 600L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

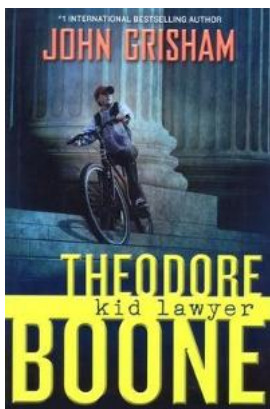
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

Name _____

Date _____



Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer (Book 1) by John Grisham



Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

In the small city of Strattenburg, there are many lawyers, and though he's only thirteen years old, Theo Boone thinks he's one of them. Theo knows every judge, policeman, court clerk—and a lot about the law. He dreams of being a great trial lawyer, of a life in the courtroom. But Theo finds himself in court much sooner than expected. Because he knows so much—maybe too much—he is suddenly dragged into the middle of a sensational murder trial. A cold-blooded killer is about to go free, and only Theo knows the truth.

The stakes are high, but Theo won't stop until justice is served.

The thrilling young mystery series from internationally bestselling author John Grisham!

Book 1 in a series of 7!

Who Wrote It?

John Grisham is the author of forty-seven consecutive #1 bestsellers, which have been translated into nearly fifty languages. His recent books include *The Judge's List*, *Sooley*, and his third Jake Brigrance novel, *A Time for Mercy*, which is being developed by HBO as a limited series. Grisham is a two-time winner of the Harper Lee Prize for Legal Fiction and was honored with the Library of Congress Creative Achievement Award for Fiction. When he's not writing, Grisham serves on the board of directors of the Innocence Project and of Centurion Ministries, two national organizations dedicated to



exonerating those who have been wrongfully convicted. Much of his fiction explores deep-seated problems in our criminal justice system. John lives on a farm in central Virginia.

AR Reading Level: 5.2

Lexile Level: 840L

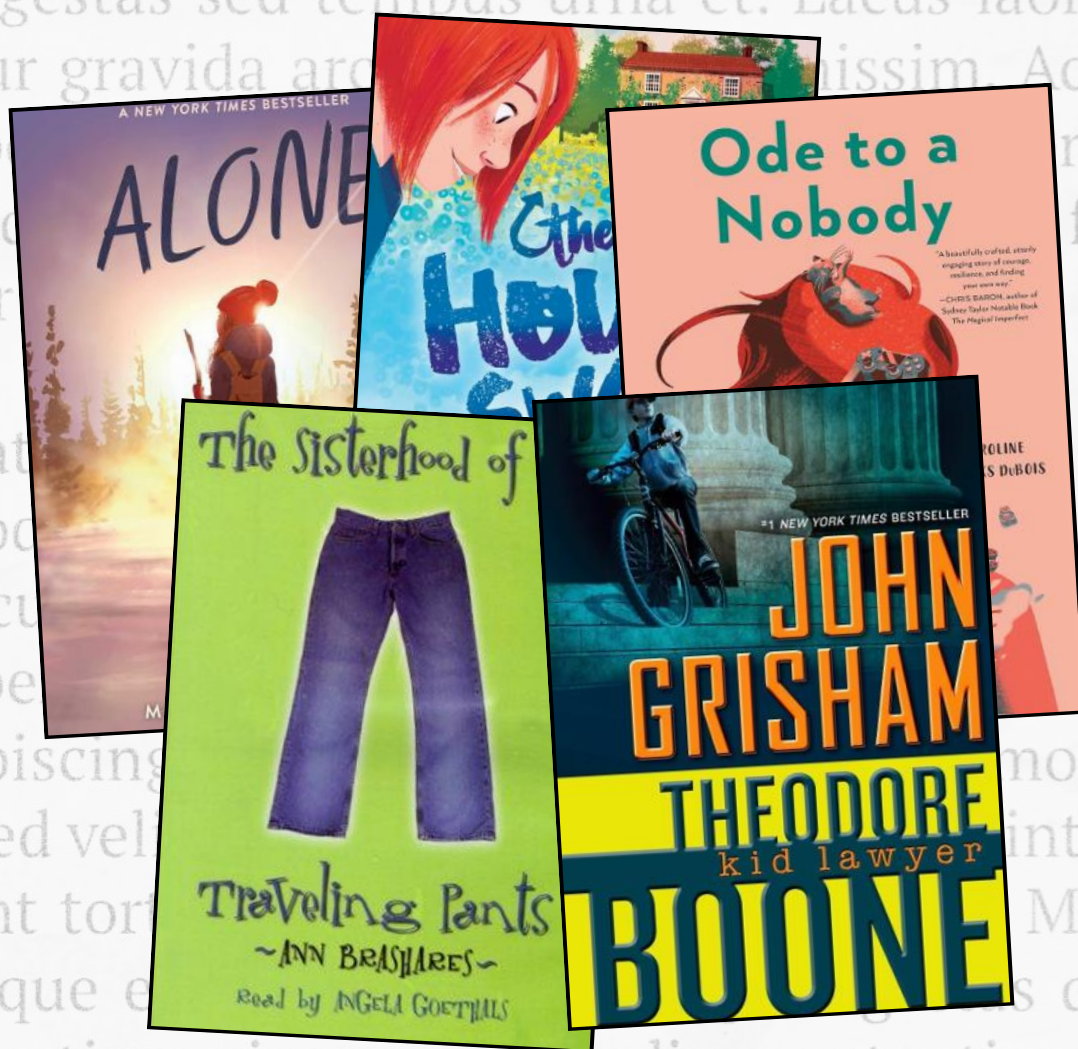
I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆ ☆ WHAT I THINK ☆ ☆



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

INDIVIDUAL BOOK POSTERS



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

ALONE

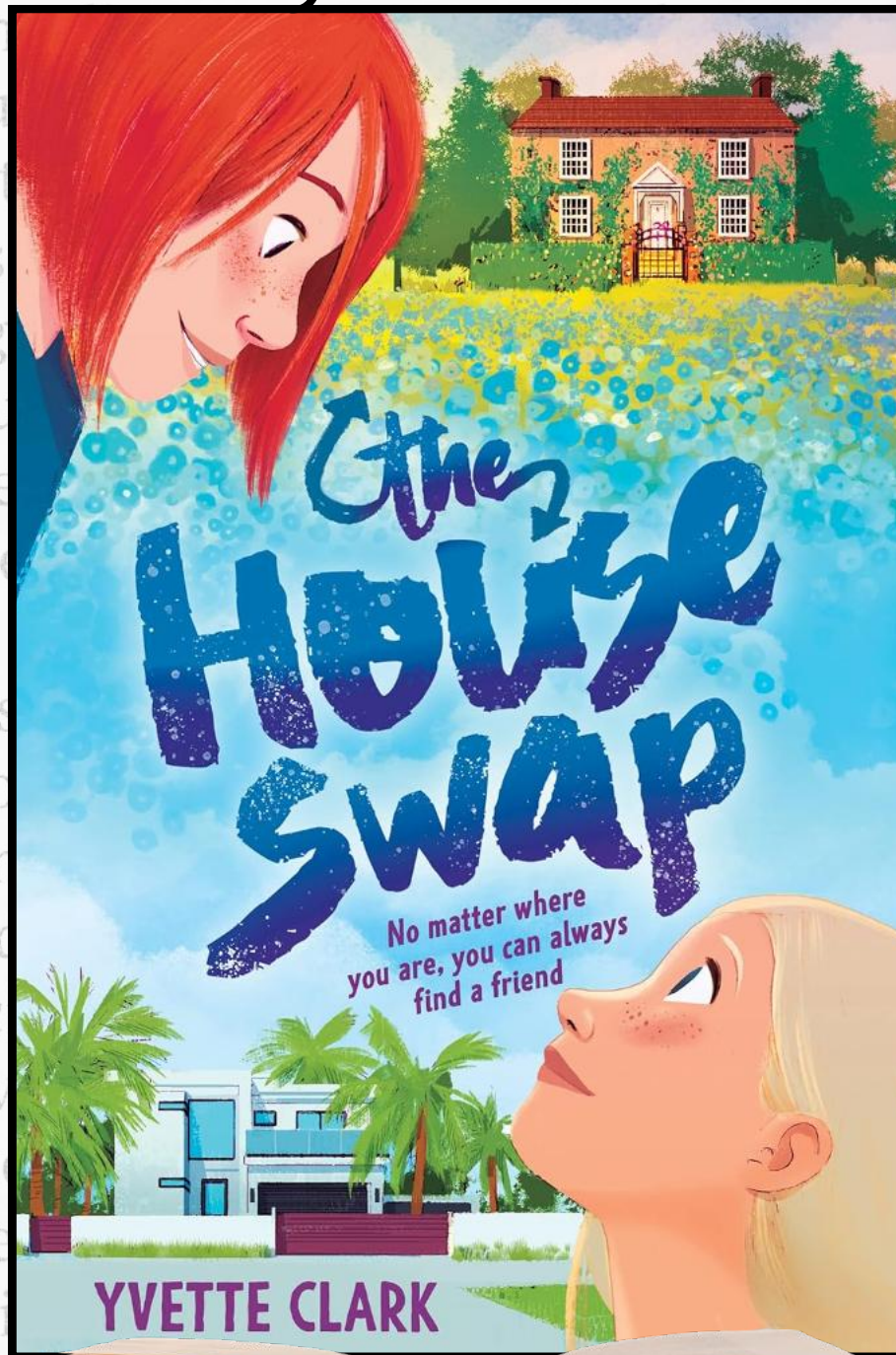
By Megan E. Freeman



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE HOUSE SWAP

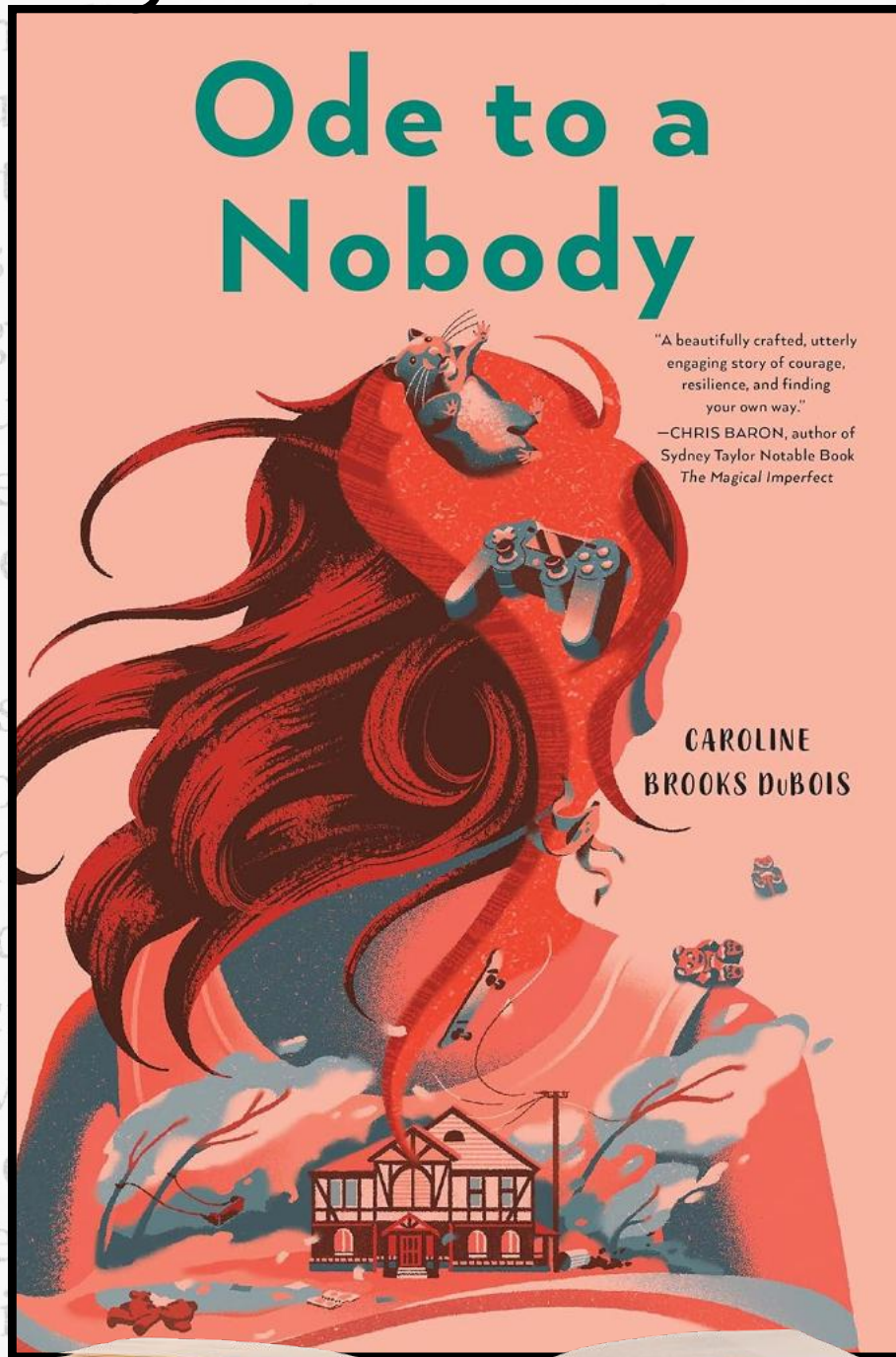
By Yvette Clark



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

ODE TO A NOBODY

By Caroline Brooks DuBois



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS

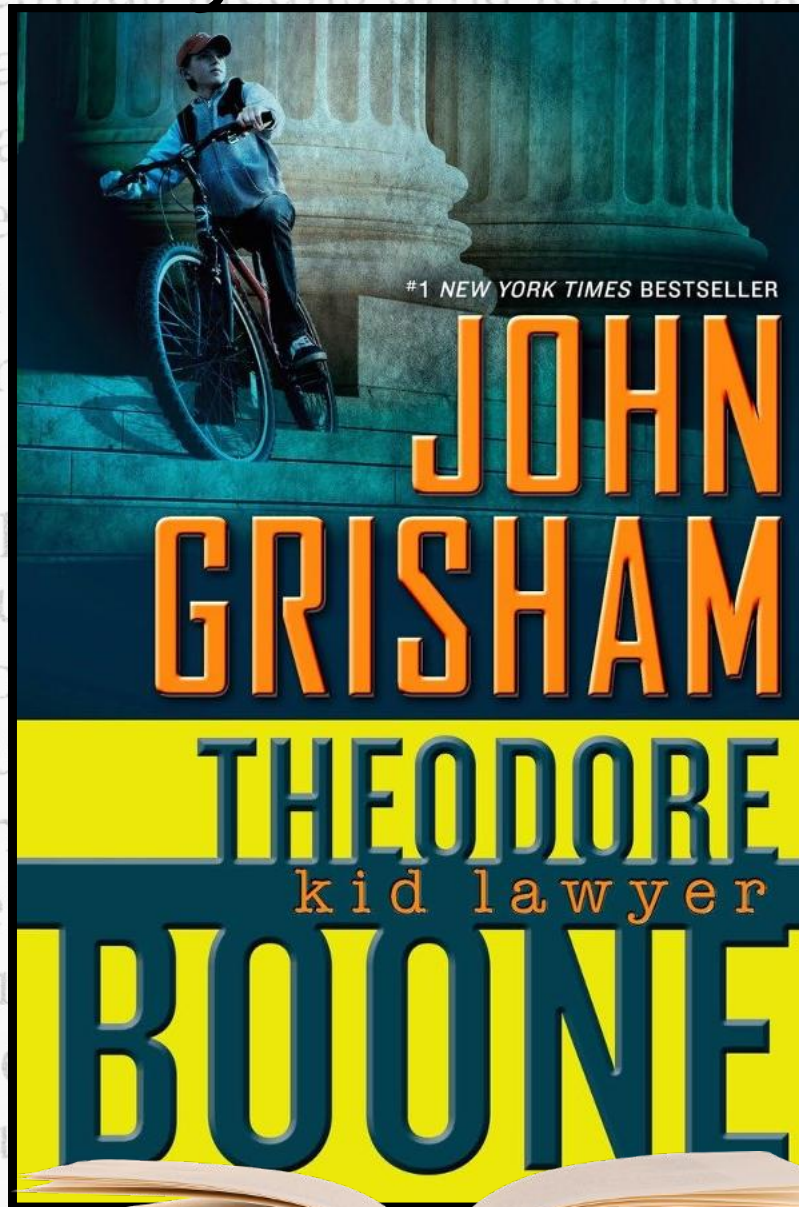
by Ann Brashares



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THEODORE BOONE: KID LAWYER

by John Grisham



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY