

WNC BOOK LISTS

TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS



DYSTOPIAN

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

In this resource you will find a curated list of books about dystopian worlds 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.

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Pages 25-38: 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)

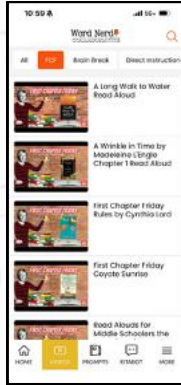


HAPPY READING!

Word Nerd Daily

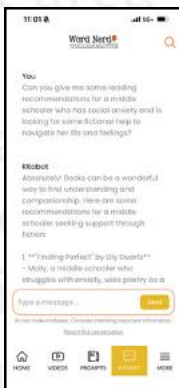
an app from Amanda Zieba

MUST TRY!



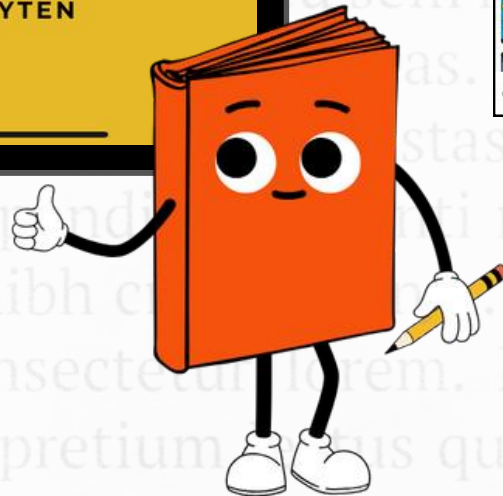
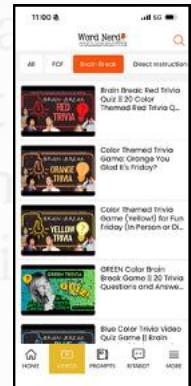
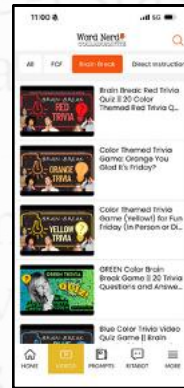
First Chapter Friday Videos

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.

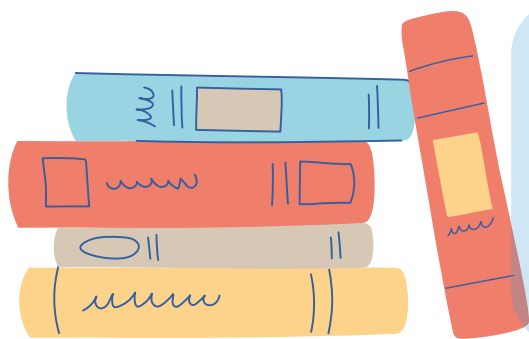


If you prefer a written description in lieu of a video, click [here](#).

[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

[illegible]

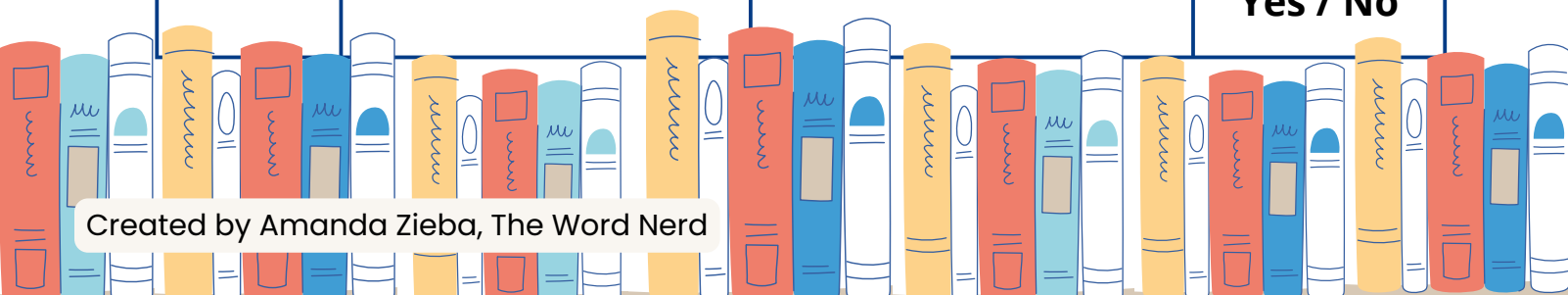


BOOKS I'VE *Read*



Name: _____ Class: _____

Date	Book Title & Author	Reaction	Would Recommend?
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No



• • • • • WNC BOOK LIST • • • • •

DYSTOPIAN

Alone by Megan E. Freeman

Alone Out Here by Riley Redgate

Away by Megan E. Freeman

Divergent by Veronica Roth

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

The Enemy by Charlie Higson

The Giver by Lois Lowry

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

The Last Cuentista by Donna Barba Higuera

The Limit by Kristen Landon

Matched by Ally Condie

The Maze Runner by James Dashner

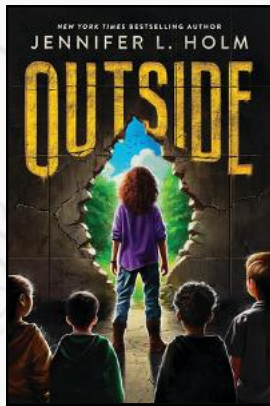
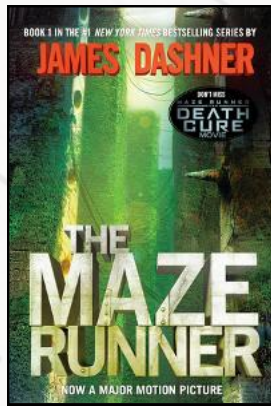
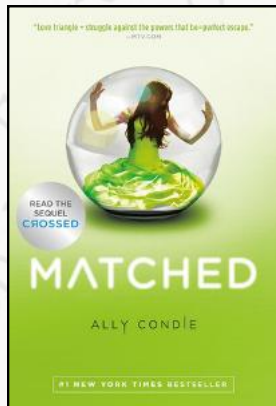
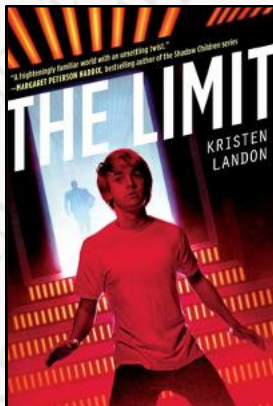
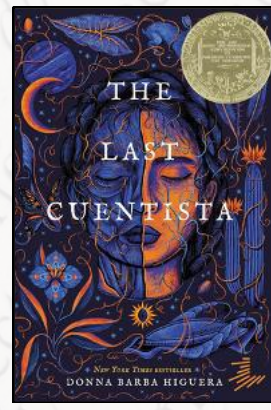
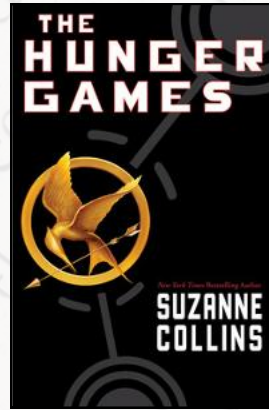
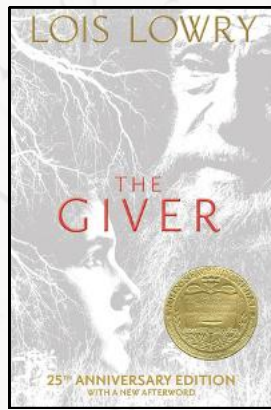
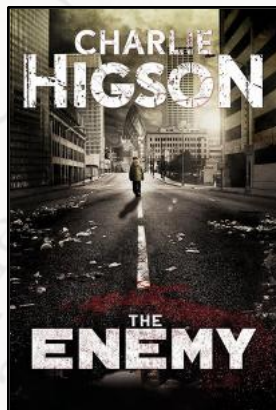
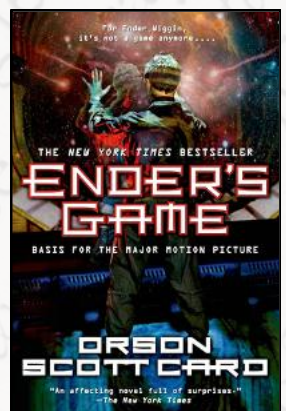
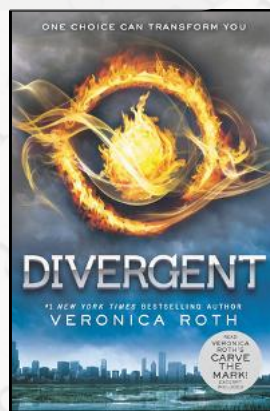
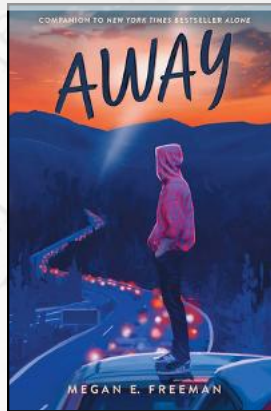
Outside by Jennifer L. Holm

Uglies by Scott Westerfeld



WNC BOOK LISTS * TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS

DYSTOPIAN



WNC BOOK LISTS * TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS

INDIVIDUAL BOOK SHEETS

Below are five individual book sheets for the First Chapter Friday program, each featuring a book cover, author information, and a reading level indicator.

Alone by Megan E. Freeman
Lexile Level: 470
AR Reading Level: 4.7
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

Away by Megan E. Freeman
Lexile Level: 470
AR Reading Level: 4.7
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

The Last Cuentista by Donna Barba Higuera
Lexile Level: 600L
AR Reading Level: 5.8
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

Matched by Ally Condie
Lexile Level: 600L
AR Reading Level: 5.8
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

Outside by Jenni L. Holm
Lexile Level: 600L
AR Reading Level: 5.8
I want to read this book: YES / NO
WHAT I THINK

Uglies by Scott Westerfeld
Lexile Level: 600L
AR Reading Level: 5.8
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 _____



Alone Out Here

by Riley Redgate



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 year is 2072. Soon a volcanic eruption will trigger catastrophic devastation, and the only way out is up. While the world's leaders, scientists, and engineers oversee the frantic production of a space fleet meant to save humankind, their children are brought in for a weekend of touring the Lazarus, a high-tech prototype spaceship. But when the apocalypse arrives months ahead of schedule, First Daughter Leigh Chen and a handful of teens from the tour are the only ones to escape the planet. This is the new world: a starship loaded with a catalog of human artifacts, a frozen menagerie of animal DNA, and fifty-three terrified survivors. From the panic arises a coalition of leaders, spearheaded by the pilot's enigmatic daughter, Eli, who takes the wheel in their hunt for a habitable planet. But as isolation presses in, their uneasy peace begins to fracture. The struggle for control will mean the difference between survival and oblivion, and Leigh must decide whether to stand on the side of the mission or of her own humanity.

Who Wrote It?

I majored in Economics at Kenyon College, which is somehow even prettier in reality than in its promotional photographs. I'm now based in Chicago, where I was an apprentice with The Onion, America's Finest News Source. I am a genre omnivore whose favorite books include: Zadie Smith's *Swing Time*, Patrick Ness's *Chaos Walking* trilogy, Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven*, George R.R. Martin's *A Storm of Swords*, Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*, Suzanne Collins's *Catching Fire*, Vladimir Nabokov's *Pale Fire*, Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*, and Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Remains of the Day*. I'm also enthusiastic about these things: sharks, parallel universes, Jennifer Kent's 2014 film *The Babadook*, the last forty seconds of Chopin's 4th Ballade (F Minor), and improbably large dogs.



You can learn more about Riley and her work on her website: www.rileyredgate.com

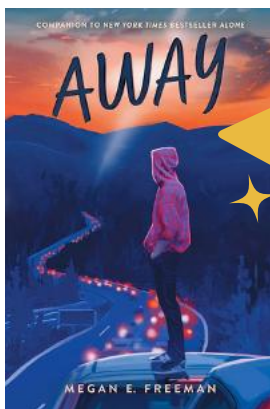
AR Reading Level/Lexile Level: Neither available
Publisher Recommends book for Ages 14+

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 _____

Includes
Author
Interview!

Away

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?

A group of children investigate the threat that prompted large-scale evacuations in this powerful and dramatic companion novel to the New York Times bestselling *Alone* told in multiple POVs.

After an imminent yet unnamed danger forces people across Colorado to leave their homes, a group of kids including an aspiring filmmaker and a budding journalist find themselves in the same evacuation camp. As they cope with the aftermath of having their world upended, they grow curious about the mysterious threat.

And as they begin to investigate, they start to discover that there's less truth and more cover-up to what they're being told. Can they get to the root of the conspiracy, expose the bad actors, and bring an end to the upheaval before it's too late?

AR Reading Level: 5.4

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.

Lexile Level: 700L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

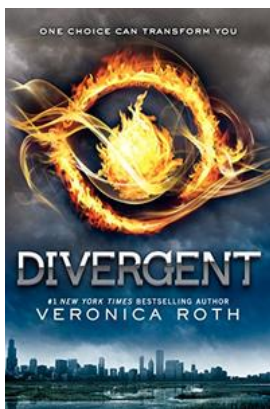
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



Divergent

by Veronica Roth



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?

One choice can transform you. Beatrice Prior's society is divided into five factions—Candor (the honest), Abnegation (the selfless), Dauntless (the brave), Amity (the peaceful), and Erudite (the intelligent). Beatrice must choose between staying with her Abnegation family and transferring factions. Her choice will shock her community and herself. But the newly christened Tris also has a secret, one she's determined to keep hidden, because in this world, what makes you different makes you dangerous.

Perfect for fans of the Hunger Games and Maze Runner series, *Divergent* and its sequels, *Insurgent* and *Allegiant*, are the gripping story of a dystopian world transformed by courage, self-sacrifice, and love.

After you read the book, enjoy the movie!

Who Wrote It?

Veronica was born in New York City but raised in Illinois. Roth wrote her first book, *Divergent*, while on winter break in her senior year at Northwestern University, and found an agent by the following March. Her career took off rapidly with the success of her *Divergent*, with the publishing rights sold before she graduated from college in 2010 and the film rights sold mid-March 2011, before the novel was printed in April 2011. Her first two novels sold over five million copies worldwide by fall 2013, just as the film based on the first novel was wrapping up. Veronica has written several more books and continues to live in Chicago, IL with her husband. You can learn more about Veronica and her books by visiting her website:



www.veronicrothbooks.com

AR Reading Level: 4.8

Lexile Level: 700

I want to read this book: YES / NO

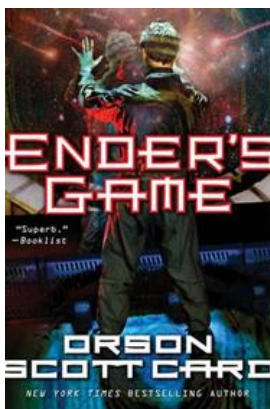
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



Ender's Game

by Orson Scott Card

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 order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers. Young Ender is the Wiggin drafted to the orbiting Battle School for rigorous military training. Ender's skills make him a leader in school and respected in the Battle Room, where children play at mock battles in zero gravity. Yet growing up in an artificial community of young soldiers Ender suffers greatly from isolation, rivalry from his peers, pressure from the adult teachers, and an unsettling fear of the alien invaders. The war with the Buggers has been raging for a hundred years, and the quest for the perfect general has been underway for almost as long. Ender's two older siblings are every bit as unusual as he is, but in very different ways. Between the three of them lie the abilities to remake a world. If, that is, the world survives.

Orson Scott Card's Ender's Game is the winner of the 1985 Nebula Award for Best Novel and the 1986 Hugo Award for Best Novel.

Who Wrote It?

Card was born in Washington and grew up in California, Arizona, and Utah. As a child he enjoyed reading and playing in the marching band, and graduated from high school at the end of his junior year. He won a Presidential Scholarship to BYU which he entered as an archaeology major. Like many young artists in love with their art, Card resented all the hours that the university required him to "waste" on general education requirements; as a novelist, however, he found that those were the most useful parts of his college education. Besides his



writing, he teaches classes and workshops and directs plays. Card currently lives in Greensboro, NC, with his wife, Kristine Allen Card.

AR Reading Level: 5.5

Lexile Level: 780

I want to read this book: YES / NO

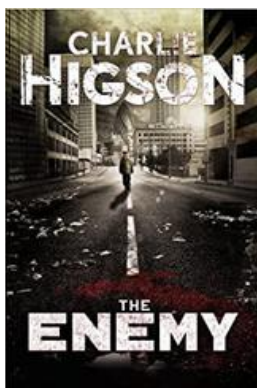
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



The Enemy

by Charlie Higson



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?

In the wake of a devastating disease, everyone sixteen and older is either dead or a decomposing, brainless creature with a ravenous appetite for flesh. Teens have barricaded themselves in buildings throughout London and venture outside only when they need to scavenge for food. The group of kids living a Waitrose supermarket is beginning to run out of options. When a mysterious traveler arrives and offers them safe haven at Buckingham Palace, they begin a harrowing journey across London. But their fight is far from over—the threat from within the palace is as real as the one outside it. Full of unexpected twists and quick-thinking heroes, *The Enemy* is a fast-paced, white-knuckle tale of survival in the face of unimaginable horror.

**** Not for the faint of heart... gave me a nightmare or two! Grades 8 and up!****

Who Wrote It?

Charlie Higson is a successful author, actor, comedian and writer for television and radio. He wrote the phenomenally successful *Young Bond* series which has now sold over a million copies in the UK and has been translated into over 24 different languages. With three sons of his own, Charlie knows exactly how to terrify and captivate teenagers in equal measure. After leaving university, Charlie formed a band, *The Higsons*. He then became a decorator before



turning to the world of television. His television successes have included *Saturday Live*! You can learn more about Charlie and his books at <https://www.charliehigson.co.uk/>

AR Reading Level: 4.1

Lexile Level: 590L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

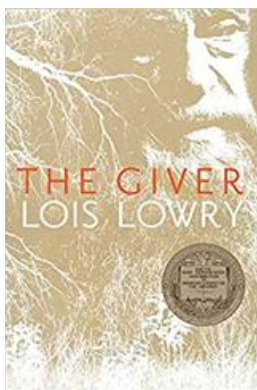
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



The Giver

by Lois Lowry



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?

It was almost December, and Jonas was beginning to be frightened. Thus opens this haunting novel in which a boy inhabits a seemingly ideal world: a world without conflict, poverty, unemployment, divorce, injustice, or inequality.

December is the time of the annual Ceremony at which each twelve year old receives a life assignment from the Elders. Jonas's friend Fiona is named Caretaker of the Old. His cheerful pal Asher becomes the Assistant Director of Recreation. But Jonas has been chosen for something special. When his selection leads him to an unnamed man known only as the Giver, Jonas begins to sense the dark secrets that underlie the fragile perfection of his world.

This book has won many awards including:

- A Newbery Medal Winner
- An ALA Notable Children's Book
- An ALA Best Book for Young Adults

Who Wrote It?

Because Lois's father was a dentist for the military, she lived all over the world! She was born in Hawaii, lived in Tokyo and eventually moved back to the United States and was living in New York City when she graduated high school. Lois always wanted to be a writer. When she was a little girl she carried around a notebook and was always writing poems and stories. She started her career as a freelance journalist and then novels. A common theme and message that runs through her work is this: the vital need of people to be aware of their interdependence, not



only with each other, but with the world and its environment. Lois now lives in Maine with her husband and their big shaggy dog, a Tibetan Terrier named Alfie. Lois likes to spend the winter in the warm climate of Naples, Florida.

AR Reading Level: 5.7

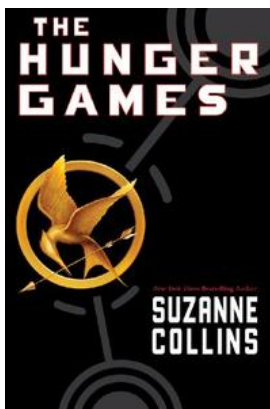
Lexile Level: 760L

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 Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins



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?

In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol is harsh and cruel and keeps the districts in line by forcing them all to send one boy and one girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen regards it as a death sentence when she steps forward to take her sister's place in the Games. But Katniss has been close to dead before—and survival, for her, is second nature. Without really meaning to, she becomes a contender. But if she is to win, she will have to start making choices that weigh survival against humanity and life against love.

Book 1 in a series of 3
Also a movie!
23 million copies sold!

Who Wrote It?

In 1991, Suzanne Collins began her professional career writing for children's television. She worked on the staffs of several Nickelodeon shows, including the Emmy-nominated hit *Clarissa Explains it All* and *The Mystery Files of Shelby Woo*. Thinking one day about Alice in Wonderland, she was struck by how (in New York City) you're much more likely to fall down a manhole than a rabbit hole and, if you do, you're not going to find a tea party. What you might find...? Well, that's the story of Gregor the Overlander, the first book in her five-part fantasy/war series, *The Underland Chronicles*, which became a New York Times bestseller. It has been sold into 21 foreign territories.



Her next series, *The Hunger Games Trilogy*, is an international bestseller. The worldwide box for the entire franchise was nearly 3 billion. Her books have sold over 100 million copies worldwide.

AR Reading Level: 5.3

Lexile Level: 810L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

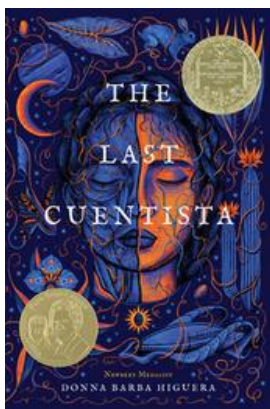
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



The Last Cuentista

by Donna Barba Higuera

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?

Había una vez . . . There lived a girl named Petra Peña, who wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita.

But Petra's world is ending. Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred scientists and their children – among them Petra and her family – have been chosen to journey to a new planet. They are the ones who must carry on the human race. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet – and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. A sinister Collective has taken over the ship during its journey, bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past. They have systematically purged the memories of all aboard – or purged them altogether. Petra alone now carries the stories of our past, and with them, any hope for our future. Can she make them live again?

2022 Newbery Award Winner
2022 Pura Belpré Award Winner
School Library Journal's Best of the Year
Kirkus Reviews' Best of the Year

Who Wrote It?

Donna grew up in Central California surrounded by agricultural and oil fields. As a child she preferred spending recess squirreled away in the janitor's closet with a good book. Her favorite hobbies were calling dial-a-story over and over again, and sneaking into a restricted cemetery to weave her own spooky tales using the crumbling headstones as inspiration. Donna's Middle Grade and Picture Books are about kids who find themselves in odd or scary situations. From language to cultural differences in being biracial life can become...complicated. So like Donna, characters tackle more than just the bizarre things that happen to them in their lives. Donna likes to write



about all things funny, but also sad, and creepy, and magical. If you like those things, she hopes you will read her books! Donna lives in Washington State with her family, three dogs and two frogs.

AR Reading Level: 5.0

Lexile Level: N/A

I want to read this book: YES / NO

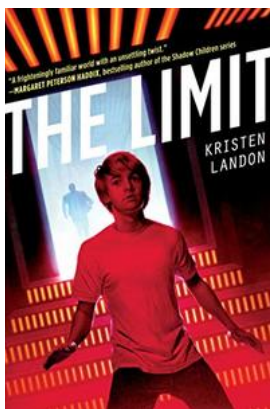
☆ ☆ WHAT I THINK ☆ ☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



The Limit

by Kristen Landon



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?

An eighth grade girl was taken today. With this first sentence, readers are immediately thrust into a fast-paced thriller that doesn't let up for a moment. In a world not too far removed from our own, kids are being taken away to special workhouses if their families exceed the debt limit imposed by the government. Thirteen-year-old Matt briefly wonders if he might be next, but quickly dismisses the thought. After all, his parents are financially responsible, unlike the parents of those other kids. As long as his parents remain within their limit, the government will be satisfied and leave them alone. But all it takes is one fatal visit to the store to push Matt's family over their limit—and to change his reality forever.

- 2012 Utah Book Award Finalist
- 2012-2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominee
- 2012-2013 Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Award Program Nominee
- 2013 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Nominee

Who Wrote It?

I was born in Midland, Michigan . . . quite a few years ago. The majority of my growing up years were spent in Utah. As an adult I lived in Midland, Michigan for twelve years. A career change brought my family back to Utah. Hmm. Do you see a pattern forming here? In school I played on the basketball team for one year, but mostly I was a band nerd. I've never had an easy time falling asleep at night. From a very young age, I began to make up stories in my head to tell myself until I dozed off. The stories would be so great, though, that I'd want to stay awake to find out how they ended! I have a wonderful husband and four great kids. We like to hike and kayak and go on walks.



AR Reading Level: 4.4

Lexile Level: 690L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

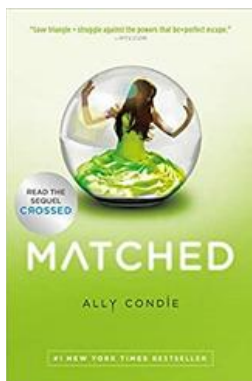
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



Matched

by Ally Condie



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?

In the Society, Officials decide. Who you love. Where you work. When you die.

Cassia has always trusted the Society's choices. And when her best friend appears on the Matching screen, she is certain he's the one—until she sees another face flash for an instant before the screen fades to black. Now she is faced with impossible choices: between Xander and Ky, between the only life she's ever known and a path no has dared to follow . . . between perfection and the truth.

Look for the sequel, **CROSSED**, and the epic series finale, **REACHED**!

'[A] superb dystopian romance.' – The Wall Street Journal

'Strong feminist ideals and impressive writing that's bound to captivate.' – The Los Angeles Times

Who Wrote It?

Ally Condie is the author of the #1 New York Times bestselling Matched trilogy and co-author of the Darkdeep middle grade series. She is also the author of the novel Summerlost, an Edgar Award Finalist. A former English teacher, Ally lives with her family outside of Salt Lake City, Utah. Ally has an MFA from the Vermont College



of Fine Arts, and is the founder and director of the nonprofit WriteOut Foundation.

AR Reading Level: 4.8

Lexile Level: 680L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

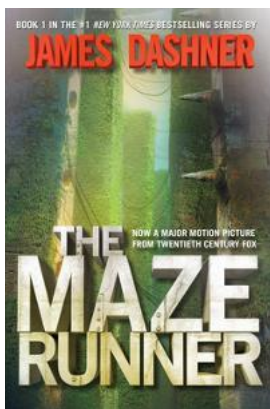
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



The Maze Runner

by James Dashner



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 Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's surrounded by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone.

Outside the towering stone walls that surround them is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It's the only way out—and no one's ever made it through alive. Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying: Remember. Survive. Run. The clock is ticking and Callum can't trust anyone...

A #1 New York Times Bestselling Series
A USA Today Bestseller
A Kirkus Reviews Best Teen Book of the Year
An ALA-YASLA Best Fiction for Young Adults Book
An ALA-YALSA Quick Pick

Book #1 in the series of 5!

Who Wrote It?

in 1972, James Dashner was born in Austell, GA but shortly after moved to Duluth, MN. He spent the rest his childhood (with his 5 brothers and sisters!) there, growing up along the shores of Lake Superior, until he graduated in 1991 and then moved to Utah to attend college at Brigham Young University. While he was there, earning his degree in accounting, he met his wife. After graduating college, James worked in finance before becoming a full-time writer. In addition to writing great books, James has had the opportunity for his books to be turned into movies. Actually, The Maze Runner series is the 4th most successful book to movie transition, coming in 4th behind The Hunger Games, Divergent and



Twilight, earning \$949 million dollars. James and his wife now live in Utah. You can learn more about this author on his website: <http://www.jamesdashner.com>

AR Reading Level: 5.3

Lexile Level: 770L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

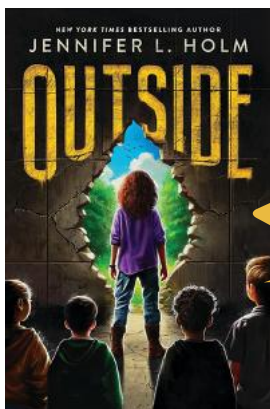
☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



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

Name _____

Date _____



Outside

by Jenni L. Holm



Read Aloud Video and
Author Interview

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?

Whatever you do, don't leave home. Razzi has always been told: Don't go Outside. It isn't safe. There are people and creatures out there that will harm you. The walls of the Refuge will protect you from them.

Razzi's friend Ollie was curious about Outside... and it led to his death. So Razzi is trying to be on her best behavior. She is the oldest kid left, the one the younger kids look up to. She has to follow the rules.

But Outside has a way of getting in, and Razzi, guided by a dog she has a strangely close connection with, wonders what it's like to run free beyond the walls.

If she steps away from everything she's ever known... what will she find?

Who Wrote It?

Jennifer L. Holm is a NEW YORK TIMES and USA TODAY-bestselling children's author with nearly ten million books in print. She is the recipient of three Newbery Honors for her novels! In addition to prose novels, Jenni also writes graphic novels with her brother Matthew Holm. Their Squish series which was turned into an animated series by Cottonwood Media and aired on HBO MAX! She lives in California with her husband, two children, and three bossy cats



named Augustus, Livia, and Calpurnia. You can learn more about her and her work at www.jenniferholm.com

AR Reading Level: 4.0

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 _____



Uglies

by Scott Westerfeld



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?

Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can't wait. In just a few weeks she'll have the operation that will turn her from a repellent ugly into a stunningly attractive pretty. And as a pretty, she'll be catapulted into a high-tech paradise where her only job is to have fun. But Tally's new friend Shay isn't sure she wants to become a pretty. When Shay runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the pretty world—and it isn't very pretty. The authorities offer Tally a choice: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. Tally's choice will change her world forever.

The first installment of Scott Westerfeld's New York Times bestselling and award-winning Uglies series—a global phenomenon that started the dystopian trend.

Soon to be a movie on Netflix!

Who Wrote It?

Scott Westerfeld is me. I'm the author of twenty-five novels. Five are for adults, and the other twenty for young adults. The most famous is the Uglies series. Outside the writing world, I've held such jobs as factory worker (making lead soldiers), substitute teacher, textbook editor, and software designer. I was born in Texas, grew up on all three coasts of the US, and went to Vassar. I married writer Justine Larba-lestier in 2001, and we split our time between New York City and Sydney, Australia.

Five Interesting Facts

1. I just bought a telescope (80mm primary)
2. I am a vegetarian (for family reasons, mostly)
3. My book *So Yesterday* has been translated into Slovene.
4. Languages studied: Japanese, Spanish, and Latin. Languages fluent in: English.
6. I never wear jeans. Never!



Learn more at:
www.scottwesterfeld.com

AR Reading Level: 5.2

Lexile Level: 770L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆ ☆ WHAT I THINK ☆ ☆



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INDIVIDUAL BOOK POSTERS



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

ALONE

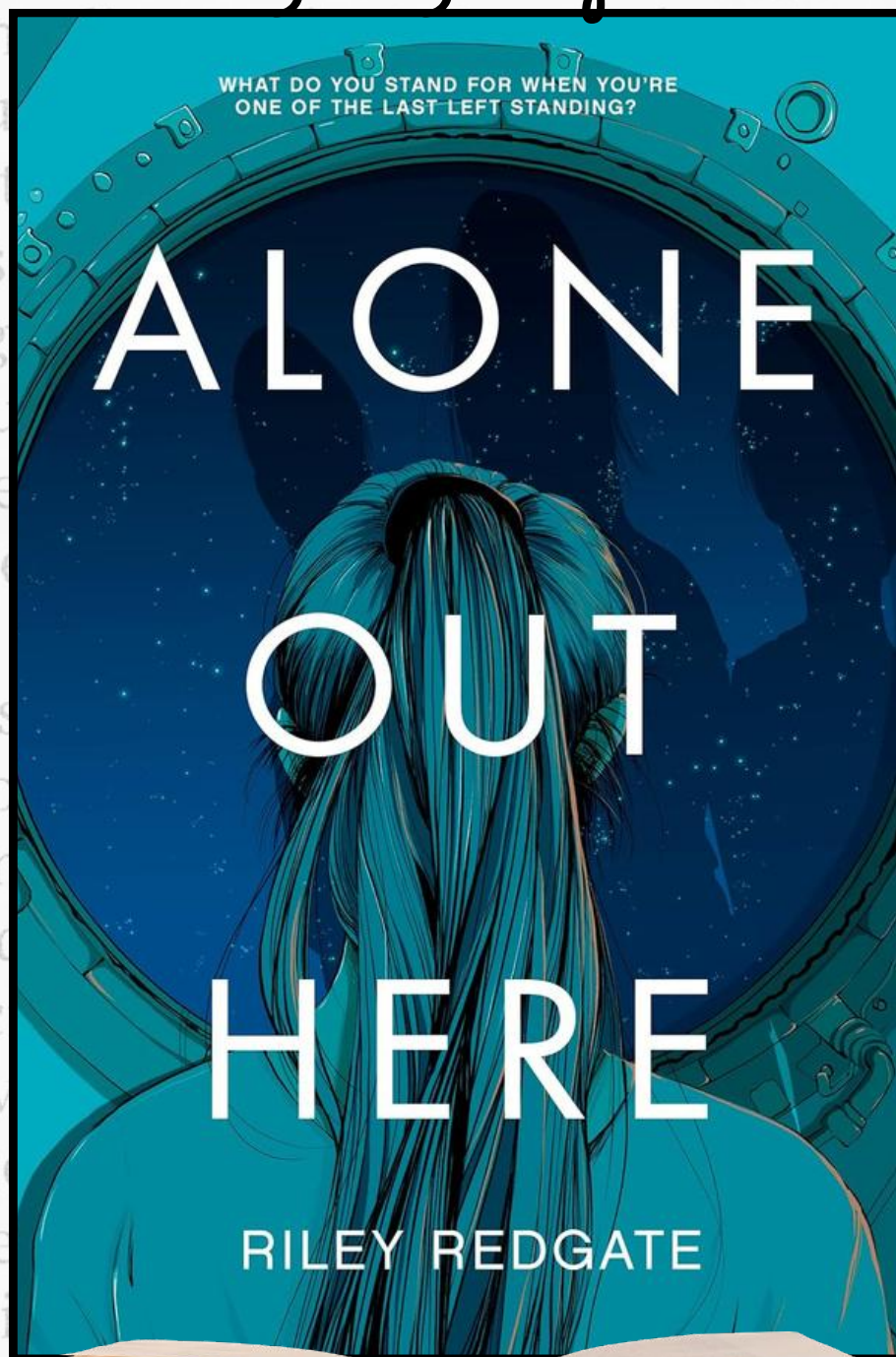
By Megan E. Freeman



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

ALONE OUT HERE

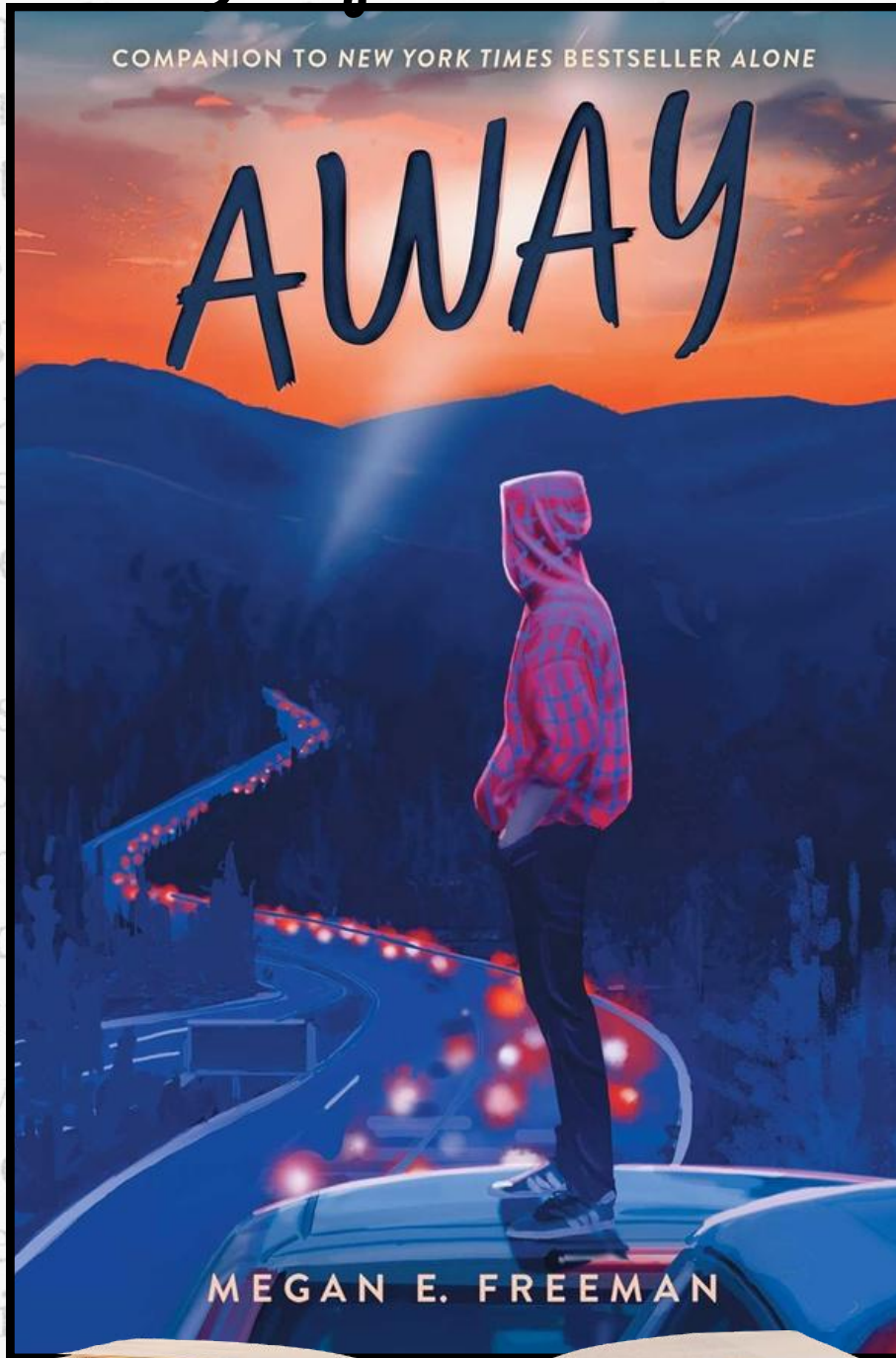
By Riley Redgate



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

AWAY

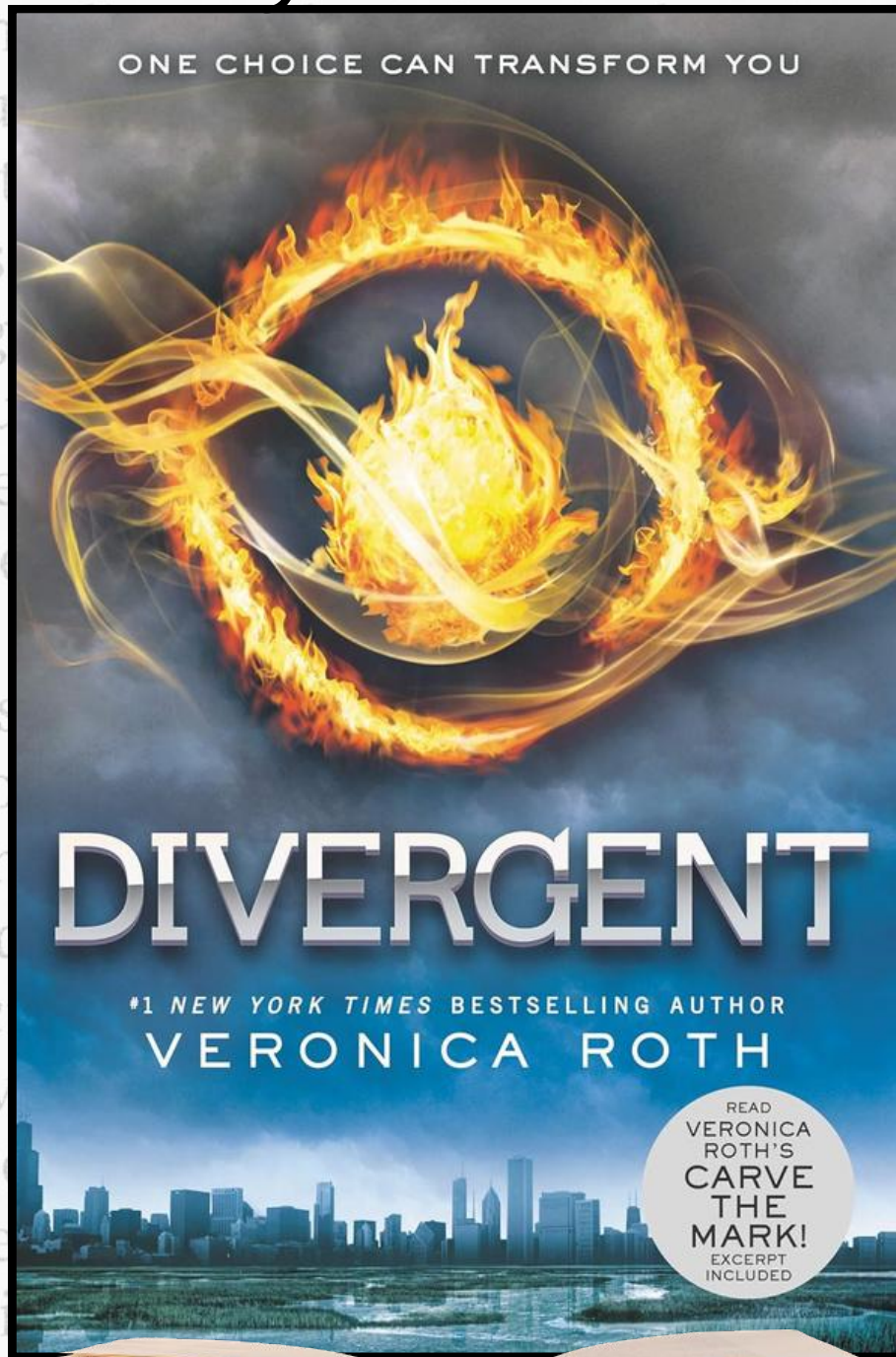
By Megan E. Freeman



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

DIVERGENT

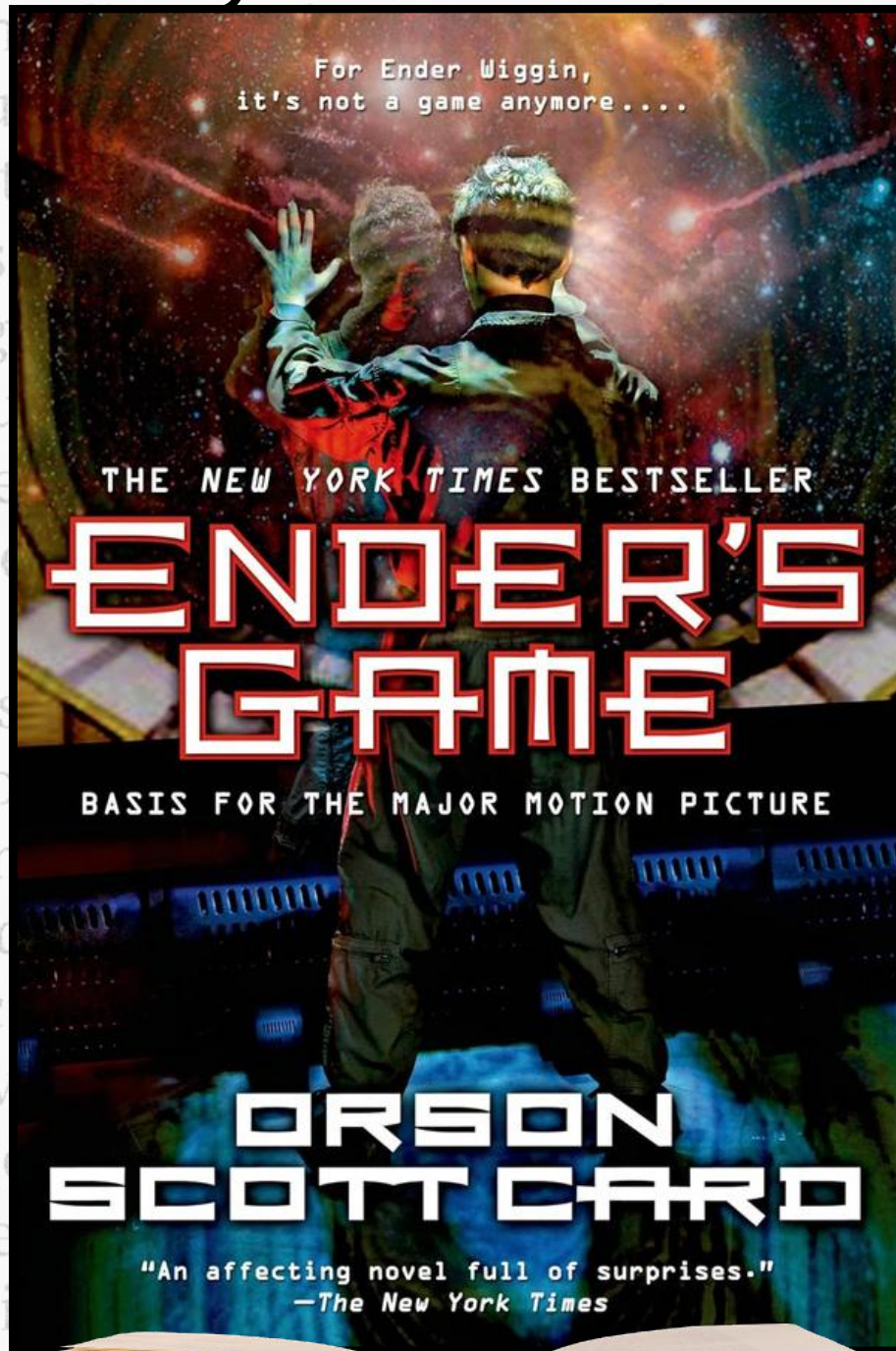
By Veronica Roth



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

ENDER'S GAME

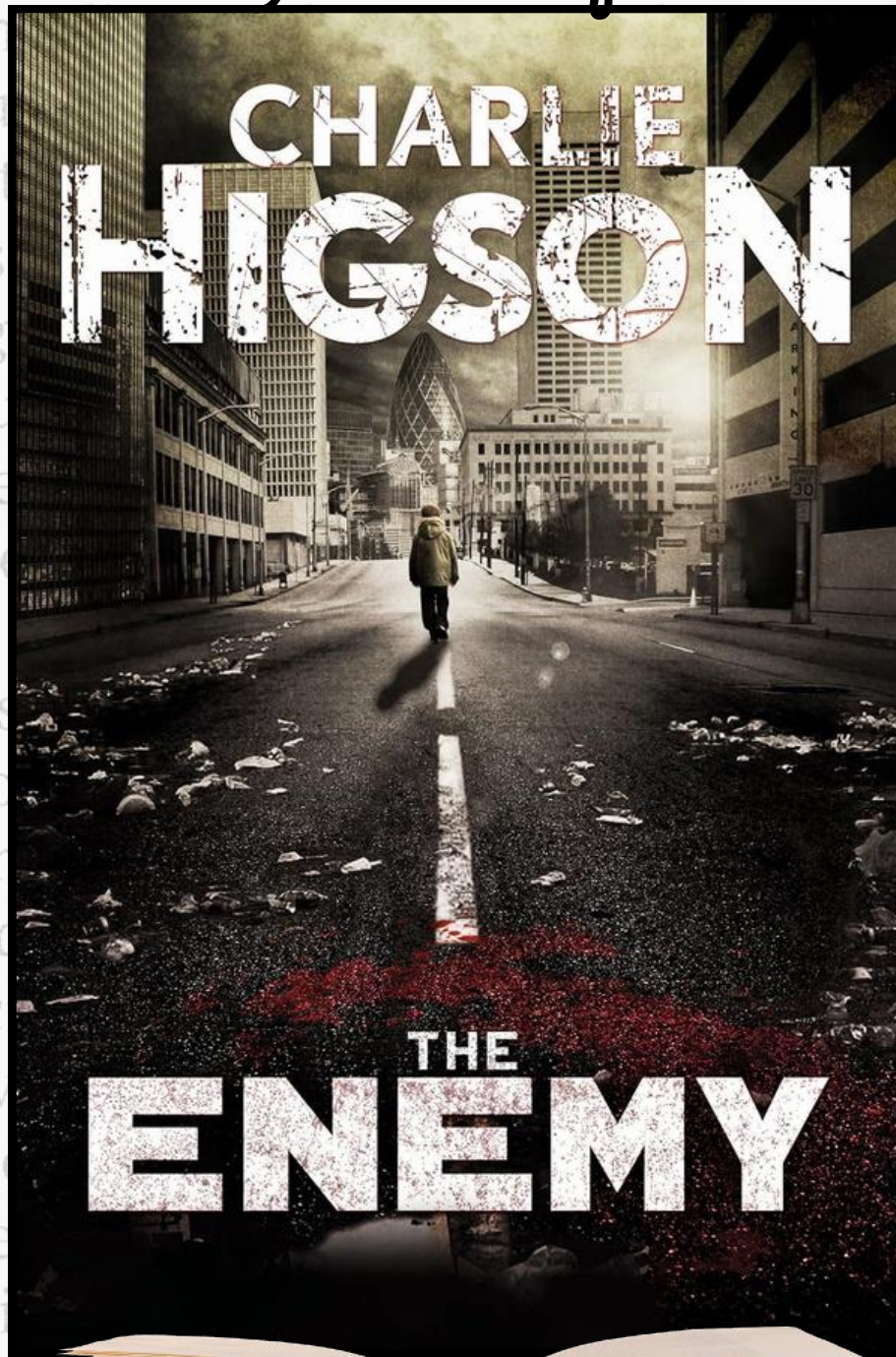
By Orson Scott Card



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE ENEMY

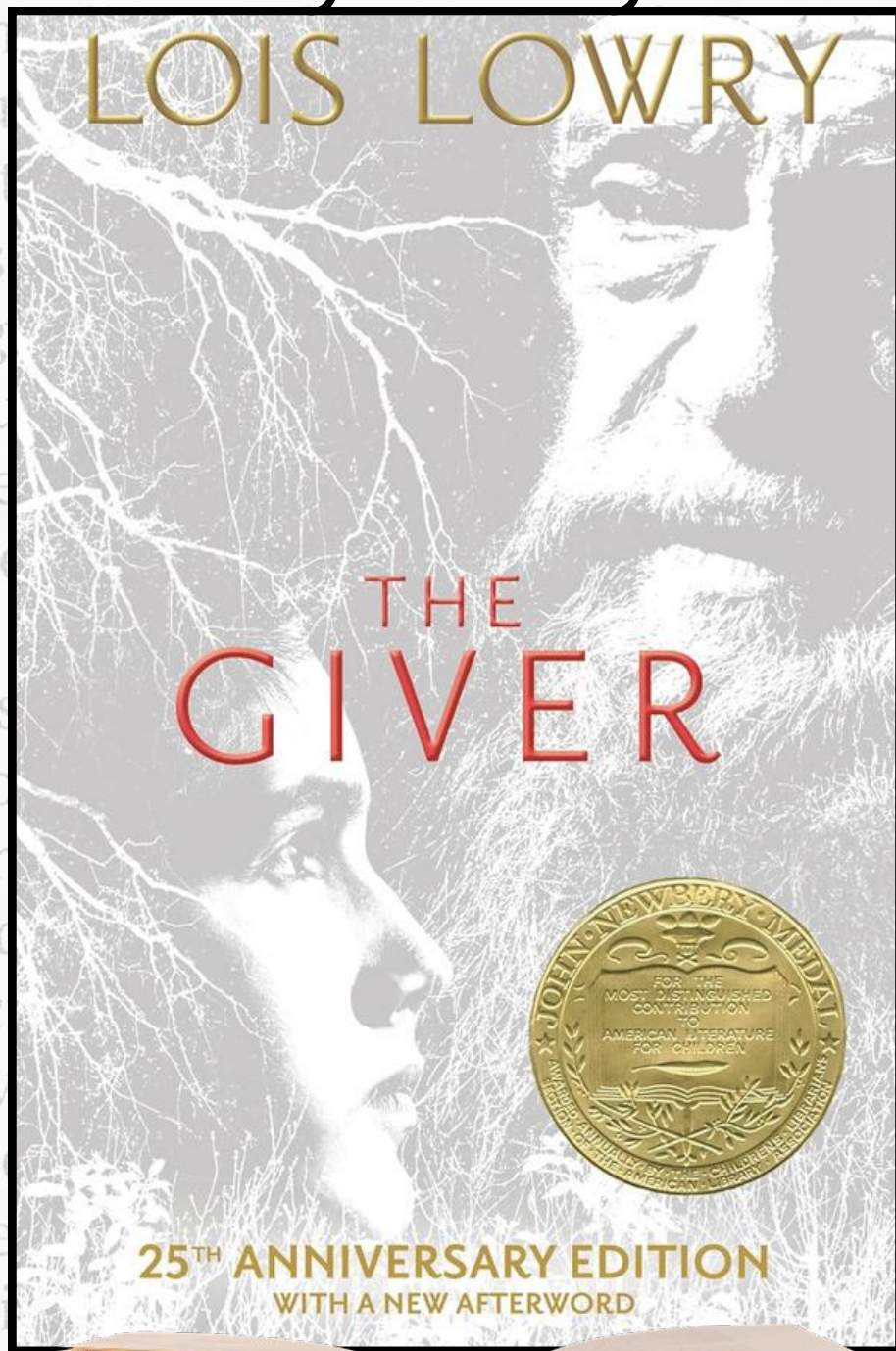
By Charlie Higson



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE GIVER

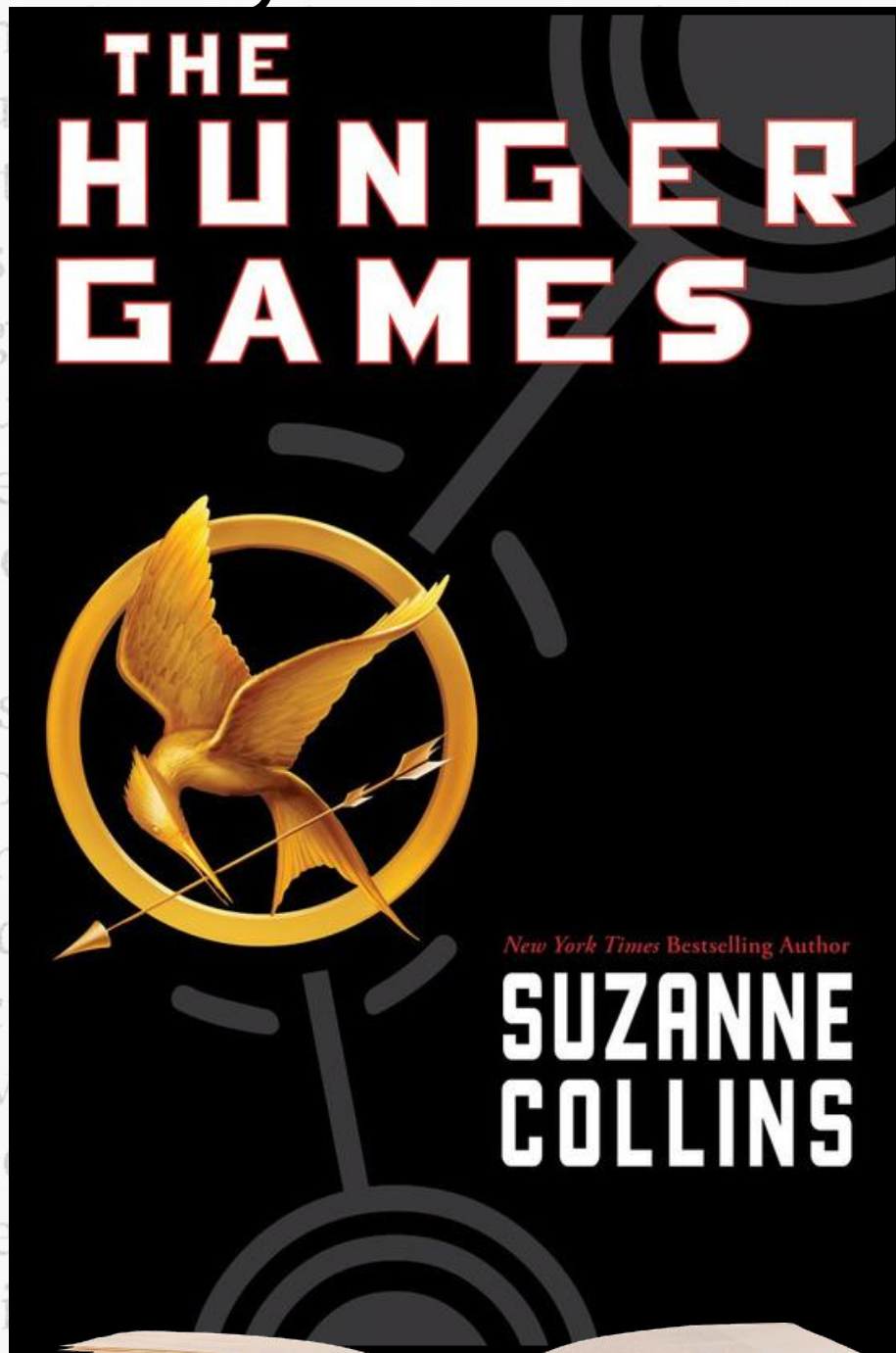
By Lois Lowry



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE HUNGER GAMES

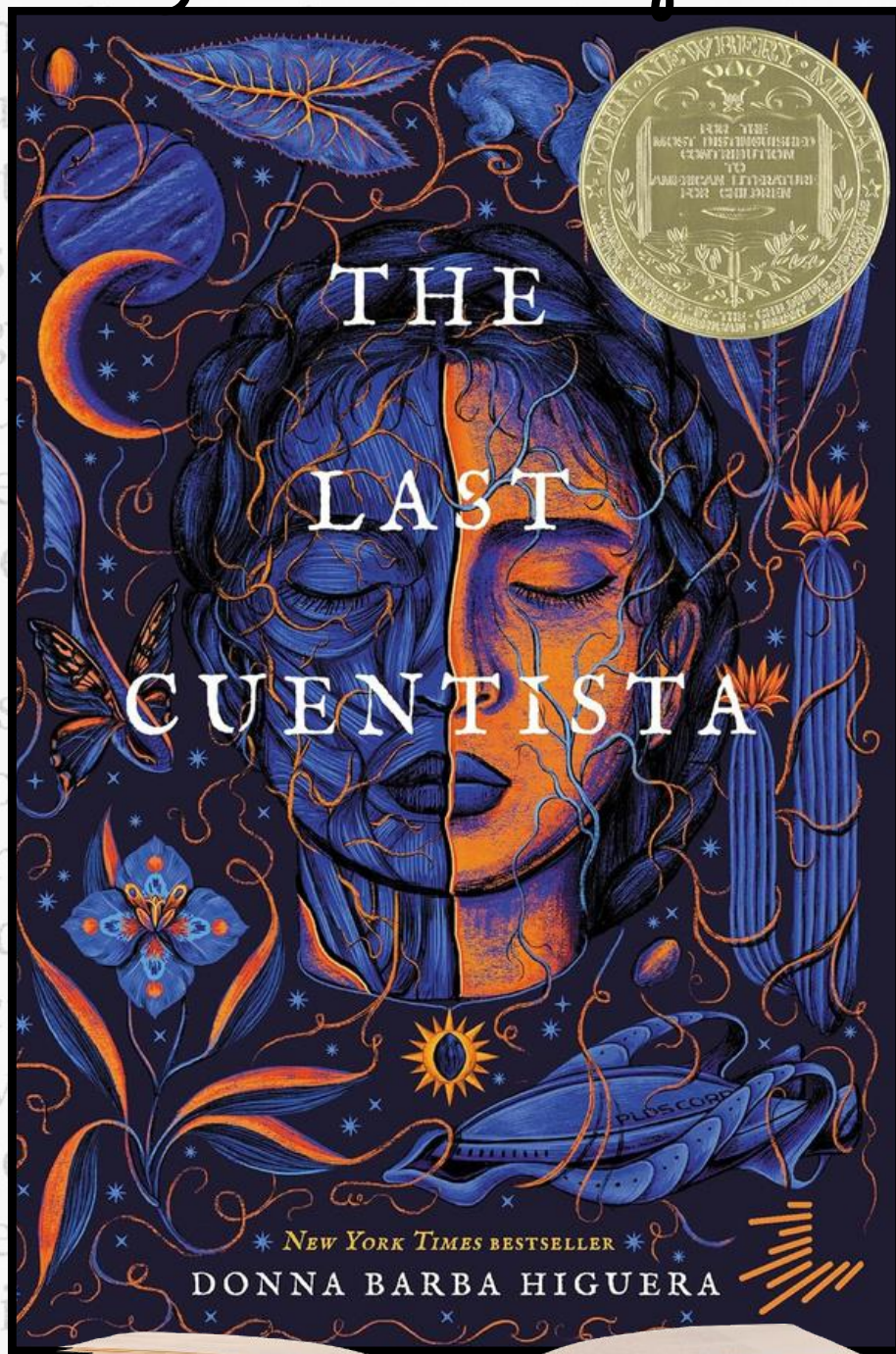
By Suzanne Collins



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE LAST CUENTISTA

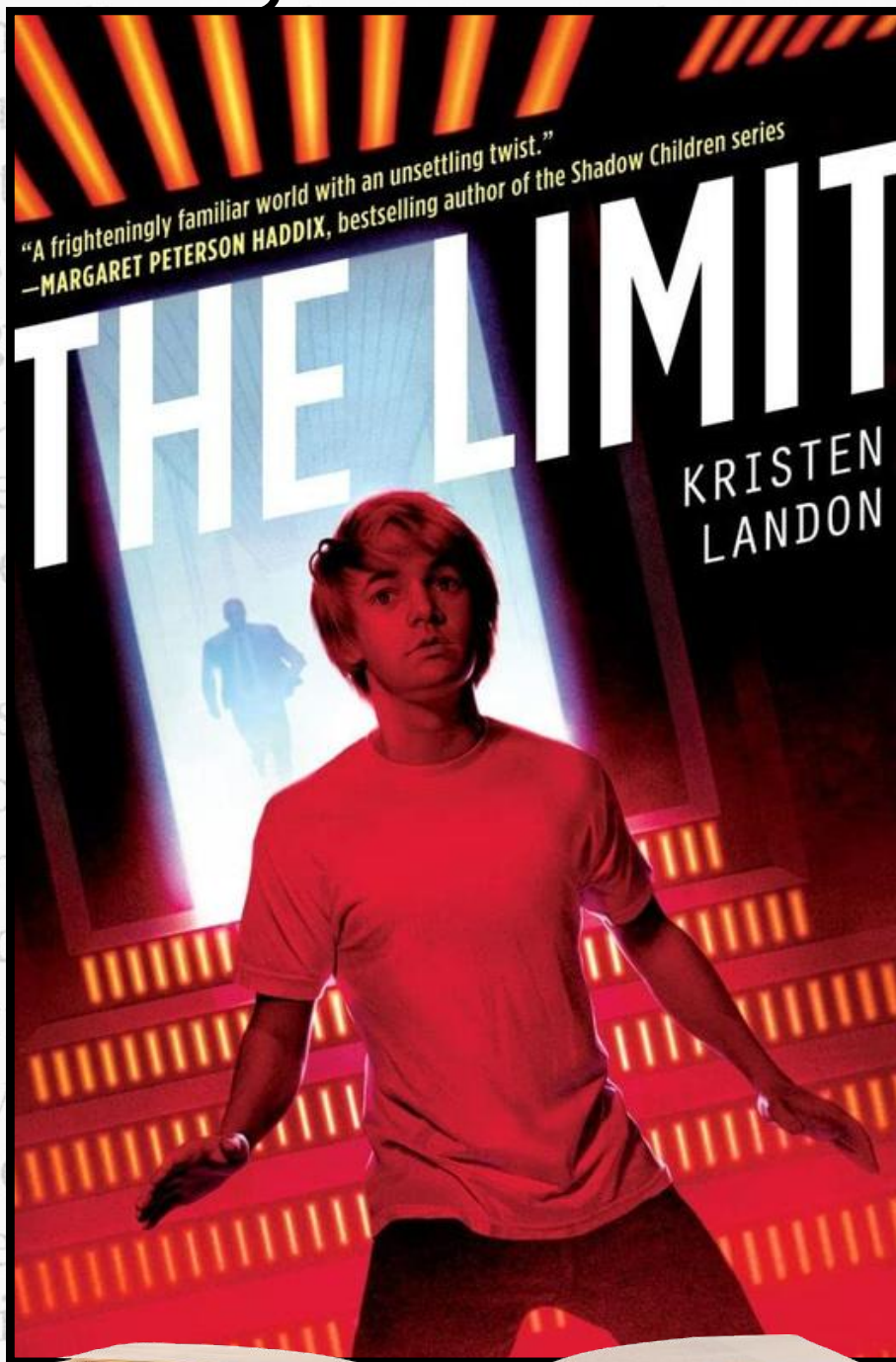
By Donna Barba Higuera



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE LIMIT

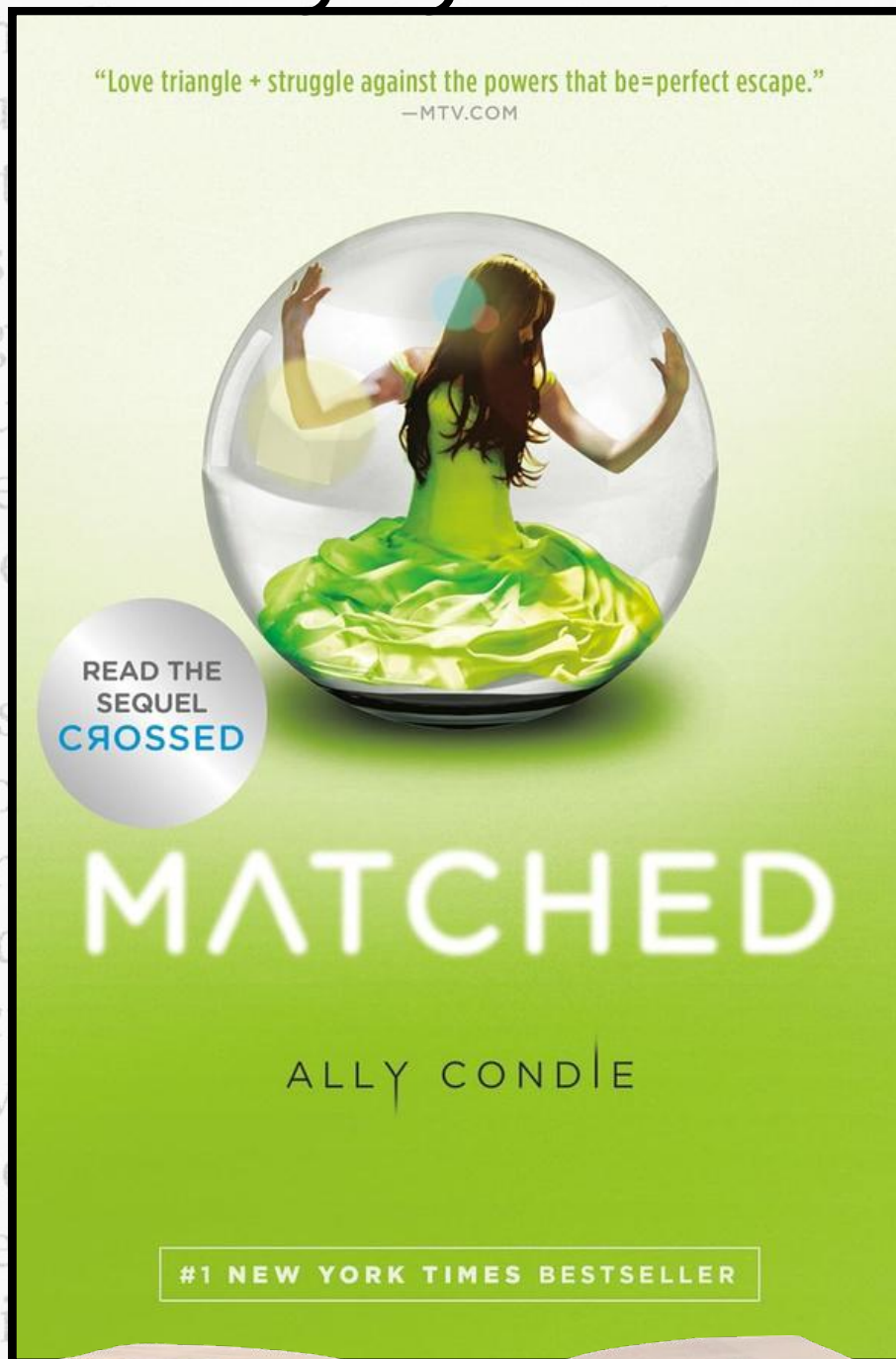
By Kristen Landon



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

MATCHED

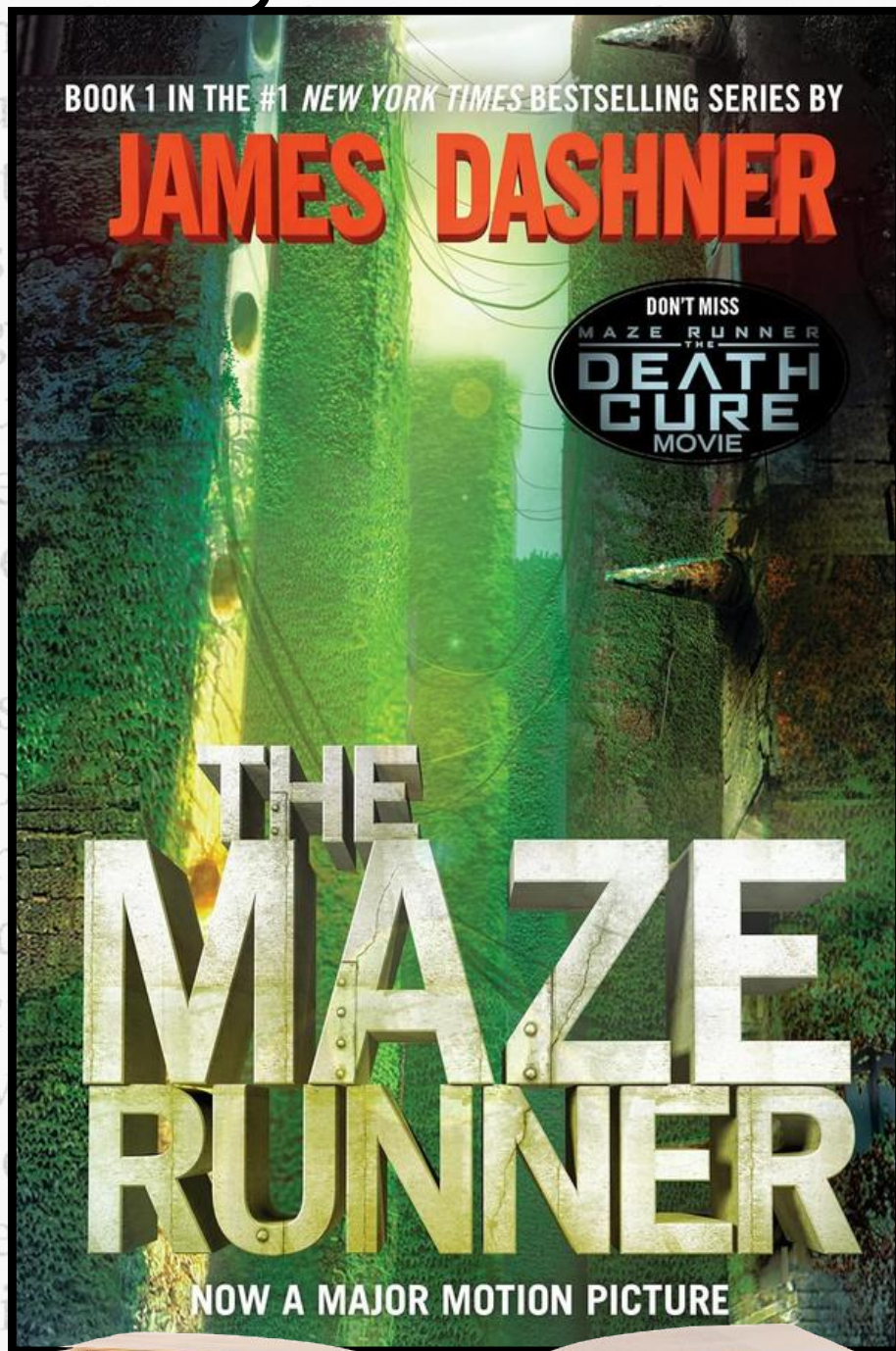
By Ally Condie



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE MAZE RUNNER

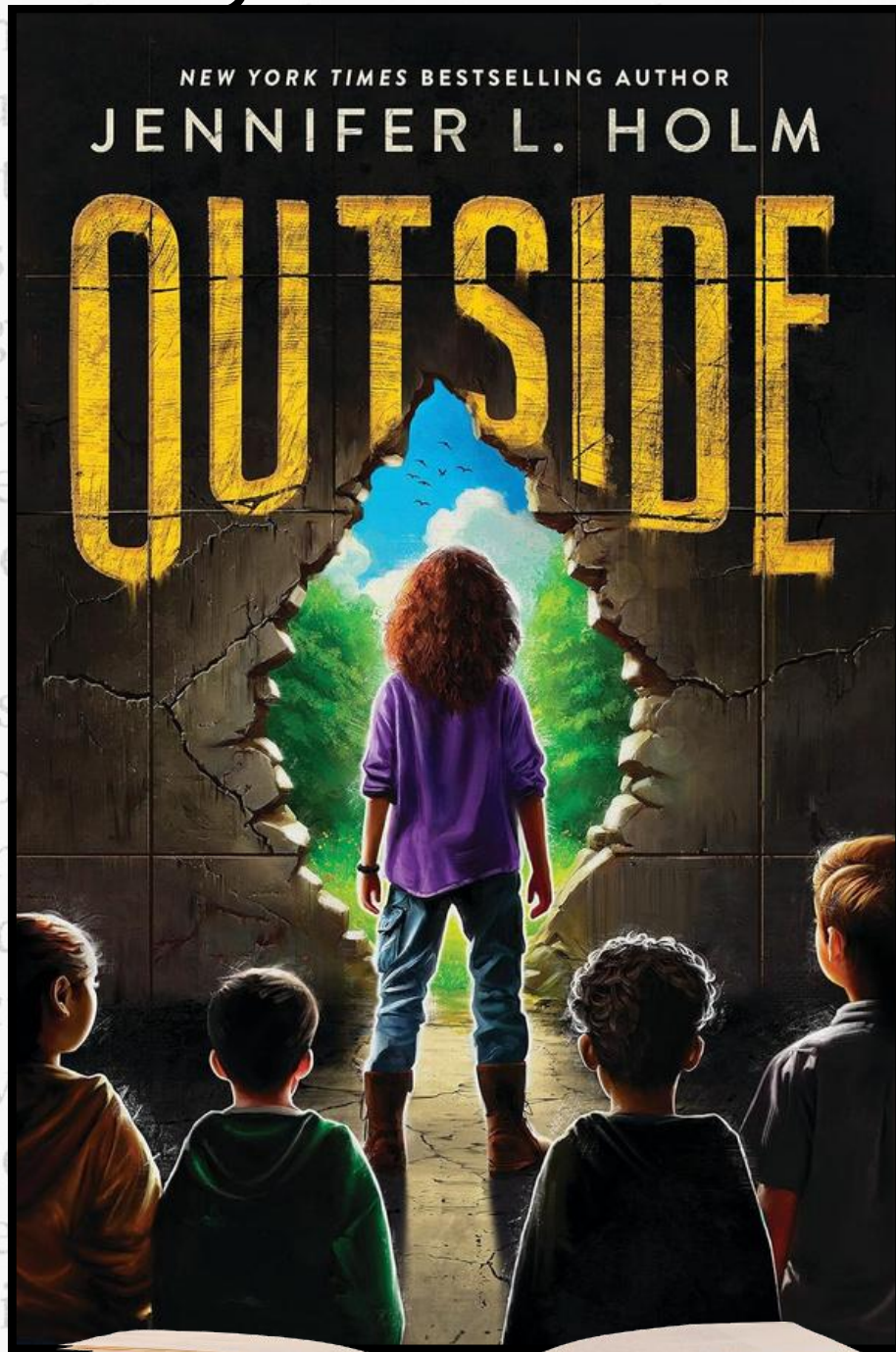
By James Dashner



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

OUTSIDE

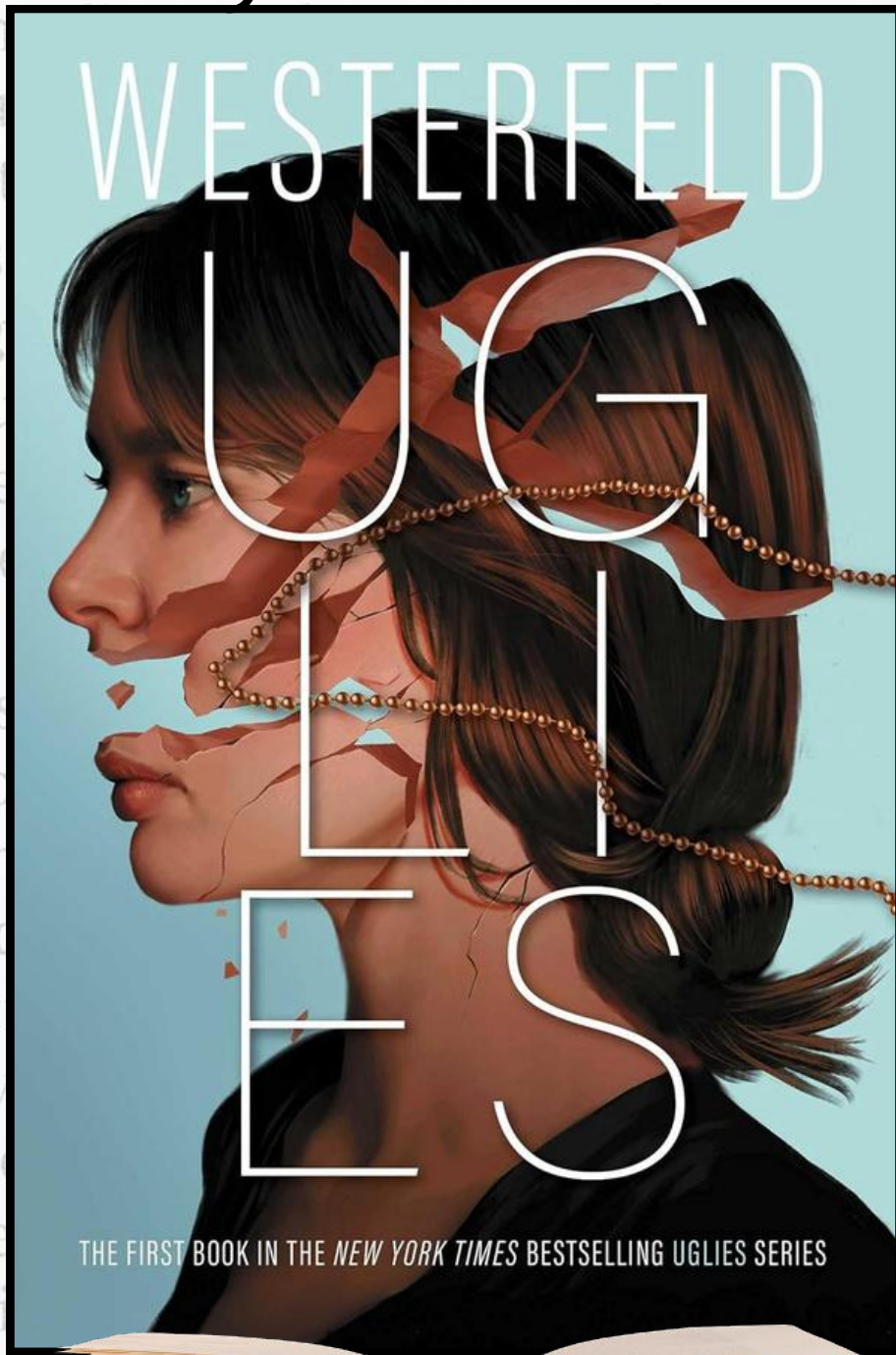
By Jennifer L. Holm



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

UGLIES

By Scott Westerfeld



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY