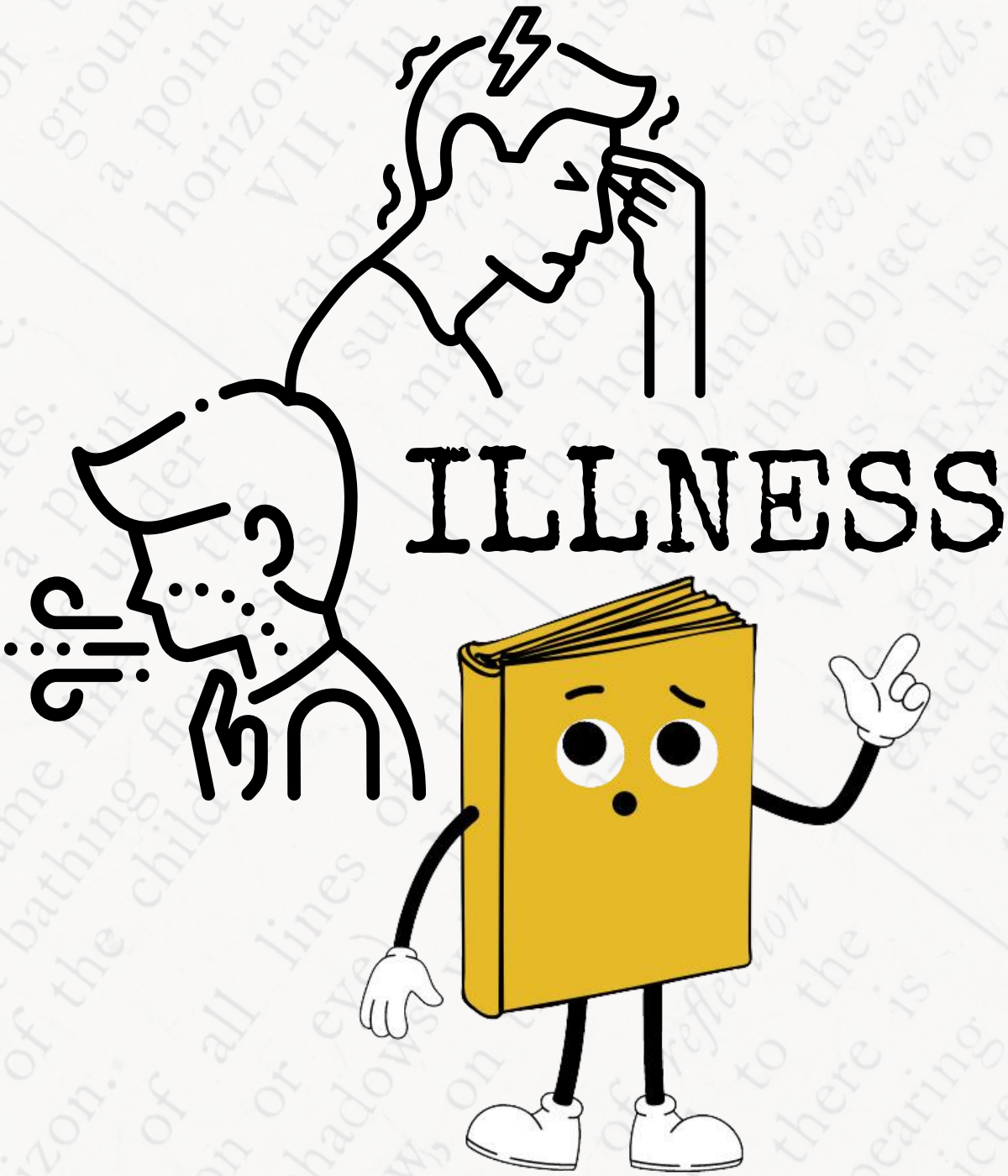
WNC BOOK LISTS

TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS



HOW TO USE
THIS RESOURCE

In this resource you will find a curated list of books that touch on the topic of illness as well as a variety of accompanying materials.

How to Use This Resource

1. Choose a title from the animal main character 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:

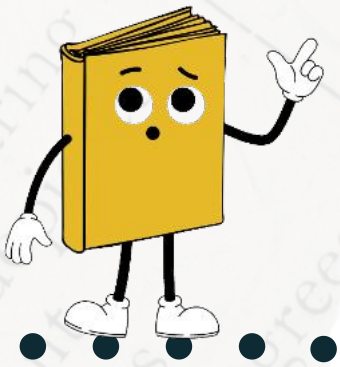
- First Chapter Friday
- Sub plans
- Book tasting stations
- Library preview lessons
- Early finisher reading activities

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 Frist Chapter Friday?
Pages 5-6: Book Tracking Charts
Page 7: Book List
Pages 9-11 Individual Book First Chapter Friday Sheets
Pages 13-15: 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!

MUST TRY

Word Nerd Daily

an app from Amanda Zieba



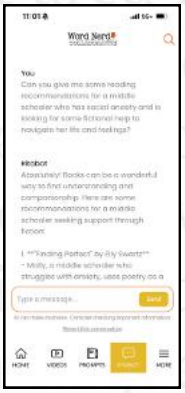
First Chapter Friday Videos



Writing Prompt Library



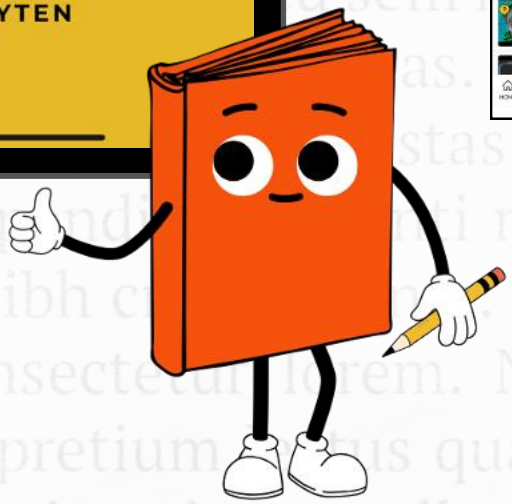
ChatBot for Reading Recs and Lesson Planning





Brain Break Videos





AVIALBLE 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

Teacher Planning Sheet

First CHAPTER Friday



DATE	TITLE	AUTHOR	GENRE	STUDENT REACTION?



First Chapter Friday

Name: _____ Quarter: _____

Title/Author	Rating: 1	2	3	4	5	Continue Reading?	
1 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
2 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
3 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
4 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
5 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
6 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
7 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
8 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
9 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
10 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
11 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
12 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
13 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
14 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
15 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
16 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
17 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N
18 _____	○	○	○	○	○	Y	N

Created by Amanda Zieba, The Word Nerd

WNC BOOK LIST

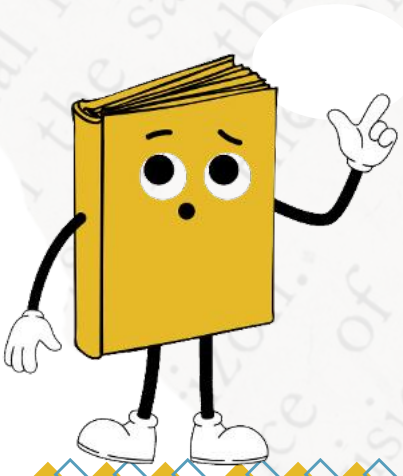
BOOKS ABOUT: ILLNESS

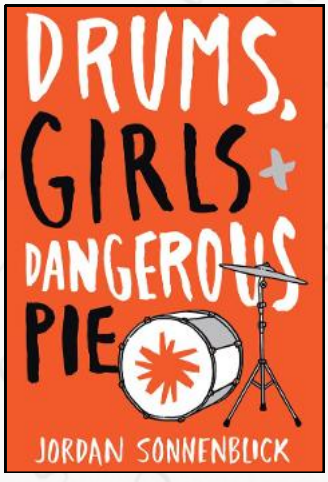
The books on this list touch on the topic of illness, either in the main character or in someone close to them.

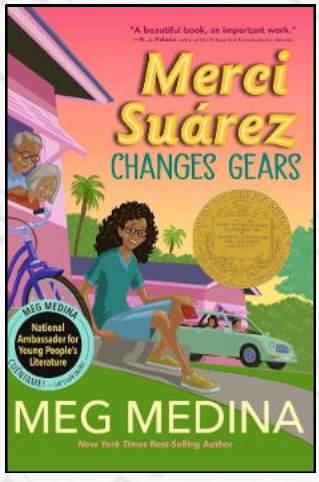
Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie
by Jordan Sonnenblick (Cancer)

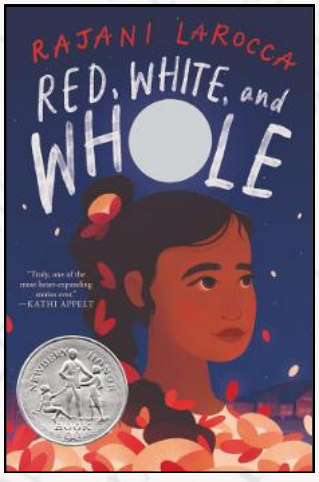
Merci Suarez Changes Gears
by Meg Medina (Alzheimer's)

Red, White and Whole
by Rajanni LaRocca (Cancer)









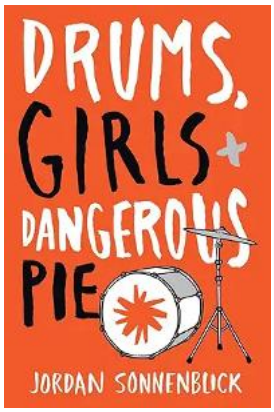
INDIVIDUAL BOOK SHEETS



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *

Name _____ Date _____



Drums, Girls + Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick

Includes 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.

Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

Steven has a totally normal life (well, almost).He plays drums in the All-City Jazz Band (whose members call him the Peasant), has a crush on the hottest girl in school (who doesn't even know he's alive), and is constantly annoyed by his younger brother, Jeffrey (who is cuter than cute - which is also pretty annoying). But when Jeffrey gets sick, Steven's world is turned upside down, and he is forced to deal with his brother's illness, his parents' attempts to keep the family in one piece, his homework, the band, girls, and Dangerous Pie (yes, you'll have to read the book to find out what that is!).

This book has over 2,000 five star reviews on Amazon!!

Who Wrote It?

OK, now on to the usual life stuff ... I was born on July 4, 1969 on an Army base in Missouri. My dad got out of the Army when I was a year old and my older sister was five. I spent the rest of my childhood in Staten Island, NY. My favorite school subject was always English, although I was pretty good at everything except sitting still and being quiet. I'm pretty sure my teachers didn't know what to make of me, because I got straight A's, but got in trouble constantly. After high school, I went to the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where I majored in English, but also took a ton of courses in Russian, history, and anthropology. I joined every activity I could handle, too, playing drums in a theater group, writing and announcing for the marching band, and even dressing up as Santa



Claus to entertain the young cancer patients at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. As a grown up, I taught middle school for along time and now I'm an author. THat's the short version! To learn more, visit my website: https://www.jordansonnenblick.com/bio

AR Reading Level: N/A

Lexile Level: 940L

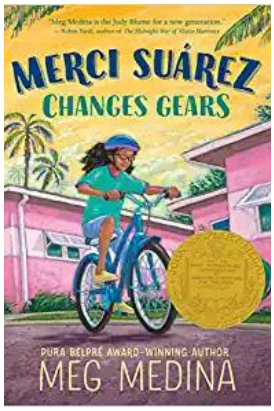
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



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

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *



Name _____ Date _____

Merci Suarez Changes Gears
by Meg Medina

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?

Merci Suárez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just how different. For starters, she's not exactly like the other kids at Seaward Pines because she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. At home, Merci's most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely and no one in her family will tell her anything about what's going on with her grandfather. In a coming of age story that features family, friends, frenemies – and ripped off eyebrows – we look at the confusion and constant change that define middle school and the steadfast connection that defines family.

This book won the Newbery Medal in 2019.

If you like this book, you might also enjoy the sequel: Merci Suarez Can't Dance.

Who Wrote It?

Meg Medina is an award-winning and New York Times best-selling author who writes picture books, as well as middle grade and young adult fiction. Her works have been called 'heartbreaking,' 'lyrical' and 'must haves for every collection.' When she's not writing, Meg works on community projects that support girls, Latino youth, and/or literacy. She is a faculty member of Hamline University's Masters of Fine Arts in Children's Literature and lives with her family in Richmond, Virginia. You can learn more about Meg on her website: www.MegMedina.com.



AR Reading Level: 4.8 Lexile Level: 700L

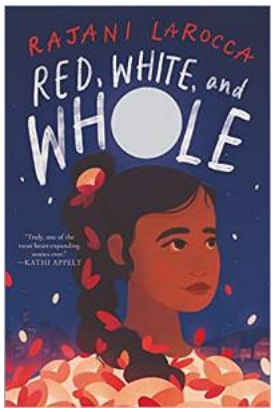
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



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

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *



Name _____ Date _____

Red, White and Whole by Rajanni LaRocca

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?

Reha feels torn between two worlds: school, where she's the only Indian American student, and home, with her family's traditions and holidays. But Reha's parents don't understand why she's conflicted—they only notice when Reha doesn't meet their strict expectations. Reha feels disconnected from her mother, or Amma, although their names are linked—Reha means 'star' and Punam means 'moon'—but they are a universe apart.

Then Reha finds out that her Amma is sick. Really sick. Reha, who dreams of becoming a doctor even though she can't stomach the sight of blood, is determined to make her Amma well again. She'll be the perfect daughter, if it means saving her Amma's life.

A heartbreakingly hopeful novel in verse about an Indian American girl whose life is turned upside down when her mother is diagnosed with leukemia. New England Book Award finalist!

If you like the 1980's, you'll love all the pop culture references in this book!

Who Wrote It?

I was born in Bangalore, India and immigrated to the U.S. as a baby. I spent most of my childhood in Louisville, Kentucky. I attended Harvard College and Harvard Medical School, and trained in Internal Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. I've been working as a primary care physician since 2001. I live in eastern Massachusetts with my wonderful husband, our two brilliant kids, and an impossibly cute dog. I've always been an omnivorous reader – cereal boxes, comic books, fortune cookie fortunes, magazine articles, and, of course, novels. The books I read as a child helped shape who I am today in ways that I'm still discovering. Books inspired me to pursue medicine as a



Bo career; books made me yearn to live in different worlds; books helped me consider what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes. Learn more about Rajanni in this video's interview.

AR Reading Level: 3.7 Lexile Level: currently unavailable

I want to read this book: YES / NO

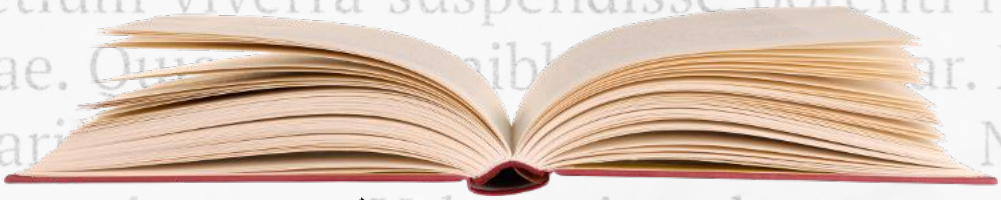
WHAT I THINK



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

INDIVIDUAL BOOK POSTERS

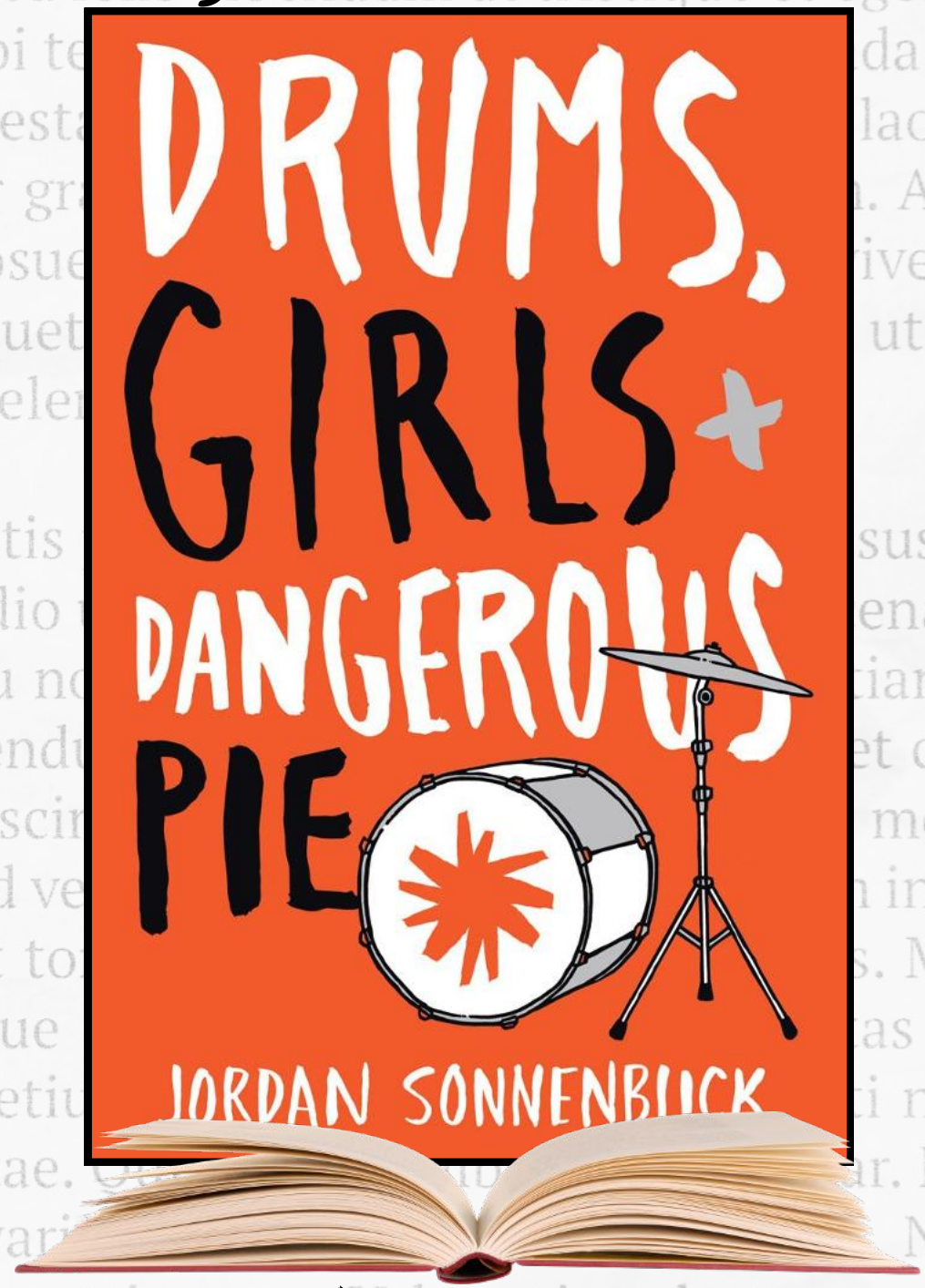




FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

DRUMS, GIRLS + DANGEROUS PIE

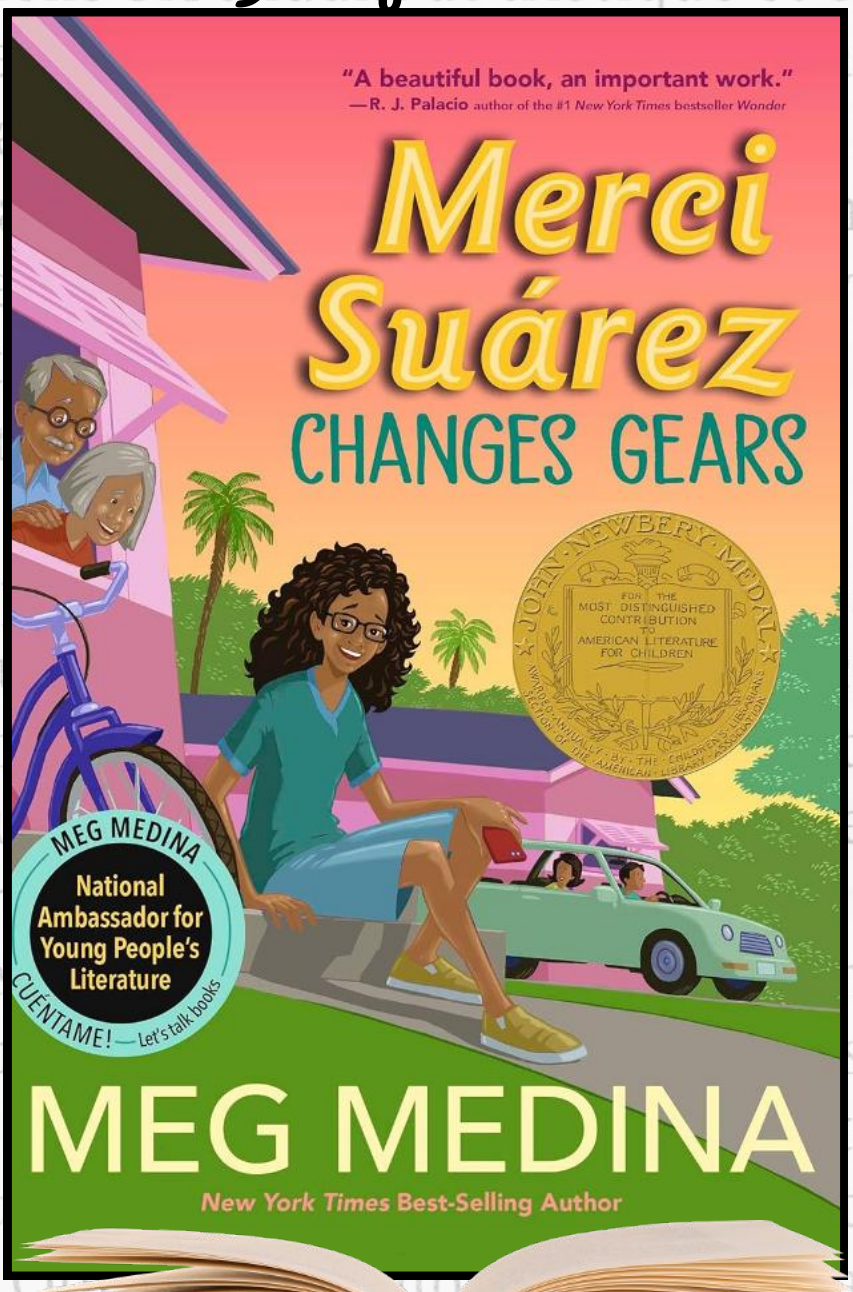
by Jordan Sonnenbuck



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

MERCI SUAREZ CHANGES GEARS

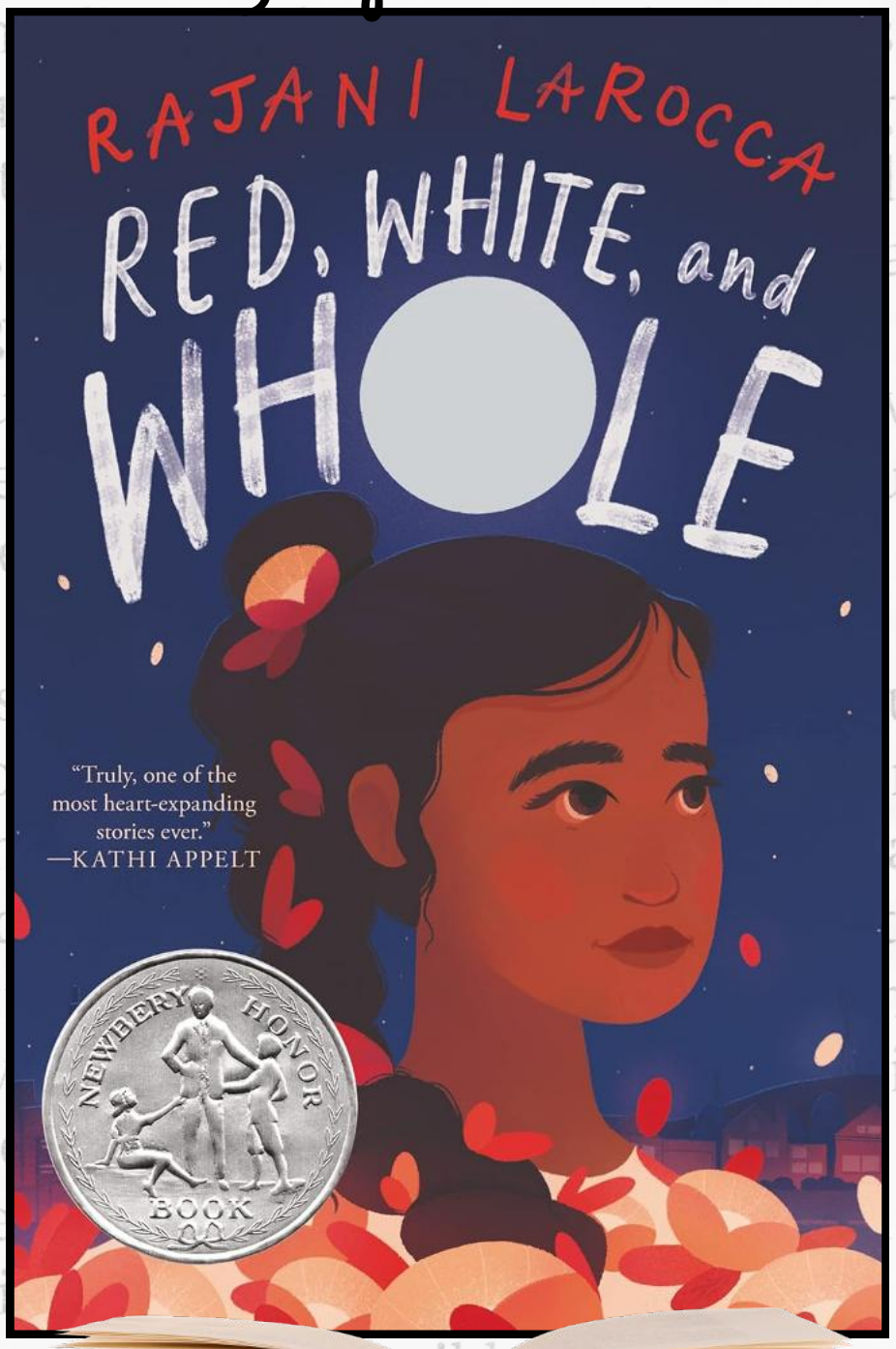
by Meg Medina

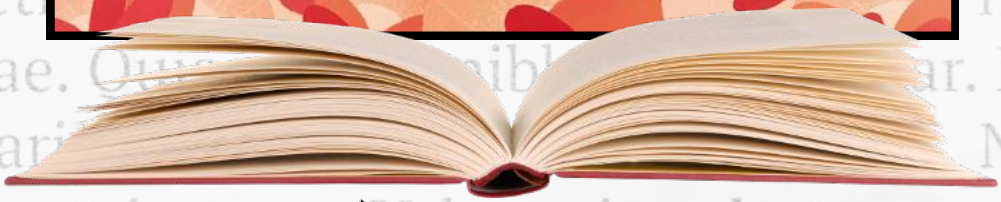


FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

RED, WHITE, AND WHOLE

By Rajani LaRocca





FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY